

HAMPTON ROADS MILITARY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING EFFORTS UPDATE

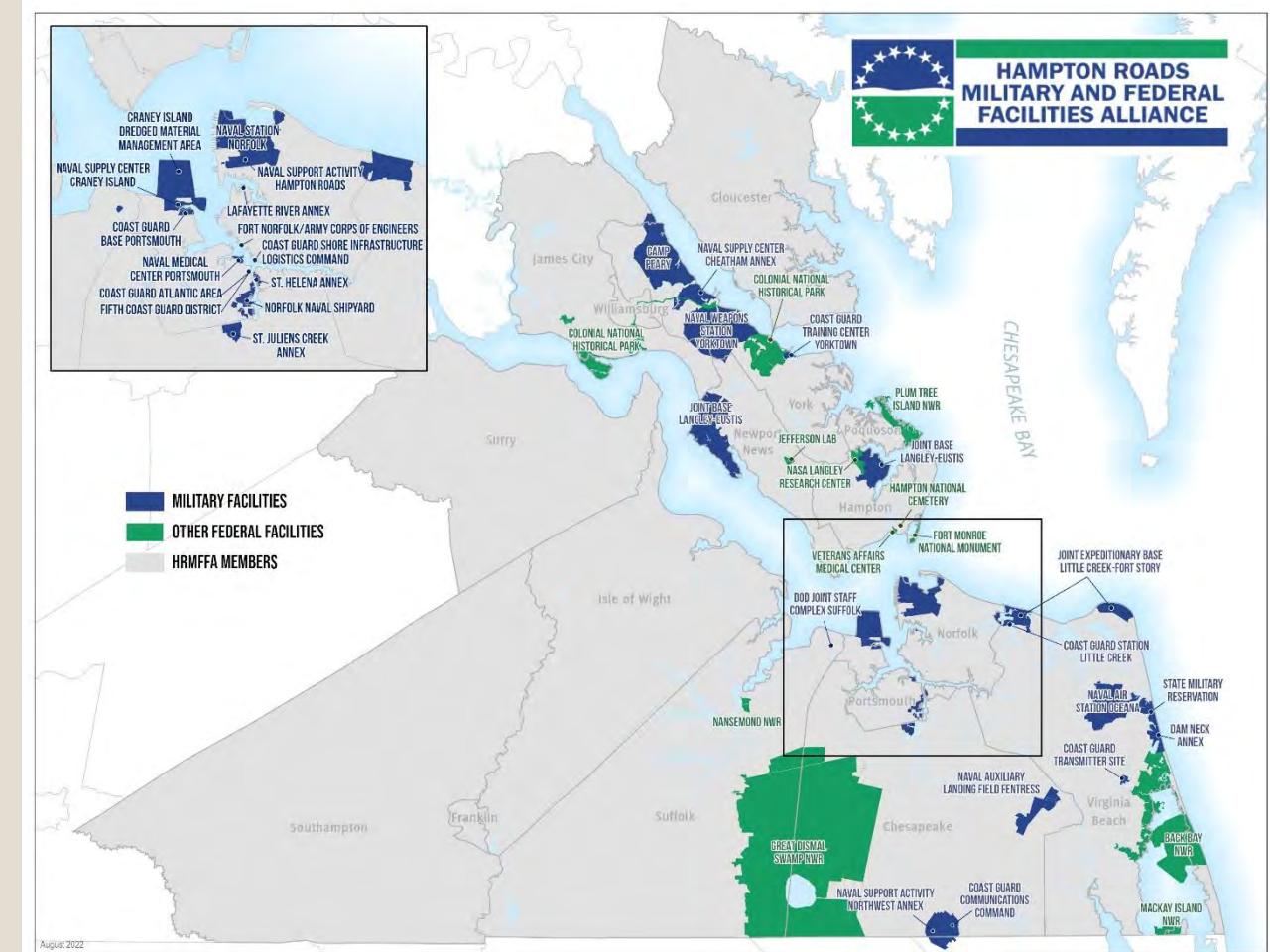


HAMPTON ROADS CERTIFICATION REVIEW
AUGUST 14, 2024



Military Presence

- **18 military installations (including two joint bases)**
- **Five of six branches of military services**
- **Approximately 140,000 active duty, reserve and civilian personnel, over 135,000 military dependents, and over 230,000 veterans**
- **Naval Station Norfolk, world's largest naval station**
- **Integral part of regional economy**



Why Incorporate Military into Transportation Planning?



