



**HAMPTON ROADS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BOARD RESOLUTION 2010-09**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE HAMPTON ROADS TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION
ENDORING THE HRTPO 2011 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA.**

WHEREAS, the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO), designated by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia in accordance with Section 134, Title 23, United States Code (23 USC 134) and applicable federal and state regulations, is the policy body responsible for the urban transportation planning and programming process of the Hampton Roads metropolitan planning area;

WHEREAS, the Hampton Roads metropolitan planning area includes the cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg; the counties of Isle of Wight, James City, and York; and a portion of Gloucester County;

WHEREAS, the HRTPO Board is comprised primarily of local elected officials and General Assembly members, representatives from the regional transit authorities as well as from state agencies such as the Virginia Department of Transportation, Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Virginia Port Authority and Virginia Department of Aviation, and federal agencies such as the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and Federal Aviation Administration;

WHEREAS, the HRTPO Legislative Ad-hoc Committee developed a list of legislative priorities to aid in the preparation of the HRTPO Legislative Agenda for the 2011 General Assembly session;

WHEREAS, the HRTPO has compiled the following legislative priorities to form the HRTPO 2011 Legislative Agenda for the purpose of conveying the information to the General Assembly for its review, consideration and approval for the 2011 General Assembly session:

- The HRTPO supports legislation that requires sufficient funds to be provided to fully fund the Highway and Maintenance Operating Fund.
- The HRTPO supports the rescission of paragraphs 5a and 5b from Item 436 in the 2010-2012 Virginia Biennial Budget regarding the obligation and expenditure time limit provisions on projects receiving funding through the Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP). In lieu of rescission, the HRTPO supports the removal of the 12-month time limit on the federal obligation of the project's allocation and supports the extension of expenditure of RSTP funds to 60-months to coincide with the local five-year Capital Improvement Programs.
- The HRTPO supports legislation that allocates the necessary state funding to facilitate in the completion of the Midtown Tunnel and Martin Luther King Freeway (MLK) Extension project (UPC # 95149), which includes a new two-lane tunnel and upgrading existing two-lane in the Midtown Tunnel; extension of the MLK Freeway to I-264; and safety improvements in the Downtown Tunnel.
- The HRTPO supports the codification of metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in the Code of Virginia to align with the federal regulations on transportation as they pertain to the role, responsibilities and products of MPOs in the transportation planning and programming processes.

- The HRTPO supports merging the two Commonwealth's programming documents (Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and the Six-Year Improvement Program) into one statewide programming document that is consistent with federal regulations and demonstrates allocations, obligations and expenditures.
- The HRTPO supports reconstitution of the representation on the Commonwealth Transportation Board based on congressional districts by the General Assembly.
- The HRTPO supports the addition of "federal funds" to the list of matching sources for passenger rail projects seeking funding from the Rail Enhancement Fund.
- The HRTPO supports the removal of the matching requirement for passenger rail projects as prescribed in the Rail Enhancement Fund.
- The HRTPO supports the extension of high-speed and intercity passenger rail between Richmond/Petersburg and Hampton Roads with the ultimate objective to connect to the Washington, D.C. Northeast Corridor and the Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor.
- The HRTPO supports the identification of a dedicated non-local source of funds to support passenger rail operating costs between Richmond/Petersburg and Hampton Roads.
- The HRTPO supports the recognition from the Commonwealth of Virginia of the Virginia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (VAMPO) as the official entity to represent metropolitan planning organizations located in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

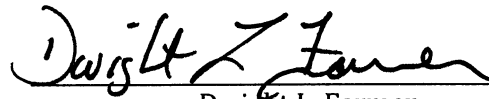
WHEREAS, upon approval, this resolution will be transmitted to local governments and the Hampton Roads Delegation of the General Assembly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization hereby endorses the HRTPO 2011 Legislative Agenda.

APPROVED and ADOPTED by the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization Board at its meeting on the 20th day of October, 2010.



William D. Sessoms
Chairman
Hampton Roads Transportation
Planning Organization



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