



E-UPDATE

June/July 2023

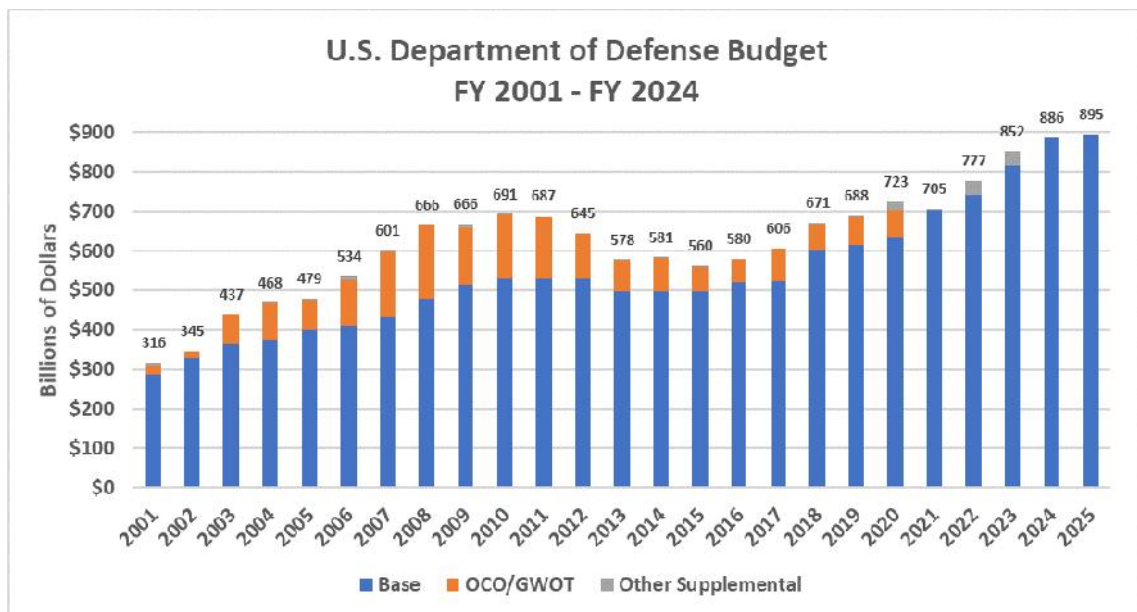
Hampton Roads Economic Monthly

Sequestration? Not Again!

The debt ceiling refers to the legislative limit on the nation’s accumulated debt. When the U.S. Treasury, who manages most of the nation’s debt, exceeds the debt ceiling, Congress must take action to raise or suspend the debt limit to avoid a potential default on the debt. Congressional action regarding the debt ceiling may seem all too familiar and somewhat frightening.

Hampton Roads residents will recall that the Budget Control Act of 2011 raised the debt ceiling by \$1.2 trillion in exchange for an equal amount of spending cuts over ten years. When Congress was unable to agree on legislation to reduce spending, automatic across the board spending cuts, a process known as sequestration, was implemented in 2013. From 2012 to 2015, discretionary defense spending fell by more than \$85 billion. Sequestration was damaging to the national economy, weakening economic growth in the aftermath of a large recession, but it was devastating to Hampton Roads’ economy.

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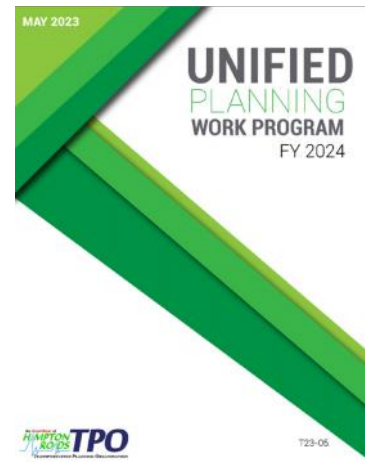


***HRTPO Board Approves Fiscal Year
2024 Unified Planning Work***

Program (UPWP)

The Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) on May 18, 2023 approved the agency's new Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP identifies the transportation planning priorities and activities to be advanced within the Hampton Roads metropolitan planning area during the next fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2023.

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Imagine the Year 2050...

Picture a world with high-speed trains, electric buses, and bike lanes galore. Imagine being able to travel to work in a driverless car, even a flying one. These are just a few of the ideas that transportation planners at the HRTPO considers when developing long-range transportation plans for the region.

We want to hear from you! To help inform scenario planning for the 2050 LRTP, we've developed a public survey to identify influences or "drivers of change" that can impact travel. Please take a moment to complete this survey between July 1, 2023, and August 15, 2023. Your responses will be instrumental in guiding transportation planning in Hampton Roads. To access the survey, please scan or click on the QR code below.

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New Flood Insurance Estimator Tool Helps Hampton

Roads Residents "Get Flood Fluent"

In the time it takes to scroll through social media or search for your car keys, you could estimate the cost to insure your home or business from flooding by using the new **Flood Insurance Estimator** at [GetFloodFluent.org](https://www.getfloodfluent.org).

