

AGENDA ITEM #13: BALANCING FY 2017 – 2020 CMAQ ALLOCATIONS
John Mihaly, HRTPO

On April 18, 2016, HRTPO staff received an email message from VDOT transmitting the updated preliminary estimates (marks) for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and for the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) for fiscal years (FY) 2017-2022. The updated marks reflect adjustments to address the impact of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. In addition, the change in CMAQ marks is partially due to Virginia no longer meeting criteria that previously allowed the Commonwealth to reduce the required set-aside for PM_{2.5} (particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter) projects. Without the exemption, Virginia is required to set-aside 25% of its CMAQ apportionment to fund PM_{2.5} projects. The result is a reduction in CMAQ funding available for MPO distribution.

The following table summarizes the findings of an HRTPO staff review of the changes in CMAQ and RSTP marks for the HRTPO area for the FY 2017-2022 period. As shown in the table, the CMAQ funding available for Hampton Roads projects has decreased approximately \$4.3 million over the six year period, however, RSTP funding has increased a total of nearly \$36.5 million over the same period.

Change in Marks for FY 2017 - FY 2022

CMAQ **-\$4,324,598** change compared to previous marks

	FY-17	FY-18	FY-19	FY-20	FY-21	FY-22
Change	-\$2,712,413	-\$821,207	-\$549,214	-\$241,764	\$0	\$0

RSTP **\$36,467,358** change compared to previous marks

	FY-17	FY-18	FY-19	FY-20	FY-21	FY-22
Change	\$3,787,564	\$4,440,349	\$5,644,987	\$7,028,717	\$7,455,011	\$8,110,730

Based on VDOT email of April 18, 2016.

Due to the reduction in CMAQ marks, Hampton Roads is significantly over-allocated for the years FY 2017-2020. HRTPO staff used the following strategy to produce a plan to maintain the funding status of all of the region’s CMAQ projects:

- Identify dual-funded (CMAQ and RSTP) projects so that RSTP allocations may be added to off-set the de-allocation of CMAQ funds
- Affect the fewest projects possible

Using the strategy described above, HRTPO staff selected the following two projects as potential candidates for addressing the CMAQ funding decreases:

- UPC 102734 – Multimodal Intercity Passenger Rail Station (Newport News) to address CMAQ over-allocations of \$2,712,413 in FY 2017 and \$821,207 in FY 2018

- UPC T11778 – Purchase 41 Forty Foot Replacement Buses (HRT) to address CMAQ over-allocations of \$549,214 in FY 2019 and \$241,764 in FY 2020

HRTPO staff coordinated with Newport News and HRT staff on the funding adjustments described above and they concurred with the strategy.

The VDOT email message stated that the timing of the updated CMAQ and RSTP marks has a severe impact on the completion dates for development of the draft Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP), noting that all programming needs to be completed and funding balanced by close of business on Friday, May 6, 2016. In order to meet the May 6, 2016 deadline for balancing the funding for FY 2017-2021 and programming the new FY 2022 projects and/or allocations into the draft SYIP, HRTPO staff assumed TTAC concurrence with and HRTPO Board approval of the above strategy. Should that not be the case, HRTPO staff will work with VDOT staff to make necessary adjustments prior to CTB approval of the final SYIP in June.

It should be noted that there are significant RSTP reserves for FY 2017-2022 as a result of the updated marks. HRTPO staff will provide more details regarding those reserve funds during the June TTAC meeting.

Assuming HRTPO Board approval of the revised CMAQ and RSTP allocations for the two affected projects, the HRTPO FY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program will be amended to account for changes in the allocations through FY 2018. The TIP amendment has been made available for public review and comment. The public review period began on April 27, 2016 and runs through May 11, 2016.

Mr. John Mihaly, Transportation Analyst, will brief the TTAC on this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Recommend HRTPO Board approval of the changes in CMAQ and RSTP allocations (and applicable TIP amendments) for the following projects to address the reduction in CMAQ funding available for the HRTPO area for FY 2017 – FY 2020:

- UPC 102734 – Multimodal Intercity Passenger Rail Station (Newport News)
 - Decrease FY 2017 CMAQ allocation by \$2,712,413
 - Increase FY 2017 RSTP allocation by \$2,712,413
 - Decrease FY 2018 CMAQ allocation by \$821,207
 - Increase FY 2018 RSTP allocation by \$821,207
- UPC T11778 – Purchase 41 Forty Foot Replacement Buses (HRT)
 - Decrease FY 2019 CMAQ allocation by \$549,214
 - Increase FY 2019 RSTP allocation by \$549,214
 - Decrease FY 2020 CMAQ allocation by \$241,764
 - Increase FY 2020 RSTP allocation by \$241,764