

August 17, 2020

Memorandum #2020-94

TO: Regional Connectors Study (RCS) Working Group

BY: Camelia Ravanbakht, RCS Project Coordinator

RE: Regional Connectors Study Working Group Meeting – August 27, 2020

Attached is the agenda for the **Regional Connectors Study Working Group** meeting scheduled for **Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.**

Pursuant to the declared state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to protect the public health and safety of the working group members, staff, and the general public, the Regional Connectors Study Working Group meeting will be held electronically.

Members of the public are invited to address the RCS Working Group by submitting comments in advance of the meeting via email to kmiller@hrtpo.org or phone (757) 366-4370. Each comment is limited to three minutes. All comments received by noon on August 26, 2020 will be provided to the RCS Working Group Members and included in the official record.

Members of the public may listen to the RCS Working Group meeting via telephone using audio-only toll-free dial-in 1-866-345-9178.

CR/kl

Attachments

Regional Connectors Study (RCS) Working Group

RCS WG Voting Members:

Troy Eisenberger (CH)
Jason Mitchell (HA)
Bryan Stilley (NN)
Brian Fowler (NO)

James Wright (PO)
Jason Souders (SU)
Ric Lowman (VB)

RCS WG Nonvoting Members:

Jason Flowers (Army Corps)
George Janek (Army Corps)
Robert Pruhs (Army Corps)
Ivan Rucker (FHWA)
Kevin Page (HRTAC)
Tim Dolan (US Coast Guard)

Gene Leonard (US Coast Guard)
Michael King (US Navy)
Pamela Phillips (VDOT)
Jennifer Salyers (VDOT)
Kit Chope (VPA)
Barbara Nelson (VPA)

RCS WG Other:

Pat Jones (CH)
Lynne Keenan (HA)
Amy Inman (NO)
Anne Doyle (NO)
Robert Brown (NO)
Deborah Mangiaracina (NO)
Evandro Santos (NO)
Angela Rico (NN)

Carl Jackson (PO)
Cole Fisher (VB)
Rick Dwyer (HRMFFA)
Lori Sharp (PRRBIZ)
COL Patrick Kinsman (US Army)
Steve Jones (US Navy)
Eric Stringfield (VDOT)

Staff:

Bob Crum (HRTPO)
Mike Kimbrel (HRTPO)
Rob Case (HRTPO)
Kendall Miller (HRTPO)
Keith Nichols (HRTPO)
Dale Stith (HRTPO)
Keith Cannady (HRPDC)

Project Coordinator:

Camelia Ravanbakht

Project Consultants:

Craig Eddy
Lorna Parkins



Agenda

Regional Connectors Study

Working Group Meeting

August 27, 2020

9:30 AM

Pursuant to the declared state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to protect the public health and safety of the working group members, staff, and the general public, the **Regional Connectors Study Working Group** meeting will be held electronically. This electronic meeting is required to complete essential business on behalf of the region.

- 1. Call to Order, Declaration re: Purpose of Meeting, and Roll Call**
- 2. Welcome and Introductions**
- 3. Public Comment Period** - Comments submitted and received by noon on August 26, 2020 will be provided to the Working Group in time for the meeting and included in the official record.

Members of the public are invited to address the RCS Working Group. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, interested persons may submit comments to the RCS Working Group in advance of the meeting by email to kmiller@hrtpo.org or phone (757) 366-4370. Each comment is limited to three minutes.

- 4. Minutes (Action Requested)**

Summary Minutes from August 13, 2020 Working Group Meeting – Attachment 4
Recommended Action: For Approval

5. Regional Connectors Study: Modeling Update Congestion-Related Findings: Craig Eddy/ Consultant Team, MBI

During the August 13th Working Group Electronic Meeting, the Consultant Team provided a comprehensive update of the RCS Phase 2 and Phase 3 tasks. The main part of the presentation focused on results from the land use and travel demand model runs to determine whether adequate differentiation has been achieved among different growth scenarios. The travel demand model runs showed results with and without technology for the 2045 baseline and greater growth scenarios.

Following an extended discussion regarding the results and reported selected performance measures, the Working Group members concurred and agreed that there was sufficient differentiation between the three growth scenarios and directed the Consultant Team to move the study forward to the next steps.

Mr. Craig Eddy, RCS Project Manager and the Consultant Team will provide a presentation of some key dashboard features (congestion and performance).

