

# *Hampton Roads Regional Connectors Study Update*

*Presented to the  
Transportation Technical Advisory Committee*

*By  
Michael S. Kimbrel  
HRTPO Deputy Executive Director*

*February 6, 2019*

# Background

October 20, 2016

- The HRTPO unanimously approved HRCS SEIS Alternative A (I-64 Widening and HRBT Expansion), plus the Bowers Hill Interchange as the Preferred Alternative
- HRTAC unanimously supported the same Preferred Alternative and allocated up to \$7 million to be applied toward studying the feasibility of the unselected alternatives from the HRCS SEIS

December 7, 2016

- The CTB approved Alternative A

May 1, 2017

- A **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** was signed between the HRTPO, VDOT, and HRTAC to advance the study effort in two separate components:
  - \$4 million for Bowers Hill Interchange
  - \$3 million for Regional Connectors Study, with a contingency of \$4 million



# Memorandum of Understanding

## *Studies, designs, funding analyses:*

- *“... to determine **feasibility, permitability, and transportation benefits necessary** to advance the Additional Corridors...”*

## *HRTPO Duties:*

- *Ensure that all work is completed **in accordance w/all laws and regulations***
- *Lead **working group** of HRTPO, HRTAC, VDOT, and local impacted jurisdictions*
- *Lead **formation of steering committee** of USACE, U.S. Navy, Port of Virginia, and local jurisdictions to develop scope of work and to determine consultant selection approach*
- *Develop a **regional consensus***

# Guidance for Scope of Work

- **Working Group Reviewed and Provided Input**
  - July 14, 2017
  - September 15, 2017
- **RCS Steering Committee Endorsed and Recommended for HRTPO Board Approval**
  - October 5, 2017
- **Approved by HRTPO Board**
  - October 19, 2017

**Study should establish a regional long-term vision that investigates 21st century transportation options that:**

- Connect the Peninsula and the Southside across the Hampton Roads Harbor
- Enhance Economic Vitality
- Improve the Quality of Life in the Region

**Analysis will use a baseline assumption that includes improvements on:**

- I-64 Peninsula (Segments I, II, III)
- I-64 Southside/High-Rise Bridge (Phase I)
- I-64/HRBT
- I-64/I-264 Interchange (Phases I and II)

**Projects emerging from study will be considered by the HRTPO Board for its 2045 LRTP**

- For the purpose of furthering the study's specific goals and objectives, additional roadway segments may be added for evaluation

**Transportation Benefits, Community Impacts, and Financial Feasibility Analysis will provide input to the 2045 LRTP**

- Forecasts shall be done for year 2045
- Regional scenario planning for year 2045
- Transportation Benefit Measures incorporated into HRTPO Project Prioritization Tool for 2045 LRTP consideration

# RCS Phase 1 Scope

- ***Develop & Initiate Engagement Program***
  - *Stakeholder Interviews*
  - *Engagement/Outreach Plan*
  - *Study Website*
  - *Regional Survey*
- ***Evaluate Regional Travel Demand Model***
- ***Determine Scenario Planning Effort***
- ***Update Existing Conditions Information***
- ***Develop Scope for Phase 2***

# Coordination: RCS and 2045 LRTP



**REGIONAL  
CONNECTORS  
STUDY**

## Consistent Key Elements (based on approved guidance)

**HRTPO** REGIONAL  
CONNECTORS  
STUDY  
REGIONAL SURVEY RESULTS



**Project Utility**  
(Project Effectiveness)

- Congestion
- System Continuity and Connectivity
- Safety and Security
- Cost Effectiveness
- Regional Significance

**Economic Vitality**  
(Potential for Economic Gain)

- Total Reduction in Travel Time
- Address the Needs of Basic Sector Industries
- Labor Market Access
- Increase Opportunity
- Impact on Truck Movement

**Project Viability**  
(Project Roadiness)

- % Funding Committed
- % Design Complete
- Prior Planning Commitment
- NEPA Document/Decisions

### Visioning

- Regional Vision for Connectivity, Economic Vitality, Quality of Life, etc.

### Scenario Planning

- Explore potential impacts of future trends
- Identify transportation investments that fare best

### Prioritization

- Objective tool that evaluates transportation projects based on three components: Project Utility, Economic Vitality, Project Viability

# RCS and 2045 LRTP Relationship

## OPTION 1:

### **RCS Continues Concurrent Schedule with 2045 LRTP**

- *RCS project recommendations will be considered for inclusion in the 2045 LRTP (along with other Regional Priority Candidate Projects)*
- *Consolidation of efforts (scenario planning, prioritization, public outreach, etc.)*

## OPTION 2:

### **RCS and 2045 LRTP Schedules Decoupled**

- *Potential RCS projects will not be evaluated for the 2045 LRTP since study will still be underway*
- *Upon completion of the RCS, the 2045 LRTP could be amended to include 1 or more RCS projects, however:*
  - *Removal of other project(s) would be required to maintain fiscal-constraint*
- *Depending on completion date of RCS, 2045 socioeconomic forecast may not be valid and additional analysis might be necessary*

# RCS Status

- **Phase 1 nearly complete**
- **Draft Scope for Phase 2**
  - **Task 1 – Execution of Engagement Plan**
  - **Task 2 – Development of Preliminary Alternatives**
  - **Task 3 – Determination of Candidate Alternatives**
  - **Task 4 – Preparation for Scenario Planning Analyses**
- **Phase 2 Schedule: Complete by January 2020**
- **Cost Estimate for Phase 2: \$2 million**



# Next Steps

- **February 13, 2019 – RCS Joint Steering (Policy) Committee and Working Group Meeting**
  - **Recommendations to HRTPO Board on:**
    - **Option for RCS and 2045 LRTP Relationship**
    - **Phase 2 Scope, Schedule, and Cost**
- **February 21, 2019 – HRTPO Board Meeting**