

CHESAPEAKE  
FRANKLIN  
GLOUCESTER COUNTY  
HAMPTON  
ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY  
JAMES CITY COUNTY  
NEWPORT NEWS  
NORFOLK  
POQUOSON  
PORTSMOUTH  
SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY  
SUFFOLK  
VIRGINIA BEACH  
WILLIAMSBURG  
YORK COUNTY

# At A Glance

Fall/Winter 2017-2018

the *heartbeat* of  
**HAMPTON  
ROADS** **TPO**  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## A Note from the HRTPO

*Realizing an efficient transportation system can only come from a true understanding of citizens' diverse and far-ranging needs, the HRTPO is fully committed to involving and collaborating with Hampton Roads citizens in a public involvement process that is grounded in mutual problem solving and understanding. In other words, a process whereby citizens walk away satisfied in knowing their voice has been legitimately heard and their thoughts, ideas, and opinions have the potential to impact future HRTPO decisions.*

*The HRTPO understands the public to mean all of those who have the potential to affect or be affected by the Hampton Roads transportation system. From bikers to environmental activists, the majority of Hampton Roads citizens have a stake in the future of our transportation system. Simply put, you are the expert on your community. You possess intimate knowledge about your community and its needs, values, and concerns. Each resident of Hampton Roads has a unique perspective and the HRTPO wants to know what it is. Your thoughts, ideas, and opinions help the HRTPO and public officials view transportation-related issues from a nonpolitical or technical standpoint.*

*This publication serves as a quick and easy guide for citizens to understand the HRTPO and the work we do here. We invite your participation and welcome you to join us in creating a sustainable, dynamic Hampton Roads transportation system.*

## **What is the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization?**

The Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) is the transportation policy board for the Hampton Roads area. It is comprised of representatives from local, state and federal governments, transit agencies, and other stakeholders and is responsible for transportation planning and programming. All transportation initiatives occurring in Hampton Roads begin here, at HRTPO and are outlined in our Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

## **What is the UPWP?**

Each year, the HRTPO creates a roadmap describing the work we, along with our planning partners will be doing in the region over the next year. The plan includes a description of each task, anticipated project and cost, and a timeline for each task as well. This roadmap is called the UPWP.

## **What are HRTPO's Core Functions?**

HRTPO has five core functions:

Establish and manage a fair and impartial setting for effective regional decision-making with regard to metropolitan transportation planning; evaluate transportation alternatives appropriate to the region in terms of its unique needs, issues, and realistically available options; develop and maintain a fiscally-constrained, Long-Range (at least 20 years) Transportation Plan for the metropolitan planning area; develop and maintain a fiscally-constrained Transportation Improvement Program and involve the public in the four functions listed above

The **Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)**, **Congestion Management Process (CMP)**, **Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**, **Public Involvement, Environmental Justice (EJ)** and **Title VI**, are the programs through which HRTPO's core functions, are achieved.

## **What are HRTPO's Programs?**

### **L RTP**

The LRTP outlines the region's vision for developing a well-balanced multi-modal transportation system that facilitates the safe, efficient and reliable movement of people and goods. It is updated every five years and affects every person in Hampton Roads.

### **CMP**

The CMP is an ongoing systematic process that identifies congested locations, determines the cause of congestion, develops alternative solutions and recommends strategies to mitigate congestion.

### **TIP**

HRTPO is required to develop the TIP in cooperation with state agencies and public transit providers. The TIP documents transportation projects that will be underway in the near term. The TIP covers a period of four years and must include information showing how the projects will be funded.

### **EJ, TITLE VI AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

HRTPO believes that the citizens of our region are a valued stakeholder in our transportation planning process. HRTPO threads the principles of EJ and Title VI throughout its process because EJ and Title VI ensure the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income.

### **Other HRTPO Planning Projects & Initiatives**

### **TRANSPORTATION PROJECT PRIORITIZATION**

Project prioritization is designed to score candidate transportation projects based on technical merits and regional benefits. Projects are evaluated on three components: Project Utility (ability to solve and existing transportation issue), Economic Vitality (ability to support economic growth) and Project Viability (project readiness).

### **HIGHER-SPEED AND INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL**

This program supports the expansion of higher-speed passenger rail and encourages connectivity between Hampton Roads and Richmond and beyond.

### **SAFETY SECURITY & OPERATIONS PLANNING**

The Hampton Roads Regional Safety Study was initiated in 2001 and was last updated in 2013-2014. This study reports on crash data and trends, high crash locations and crash-counter measures. Security is considered through regional emergency preparedness planning and evacuation programs.

### **REGIONAL FREIGHT PLANNING**

Regional freight planning shows the impact of freight movement on employment, income, and economic growth in order to guide policy and investment decisions to improve the multimodal transportation system. HRTPO efforts include regional and local freight studies, networking with freight stakeholders, local and statewide coordination recommendations and project delivery.

### **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION**

"Active Transportation" (AT) is all forms of human-powered transportation, including connections to public transit. AT provides an alternative transportation choice that contributes to a healthy, active lifestyle.

The newly established AT subcommittee is the first of its kind for the region and is tasked with facilitating the improvement of regional active transportation.

### **RURAL LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Areas of Hampton Roads with smaller, less concentrated populations have their own set of unique transportation needs that are equally as important as the needs faced in our more densely populated urban and suburban areas. For this reason, we produce the RL RTP.

### **TRANSIT PLANNING**

The Regional Transit Planning initiative serves to support and encourage the use of public transit, by working with area transit providers.

## VOTING MEMBERS INCLUDE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:

AN ELECTED OFFICIAL FROM EACH LOCALITY

PUBLIC TRANSIT AGENCIES

- Hampton Roads Transit
- Williamsburg Area Transit Authority

STATE AGENCIES

- Virginia Department of Transportation
- Virginia Department of Rail & Public Transportation
- Virginia Port Authority

VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Two Members of the Virginia Senate
- Two Members of the Virginia House of Delegates

## NON-VOTING MEMBERS INCLUDE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Chief Administrative Officer for all Member Localities
- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Transit Administration
- Federal Aviation Administration
- Virginia Department of Aviation
- Peninsula Airport Commission
- Norfolk Airport Commission
- Community Transportation Advisory Committee
- Freight Transportation Advisory Committee
- Military Liaisons
- Invited Participants from the Commonwealth Transportation Board

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