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Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr., Chair
John L. Rowe, Vice-Chair

TO: HRPDC/HRTPO Board Members

FROM: Robert Crum, Executive Director

RE: Executive Director's Report – April 2019

The Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) Committee met on March 6 and April 3. Agenda items for these meetings included the following:

March 6

Location: Franklin Business Center

- Hampton Roads Metropolitan Medical Response System (HRMMRS)
- Eastern Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority (EVRIFA)
- Update on Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance (HREDA) Memorandum of Agreement

April 3

Location: Chesapeake City Hall

- Hampton Roads Regional Geographic Information System (GIS) Initiative
- Update on Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance (HREDA) Memorandum of Agreement
- Eastern Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority (EVRIFA)
- Hampton Roads Transit Update (with HRT CAOs)

On February 6, the HRTPO staff met with staff from the City of Norfolk to discuss the potential for the HRTPO to conduct an analysis of the Hampton Boulevard Corridor as part of the agency's FY2020 work program.

HRPDC staff continues to coordinate efforts for the Regional Fiber Ring Initiative. This project is a phased approach that envisions a regional fiber network that interconnects with the transatlantic broadband cables that have landed in Virginia Beach and distributes this ultra-fast fiber throughout the Hampton Roads region. Phase I of this project would create a fiber ring interconnecting the five cities on the Southside. Phase II extends to the Peninsula localities, creating a similar ring and Phase III extends westward to the region's rural localities. To initiate Phase I of this project, the five Southside cities have collaborated to fund the 30% design work for the Southside Fiber Ring. This work has developed consensus among the five Southside cities on the routing of this Southside Fiber Ring. The

five Southside cities have also acquired legal services to develop a governance structure for this Southside Fiber Ring. This governance structure will be developed to allow future localities to join this effort. In addition, the five Southside cities have also agreed to jointly fund the 100% design work for the Southside Fiber Ring, which will produce construction level drawings.

As follow-up to the February HRPDC meeting where the regional economic development sites inventory was discussed, the CAO Committee has continued to discuss the potential for a regional approach to prepare economic development sites in exchange for revenue sharing after these sites are developed. At the last two CAO Committee meetings, the Peninsula localities briefed the region's CAOs on the Eastern Virginia RIFA. The EVRIFA was designed to allow Southside localities to join this framework, and provides a structure for regional coordination and revenue sharing.

On February 20, the Executive Director met with class members of the Hampton Roads CIVIC Leadership program to provide information on the work of the HRPDC and HRTPO.

On February 21, the Executive Director provided a presentation to the Lead Hampton Roads Class on the work of the HRPDC and HRTPO.

The HRTPO staff completed and submitted the INFRA grant application requesting \$150 Million of federal funding for the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel project.

On March 4, the Executive Director and HRTPO staff members attended the celebration of the 2nd Train to Norfolk at the City of Norfolk train station.

On March 5, the Executive Director provided a presentation to the staff of the Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance on planned infrastructure improvements in Hampton Roads. These improvements include the following:

- Over \$5 Billion of transportation improvements on the Interstate Highway Network
- Arrival of the Transatlantic Broadband Cables in Virginia Beach, and planning to develop a regional fiber network to distribute this ultra-fast fiber throughout the Hampton Roads region
- Widening and deepening of the Harbor Channel to support the Port of Virginia
- Efforts by the Hampton Roads Sanitation District to advance the Surface Water Initiative for Tomorrow (SWIFT) project

HRPDC staff continues to convene and coordinate efforts to restructure HREDA as a regional economic development entity. These efforts include ongoing meetings with CAOs from HREDA member jurisdictions and representatives of the business community to finalize a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Alliance's public sector members and HREDA. This MOA has now been finalized and is being scheduled for review and approval by the Alliance's member localities.

The Executive Director and HRPDC staff provided a briefing to the HREDA Regional Economic Development Team on planned infrastructure improvements at its March 7 meeting in Newport News.

