

ITEM #15: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Members of the public are invited to address the HRTPO Board. Each speaker is limited to three minutes.

ITEM #16: SUBMITTED PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no submitted public comments. Any written public comments received after the preparation of this agenda will be distributed as a handout at the meeting.

ITEM #17: TRANSCRIBED PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM PREVIOUS HRTPO MEETING

The transcribed public comments from the February 21, 2019 HRTPO Board meeting are attached.

Attachment 17

**Transcribed Public Comments from the
February 21, 2019 HRTPO Board Meeting**

*The views and opinions expressed during the public comment period
do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the HRTPO.*

One person requested to address the HRTPO Board at the February 21, 2019 Meeting. HRTPO Chair Shepperd asked them to limit their comments to three minutes.

***Mr. Ellis James
Norfolk***

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Happy New Year to you guys and gals. On such a day where there's not much concern about this issue or that issue, I thought I would inject something simple. My name is Ellis W. James. I'm a resident of Norfolk and a proud member of the Sierra Club. As you can see, I am concerned about offshore drilling. I and many other people up and down the East Coast are opposed to offshore drilling. A lot of people are not fully aware of how strong the coalition is. The military, Wallops Island, Outer Banks, and all the way from Canada to Florida, there is opposition to the insane approach to the offshore drilling issue. I would urge this very important group to pay close attention to what the concerns are and make sure that you understand offshore drilling is just not an economic ploy that's being used by the current administration. This is deadly serious business. Assault on clean water threatens Virginia. That's a group putting out information about what's going on. I would like to urge you to do one thing: please support item 1 in your action process. I would also ask you to take note of the effort to fund the trains 2 and 3 to Norfolk, which is a key part of the transportation struggle and battle that's going on. Offshore drilling will do a lot of things, but it won't help the Commonwealth of Virginia and certainly won't help the United States of America. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.