

**AGENDA ITEM #12: REGIONAL PRIORITY PROJECTS: ROUND 2**  
***Camelia Ravanbakht, HRTPO***

During the HRTPO Board meeting of May 18, 2017, the City of Virginia Beach requested guidance from the Board (Attachment A) regarding the possibility of adding the I-264/Independence Boulevard interchange to the list of Regional Priority Projects.

Following significant discussion, the Board voted unanimously to direct HRTPO staff to work with the TTAC to review and identify projects in the 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) that could be considered as Round 2 Hampton Roads Regional Priority Projects. Included in the Board action was that Round 1 projects (Attachment B) will not be impacted in terms of priority or funding by the work done for Round 2.

TTAC members will be asked to review their 2040 LRTP projects and submit candidates for possible inclusion in Round 2 Hampton Roads Regional Priority Projects. HRTPO staff will evaluate the projects and convene a meeting of the LRTP Subcommittee to develop a recommended list of Round 2 projects for consideration by the TTAC and HRTPO Board.

**Dr. Camelia Ravanbakht, HRTPO Deputy Executive Director, will brief the TTAC on this item.**

Attachment A – City of Virginia Beach Letter

Attachment B – Maps of Hampton Roads Regional Priority Projects (Round 1)

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Review the 2040 LRTP projects and submit candidates for Round 2 Hampton Roads Regional Priority Projects to Dale Stith ([dstith@hrtpo.org](mailto:dstith@hrtpo.org)) by COB Wednesday, June 21, 2017.



WILLIAM D. SESSOMS, JR.  
MAYOR

# City of Virginia Beach

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April 14, 2017

Mr. Kevin B. Page  
Executive Director, HRTAC  
723 Woodlake Drive  
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Mr. Robert A. Crum, Jr.  
Executive Director, HRTPO  
723 Woodlake Drive  
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Dear Executive Director's Page & Crum:

The City of Virginia Beach needs your assistance in moving a priority transportation project forward. The Independence Blvd. Interchange with I-264 is one of the heaviest congested areas in the City, and indeed the Region. We have an exceptionally high number of accidents there due to the congestion caused by the backup onto the main travel lanes. This congestion will only get worse as we continue to improve the Economic Development opportunities, including new jobs in the Town Center area. As you know, AECOM did a study for the needs of the entire I-264 corridor recently. This was an update of a report done in the early 2000's. The most recent AECOM report proposed design improvements to this interchange costing over a half billion dollars. They also included in their traffic modeling a flyover west of this interchange, which will reduce throughput on Independence Blvd.

I respectfully request that effort be undertaken to move the Independence Blvd. / I-264 Interchange project forward, possibly as a Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Committee funded project. As you know, Virginia Beach generates approximately 27% of the revenues for HRTAC, but yet there is only a portion of one project located within the City. I am aware that HRTAC funds are allocated many years into the future. However, I think now is the time to communicate our efforts to get this project in line for funding. The City, for its part, is working with Virginia Department of Transportation to pay for an Interchange Modification Report (IMR). We expect to accomplish this within the next year. That will obviously be an

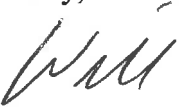
Mr. Kevin B. Page & Mr. Robert A. Crum, Jr.  
Executive Directors  
April 14, 2017  
Page 2 of 2

obviously be an important step for moving this project forward. The adopted regional LRTP includes this project as a "study" phase project which is essential to moving the process along.

I believe the IMR will address some of the questions raised by FHWA in the past, such as the sequencing of interchange improvements on I-264 and whether main line widening suggested through the AECOM study will be necessary for the Independence Blvd. Interchange to move forward.

Virginia Beach staff stands ready to work with you on this request. I know that you two gentleman can find a way for this project to progress. Thank you for your attention to this issue. I and the City staff look forward to working with you on this very important project

Sincerely,



William D. Sessoms, Jr.

Mayor

cc: David L. Hansen, City Manager  
Ronald Williams, Deputy City Manager  
Warren Harris, Economic Development  
Robert M. Matthias, Assistant to the City Manager  
Phil Davenport, Public Works  
Phil Pullen, Public Works