

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

Transcribed Public Comments from the January 21, 2016 HRTPO Board Meeting

Two people requested to address the HRTPO Board at the January 21, 2016 Meeting. Chair Johnson asked them to limit their comments to three minutes.

Mr. Will Christopher

Hampton Roads Public Transportation Alliance

Good morning, Madam Chair, ladies and gentlemen, Hampton Roads Public Transportation Alliance is partnering with Virginia Transit Association and Virginians for High-speed Rail and Transit Advocacy groups around the state to coalesce on Richmond this coming Monday, January 25th for Legislative Transit Day. In its fourth consecutive year of attending HRTPA is sending up a packed charter bus leaving the Newtown light rail station at 7 a.m., arriving at Richmond for the morning legislative briefing at 10 a.m. in Senate room 3. We expect to have Director Jennifer Mitchell and several senators and delegates to stop in to welcome and to offer insights to proposed transit legislation. The day includes a walking tour of the capital, special group recognition by the house and senate. Thank you, Delegate Villanueva, Senator Wagner. Meeting with each of our region's legislators and attending the VTA legislative reception that evening in the old city hall. HRTPA is a coalition of over one hundred regional leaders and stakeholders. It has become the largest group of its kind in the Commonwealth and is a leader in promoting smarter, more efficient forms of mobility across the Hampton Roads Metro. If anyone has interest in the organization or Monday's Richmond trip, please visit HRTPA.com or grab me personally. Thank you.

Mr. Frank Papcin

Virginia Beach Citizen

How you doing, people? One time I'm going to come up here and have all positive things to say, but unfortunately today is not one of those days. I was here expecting that all of this was going to be over before I got here, but I was surprised to find out it wasn't, and I got to actually listen to our Secretary of Transportation Aubrey Layne, which brought up a million things that I don't have time to talk about, but one of the things that I will talk about is the HOT lanes. I want you to visualize traveling down the Peninsula in the morning heading for the bridge-tunnel and getting up near Settlers Landing and find out that the HOT lanes are gone, that you paid to ride in, or better yet, you're in the HOT reversible lanes in Norfolk heading in either direction. If you're going towards the base in the morning, you're going to come into one lane and 564 is backed up again like it is a lot you're going to find out that that one lane is backed up and not only is that one lane backed up, but also the other lane that sends you to Hampton, that's backed up, too, because people are trying to jump ahead of the other lines and they can't get over. Then I want you to visualize driving down the HOT lanes in Chesapeake heading towards 264 and all of a sudden you find out that you want to get off on 264 but where do you get off with all these barriers in the way because 264 traffic backs all the way up sometimes almost to Indian River Road. So therefore, if you're going to ride the HOT lanes on 264 to Chesapeake, where do you get off? Indian River Road, do you get off at Chesapeake Boulevard? It's not feasible unless, of course, you build a bypass, you know, let HOV lane swing it over to the HOV lanes going down to 264, a little bridge over there, but heading away from -- heading away from 264 in the evening, you can turn around and jump on the HOV lanes and shoot all the way down into Virginia Beach and Chesapeake, and with the additional traffic, I'm sure that people riding on 264 going into Virginia Beach is going to love the on flux of all these cars in a single lane trying to merge with the traffic that you already have. And then, of course, you have the problems with people that want to go to Norfolk and they have to get off these HOT lanes and converse across 264 to get to the 264 westbound into Norfolk. They got to deal with the traffic. Some things just aren't feasible. The whole concept of that road in the first place was wrong. I ran out of time. That's the story of my life. Anyway, have a nice day.