- **Defense readiness and efficient military operations** require a **sufficient transportation network** to move cargo and personnel as quickly and safely as possible.
- HRTPO has a long-standing relationship with the military community since the 1970s and has actively taken steps to increase efforts, such as the **Military Transportation Needs Study** (2011).
 - The purpose is to determine military transportation needs and to provide an efficient and safe transportation network for the military in Hampton Roads.

Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET)



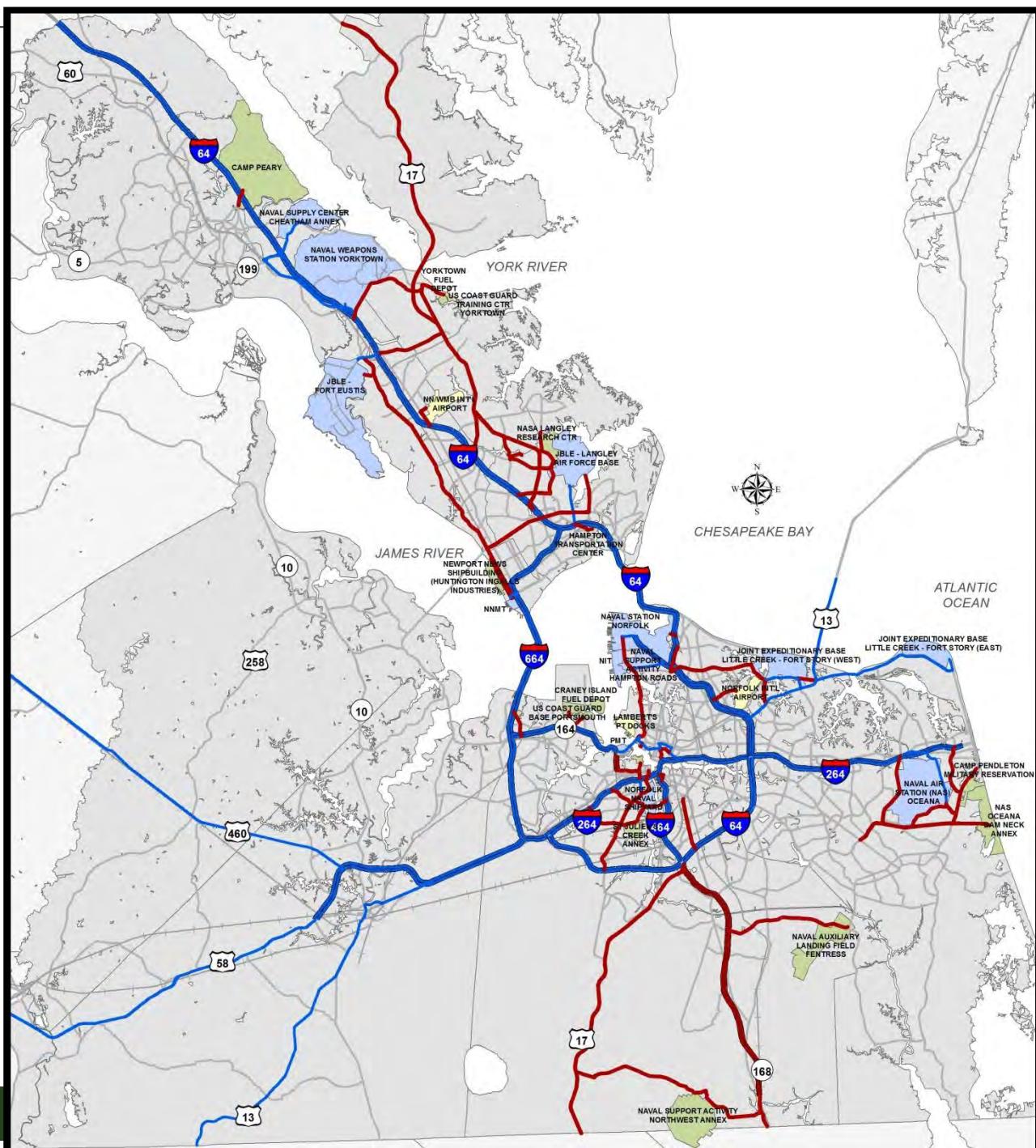
STRAHNET:

STRAHNET is a system of about 61,000 miles of highways, including the Interstate System (est. in 1956).

Minimum public highway network necessary to support Defense deployment needs (military personnel & cargo).

- *STRAHNET Connectors* - ~2,000 miles that provide local roadway access to military installations and ports.





Roadways Serving the Military

| LEGEND | |
|--------|--|
| | STRAHNET Roadway |
| | Non-STRAHNET Roadway Serving Military Site or Intermodal Facility |
| | Non-Roadway Serving the Military |
| | Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET) Site |
| | Other Intermodal Facility |
| | Other Military Site |

Prepared by: HRTPO Staff, Sept 2017

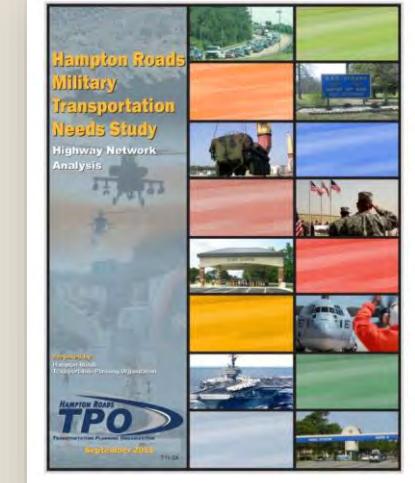
Hampton Roads Military Transportation Needs Study



Phase I: Highway Network Analysis Report (Sept 2011)

STUDY OBJECTIVES:

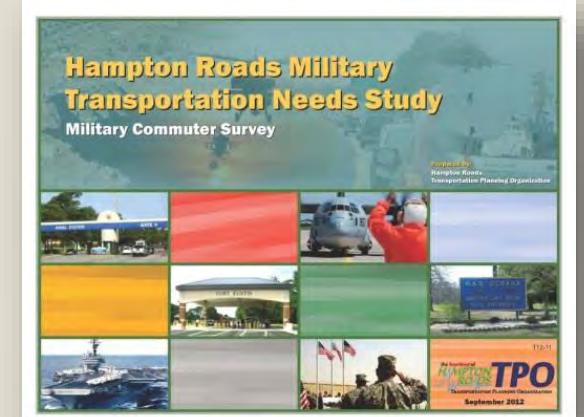
- Examine adequacy of current **STRAHNET** designations
- Determine **deficiencies** on “Roadways Serving the Military”



Phase II: Military Commuter Survey (Sept 2012)

