

**AGENDA ITEM #12: VDOT STARS AND MERCURY BOULEVARD (ROUTE 258)
OPERATIONAL AND PEDESTRIAN ENHANCEMENT STUDY
*Carl Jackson, VDOT; Whitney Sokolowski, Kimley-Horn***

STARS is an acronym for VDOT's Strategically Targeted Affordable Roadway Solutions program with a goal to develop comprehensive, innovative transportation solutions to relieve congestion bottlenecks and solve critical traffic and safety challenges throughout Virginia. The program shifted from its inception in 2007, to focus on developing projects that can be approved by SMART SCALE and later programmed in the VDOT Six-Year Improvement Program.

VDOT and the City of Hampton identified a portion of Mercury Boulevard (US 258) near the I-64 Interchange to be analyzed due to safety and congestion concerns as well as lack of pedestrian accommodations. The purpose of the study was to analyze the existing safety, pedestrian, and operational deficiencies along the Mercury Boulevard study corridor and develop potential projects to improve safety, pedestrian connectivity, and traffic operations. The operational analyses also assessed the impacts to traffic operations associated with providing Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) service on Mercury Boulevard.

In December 2017, a Study Work Group composed of VDOT, City of Hampton and Kimley-Horn personnel completed the Mercury Boulevard (Route 258) Operational and Pedestrian Enhancement study.

Mr. Carl Jackson, VDOT Hampton Roads District Transportation Planner and Ms. Whitney Sokolowski, Kimley-Horn, will brief the TTAC on this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

For discussion and informational purposes.