

Submit it for Record

At the outset, I want to welcome you to Chesapeake and speak briefly about the role of Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission which has been very clearly defined by the General Assembly and endorsed by the Governor.

Just as you are responsible for all of Virginia's transportation systems, the Accountability Commission has been given an additional responsibility - and funds - to address specific needs in Hampton Roads.

In that respect, the Accountability Commission was also built for speed, and we in Hampton Roads have not been hesitant to take advantage of that asset.

In accordance with the legislation that created the Accountability Commission, last Thursday 8 projects covering everything from interstate 64 on the peninsula to the third crossing have been vetted by the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization.

In short - and in less than three months - Hampton Roads is on the move as we work together to reframe and rebuild a transportation system.

Our goal is simple: to use transportation to create new opportunities that will quickly bring meaningful growth and prosperity to our corner of Virginia.

There will of course, be obstacles, but there should be no question on anyone's part that for Hampton Roads, we will turn those stumbling blocks into stepping stones.

And for that, I thank the board and those of your colleagues who serve with us for the chance to move Virginia ahead.