

October 2, 2025

Memorandum #2025-130

TO: HRPDC/HRTPO Community Advisory Committee
BY: Quan McLaurin, HRPDC/HRTPO Civil Rights & Community Engagement Liaison
RE: HRPDC/HRTPO Community Advisory Committee Meeting – October 9, 2025

The next HRPDC/HRTPO Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, October 9, 2025, from Noon to 2:00 PM. Lunch will be provided.

This meeting will be held in person at the Newport News Department of Development City Center Office, Suite 300, located at [11820 Fountain Way, Newport News, VA 23606](https://www.google.com/maps/place/11820+Fountain+Way,+Newport+News,+VA+23606).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

QM/se

Attachments

CAC Membership:

Carter, Lauren, NO (Chair)
Anderson, Sharon, PO (Vice-Chair)
DuRose, Todd, CH
Nickens, Rodney, CH
Amos, Maleah, PO
Cotrupi, Frank, NN
Davidson, Travis, NO
Walker, Tiaira, NO
Harris, Garry, PO

Martin, Brad, VB
Piglowski, Anthony, SU
White, Carolyn, SU
Dell, Shelby, VB
Harrell, Destini, VB
Sorrell, Shannon, VB
Sterling, Josh, VB
Ogunyemi, Daniel, YK

CAC Partner Agencies:

Cook, Steve, The Workforce Council
Evans, Michael, Hampton Roads Alliance
Dwyer, Rick HRMFFA
Gatling, Veleka, ODU

Lumpkin, Drew, The Roundtable
Miller, Scott, VWU
Short, Jo Ann, The Planning Council

CAC Copy:

Belcher, Larry, VWU
Crittendon, Queen, VDOT
Effah-Amponsah Angela, VDOT
Finderson, Thomas, IW
Geduldig-Yatrofsky, Mark, PO
Hallums-Ponton, Sonya, VDOT
Kirkland, Sarah Jane, ODU
Kramer, Thomas, CNU
Mayes Katheryn, IW
Mason, Monty, W&M

McKenna, Bob, VPCC
Moore, Keith, VWU,
Nichols, Todd, HRMFFA
Page, Kevin, HRTAC
Ramsey, Elijah, VDOT
Tanner, Carolyn, VDOT
Torres, Joshuah,
Wallace Dustin, NO
Zollos, Steve, SSSEVA

Staff:

Crum, Bob
Grootendorst, Greg
Parthasarathi, Pavithra

McLaurin, Quan
Klepeisz, Matt

**HAMPTON ROADS
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING**

**October 9, 2025
Noon – 2:00 PM**

**Newport News Department of Development
City Center Office – Suite 300
11820 Fountain Way
Newport News, 23606**

For accommodations or cost-free translation assistance, please contact Quan McLaurin (qmclaurin@hrpdvva.gov) at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

1. Call to Order

2. Approval/Modification of Agenda

Members are provided an opportunity to modify the agenda. Any item for which a member desires consideration from the CAC should be submitted now, as opposed to under “Old/New Business.”

Recommended Action: The CAC should consider taking action to approve the agenda.

3. Public Comments

• Submitted Public Comments

There were no submitted public comments since the last CAC meeting. Any new written public comments received after the preparation of this agenda will be announced at the meeting.

• Public Comment Period

Members of the public are invited to address the CAC. Each speaker is limited to three minutes.

4. Summary Minutes

The draft August 2025 meeting minutes are attached for the CAC’s consideration.

Attachment 4: Meeting Minutes August 14, 2025

Recommended Action: The CAC should approve the August 14, 2025 minutes.

5. 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan Update – Dale Stith, HRTPO Principal Transportation Planner

As the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), one of the core functions of the HRTPO is to develop, approve, and maintain a fiscally constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). With a planning horizon of at least 20 years, the LRTP serves as the blueprint for enhancing the region's multimodal transportation system. The LRTP is updated periodically to reflect changing conditions such as new planning priorities, population projections, economic change, and anticipated travel demand.

HRTPO staff are in the process of preparing the 2050 Hampton Roads Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The project prioritization process used to evaluate and score candidate transportation projects based on their technical merits and regional benefits is almost complete.

At the October 9 meeting, HRTPO staff will provide an update on the 2050 LRTP project prioritization process and the overall LRTP schedule to ensure timely adoption. Staff will also outline the various steps where the CAC will be asked to review and provide feedback, including the draft prioritization scores, which will be shared with the CAC once completed.

Recommended Action: For discussion and information purposes at this time.

6. Active Transportation Update – Robert Case, HRTPO Chief Transportation Engineer

HRTPO Chief Transportation Engineer, Rob Case, will present planned routes, completion status, and recent/upcoming funding requests for the regional active transportation trails planned for Hampton Roads. He will also show HRTPO products that describe and map existing trail clusters.

