



# Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads Federal Legislative and Public Policy Priorities

## 2022-2023

Public transportation contributes significantly to the economic and societal well-being of Hampton Roads. With unprecedented levels of funding for public transportation available under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) through 2026, the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads (TDCHR) has outlined the following legislative priorities. These goals are consistent with HRT's 10-year strategic plan and seek to maximize federal funding opportunities to advance agency objectives.

### FUNDING

- TDCHR supports the IIJA funding levels for public transportation formula and discretionary funds and will pursue all appropriate federal discretionary grant opportunities.
- The TDCHR also supports the continuation of congressionally directed spending programs through annual appropriations as an effective way for our Congressional delegation to directly support our regional multi-modal infrastructure and services.
- The TDCHR will advocate for full funding of the Capital Investment Grants (CIG) Program – an important source of funding for major fixed guideway capital projects – as HRT pursues expanded service to provide broader regional benefits, including extension of The Tide light rail system.

### INNOVATION

- To improve regional air quality and pollution reduction goals through fleet and infrastructure electrification, the TDCHR supports robust funding for the federal Low or No Emission Vehicle Program, Bus and Bus Facilities Program, RAISE grants, and other supportive federal programs.
- The TDCHR will advocate for policies and funding to support continued upgrades to mobile fare system, real-time travel information systems, micro-transit, and other transformational technologies.
- The TDCHR is committed to building a transportation system that works for all people, centering on addressing shortfalls in service within communities that have been underserved, overburdened, or disadvantaged by past transportation decisions.
- In support of industry needs across the nation, the TDCHR supports the creation of a taskforce, coordinated through the Federal Transit Administration and the American Public Transportation Association, to help examine and address the operator and mechanic shortages common to transit agencies as a matter of national concern and to provide comprehensive guidance to the transit industry on ways federal resources may be used to attract and retain operators.

### REGIONALISM

- The TDCHR will continue to build productive and collaborative relationships with the US Department of Transportation and our Congressional delegation and will actively engage with other regional transportation entities whose initiatives align with HRT's vision and mission.
- The TDCHR recognizes the benefits of collaboration between regional leaders throughout Hampton Roads to support public transportation programming and is committed to building a robust coalition to capitalize on new funding opportunities.

For more information, contact:

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