

**ITEM #11: REGIONAL CONNECTORS STUDY CONSULTANT CONTRACT – PHASE 1: *Robert Crum, HRTPO***

**SUMMARY:**

Staff will provide the HRTPO Board with an update regarding the Consultant's Phase 1 Contract for the Regional Connectors Study, approved by the Board at its May 17, 2018 meeting.

Mr. Robert Crum, Executive Director, will brief the HRTPO Board on this item.

**BACKGROUND:**

On October 20, 2016, the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) unanimously approved the Hampton Roads Crossing Study (HRCS) Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) Alternative A-modified, to include the Bowers Hill Interchange, as the region's Preferred Alternative. Also on October 20, 2016, the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC) unanimously supported the HRTPO's selection of Alternative A-modified, and allocated up to \$7 million from the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund (HRTF) (\$3 million with a \$4 million contingency) for further study of the HRCS SEIS components not included in the selected Alternative A-modified. These segments include:

- I-664 (from I-64 in Hampton to US 460/58/13 in Chesapeake)
- I-664 Connector
- I-564 Connector
- VA 164 Connector
- VA 164

Other segments furthering the study's specific goals and objectives may be added to the above five segments, employing 21st century transportation options that connect the Peninsula and Southside across the Hampton Roads Harbor and that enhance the quality of life and economic vitality of the region.

To provide oversight for this project, a Working Group (Technical Committee) consisting of representatives from the local jurisdictions and State/Federal partners was formed. HRTPO staff developed a Request for Proposals for this project and representatives of the Working Group joined members of the HRTPO staff in evaluating the proposals submitted by consultant teams for this project. Four consultant teams were interviewed; the panel ranked the consultants, and recommended the Michael Baker International Consultant team for this project. At the May 17, 2018 HRTPO meeting the Board took action authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the Michael Baker team for the completion of the Regional Connectors Study in an amount consistent with the project budget. The Executive Director will brief the HRTPO Board on Phase I contract with the Michael Baker team for the Regional Connectors Study.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

For informational purposes.