



**HAMPTON ROADS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
RESOLUTION 2010-04**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE HAMPTON ROADS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
SUPPORTING THE CSX TRANSPORTATION'S INITIATIVE TO SOLICIT FEDERAL FUNDING FOR
THE NATIONAL GATEWAY RAIL PROJECT.**

WHEREAS, the CSX Transportation is leading the effort to build the National Gateway, a public-private partnership supported by a coalition of states and public and private organizations interested in increasing the freight capacity between the Midwest and East Coast;

WHEREAS, the National Gateway is a double stack cleared, state-of-the-art rail corridor linking the East Coast's international deepwater ports and major consumption markets with the population and manufacturing centers of the Midwest;

WHEREAS, the National Gateway project proposes to create a highly efficient freight transportation link between three Mid-Atlantic ports (Baltimore, Hampton Roads, and Wilmington) by preparing three major rail corridors for double-stack clearance: I-95/I-81 in North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland; I-70/I-76 between Washington, DC and Northwest Ohio; and the I-40/Carolina Corridor between Charlotte and Wilmington;

WHEREAS, the National Gateway project will have a positive impact on the economy, transportation system and environment by:

- Creating an additional option for transporting freight, freeing up additional highway capacity – trucks will travel about 14.3 billion fewer miles on the nation's highway system;
- Generating an estimated 4,000 jobs by the end of 2012, and once completed more than 50,000 jobs over the next 30 years;
- Providing a significant competitive advantage to the Virginia Port Authority in terms of market reach and ability to attract shipping customers;
- Improving the environment by maximizing the efficiencies of both freight rail and trucking services through saving nearly 2 billion gallons of fuel, eliminating 20 million tons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, and reducing particulate matter emissions by approximately 1,000 tons;

WHEREAS, the National Gateway project represents an \$842 million investment in rail infrastructure and intermodal terminal projects;

WHEREAS, the National Gateway project has received approval of \$682 million of the \$842 million thus far through ARRA grants and financial commitments from the Gateway states and CSX Transportation;



WHEREAS, an additional \$160 million is needed to complete the double-stacked network; and

WHEREAS, once public funding is secured, the National Gateway project will likely take four to five years to complete – with the anticipated completion in 2015.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization supports the National Gateway as a project of great regional and national significance that will help address serious concerns about the economy, U.S. competitiveness, congestion, highway safety and maintenance and energy efficiency.

APPROVED and ADOPTED by the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization Board at its meeting on the 21st day of April, 2010.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Will Sessoms".

William D. Sessoms
Chairman
Hampton Roads Transportation
Planning Organization

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dwight L. Farmer".

Dwight L. Farmer
Executive Director/Secretary
Hampton Roads Transportation
Planning Organization