



Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel

VDOT



**September 2019
Project Report**

**I-64 HAMPTON ROADS
BRIDGE-TUNNEL
EXPANSION**

Proj. No. 0064-M06-03
Report #6



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Issue date: October 16, 2019

1. Executive Summary

1.1 Reporting Period

This report, prepared by the Virginia Department of Transportation (the Department), provides an overview of accomplishments and activities for the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel Expansion project (the Project) from August 25, 2019 – September 21, 2019. The Design-Builder for the Project is Hampton Roads Connector Partners (HRCP), a consortium that includes Dragados, Vinci, Flatiron, and Dodin Campenon Bernard.

The current reporting period is aligned with HRCP's fiscal-month structure, on which the Project's design-build schedule updates and invoiced construction progress are based. Reporting periods close on the Saturday on or preceding the 24th of each month.

1.2 Project Accomplishments

During this reporting period, the following project accomplishments were recorded:

- HRCP conducted a JPA pre-submittal meeting with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on August 28, 2019.
- HRCP completed a draft Baseline Assessment Plan for the emancipation oak and loblolly pines located on Hampton University property. The plan was submitted by VDOT to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and Hampton University on August 29, 2019.
- HRCP submitted the Joint Permit Application (JPA) to the regulatory agencies on August 30, 2019.
- HRCP prepared a draft Colonial Nesting Bird Construction Hazing Plan that was reviewed by VDOT and submitted to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) on September 3, 2019.
- HRCP provided VDOT a draft of the Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) request that was finalized and submitted to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on September 11, 2019.
- HRCP submitted minor JPA corrections to the agencies on September 12, 2019.
- HRCP met with the Harbor Safety Committee on September 17, 2019
- HRCP met with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and members of the Virginia Maritime Association (VMA) on September 18, 2019.
- HRCP conducted a Section 408 status meeting with the USACE on September 19, 2019.

- HRCP received approval on September 19, 2019 from the USACE to conduct the additional landside and marine geotechnical exploration work. The work was authorized through Nationwide Permit 6 (Survey Activities) and 33 (Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering).
- The USACE is expected to issue their Public Notice (PN) in late September 2019 for the proposed HRBT improvements and impacts, as described in the JPA. The PN is expected to expire in late October 2019.
- HRCP submitted the first quarterly Environmental Management Plan for review and comment.

1.3 Priorities

The Department's priorities for the Project are to achieve the following objectives:

- To provide mobility enhancements and travel-time reliability along the Project corridor
- To minimize project impacts on adjacent communities
- To improve transportation operations and safety throughout the Project corridor
- To develop public infrastructure in a financially responsible manner

1.4 Schedule

Schedule updates for this reporting period include:

- Completion of the first Limited Notice to Proceed (LNTP1) milestone is currently scheduled for late-September. Completion of this milestone requires public notice to be issued on the JPA by USACE, following submittal of the project's Corps of Engineers, Virginia Department of Environmental Equality (DEQ) and Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) Permits Applications.
- Issuance of LNTP2 and LNTP3 will follow the completion of LNTP1 milestone.
- Notice to Proceed (NTP) will be issued following receipt of the project's Corps of Engineers, Virginia DEQ, and VMRC permits.
- Final completion remains as scheduled for November 1, 2025.
- Approximately 7% of the contract time has progressed to date.

1.5 Budget and Cost

The budget and cost updates for this reporting period are as follows:

- Project budget overview (through September 2019 payment application):

Total project budget:	\$3,861,997,227
Total charges for efforts to date:	\$109,742,151
Remaining project budget:	\$3,752,255,076

- Design-build contract overview (through September 2019 payment application):

Total contract amount:	\$3,299,997,227
Total charges for efforts to date:	\$98,142,163
Total work orders:	\$0

- Design-build progress to date (through September 2019 payment application):

Overall:	3.49%
Mobilization:	10.81%
General Requirements (incl. Project Management):	2.59%
Design:	24.84%
Physical Progress:	0%

1.6 Environmental Management

During this reporting period, HRCP took the following steps towards obtaining environmental clearances covering the supplemental geotechnical investigations for roadway, bridge, and tunnel construction and permit acquisition for the main project:

- HRCP met with USACE permitting staff on August 28, 2019 to review final JPA materials and to ensure that the necessary information for the PN was included.
- HRCP provided final JPA components to the Department for review during the last week of August and just prior to August 30, 2019 JPA submission date.
- HRCP submitted the JPA to the regulatory agencies on August 30, 2019. Minor JPA revisions were submitted to the agencies on September 12, 2019.
- HRCP continued to coordinate with USACE and ultimately received authorization on September 19, 2019 to conduct the additional landside and marine geotechnical exploration work.

- HRCP developed a draft Project Initiation Request Letter (PIR) that was submitted for VDOT review on September 20, 2019. The PIR is scheduled to be submitted to the USCG as part of the process to initiate USCG review of the bridge and tunnel work.

