

### **ITEM #11: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Members of the public are invited to address the HRTPO Board. Each speaker is limited to three minutes.

### **ITEM #12: SUBMITTED PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was one submitted public comment. Any written public comments received after the preparation of this agenda will be distributed as a handout at the meeting.

Attachment 12

### **ITEM #13: TRANSCRIBED PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM PREVIOUS HRTPO MEETING**

The transcribed public comments from the January 21, 2016 HRTPO Board meeting are attached.

Attachment 13

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**HRTPO Public Comment**  
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**RE: Transportation Funding**

**Name:** Ms. Donna Sayegh  
**Date:** February 9, 2016  
**Subject:** Transportation Funding

**Public Comment Input (Via E-Mail)**

I am reading in the Virginian-Pilot for February 3, 2016 about Frank Wagner's article about his ability to close a funding gap for transportation projects in the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund and how he wants to change how the regional gas tax is calculated so needed projects can be built without tolls or HOT Lanes.

I thought the reason to have all these Transportation governmental agencies was to allow citizens to be represented and have a voice in taxation.

Just because he is the Chairman of the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund and lives in Virginia Beach doesn't give him the authority to make a unilateral decision on how we the people are to be taxed.

I read in the Paper that 783 people have been laid off from the Newport News Ship Yard.

Our economy in Hampton Roads is lower than in the other parts of Virginia and Virginia is in the 48<sup>th</sup> position for our economy.

Look at the Tolls especially in Portsmouth that the Transportation Planning Organization failed to actively protect the people in Portsmouth by having toll booths at the tunnel instead of depending on the EZ pass transponders for payment.

Now the Transportation Committee in Richmond is putting laws in place to penalize those who don't have a transponder.

Something is dreadfully wrong with the governmental agencies that are failing to protect the people.

Rein in Frank Wagner's speeches regarding gas taxes. Let the people decide how they wish to be taxed.