



E-UPDATE

January 2026

Year of Progress and a Shared Path Forward

A Message from Executive Director Bob Crum

As we reflect on 2025, I am proud of what Hampton Roads has accomplished by working together across localities, agencies, and sectors. From preparing and adopting the region's first **Climate Action Plan** to finalizing our **Regional Resilient Design Guidelines**, this past year demonstrated the power of regional collaboration to turn shared priorities into meaningful action.

Together, we made significant strides in strengthening the foundation of our region. We expanded our **Regional Fiber Network**, coordinated **coastal resiliency efforts**, and advanced critical transportation initiatives in partnership with HRTAC – including one of the largest interstate highway construction programs in the country, funded overwhelmingly by our own local and regional tax dollars. We also completed our **sustainable parking lot**, demonstrating how we can better live with and manage water, and continued to deepen community engagement, ensuring resident voices remain central to regional decision-making.

Looking ahead to 2026, that same spirit of collaboration will guide our work. We will advance preparation of a **Regional Strategic Plan** that sets a shared vision for Hampton Roads' future — aligning economic vitality, infrastructure, environmental resilience, and quality of life — while also seeking regional approval of the 2055 **Long Range Transportation Plan** to ensure our transportation investments support growth, connectivity, and mobility for decades to come. New efforts will also focus on launching the first-ever Hampton Roads Regional Housing Assessment, developing a Regional Infrastructure and Fiscal Readiness Framework to help move unfunded transportation and flood mitigation projects forward, expanding our regional trail network, and completing the southside Fiber Ring with continued expansion across the region.

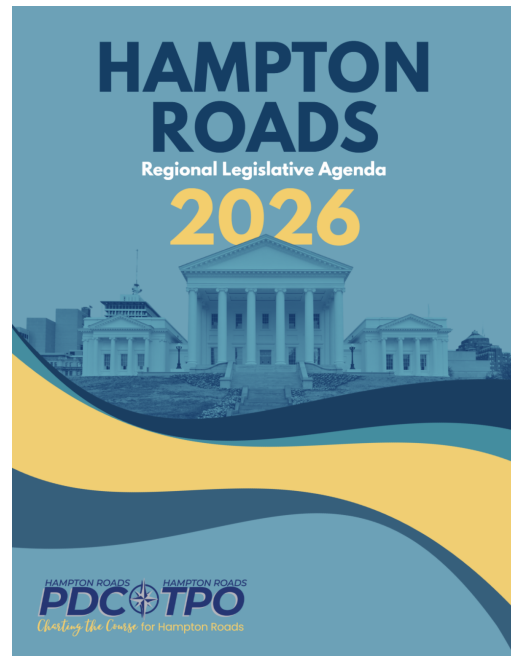
Hampton Roads' strength has always been our willingness to work together to solve challenges that no single community should address alone. As we move into the new year, I look forward to continuing this work alongside our dedicated HRPDC and HRTPO staff, local governments, partners, and residents to make Hampton Roads an even better place to live, work, and thrive.



2026 Regional Legislative Agenda

The new year brings a historic new beginning to Virginia's government as outgoing Governor Glenn Youngkin will hand over the reins to Abigail Spanberger, making her Virginia's first female governor. The HRPDC and HRTPO look forward to working with her administration toward a better Hampton Roads and Virginia.

And just like every year, a new year brings a new General Assembly session. In December, we released the Hampton Roads 2026 Regional Legislative Agenda, outlining the legislative priorities the HRPDC and HRTPO will actively advocate to advance and the issues we'll be closely monitoring.



We invite you to review the full 2026 Hampton Roads Regional Legislative Agenda to learn more about the priorities shaping our advocacy efforts and the issues that matter most to our region. Explore how these policy positions support a stronger, more connected Hampton Roads and see how regional collaboration helps elevate our collective voice at the General Assembly. View the Hampton Roads 2026 Regional Legislative Agenda ([flipbook](#)) or ([pdf](#)).

Questions regarding the 2026 Hampton Roads Regional Legislative Agenda may be referred to rcrum@hrpdca.gov or 757-420-8300.

Planning for the Future *Together*

What will Hampton Roads look like in the future—and how do we get there? *Hampton Roads Horizon* is a new long-range regional planning effort bringing together local governments, public and private sector partners, and community voices to shape a shared vision for the region's future. [Learn more](#) about how this collaborative plan will guide decisions, improve quality of life, and how you can get involved in the process.



What's on Tap for the HRTPO and HRPDC January Meetings

The HRTPO and the HRPDC will hold their January meetings on **Thursday, January 15, 2026**, at the Regional Building in Chesapeake.



The morning **HRTPO meeting (10:30 a.m.)** will focus on key transportation topics shaping the region's future, including long-range planning, a regional infrastructure and readiness framework, public engagement, and a snapshot of the current state of transportation in Hampton Roads. *[View the full agenda.](#)*

The **HRPDC meeting (12:30 p.m.)** will continue the conversation on the regional infrastructure and readiness framework, economic outlooks for Hampton Roads in 2026, and innovative approaches to addressing roadway flooding. *[View the full agenda.](#)*

Whether you attend in person or *tune in virtually on YouTube*, these meetings offer an opportunity to stay informed on the decisions and discussions helping move Hampton Roads forward.



Public Comment Opportunities

Public Review Opportunity: DRAFT Hampton Roads Regional Freight Study – 2025 Update (*Comments due by January 19, 2026*)



HRPDC/HRTPO In the News

Annual report points to Hampton Roads' aging bridges (*WVEC, January 12, 2026*)

300 miles of trails: Chesapeake recognized for expanding connectivity plan
(*The Daily Press, January 10, 2026*)

IW supervisors elect Jefferson as 2026 chairman, Rountree as vice chair (*The Smithfield Times, January 7, 2026*)

HRTPO report: James River Bridge traffic not increasing despite influx of new housing (*The Smithfield Times, January 2, 2026*)

Federal funding shifts cloud Virginia's transportation plans for 2026
(*Virginia Mercury, December 26, 2025*)



Procurement Opportunities

Hampton Roads Regional Housing Market Assessment (Proposals due by February 4, 2026, 2:00pm EST)



Join Our Team - Job Opportunities with the HRPDC/HRTPO

Click on the job below to see the full position description:

Senior Transportation Planner – Starting Salary \$83,000 - \$88,000 DOE/DOQ



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Upcoming Meetings

PDC



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