

ITEM #15: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Members of the public are invited to address the HRTPO Board. Each speaker is limited to three minutes.

ITEM #16: SUBMITTED PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no submitted public comments. Any written public comments received after the preparation of this agenda will be distributed as a handout at the meeting.

ITEM #17: TRANSCRIBED PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM PREVIOUS HRTPO MEETING

The transcribed public comments from the May 17, 2018 HRTPO Board meeting are attached.

Attachment 17

**Transcribed Public Comments from the
May 17, 2018 HRTPO Board Meeting**

*The views and opinions expressed during the public comment period
do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policy of the HRTPO.*

One person requested to address the HRTPO Board at the May 17, 2018 Meeting. Chair Shepperd asked them to limit their comments to three minutes.

***Ms. Donna Sayegh
Portsmouth Citizen***

Good morning, my name is Donna Sayegh and I live in Portsmouth. In today's agenda there are reports from the Commonwealth Transportation Board, Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Hampton Roads Transit and the Community Transportation Advisory Committee. No reports on transportation are given to our Economic Development Authority to let the people know what is happening with transportation in our city. The people may get a report via email for road closings, but nothing is given to the people as far as planning for such events. The people of Portsmouth pay their \$0.80 to this organization to be a member, and yet we the people aren't getting a report to let us know ahead of time what has been planned to do to our roads, or what the ridership of our transit system provides to our city and to our region. When all are allowed to be informed, it allows us to use our intellectual property to promote economic growth, create new jobs, industries, and enhances the quality and enjoyment of life. Isn't this what transportation and other services are for? Seeing different points of view? If we are not informed or engaged, we will only see one point view, our own. This is what has happened in Portsmouth; the majority of people only see one point of view, their own, especially in leadership of the elected and appointed. This is why we the people need information from the Regional Board to our local boards prior to hearing it at the regional meetings. Thanks for listening.