Recommended Action: For Discussion and Providing Input to the Consultant Team

6. For Your Information

Status of RCS Deliverables:

Phase 2 Deliverables

- Scenario Planning Methodology White Paper – **Complete**
- Memo Summarizing Economic Trends and Opportunities – **Complete**
- Memo Summarizing Travel Behavior Data Review – **Late August**
- Memo Summarizing Travel Demand Model Evaluation – **Late August**
- Tech Memo on Drivers, Spatial Assumptions, and Travel Parameters – **Complete**
- Tech Memo on Performance Measures – **Complete**
- Technical Guide on Scenario Evaluation – **Mid-September**

Phase 3 Major Deliverables

- Summary of Mandated Preliminary Segments – **Complete**
- Updated Cost Estimates for Mandated Preliminary Alternatives – **Complete**
- Summary of Candidate Alternatives – TBD
- Tech Memo on Microsimulation Analysis – TBD
- Scenario Planning Report – TBD
- Engagement Summary Report – TBD
- Study Report – TBD

7. RCS Next Scheduled Joint Meeting

- **September 22, 2020 – 9:30 AM:** Joint Steering (Policy) Committee and Working Group Meeting

Seeking concurrence that Phase 2 scenario planning work has been sufficiently completed by viewing the completed dashboard including economic analysis components.

8. Other Items of Interest

9. Adjournment

**Regional Connectors Study
Working Group Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2020, 1:30 pm**

Pursuant to the declared state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to protect the public health and safety of the members, staff, and general public, this meeting was held electronically via Webex. These electronic meetings are required to complete essential business on behalf of the region. A recording of the meeting will be available on the website.

The following voting members attended the web meeting (alphabetically by last name):

Troy Eisenberger (Chesapeake)
Brian Fowler (Norfolk)
Lynne Keenan (Hampton)
Ric Lowman (VB)
Jason Souders (Suffolk)
Bryan Stilley (NN)
James Wright (Portsmouth)

The following voting members were absent (alphabetically by last name): n.a.

The following others attended the web meeting (alphabetically by last name):

Nick Britton (Michael Baker Intl.)	Pamela Phillips (VDOT)
Rob Case (HRTPO)	Camelia Ravanbakht (RCS Coordinator)
Rick Dwyer (HRMFFA)	Angela Rico (Newport News)
Craig Eddy (Michael Baker Intl.)	Ivan Rucker (FHWA)
Jason Flowers (US Army)	Jenny Salyers (VDOT)
Vlad Gavrilovic (EPR)	Evandro Santos (Norfolk)
Carl Jackson (Portsmouth)	Naomi Stein (EBP)
Barbara Nelson (POV)	Dale Stith (HRTPO)
Keith Nichols (HRTPO)	Eric Stringfield (VDOT)
Lorna Parkins (Michael Baker Intl.)	Bill Thomas (Michael Baker Intl.)

1&2. Call to Order; Welcome and Introductions

Bryan Stilley (Chair, Newport News) called the meeting to order shortly after 1:30pm.
No introductions.

3. Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

4. Minutes

The Working Group approved the minutes of the July 9, 2020 Working Group meeting.

5&6&7. RCS Phase 2&3 Updates; Status of Deliverables

Craig Eddy (MBI) provided an update of the status of deliverables and Phase 3 (with slides).

Concerning Phase 2, Lorna Parkins (MBI), Vlad Gavrilovic (EPR), Bill Thomas (MBI) presented inputs and outputs of travel demand model runs for various growth scenarios (with slides). Craig asked the working group to confirm that the Greater Growth forecasts provide adequate differentiation in results.

Brian Fowler (Norfolk) said that Greater Growth's 5% growth in population is too low. (Population, not employment, dictates the number of work trips.)

Barb Nelson (POV): The Port desires for this study to move forward.

Carl Jackson (Portsmouth): I see uncertainty but desire to move ahead.

Troy Eisenberger (Chesapeake): I'm okay moving forward

Ric Lowman (VB): Keep moving forward.

Jason Souders (Suffolk): Prefer to move forward.

Lynne Keenan (Hampton): We support moving forward.

8. Next Meetings/Events

The following meetings were discussed:

- Working Group Meeting: Thursday August 27, 2020, 9:30 am
- Joint Working Group and Steering (Policy) Committee: Tues. Sept. 15, 2020, 2:00 pm

9. Other Items of Interest

No other items were discussed.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned approximately at 3:10 pm.