



Meeting of the External Legislative Affairs Committee (ELAC)

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 • 1:30 p.m.

2nd Floor Board Room • 3400 Victoria Boulevard, Hampton, VA

A meeting of the ELAC will be held on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. at 3400 Victoria Boulevard, Hampton, 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.



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AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes
3. Review of Action Items
4. Legislative Outreach Activities
 - a. “Get on the Bus” Campaign
5. Round Table
6. Adjournment



Meeting of the External Legislative Affairs Committee (ELAC)

Tuesday, February 26, 2019 • 1:30 p.m.
509 E. 18th Street, Norfolk, VA

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

A quorum was attained and Commissioner Kanoyton called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

Commissioners in attendance:

Gaylene Kanoyton, Hampton
Mayor John Rowe, Portsmouth
Amelia Ross-Hammond, Virginia Beach

Hampton Roads Transit staff in attendance:

Gene Cavasos
Joe Dillard Jr.
Shanti Mullen
Brian Smith

Additional Attendees:

Judith Brown, League of Women Voters of South H.R.
Delceno Miles, The Miles Agency
Ron Jordan, Advantus Strategies
Morgan Whayland, Norfolk

Approval of February 2019 Meeting Minutes

The February meeting minutes were not approved. Minutes will be reviewed and are subject to approval at the March meeting.

General Assembly Recap

There was discussion regarding State Bill 1680 (SB1680) and House Bill 2553 (HB2553) and budget amendments that are in place. Mr. Joe Dillard stated that Mr. Ron Jordan with Advantus Strategies will provide an update as to what is taking place in the General Assembly related to transportation.

Mr. Jordan discussed the hold harmless bills which granted up to \$6,000,000. Mr. Jordan stated that the Commonwealth Transportation Board may allocate additional operating

funds in fiscal year 2020 to any transit provider that receives funds to support operating costs that is negatively impacted by a loss of operating funds as a direct result of the performance-based allocation process. Mr. Jordan further advised on the maximum amount of additional operating funds available from the state which is not to exceed \$3,000,000.

There was additional discussion on the new requirements by the state regarding metrics performance, specifically on how the metrics can be fine-tuned to decrease financial hardships for large transit agencies.

Commissioner Gaylene Kanoyton requested clarification on whether the contribution from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) has gone forward or if it will be placed on hold. Mr. Jordan stated that the contribution has gone forward and will be re-addressed in March 2019. HRT has the potential to receive funding that would have been otherwise not received.

There was a discussion regarding the Commonwealth Transportation Board's (CTB) role.

There was discussion regarding the Governor of Virginia having discretion on signing the Bill. It was stated that the governor has 45 days to sign the Bill which will then become a part of the budget and become effective on July 1, 2019. Mr. Jordan stated that the budget includes language directing the Secretary of Virginia to establish a workgroup to conduct a review to replace the gasoline tax. Mr. Jordan provided insight to the Committee regarding what is occurring in Oregon as it relates to its gasoline tax.

There was discussion regarding Interstate 81 and the Elizabeth River Crossing (ERC).

Action Item: There was a request to seek regional support for taxing on-demand transportation companies, e.g. uber and lyft, to help fund transit. Further clarification regarding this task and who will carry this action item will be discussed at the March meeting.

Morgan Whyland suggested evaluating the current funding formula to find ways to increase funding for HRT as HRT has modes of transportation that are specific to the region. There was discussion regarding maximizing the performance-based funding formula e.g. military, tunnels, shipyards.

Mr. Jordan provided information regarding the performance-based implementation stating that the initiative provided more funding for smaller cities that are serving high capacity and high frequency routes.

Dr. Brian Smith provided information regarding the progress on the Transit Transformational Transit Project and the importance of gaining support for same.

Transformational Transit Outreach Update

There was discussion regarding the launch of the Transformational Transit Outreach Project which occurred in November. It was stated that the current outreach initiative is providing useful feedback to HRT.

Online outreach was discussed e.g. online advertisements. Dr. Smith showed an advertisement that is being promoted on social media.

Action Item: There was a request for HRT staff to send the Transformational Transit Outreach surveys to Commissioners in order to reach a larger market.

There was discussion regarding in-person engagement. Dr. Smith stated that there have been a number of pop-up meetings across Hampton Roads to reach riders. Dr. Smith further reported that HRT is conducting internal outreach as well to get feedback/suggestions from operators.

It was stated that small group meetings will start in April 2019.

It was suggested that outreach also be conducted with community partners such as those provided below.

Healthcare

Bon Secours Hampton Roads
Healthcare groups

Disabled Communities

Eggleston

Minorities

Asian Chamber of Commerce
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Civic Leagues

Hampton Neighborhood Commission

Higher Education

Virginia Wesleyan
Regent University
Public Schools

Additional agencies included:

Community Service Boards
Young Professional Leagues
Urban League of Hampton Roads Young Professionals
Retail Alliance

Wards Corner Business Associations
OTBA
IBX Global
Verizon
Convention & Visitors Bureaus
Hotel Alliances

Commissioner Gaylene Kanoyton expressed the need for utilizing HRTs board members to reach out to these agencies.

Ms. Delceno Miles inquired as to what is being and will be presented to the above agencies in the outreach. Mr. Joe Dillard stated that HDR will gather appropriate information to present to the agencies.

There was further discussion on ways to reach potential agencies and points of contact.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:17 p.m.