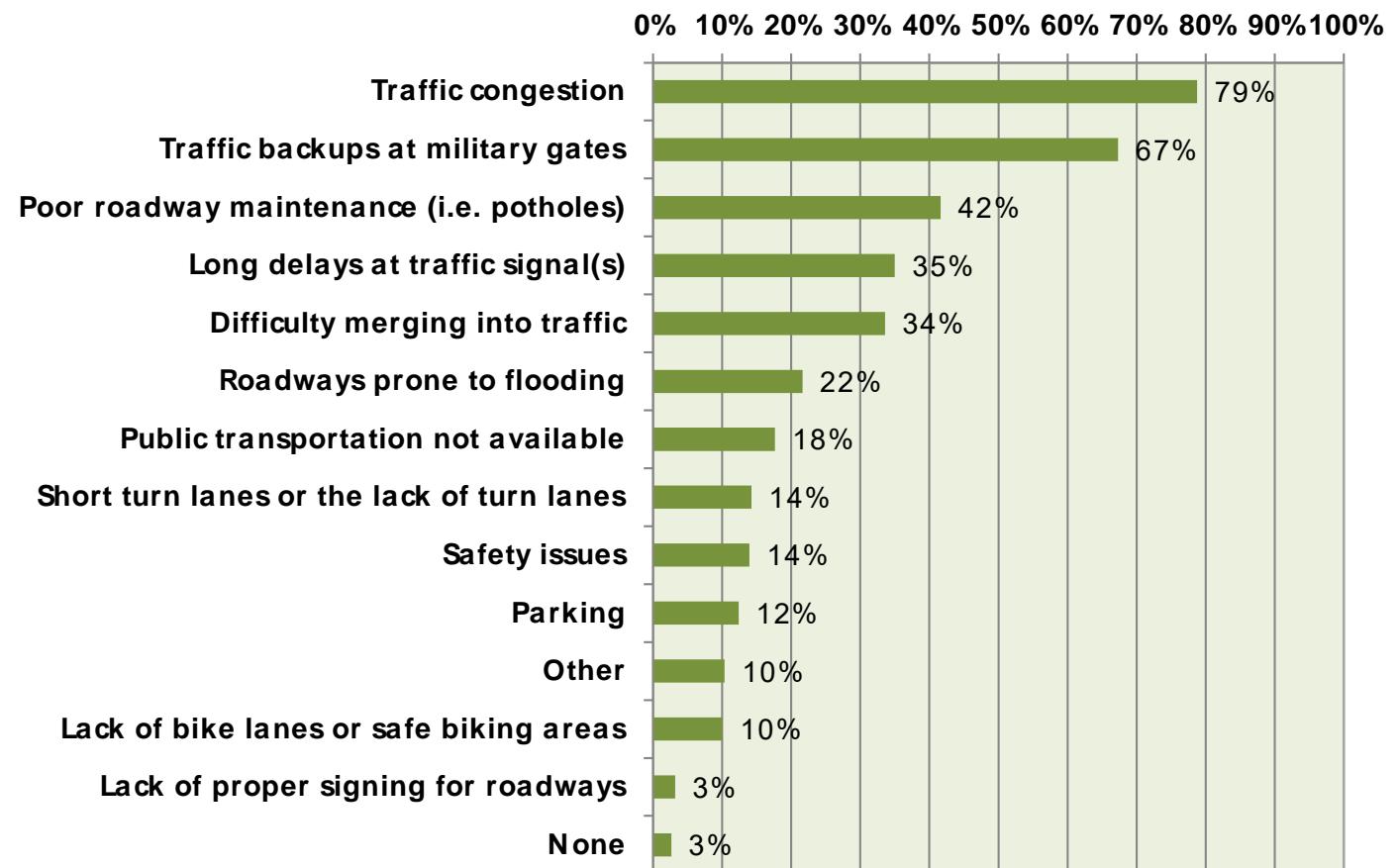
PURPOSE:

- **To determine transportation challenges facing local military personnel** during their daily commutes in Hampton Roads.
- Web-based survey collected on HRTPO website
10,994 survey responses were received!



Hampton Roads Military Commuter Survey

Transportation Problems to/from Work



Respondents (n) = 10,634

Military Base Circulator/Shuttle Recommendations



Hampton Roads Military Transportation Needs Study

Recommendation to TPO Board (2012) :

- Provide shuttle/transit circulator service within major bases and to/from other locations (i.e. exchange, medical facilities, other military sites).