HRCP prepared a draft Colonial Nesting Bird Construction Hazing Plan that was reviewed by VDOT and forwarded to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) on September 3, 2019.

HRCP has also been coordinating with VDOT regarding the preparation of paving plans for the South Island that include Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) plans, updates to the SWPPP, and modification to the Construction General Permit (VAR10L793).

1.7 Quality

Quality updates for this reporting period include:

- HRCP's Design Quality Management Plan has been reviewed and conditionally approved. Other quality plans that have been reviewed are being returned to HRCP for revisions resubmittal.
- The Quality Auditing Program is being established for VDOT to audit HRCP. Audits of design submissions are scheduled to begin in October once design submittals begin.

1.8 Operations

The following operations activities took place during this reporting period:

- Shoulder closures and lane closures were conducted for geotechnical exploration, survey, and utility locating efforts.
- Tunnel lane closures were performed to complete a Lidar survey of the existing tunnels.
- Corridor-wide field work was performed for assessments of existing structures.
- Geophysical surveys were performed to investigate the presence of potential underground obstructions.

1.9 Safety

Safety procedures and activities during this reporting period include:

- Daily safety meetings are held on site with all staff working on site present.
- All personnel are urged to use caution entering/exiting the tunnel islands, be aware of traffic conditions and have an adequate gap in traffic to accelerate safely into the travel lane.
- Safety orientations and trainings are ongoing.

- There were no reportable safety instances for this period.

1.10 DBE & SWAM Business Activities

The following DBE & SWAM Business Activities occurred during this reporting period:

- The American Council of Engineering Companies of Virginia (ACEC) and VDOT's Civil Rights Division hosted its Annual Consultant/Engineering Forum for DBE/SWaM firms on September 5, 2019.
- VDOT and HRCP hosted a DBE/SWaM Outreach Event on September 11, 2019.
- HRCP's DBE/SWaM Manager provided an overview of the Project to VDOT's Civil Rights Leadership on September 16, 2019.

1.11 Public Outreach

Public outreach updates for this reporting period are as follows:

- Members of VDOT's HRBT Expansion Team have participated in more than 50 outreach events to date.
- Of specific note in this period, the following project updates were provided:
 - Downtown Hampton Development Partnership
 - Poquoson Exchange Club
 - The Partnership for a New Phoebeus
 - Veterans Administration Medical Center
 - Northside Civic League
 - Wards Corner Civic League
 - Bayview Civic League
 - Roosevelt Gardens Civic League
 - 2019 Oceana Air Show

2. Project Accomplishments

2.1 Overview and Look Ahead

Milestones

The next major project milestone will be the completion of LNTP1 which is currently on track for late September 2019.

Project Management Plans

HRCP is currently developing Project Management Plans and Risk Management Plan to support a timely, quality project delivery.

Geotechnical Investigation

The Department granted an extension of the Scope Validation Period for geotechnical investigations in Norfolk until November 5, 2019. The extension was based on receipt of the Determination of No Hazard from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on August 7, 2019. Landside drilling and laboratory testing for soil classification in Hampton and Norfolk is ongoing.

Environmental Permitting

Environmental permitting achieved a major milestone by submission of the JPA on August 30, 2019 and anticipates the USACE public notice being posted in late September 2019. HRCP plans to conduct a meeting on October 1, 2019 with the intent of discussing initial agency comments and observations on the JPA. HRCP is anticipating a two to three-month period of responding to agency and public comments and providing additional information to satisfy those inquiries.

Third Party Coordination

Post-award coordination with the U.S. Navy and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) started in April and is ongoing. FHWA participates in weekly coordination meetings with VDOT and HRCP.

3. Project Schedule

3.1 Schedule Status

Baseline Schedule

The Baseline Schedule has been accepted as the Schedule of Record. The current longest path for the project remains through the boring of the two new tunnels beginning with the design, permitting, and construction of the South Island Portal.

Permitting Schedule

The Project's USACE, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) permits include multiple administrative documents, including the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) consistency determination, the USACE Section 404/10 permit, USACE Section 408 Permission Letter, the VDEQ water protection permit, and the VMRC subaqueous land permit.

HRCP provided the Department with final JPA documents for review during the last week of August. A meeting was conducted with USACE staff on August 28, 2019 to review the final JPA package and to ensure USACE had what they needed to public notice the project. The JPA was submitted on August 30, 2019. Supplemental information and document revisions were provided on September 12, 2019, and USACE is expected to issue their public notice in late September 2019. The public comment period for USACE will expire in late October 2019. HRCP is maintaining their goal of obtaining USACE, DEQ, and VMRC permits by April 2020, in addition to the USCG permit(s) for bridge construction.

Finally, all authorizations have been secured to conduct the necessary marine geotechnical investigations to support the design of the project. Marine geotechnical investigation is scheduled to commence at the end of September 2019.

Key Dates

The following table depicts key milestone dates outlined in the contract requirements. HRCP's submitted Baseline Schedule reflects the early stages of HRCP's planning sequence and will be substantially refined and further detailed as the design advances. This table will be updated to reflect these dates and used as a benchmark to track milestone achievements.

