

AGENDA ITEM #1: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting will be called to order by the Chair at approximately 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Members of the public are invited to address the HRTPO Legislative Ad-Hoc Committee. Each speaker is limited to three minutes.

AGENDA ITEM #3: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Members are provided an opportunity to add or delete items from the agenda. Any item for which a member desires an action from the HRTPO Legislative Ad-Hoc Committee should be submitted at this time, as opposed to under "Old/New Business".

AGENDA ITEM #4: MINUTES

Approval of the summary minutes of the September 26, 2012 HRTPO Legislative Ad-Hoc Committee meeting.

Attachment 4

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the minutes.

Summary Minutes
HRTPO Legislative Ad-hoc Committee
Meeting of September 26, 2012

Mr. Dwight Farmer called the HRTPO Legislative Ad-hoc Committee to order at 11:55 a.m. in the Regional Boardroom with the following in attendance:

HRTPO Legislative Ad-hoc Committee Members:

McKinley Price (NN)
Senator Frank Wagner (GA)
Jeri Wilson (NN Legislative Liaison)

HRTPO Legislative Ad-hoc Committee Members Absent:

Delegate John A. Cosgrove (GA)
Linda T. Johnson (SU)
Robert R. Matthias (VB Legislative Liaison)

HRTPO Staff:

Dwight L. Farmer
Jessica Banks
Kathlene Grauberger
Camelia Ravanbakht

Other Participants:

Anna D'Antonio (CH Legislative Liaison)
Bryan Pennington (NO Legislative Liaison)
Sherri Neil (PO Legislative Liaison)

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Approval of Agenda

A quorum was not present; therefore, no action could be taken on the approval of the agenda.

Minutes of the July 12, 2011 Meeting

A quorum was not present; therefore, no action could be taken on the approval of the July 12, 2011 HRTPO Legislative Ad-hoc Committee Summary minutes.

Development of the HRTPO 2013 Legislative Priorities

Mr. Farmer explained in preparation for the 2013 General Assembly session, the HRTPO Legislative Ad-hoc Committee is tasked with developing a set of legislative priorities to aid in the development of the HRTPO 2013 Legislative Agenda.

A. Recommendations Carried Over from the HRTPO 2012 Legislative Priorities

1. Restructuring Transportation Planning and Programming

- a. *Synchronize the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and the Six-Year Improvement Program into one statewide programming document that is consistent with federal regulations and demonstrates allocations, obligations, and expenditures.*

Mr. Farmer stated the Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP) is an allocation document, whereas the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) is the program document that obligates money. By combining both the STIP and the SYIP, there will be one document that is consistent with federal regulations and demonstrates allocations, obligations, and expenditures.

The Committee agreed to carry this priority onto the 2013 Agenda.

2. Transportation Funding

- a. *The HRTPO supports legislation that requires sufficient funds to be provided to fully fund the Highway and Maintenance Operating Fund.*

Senator Wagner stated the statement should be more specific. After discussion, it was decided to insert additional language. The amended statement now reads as follows:

The HRTPO supports legislation that requires sufficient funds to be provided to fully fund the Highway and Maintenance Operating Fund without impacting the Transportation Trust Fund.

The Committee agreed to carry the amended priority onto the 2013 Agenda.

- b. *The HRTPO supports the identification of a dedicated non-local source of funds to support passenger rail operating costs between Richmond/Petersburg and Hampton Roads.*

Mayor Price indicated the statement was too vague. After discussion, it was decided to insert additional language. The amended statement now reads as follows:

The HRTPO supports the identification of a dedicated source of funds to support both passenger rail services and their respective operating costs between Richmond and the Peninsula and Southside Hampton Roads.

The Committee agreed to carry the amended priority onto the 2013 Agenda.

3. Other

- a. *The HRTPO supports reconstitution of the representation on the Commonwealth Transportation Board based on congressional districts by the General Assembly.*

Mr. Farmer stated the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) is currently discussing the possibility of reconstituting its membership either by congressional districts or a combination of congressional districts and VDOT operating districts. The HRTPO supports reconstitution by congressional districts.

After discussion, additional language was added to the statement which reads as follows:

The HRTPO supports reconstitution of the representation on the Commonwealth Transportation Board based on congressional districts by the General Assembly, as originally designated in Commonwealth Transportation Board membership.

The Committee agreed to carry the amended priority onto the 2013 Agenda.

B. New Items for Discussion for 2013 Legislative Priorities

1. *Secure a long-term and sustainable funding source for the Intercity Passenger Rail Operating and Capital Fund.*

It was decided to add language to the statement. It now reads as follows:

Secure a dedicated long-term and sustainable funding source for the Intercity Passenger Rail Operating and Capital Fund.

The Committee agreed to include the amended priority in the 2013 Agenda.

2. *Modify the PPTA regulations and guidelines with the Virginia Code to improve transparency.*

Mr. Farmer stated VDOT must have privacy to negotiate a deal; however the General Assembly should be better informed throughout the process. After discussion, it was decided to incorporate more specific language to the statement, which now reads as follows:

Modify the PPTA regulations and guidelines within the Virginia Code to improve transparency by:

- *Placing more decision-making authority into the hands of policymakers instead of agency management staff; and*
- *Mandating a robust and comprehensive public comment period on PPTA proposals and provide contract terms and the concessions contemplated in the Comprehensive Agreement prior to final selection.*

The Committee agreed to include the amended priority in the 2013 Agenda.

3. *Require the Commonwealth of Virginia pursue federal funding for preparation for a Tier II Environmental Impact Statement for the continuation and expansion of intercity and high-speed passenger rail service from Richmond to Hampton Roads.*

It was decided to modify the statement slightly to read as:

Urge the Commonwealth of Virginia pursue federal funding for preparation for a Tier II Environmental Impact Statement for the continuation and expansion of intercity and high-speed passenger rail service from Richmond to Hampton Roads.

The Committee agreed to include the amended priority in the 2013 Agenda.

4. *Secure additional bicycle and pedestrian funding and promote policy changes that result in the construction of "complete streets" within the existing right-of-way.*

Mr. Pennington stated cities such as Norfolk are developing share roads and asked if a legislative priority could be included in the 2013 HRTPO Agenda where this vision could be accomplished without creating penalties for the localities.

Senator Wagner stated it is better to request for more flexibility when applying funds rather than ask for additional funds.

The statement was modified and now reads:

Promote policy changes that result in the flexibility for the construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities within the existing right-of-way.

The Committee agreed to include the amended priority in the 2013 Agenda.

5. *Oppose efforts to broaden the Metropolitan Planning Organization voting membership to include private sector representatives.*

After discussion, the Committee agreed to strike this statement from the 2013 Agenda.

After all prepared items were discussed, Mr. Farmer asked Senator Wagner his opinion regarding a priority pertaining to Fast Ferry Service in Hampton Roads. Senator Wagner replied it would be beneficial to include Fast Ferry in the 2013 HRTPO Agenda.

Urge the Commonwealth of Virginia to pursue implementing fast ferry service in Hampton Roads and associated bus connections.

The Committee agreed to include the priority in the 2013 Agenda.

Mr. Farmer stated the draft 2013 HRTPO Legislative Agenda is to be presented to the HRTPO Board in October with anticipated approval of the final agenda in November.

Adjournment

There being no more business before the HRTPO Legislative Ad-hoc Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.