

Accomack- Northampton Planning District Commission





ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Accomack-Northampton 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 regional plan 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 regional transportation plan 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 regional transportation plans serve as the building blocks for the State Highway Plan and are being developed in cooperation with planning district commissions throughout the Commonwealth. The plans will complement the transportation plans that currently exist for metropolitan areas of Virginia.

MOVING FORWARD

The Accomack-Northampton Regional Transportation Plan and the 2035 State Highway Plan will be key tools for identifying and understanding the magnitude of Virginia's transportation needs and 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, and 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.





Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

The Accomack-Northampton region is located on Virginia's Eastern Shore and is bordered by the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean and Maryland to the north. The Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (A-NPDC) serves Accomack and Northampton counties and the Town of Chincoteague. The region is generally rural and is characterized most predominantly by its association with the water. The Hampton Roads region lies just to the south of the Eastern Shore, via the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel.

The Eastern Shore has experienced slow population growth, which is projected to continue. Total population is currently estimated at 52,149, a 1.46% rise from 2000.

There are no interstates in the region; I-64 is just south of the region in Hampton Roads. The primary corridor for the region is US 13, which runs from north to south. The other north-south corridors include VA 178, VA 316, and VA 600. The main east-west corridors are VA 175, VA 180, VA 182, and VA 184. Due to the narrow peninsular shape of the Eastern Shore, the east-west corridors are limited in distance and not as important as the north-south corridors, particularly US 13.

The three largest employment sectors within the region are manufacturing, government, and health care and social assistance. The unemployment rate in both counties has stayed above the Commonwealth since the late 1990s and was 4.1% in 2007. Median household income in the individual jurisdictions had a range in 2000 from \$28,276 to \$30,250.

Mission

The A-NPDC provides planning and housing services for Accomack, Northampton, Chincoteague, and the other incorporated towns in the region. The A-NPDC also provides transportation, natural resource, and emergency management planning services to local and state agencies. The A-NPDC also offers housing programs and specializes in construction of low and moderate income housing. As a Virginia Planning District, the A-NPDC is also the Affiliate Data Center for the region, providing economic, environmental, transportation, census, and other relevant information to businesses, organizations, and citizens.





Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

Leadership

A-NPDC Director and Commissioners

Elaine Nachtrieb Meil	Executive Director
Gwendolyn F. Turner	Accomack County, Chairman
Richard B. Tankard	Northampton County, Vice Chairman
Laura Belle Gordy	Accomack County
John C. Gray	Accomack County
Donald L. Hart, Jr.	Accomack County
E. Philip McCaleb	Accomack County
Thomas E. Rienarth	Accomack County
Wanda J. Thornton	Accomack County
Ronald "Butch" Bailey	Northampton County
William A. Hughes	Northampton County
Rev. Charles J. Kellam	Northampton County
H. Spencer Murray	Northampton County
John H. Tarr	Town of Chincoteague





Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

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

Eric Stringfield	VDOT Hampton Roads District Planner	Eric.Stringfield@VDOT.Virginia.gov	757-925-3669
Ray Hunt	VDOT Hampton Roads District	Ray.Hunt@VDOT.Virginia.gov	757-925-1595
Lauren Hansen	VDOT Hampton Roads District Public Affairs	LaurenHansen@VDOT.Virginia.gov	757-925-2583
Darrel Johnson	VDOT Central Office	Darrel.Johnson@VDOT.Virginia.gov	804-371-8868

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

www.virginiadot.org

Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

Barbara Schwenk	Accomack-Northampton PDC	bschwenk@a-npdc.org	757-787-2936 ext 115
Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission		www.a-npdc.org	





Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

ANTICIPATED MILESTONE SCHEDULE

