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**HRTPO TTAC Public Comment**  
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RE: Transportation Issues

Name: Ms. Donna Sayegh
Date: March 2, 2016
Subject: Transportation Issues

Public Comment Input (Via E-Mail)

I found a “Citizen’s Guide to Transportation Planning” workbook the other day.

What I need is to have a class on the information in this booklet and review this information. A classroom setting is how I learn best. A class would have allowed me to gather information to create an Organizational Chart of the TPO. With an Organizational Chart, I would have learned how each Committee and subcommittee communicates with each other to get the job done.

In preparation of the meetings today, I printed out the agenda and have studied it to be able to make a decision in the best interest of not only my city but also the region.

Once I can get the structure, or framework, of the TPO, it will allow me the opportunity for open communication and dialog, so I can make an informed decision. James Wright is my representative on the TTAC. How does he relay the information from the committee to the city’s staff and planners?

Who are my representative from VDOT, VPA, HRT, DRPT, WATA (Federal Highway Administration) and the Military?

The next thing is regarding the HOV lanes Conversions to HOT lanes because the HOV Lanes are not being utilized enough.

My question is this: What was the original intent of the HOV Lanes?

If the intent has not materialized, then the planning was not comprehensive to look at all options before the building of them.

Penalizing the travelers because of ignorance on the road designers is not going to go away by changing the HOV Lanes to HOT Lanes.

There was a HRT open house on February 17 to discuss the VB Transit Extension project, what was that outcome?

Agenda Item #8: Why is there a transfer of money from one project to another in NN? FY 2010 and 2013. Are not the planners able to determine their needs before asking for money?

Lastly, I want to mention the Committed Project fully funded regarding Turnpike Road from Frederick Blvd. to Constitution Ave.

How was the citizens notified about this project?

The next project from Victory Blvd to George Washington Hwy is on the list. Another project: Bike Lanes on Churchland Blvd. from Portsmouth Trail to High Street. This does not make common sense to even think about making a bike lane here. There is a transit bus that will allow a bike to be placed on the bus for this short distance.

Lastly, a Portsmouth-Southside Light Rail from Portsmouth to Southside. Who is recommending all the projects and the rationale?

I need communication to be part of the decision making for the city of Portsmouth. Thanks for listening.

Donna B. Sayegh