



### PASSENGER RAIL CELEBRATION

Staff attended the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority's July 12 celebration at the Norfolk Amtrak Station to mark the addition of the 3rd intercity passenger rail train to Norfolk and the return of the 2nd train to Newport News. The pursuit of improved passenger rail service to both the Peninsula and the Southside has been a legislative priority of the HRPDC and HRTPO over the past several years.

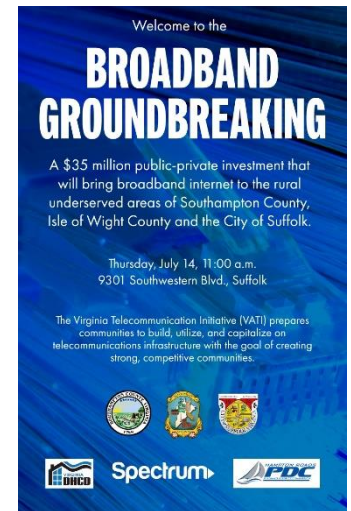


### GROUNDBREAKING—SUFFOLK, ISLE OF WIGHT AND SOUTHAMPTON BROADBAND PROJECT

In cooperation with the City of Suffolk, Isle of Wight and Southampton Counties and Charter Communications, the HRPDC applied for, and received, over \$21 million from the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) grant program through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. Combined with local monies provided by the host localities and Charter, these grant monies will be used to fund a \$35 million broadband project that will bring broadband service to the rural underserved areas of these three localities.

On July 14, local leaders and community members gathered on Southwestern Boulevard in Suffolk to celebrate the groundbreaking for this project, which is expected to provide last mile broadband service to over 12,000 homes and businesses in these localities. The HRPDC is serving as project manager for this effort, and hosted pre-construction coordination meetings with locality representatives and local utility representatives on May 10.

The July 14 groundbreaking marks the second major broadband milestone within the last three months. On April 6, the Southside Network Authority (SNA) held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Southside fiber ring. The SNA and VATI grant efforts will result in the construction of over 2,300 miles of fiber on the Southside of Hampton Roads over the next two to three years.



### PENINSULA BROADBAND/FIBER OPPORTUNITIES

The Executive Director has held meetings with Peninsula representatives to discuss opportunities for extending the fiber network to the Peninsula, including the possibility of exploring a federal broadband grant for the first phase of the Peninsula network in Newport News and Hampton. This grant submission is due September 30. In addition, the Peninsula localities have each appointed two representatives to a Broadband Planning Committee that will work with the HRPDC to guide broader fiber/broadband planning efforts on the Peninsula.



## CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS MEETING

The Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) Committee held its regularly scheduled meeting on July 6 at the American Revolution Museum in York County. Agenda items included the following:

- Hampton Roads Sanitation District – Introduction of HRSD General Manager Jay Bernas
- Hampton Roads Interoperability System
- Update/Information Sharing on Regional Violence Prevention
- Discussion of potential Regional/Local Legislative Items

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The HRPDC/HRTPO Community Advisory (CAC) met June 9 at the Christopher Newport University Mary M. Torggler Fine Arts Center. Agenda items included:

- Briefing on the Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport
- Input on a proposed Place Making Initiative
- Update on the Newport News Multimodal Transportation Center

In addition, CAC members received a guided tour of the Torggler Center's current exhibit.



## VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC HEARING

On May 9, the HRPDC/HRTPO and HRTAC Executive Directors coordinated to provide a presentation on regional transportation priorities at a VDOT public hearing in Suffolk. This public session was attended by the Secretary of Transportation, VDOT Commissioner, Department of Rail and Public Transportation Director, and Commonwealth Transportation Board members.

## JOINT LAND USE STUDY IMPLEMENTATION

As follow up to direction provided by HRPDC Commissioners, staff has worked with the cities of Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth and Virginia Beach to appoint JLUS implementation teams for each locality. The purpose of these teams will be to ensure ongoing coordination with military partners to drive implementation of key JLUS recommendations. Staff has coordinated two meetings with the JLUS Implementation Teams and military representatives to initiate this effort.

## YORK COUNTY RETREAT

The Executive Director attended the May 19 retreat for the York County Board of Supervisors at the American Revolution Museum in Yorktown and provided an overview of regional transportation projects and planning efforts.



## HAMPTON ROADS BRIDGE TUNNEL PROJECT

On June 23, the HRPDC/HRTPO and HRTAC Executive Directors participated in an HRBT Project Stakeholder meeting at the Regional Building.

## OTHER MEETINGS/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OUTREACH

- Provided a presentation to a Virginia Beach Community Group on May 12 on the work of the Regional Transit Advisory Panel and regional transit planning efforts
- Attended May 13 Southside Network Authority meeting
- Met with the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Deputy Director on May 16 to discuss the work of the HRPDC and HRTPO
- Provided a presentation to the Greater Norfolk Corporation on regional transportation planning efforts on May 23
- Participated in the May 24 Virginia Association of Planning District Commission's (VAPDC) Program Committee meeting
- Facilitated a call between the military and VDOT representatives on May 24 to discuss the potential for an Intergovernmental Services Agreement
- Attended the Suffolk State of the City on May 24
- Participated in the VAPDC Board of Directors meeting on June 7
- Attended the Hampton Roads Military Advisory Committee meeting on June 7
- Attended the June 16 Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities (HRMFFA) Board meeting
- Attended the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC) Board meeting on June 16
- Met with the Virginians for High Speed Rail Executive Director on June 27 to discuss opportunities to improve the reliability of service to the Hampton Roads region
- Attended the Reinvent Hampton Roads and Hampton Roads Business Roundtable meetings on June 29
- Met with representatives of CivicPlus on July 5 to discuss opportunities for the Organization's web sites
- Met with the new Portsmouth City Manager on July 5 to provide a briefing on regional projects and programs
- Presentation to the Peninsula Economic Development Directors at the offices of the Peninsula Chamber of Commerce on July 8 on the Regional Fiber Network
- Participated in the Southside Network Authority Board meeting of July 8
- Participated in a planning meeting for the joint 757/RVA megaregion event planned for October
- Met with the new Southampton County Administrator on July 15 to review regional projects and programs

## ADMINISTRATION/MANAGEMENT

- Review of Employee Evaluations
- End of Fiscal Year Closeout Work
- Selection of Communications Administrator
- Audit Field Work and Support
- Evaluation of Agency Phone System Options
- Building maintenance and operations



- Recruitment for vacant positions
- Personnel management
- Financial management and human resources support for the HRPDC, HRTPO, HRTAC, HRMFFA and Southside Network Authority
- Fiscal management and contract support for the VATI Broadband grant