

# Northampton County Emergency Operations Plan

## **4.4 Closure of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the annex is to establish how Northampton County will assist the state to continue to provide essential goods and services to the Eastern Shore of Virginia should the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel be closed for an extended period of time.

### **Scope**

This annex identifies the key policies, concepts of operations, roles and responsibilities, and capabilities associated with CBBT closure in Northampton County. Specific operating procedures and protocols are addressed in documents maintained by the participating organizations.

Potential operations include the following:

- Coordinating the movement of people
- Coordinating the movement of freight
- Ensuring that essential services are maintained
- Coordinating with the CBBT authority for reopening procedures

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Closure of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel	Roles/Tasks
Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and maintain plans/procedures in coordination with the CBBT authority.</li> <li>• Develop and maintain plan/procedures with regional response partners.</li> <li>• Test plans/procedures, as appropriate.</li> </ul>
Response – Initial Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activate plans/procedures.</li> <li>• Establish a communication link with regional response partners.</li> <li>• Limit the movement of personnel to those required for essential employment and health reasons.</li> <li>• Limit the movement of cargo to that required for the health, safety, and economic well-being of Eastern Shore of Virginia residents and for the support of essential agriculture and industry.</li> </ul>
Response – Continuing Actions	<p>Movement of Freight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The movement of essential cargo will be accomplished by the use of tug-towed barges (capacity is approximately 20 tractor trailers) furnished and operated under contract.</li> <li>• A landing ramp at Little Creek, Norfolk, Virginia, and a cargo vehicle landing ramp at Cape Charles Municipal Dock will be used to load vehicles.</li> </ul> <p>Movement of Passengers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air shuttle service will be established and operated under contract by one or more air carriers.</li> <li>• Air transportation will consist of either               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– helicopter service from Cape Charles to Little Creek, or</li> <li>– air transportation between Norfolk International Airport and Accomack County Airport.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with the CBBT authority prior to the bridge's reopening to ensure that County roads are ready to receive traffic.</li> <li>• Assist with other recovery operations, as needed.</li> </ul>