

E. HRTPO 2016 FEDERAL PLANNING CERTIFICATION SUMMARY REPORT

In a letter dated November 22, 2016 (attached), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) state that they had determined that the transportation planning process of the Hampton Roads Transportation Management Area meets the requirements of the Metropolitan Planning Rule at 23 CFR Part 450 Subpart C and 49 CFR Part 613 and, therefore, certified the transportation planning process of the HRTPO.

The letter makes particular note of issues related to HRTPO membership and voting rights with regard to the City of Franklin and Southampton County. It should be noted that the HRTPO was proactive in rectifying the issues related to Franklin and Southampton County, which included the following items:

- 10/15/14 – HRTPO coordinated a meeting with representatives from Franklin, Southampton County, VDOT, DRPT, and FHWA to discuss possible advantages and disadvantages of expanding the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) to include Franklin and Southampton County.
- 6/24/16 – HRTPO coordinated a meeting with representatives from Franklin and Southampton County to discuss the key steps involved in extending the Hampton Roads MPA to include the two localities; those steps being:
 - Resolutions from Franklin and Southampton County requesting to join the HRTPO
 - HRTPO resolution supporting expansion of the MPA to include Franklin and Southampton County
 - Governor’s approval of the expanded MPA
- 7/21/16 – HRTPO Board approved amended and restated Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) with Franklin and Southampton County to provide clarification on the implementation of the MOAs between the HRTPO and the two localities originally executed in July 2013.
- 8/22/16 – Southampton County Board of Supervisors approved a resolution petitioning the HRTPO to amend its bylaws to provide for full membership for Southampton County and requesting that the MPA be revised to include all unincorporated areas of the County situated east of U.S. Route 258.
- 8/22/16 – Franklin City Council approved a resolution petitioning the HRTPO to amend its bylaws to provide for full membership for the City of Franklin and requesting that the MPA be revised to include all incorporated areas of the City situated east of U.S. Route 258.
- 9/15/16 – HRTPO Board approved a resolution supporting the expansion of the Hampton Roads MPA to include the portions of the City of Franklin and Southampton County situated east of U.S. Route 258 and adding members from each locality – with full voting rights – to the HRTPO Board, Transportation Technical Advisory Committee, and Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee.

- 9/15/16 – In accordance with the HRTPO Bylaws, a draft copy of the Bylaws showing a proposed amendment to incorporate the City of Franklin and Southampton County as members with full voting rights was provided to the Board and made available for public review.
- 9/27/16 – HRTPO forwarded its resolution, the resolutions from Franklin and Southampton County, and a map showing the proposed expansion of the MPA to the Governor’s office.
- 10/20/16 – HRTPO Board approved the amended Bylaws to incorporate the City of Franklin and Southampton County as members with full voting rights.
- 11/15/16 – Letter from Secretary of Transportation Aubrey Layne documented that the MPA expansion was approved.

The complete Certification Review Summary Report may be accessed at:
<http://www.hrtpo.org/uploads/docs/HR Certification Summary Report.pdf>

Attachment 22-E



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration
Region III
1760 Market Street, Suite 500
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-656-7100
215-656-7260 (fax)

Federal Highway Administration
VA Division
400 North 8th Street, Room 750
Richmond, VA 23219-4825
804-775-3320
804-775-3356 (fax)

November 22, 2016

The Honorable Linda Johnson, Chair
c/o Robert Crum, Jr., Executive Director
Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization
723 Woodlake Drive,
Chesapeake, Virginia 23320

Re: HRTPO 2016 Federal Planning Certification Review

Dear Ms. Johnson: —

In accordance with the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and federal regulations, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) conducted a joint Transportation Planning Certification Review of the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) on March 29-31, 2016.


The Certification Review Team noted many commendable practices in a number of areas in the Hampton Roads planning process. The Certification Review Team also identified a few recommendations in the report that are offered to the HRTPO staff to help strengthen the planning and program development process. Additionally, we noted three related corrective actions, primarily in the area of voting rights and TPO membership involving the City of Franklin and Southampton County.

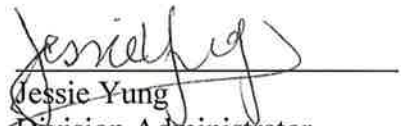
Since our on-site review as part of the Planning Certification, the FHWA and FTA facilitated discussions between the HRTPO, the VDOT, and representatives of the City of Franklin and Southampton County to develop a path to address the corrective actions contained in the report. This is demonstrated in the HRTPO Board-approved Memorandum of Agreements (see Appendix A) signed on August 26, 2016 by each respective jurisdiction which outlines each party's expectations and commitments. The MOAs address the corrective actions in the report.

In closing, the FHWA and FTA have determined that the transportation planning process of the Hampton Roads Transportation Management Area meets the requirements of the Metropolitan Planning Rule at 23 CFR Part 450 Subpart C and 49 CFR Part 613. The FHWA and FTA, therefore, certify the transportation planning process.

If you have any questions regarding the 2016 HRTPO Planning Certification Review, please contact Mr. Ivan Rucker, Planning and Environmental Specialist, at (ivan.rucker@dot.gov) (804) 775-3350 or Mr. Ryan Long, Community Planner (ryan.long@dot.gov) (215) 656-7051.

Sincerely,


Terry Garcia Crews
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration


Jessie Yung
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

Cc: Mr. Charlie Kilpatrick, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Transportation
Ms. Jennifer Mitchell, Director, Department of Rail and Public Transportation
Mr. Chris Arabia, Department of Rail and Public Transportation
Ms. Marsha Fiol, Virginia Department of Transportation (Central Office)
Ms. Sandra Norman, Virginia Department of Transportation (Central Office)
Mr. James Utterback, Virginia Department of Transportation (Hampton Roads District)
Ms. Dawn Odom, Virginia Department of Transportation (Hampton Roads District)
Mr. Eric Stringfield, Virginia Department of Transportation (Hampton Roads District)
Mr. William Harrell, Hampton Roads Transit
Mr. William Porter, Williamsburg Area Transit Authority
Mr. L. J. Hansen, City of Suffolk Transit
Ms. Sandra Jackson, FHWA D.C. Division