

## **FTAC Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2025**

### **Meeting Details:**

- **Date:** September 11, 2025
- **Time:** 10:00 AM
- **Location:** Virginia Port Authority, 101 W. Main Street, Suite 600, Main Board Room, Norfolk, VA 23510

### **In-person Attendees:**

- Bob Eveleigh, FTAC Chair (Port City Transportation)
- David White, FTAC Vice Chair (Virginia Maritime Association)
- Paul Croft, FTAC Member (Canon Virginia)
- Chad Gregg, FTAC Member (Givens)
- Diane Grigsby, FTAC Member (Newport News Shipbuilding)
- Patrick Molloy, FTAC Member (Colliers International)
- Cannon Moss, FTAC Member (NPBLR)
- Sam Belfield (HRTPO)
- Theresa Brooks (HRTPO)
- Mitzi Crystal (VDOT)
- Kyle Gilmer (HRTPO)
- Chris Gullickson (Port of Virginia)
- Karen McPherson (VHB)
- Keith Nichols (HRTPO)
- Pavithra Parthasarathi (HRTPO)
- Dale Stith (HRTPO)

### **Virtual Attendees:**

- Erik Johnson (Virginia Department of Transportation)
- Barbara Nelson (Port of Virginia)
- Ivan Rucker (FHWA)
- Amanda Rutherford (Maritime Administration, USDOT)
- Emily Stock (DRPT)

### **Agenda Item #1: Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

### **Opening Remarks & Safety Briefing**

A safety briefing was provided, including evacuation procedures and emergency equipment locations. The Board Chair offered reflections on civic engagement and collaboration in transportation planning.

**Agenda Item #2: Approval of Agenda**

- The agenda was approved without any edits.

**Agenda Item #3: Public Comments**

- There were no public comments provided at the meeting or submitted prior to the meeting.

**Agenda Item #4: Approval of Minutes**

- The minutes from the June 5, 2025, FTAC meeting were approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item #5: Regional Legislative Agenda - Pavithra Parthasarathi, HRTPO**

- Ms. Parthasarathi provided highlights on the following topics from the upcoming HRPDC/HRTPO Regional Legislative Agenda:
- Primary & Secondary Road Fund
  - There are \$3 billion in unmet needs identified in the 2045 LRTP.
  - Proposal to increase regional sales tax from 7/10 of a penny to 1 cent would generate approximately \$84 million annually to improve primary and secondary roadways.
  - There is an emphasis on unanimous locality support for legislative success. House Bill 2466 was vetoed last year; similar legislation may be reintroduced.
- Transit Funding
  - There are concerns over funding disparities with light rail due to how it is classified.
  - Continued support for regional transit initiatives.
- Flood Prevention & Emergency Management
  - Advocacy for state support to meet local match requirements for large-scale flood projects.
  - Emphasis on preparedness and shelter infrastructure.
- State Funding for PDCs
  - Request to restore inflation-adjusted funding levels for Hampton Roads after the Peninsula and Southeast Virginia PDCs were combined in the 1990s.
  - Coordination with other Virginia PDCs.
- Trail Funding
  - Advocacy for Trail757 and regional trail connectivity.
  - Emphasis on quality of life and economic development.
- Passenger Rail and Toll Mitigation
  - Support for Long Bridge improvements in Northern Virginia.
  - Continued toll relief for the Elizabeth River Crossings for low-income residents.

**Agenda Item #6: 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update - Dale Stith, HRTPO**

- Ms. Stith described the 2050 LRTP development to committee members. She noted that:
  - Over 300 candidate projects are being evaluated for the 2050 LRTP.

- Freight-related input from FTAC and other stakeholders is critical.
- Draft prioritization scores will be shared with FTAC members via email prior to the next meeting for feedback.
- Fiscal constraint discussions regarding candidate projects will begin around mid-October.
- Ms. Stith wrapped up her presentation by noting that HRTPO staff will ask FTAC for a resolution of support for project scores and freight-related projects at the December 4 meeting.

#### **Agenda Item #7: Regional Freight Study Update – Keith Nichols, HRTPO**

- Mr. Nichols noted that final approval of the Hampton Roads Regional Freight Study document will be delayed until the December 4 FTAC meeting in order to incorporate additional comments.
- Mr. Nichols added that recent updates to the study include an expanded air cargo section based on the recent Norfolk Airport presentation to the FTAC. An executive summary was also added to the report.
- HRTPO staff asked FTAC members to review corridor prioritization and project rankings.

#### **Agenda Item #8: Statewide Freight Advisory Committee Update – David White, FAC Chair**

- Mr. White noted that the August Statewide Freight Advisory Committee meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2025.

#### **Agenda Item #9: Future Meeting Topics and Action Items**

- The following items are included in the future meeting topics and action items:
  - 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan Updates
  - Hampton Roads Intraregional Freight Movement Analysis Kickoff
  - Hampton Roads Rail Crossing Study

#### **Agenda Item #10: Old/New Business**

- Ms. Grigsby raised concerns about delays moving oversized freight due to police escort shortages.
  - Committee members noted that there is a potential for this to have a broader impact in the future due to increased modular shipbuilding and military freight.
  - The discussion of this item led to a suggestion to explore regional solutions and data collection.
  - This item will be discussed further at a future FTAC meeting, including a briefing by appropriate officials, possibly from the DMV.

**Agenda Item #11: Next Meeting**

- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 4, 2025, at the World Trade Center in Norfolk.

**Agenda Item #12: Closing Remarks**

- There was a moment of silence observed for the 9/11 anniversary.
- The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.