Key Dates	Contract Requirement	Schedule of Record Dates	September 2019 Update	Actual
LNTP1		April 12, 2019	April 12, 2019	April 12, 2019
LNTP2		September 29, 2019	September 27, 2019	
LNTP3		October 9, 2019	October 22, 2019	
NTP		October 10, 2020	September 30, 2020	
Substantial Completion	September 1, 2025	July 18, 2025	July 18, 2025	
Final Completion	November 1, 2025	November 1, 2025	November 1, 2025	

3.2 Longest Path

The longest-path activities for the Project schedule include:

- LNTP1 Completion Milestone
- Design of South Portal
- Construction of the South Island launching pit for the Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM)
- Assembly of the TBM
- TBM mining of the new tunnels
- Finishes in the tunnels
- Commissioning and integration tests for the tunnels

3.3 Impact Analysis

Several elements of work are near-critical and could affect Project progress if they are not addressed diligently. The Department and HRCP are closely monitoring these activities. The following work elements have been identified as near critical, meaning there is less than one month of float in the Baseline Schedule:

- JPA Process

- Design and construction of permit-dependent structures at Oastes Creek and Bay Avenue
- Space proofing report for the TBM
- Manufacturing tunnel segments

Achieving the public-notice milestone for the project's joint permit application will allow LNTP2 and LNTP3 to be issued. LNTP2 enables procurement of the TBM, while LNTP3 allows commencement of construction work for the launching pit and ground improvement on South Island. Receipt of the project's Corps of Engineers, Virginia DEQ and VMRC permits will allow full NTP for the Project.



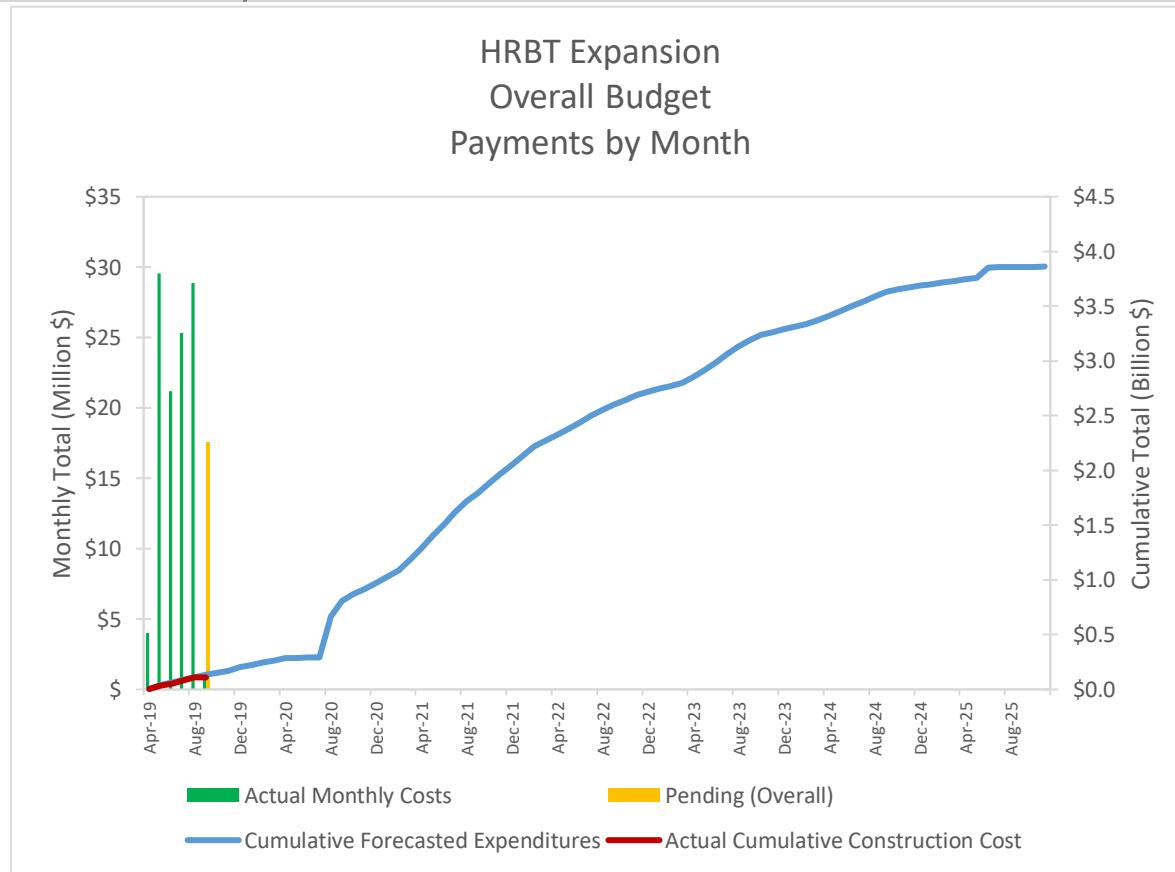
4. Budget and Cost

4.1 Overall Budget

The overall budget outlined in this report is based on the terms and conditions of Article 3 (Project Funding) in the Project Agreement for Funding and Administration (PAFA). The cost curve is based on Exhibit 6 of the CA (monthly maximum cumulative compensation amount).

