



Ella P. Ward, Chair
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TO: HRPDC/HRTPO Board Members

FROM: Robert Crum, Executive Director

RE: Executive Director's September 2016 Report

A brief summary of ongoing work activities is presented below for review by HRPDC/HRTPO Board members.

The HRPDC, HRTPO and HRTAC Boards hosted a legislative workshop on August 31st to discuss regional legislative issues and begin preparations for the 2017 General Assembly session. This session was attended by approximately 60 representatives of the Hampton Roads region, including 15 General Assembly members. The following items were discussed:

- State funding for public education
- The region's progress advancing regional transportation priority projects and the need for increased funding for the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund
- Update on the work of the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC)
- I-64 Widening from Hampton Roads to Richmond
- Tier II Environmental Impact Statement for Passenger Rail to Hampton Roads and Trains 2 and 3 from Norfolk to Richmond
- Airbnb
- Commonwealth Transportation Board Representation by Congressional District
- Coleman Bridge
- Hampton Roads Sanitation District Groundwater Injection Project
- Public Transit Funding

Staff will continue to coordinate efforts with the Region's legislative liaisons and the Hampton Roads Caucus in preparation for the upcoming General Assembly session.

HRTPO staff continues to participate in VDOT meetings related to the Hampton Roads Crossing Study (HRCS) Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS). As a follow up to the discussion that occurred on July 21st at the HRTPO meeting, staff is preparing a technical evaluation of the various alternatives identified in the SEIS for presentation to the HRTPO at its September 15th meeting. The HRTPO Board will be asked to take action at its October 20th meeting to recommend a preferred alternative to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB). The CTB is expected to consider this input at its November

meeting, and take action to forward a recommended alternative to the Army Corp of Engineers at its November or December meeting.

HRPDC staff continues to work with the Cities of Norfolk and Virginia Beach and the Naval bases in these jurisdictions in preparation for a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) for these jurisdictions focusing on sea level rise. A second JLUS focusing on similar issues for the Cities of Chesapeake and Portsmouth will also be managed by the HRPDC.

The Regional CAO Committee held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on August 3rd, which was hosted by Isle of Wight County. Attendance at these meetings continues to be excellent. The August 3rd agenda included continued discussion on the HRPDC Governance Proposal, a review of agenda topics for the September and October HRPDC agendas, a review of topics for the August 31st Legislative Workshop and a discussion of regional interest items.

The September 7th CAO Committee meeting will be hosted in Virginia Beach, with the primary agenda item being a discussion of public safety issues and opportunities for regional collaboration. Each of the region's police chiefs have been invited to attend this meeting with their CAOs and contribute to the discussion. This topic was forwarded to the CAO Committee by the HRPDC at a recent Commission meeting with a request that the CAOs discuss the topic and bring forward recommendations for consideration.

The HRTPO/HRPDC Executive Director provided a presentation to Hampton City Council on August 10th on the HRCS SEIS.

The Executive Director continues to participate in the Hampton Roads Regional Roundtable – a monthly meeting of regional organizations convened by the HRPDC to encourage the exchange of information and promote collaboration.

The Executive Director provided a presentation to the Suffolk Rotary Club on August 18th on regional transportation planning and the progress the region is making to build regional transportation priority projects.

The Executive Director provided a presentation at a regional forum on economic development hosted by William and Mary on August 23rd.

The HRPDC Chief Economist and Executive Director participated in an economic development workshop hosted by the Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance (HREDA) on August 25th.

The HRTPO staff continues to work with locality staffs to discuss opportunities for extending the Virginia Capital Trail into the Hampton Roads Region. Staff met with

representatives of the National Park Service, who have agreed to join representatives of the local jurisdictions on a committee that is working to address this issue. The next meeting of the Capital Trail Ad Hoc Committee has been scheduled for September 20th.

The HRPDC staff is working to finalize the Envision Hampton Roads Strategic Plan, based on comments received from the Commission. This effort will represent the first regional strategic plan for Hampton Roads, and was generated with input received from HRPDC members and over 80 community meetings and a scientifically based community survey.

The HRPDC is preparing a strategy to update the regional Solid Waste Management Plan.

The HRTPO/HRPDC continues to assist HRTAC with financial management, website support and human resource activities. In addition, staff continues to work closely with HRTAC staff on the preparation of a plan of finance to support the HRTPO's regional transportation priorities.