

ITEM #13: ROUTE 460/58/13 CONNECTOR STUDY: UPDATE
Angel Deem, VDOT

SUMMARY:

VDOT initiated work in June 2017 on the Route 460/58/13 Connector Study, which was approved as a regional priority for preliminary engineering and study by the HRTPO Board and funded with an allocation of \$5 million from the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund (HRTF) approved by the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC). Upon completion of the traffic analysis component of the study, it has been determined that the existing six lanes in the study corridor accommodate travel demand in the year 2040. Since the HRTF is only to be used to fund projects that address significant congestion, VDOT staff has recommended halting the study at this point and returning remaining HRTF monies to HRTAC.

Ms. Angel Deem, VDOT State Environmental Division Director, will brief the HRTPO Board.

BACKGROUND:

In October 2013, the HRTPO Board approved the Route 460/58/13 Connector as a regional priority for preliminary engineering and study. The Hampton Roads 2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) includes \$5 million in HRTF for a study to potentially increase capacity on Route 460/58/13 between Bowers Hill and the Suffolk Northern Bypass, specifically evaluating an eight-lane option.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the study is in the form of an Environmental Assessment. The traffic analysis component of the study has determined that the existing facility accommodates travel demand in the year 2040, so no increase in capacity is needed.

By Virginia Code, the HRTF is to be used to fund projects that address significant congestion problems. Since the study corridor does not exhibit significant congestion issues through 2040, VDOT staff has recommended halting the study and returning remaining HRTF monies to HRTAC.

The Transportation Technical Advisory Committee has recommended that the HRTPO Board concur with the VDOT recommendation.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: (Action to be taken under Meeting Agenda Item #19-M):

Concur with the VDOT recommendation to halt the study and return the remaining funds to HRTAC.