Amounts this period reflects payouts for Construction, Engineering Administration, Right of Way, and Contingency between August 25, 2019 – September 21, 2019.

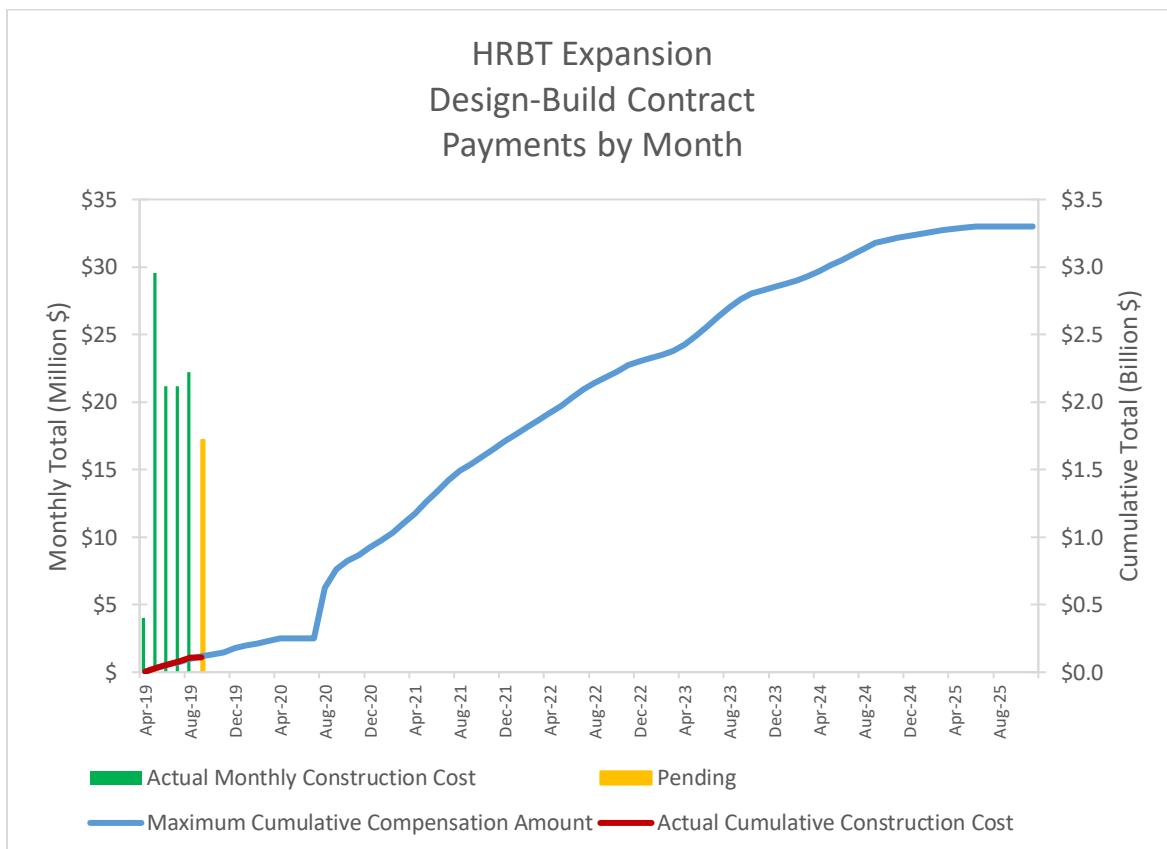
	Amount this period:	Total to Date:	Total Budget:	Total Remaining Budget:	Percent Spent To-date:
Comprehensive Agreement					
Construction	\$0.00	\$98,142,162.50	\$3,299,997,227.19	\$3,201,855,064.69	2.97%
Owner Costs					
Administration	\$785,858.84	\$1,295,624.84	\$122,000,000.00	\$120,704,375.16	1.06%
Right of Way	\$3,608.98	\$6,304,363.59	\$15,000,000.00	\$8,695,636.41	42.03%
No-Excuses Incentive	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90,000,000.00	\$90,000,000.00	0.00%
Contingency	\$0.00	\$4,000,000.00	\$335,000,000.00	\$331,000,000.00	1.19%
Total	\$789,467.82	\$109,742,150.93	\$3,861,997,227.19	\$3,752,255,076.26	2.84%



4.2 Design-Build Cost Status

The construction budget and planned cost have been established based on the maximum cumulative compensation amount. For this period, the following tasks are associated with the invoiced expenditures (actual construction cost):

- Project management
- Design surveys
- Environmental permitting
- Geotechnical investigation
- Design work for permitting



