



## **Meeting of the External Legislative Affairs Committee**

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 • 1:30 p.m.  
509 E. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Norfolk, VA

A meeting of the External Legislative Affairs Committee will be held on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. at 509 E. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Norfolk, VA.

The meeting is open to the public and in accordance with the Board's operating procedures and in compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, there will be an opportunity for public comment at the beginning of the meeting.

The agenda and supporting materials are included in this package for your review.



## **Meeting of the External Legislative Affairs Committee (ELAC)**

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 • 1:30 p.m.  
2nd Floor Board Room • 509 E 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Norfolk Virginia

### **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Previous Minutes
3. January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Legislative Day
4. General Assembly Update
5. Transformational Transit Pop-Up Schedule
6. Adjournment



## Meeting Minutes of the External Legislative Affairs Committee (ELAC)

Wednesday, November 7, 2018 • 1:30 p.m.  
2nd Floor Board Room • 509 E 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Norfolk Virginia

### AGENDA

#### Call to Order

A quorum was attained and Commissioner Kanoyton called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

#### **Commissioners in attendance:**

Gaylene Kanoyton, Hampton  
Amelia Ross-Hammond, Virginia Beach  
Amy Inman, Norfolk

#### **Hampton Roads Transit staff in attendance:**

President William Harrell  
Ray Amoruso  
Michael Budahn  
Alesia Cain  
Gene Cavasos  
John Cominoli  
Joe Dillard  
Tom Holden  
Shanti Mullen  
Brian Smith  
Robert Travers

#### **Additional Attendees:**

Judith Brown, League of Women Voters of South H.R.  
Ron Jordan, Advantus Strategies  
Delceno Miles, The Miles Agency  
Eric Nelson, HDR  
Megan O'Reilly, HDR  
Morgan Whayland, Norfolk

### Approval of October 2018 Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the October 2018 meeting minutes was made and properly approved.

### Updates on Transit Transformation Project

Mr. Gene Cavazos presented a commercial promoting the Transit Transformation Project. Mr. Cavazos reported on marketing the Transit Transformation Project on social media outlets. Commissioner Gaylene Kanoyton asked if pop-ups are going to take place at transit stations, posing questions to passengers. It was reported by HDR consultants, that they are gathering data and locations to determine pop-up locations. Ms. Amy Inman further inquired if there are scheduled dates for the pop-ups. President William Harrell advised, the thought process is when we have more data, we will be better equipped with scheduling pop-ups. Dr. Brian Smith noted that HRT will advise on scheduling dates in advance. Commissioner Kanoyton recommended that HRT partner with other industries to gain a strong presence -- potentially having a host committee in every city.

### Governor's Transportation Conference Debrief

Mr. Joe Dillard reported, Mr. Harrell served on the Transit Transformation Project panel held on October 31, 2018. Mr. Harrell reported it was a great conference; we received a good response. It was a great opportunity to get updated on the position of the Governor. Mr. Harrell further reported, on the excitement of the possibility of being able to obtain additional electric busses, thanks to the added State funding coupled with our federal awards. We will use route 20 as our pilot project. Mr. Harrell advised the State has been very cooperative with HRT. Commissioner Amelia Ross-Hammond inquired on the views of micro transit. Mr. Harrell advised we are looking into micro transit and who we can partner with. Mr. Ron Jordan advised technology has a profound impact on micro transit. Commissioner Kanoyton inquired on the funding announced and what it means for HRT next year. Mr. Ray Amoruso advised on a workshop on November 8, 2018, for the Capital Improvement Plan, which will provide insight on how funds from the State will be applied throughout HRT.

### Preview of new HRT Website

Chief of Technology, Alesia Cain, reported on HRT's new website launch. The launch of the website was a collaborative effort between technology and marketing. Mr. Scott Mitchell was the project manager. Mr. John Cominoli and Mr. Michael Budahn, web developers at HRT, played an intricate role with developing the new website. Ms. Cain reported, in February, technology launched the web redesign. The redesign was implemented due to the needs of the public and those of HRT were not being met. Changes to the website were made visually and functionally, focusing on what is important to our customers. We also wanted to make it mobile-ready and interactive. Staff demonstrated capabilities of the new website.