Regional Transit Advisory Panel (RTAP) Recommendation Priorities

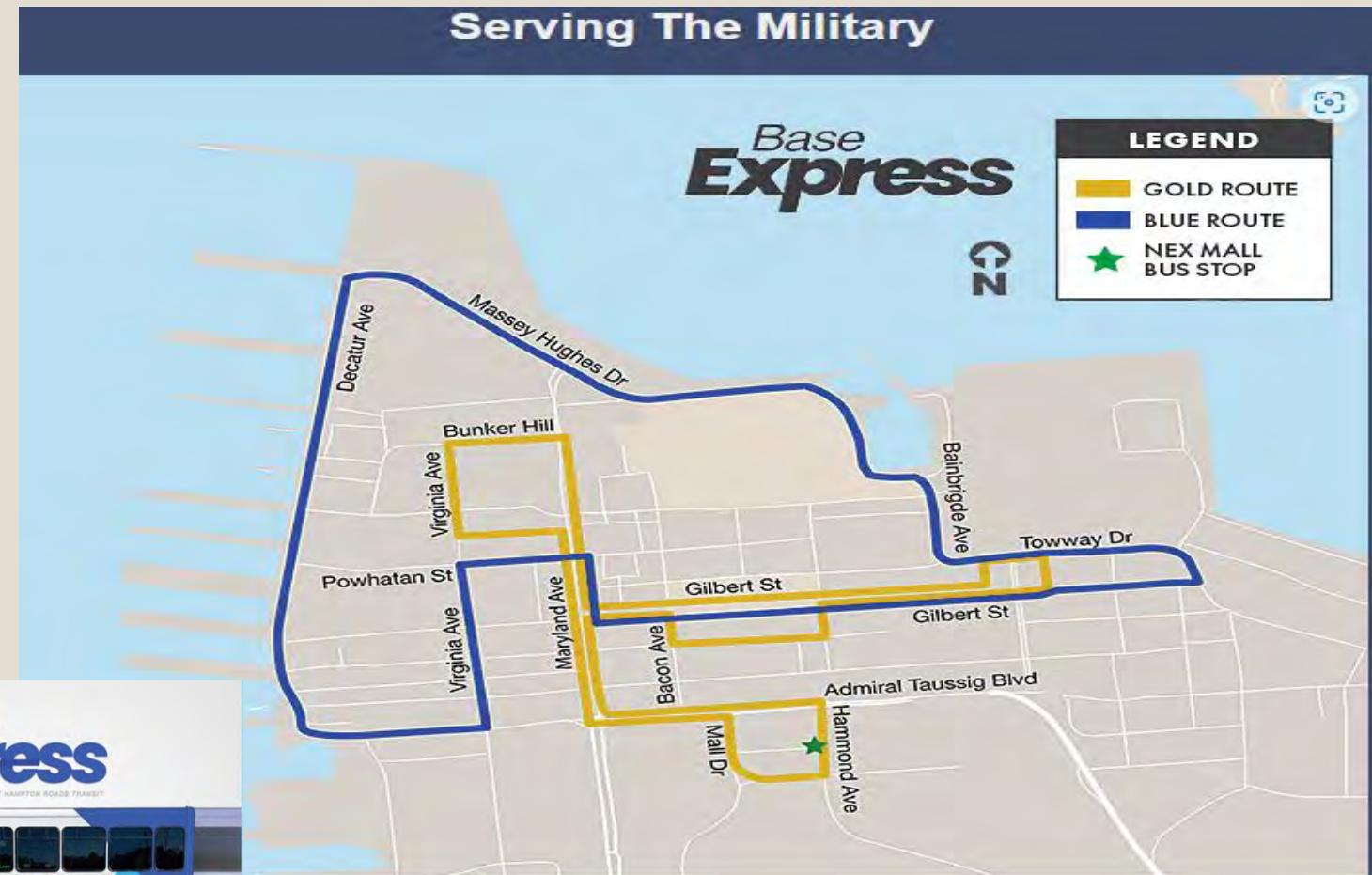
Recommendation for Military and Transit (2021) :

- Consider implementing an internal base circulator as a pilot project – pursue funding as a potential pilot project

HRT Base Express

Presented to TTAC (May 1):

- This project is funded through a 3-year Transportation Incentive Program (TRIP) Grant and local match from Regional Transit System funds to operate between Dec 2022-Dec 2025.
- The service has been very successful surpassing it's goal of 26k in ridership by fall 2025.
- Requests for expansion of service.
- Excellent feedback from customers-service has been well received.

