

AGENDA ITEM #1: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting will be called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: FTAC OFFICERS ELECTION

The updated Freight Transportation Advisory Committee (FTAC) Bylaws, which were approved by the HRTPO Board at their May 20, 2021 meeting, changes the FTAC officer structure from two Co-Chairs to a Chair and Vice-Chair. The FTAC will need to appoint a new Chair and Vice-Chair at this meeting.

Recommended Action: Approve a Chair and Vice-Chair of the FTAC for two-year terms.

AGENDA ITEM #3: PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. Public Comment Period (*limit 3 minutes per individual*)

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

B. Submitted Public Comments

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

AGENDA ITEM #4: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Members are provided an opportunity to add or delete items from the agenda. Any item for which a member desires action from the FTAC should be submitted at this time, as opposed to under "Old/New Business."

AGENDA ITEM #5: MINUTES

Summary minutes of the FTAC meeting held on May 4, 2021 are attached.

Attachment 5

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes.

HRTPO Freight Transportation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2021

Pursuant to the declared state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to protect the public health and safety of the HRTPO Freight Transportation Advisory Committee (FTAC) members, staff, and the general public, the FTAC meeting was held electronically via Webex with the following in attendance:

Members in Attendance:

David White, Virginia Maritime Association
Mike Abbott, Hapag-Lloyd
Diane Grigsby (alternate), Huntington Ingalls
Bob Eveleigh, Port City Transportation
Cannon Moss, NPBL

Members Not Present:

Rick Morris, Cannon
Larry Ewan, Ewan Consultants

Other Participants:

Ivan Rucker, FHWA
Mike Todd, DRPT
Carl Jackson, Portsmouth
Bob Crum, HRTPO
Pavithra Parthasarathi, HRTPO
Keith Nichols, HRTPO
Dale Stith, HRTPO
Sam Belfield, HRTPO
Barbara Nelson, The Port of Virginia
Thomas Cross, The Port of Virginia
Karen McPherson, The Port of Virginia

Ms. Pavithra Parthasarathi, HRTPO Deputy Executive Director, stated that pursuant to the declared state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to protect the health and safety of the Committee members, staff, and the general public, the Freight Transportation Advisory Committee (FTAC) meeting was being held electronically via Webex. These electronic meetings are required to complete essential business on behalf of the region.

Per the requirements of the Code of Virginia, the meeting agenda and all supporting documentation were posted on the HRTPO website for public review, and electronic copies of this information were provided to FTAC members and other interested parties. A recording of the meeting will be available on the HRTPO website. Additionally, the meeting was live-streamed and available for viewing on the Regional Connection YouTube channel.

The general public was provided an opportunity to comment on the agenda in advance of the meeting via two options:

1. Members of the public were invited to submit comments to the FTAC via email.
2. Members of the public were also invited to call into a dedicated phone line where comments could be recorded for the FTAC. Attachment 4

No comments were received via either option as of 48 hours before the meeting.

Ms. Parthasarathi reviewed a few important housekeeping rules in order for the FTAC meeting to run smoothly:

1. Everyone was asked to remain on mute before and after providing input.
2. Everyone was asked to identify themselves by name and the locality or agency they represent when providing input, a motion, or second.
3. All votes taken must be made by roll call vote and recorded in the minutes.

Ms. Parthasarathi thanked everyone for their cooperation and patience, and attendance was recorded by roll call.

I. CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTION

The May 4, 2021 meeting of the Freight Transportation Advisory Committee (FTAC) meeting was called to order by Mr. Keith Nichols, HRTPO Principal Transportation Engineer, at approximately 1:00 PM, and Mr. David White was appointed chair pro-temps due by motion of Mr. Bob Eveleigh with a second by Mr. Mike Abbott; all ayes.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Eveleigh with a second by Mr. Cannon Moss, the agenda was approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

February 23, 2021 summary minutes of the FTAC were approved as presented with a motion by Mr. Abbott with a second by Mr. Eveleigh.

V. FTAC MEMBERSHIP

At the February 2021 meeting, the FTAC recommended adding two new members to the committee: Mr. Bob Eveleigh, Chief Operating Officer of Port City Transportation, and Mr. Cannon Moss, President & General Manager of the Norfolk & Portsmouth Belt Line Railroad and president of the Virginia Railroad Association. Keith Nichols reviewed the action by the HRTPO Board in approving the additions to the FTAC membership during the April 15, 2021 meeting.