Recommended Action: For discussion and information purposes at this time.

7. HRPDC/HRTPO Public Engagement Plan – Quan McLaurin, HRPDC/HRTPO, Civil Rights & Community Engagement Liaison

The HRTPO/HRPDC Public Engagement Plan will provide the agency with a roadmap and guidance on administering public involvement efforts for regional planning efforts. Mr. McLaurin will brief the CAC on the Public Engagement Plan (PEP) updates, including best practices adopted from the International Association of Public Participation. The PEP is out for a 45-day public comment from October 1, 2025, to November 15, 2025. The PEP will then be shared with the HRPDC and HRTPO board with a request for approval and adoption.

A draft version of the plan is available for review here:
<https://www.hrtpo.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=229>

Recommended Action: The CAC should review the updated PEP and provide feedback during the public comment period (October 1, 2025 – November 15, 2025).

8. For Your Information

- FHWA/FTA Certification Review Final Report - On August 20, 2025, the HRTPO received the Final Certification Report for the Hampton Roads Transportation Management Area (TMA). The full report is available on the HRTPO website: <https://www.hrtpo.org/DocumentCenter/View/15008/HRTPO-FHWA%20FTA%20Final%20August-2025-PDF>.
If you have any questions, please contact Quan McLaurin (qmclaurin@hrpdcva.gov) or Pavithra Parthasarathi (pparthasarathi@hrtpo.org).

9. Old/New Business

10. Adjournment

**Summary Minutes of the HRPDC/HRTPO
Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
August 14, 2025**

The April 10, 2025, meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC)/Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) was held at the Brock Environmental Center in Virginia Beach, VA.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 12:00 PM with the following in attendance:

CAC Members in Attendance

Lauren Roberts Carter (NO)

Maleah Amos (PO)

Sharon D. Anderson (PO)

Frank Cotrupi (NN)

Brad Martin (VB)

Travis Davidson (NO)

Anthony Piglowski (SU)

CAC Members Absent

HRPDC/HRTPO Staff

Quan McLaurin

Robert A. Crum, Jr.

Whitney Katchmark

Matt Klepeisz

Partner Agencies

Damon Pauly, VDOT

Jo Ann Short, Planning Council

Veleka Gatling, ODU

Mariah David, VDOT

Keith Moore, VWU

Keisha Wilkins, VDOT

Additional Attendees

Daniel Ogunyemi, VIMS

Michael Evans, HRA

Shelby Dell, On Point PR

Rodney Nickens

Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky, Portsmouth

William Webb, Suffolk

Destini Harrell, The Blessed Rogue

Cierra Lewis, YWCA

Josh Sterling, HRA

Michael Evans, HRA

Herby DeGroft, Isle of Wight

Tom Finderson, Isle of Wight

Nancy Gardn, Norfolk Innovation Corridor

Thomas Dudley II, The Planning Council

Approval/Modification of Agenda

The Chair, Lauren Roberts Carter, asked the committee if there were any amendments or discussions surrounding the agenda's approval. There was no discussion or amendments brought forth.

Mrs. Lauren Carter made a motion to approve the agenda as is. Ms. Sharon Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

- Submitted Public Comments**

Mr. Quan McLaurin reported that no public comments had been submitted.

- Public Comment Period**

Members of the public were invited to address the CAC, but no in-person requests for public comment were received.

- Mr. Herb DeGroft shared excerpts of the recently published article "Nonprofits supporting seniors need support, opportunity" and implored the CAC to remember to support the senior members within the Hampton Roads community.
- Mr. Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky shared a public comment imploring the public to be aware of air quality issues and how they impact health. He advised members and their communities to wear N95 masks outdoors when the air quality level is 50 and above, especially for joggers, bicyclists, or fast walkers, to protect lung health.

Membership Approval – Quan McLaurin, Civil Rights & Community Engagement Liaison

- Quan McLaurin provided an update on expanding the CAC to be representative of the 17 localities, emphasizing the benefit of diverse perspectives
- The membership subcommittee reviewed applications over several months.
- A list of prospective members was presented for approval to become full-fledged voting members of the CAC.