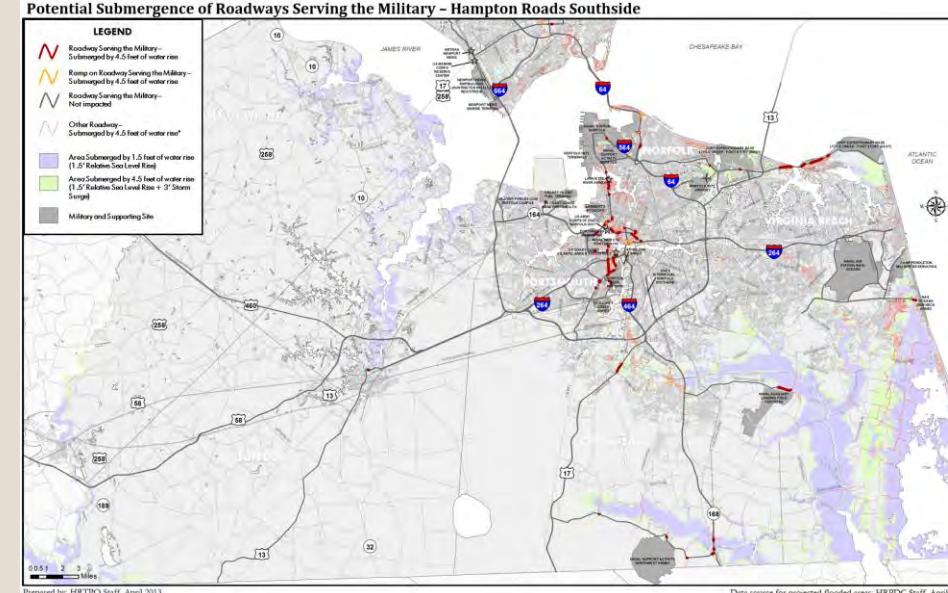
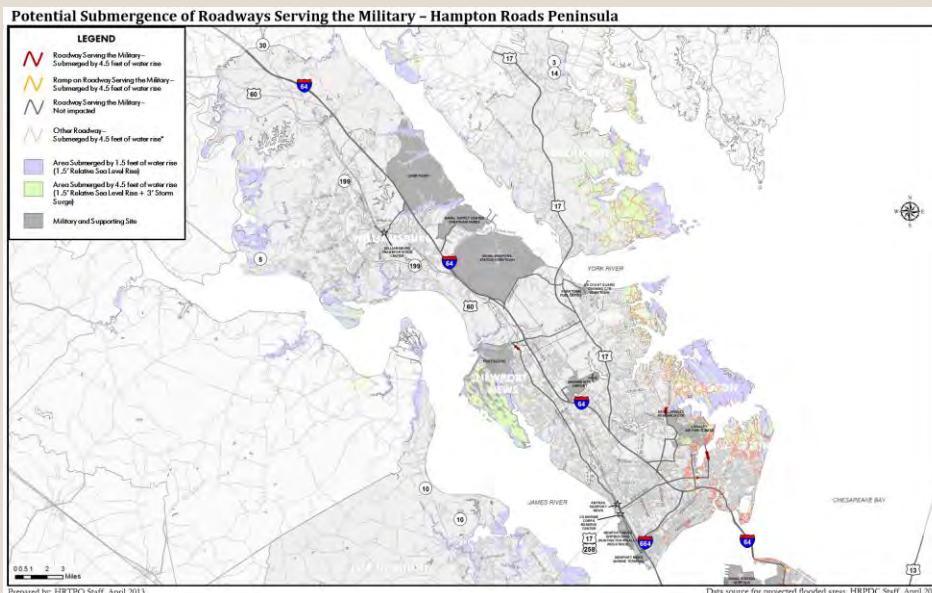
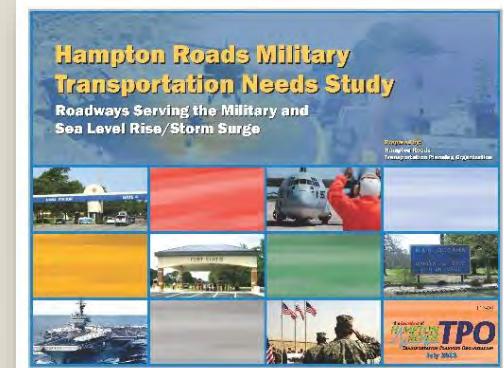