Commissioner Kanoyton inquired if tickets can be purchased on the website. Ms. Cain advised not at this time. Mr. Cominoli reported, the website also retrieves data to provide departments like planning on which routes are frequented the most.

Commissioner Kanoyton asked how long before we implement real time data. Ms. Cain advised what they are currently working on should assist with implementing applications such as real-time data. Ms. Cain reported, they should have these applications implemented by October 2019.

Commissioner Kanoyton asked if there are funding sources to help speed up the process. Ms. Cain advised there are grants however, the match percentage can range from 13%-17%. Commissioner Kanoyton inquired if we are able to lobby for funding for new technologies needed to bring this forward. Mr. Jordan advised the issue is the match, to an extent.

Ms. Cain advised she will present information on technology in O&O in December. Commissioner Kanoyton recommended to include timelines and detailed information on applications. Ms. Cain advised that they are looking to improve data access to our customers.

#### Information on Upcoming TSDAC Meeting (November 13, Richmond)

Dr. Smith reported DRPT just posted materials on Operating Assistance Sizing Scenarios and Operating Assistance Performance Metrics Scenarios, on their website. The meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2018. Dr. Smith recommend that everyone visit DRPT's website to review the material which will be discussed in the November meeting.

Dr. Smith further advised, there will be discussion on the Principles for Transition Plan. Dr. Smith suggested the need for the implementation for discussing transaction funding, for the possibility of the occurrence of a negative funding issue, which may be an opportunity to implement policy especially with the 100% performance-based standard. Dr. Smith reported on the importance and the need for our cities and other partners to make comments at TSDAC meetings to gain support for HRT. HRT can circulate some bullet points to gain support.

Ms. Inman inquired on the schedule for TSDAC right now. Dr. Smith reported they will speak on sizing and performance factors, there will be a meeting in December and a new policy should be adopted by the CTB in February.

Ms. Inman advised on the significance of the point, and recommended ELAC should come together to have a voice at that table. Ms. Inman further advised based on the three scenarios, that HRT will be impacted by at least one million dollars. Dr. Smith advised, VRE is another entity impacted. Ms. Inman affirmed if VRE is unique our Tide system is unique. Further, if VRE is receiving special funding, HRT and the Tide should be viewed as special mode.

Dr. Smith advised there may be an opportunity to make the case for the Tide. Ms. Inman inquired if there is something HRT can do to formalize the request. Mr. Harrell advised, at the last General Assembly session there were efforts to receive funding for the Tide, however it was not supported by Norfolk representatives. Mr. Jordan advised, the Tide and ferry are unique; we need to ask.

Dr. Smith advised that he can make the case at TSDAC next week, acknowledging the fact that light rail is a unique mode; there should be some additional attention given to treating those systems in HRT in the same manner as VRE. There was further discussion on the unique characteristics of the Tide and the need for adequate funding to be considered as part of the new statewide reform. There was a consensus among the committee that a formal request should be made of DRPT to examine this issue. Mr. Harrell advised HRT is willing to assist in those efforts with the collaborative support of the cities.

#### 2019 General Assembly Session – Transit Advocacy Dates

Mr. Dillard reported, January 28, 2019 and a potential second date in February for Transit Advocacy. Mr. Dillard further advised TDCHR board meeting is December 13, 2018; he proposed the option for ELAC to meet December 12<sup>th</sup> if agreed upon. A tentative agenda will be presented by December 5<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Kanoyton moved to accept the date. After further discussion, Mr. Dillard reported December 10, 2018 there is a meeting with other lobbyist across different sectors at HRT. Commissioner Kanoyton advised that we have ELAC and the lobbyist meeting on the same date --December 12<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m.