



SOUTHEASTERN PARKWAY AND GREENBELT

Location Decision Review

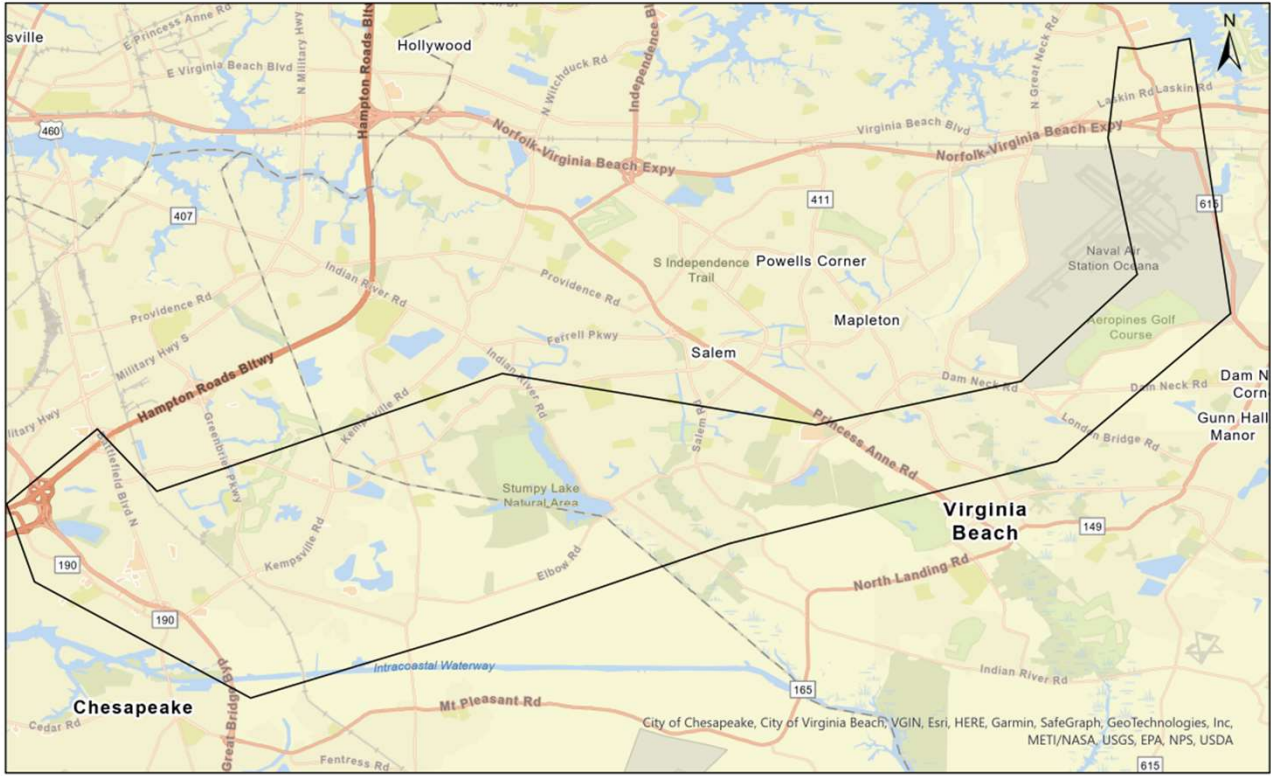
**Chris Swanson, Environmental
Division Director**

February 20, 2024

CTB Location Decision Policy

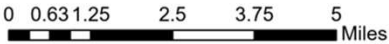
- **In September 2022, the CTB adopted policy to review all location decisions 3 years after approval**
- **The Southeastern Parkway and Greenbelt Location Decision is one of four location decisions VDOT identified for review following adoption of the policy**
- **In 2023, CTB addressed two of these decisions when it rescinded the location decisions for the Interstate 77/Interstate 81 project and the Route 460 Southeast project**

Southeastern Parkway and Greenbelt (SEPG) Study Area



Legend

Project Area (estimated)
□



SEPG Background - NEPA Review

- **1986 to 1988 – VDOT released a conceptual plan and Southeastern Expressway Corridor Study**
- **September 1989 – Draft EIS issued**
- **October 1994 – Supplemental Draft EIS issued**
- **February 1996 – CTB issued location decision approving the South Alternative**
- **1998 – City of Chesapeake withdrew its support for further developing the project, and FHWA suspended further participation in funding of project studies**

