

HRTO Regional Vision and Aspirational Goals

One of the long-term strategies identified in the May 2016 report was to establish a Regional Traffic Operations Center (TOC). Through this second phase of refining the strategy, the Hampton Roads Transportation Operations (HRTO) subcommittee has evaluated the establishment of a common controller platform, reviewed operational improvement needs for the Corridors of Regional Significance (CORS), as well as the potential impacts of a Regional TOC. More than a physical TOC facility, this constitutes a vision of more collaboration between each of the respective municipal traffic operations divisions in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Transportation's freeway management network. Using the base improvements on CORS as a pilot for regional transportation collaboration, HRTO will lay the groundwork for a gradual migration of other corridors into a regional management framework. To achieve this aspiration, it is the vision of the HRTO subcommittee to strive towards the following goals as funding permits:

1. Embrace and transition to the Statewide traffic signal controller platform
2. Establish regional standards for performance monitoring and data collection to support common reporting and funding requests
3. Embrace shared contracting opportunities for regional maintenance, staffing, and third-party software/crowd-sourcing data
4. Embrace and support the development and integration with the Regional Connectivity Ring to advance the communications structure between Hampton Roads traffic operations groups.
5. Establish regionwide incident management timing plans starting with CORS
6. Embrace and incorporate consistent incident management strategies throughout the region
7. Strive to fill in coverage gaps for surveillance/monitoring of CORS and sharing the video and data feeds with all member jurisdictions for region-wide situational awareness
8. Endeavor to establish common software systems and communication platforms in the region to facilitate the aforementioned incident management, data sharing, and controls
9. Pursue funding as a region to further advance the operational improvements and connectivity

With this vision to guide the HRTO subcommittee, the group can focus on developing operational procedures, memoranda of agreements, migration plans, requirements for regional requests for proposals (RFPs) for collaborative contracting, and identifying funding opportunities to help achieve this unified vision. The HRTO subcommittee envisions that over time the region will benefit from improved operational performance and improved system-wide cost-effectiveness through common platform deployments, which will further facilitate and allow a collaboration of resources.