

AGENDA ITEM #5: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

SUBJECT:

Minutes of the previous Passenger Rail and Public Transportation Task Force meeting.

BACKGROUND:

Minutes from the Rail and Public Transportation Task Force meeting held on July 11, 2016.

Attachment 5

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the minutes.

**Summary Minutes of the
HRTPO Rail and Public Transportation Task Force Meeting
July 11, 2016**

The HRTPO Passenger Rail Task Force Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Room at The Regional Building, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

Members:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Tim Cross, YK | Jeff Raliski, NO |
| Thelma Drake, NO | Mark Shea, VB |
| Leroy Hansen, SU | Brian Smith, HRT |
| Cheryl Openshaw, DRPT | Brian Solis, VB |

Members Absent:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| W. Keith Cannady, HA | Jennifer Mitchell, DRPT |
| Marvin Collins, WM | Julie Navarrete, HRT |
| Garrey Curry, GL | Reed T. Nester, WM |
| John Edwards, NSCorp | Jamie Oliver, IW |
| Paul Fraim, NO | Bryan Rhode, CSX |
| John Friedmann, NSCorp | Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr. YK |
| Paul Holt, JC | Earl Sorey, CH |
| Jamie Jackson, WATA | James Wright, PO |
| Jackie Kassel, NN | Kenneth I. Wright, PO |
| Jay McArthur, AMTRAK | Kevin Wyne, PQ |

HRTPO Executive Director

Robert A. Crum, Jr.

HRTPO Staff:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Camelia Ravanbakht | Leonardo Pineda, II |
| Rob Case | Seth Schipinski |
| John Mihaly | Amy Thurston |
| Kendall Miller | |

Other Participants:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Terry Brown, DRPT | Carolyn Murphy, WM |
| Pete Burrus, DRPT | Brian Stilley, NN |
| John Martin, SIR | Todd Tyree, WATA |

Others Recorded Attending:

Will Christopher (HRPTA); Jordan Dillard (HRT); Keith Johnson (HRT); Jordon Pascale (Virginian-Pilot); Donna Sayegh(Citizen)

Public Comment Period

Ms. Donna Sayegh, Portsmouth Citizen, expressed concern for the lack of outreach and public engagement in the Virginia Beach Transit Extension Study.

Submitted Public Comments

There were no submitted public comments.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Robert Crum, HRTPO Executive Director, asked for additions or deletions to the agenda. Mr. Crum asked that one item be added to the agenda to provide an update on the light rail expansion. Chery Openshaw, DRPT, asked that Agenda Items #8-9 be moved to #6-7 due to a time conflict for Mr. Pete Burrus, DRPT. Leroy Hansen moved to approve the agenda with the amendments; seconded by Ms. Thelma Drake. The Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Robert Crum, HRTPO Executive Director, reported that the summary minutes of the February 24, 2016 meeting of the HRTPO Passenger Rail Task Force were included in the agenda. He asked for corrections or amendments to the minutes. Hearing none, Brian Stilley Moved to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Thelma Drake. The Motion Carried.

State of Current Passenger Rail Service in Hampton Roads

Ms. Camelia Ravanbakht gave a presentation updating the task force on passenger rail in the region. Mr. John Mihaly presented his research on the services and schedule of the Amtrak Train, which included discussion on the thruway busses. The task force discussed the possibility of Route 20 bus route alignment and increased marketing of the passenger rail service.

For Your Information

Newport News Transportation Center Project – EA

Brian Stilley reported that they will break the project into 3 separate projects to do ROW acquisitions for repairs and will break ground this fall.

Richmond to D.C. Tier II EIS

Mr. Robert Crum gave a brief update on the Richmond to D.C. Tier II EIS and highlighted the importance of Hampton Roads region to the passenger rail system. Mr. Pete Burrus, DRPT, followed up by providing more information on the status of EIS.

Paratransit Providers in Hampton Roads

Feasibility of Using Private Operators and Independent Contractors for ADA Paratransit Services: Terry Brown, DRPT

Ms. Terry Brown, DRPT, gave the task force an overview of DRPT's Feasibility of Using Private Operators and Independent Contractors for ADA Paratransit Services study which was completed in November 2015.

Current Paratransit Services in Hampton Roads: Brian Smith, HRT

Mr. Brian Smith, HRT, reported about the state of paratransit services in Hampton Roads. He also discussed the relationship between paratransit and ridesharing in the region.

On-Demand Ride Services (Ridesourcing)

Ms. Kendall Miller discussed the HRTPO's Ridesourcing Study and its purpose.

Light Rail Extension Update

Brian Smith, HRT, let the task force know that all of the work for the Virginia Beach light rail extension is on time and the budget is up to date. He informed the group that updated costs will be provided in the fall and reminded the group of the referendum in November.

Mr. John Martin, SIR, gave a quick recap of the Railvolution event that took place on June 27, 2016 in Virginia Beach. He noted that the biggest takeaway from the event is that vision matters.

Old/New Business

Mr. Brian Smith, HRT, noted that there are presentations of transit-related materials on connecthamptonroads.com and they have their 2016 survey uploaded as well. He also announced that HRT has finished the first regional economic study for transit.

Brian Solis, Virginia Beach, noted that a RFQ is moving forward on a project. It will be taken through a 2-tier RFP process.

Adjournment

There being no more business before the Rail and Public Transportation Task Force, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40pm.