

**Summary Minutes of the HRTPO Transportation
Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) Meeting
November 4, 2020**

The HRTPO Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC) Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. in the Regional Building, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia.

Mr. Michael Kimbrel, HRTPO Deputy Executive Director, read the following statement:

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 Transportation Technical Advisory Committee members, staff, and the general public, today's meeting is 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 agenda and all supporting documentation were posted on the HRTPO website for public review, and electronic copies of this information were provided to TTAC members and other interested parties.

A recording is being made of today's meeting and will be posted on the HRTPO website. In addition, the general public was provided an opportunity to provide comments on today's meeting agenda via two options:

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

No comments were received as of noon yesterday.

Members of the public were also provided an audio-only phone line to listen to the meeting.

Before we begin today's meeting, I would like to review a few housekeeping rules which are important as we complete this remote meeting:

All members are asked to keep their phones and computers muted except for when you are providing input.

Please identify yourself when speaking by providing your name and the locality you represent. Do the same should you provide a motion or a second.

All votes taken today must be made by roll call vote and recorded in the minutes.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience. Attendance will now be recorded by roll call.

A roll call vote was conducted and the following represents the attendance of the meeting.

TTAC Voting Members in Attendance:

Bryan Stilley (Chair, NN)	Angela Rico (NN)	Katie Shannon (Alternate, VB)
Benjamin Camras (CH)	Robert Brown (NO)	Carolyn Murphy (WM)
Troy Eisenberger (CH)	Amy Inman (NO)	Tim Cross (YK)
Tracy Jones-Schoenfeld (CH)	Deborah Mangiaracina (NO)	Grant Sparks (DRPT)
Carol Rizzio (GL)	Carl Jackson (PO)	Sam Sink (HRT)
Lynne Keenan (HA)	LJ Hansen (SU)	Todd Halacy (VDOT)
Jamie Oliver (IW)	Robert Lewis (SU)	Sonya Hallums-Ponton (VDOT)
Amy Ring (IW)	Jason Souders (SU)	Eric Stringfield (VDOT)
Paul Holt (JC)	David Jarman (VB)	Barbara Nelson (VPA)
Angela Hopkins (NN)	Phil Pullen (VB)	Joshua Moore (WATA)

TTAC Voting Members Absent:

Anne Ducey-Ortiz (GL)	Garrett Feagans (PQ)	Ric Lowman (VB)
Michael Hayes (HA)	Charles Horton (PQ)	Daniel Clayton (WM)
Jason Mitchell (HA)	Dannan O’Connell (PQ)	Aaron Small (WM)
Wayne Griffin (IW)	Michael Johnson (SH)	Earl Anderson (YK)
Tammy Rosario (JC)	Beth Lewis (SH)	Joe Sisler (YK)
James Wright (PO)	Lynette Lowe (SH)	

TTAC Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

Michael King (NAVY)

TTAC Non-Voting Members Absent:

Ivan Rucker (FHWA)
Melissa McGill (FTA)

HRTPO Staff in Attendance:

Sam Belfield	Uros Jovanovic	John Mihaly
Theresa Brooks	Bishoy Kelleny	Keith Nichols
Rob Case	Michael Kimbrel	Jeff Raliski
Kathlene Grauberger	Steve Lambert	Dale Stith

Others Recorded Attending:

Lisa Simpson (NN); Cole Fisher, Robert Matthias (VB); Keisha Branch (HRT); Chris Wichman (OIPI); Chris Voigt (VDOT); Karen McPherson (McPherson Consulting); Logan Grimm (HRPDC Staff)

Approval of Agenda

Chair Bryan Stilley asked for additions or deletions to the TTAC Agenda. Hearing none, Mr. Carl Jackson Moved to approve the agenda as written; seconded by Ms. Barbara Nelson.

The Motion Carried by Affirmation.

Public Comments

No public comments were received by noon on November 3, 2020.

Approval of Consent Items *[Action Requested]*

- A. Minutes
- B. FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment Request to Transfer CMAQ Funding: Norfolk
UPC 105592 – Norfolk Signal System Improvements – Phase 4C
UPC 109572 – Norfolk Bus Shelter and Pedestrian Improvements
- C. FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment Request to Transfer CMAQ Funding: Suffolk
UPC 102990: Nansemond Parkway Traffic Signal Upgrades
- D. FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment Request: VDOT
UPC 103754: Route 460 PPTA Debt Service
- E. FY 2021-2024 TIP Amendment Request: WATA – 13 projects
- F. Impact of Trails and Sidewalks on Home Values: Final

Mr. Robert Lewis Moved to approve the Consent Agenda as written; seconded by Mr. Troy Eisenberger.

A roll call vote was conducted:

Benjamin Camras (CH)	Yes
Troy Eisenberger (CH)	Yes
Tracy Jones-Schoenfeld (CH)	Yes
Carol Rizzio (GL)	Yes
Lynne Keenan (HA)	Yes
Paul Holt (JC)	Yes
Angela Hopkins (NN)	Yes
Angela Rico (NN)	Yes
Bryan Stilley (NN)	Yes
Robert Brown (NO)	Yes
Amy Inman (NO)	Yes
Debbie Mangiaracina (NO)	Yes
Carl Jackson (PO)	Yes
LJ Hansen (SU)	Yes
Robert Lewis (SU)	Yes
Jason Souders (SU)	Yes
David Jarman (VB)	Yes
Phil Pullen (VB)	Yes
Katie Shannon (Alternate, VB)	Yes
Carolyn Murphy (WM)	Yes
Timothy Cross (YK)	Yes
Grant Sparks (DRPT)	Yes
Sam Sink (HRT)	Yes
Todd Halacy (VDOT)	Yes
Sonya Hallums-Ponton (VDOT)	Yes
Eric Stringfield (VDOT)	Yes

Barbara Nelson (VPA)
Josh Moore (WATA)

Yes
Yes

Regarding the Motion on the floor, The Motion Carried.

