



Regional Update

July 2026



A Regional Vision Takes Shape

What matters most to the future of Hampton Roads? Over the past year, more than **2,100 residents, stakeholders, and community members** helped answer that question by participating in the Hampton Roads Horizon regional planning process.

Through workshops, community events, stakeholder meetings, and an online survey, participants were asked to invest a hypothetical \$1,000 across a range of regional priorities, including housing, transportation, education, economic opportunity, flood resilience, and environmental protection. The exercise reflected the real-world challenge of balancing limited resources while investing in the region's future.

When the results were tallied, **housing, education, transportation, economic opportunity, and flood resilience** emerged as the top priorities, underscoring the strong connection between quality of life, economic competitiveness, and long-term resilience.

The feedback will help guide the development of **Hampton Roads Horizon**, a long-range regional strategic plan focused on the issues that cross local boundaries and require collaboration among the region's 17 localities and partners. By building on existing local and regional plans, Hampton Roads Horizon will help identify shared goals and strategies that strengthen the region as a whole.

Explore the survey results and see what Hampton Roads had to say about the region's future. >

HAMPTON ROADS ECONOMIC MONTHLY **All Fans, No Franchise**

With the World Cup on American soil this summer, Americans were watching in record numbers. Soccer fandom is booming across the country and Hampton Roads is one of the nation's strongest soccer markets. Yet despite being the largest standalone metropolitan area in the U.S. without a major league sports franchise, the question isn't just whether the region could support a team, it's whether it should.



This month's Economic Monthly explores the economics, regional identity, and collaboration that would shape such a decision, offering a fresh perspective on what a professional sports franchise could mean for Hampton Roads.

Read this month's Economic Monthly and explore the economics behind a Major League team. >



Expanding Active Transportation Across Hampton Roads

Eight projects across Hampton Roads will receive more than \$14.4 million in Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside funding to improve walking and bicycling throughout the region. The projects include new sidewalks near schools, safer pedestrian crossings, and multi-use trails that strengthen connections between neighborhoods, parks, and regional destinations.

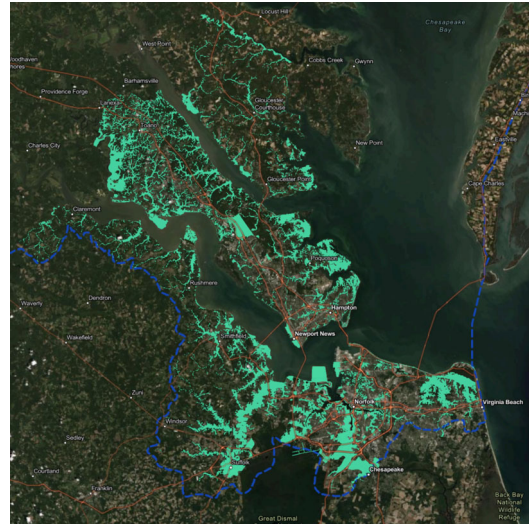
Approved by the HRTPO Board, the investments support projects in **James City County, Newport News, Norfolk, Suffolk, and York County**, including new segments of TRAIL 757, helping create a safer, more connected transportation network while expanding travel choices for residents of all ages.

See which projects were selected and how they're improving active transportation in the region. >

ON THE MAP

Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act Property Viewer

Regional mapping tools help communities better understand the places where we live, work, and protect our natural resources. The HRPDC's updated **Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area (CBPA) Property Viewer** features the latest parcel data and enhanced mapping technology, making it easier to identify properties located in or near protected shoreline buffers and access related resources and local government contacts.



Explore the interactive map to see the impact in your community. >

HRPDC & HRTPO In the News...

Hampton Roads flood sensor network aims to warn drivers through Waze, improve long-term flood planning (WVEC, July 8, 2026)

Hurricane season begins with call for flood preparedness in Hampton Roads (Legacy, July 1, 2026)

What's in VDOT's six-year 2027-32 plan for IW, Surry? (Smithfield Times, June 29, 2026)

City managers lobby Spanberger for help controlling 'takeover & pop-up' events (WAVY, June 26, 2026)

First regional climate plan outlines how Hampton Roads could cut greenhouse gas emissions by up to 90% (WVEC, June 16, 2026)

Missed the July HRTPO meeting?

Stay informed and view the after action video from the July 16th Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization Board meeting.

[Watch the Meeting in a Minute Video](#)

[Review HRTPO Meeting Materials](#)
(includes agenda and presentations)



Missed the July HRPDC meeting?

Stay informed and view the after action video from last week's Hampton Roads Planning District Commission meeting.

[Watch the Meeting in a Minute Video](#)

[Review HRPDC Meeting Materials](#)
(includes agenda and presentations)



Upcoming Meetings



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