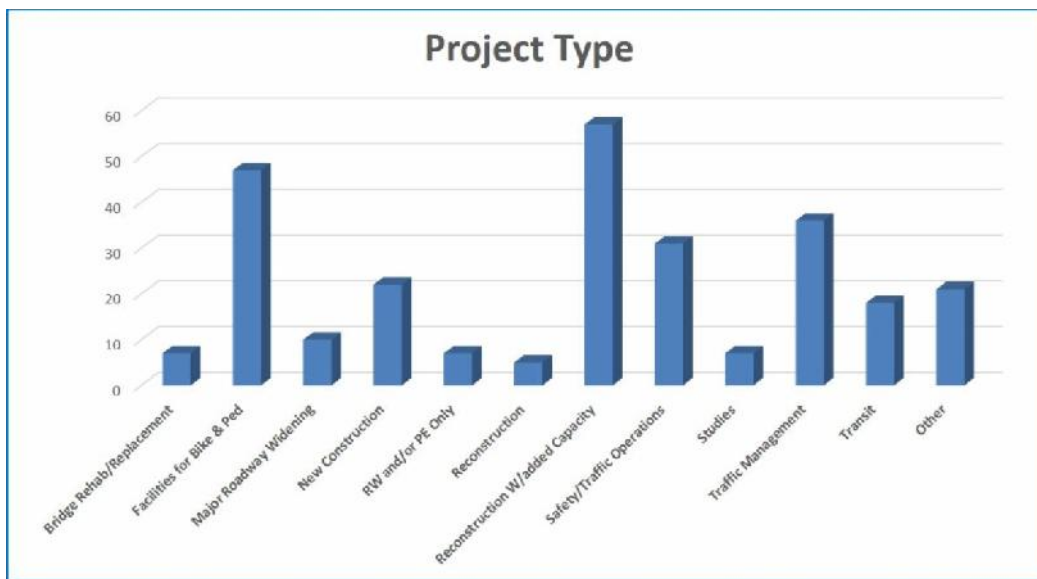


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HRTPO Approves \$2.8 Billion In Transportation Projects

The Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization Board approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on May 18, 2023. Every transportation related project in the region can be found in the TIP. The FY 24-27 TIP has a total funding amount of \$2.8 Billion and includes over 260 transportation projects in the region. Upon Federal approval, the new TIP will go into effect on October 1, 2023.

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Congestion Mitigation Report for Top Congested Roadways Released

The HRTPO Board approved the *Hampton Roads Congestion Management Process: Part III – Congestion Mitigation* report at its May meeting. This new report identifies the causes of traffic congestion and recommends improvements to the highest ranked congested freeways and arterial roadways in Hampton Roads.

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CMP Congested Corridors - Freeways

Corridor #	Locality	Facility
1	Hampton/Norfolk	I-64/HRBT from I-664 to I-564
2	Norfolk/Va Beach	I-64 from Indian River Rd to I-264
3	Chesapeake	I-64/High Rise Bridge from Greenbrier Pkwy to I-264/I-664
4	Norfolk/Portsmouth	I-264/Downtown Tun. from Frederick Blvd to Brambleton Ave
5	NN/Suffolk	I-664/MMMBT from College Dr to Chestnut Ave
6	Norfolk	I-264 from I-64 to Newtown Rd
7	Chesapeake	Chesapeake Expressway from Battlefield Blvd to I-64
8	Norfolk	I-564 from Terminal Blvd to Admiral Taussig Blvd
9	Newport News	I-64 from Yorktown Rd to Fort Eustis Blvd
10	Norfolk	I-64 from I-564 to Norview Ave

Are You Up to the Challenge? Give Up Single Use Plastics for Plastic Free July

During the month of July, askHRgreen.org is challenging Hampton Roads residents to join those around the world who are giving up single use plastics for *Plastic Free July*. Participating is easier than you think. Just say no to common sources of single use plastics like straws, beverage bottles, cutlery, and plastic bags.



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Project Spotlight: St. Paul's Infrastructure Improvements Phase 2

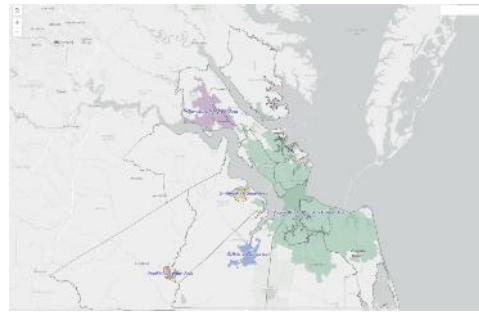
The St. Paul's Infrastructure Improvements Phase 2 project will create new roadway infrastructure in the St. Paul's Transformation Area in Norfolk. Currently, Phase 1 of the project is underway which will realign Fenchurch Street, extend Freemason Street across St. Paul's Boulevard, and construct a new road into the Downtown Transit Center.



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Map of the Month: Urban Areas in Hampton Roads

Urban areas are one of many geographies defined by the U.S. Census Bureau for use in reporting and analyzing characteristics of the American population. *Urban areas* encompass densely developed territory composed of residential, commercial, and other types of land uses, as defined by the *urban area criteria*.



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2023 Hurricane Season Underway; Make Sure You're Prepared

June 1st marked the beginning of the 2023 hurricane season. If you have not already done so, now would be a good time to start your hurricane preparations. We've identified a few items to check off your hurricane prep list.



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HRPDC/HRTPO In the News

In wake of flood insurance changes, Hampton Roads PDC revamps their flood insurance calculator (WHRO News, June 5, 2023)

Road flood sensors in Hampton Roads will send alerts to your GPS as hurricane season begins (WVEC, June 1, 2023)

Waze, planning district partner for flood sensors (WAVY, June 1, 2023)

Hampton Roads cities partner with Waze app to help drivers avoid flooded roads (WTKR, June 1 2023)

Hampton Roads again leads Virginia metro areas in vehicle crashes (Virginia Mercury, May 17, 2023)

Request for Proposals

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL # WR-RFP-2023-02 : Engineering Services: Buckeye Living Shoreline Project (Submit proposals by 2:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time on Tuesday, July 18, 2023)

Public Comment Opportunities

Public Notice: Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for Southeastern Virginia

2050 LRTP Scenario Planning Survey (Survey open July 1-August 15, 2023)

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Upcoming Meetings



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