4.3 Budget by Funding Source

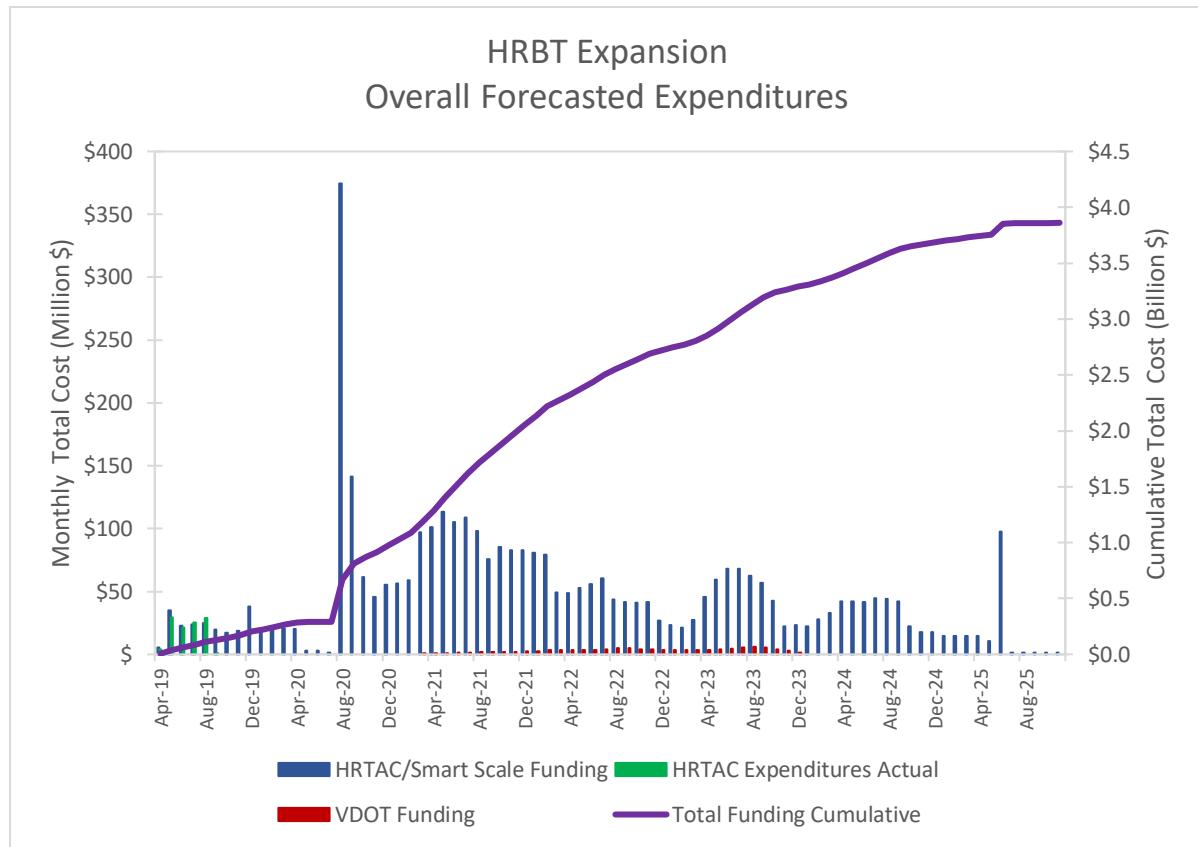
The budget for expenditures by funding source is based on the terms and conditions of Article 3 (Project Funding) and Exhibit 5 of the PAFA. This section outlines planned expenditures by both HRTAC and VDOT. The cost curve has been developed based on the monthly maximum cumulative compensation amount in the CA and will be updated as HRCP refines its design, construction means-and-methods, activity sequences, and project resourcing.

4.3.1 HRTAC and Smart Scale

	Amount this period:	Total to Date:	Total Budget Including Smart Scale:	Total Remaining Budget:	Percent Spent To-date:
<u>Comprehensive Agreement</u>					
Construction	\$0.00	\$98,142,162.50	\$3,204,569,251.14	\$3,106,427,088.64	3.06%
<u>Owner Costs</u>					
Administration	\$785,858.84	\$1,295,624.84	\$118,472,054.00	\$117,176,429.16	1.09%
Right of Way	\$3,608.98	\$6,304,363.59	\$15,000,000.00	\$8,695,636.41	42.03%
No-Excuses Incentive	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90,000,000.00	\$90,000,000.00	0.00%
Contingency	\$0.00	\$4,000,000.00	\$325,428,276.00	\$321,428,276.00	1.23%
Total	\$789,467.82	\$109,742,150.93	\$3,753,469,581.14	\$3,643,727,430.21	2.92%

4.3.2 VDOT

	Amount this period:	Total to Date:	Total Budget:	Total Remaining Budget:	Percent Spent To-date:
<u>Comprehensive Agreement</u>					
Construction	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$95,427,976.00	\$95,427,976.00	0.00%
<u>Owner Costs</u>					
Administration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,527,946.00	\$3,527,946.00	0.00%
Right of Way	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
No-Excuses Incentive	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Contingency	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,571,724.00	\$9,571,724.00	0.00%
Total	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$108,527,646.00	\$108,527,646.00	0.00%