Hampton Roads Military Transportation Needs Study

Phase III: Sea Level Rise/Storm Surge (July 2013)

PURPOSE:

- To determine sea level rise and potential storm surge threats to “Roadways Serving the Military”.

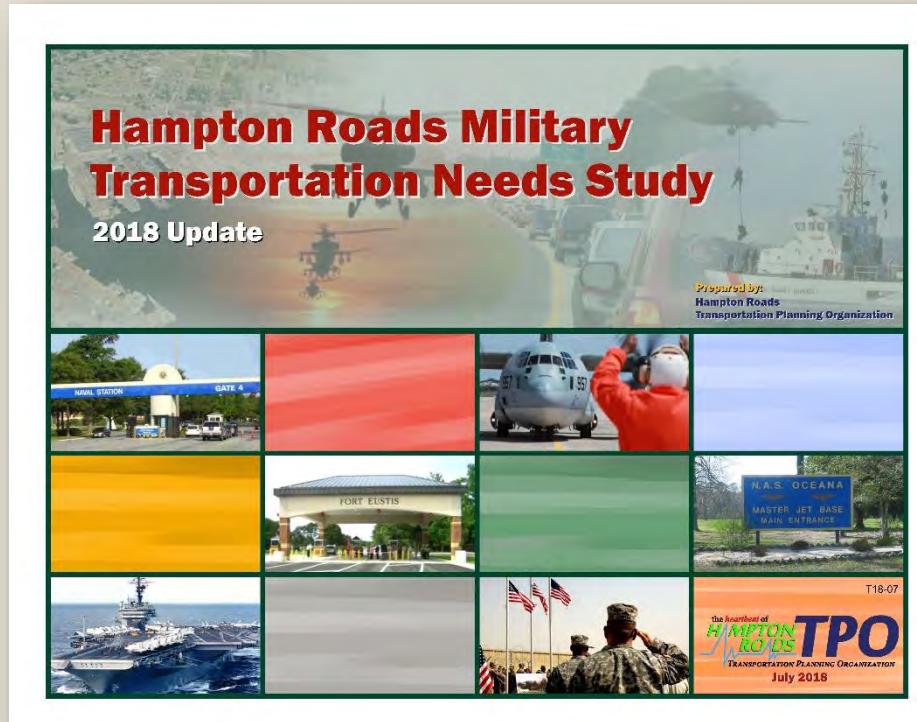


Hampton Roads Military Transportation Needs Study



2018 Update

- Provided an update to the Phase I and Phase III reports.



Hampton Roads STRAHNET Revision



TIMELINE

- April 2022 - **Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance (HRMFFA)** noticed the **new I-564 Intermodal Connector was not included in STRAHNET**

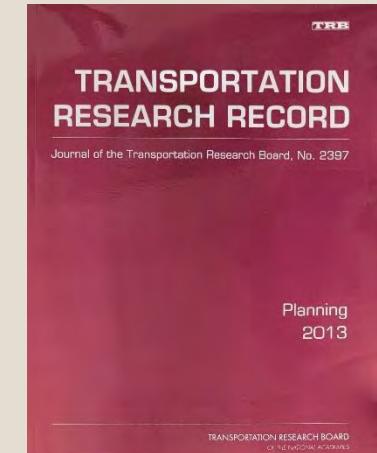
According to FHWA's official update procedures for STRAHNET changes, all requests must be put in writing to the FHWA Division office or FHWA Headquarters and must be initiated by the State DOT or the DOD's Surface Deployment and Distribution Command Transportation Engineering Agency (SDDCTEA).

