

2010 State Legislative Agenda

MISSION: Provide leadership to focus on the strategic issues that will improve Hampton Roads' competitive position in the global economy.



Hampton Roads, America's First Region

HAMPTON ROADS PRIORITY ITEMS:

ECONOMY

FEDERAL & MILITARY-RELATED DEVELOPMENT

- **SUPPORT** competitive funding awards be made available to Hampton Roads Military & Federal Facilities Alliance (HRMFFA) through the Military Strategic Response Fund (MSRF).

MODELING & SIMULATION DEVELOPMENT

- **SUPPORT** Modeling & Simulation with tax incentives for expansion of M&S businesses.
- **SUPPORT** use of Modeling & Simulation in state emergency management training and drills.
- **SUPPORT** hiring of a full-time Modeling & Simulation advocate to handle coordination of regional activities and marketing of M&S capabilities.
- **SUPPORT** the Commonwealth's Modeling and Simulation Advisory Council.

PORT-RELATED DEVELOPMENT

- **SUPPORT** the Port of Hampton Roads as an economic engine through improvement of adequate surface connections to enhance regional mobility and improve access to inland markets.
- **SUPPORT** sound fiscal policies and economic development tools that support the Port, including incentives to move containers via rail and barge rather than roads.
- **SUPPORT** safe, efficient and environmentally compatible and responsible growth of the Port .

TECHNOLOGY-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- **SUPPORT** the needs of the Hampton Roads Research Partnership's (HRRP) members: NASA Langley Research Center, National Institute of Aerospace, Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in addition to regional universities.
- **SUPPORT** the Commonwealth's Aerospace Advisory Council.
- **SUPPORT** the Commonwealth Technology Research Fund (CTRF) as a way of seeding entrepreneurial research and technology.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

- **SUPPORT** a dedicated revenue stream for the Virginia Tourism Corporation to fund tourism promotion activities and increased funding for tourism marketing and promotion.
- **SUPPORT** efforts to exempt state agencies that produce revenue and stimulate the economy such as the Virginia Tourism Corporation from budget reductions.
- **SUPPORT** increased tax incentives for film production and expand the Governor's Opportunity Motion Picture Fund in support of the efforts of the Hampton Roads Film Office (HRFO).

GOVERNMENT & CITIZENS

- **SUPPORT** mechanisms for regional cooperation among adjoining Hampton Roads localities in order to allow for economic development and shared economies of scale in service delivery.
- **SUPPORT** the provision of the needed infrastructure to allow Hampton Roads communities to plan for anticipated growth in economic activity.

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HAMPTON ROADS PRIORITY ITEMS:

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION

- **SUPPORT** world-class standards of excellence in Virginia's K-12 education system by maintaining the current Standards of Quality funding formula requiring the Commonwealth to pay 55 percent of the prevailing cost of education.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- **SUPPORT** initiatives to create a more comprehensive, unified system of publicly funded universal employment and training services.
- **SUPPORT** initiatives to provide quality education and training that enable businesses to achieve their goals via a more skilled, flexible and productive workforce.

HIGHER EDUCATION

- **SUPPORT** the legislative agendas of the following institutions of Higher Education:
 - College of William & Mary
 - Christopher Newport University
 - Eastern Virginia Medical School
 - Hampton University
 - Norfolk State University
 - Old Dominion University
 - Paul D. Camp Community College
 - Tidewater Community College
 - Thomas Nelson Community College
 - Virginia Wesleyan College

Education infrastructure must be of the highest quality for students to compete in today's global economy. We must ensure all students have equal access to resources needed to reach be successful including quality physical facilities, equipment, materials, and a sufficient number of well-qualified instructional personnel consistent.

TRANSPORTATION

FUNDING

- **SUPPORT** state-wide revenue streams that are Broad based, long-term, simple, and efficient to collect; sourced from all ultimate consumers including those in-state and out-of-state, wholesalers, retailers, and users of products and services moved over the transportation grid; designed to encourage smart transportation grid use and development; and designed to enable everyone to pay their fair share.
- **SUPPORT** Hampton Roads-specific revenue streams dedicated to the Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) approved projects.

PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

- **SUPPORT** Passenger Rail Service for Hampton Roads via the TPO-approved position of extension of High Speed Rail Service to Richmond/Petersburg through to Southside Hampton Roads and improvement of existing Emerging High Speed Rail on the Virginia Peninsula of Hampton Roads.
- **SUPPORT** the federal application by the Commonwealth of Virginia for funding the critical infrastructure needed for Passenger Rail Service for Hampton Roads.
- **SUPPORT** planning, construction, and maintenance of an improved statewide multi-modal transportation system that is need-based, cohesive, integrated, and interconnected.

Transportation remains a critical priority throughout Hampton Roads and is crucial to the mission performance of the 50+ military and other federal activities as well as the ports in Hampton Roads, a gateway to the world.