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TO: HRPDC/HRTPO Board Members

FROM: Robert Crum, Executive Director

RE: Executive Director's February 2017 Report

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

At its January 19 meeting, the HRPDC approved three additions to its 2017 legislative agenda to address coastal resiliency:

- Support the appropriation of funds for the Virginia Shoreline Resiliency Fund
- Support the appropriation of funds to match federal funding for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 3x3x3 studies
- Support the creation of a standalone Virginia Chief Resiliency Officer

A summary sheet providing background information on these regional coastal resiliency legislative priorities is attached. The Executive Director attended the January 26 meeting of the Hampton Roads Caucus to present information on these coastal resiliency priorities.

The Executive Director also attended meetings of the Hampton Roads Caucus at the General Assembly Building in Richmond on January 12 and February 2 to continue to brief our regional delegation on the legislative priorities of the HRPDC and HRTPO.

HRPDC staff is working with the United Way of South Hampton Roads to coordinate efforts on a regional dashboard/indicators project. This regional dashboard, developed by the United Way, will allow the region to track progress around the regional priorities identified in Envision Hampton Roads. The HRPDC and United Way staffs are coordinating a meeting of regional partner organizations on February 17 to introduce the regional dashboard and promote the exchange of information among regional organizations.

The regional Chief Administrative Officer's (CAO) Committee held a ½ day retreat February 1 at the Virginia Modeling and Simulation Center (VMASC) in Suffolk. Topics of discussion included the following:

- Sharing of best practices related to public safety and crime prevention and a discussion of potential opportunities for regional collaboration

- Review of regional broadband opportunities
- A briefing by the HRTAC Executive Director and discussion of the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund
- Review of legislative items from the General Assembly
- Discussion of the FEMA review of the City of Hampton's floodplain program and development of a regionally coordinated strategy to request a briefing by FEMA officials before the CAO Committee and the HRPDC.

HRPDC staff attended a meeting with City of Hampton staff on January 31 to discuss continued concerns regarding FEMA's interpretation of policy related to the review and permitting of small projects and cosmetic improvements within special flood hazard areas. The region's CAO Committee has agreed to send a letter to FEMA representatives requesting that they attend the March 1 meeting of the CAO Committee and the April 20 meeting of the HRPDC to share information on this issue. Since this issue is of regional significance, the CAOs are requesting that FEMA representatives attend these two meetings prior to the issuance of national guidance so that the topic can be fully discussed and vetted by our member jurisdictions.

The Executive Director provided a presentation to the Future of Hampton Roads on January 18 on the regional legislative agenda and the status of regional transportation priority projects.

On January 20, the HRTPO staff attended a meeting with CAOs from Southampton County and the cities of Franklin and Suffolk to begin discussions on a strategy for advancing a study of the Route 58 Corridor. HRTPO staff is working to obtain the services of a VDOT on-call consultant to conduct this study, with project management to be provided by the HRTPO. A working committee consisting of representatives from the three jurisdictions, and HRTPO and HRTAC staff will be convened in the next month to begin preparations for this study.

The HRTPO staff continues to work with locality staffs to identify and evaluate opportunities for extending the Virginia Capital Trail into the Hampton Roads region. Options are under consideration for potential routes connecting through both the Peninsula and Southside. HRTPO staff attended a meeting with the National Park Service on January 26 to discuss this effort.

The Executive Director attended the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions (VAPDC) Winter Meeting in Richmond, which included participation in the Virginia Association of Counties legislative meeting.

HRTPO staff met with the HRTAC Executive Director and representatives of VDOT to begin discussions on the preparation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the advancement of the study of the remaining segments from the Hampton Roads Crossing Study Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. This initial meeting was the first step in the process which will include the engagement of the impacted local jurisdictions.

On February 7, HRTPO staff attended a meeting at the Virginia Port Authority with the HRTAC Executive Director and representatives of Old Dominion University to discuss port-related transportation planning activities.

The Executive Director provided a presentation on the work of the HRPDC and HRTPO to the Board of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce on February 8.

The Executive Director provided a presentation summarizing the status of the region's priority transportation projects to a Continuing Education Class on February 9.

The HRPDC staff worked over the past three weeks to collect signatures from the chief elected officials of all 17 Hampton Roads jurisdictions to affix to a letter asking the Federal government to reinstate the region's Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) designation. Staff has coordinated efforts with Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance (HRMFFA) Executive Director Craig Quigley to deliver these letters to the region's congressional delegation.

The Executive Director continues to serve on the Reinvent Hampton Roads Board and participate in discussions related to the GO Virginia initiative.

HRTPO staff met with representatives of Old Dominion University to discuss the Smart and Connected Communities program.

The HRPDC staff continues to advance efforts for two joint land use studies (JLUS) focusing on sea level rise. The first study, involving the cities of Norfolk and Virginia Beach and the military installations in these jurisdictions, will kick off in February. AECOM has been selected to provide consultant services for this JLUS with project management provided by the HRPDC staff. The first policy committee meeting which will include representatives from the host jurisdictions and military partners, will be held in February. A second JLUS focusing on similar issues for the cities of Chesapeake and Portsmouth will also be managed by the HRPDC.

The Executive Director provided an updated report to the HRPDC/HRTPO Personnel and Budget Committee to address questions regarding a request to provide funding to the Roanoke River Basin Association (RRBA). A meeting of the Personnel and Budget Committee will be scheduled to review this updated report.

The HRTPO/HRTAC staff continues to assist HRTAC with financial management, website support and human resource activities.

HRPDC staff continues to provide financial management support to the Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance.

The Executive Director and HRPDC Deputy Executive Director met with the Isle of Wight County Administrator on February 6 to discuss upcoming projects and initiatives.