

Action Summary

Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization Board Meeting

May 20, 2021

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:33 a.m.

Mr. Robert Crum, HRTPO Executive Director, stated that pursuant to the declared state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to protect the public health and safety of the Board members, staff, and the general public, the HRTPO meeting was being held electronically via Zoom. These electronic meetings are required to complete essential business on behalf of the region.

Per the requirements of the Code of Virginia, the meeting notice, agenda, and supporting documentation were posted on the HRTPO website for public review. HRTPO staff also provided electronic copies of this information to Board members and other interested parties.

Today's meeting is being live-streamed and is available for viewing on the Regional Connection YouTube channel. The meeting is also being recorded and will be available after the meeting through the HRTPO website.

Members of the public were invited to submit comments to the Board in advance of today's meeting via email and phone call. One public comment was received as of 48 hours before the meeting.

Mr. Crum reviewed several important housekeeping rules in order for the HRTPO to complete its meeting:

- 1. All Board members were asked to remain on mute before and after providing input.*
- 2. All Board members were asked to identify themselves by name and locality/agency when speaking and/or providing a motion or second.*
- 3. All votes taken must be made by roll call vote and recorded in the minutes.*

On behalf of the HRTPO staff, Mr. Crum thanked everyone for their commitment to the region and their cooperation and patience during the electronic meeting.

2. Announcements

Chair Donnie Tuck welcomed Gloucester County Administrator Carol Steele as the non-voting member to the HRTPO Board. He also acknowledged the retirement of Colonel Ed Vedder, Joint Langley-Eustis, and noted this was his last Board meeting.

Mr. Robert Crum, HRTPO Executive Director, recognized Mr. Al Moor as the Official Suffolk City Manager.

Knowing that a quorum was not achievable yet, the meeting continued with the Public Comments as no action is required.

3. Public Comments

The general public was provided an opportunity to provide comments in advance of the meeting by email or phone. Chair Tuck stated that HRTPO staff received one submitted comment within the 48 hours preceding the Board meeting. Written by Mr. Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky, and read by Mr. Robert Crum, the public comment referred to public participation in future electronic meetings.

4. Approval of Agenda [Action Requested]

Chair Donnie Tuck asked for additions or deletions to the HRTPO Agenda. Hearing none, a roll call vote was conducted and the HRTPO Board unanimously approved the agenda as written. The roll call vote also served as the record of attendance and a quorum was achieved.

5. Executive Director Report

Mr. Robert Crum, HRTPO Executive Director, provided a summary of current work activities of the HRTPO, making particular note of the following:

- A new federal grant program, RAISE (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity), is a \$1 billion grant opportunity for transportation projects. HRTPO staff and the Peninsula Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) are discussing the submittal of the Virginia Capital Trail Extension as a potential project. A determination will be made regarding what segments of the Trail to submit as candidates for the grant funding.*
- The Regional Transit Advisory Panel, which came out of the 2020 General Assembly, continues to meet and has formed nine working groups. The groups will report back to the full panel beginning May 26th. The local transit agencies of HRT, WATA, and Suffolk Transit will consider the recommendations with the most potential, and those recommendations will be brought forth to the HRTPO Board.*

6. Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Update

Ms. Terry Danaher, Chair of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC), provided a brief report of the Committee's activities, noting that HRTPO staff distributed a survey to CAC members regarding its bylaws and goals. She requested that HRTPO staff include an item for HRTPO Board consideration at the July Board meeting to formally request that the Commonwealth of Virginia allow organizations the option to convene electronic meetings in order to provide CAC members the flexibility to participate remotely.

7. FY 2022 HRTPO Budget [Action Requested]

Mr. Robert Crum, HRTPO Executive Director, reported that the Joint HRPDC/HRTPO Personnel and Budget (P&B) Committee met electronically on April 5 and April 19, 2021 to review the proposed FY 2022 HRPDC/HRTPO Budget. The P&B Committee recommended that the FY 2022 budget include the following:

- Increase the Member Per Capita Dues Rate from \$0.80 to \$0.85 per capita*
- Provide for a 3% salary increase for staff effective July 1, 2021*
- Budget an additional 1% of total salary to address salary compression and equity issues effective January 1, 2022*
- Provide for an additional Finance Department position*
- Include computer replacement and technology to address Organizational needs*

A roll call vote was conducted and the HRTPO unanimously approved the HRTPO FY 2022 Budget.

8. FY 2022 UPWP: Hampton Roads Regional Gateways

Ms. Pavithra Parthasarathi, HRTPO Deputy Executive Director, reported that HRTPO staff, in coordination with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), Hampton Roads Transit (HRT), Williamsburg Area Transit Authority (WATA), and Suffolk Transit, developed the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY 2022. The UPWP describes the mutual responsibilities of the aforementioned entities in carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning process for Hampton Roads.

Ms. Parthasarathi briefed the HRTPO Board on one of the tasks in the proposed FY 2022 UPWP, an upcoming study on the Hampton Roads Regional Gateways. She stated that Hampton Roads is served by many critical corridors which play an important role in moving people and goods and also serves as regional gateways connecting the region to markets within and outside the State and across the United States.

She indicated that given limited transportation resources, HRTPO staff plan to conduct a comprehensive analysis and comparison of travel and other characteristics across these corridors to ensure that the investments in these corridors are prioritized based on the overall collective impact for our region.

9. Hampton Roads 2045 LRTP Update

Ms. Dale Stith, HRTPO Principal Transportation Planner, provided a brief update on the 2045 LRTP, stating that at the HRTPO Special Board Meeting on March 29, 2021, the HRTPO Board approved the 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Fiscally Constrained List of Projects and associated 2045 LRTP Funding Plan and Project Information Guide. The Funding Plan and Guide identifies \$17 billion over the next 24 years, to maintain the existing transportation system and an additional \$13.7 billion to fiscally constrain a number of multimodal investments for the region to help improve the movement of people and goods.

Ms. Stith noted that as part of Federal requirements, a Regional Conformity Assessment (RCA) on the 2045 LRTP and FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was completed and submitted to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for review. She indicated that the HRTPO recently received a joint finding of conformity issued by FHWA and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Chair Tuck recommended the HRTPO Board convene a special meeting in June in order to adopt the 2045 LRTP.

A roll call vote was conducted and the HRTPO unanimously approved to meet in June. Chair Tuck indicated that a doodle poll would be transmitted to Board members to determine a date and time.

10. Approval of Consent Items [Action Requested]

A roll call vote was conducted and the HRTPO Board unanimously approved the Consent Items as written.

11. HRTPO Board Three-Month Tentative Schedule

This item was for informational purposes

12. Correspondence of Interest

This item was for informational purposes.

13. Minutes of HRTPO Committee Meetings

This item was for informational purposes.

14. For Your Information

This item was for informational purposes.

15. Old/New Business

There was no old/new business.

ADJOURNMENT