The HRPDC Subcommittee on Coastal Resiliency met on March 8. Agenda items included:

- Overview of StormSense by Dr. Derek Loftis, Virginia Institute of Marine Science
- Discussion of Potential for a Region-wide Sensor Program

On March 11, HRPDC Vice Chair Andria McClellan, the Executive Director and HRPDC staff attended a meeting in Fredericksburg with other coastal PDCs and Ann Phillips, the Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection. Under the leadership of Rear Admiral Phillips, the Commonwealth will be developing a resiliency strategic plan. The purpose of this meeting was to brief coastal PDCs on this effort and request input into this planning process.

The HRPDC staff is coordinating efforts with Reinvent Hampton Roads, HREDA and the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to develop a strategy for preparing a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Hampton Roads region. This CEDS is needed for our region's localities to compete for federal EDA funding. The strategy being developed would result in a CEDS being presented to the HRPDC in October for approval and submission to the EDA.

The Executive Director attended the 2019 Market Review and Forecast hosted by Old Dominion University on March 13.

The HRTPO continues to provide staff support for the Regional Connectors Study.

HRTPO and HRPDC staff attended and supported the March 14 meeting of the Community Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC). The primary agenda item at this meeting was a discussion of the project prioritization tool that will be used in the upcoming Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update.

On March 18, the Executive Director and the HRPDC Deputy Executive Director attended a meeting with representatives of HREDA, Reinvent Hampton Roads and the CAOs from James City County, York County and Williamsburg to discuss regional economic development efforts.

The Executive Director and HRPDC Deputy Executive Director attended the Virginia Beach State of the City Address on March 20.

The Executive Director and HRPDC Deputy Executive Director attended the March 21 Board Meeting of the Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance (HRMFFA).

The Executive Director attended the March 21 and March 28 Board Meetings of the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC).

The Executive Director participated in a March 22 conference call of the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions (VAPDC).

On March 22, the HRPDC/HRTPO staff hosted the first meeting of a healthy community roundtable. The purpose of this roundtable is to convene community stakeholders who are advancing healthy community initiatives and provide for the exchange of information and alignment of efforts among these community partners.

The Executive Director attended and participated in a strategic planning session at Jefferson Lab on March 27.

On March 29, the Executive Director and HRPDC/HRTPO Deputy Executive Directors met with Congressman Rob Wittman in Hampton to discuss the region's efforts around transportation, regional fiber and Joint Land Use Studies. We were joined at this meeting by HRTPO Chair Thomas Shepperd and HRTAC Executive Director Kevin Page.

On April 2, the Executive Director provided a presentation to a group of local real estate professionals on the work of the HRPDC and HRTPO.

On April 4, the Executive Director provided a presentation to the Peninsula Chamber's LEAD Peninsula Class on the work of the HRPDC and HRTPO.

The Executive Director and HRPDC Deputy Executive Director attended the Portsmouth State of the City Address on April 5.

The Executive Director and HRPDC staff attended the April 9 Norfolk City Council meeting to provide a presentation on the Norfolk/Virginia Beach Joint Land Use Study.

The Coastal Resilience Subcommittee met on April 12. Agenda items at this meeting included:

- Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) Overview
- Discussion of Transportation and Resiliency
- Follow-Up Discussion on Sensors
- Update on Resiliency Project Inventory
- Review of March Coastal Resiliency Committee (Technical Staff) Agenda and Discussion Items

The HRPDC/HRTPO Management Team continues to advance work on the following initiatives:

- Preparation of the Organization's Fiscal Year 2020 budget
- Working with the Organization's new Building Services Manager to identify building facility needs
- Developing a strategic plan for the replacement of the Organization's server systems
- Continued refinement of the Regional Building's HVAC system
- Research on the establishment of a trust fund related to the Organization's long-term pension liabilities
- Provision of human resource management services to the HRTAC and HRMFFA
- Title VI, Civil Rights and Community Involvement
- IT Management
- Recruitment for vacant positions
- Personnel Management