

ITEM #11: I-64 HOV TO HOT CONVERSION STUDY UPDATE: *Jim Utterback, VDOT*

SUMMARY:

The Office of the Secretary of Transportation, in coordination with the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIP), and regional stakeholders are conducting a feasibility study concerning the potential conversion of HOV to HOT lanes along two sections of I-64 on the Southside.

Mr. Jim Utterback, Hampton Roads District Administrator, will brief the HRTPO Board on this item.

BACKGROUND:

Hampton Roads commuters and visitors are faced with significant congestion at the region's water crossings and along I-64. While HRTAC is diligently working to develop financing plans for these regional priority projects, other low-cost solutions should be considered concurrently.

One such solution to the congestion is the potential conversion of HOV to HOT lanes to better utilize the existing capacity of the corridor. In Northern Virginia, the Commonwealth has converted the existing I-95 HOV lanes to HOT lanes and analysis has shown that the average morning weekday northbound travel times have decreased by approximately 20%.

This study is divided into two separate inter-related studies. The studies include:

- Analysis of the 7 miles of two-lane reversible HOV lanes from I-564 to I-264.
- Analysis of the 6.5 miles of dual direction one-lane HOV lanes from I-264 to Battlefield Boulevard.
- Feasibility of converting HOV to HOT lanes.
- Potential benefits of the HOV to HOT conversion.
- Planning level cost estimates of the conversion.
- Planning level construction schedule for the HOV to HOT conversion.

The study is focused on regional opportunities for more efficient utilization of HOV lanes in Hampton Roads to provide travel choices to commuters, improve reliability, and reduce congestion in all travel lanes.