

**Regional Transit Advisory Panel and Regional Housing Assessment Working Group
Joint Meeting**

**March 14, 2023
12:00 Noon**

**The Regional Building
723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake**

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Public Comment**

Members of the public will be provided an opportunity to address the Regional Transit Advisory Panel (RTAP) and Regional Housing Assessment Working Group. Comments will be limited to three minutes per speaker.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. RTAP Meeting Summary Minutes – August 31, 2022

The minutes of the August 31, 2022 RTAP meeting are included as Attachment 4A for RTAP approval.

B. Regional Housing Assessment Working Group Meeting Summary Minutes – January 31, 2023

The minutes of the January 31, 2023 Regional Housing Assessment Working Group meeting are included as Attachment 4B for Regional Housing Assessment Working Group approval.

5. Opportunities for Coordination – Housing and Public Transportation Efforts

At the October meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC), the Commission discussed the need for a regional housing assessment that will evaluate and provide a gap analysis of programs and housing available in the region and provide guidance on ensuring the region has adequate housing for all. As a follow-up to this discussion, the HRPDC formed a Regional Housing Assessment Working Group to guide this effort. The members of this Working Group are noted below:

- Donnie Tuck, Hampton Mayor
- Bobby Dyer, Virginia Beach Mayor
- Steven Brown, Hampton Councilmember
- Cleon Long, Newport News Councilmember
- Andria McClellan, Norfolk Councilmember

- Randy Keaton, Isle of Wight County Administrator
- Scott Stevens, James City County Administrator
- Brian Thrower, Southampton County Administrator
- Melissa Rollins, Surry County Administrator
- Neil Morgan, York County County Administrator
- Mimi Terry, Portsmouth Interim City Manager
- Brian Solis, Chesapeake Deputy City Manager

The Housing Assessment Working Group held its first meeting on January 31 at Heron's Landing in Chesapeake. During this meeting, Working Group members noted the importance of coordinating future decisions related to housing and public transportation service and directed staff to coordinate a meeting between the RTAP and the Regional Housing Assessment Working Group to begin this discussion. In particular, opportunities exist along the Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) proposed 757 Express Backbone Routes to provide housing opportunities that can be served by this regional transit backbone network.

Ms. Shernita L. Bethea, HRPDC Housing Administrator, will begin this discussion with an overview presentation, and discuss the need for a Regional Housing Assessment that evaluates the region's housing market, determines regional needs, and sets the foundation for providing adequate housing options and initiatives for all residents in our region.

Representatives from HRT will be in attendance to provide an update and answer questions on the status and implementation of the 757 Express Regional Backbone Network.

Following these presentations, Mr. Robert A. Crum, Jr., HRPDC/HRTPO Executive Director, will ask the RTAP and Regional Housing Assessment Working Group members to discuss opportunities for coordination between public transit and housing efforts in the Hampton Roads region.

6. Regional Transit Advocacy Day

On February 3, 2022, the RTAP, community stakeholders, and the region's transit agencies held the region's first transit advocacy day at the Virginia General Assembly. Over 25 representatives of the RTAP and community met with General Assembly members in Richmond to discuss the importance of transit to the Hampton Roads region and provide input on several bills that were being considered by the General Assembly. In addition, RTAP members provided a presentation to the Hampton Roads Caucus and held discussions with the Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Executive Director of the Virginia Transit Administration. The day concluded with the RTAP representatives being introduced on the Senate and House Floors.

The Executive Director is recommending that this year's transit advocacy day focuses on promoting the importance of transit here in the Hampton Roads region in an effort to continue to build support for the importance of transit in our region. HRTPO and

HRT staff have been coordinating plans for a local transit advocacy day which is tentatively scheduled for May 4, 2023.

Ms. Alexis Majied, HRT Chief Communication Officer, and Mr. Crum will brief the RTAP membership on plans for the May 4th transit advocacy day and request the assistance of RTAP members as we prepare for this proposed event.

7. Other Business

8. Adjournment