VI. FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

Mr. Bob Crum provided an overview of discussions that have been ongoing between Congress and the Executive Branch regarding a potential Federal Infrastructure Program. If enacted, the program would provide additional funding for various transportation infrastructure projects including roads, bridges, rail, ports, airports, and transit.

In response to these discussions, the HRTPO staff have been working with a group of regional organizations to position Hampton Roads for the anticipated program. Regional plans, studies, and legislative agendas developed and approved by the HRPDC and HRTPO have been used to identify infrastructure projects in our region that would benefit from a Federal Infrastructure Program.

Mr. Crum reviewed the collective impacts of advancing selected regional infrastructure projects totaling an investment of approximately \$7 billion.

No action was requested as this was an information item.

VII. HAMPTON ROADS HIGHWAY ACCESS TO/FROM NORTH, WEST, AND SOUTH STUDY

Mr. Crum provided an introduction to this HRTPO Unified Planning Work Program project that would highlight how the region's transportation system connects the region to market opportunities across the Commonwealth and beyond.

Mr. Nichols provided a briefing on the improvements that have been proposed for many of the corridors that provide access to and from Hampton Roads. Some of these improvements include widening I-64 between Richmond and Williamsburg, replacing all or portions of Routes 58 and 460 with limited access facilities, and building I-87 to and from North Carolina. The FY22 study will compare proposed improvements to these corridors based on the overall collective impact to the Hampton Roads region and identify low-cost solutions to improve system reliability and create economic opportunity.

The FTAC will receive updates as the study advances in the upcoming fiscal year.

VIII. 2045 LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN – UPDATE

Ms. Dale Stith provided an overview of the work efforts during the past five years of the HRTPO and partners to update the LRTP to the horizon year of 2045. The identification of multimodal investments for the 2045 LRTP is based on a detailed evaluation of approximately 260 candidate projects using the Board-approved [Regional Scenario Planning Framework](#), updated [HRTPO Project Prioritization Tool](#), and available financial resources.

Ms. Stith's presentation also included an overview of the progress in approving

the list of projects for the 2045 LRTP and described the 2045 LRTP [Funding Plan](#) and [Project Information Guide](#) reports that were approved at the HRTPO at its March 29, 2021 meeting and the [Regional Conformity Assessment](#). Following the federal review of the RCA and a finding of conformity, the HRTPO Board can officially adopt the 2045 LRTP (on schedule for June/July 2021).

Mr. White highlighted the role that the FTAC filled in developing a robust list of transportation system projects that would benefit freight movement in the region. Many of the projects advanced and were recommended as part of the funding plan for the 2045 LRTP.

IX. CRITICAL URBAN FREIGHT CORRIDORS

Mr. Nichols provided an overview of the purpose of the designation of Critical Urban Freight Corridors (CUFC) within the FAST Act and described an opportunity that the region has to identify additional lanes miles of CUFC within the region.

The FAST Act allows for up to 83 centerline miles throughout the Commonwealth to be designated a CUFC. While the state is responsible for designating these corridors, MPOs with populations greater than 500,000 people are responsible for designating CUFCs within their Metropolitan Planning Area in coordination with the state. At the request of the Virginia Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIFI), the HRTPO has been asked to identify 24 centerline miles of CUFC within the region.

Based on this goal, OIFI staff determined that Hampton Roads would be allocated a total of 24 centerline miles to designate as CUFCs out of the 83 miles available statewide. This is equal to the length of the portions of I-64 and I-664 in the region that are not part of the PHFS.

A recommendation was provided for FTAC consideration to recommend TPO Board approval to designate I-64 between Battlefield Boulevard and I-664/Bowers Hill and I-664 between I-64/Bowers Hill and Terminal Avenue as HRTPO's Critical Urban Freight Corridors.

The FTAC discussed the importance of the VA-164 corridor from the Western Freeway to I-664 and the importance of the US 58 corridor as CUFC.

Following the discussion, and on the motion by Mr. Eveleigh, with a second by Mr. Abbott, the FTAC took action to recommend TPO Board approval to designate I-64 between Battlefield Boulevard and I-664/Bowers Hill and I-664 between I-64/Bowers Hill and Terminal Avenue as HRTPO's Critical Urban Freight Corridors, and that if additional mileage becomes available now or in the future that the VA-164 corridor from the Western Freeway to I-664 and the US 58 corridor in the Hampton Road region be considered for CUFC designation.