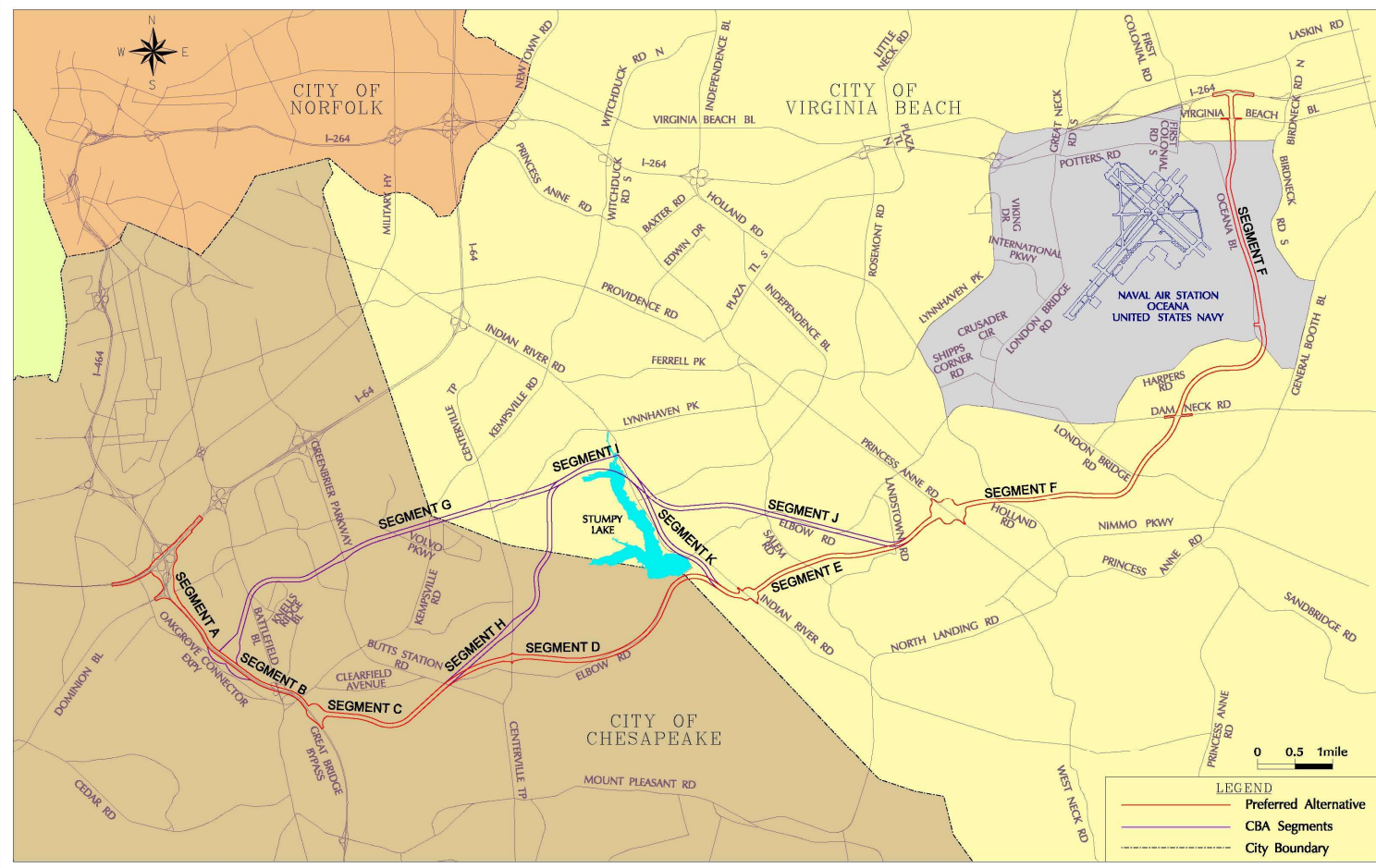
SEPG Background - NEPA Review

- **December 2003 – VDOT and FHWA initiated an EIS for the proposed Southeastern Parkway and Greenbelt**
- **June 2005 – Draft EIS issued**
- **November 2005 – CTB rescinded its 1996 decision and issued a new location decision for the project**
- **December 2008 – FHWA signed the Final EIS**
- **2009 – FHWA rescinded approval of the Final EIS**
 - **Due to significant wetland impacts and associated agency opposition**
- **November 2010 – FHWA issued a notice terminating the environmental review process**

