

**Summary Minutes of the HRPDC/HRTPO
Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
December 8, 2022**

The December 8, 2022 meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC)/ Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) was called to order by the Chair at Noon in Board Room A/B of the Regional Building located at 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, VA 23320, with the following in attendance:

CAC Members in Attendance:

Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky, Chair (PO)	Kanama Bivins (SU)
Lamont Curtis, Vice-Chair (NN)	Anthony Piglowski (SU)
Cecil Jenkins (CH)	Dianna Howard (VB)
Jim Collins (IW)	Scott MacFarlane (VB)
Sharon Anderson (PO)	Waverly Woods (VB)

CAC Members Absent:

Brandon Carter (CH)	Garry Harris (PO)
John Kish (CH)	Mike Sawchuck (SU)
Jim Bowie (HA)	Catherine Correll Walls (SY)
Richard Parison (HA)	Shawnta Howard-Spence (VB)
Henry Branscome (JC)	Brad Martin (VB)
Frank Cotrupi (NN)	Jay Leach (VB)
Zakkiyya Anderson (PO)	

HRPDC/HRTPO Staff:

Robert A. Crum, Jr.	Rob Cofield
Pavithra Parthasarathi	Dmitry Rekhter
Matt Klepeisz	Joe Turner

Others Recorded Attending:

Andrew Sinclair (POV), Travis Davidson (South Hampton Roads Trail), Christopher G. Hall (VDOT)

Approval/Modification of Agenda

Chair Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky announced that in the absence of a quorum, the agenda could not be modified or approved. The attending CAC members did not have any suggested changes to the agenda.

Public Comments

- **Submitted Public Comments**

Mr. Robert Crum, HRPDC/HRTPO Executive Director, reported that there were no submitted public comments.

- **Public Comment Period**

Members of the public were invited to address the CAC. There were no in-person requests to provide public comment.

Summary Minutes

Chair Geduldig-Yatrofsky announced that in the absence of a quorum, the minutes of the October 19, 2022, CAC meeting could not be approved.

Chair Geduldig-Yatrofsky and Mr. Crum requested a round of introductions from all the meeting attendees.

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Hampton Roads Regional Priority Briefing

Mr. Christopher G. Hall, VDOT Hampton Roads District Engineer, briefed the CAC on several of the region's significant transportation projects and studies. Mr. Hall started his presentation by providing an overview of VDOT's Hampton Roads District Operations and Maintenance. Mr. Hall noted that the VDOT Hampton Roads District is delivering 26% of projects in the state's Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP) with over half of the funds being contributed by the region.

Mr. Hall emphasized the critical partnership between VDOT, the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC), and the HRTPO that has helped identify, prioritize, finance, and advance critical Regional Priority Projects such as the widening of three segments of I-64 on the Peninsula, the improvements to the I-64/I-264 Interchange as well as the Hampton Roads Express Lanes Network (HRELN). In addition, Mr. Hall briefed the CAC on select projects around the region that have recently been completed, are under construction, or are in development. Mr. Hall wrapped up his presentation by mentioning ongoing planning efforts such as VDOT's Pipeline studies, and funding opportunities (SMART SCALE Round 5) currently underway.

The presentation was opened up for questions, and Mr. Hall responded to questions regarding the proposed design of specific projects and the potential impacts on surrounding businesses during construction as well as requests for more information about the I-64 Gap project and clarification on the Bowers Hill Interchange Study and how the study might

address capacity constraints on I-664 across the Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge Tunnel (MMMMBT).

The CAC members asked for a copy of the presentation after the meeting.

Port of Virginia (POV) Update

Mr. Andrew Sinclair, POV Director of Federal Government Affairs, provided a briefing to the CAC on the Port of Virginia. The Port owns and operates six terminals across the Commonwealth of Virginia including four terminals in the Hampton Roads region. Mr. Sinclair highlighted the Port's expansive rail and road connectivity to domestic markets as well as the connectivity to global trade and provided a comparison of the cargo handled by POV against other ports on the US East Coast.

Mr. Sinclair further elaborated on the "Virginia Model," a collaborative approach of ownership, technology, and operations that has helped streamline efficiencies and yielded significant improvements in port performance. The Port has been recognized as the "Top Performing Port in North America" in a 2021 evaluation of Global Container Ports by the World Bank.

As part of the briefing, Mr. Sinclair highlighted other aspects such as the critical \$1.4 billion in Gateway investments to support the growth in cargo handled by the Port, active port-related economic developments in Hampton Roads, the economic impacts of the Port including jobs, increases in labor income generated as well as state and local taxes and fees. Mr. Sinclair wrapped up his briefing by highlighting the Port's commitment to net-zero carbon emissions by 2040 and the steps being implemented to reach that goal.

The CAC members had a robust discussion with questions raised about the steep increase in the amount of cargo handled by ships over time and what it means for Port operations in terms of loading and unloading. CAC members also asked for clarification on the increase in cargo volumes against the number of rail lines in the region, the shift in freight movement to rail, and associated impacts (i.e. delays, safety challenges, and traffic issues) on local streets due to railroad crossings.

Mr. Crum mentioned the update of the HRTPO's Regional Freight Study and that staff will be analyzing at-grade crossings throughout the region as part of this effort. Ms. Parthasarathi followed up with a suggestion to brief the CAC at their next meeting on this study.

Other questions included the impacts of the widening and deepening of the Thimble Shoal channel on water surges in surrounding areas, especially during extreme weather conditions. CAC member, Ms. Waverly Woods, requested a follow-up briefing on the offshore wind project in the context of the Port's Portsmouth Marine Terminal (PMT) being used as a staging and pre-assembly area for this effort.

Mr. Crum requested holding a future meeting of the CAC at the Port to provide members an opportunity to see the actual operations.

Next Meeting

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2023.

Old/New Business

CAC members discussed potential topics for upcoming meetings.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:07 PM.