

REGIONAL CONNECTORS STUDY

Status Report

April 16, 2020

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Phase 2 Update

- Scenario Planning Update
 - Preliminary model results are being developed in the dashboard and the consultant team is refining the dashboard to best convey the meaning of results
 - Land use modeling is complete, subject to Working Group review of the transportation results and level of differentiation in the initial Greater Growth scenarios when complete. Land use modeling team is focused on preparing final documentation.
 - Preliminary results of the travel demand model were provided to EBP (subconsultant) to test out the TREDIS model – some troubleshooting and QC is now underway
 - The study team is updating the Drivers memo per Working Group comments and will also provide a set of comment responses when the memo is completed (plan to complete approximately 4/20).

- Travel Demand Model
 - Completed running initial w/o Technology scenarios through the travel demand forecasting model. Compiling performance measures for these runs and will discuss results with consultant team on Tuesday 4/21/20.
 - We will pick back up on completing the model evaluation and data sources memos once this initial modeling push is complete.
 - VDOT acknowledged the issue with zero-occupant vehicles discovered by the consultant team last week and indicated that we will need to modify for our study. Once this is complete, we will be able to run the scenarios w/Technology.
 - Continuing to formulate modifications to the travel model to reduce penalties on cross harbor travel present in the “stock” model.

- Website – The website is up to date with uploading of meeting minutes, agendas, and reports/memos.

- Schedule – The schedule has been amended based on delays with the travel demand modeling effort. Late-May is now our anticipated completion date for Phase 2.

- Deliverables– The Consultant team is in the process of developing several memos:
 - The tech memo on Drivers, Spatial Assumptions, and Travel Parameters was distributed Friday, March 20. Comments were received by March 27. Consultant team has created a comment matrix and will be distributing draft responses to comments next week.
 - The memos summarizing travel behavior data review and travel demand model evaluation will be pushed back to late April
 - The tech memo on Scenario Evaluation will be pushed back to early May

Phase 3 Update

- Task 1 – Engagement – Team completed coordination with Kendall Miller at HRTPO about engagement details. Team working on launch of a project Facebook page. Potential sites for future pop-up meetings and the public meetings scheduled to be held in 2021 are still being investigated. A draft fact sheet and an FAQ sheet for the study is still under development. The Virtual Public Meeting to explain the Scenario Planning aspect of the study has been delayed until Phase 2 has been completed and we have the results ready to present.
- Task 2 – Alternative Development – Working on responses to comments on the Draft Summary of Identified Preliminary Alternatives. Cost estimates on the 5 segments carried over from the HRCS SEIS will be initiated next week with current unit prices.
- Task 3 – Alternative Assessment – No progress this week.
- Task 4 – Scenario Planning – Continued FREEVAL and VISSIM analyses for existing conditions.
- Deliverables
 - Draft Summary of Identified Preliminary Alternatives memo was distributed for review and comment on April 6. Comments were due COB Monday, April 13. A comment matrix is being developed and draft responses should be distributed next week.