

Action Summary
Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization Board Meeting
February 18, 2021

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:36 a.m.

Mr. Robert Crum, HRTPO Executive Director, stated that pursuant to the declared state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to protect the public health and safety of the Board members, staff, and the general public, the HRTPO meeting was being held electronically via Zoom. These electronic meetings are required to complete essential business on behalf of the region.

Per the requirements of the Code of Virginia, the meeting notice, agenda, and supporting documentation were posted on the HRTPO website for public review. HRTPO staff also provided electronic copies of this information to Board members and other interested parties.

Today's meeting is being live-streamed and is available for viewing on the Regional Connection YouTube channel. The meeting is also being recorded and will be available after the meeting through the HRTPO website.

Members of the public were invited to submit comments to the Board in advance of today's meeting via email and phone call. No public comments were received as of 48 hours before the meeting.

Mr. Crum reviewed several important housekeeping rules in order for the HRTPO to complete its meeting:

- 1. All Board members were asked to remain on mute before and after providing input.*
- 2. All Board members were asked to identify themselves by name and locality/agency when speaking and/or providing a motion or second.*
- 3. All votes taken must be made by roll call vote and recorded in the minutes.*

On behalf of the HRTPO staff, Mr. Crum thanked everyone for their commitment to the region and their cooperation and patience during the electronic meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda [Action Requested]

Chair Donnie Tuck asked for additions or deletions to the HRTPO Agenda. Hearing none, a roll call vote was conducted and the HRTPO Board unanimously approved the agenda as written. The roll call vote also served as record of attendance.

3. Executive Director Report

Mr. Robert Crum, HRTPO Executive Director, provided a summary of current work activities of the HRTPO, making particular note of the following:

- The HRPDC transmitted a letter regarding COVID-19 vaccine coordination with the Governor's office. He noted that the HRPDC received a response letter from the Governor that was included in the Executive Director's report.*
- The Regional Transit Advisory Panel, which came out of the 2020 General Assembly, has convened twice and is actively engaged with discussing ideas regarding the challenges*

facing the region's transit system and potential opportunities to strengthen transit service in the Hampton Roads region,

- *At the request of the Peninsula Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs), HRTPO staff is continuing to coordinate efforts to advance the extension of the Virginia Capital Trail into the Hampton Roads region. He noted it will be a future HRTPO Board agenda item.*

At the request of Chair Tuck, Ms. Terry Danaher, Chair of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC), provided a brief report of the Committee's activities, noting that Executive Director Crum presented a review of Robert's Rules of Order at its previous meeting. She stated that the CAC will be updating its bylaws as it is now an advisory committee for both the HRPDC and the HRTPO. The CAC will conduct a member survey on regional versus local issues to assist in advising the HRPDC and the HRTPO Board.

4. Public Comments

The general public was provided an opportunity to provide comments in advance of the meeting by email or phone. Chair Tuck stated that HRTPO staff received no submitted comments via either option 48 hours preceding the Board meeting.

5. 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Draft Fiscally Constrained List of Projects [Action Requested]

Ms. Dale Stith, HRTPO Principal Transportation Planner, provided an update on the 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) draft fiscally constrained list of projects and stated that this item is now an action item requesting HRTPO Board approval of the initiation of the 30-day public review period.

She remarked that the Prioritization scores, approved by the HRTPO Board at its January 21, 2021 meeting, along with available revenue resources, provided the framework for fiscal constraint. She noted that working with the LRTP Subcommittee, multiple virtual meetings were held to refine Fiscal Constraint Guiding Principles and develop a draft fiscally constrained list of projects for the 2045 LRTP.

Factoring in forecasted transportation funds from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC), and various localities, forecasted funding available for FY 2021-2045 is \$29.6 billion. Of this amount, \$17 billion is reserved for maintenance/administration/debt service and finance fees, and the total cost estimate for the draft list of projects for the 2045 LRTP is \$12.6 billion; therefore, fiscal constraint is demonstrated.

Ms. Stith outlined the 2045 LRTP next steps including the 30-day public review of the draft list, approval of the funding plan/fiscal constraint and the remaining 2045 LRTP documentation.

A roll call vote was conducted and the HRTPO Board unanimously approved the initiation of the 30-day public review of the draft 2045 LRTP Fiscally Constrained List of Projects.

Mr. Robert Crum stated that a special March HRTPO Board meeting will be needed in order for the 2045 LRTP to be approved on time at the July Board meeting.

A roll call vote was conducted and the HRTPO Board unanimously approved to convene the HRTPO Board on March 29, 2021. The meeting time will be determined by a Board member poll that will be transmitted by email after the meeting.

6. Bowers Hill Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – Study Update

Mr. Scott Smizik, VDOT Assistant Environmental Division Director, provided an update on the Bowers Hill EIS, and stated the purpose of the Bowers Hill Interchange Improvements Study is to reduce congestion, improve travel reliability, and provide additional travel choices on I-664 from and including the Bowers Hill Interchange to College Drive. VDOT has identified the following study needs as:

- *Reduce congestion*
- *Improve Travel Reliability*
- *Provide Additional Travel Choice*

Mr. Smizik stated that Federal agencies concurred on the Study Purpose and Need in December 2020.

VDOT will be introducing the Range of Concepts to the public through a citizen comment opportunity from February – March 2021, after which, the alternatives will be refined and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) will publish the Notice of Intent to initiate the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) study.

Mr. Smizik summarized the next steps following the Notice of Intent publication and stated that the final EIS is scheduled for completion in the winter/spring of 2023.

7. Approval of Consent Items [Action Requested]

A roll call vote was conducted and the HRTPO Board unanimously approved the Consent Items as written.

8. HRTPO Board Three-Month Tentative Schedule

This item was for informational purposes. Chair Tuck noted that there will now be an HRTPO Board meeting on March 29, 2021.

9. Correspondence of Interest

This item was for informational purposes.

10. Minutes of HRTPO Committee Meetings

This item was for informational purposes.

11. For Your Information

This item was for informational purposes.

12. Old/New Business

There was no old/new business.

ADJOURNMENT