4.4 Contingency

- 0 work orders to date
- \$0 material price adjustments (asphalt, steel, & fuel) to date

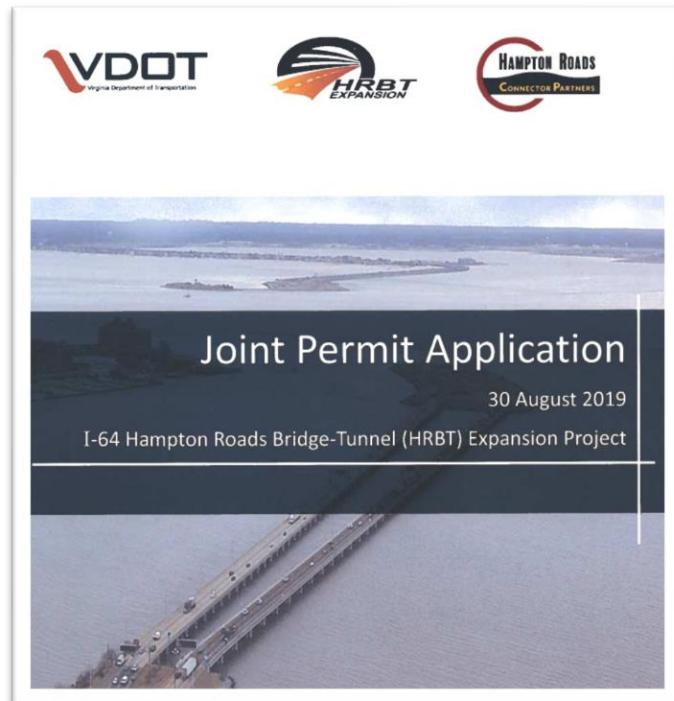
5. Environmental Management

HRCP applied for the Project's USACE, DEQ and VMRC permits on May 28, 2019 for the supplemental geotechnical exploration program. On September 19, 2019, HRCP received authorization via an NWP 6, NWP 33, and 408 permission letter from USACE to conduct the additional landside and marine geotechnical exploration work. The VMRC Subaqueous Lands permit had previously been issued. The additional landside and marine geotechnical work is scheduled to commence at the end of September 2019.

Environmental permitting achieved a major milestone by submission of the JPA on August 30, 2019 and anticipates the USACE public notice being posted sometime in September 2019. Minor JPA revisions and an errata sheet were submitted to the agencies on September 12, 2019. HRCP plans to conduct a monthly meeting on October 1, 2019 with the intent to have open discussions on initial agency comments and observations on the JPA. HRCP is anticipating a two to three-month period of responding to agency and public comments and providing additional information to satisfy those inquiries.

Other activities included holding a meeting with the USACE on August 28, 2019 to review final JPA components and ensure that the necessary information for the public notice was included.

HRCP has also been coordinating with VDOT regarding the preparation of paving plans for the South Island that include Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) plans, updates to the SWPPP, and modification to the Construction General Permit (VAR10L793).



Graphic Depicting Joint Permit Application Cover Sheet.

6. Operations

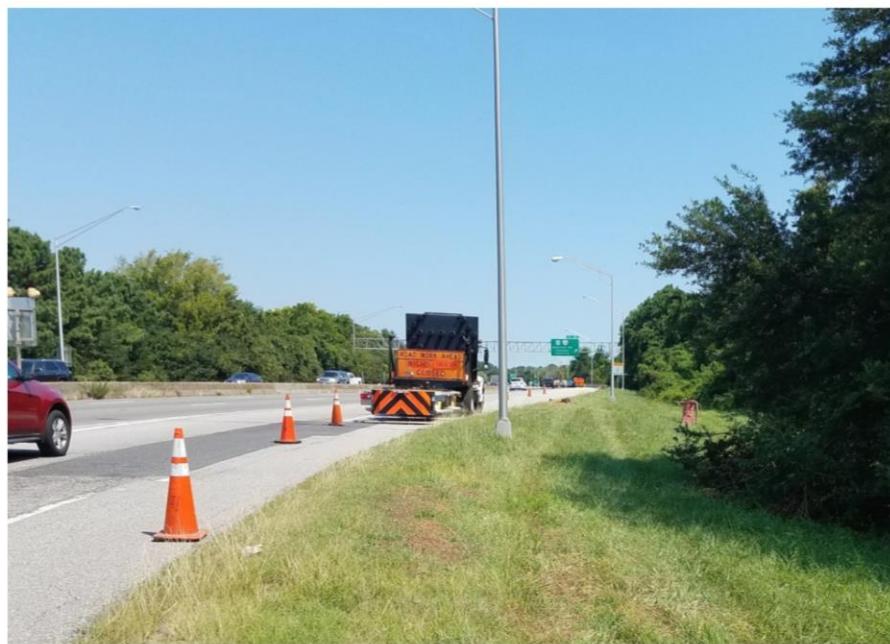
Field activities continued this period to support scope validation and early design efforts. Shoulder closures and lane closures were conducted for geotechnical exploration, survey, and utility locating work. Tunnel lane closures were performed to complete a Lidar survey of the existing tunnels. Corridor-wide field work was also performed for lead and asbestos assessments of existing structures, an assessment for the presence of northern long-eared bats, and drainage structure cleanouts. Geophysical surveys were also performed on the north and south islands to investigate the presence of potential underground obstructions.

