

Marine Highway M-64

Sponsor: Virginia Port Authority.

Supporters: Port of Richmond and Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization.

Landside Route Served: Interstate-64

Route Description:

The M-64 Route includes Hampton Roads, the Chesapeake Bay, James River, and connecting commercial navigation channels, ports, and harbors. It spands southeast Virginia from Norfolk, VA to Richmond, VA. It connects to the M-95 Route at Norfolk, VA.

Attributes:

I-64, a major route between Richmond and Norfolk, VA links the Tidewater area to the I-95 Route, a vital East Coast lifeline for passengers and freight. The U.S. Department of Transportation has identified the Tidewater Virginia area as a major freight truck bottleneck, causing up to 500,000 hours of delay annually. In addition to normal traffic along this route, the sea ports in the Norfolk area processed nearly 2 million Twenty Foot Equivalent Units (TEU) of containerized cargo in 2005, of which 66 percent moved by truck, 24 percent by rail, and only 10 percent bybarge/water.

These factors, combined with anticipated increases in port trade, are placing an increasing demand on the landside section of I-64. The water option, which consists mainly of the James River, has considerable capacity to expand. An on-going marine highway service that began in 2008 is one example of the potential this route can offer. In its first year of operations, the service accommodated over 6,000 containers along the route that would have otherwise represented more than 6,000 more trucks traveling on I-64. While the service's volumes continue to grow, this and other Marine Highway operations face various challenges in realizing the additional potential of this alternative.

> Projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Virginia North

Data Sources: 1. International Boundaries: IPUMS

- (https://international.ipums.org/international/gis.shtml) 2. Bathymetry data: Michael Baker International

3. Marine Highways: MARAD/DOT

VA

Richmond

M-64

Norfolk

Marine Highways M-64 Other Marine Highway Routes 40 0 20 80 Miles