

AGENDA
MPO COMMITTEE
APRIL 10, 2009

CALL TO ORDER 1:30 P.M.

HRPDC Headquarters, The Regional Boardroom, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (Limit: 3 minutes per individual)

AGENDA

1. SUMMARY MINUTES

Minutes of the December 15, 2008 meeting are attached.

Attachment 1

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the minutes.

2. LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

During the MPO Board Retreat, there was agreement to have further discussion at the committee level on whether the MPO should hire its own legislative liaison or continue to use available resources in the form of legislative liaisons already serving several localities and HRT.

MPO Committee Chair believes it would be beneficial to have a staffer dedicated to the task of legislative liaison. Such a staffer would focus his/her effort on keeping the MPO Board apprised of upcoming potential local, state, and federal legislation that could be helpful/hurtful to the MPO. The work of the staff legislative liaison would include the following:

- Evaluate legislation and/or regulations with respect to MPO
- Monitor proposed legislation and/or regulations, including reauthorization of federal acts related to transportation
- Alert the MPO Board to potential impacts of proposed legislation and/or regulations
- Provide recommendations to the Executive Director and the MPO Board

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the establishment of an MPO staff Legislative Liaison, subject to sufficient funds in the FY 2010 budget.

3. ADDITIONAL MPO ADVISORY COMMITTEES

During the MPO Board Retreat on February 11, 2009, there was general agreement that two new MPO advisory committees should be established:

- A Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC), and
- A Freight Transportation Advisory Committee (FTAC)

Descriptions of these two advisory committees have been added to the draft MPO bylaws.

In addition, during the retreat there was a brief discussion regarding whether additional MPO advisory committees should be established. Two possible committees that have been mentioned included one that would focus on legislative issues and one that would focus on public involvement. With respect to legislative issues, it is recommended that a Staff-Level Legislative Working Group (SLLWG) be established. With respect to public involvement, it is the recommendation of MPO staff that the topic be deferred until the soon-to-be-hired Public Involvement and Community Outreach Administrator is on-board.

Other considerations associated with the addition of MPO advisory committees are direct costs and staff support. The MPO Best Practices Study stated that, with respect to staff support, it takes one-half of a full-time equivalent to administer each advisory committee. Direct costs, such as paper, printing, reproduction, and mailing costs, will need to be estimated to determine feasibility. MPO staff will provide a handout during the meeting detailing these issues.

Should the MPO Committee decide to recommend the establishment of any additional advisory committee, descriptions of the committees will need to be added to the draft bylaws.

Handout

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the establishment of the CTAC, FTAC, and SLLWG and deferral of the establishment of group to focus on public involvement issues.

4. DRAFT MPO BYLAWS

There are several issues associated with the MPO bylaws for which agreement appeared to be reached during the MPO Board Retreat.

- a) Three-tiered consensus voting
- b) Establishment of two voting board positions to be filled with General Assembly (GA) members
- c) Establishment of a Freight Transportation Advisory Committee (FTAC)
- d) Addition of the Chair of the FTAC as a non-voting Board member
- e) Chief Administrative Officers of localities as non-voting Board members
- f) Deletion of Railroads from the list of non-voting Board members (Railroads would have representation on the FTAC)

The draft bylaws have been revised to provide a description of the three-tiered consensus voting plan, details on how the GA members to serve on the MPO Board would be selected, and to account for the other changes. A few items may require further consideration by the MPO Committee during the meeting. Mr. Rod Ingram of the Virginia Beach City Attorney's Office will be present to assist with legal questions and revisions to the draft bylaws. The latest version of the draft MPO bylaws is attached.

Finally, during the MPO Retreat, Mr. Gilliland suggested consideration of establishing a second Vice-Chair for the MPO Board. The second Vice-Chair would be one of the "professional" voting members of the Board, such as the representative from the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads, the Williamsburg Area Transit Authority, the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation, or the Virginia Port Authority.

Attachments 4

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the draft MPO Bylaws.

5. INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY TO MPO-RELATED PUBLIC MEETINGS

Some MPO Board members and members of the public have expressed concern about and/or support for altering the time and/or location of MPO-related public meetings to make the meetings more accessible to citizens wishing to attend. During the MPO Retreat, there was some discussion about various options for improving accessibility, such as providing access to video recordings of meetings via the internet so that interested parties could "attend" the meetings at their convenience. It is recommended that this issue be deferred for now to allow for

input from the soon-to-be-hired Public Involvement and Community Outreach Administrator.

With regard to video recording meetings, Mr. Joe Turner, Communications Manager for the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, has conducted research on the requirements to provide the video recordings to the public. A summary of Mr. Turner's findings is attached. As indicated in the attachment, the staff recommendation is for the MPO Board to resume negotiations with the City of Chesapeake with regard to video recording MPO Board meetings. Mr. Turner will be present to answer any questions the Committee may have regarding his research.

Attachment 5

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Coordinate with City of Chesapeake to develop a proposal to video record MPO Board meetings.

6. MPO NAMING OPTIONS

During the MPO Board Retreat, naming options for the Hampton Roads MPO were discussed briefly. There was consensus among the Board members that the name of the organization should be changed to the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO).

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approval of the renaming of the HRMPO to the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO).

7. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT