

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission





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HAMPTON ROADS RURAL LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission are partnering to evaluate the rural transportation system in the region and to recommend a range of transportation improvements that best satisfy existing and future transportation needs. This partnership will result in a Rural Long Range Transportation Plan (RLRP) that identifies needs based upon goals and objectives established by the region. Improving the transportation system remains vital to improving the quality of life and continued economic growth and prosperity in Virginia. Providing for the effective, safe and efficient movement of people and goods is a basic goal of all transportation programs in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

2035 STATE HIGHWAY PLAN

Once completed, the RLRP will be incorporated into Virginia's 2035 State Highway Plan. The statewide highway plan is developed by VDOT to identify needs and recommend solutions for the Commonwealth's Interstate and primary highway systems. The RLRPs serve as the building blocks for the State Highway Plan and are being developed in cooperation with planning district commissions throughout the Commonwealth. The rural plans will complement the transportation plans that currently exist for metropolitan areas of Virginia.

MOVING FORWARD

The Hampton Roads RLRP and the 2035 State Highway Plan will be key tools for identifying and understanding the magnitude of Virginia's transportation needs and will establish a foundation for making critical funding decisions for future highway projects.

These plans will provide real and tangible solutions to issues such as safety, capacity, geometric deficiencies and will serve as key resources to determine future projects for implementation. The plans will address important regional issues such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities, transit operations, intermodal connectors and park and ride lots - all significant or important premier elements in creating a comprehensive transportation network for the future.

Once completed, the 2035 State Highway Plan will serve as a key component to VTrans2035, Virginia's State-wide Long-Range Multimodal Transportation Plan. VTrans2035 will rely heavily on the findings of the State Highway Plan to ensure other modes of travel, including rail, transit, aviation and shipping seamlessly blend into the highway network to form one single, integrated network.



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The Hampton Roads region is located in southeastern Virginia and is bordered by the Chesapeake Bay to the north, and the Atlantic Ocean to the east, North Carolina to the south, and to the west by the southeastern and eastern portions of the Petersburg and Richmond regions. The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) serves the counties of Gloucester, Isle of Wight, James City, Southampton, Surry, and York, as well as the the cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg. The region is predominantly an urban and suburban area, with more rural development patterns in the western portions of the region.

There is some overlap between PDC's in this region. Gloucester County is a joint member of both the HRPDC and the Middle Peninsula PDC and Surry County is a joint member of the HRPDC and the Crater PDC. In addition to the overlap of PDC boundaries, the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO) addresses the transportation planning needs for the jurisdictions within the metropolitan areas of Hampton Roads, which does not include the City of Franklin, Southampton County, or the portion of Gloucester County outside of the metropolitan boundary. For the purposes of the 2035 State Highway Plan, the Hampton Roads RLRP will therefore focus on the City of Franklin and Southampton County. Gloucester County will be addressed in the Middle Peninsula RLRP and Surry County will be included in the RLRP of the Crater PDC.

The primary corridors in the City of Franklin and Southampton County include US 58, US 258, US 460, VA 35, and VA 186. Population in the City of Franklin increased from 8,346 in 2000 to 8,501 in 2007; in Southampton County, population increased from 17,482 in 2000 to 18,335 in 2007. The three largest employment sectors in the City of Franklin are retail trade, health care, and government; in Southampton County, the largest employment sectors are government, manufacturing, and construction. Unemployment rates in Franklin and Southampton County have remained just above the rate for the Commonwealth since 1997 and in October 2008, were 6.5% and 5%, respectively. Median household income in 2000 was \$31,687 for Franklin and \$33,995 for Southampton County; both were below the median household income for the Commonwealth in 2000, which was \$46,677.



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Mission

The HRPDC mission is to:

- serve as a forum for local and elected officials and chief administrators to deliberate and decide issues of regional importance;
- provide the local governments and citizens of Hampton Roads credible and timely planning, research and analysis on matters of mutual concern; and
- provide leadership and offer strategies and support services to other public and private, local and regional agencies, in their efforts to improve the region's quality of life.

The HRPDC serves as a resource of technical expertise to its member local governments. It provides assistance on local and regional issues pertaining to economics, physical and environmental planning, emergency management, and transportation. The HRPDC staff also serves as the support staff for the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Planning Organization, which is responsible for transportation planning and decision-making in the the metropolitan areas of the region. As a Virginia Planning District, the HRPDC is also the Affiliate Data Center for the region, providing economic, environmental, transportation, census, and other relevant information to businesses, organizaions and citizens.



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CONTACT LIST

Providing the most current information to the media and the public is very important to VDOT. To get additional information and have your questions answered regarding this important planning process please address your questions or comments to the key team members listed below.

Virginia Department of Transportation

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Please visit the VDOT website to find additional information regarding this and other important transportation initiatives in your area.

www.virginiadot.org

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ANTICIPATED MILESTONE SCHEDULE

