



# MEDIA ADVISORY



Planning District Commission

Metropolitan Planning Organization

Town of  
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Counties of  
Charles City  
Chesterfield  
Goochland  
Hanover  
Henrico  
New Kent  
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City of  
Richmond

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **ELECTED OFFICIALS FROM NINE LOCALITIES TO GATHER AT PORT OF RICHMOND TO DISCUSS OPPORTUNITIES FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION**

*Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization to review progress of James River barge service and receive update on regional funds invested at the Port of Richmond*

**Richmond, VA** – Members of the media are invited to attend a special meeting of the Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (“RAMPO”) at the Port of Richmond at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, October 1, 2012.

Elected officials from each of the region’s nine localities will gather to discuss opportunities for regional cooperation at the Port of Richmond, a major transportation asset in the Richmond Region.

The meeting will feature a presentation by Jeff Keever, Senior Deputy Executive Director of the Virginia Port Authority, who will describe the progress being made at the Port of Richmond and outline future plans and activities. Mr. Keever is expected to make an announcement regarding the future expansion of the 64 Express operated by James River Barge Line.

<b>EVENT:</b>	Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting
<b>WHY:</b>	Elected officials from 9 localities meeting with the Virginia Port Authority to discuss opportunities for regional collaboration at the Port of Richmond.
<b>WHEN:</b>	Monday, October 1 10:30 a.m.
<b>WHERE:</b>	Port of Richmond 5000 Deepwater Terminal Road Richmond, VA 23234-2281 (See attached map)
<b>CONTACT:</b>	Chuck Gates, RRPDC (804) 370-8992 cell

The 64 Express operated by James River Barge Line is a container barge service connecting the Port of Virginia 100 miles inland to the Port of Richmond's multimodal freight and distribution gateway. The container-on-barge service provides a maritime

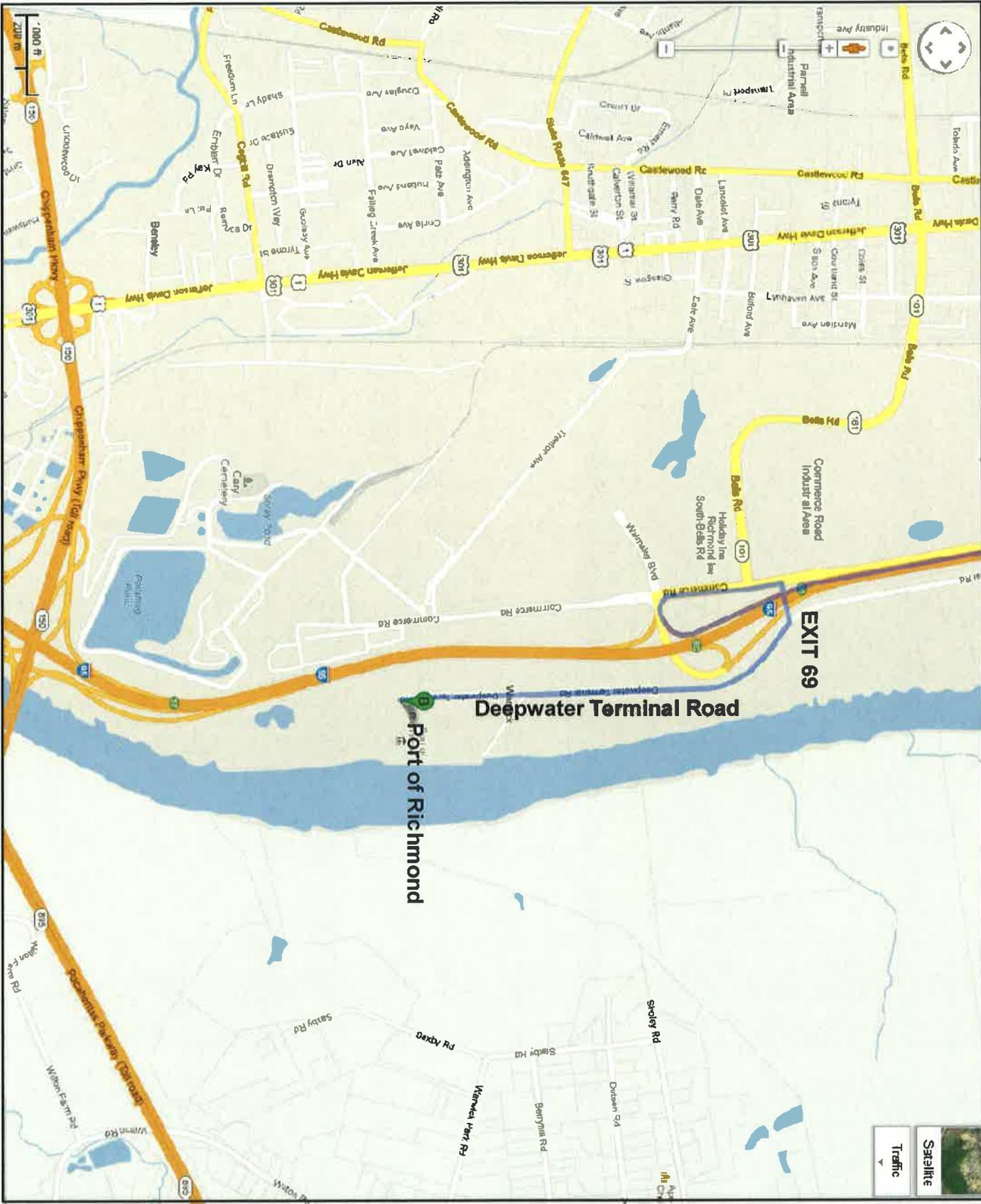
alternative by transporting goods via barges on the James River, thereby removing container traffic off local roads and highways. The 64 Express is a cost-effective, reliable, and environmentally-friendly alternative to truck shipments to and from Hampton Roads.

Since the 64 Express began in December 2008, the RAMPO has invested \$3.915 million of regionally-allocated transportation funds, which has significantly reduced the number of freight trucks traveling on highways and roads between Richmond and Hampton Roads. In 2011, 4% of the cargo landing in Hampton Roads was moved by barges, which is equivalent to 28,800 trucks per year. For more than two years, the 64 Express has been the carrier of the only water-based cargo passing through the Port of Richmond.

The 64 Express' current schedule of twice-weekly calls at the Port of Richmond has proven to be a cost-effective investment of transportation funds that has received national acclaim and interest in additional expansion. (For more on the James River Barge Line, visit [www.64express.com](http://www.64express.com) or contact the Virginia Port Authority).

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*The **Richmond Area Metropolitan Planning Organization** is the federally-designated forum for regional transportation decision-making and funds-allocating. The regional agency's board includes elected officials from the Richmond Region's nine local jurisdictions as well as officials from regional, state, and federal transportation agencies.*



Port of Richmond

Deepwater Terminal Road

EXIT 69

Satellite  
Traffic