- April/May 2022 – **TPO staff engaged with all stakeholders** to lead this effort. After discussion, **TPO staff prepared a letter** to VDOT to **add I-564 Intermodal Connector to STRAHNET**.
- May 2022 – VDOT submitted this request to FHWA.
- June 2022 – FHWA approved STRAHNET revisions.

Assistance to Other Military Regions



- 2013 - **"Integrating the Military into the Metropolitan Planning Process: The Hampton Roads, Virginia Experience"** accepted and published in TRB's Transportation Research Record (Journal of the Transportation Research Board, Number 2397, 2013).
- 2013 to 2024 – TPO staff (Sam Belfield) has served as a committee member on TRB's **Standing Committee on Transportation for National Defense**.



FHWA/DOD (SDDCTEA) Initiative to Assist Other Military Regions



Military at the Table: A Guide for Agency Coordination in Transportation Planning and Decision-making (FY 23-25) *(will be released in Summer 2024)*

Sponsor: Office of Planning, FHWA (Harlan Miller) and executed by the U.S. DOT Volpe Center

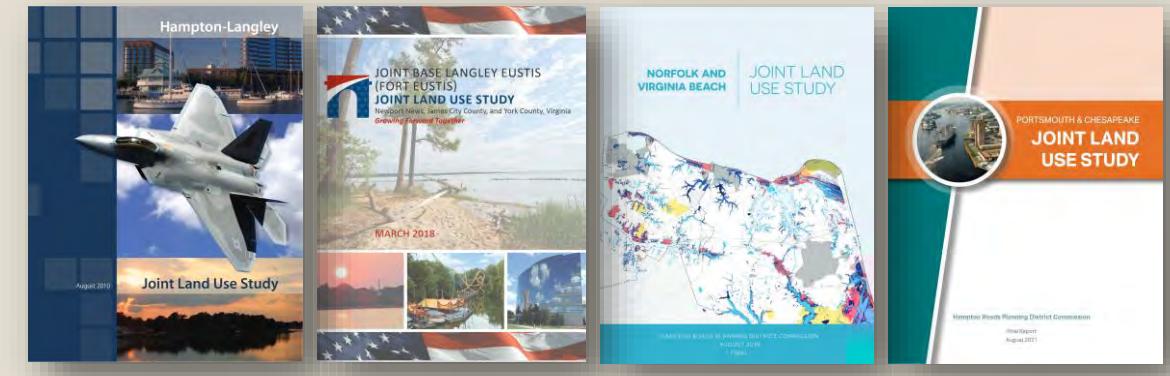
- **Hampton Roads** selected as **one of six regions** to be showcased for **best practices**.
 - HRTPO's **Military Transportation Needs Study, Partnerships, and Coordination** to be featured within this new document.
 - Interview was conducted with TPO staff and military stakeholders in October 2023.



Assistance to Local Military Efforts



- Provided technical assistance and coordination to HRPDC for **Joint Land Use Studies (JLUS)**.
 - Hampton – Langley AFB JLUS (2010, 2018)
 - Fort Eustis JLUS (2018)
 - Norfolk – Virginia Beach JLUS (2019)
 - Portsmouth – Chesapeake JLUS (2021)
- Provided technical assistance for **Joint-Base Langley Eustis Transportation Management Plan (TMP)** (2023).



Next Steps



- Continue to **incorporate STRAHNET and PPP Routes** into LRTP project prioritization.
- **Advocate for STRAHNET and PPP Routes** to be included into statewide **SMART SCALE** project prioritization.
- Continue to **provide assistance to other military regions** and to **local military efforts** (JLUS, TMP, etc.).
- Continue to update **Military Transportation Needs Study**.

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