Coordination with Hampton University continues under the terms of the MOU in order to secure access to several boring locations on Hampton University property.

The first meeting of the project Fire Life Safety Committee, led by HRCP, was held on September 13, 2019. This committee is comprised of state and local fire and rescue personnel and is used as a means to communicate and receive feedback on HRCP's means to comply with NFPA 502 which governs safety related systems in roadway tunnels. The committee will meet quarterly, or more frequently as needed.

A weekly coordination call with the Hampton Roads Harbor Tunnels (HRHT) Facility Manager, who is responsible for operations at the HRBT, continues in order to communicate ongoing project work as well as coordinate upcoming planned work at the facility.

The weekly coordination meeting between VDOT and HRCP continues in order to provide a lookahead of upcoming field activities and ensure concurrent activities are properly coordinated. All field work and traffic impacts are being reported through VDOT's Lane Closure Advisory Management System (LCAMS), which provides a method to coordinate traffic operations across the region.



7. DBE & SWaM Business Activities

On September 5, 2019, the American Council of Engineering Companies of Virginia (ACEC) and VDOT's Civil Rights Division hosted its Annual Consultant/Engineering Forum for DBE/SWaM firms. Information was shared about opportunities available on the HRBT Expansion Project with consulting and engineering firms in attendance. Informational fliers were disseminated as a reminder of the upcoming DBE/SWaM Outreach scheduled. ACEC Virginia is the largest engineering association in the state and have been a significant VDOT partner in sponsoring networking and educational events that connect small businesses to industry opportunities.



VDOT and HRCP hosted a DBE/SWaM Outreach Event on September 11, 2019, at the Hampton Convention Center. It was one of the largest DBE outreach events promoting a single project. Special guest speakers included Governor Ralph Northam, Secretary of Transportation Shannon Valentine, and VDOT Commissioner Stephen Brich. HRCP's Project Executive Jose Ignacio Martin Alos along with select members of the Project Engineering/Design and Procurement Teams highlighted specific opportunities available for small businesses. About 412 registrants attended representing over 110 certified DBE and 83 SWaM firms. Community partners included the following agencies: VDOT's Hampton Roads District Civil Rights & Procurements Offices, Business Opportunity Workforce Development Center (BOWD), VA Department of Small Business Supplier Diversity (SBSD), Port of Virginia, and the USDOT Small Business Transportation Resource Center (SBTRC).

Secretary Valentine also invited representatives from the VA Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to be on-hand at the September event to share information about REAL ID and assist interested attendees in upgrading to a REAL ID compliant driver's license. Beginning October 1, 2020, Federal government will require the upgraded ID to board domestic flights or to access secure federal facilities. However, effective immediately some military bases may no longer accept the standard driver's license. Secretary Valentine and DMV staff have been promoting this recent ID change. A large number of participants came prepared to take advantage of this service offered at the event.



On September 16, 2019, HRCP's DBE/SWaM Manager provided an overview of the Project during VDOT's Civil Rights Quarterly Leadership Meeting hosted by the Hampton Roads District Civil Rights Office. It was a great opportunity for District Civil Rights Managers from across the state to become familiar with the Project in an effort to share information and available opportunities with businesses in their respective regions.

HRCP and VDOT initiated talks with the USDOT's SBTRC to discuss plans to host a DBE Bonding and Education Training Program in early 2020 in connection with the Project. This program typically runs 4-weeks with the emphasis of establishing or expanding a firm's financial and bonding capacity.

As the Project progresses, HRCP and VDOT continues to meet with firms interested in learning about opportunities on the project. VDOT's Civil Rights and Consulting Program Support Teams continue to review required EEO/DBE documents submitted by the Design-Builder to ensure overall contract compliance and demonstrated good faith efforts.

