

Hampton Roads Regional Connectors Study
Steering (Policy) Committee
October 5, 2017, Regional Building, 10:00am

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Bob Crum (HRTPO) brought the meeting to order.

2. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees vocalized their names and affiliations.

3. Public Comment Period

No comments.

4. Background and Purpose of Study

Camelia Ravanbakht (HRTPO) presented study background and purpose (using slides), including:

- Hampton Roads Crossing Study (HRCS) Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)
- MOU
- Roles of HRTPO, VDOT, HRTAC

5. Draft Guidance for Scope of Work

Camelia continued her presentation (and slides) by presenting highlights of the draft guidance, including the five proposed study phases.

Bob mentioned the new baseline considering several HRTAC-funded projects will be built.

Phil Pullen (Va. Beach) asked about a schedule for the study. Camelia estimated 2-3 years for study completion.

Martin Thomas (Norfolk) asked about an outside person leading the study. Bob said that the HRTPO staff is prepared to lead it. Martin suggested, Dr. Ravanbakht retiring soon and no successor having been identified, that an outside person lead the study. William Sessoms (Va. Beach) indicated that HRTAC money has been allocated to existing projects, and that that (HRTPO-led) process worked well.

John Reinhart asked about guiding the consultant to finish in a certain amount of time. John Rowe (Portsmouth) asked about the study determining permitability, and Kevin Page (HRTAC) discussed a document to serve as a basis for design.

Bryan Stilley (Newport News), Will Sessoms, and Linda Johnson (Suffolk) suggested that the HRTPO staff is capable of leading the study. Bob proposed that attendees be included in final interviews to replace Dr. Ravanbakht. Linda Johnson (Suffolk) said that, as an elected official, she was reluctant to get involved in hiring staff.

Will Sessoms moved the endorsement and recommendation of Board approval of the Guidance for Scope of Work; Mr. Rowe seconded; all ayes.

6. Next Steps

Guidance for Scope of Work, and authorization to initiate the RFP process, will be on the Board's October 19, 2017 meeting agenda.

7. Adjournment

Bob Crum adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:30am.