Purpose and Need Identified in the 2005 Draft EIS

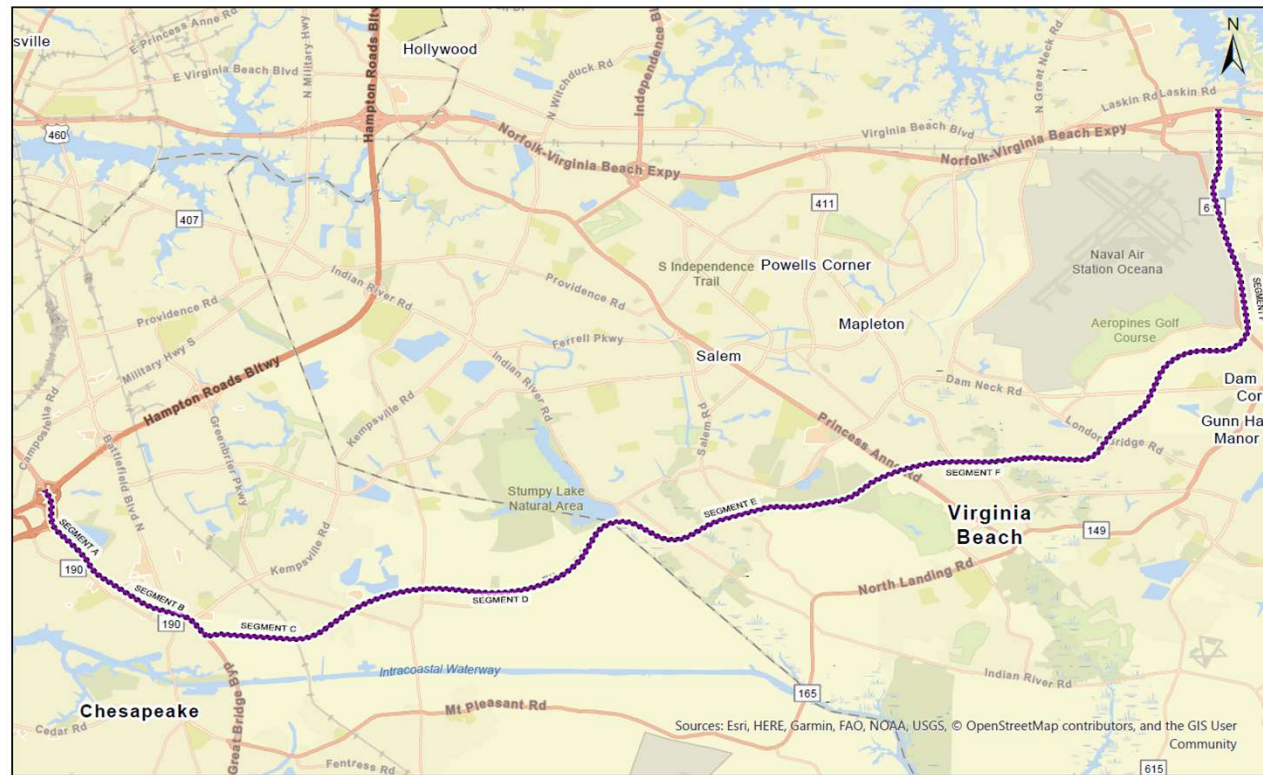
- **Improve capacity to accommodate forecasted traffic volumes, including peak season tourism traffic;**
- **Provide an alternative east-west connection between Chesapeake and Virginia Beach;**
- **Enhance access to one of the area's largest employers, NAS Oceana (including Dam Neck Annex);**
- **Provide an alternate hurricane evacuation and emergency response route; and**
- **Provide a linkage between multi-nodal centers of employment, retail, commercial, and residential development as identified in the transportation plans of the two cities.**

SEPG 2005 Draft EIS Alternatives



SEPG 2005 Preferred Alternative

- Begins at the interchange of Interstates 64 and 464 and terminates at Interstate 264 east of Oceana Naval Air Station.
- The typical section varies by segment from 4 to 8 lanes.



Estimated Impacts of the Retained Alternatives (2005 DEIS)

