ITEM #12: HOV TO HOT LANE CONVERSION (1-64 REVERSIBLE LANES) RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT: Jim Utterback, VDOT

SUMMARY:
The Office of the Secretary of Transportation, in coordination with the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI), and regional stakeholders have been conducting a feasibility study concerning the potential conversion of HOV to HOT lanes along two sections of I-64 on the Southside.

Mr. Jim Utterback, VDOT Hampton Roads District Administrator, will brief the HRTPO Board on this item.

BACKGROUND:
Hampton Roads commuters and visitors are faced with significant congestion along the region’s interstate network. While HRTAC is diligently working to develop financing plans for these regional priority projects, other low-cost solutions should be considered concurrently.

Among these solutions is the potential conversion of HOV to HOT lanes to better utilize the existing capacity of the corridor. In Northern Virginia, the Commonwealth has converted the existing I-95 HOV lanes to HOT lanes and analysis has shown that the average morning weekday northbound travel times have decreased by approximately 20%.

This study is divided into two separate inter-related studies. The studies include:

- Analysis of the 7 miles of two-lane reversible HOV lanes from I-564 to I-264.
- Analysis of the 6.5 miles of dual direction one-lane HOV lanes from I-264 to Battlefield Boulevard.
- Feasibility of converting HOV to HOT lanes.
- Potential benefits of the HOV to HOT conversion.
- Planning level cost estimates of the conversion.
- Planning level construction schedule for the HOV to HOT conversion.

The study is focused on regional opportunities for more efficient utilization of HOV lanes in Hampton Roads to provide travel choices to commuters, improve reliability, and reduce congestion in all travel lanes.

Attachment 12

RECOMMENDED ACTION (Action to be taken under Meeting Agenda Item #17-H):
Approve the resolution (2016-16).
HAMPTON ROADS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BOARD RESOLUTION 2016-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE HAMPTON ROADS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION SUPPORTING THE CONVERSION OF THE REVERSIBLE HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE (HOV-2) LANES TO HIGH OCCUPANCY TOLL (HOT) LANES ON I-64 FROM I-564 TO I-264.

WHEREAS, Hampton Roads commuters and tourists are faced with significant congestion at the region’s water crossings and its roadways;

WHEREAS, the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, in coordination with the Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI), requested the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), including HRTPO staff, conduct two separate but inter-related studies concerning the potential conversion of HOV to HOT lanes along sections of I-64 on the Southside.

WHEREAS, there are currently 34 miles of HOV lanes in Hampton Roads that are underutilized and the conversion of HOV lanes to HOT lanes would provide commuters with the opportunity for more travel choices and improved reliability and reduce congestion in all travel lanes;

WHEREAS, key findings of the feasibility study indicated that the conversion of reversible HOV lanes of the 8-mile section on I-64 from I-564 to I-264 to be the most financially feasible.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the HRTPO hereby supports the conversion of the 8-mile segment of the reversible HOV lanes on I-64 to HOT lanes.

APPROVED and ADOPTED by the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization Board at its meeting on the 15th day of September, 2016.

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Linda T. Johnson                          Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Chair                                     Executive Director
Hampton Roads Transportation              Hampton Roads Transportation
Planning Organization                      Planning Organization

Attachment 12