Carolyn White	Suffolk	Committee Member	2 vacancies (3)
Tiaira Walker	Norfolk	Committee Member	3 vacancies (5)
Daniel Ogunyemi	Yorktown	Committee Member	2 vacancies (2)
Todd DuRose	Chesapeake	Committee Member	5 vacancies (5)
Rodney Nickens	Chesapeake	Committee Member	5 vacancies (5)

Shelby Dell	Virginia Beach	Committee Member	6 vacancies (7)
Josh Sterling	Virginia Beach	Committee Member	6 vacancies (7)
Shannon Sorrell	Virginia Beach	Committee Member	6 vacancies (7)
Destini Harrell	Virginia Beach	Committee Member	6 vacancies (7)
Michael Evans, Hampton Roads Alliance	Chesapeake	Partner Agency	

- Many prospective members have already been attending meetings and engaging with the committee.
- Lauren Carter motioned that the CAC approve the membership recommendations presented by the CAC Membership Subcommittee. Sharon Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with no opposition or abstentions.
- Prospective members were welcomed, and further onboarding information will be sent.

Start in Hampton Roads – Lauren Roberts Carter, CAC Chair and Hampton Roads Chamber

- Mrs. Carter provided an overview of "Start in Hampton Roads," a pilot program aimed at attracting and retaining talent. It is a partnership between the Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable, the Workforce Council, and the Hampton Roads Chamber.
- The initiative grew out of the Fahrenheit study, which identified an out-migration challenge in the region, particularly among younger, non-military remote workers without children.
- **Goal:** Attract and retain top talent through paid and earned media strategies that promote the region's assets.
- **Key Audiences:** The campaign targets job seekers in key industries, "quality of life chasers," and transitioning military veterans.
- **Factors Driving Out-Migration:** Cost of living (perception of affordability), safety concerns, job and career opportunities, and availability of healthcare.
- **Regional Identity:** The region still faces a "regional identity crisis," and this pilot hopes to evolve into a broader regional marketing initiative.
- **Landing Page:** The initiative's landing page is www.startinhamptonroads.com.
- **Timeline:** The pilot program runs through December 2025, after which the region will take over the initiative.
- **Call to Action:** CAC members were asked to share the landing page, embed it in their own marketing materials, and share positive regional news and events that the campaign can highlight.
- Rodney Nickens expressed excitement about the initiative and its alignment with retaining young people in the region

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement Update – Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC Principal Water Resources Engineer

- Ms. Katchmark provided an update on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, which is being revised as the "Beyond 2025" agreement.
- A recent scientific review (the Caesar report) concluded that while progress has been made, the 2025 goals for nitrogen reduction will not be met. It also found a disconnect between water quality efforts and the health of living resources like fish and grasses.
- The new draft agreement consolidates 31 outcomes into 21 and focuses on four areas: habitat, clean water, healthy landscapes, and engaged communities.
- The HRPDC's comments on the draft will encourage linking actions to funding, improving local government engagement, and adapting to new challenges like sea-level rise and emerging contaminants.
- **Call to Action:** A 60-day public feedback period on the draft agreement is open until September 1, 2025. CAC members were strongly encouraged to submit comments and share the opportunity within their communities.

Regional Legislative Agenda – Robert A. Crum, Jr., Executive Director HRPDC & HRTPO

- Mr. Crum presented the emerging priorities for the 2026 Regional Legislative Agenda. The agenda requires unanimous support from the 17 member localities.
- **Primary/Secondary Road Funding:** The top priority is a request to increase the regional sales tax from 0.7 cents to a whole penny to generate an additional \$85 million annually for local road and bridge projects. A similar bill passed the General Assembly in the last session but was vetoed.
- **Transit Funding:** Advocate for increased state transit funding to support the regional backbone bus system and the maintenance needs of The Tide light rail.
- **Flood Prevention:** Continue to advocate for at least \$200 million in the state's Community Flood Preparedness Fund and seek state assistance with the required local match for federal flood protection projects.
- **Trail Funding:** Seek state funding to build out the regional trail network, which is a key quality-of-life amenity for attracting and retaining talent.
- **Emergency Management:** Request state assistance to improve regional sheltering capabilities and provide more sustainable funding for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM).
- **Other Priorities:** Included securing a reliable energy supply for economic growth, improving passenger rail service, mitigating toll impacts at the Downtown/Midtown Tunnels, and maintaining existing infrastructure.
- **Call to Action:** CAC members were asked to engage with their state legislators on the issues they are passionate about and to use their role on the committee to build relationships with elected officials.
 - Discuss these legislative priorities with state legislators, especially if there's a particular passion (e.g., transit, bike paths, toll relief).
 - Share the slides and information with communities and organizations.
 - Connect with elected leaders (who will vote on the agenda) to provide input.

- Bob offered to arrange meetings with general assembly members for CAC members interested in specific items.
- An app called "Virginia Public Access (VPAP)" can be downloaded to find contact information for general assembly members.
- Members were encouraged to form relationships with representatives before making asks.

Next Meeting

Mr. McLaurin shared that the next CAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 9, 2025.

Old/New Business

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Roberts Carter adjourned the meeting at 2:00 pm.