

# Regional Connectors Study Frequently Asked Questions

The Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) values our regional partners and is committed to collaboration with community members. We want to help create an efficient, equitable Hampton Roads transportation system. If you have questions, would like to leave input, view the survey results, or seek more information, please visit the project website at [www.connectorstudy.org](http://www.connectorstudy.org). Information is updated as it becomes available. You can also contact us at 757-776-0362 or via e-mail at [connectorstudy@prrbiz.com](mailto:connectorstudy@prrbiz.com).

## What is the purpose of the study?

The study will investigate connectivity between the Peninsula and Southside through the lenses of economic vitality, resiliency, accessibility and quality of life.

## Who is conducting the study?

The HRTPO will lead the study with collaboration from two regional stakeholder groups. The Working Group is comprised of technical staff from seven local jurisdictions (Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, and Suffolk) and other key regional stakeholders (US Navy, US Coast Guard, Virginia Port Authority, Federal Highway Administration, US Army Corps of Engineers, Virginia Department of Transportation, and HRTAC). The Steering (Policy) Committee is comprised of elected officials from each of the seven local jurisdictions.

## How is the study being funded?

The study is funded through the Hampton Road Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC).

## What is the HRTPO?

The Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Hampton Roads area. As such, it is a federally mandated transportation policy board comprised of representatives from local, state, and federal governments, transit agencies, and other stakeholders and is responsible for transportation planning and programming for the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA).

## Why is the HRTPO completing the Regional Connectors Study?

To complete the appropriate studies, designs, funding analyses, and documentation necessary to determine feasibility, permitability, and transportation benefits necessary to advance corridor improvement alternatives.

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## What geographic areas does the study focus on?

- The “Southside” including Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, Franklin, Southampton County, and Isle of Wight County.
- The “Peninsula” including Newport News, Hampton, Poquoson, and Williamsburg, as well as James City County and York County.

## Will tolls be increased?

No tolls other than existing toll facilities and future express lanes were considered for any of the alternatives.

## How will the outcomes of the study be communicated?

Copies of the study documents and meeting minutes will be posted on the project website [www.connectorstudy.org](http://www.connectorstudy.org), or you can contact us at **757-776-0362**

## What happens after the study is complete?

The HRTPO board will vote on which alternative(s) will be recommended for funding. The alternatives will then need to be incorporated into the Hampton Roads Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). Once adopted into the LRTP, a funding/construction timetable will be established.

## After the study is complete and projects are selected, when will construction start?

Construction of the recommended alternative is subject to the availability of funding and will be determined by HRTAC in conjunction with VDOT.

## How can I get involved?

- Leave a comment on our website: [www.connectorstudy.org](http://www.connectorstudy.org)
- Participate in RCS surveys posted to our website.
- Attend an upcoming meeting (a list of online and in-person meetings will be posted on our website).
- Share this information with your social network and fellow Hampton Roads friends and colleagues.
- Find us on social media at:



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