Hampton Boulevard Corridor Study: Draft

Dr. Robert Case, HRTPO Chief Transportation Engineer, reported that over recent decades, the citizens and government of Norfolk have been concerned about the interaction of truck, pedestrian, auto, and rail modes on the heavily used Hampton Boulevard corridor, which serves the world's largest naval base, a major Port of Virginia terminal, a major university, a regional medical center, and multiple neighborhoods. He noted that HRTPO staff analyzed the corridor in response to a request from the City of Norfolk regarding:

- Removing trucks from Hampton Boulevard
- Improving Safety
- Mitigating Road Blockages by Port Trains

Dr. Case summarized the initiatives currently utilized for removing trucks from Hampton Boulevard and outlined several future options studied by HRTPO staff.

Mr. Keith Nichols, HRTPO Principal Transportation Engineer, stated that HRTPO staff also analyzed speed data from the permanent count station on Hampton Boulevard that covered a five-year period from 2015–2019 and noted that there were speeding issues and a higher number of crashes during peak periods. He indicated that Norfolk has completed several safety improvements and plan to review recommended potential countermeasures from HRTPO staff.

Mr. Nichols noted that the impacts of port-bound trains at three at-grade rail crossings on the Norfolk and Portsmouth Belt Line Railroad were of particular concern to the City and therefore, studied by HRTPO staff. Several recommendations were proposed including enhanced rail crossing traveler information and variable message signs and sensor locations.

He stated that the draft report will be made available for public review and comment after the meeting and requested comments be sent to him or Rob Case by November 20, 2020.

Ms. Barbara Nelson of the Virginia Port Authority made a statement regarding the original scope of the study.

Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) High Capacity Transit Projects: Update Naval Station Norfolk Transit Corridor

Ms. Sam Sink, HRT Director of Transit Development, reported that the Naval Station Norfolk Transit Corridor Project (NSNTCP) is a 2–2.5 year study that began in the Fall of 2019. The study examines potential Light Rail Transit (LRT) and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) alternatives on the eastern side of Norfolk that could provide a regionally significant, high-quality transit connection between the existing Tide Light Rail line and Naval Station Norfolk.

In 2020, HRT has completed the first round of its public engagement and also the Tier 1 Alternatives Evaluation. She indicated that the following four alignments advanced to the Tier 2 Evaluation:

- 1) Military Highway to Main Gate
- 2) Military Highway to Gate 4
- 3) Newtown Road to Main Gate
- 4) Newtown Road to Gate 4

Ms. Sink indicated that HRT is rethinking next steps to fit within its 24-month window and indicated that an initial recommended alternative will be proposed in the near future with the environmental impact results completed by Summer 2021 and the preferred alternative announced in the Fall – Winter of 2021.

Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) High Capacity Transit Projects: Update Peninsula Bus Rapid Transit Categorical Exclusion

Ms. Sam Sink, HRT Director of Transit Development reported that work on HRT's Peninsula Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Categorical Exclusion is underway as part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process to prepare the project for entrance into the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Project Development phase.

Ms. Sink stated that HRT's Peninsula Corridor Study in 2016-2017 identified the corridors of Jefferson Avenue and Mercury Boulevard as the Peninsula's best opportunity to meet the transit needs of the community. Over the past year, these two alternatives were extensively refined with a decision regarding the Locally Preferred Alternative originally planned for March 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the process was postponed. She noted next steps include:

- Draft Categorical Exclusion presented to the FTA
- City Council Endorsement of a Locally Preferred Alternative
- Public Engagement
- Final Categorical Exclusion

Three-Month Tentative Schedule

Chair Stilley outlined the Three-Month Tentative Schedule in the Agenda Packet, noting there will be a scheduled TTAC meeting in December.

For Your Information

Chair Stilley highlighted the items in the For Your Information section in the Agenda Packet.

Announcements

Chair Stilley noted the announcements in the Agenda Packet.

Ms. Dale Stith stated the LRTP Subcommittee will convene its meeting approximately 10 minutes after the conclusion of the TTAC meeting utilizing the same Webex link.

Mr. Carl Jackson indicated that the TRAFFIX Subcommittee will hold a virtual meeting on Monday, November 8, 2020 at 11:30 a.m.

Old/New Business

Mr. Chris Wichman, Virginia Office of Intermodal and Planning and Investment (OIPI) Senior Transportation Planner, reported that the draft Policy Guide for the Prioritization of the 2019 Mid-Term Needs was released with public comments being accepted through November 30, 2020. He noted that OIPI recorded two related workshops from the last week of October that can be viewed at www.vtrans.org.

Mr. Wichman stated that two Question and Answer sessions related to the draft Policy Guide are planned for November 13th and 17th and noted that an email will be sent to TTAC members from HRTPO staff regarding the link to register for these sessions.

Mr. Eric Stringfield noted that localities/agencies will receive meeting notifications from VDOT regarding SMART SCALE submittal cost estimates.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Hampton Roads Transportation Technical Advisory Committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.