



Transit Strategic Plan FY 2027 – FY 2036

Chapter 6 Overview

December 2025

Hampton Roads Regional Transit Program

In 2020, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation requiring the establishment of the Hampton Roads Regional Transit Program (the Program) and the related Hampton Roads Regional Transit Fund (HRRTF). In doing so, the legislature emphasized the importance of having effective multimodal transportation, which is essential for the region's economic growth, vitality, and competitiveness.

To this end, the Hampton Roads Regional Transit Program was established to define and supply resources for the development, operating, and capital needs for both expansion and state of good repair of reliable regional transit operations.

The Program must be documented in the Transit Strategic Plan (TSP) of the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads (TDCHR).¹ The Hampton Roads Regional Transit Program encompasses regional transit capital and operating costs that are eligible to be funded by the Hampton Roads Regional Transit Fund.²

The Program was last documented in an update of Chapter 6 in the FY 2026-FY 2035 TSP adopted in December 2024. Due to ongoing work on a System Optimization Plan (SOP), HRT anticipates that the next full TSP update will not be completed until December 2026, incorporating the recommendations of the SOP. However, HRT is still obligated to prepare an update of Chapter 6, which is utilized by the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC) as a validation of HRT's applications for all capital and operating funding requests in 2026. **Therefore, the TDCHR must still adopt a resolution approving the update to Chapter Six of the Transit Strategic Plan so that HRT meets its obligations.**

The SOP is a comprehensive initiative to identify how HRT's network of 34 local bus routes can more efficiently feed into the 757 Express network made up of Regional Backbone and Limited/Express routes that are funded by the HRRTF. The SOP is ongoing and is expected to be complete in Fall 2026 (FY 2027). The recommendations developed as part of the SOP will be incorporated into HRT's FY 2028-FY 2037 TSP. The route-level data presented in this chapter represents the results of the service planning exercise completed for the FY 2025-FY 2034 TSP. The timing of implementation of 757 Express service is subject to change as a result of the recommendations included in the SOP and operator availability.

FY 2027 - FY 2036 Update

The FY 2026 - FY 2035 Chapter 6 update documents the expected HRRTF program costs over the next 10 years. Much of the content is similar to previous versions of Chapter 6 developed for past Transit Strategic Plan (TSP) updates. In light of the ongoing SOP, much of the 10-year service plan for HRRTF funded routes is still being determined, so some data in Chapter 6 was not updated. This Chapter 6 Overview provides a summary of what

¹ See Chapters 1241 and 1281 of the Acts of the Assembly, passed April 22, 2020, Code of Virginia § 33.2-2600.1 A. (pursuant to HB1726 and SB1038, respectively), accessible at <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?201+ful+CHAP1281>.

² Ibid.

is included in the FY 2027 -FY 2036 Chapter 6 Update and how it is or is not different from previous TSP updates.

- **Background:** An overview of the HRRTF program and the documentation required for accessing the funds. This section has not been substantially changed from the last Chapter 6 update.
- **Purpose and Requirements:** An overview of the legal requirements of the HRRTF program. This section has not been substantially changed from the last Chapter 6 update.
- **Framework and Justification:** An overview of the legal framework and justification for including specific route classifications under the HRRTF program. This section has not been substantially changed from the last Chapter 6 update.
- **Program:** An overview of the routes that make up HRT's network of 757 Express routes that are eligible for HRRTF funding. This section was not substantially changed from the last Chapter 6 update; however, the non-757 Express routes that are no longer in operation were removed from maps.
- **Benefits and Outcomes:** An overview of how the implementation of the 757 Express network will achieve the goals laid out in the establishment of the Hampton Roads Regional Transit Program. The Regional Connectivity and Level of Service subsection was updated to reflect estimated service hours for FY 2025, FY 2026, and full program implementation. The Program Factors, Objectives, and Metrics and the Baseline Analyses were not substantially updated from the last Chapter 6 update.
- **Route Profiles:** An overview of planned changes for the 757 Express routes, including existing and planned level of service, route alignment changes, and justifications for those changes. The route profiles were updated to remove the 10-year implementation phasing table. These tables will be updated following the completion of the SOP as part of the next TSP update covering FY 2028 - FY 2037.
- **RTS Implementation:** An overview of service implementation phasing for the 757 Express routes. This section was updated from the last Chapter 6 update. The planned phasing for service has reflects the most up to date plan for implementing 15-minute peak period service on 757 Express routes based on available resources. The hiring plan was updated to reflect actual hiring activities, and the narratives for each department were updated.
- **RTS Resource Allocation:** An overview of the allocation of funding (both capital and operating) and overall implementation of HRRTF funding. This section was substantially updated based on the results of HRT's FY 2027-FY 2036 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and planned implementation for 757 Express service. Updates to the CIP included funding to replace the existing Robert Hall Transfer Center, finalizing design and construction of a new transfer center at TCC Virginia Beach, continued bus stop amenity improvements related to 757 Express service, and the final year of bus fleet expansion in support of the 757 Express service.
- **Measuring Performance:** An overview of how performance of 757 Express service will be measured. This section was not substantially updated; however, examples of how route performance is being measured were added.

The full version of Chapter 6 is available on HRT's website: <https://gohrt.com/agency/planning-development/>.