

**Summary Minutes of the HRTPO Citizen Transportation
Advisory Committee (CTAC) Meeting
April 13, 2017**

The HRTPO Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. in the Regional Building Board Room, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

HRTPO CTAC Members in Attendance:

Greg Edwards, Chair (VB)	Carlton Hardy (NN)
Terry Danaher, Vice Chair (PO)	Ron Fowler (YK)
Cecil Jenkins (CH)	Christian Strange (NO)
Bernie Whitlock (CH)	Alvin Sledd (PQ)
Clayton Rogers (GL)	Ron Broughton (VB)
Cynthia Taylor (IW)	Dianna Howard (VB)
Lamont Curtis (NN)	Scott MacFarlane (VB)

HRTPO CTAC Members Absent:

John Kish (CH)	Jay Leach (VB)
James Openshaw (NO)	Delceno Miles (VB)
Brenda Johnson (NN)	Elvira Johnson (PO)
Frank Papcin (VB)	Mark Perreault (NO)
Jim Bowie (HA)	

OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

None

HRTPO Staff:

Camelia Ravanbakht	Sam Braden
Kendall Miller	Rob Cofield
Mike Kimbrel	Shirley Core
John Mihaly	

Others Recorded Attending:

None

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Submitted Public Comments

There were no submitted public comments.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Greg Edwards asked for any additions or deletions to the agenda. Hearing none, Mr. Alvin Sled Moved to approve the agenda as written; seconded by Mr. Ron Broughton The Motion Carried.

Summary Minutes of the January 12, 2017 CTAC Meeting

Chair Edwards asked for any additions or corrections to the January 12, 2017 minutes. Hearing none, Mr. Ron Fowler Moved to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Mr. Cecil Jenkins. The Motion Carried.

Introductions

Chair Edwards welcomed new CTAC members Ms. Delceno Miles (VB) and Mr. Henry Branscome (JC)

Ms. Camelia Ravanbakht, Deputy Executive Director HRTPO introduced new staff Mr. Sam Braden IV, Community and Outreach Planner, Mr. Rob Cofield, Graphic and Web Designer and Ms. Shirley Core, Administrative Assitant.

Hampton Roads Regional Transit Benchmarking

Mr. John Mihaly, Transportation Analyst II, HRTPO briefed the committee on the Hampton Roads Regional Transit benchmarking study. He stated the study focused on comparing the performance of Hampton Roads' transit agencies to peer agencies nationwide. The goal was to set a baseline measurement for future performance of Hampton Roads transit agencies. He reported the study was conducted in coordination with staff from HRT, WATA and Suffolk Transit.

Chair Edwards led a discussion by asking how many members have ridden a HRT bus with only 5 members responding they have used the service. Co-Chair Danaher asked if the study included the time it takes for a rider to get from their original location to their destination and also the route these buses take. Mr. Mihaly replied it was not included at this time but could be considered in the future. Ms. Howard mentioned that mass transit works best in very populated areas and the current options are not a reliable option for commuters to take to work. Dr. MacFarlane asked if the study has been shared with the HRT board, Mr. Mihaly responded while it has not been presented it was created in cooperation with HRT, WATA and the Suffolk transit staff. Ms. Taylor asked if the study included smaller bus services such as an I bus, Mr. Mihaly responded it did not but could be

an option to look at in the future. Mr. Strange asked if the Blacksburg Study consisted of state funds or fares, to which Mr. Mihaly replied it would be fares. He then followed up by asking if the study has been released to the media, Ms. Kendall Miller, Public Involvement and Title VI Administrator replied that a press release was sent and the study is listed on the HRTPO website. Mr. Mihaly explained that Hampton Roads is unique in geography and dense in population and there are a very low percentage of households who do not own a vehicle. Dr. Ravanbakht thanked everyone for their interest and comments and recommended WATA, HRT and Suffolk present at a future committee meeting.

Passenger Rail in Hampton Roads

Ms. Camelia Ravanbakht, Deputy Executive Director, HRTPO provided an overview of passenger rail in Hampton Roads. She stated rail travel has increased 72% over the last decade. She outlined current passenger rail service in Hampton Roads stating there is one daily service from Norfolk to Richmond, two daily trips from Newport News and Williamsburg, also thruway bus service is available from Virginia Beach to Norfolk and saver fares are available with advance purchase. She stated in 2009 the TPO board passed a resolution to explore high speed passenger rail vision plan for the region.

Co-Chair Dahaner stated that while there are opportunities going North, Hampton Roads does not have the systems to attract tourist who would take the rail and there are limited transportation options. Mr. Broughton noted the relationship between HRT and Norfolk International Airport is non-existent and that there is a need for shuttle service from the airport. Mr. Hardy described his recent difficulty using Amtrak's website to book a fare and indicated his concern over the apparent lack of advertising. Ms. Miller encouraged CTAC to send her their comments in writing so she can pass along to HRT. A suggestion was made that for an upcoming CTAC meeting, the agenda should focus on corporate relocations to Hampton Roads, and the factors (transportation, sustainability, etc.) corporations take into consideration when determining Hampton Roads ability to accommodate new businesses such as ADP. What factors do these corporations consider when looking to locate or relocate in Hampton Roads? Is transportation something that is considered?

Old/New Business

Chair Edwards thanked the CTAC members who joined him at the Virginia International Gateway site tour in Portsmouth and asked if there was any interest from members to attend a site visit at VDOT in Virginia Beach. 12-15 members expressed interest in attending.

Ms. Howard requested more information on the Hot Lanes, Ms. Miller asked her to email her any questions and she would get answers for her.

Chair Edwards announced July would be the last committee meeting he would be serving as chair. Ms. Miller advised the committee that as per CTAC bylaws, the TPO Chair appoints the CTAC chair. Ms. Miller also advised the committee at the July CTAC meeting, there was the potential that the committee would have to elect a new vice-chair.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the HRTPO Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:57 p.m.