

Hampton Roads MPO Best Practices Study

Process Questionnaire Summary

Deficiencies in the HRMPO Process?

- Inadequate public process and input
- Lack of meaningful transit analysis
- Over emphasis on highway planning and projects
- Inadequate “buy-in” from some local governments, citizens and members of the state legislature

Is Adequate Opportunity Provided for Input from MPO Board, Stakeholders, Citizens, Staff, and Others?

YES 0%

NO 100%

Input Issues

- Public outreach efforts have been more "lip service" than substantive
- MPO process does not reflect public perspectives on transportation issues.
- Inadequate public process and input in the past; perception of recent positive change.

Groups to be Consulted More Often?

- Local city and county governing bodies
- Members of the state legislature
- Regional business district associations and economic development organizations
- Regional environmental organizations
- City civic league coalitions
- General public

Suggested Outreach Methods?

- Direct one-on-one contacts
- Periodic group briefings
- Comprehensive and sustained public outreach
- Multi-component approach: media, web site, public meetings
- Consult with local colleges/universities to obtain technical expertise/student resources to analyze and offer solutions

Should the HRMPO be More Active in Engaging the Public?

YES 100%

NO 0%

Methods to Better Engage the Public

- Use a variety of locations throughout the region for informational meetings.
- Hold more than one meeting on a particular issue.
- Ensure adequate transit service is available to allow participants to arrive and depart during the stated meeting times.

Methods to Better Engage the Public

- Consider a series of annual public surveys on the state of transportation in Hampton Roads and options. This could help in future referendum activities to focus solutions.
- Encourage public attendance/comment at MPO meetings, within identified parameters.

Should the HRMPO be More Proactive in Engaging “Stakeholders”?

YES 100%

NO 0%

Proactive Stakeholder Engagement Methods

- Go directly to City Councils and County Boards of Supervisors
- “Stakeholders” are the general public as well as business associations
- Work of the MPO Committee is effectively addressing this

How can MPO Boards and Processes be more Effective?

- Allow for equal consideration of all modes to address transportation issues.
- Evaluate best practices of other MPOs nationally and apply improvements.
- Become a more proactive regional voice for statewide and national funding for all transportation modes.