

Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization Special Board Meeting – June 17, 2021

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 general public, the HRTPO Board Meeting will be held electronically.

Meeting Agenda

- 3:00 pm
1. Call to Order
 2. Approval of Agenda **[Action Requested]**
 3. Public Comments *(Please Refer to Agenda Note Item #3 for Details)*
 4. 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) – Remaining Report Documentation and Plan Adoption of 2045 LRTP **[Action Requested]**
- 3:30 pm
5. Adjournment

ITEM #1: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting is scheduled to be called to order by the chair at 3:00 p.m.

ITEM #2: APPROVAL OF AGENDA [*Action Requested*]

Members are provided an opportunity to add or delete items from the agenda. Any item for which a member desires consideration by the HRTPO Board should be submitted at this time.

ITEM #3: PUBLIC COMMENTS

Interested parties are invited to submit comments to the HRTPO Board in advance of the meeting by email to kmiller@hrtpo.org or phone (757) 366-4370. All comments received 48 hours before the meeting will be provided to the HRTPO Board members and included in the official record.

ITEM #4: 2045 LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP) – REMAINING REPORT DOCUMENTATION AND PLAN ADOPTION [*Action Requested*] *Dale Stith, HRTPO*

As the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for Hampton Roads, the HRTPO is required to develop and maintain a Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which serves as the region's transportation blueprint, identifying all regionally significant transportation investments. The current LRTP, with the horizon year of 2040, is set to expire on July 21, 2021. For the past five years, HRTPO staff has been updating the LRTP to the horizon year of 2045. The LRTP update has been based on a collaborative process involving many regional stakeholders and the public to identify, prioritize, and fiscally constrain needed transportation investments. Based on analysis using the [Regional Scenario Planning Framework](#) and the [HRTPO Project Prioritization Tool](#), the 2045 LRTP identifies \$17 Billion to maintain the existing transportation system and an additional \$13.7 Billion for multimodal projects and studies that will help improve the movement of people and goods.

The 2045 LRTP is documented through a series of reports, which are available on the [2045 LRTP webpage](#). The HRTPO Board has previously approved seven of the 2045 LRTP reports. The remaining three draft reports in this series include:

- [2045 LRTP: Plan Performance](#)
- [2045 LRTP: Regional Transportation Vision Plan](#)
- [2045 LRTP: Public Involvement Documentation](#)

A 14-day public review for these draft reports was conducted from May 26, 2021 through June 8, 2021. No public comments were received.

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) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for review. On May 19, 2021, the FHWA and the FTA issued a joint letter stating that the 2045 LRTP and 2021-2024 TIP demonstrate conformity as prescribed by the Environmental Protection Agency's Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Part 93).

Over the past year, the COVID-19 global pandemic has presented some significant challenges in keeping the 2045 LRTP on schedule and has limited face-to-face public opportunities for engagement. Despite these challenges, with the completion of the report documentation and the receipt of the joint FHWA/FTA finding of conformity, the 2045 LRTP is ready for Board adoption, ahead of the current 2040 LRTP expiration date. The Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) has recommended Board approval of the remaining three draft reports and adoption of the 2045 LRTP.

Ms. Dale Stith, HRTPO Principal Transportation Planner, will brief the HRTPO Board on this item.

Attachment 4A: Joint FHWA/FTA Conformity Finding for the 2045 LRTP and FY 2021-2024 TIP

Attachment 4B: HRTPO Board Resolution for the adoption of the 2045 LRTP

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Approve the following 2045 LRTP reports:
 - a. 2045 LRTP: Plan Performance
 - b. 2045 LRTP: Regional Transportation Vision Plan
 - c. 2045 LRTP: Public Involvement Documentation
2. Approve HRTPO Resolution 2021-04 adopting the Hampton Roads 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan

ITEM #5: ADJOURNMENT



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration
Region III
1835 Market, Suite 500
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-656-7100
215-656-7260 (fax)

Federal Highway Administration
Virginia Division
400 N. 8th Street, Suite 750
Richmond, VA 23219
Phone: 804-775-3320
804-775-3356 (fax)

May 19, 2021

Mr. Stephen Brich
Commissioner
Virginia Department of Transportation
1401 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Re: Joint FHWA/FTA Conformity Finding for the 1997 8-hour ozone standard; Hampton Roads, Virginia

Dear Mr. Brich:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed a joint review of the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization's (HRTPO) 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

In accordance with the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA), the FHWA and the FTA are required to make a joint air quality conformity finding. Based on our evaluation of the materials submitted, coordination with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 3 Office (EPA), and input from HRTPO, the FHWA and FTA therefore find that the Conformity Determination submittal for the FY 2045 LRTP and FY 2021-2024 TIP for the Hampton Roads 1997 8-hour Ozone Area demonstrates conformity as prescribed by EPA's Transportation Conformity Rule (40 CFR Part 93), subsequent amendments, and guidance issued by EPA in November 2018 for areas affected by the February 2018 South Coast court decision. The EPA, by letter dated May 5, 2021, concurred on the overall conformity determination.

This letter represents that joint conformity finding. This conformity finding remains valid for a period of four years provided no regionally significant projects are amended to or removed from the LRTP or TIP and provided no metropolitan transportation planning deadlines come due before then. Based on our transportation planning regulatory requirements (23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303), our day-to-day involvement with the HRTPO, and extensive review of their fiscal analysis reports, FTA and FHWA find the financial information needed to support our fiscal constraint determination complete.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Ivan Rucker, FHWA-Virginia Division, at (804) 775-3350 or Ryan Long, FTA Region III, at (215) 656-7051.

Sincerely,


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THERESA GARCIA CREWS
Date: 2021.05.19 15:04:41
-04'00'

Terry Garcia Crews
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration

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SUNDRA
Digitally signed by
EDWARD S SUNDRA
Date: 2021.05.19
15:38:11 -04'00'

Edward Sundra
Acting Deputy Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration

cc: Mr. Robert Crum, Jr., HRTPO (via e-mail)
Ms. Marsha Fiol, VDOT (via email)
Mr. James Ponticello, VDOT (via email)
Mr. Ivan Rucker, FHWA (via email)
Ms. Kathleen Zubrzycki, FTA (via e-mail)
Ms. Gail McFadden-Roberts, FTA (via e-mail)
Mr. Gregory Becoat, EPA (via email)
Ms. Susan Spielberger, EPA (via e-mail)



**HAMPTON ROADS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BOARD RESOLUTION 2021-04**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE HAMPTON ROADS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
ADOPTING THE HAMPTON ROADS 2045 LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.**

WHEREAS, the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO), designated by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, is the Metropolitan Planning Organization responsible for the metropolitan transportation planning and programming process for the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) in accordance with 23 U.S.C. 134 and 49 U.S.C. 5303 and applicable federal and state regulations;

WHEREAS, the Hampton Roads MPA includes the Cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg; the Counties of Isle of Wight, James City, and York; and portions of the City of Franklin and the Counties of Gloucester and Southampton;

WHEREAS, 23 C.F.R. 450 states that the metropolitan transportation planning process shall include the development of a fiscally constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), addressing no less than a 20-year planning horizon, and shall include both long-range and short-range strategies/actions that provide for the development of an integrated multimodal transportation system (including accessible pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities) to facilitate the safe and efficient movement of people and goods in addressing current and future transportation demand;

WHEREAS, the HRTPO, in partnership with HRTPO Board advisory committees and regional stakeholders – including local, state, federal, transit, military, freight, and the public – developed the fiscally constrained Hampton Roads 2045 LRTP (documented through a series of reports), based on a collaborative process to identify, prioritize, and seek transportation funding for needed investments that help address the region's transportation needs and associated challenges;

WHEREAS, the HRTPO provided early and continuous opportunities for public participation throughout the five-year development of the Hampton Roads 2045 LRTP;

WHEREAS, the Hampton Roads MPA is in attainment for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS);

WHEREAS, the Hampton Roads MPA was in “maintenance” for the 1997 NAAQS for ozone prior to its revocation, making it an “orphan” maintenance area and thus subject to the November 2018 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued “Transportation Conformity Guidance for the South Coast II Court Decision,” which eliminated modeling requirements for orphan areas and substantially streamlined reinstated Regional Conformity Assessment requirements;

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration have found that the Regional Conformity Assessment for the Hampton Roads 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan and Fiscal Year 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program demonstrates conformity as prescribed by the EPA Transportation Conformity Rule (40 C.F.R. 51 and 93);

WHEREAS, the Hampton Roads 2045 LRTP fully complies with the requirements of 23 C.F.R. 450.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization adopts the Hampton Roads 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

ADOPTED by the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization Board at its meeting on the 17th day of June, 2021.

Donnie R. Tuck
Chair
Hampton Roads Transportation
Planning Organization

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director
Hampton Roads Transportation
Planning Organization