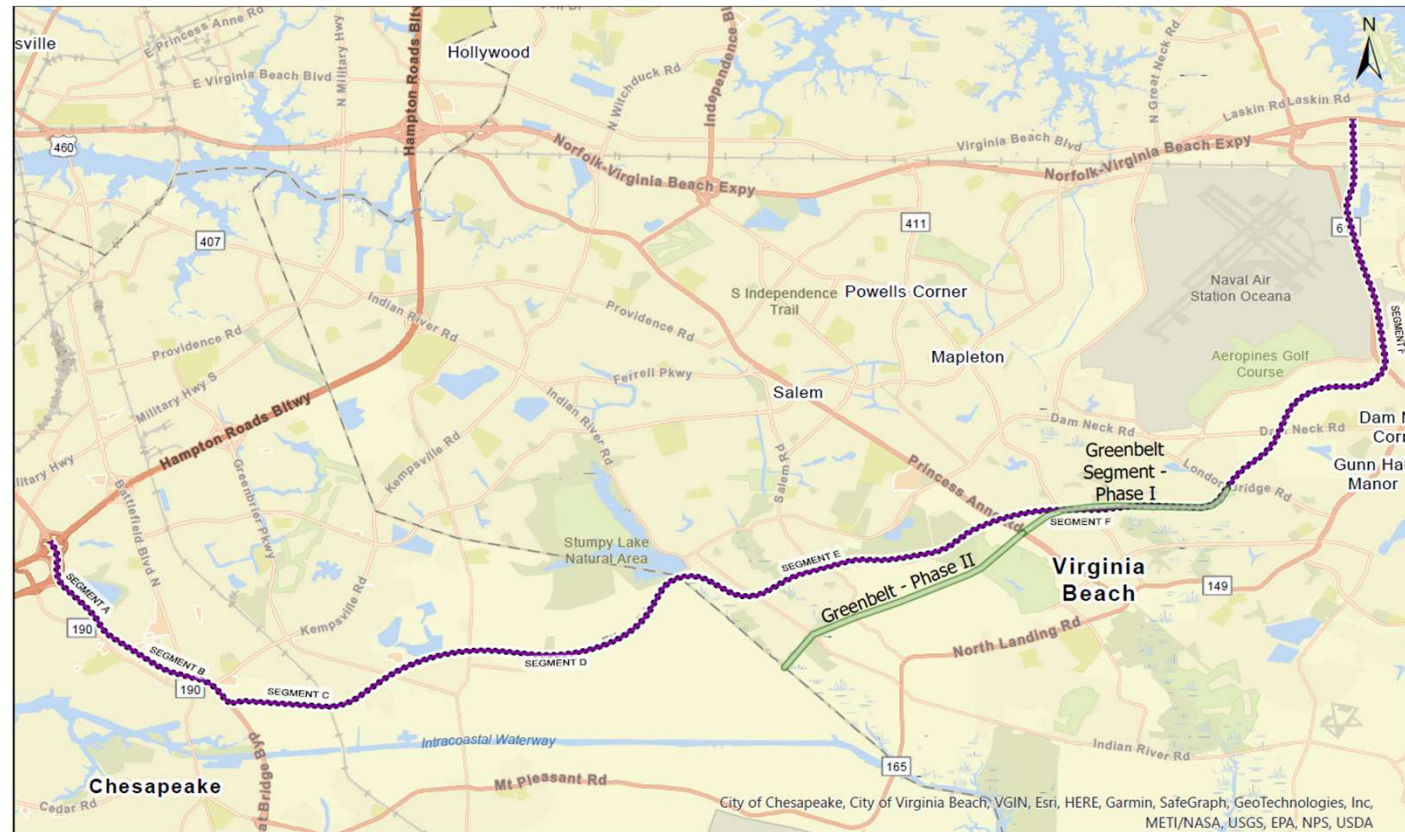
Resource	Preferred	Stumpy N	North	North K	Stumpy S
Relocations	167	411	1,097	1,020	334
Land Use (acres)	278	336	507	514	343
Wetlands (acres)	238	247	225	255	277
Forested Impacts (acres)	189	170	183	199	186
Floodplains (acres)	114	135	102	107	140

Actions Taken Since Final EIS

- **The project was removed from the City of Chesapeake's 2050 Master Transportation Plan in October 2021**
- **The project in its entirety is not included in the Hamptons Road Transportation Planning Organization's 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan**
- **Two segments of the project within the City of Virginia Beach are included in the LRTP (Greenbelt Phase I and II)**
- **FHWA has not issued a record of decision (ROD)**

Greenbelt Phase I and II in the City of Virginia Beach

- **Project Status**
 - **NEPA, PE:**
Not Started
 - **Estimated**
Opening
Timeframe:
2030-2037



Recent Outreach

- **During fall 2023, VDOT coordinated this review with the cities of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach as well as HRTPO**
- **City of Virginia Beach provided an update on their Greenbelt Phase I & II**
- **All parties concur in VDOT's review and recommendation**

VDOT Recommendation

- **Rescind the 2005 Location Decision**
- **The following actions would be required to advance the approved location:**
 - **Funding**
 - **NEPA re-initiation**
 - **CTB briefings with the opportunity to issue a new location decision**
 - **USACE permit**