THANK YOU

BE A PART OF VIRGINIA'S LARGEST TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

A DBE/SWaM Opportunity Event
Wednesday, September 11, 2019
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Hampton Roads Convention Center
1610 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA 23666

Hampton Roads Connector is a construction joint venture of Dragados, VHC Construction, Fletchers Contractors and Clark Construction Group.
Hampton Roads Connector is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

hamptonroadsconnector.com
#HRBTDBE

AGENDA

SPEAKERS

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM SPECIAL REMARKS

9:00 AM - 9:05 AM Governor Ralph Northam

9:05 AM - 9:10 AM Michael Kates, DBE/SWaM Compliance Manager, HRCP

9:10 AM - 9:15 AM HRCP's Commitment to DBE/SWaM Inclusion

9:15 AM - 9:20 AM Jose Ignacio Martin Alba, Project Executive, HRCP

9:20 AM - 9:25 AM Sandra D. Norman, Civil Rights Division Administrator, VDOT

9:25 AM - 9:30 AM The Federal Partnership

9:30 AM - 9:35 AM Virginia Division Administrator, FHWA

9:35 AM - 9:40 AM VDOT's Future

9:40 AM - 9:45 AM Stephen C. Bish, P.E., Commissioner, VDOT

9:45 AM - 9:50 AM Virginia Transportation Success

9:50 AM - 10:00 AM BREAK

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM KEYNOTE SPEAKER

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM Keynote: Top State for Small Business
The Honorable Governor Ralph S. Northam

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM THE HRBT PROJECT: OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Project & Upcoming Opportunities Overview

11:00 AM - 11:15 AM Michael A. Estes, P.E., Principal in Charge, 144 Design Joint Venture (HRCP)

11:15 AM - 11:30 AM Q&A

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM OPPORTUNITY & NETWORKING SESSIONS

Section A: Community Partners

Section B: Construction

Section C: Engineering & Design

12:00 PM EVENT CLOSE

Governor Ralph Northam
Governor Northam recently signed Executive Order 35 to advance equity for small business in state procurement. The order directs state agencies to set aside 10% of state procurement contracts for small businesses. The order establishes a 42% target for state procurement contracting and further defines Virginia's commitment to the small business community. Before he was inaugurated as the 73rd Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Governor Northam served as the Commonwealth's first Black Lieutenant Governor and state Senator and Lieutenant Governor. He is the first native of the Eastern Shore to serve as Governor. Governor Northam, a Vietnam veteran, has dedicated his life to serving the public and with the same passion he brings to his military and medical service. He is committed to working with leaders from both parties to build a Virginia that works better for every family, no matter who they are or where they live.

Sandra D. Norman
Civil Rights Division Administrator, VDOT

Michael Kates
DBE/SWaM Compliance Manager, HRCP

Thomas Nelson
Small Business Administrator, FHWA

José Ignacio
Martin Alba
Project Executive, HRCP

Stephen C. Bish
P.E., Commissioner, VDOT

John Gandy
Engineering Manager, HRCP

8. Public Outreach

Late summer and early fall 2019 produced an aggressive outreach schedule for the HRBT Project Team.

On August 28, 2019, Commercial Manager Martha Gross presented the expansion project to the Downtown Hampton Partnership and to the Poquoson Exchange Club. Both events were well attended and VDOT received positive feedback about project plans from each organization.



HRBT Expansion Project Commercial Manager Martha Gross honed in on project plans for the Peninsula corridor. The bored-tunnel approach also piques a great deal of curiosity at every presentation.

Several engineers were in the room and eagerly awaited details of the project when Martha spoke to The Poquoson Exchange Club on August 28, 2019.

On September 9, 2019, Martha also appeared before The Partnership for a New Phoebeus, which meets at historic Fort Monroe. The business association is chaired by retired state Delegate Glenn Oder who is Executive Director of the Fort Monroe Authority.



Project Director Jim Utterback held his second meeting with administrators at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Hampton on September 12, 2019. It was their second briefing on the project and attendees remained concerned about the Mallory Street Bridge and access for patients needing to get to their facility. Mr. Utterback assured them that access will be maintained.

Several Norfolk civic leagues also requested presentations in September 2019, including Northside Civic League on September 10, Wards Corner Civic League on September 16, Bayview Civic League on September 17 and Roosevelt Gardens Civic League on September 18, 2019. HRBT Communications Manager Paula Miller spoke to each of the civic leagues and was joined by HRCP's Communication Manager Stephen Meyers.



VDOT-HRBT Communications Manager Paula Miller (pictured left) and Stephen Meyers (pictured right) participated in joint appearances at Norfolk civic league meetings in September.

VDOT-HRBT Expansion Operations Manager Bradley Weidenhammer had the opportunity to attend the 2019 Oceana Air Show on September 21, 2019 to present information on how STEM-related learning factors into a massive project like the tunnel expansion. More than 8,000 school-age children were on hand, breaking the Guinness World Record for the largest field trip. Bradley is pictured here (center, blue shirt and blue ball cap) with VDOT colleagues from the Hampton Roads District who also shared their knowledge with eager students from across the region.



9. Project Media

Engineering News-Record Magazine published a 400-word story on the HRBT Expansion Project for its September 2019 transportation/infrastructure section. The report, titled, "Virginia Digs Deep to Ease Traffic Jams," was written by Erica Bender and highlights the use of bored-tunnel technology in the project. Project Director Jim Utterback was quoted as saying TBM technology "does not use surfactants or foaming agents for soil conditioning, which offers another advantage by mitigating a number of associated environmental risks."