



REGIONAL TRANSIT ADVOCACY DAY

The Regional Transit Advisory Panel (RTAP), community stakeholders and the region's transit agencies held the region's first transit advocacy day at the General Assembly on February 3. Over 25 representatives from these groups met with approximately ten General Assembly members to discuss the importance of transit to the Hampton Roads region and provide input on several bills that are being considered by the General Assembly. In addition, RTAP members provided a presentation to the Hampton Roads Caucus and held discussions with the Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Executive Director of the Virginia Transit Administration. The day concluded with the RTAP representatives being introduced on the Senate and House Floors.



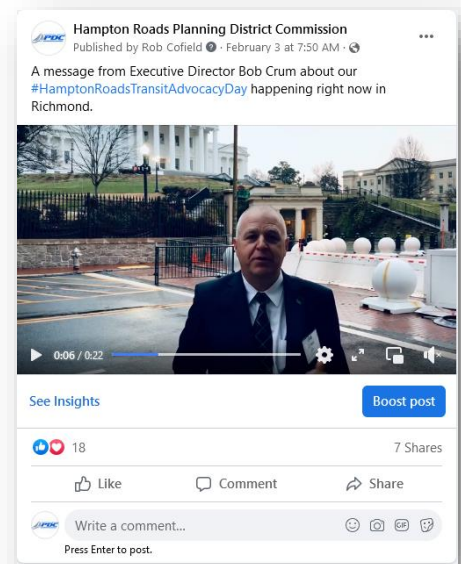
A briefing on the work of the RTAP, a summary of transit advocacy day and the recommendations from the RTAP membership will be presented to the HRTPO Board at its February 17 meeting.

HRPDC & HRTPO FACEBOOK AND WEBSITES

Please visit our Facebook pages and websites for ongoing updates on the work of the [HRPDC](#) and [HRTPO](#).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The HRPDC staff continues to monitor and provide input on bills related to the Regional Legislative Agenda approved by the HRPDC and HRTPO Boards. In addition, the Executive Director facilitates weekly meetings with the region's legislative liaisons to encourage information sharing and alignment around various bills and budget amendments of importance to the Hampton Roads region.



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The HRPDC/HRTPO Community Advisory Committee (CAC) held its regularly scheduled meeting on February 10. Agenda items included:

- Regional Gateways Study
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
- Regional Transit Advisory Panel
- General Assembly Overview
- CAC Vice Chair Position



REGIONAL FIBER RING

The Southside Network Authority held its regularly scheduled meeting on February 11. The Authority discussed next steps and actions related to the construction of the Southside fiber ring.

VIRGINIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVE (VATI) BROADBAND GRANT

The HRPDC is working with its partner localities to develop and finalize contract documents for the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) Broadband Grant. On December 14, 2021, Governor Northam announced that the HRPDC, in partnership with Charter Communications, was awarded a \$21 million Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) grant to bring universal broadband coverage to the City of Suffolk and Counties of Isle of Wight and Southampton. The grant will provide needed funding to build a high-speed, reliable, and affordable fiber internet network to areas of western Hampton Roads that are currently without service. In total, 12,223 homes, businesses, and community anchors will gain access to broadband. Build out of the network is anticipated to be completed in 2024.

OTHER MEETINGS/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OUTREACH

- Weekly coordination calls with regional legislative liaisons during General Assembly session
- January 4 phone call with Hampton University and the Hampton Roads Alliance on offshore wind opportunities
- January 11 Regional Connectors Study Policy and Working Group Joint Meeting
- January 20 BoAT/Capital Trail coordination meeting at the Peninsula Airport Offices
- January 23 meeting with the Hampton Roads Alliance, Hampton Roads Workforce Council and CIVIC Leadership
- January 24 meeting with the regional economic development directors to discuss the Regional Gateways Study
- January 25 meeting of the Regional Transit Advisory Committee
- VATI Grant Contract meeting with the Department of Housing and Community Development on January 26
- January 26 meeting with a Community Advisory Committee member and VDOT to discuss lane markings
- Virginia Beach Community Engagement Session on January 26
- Meeting with Admiral Charles “Chip” Rock at Naval Station Norfolk on January 27 to discuss the Chesapeake/Portsmouth Joint Land Use Study
- Hampton Roads Chamber Leadership Exchange Planning Committee meeting on January 28
- Meeting with representatives of the City of Hampton on January 31 to discuss red light enforcement
- GO Virginia Planning Grant call/meeting on February 2 with Old Dominion University and Reinvent Hampton Roads
- Coordination of Transit Advocacy Day in Richmond on February 3
- Attended meetings of the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions on February 3
- Participated in the Newport News Brand Research and Strategy Meeting on February 4
- Presentation to the Virginia Peninsula Association of Realtors on February 4
- Meeting with TFC Recycling on February 8
- Presentation to Reinvent Hampton Roads on February 10
- Community Advisory Committee meeting on February 10
- February 11 meeting of the Southside Network Authority
- Community meeting with Senator Spruill on Saturday, February 12 to discuss the Bowers Hill Interchange



ADMINISTRATION/MANAGEMENT

- Human resource decisions on allocation of mid-year salary compression/equity adjustments
- Onboarding of IT Manager
- Internal restructuring of organization/management structure to create Deputy Executive Director with oversight for the Organization's operations and administration, including human resources, building and property services, Civil Rights/Title VI compliance, legal services, IT and meeting support.
- Finalize job descriptions in support of the Organization's Civil Rights/Title VI and Communications Programs
- Staff support to the Community Advisory Committee
- Staff support to the Southside Network Authority
- Coordination with the region's legislative liaisons
- Financial management support for the HRPDC, HRTPO, HRTAC, HRMFFA and Southside Network Authority
- Personnel management
- Building Operation and Maintenance