

## **AGENDA NOTE - HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **ITEM #11: LEGISLATION - FY 2011 FUNDING FOR PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITIES AND LIVABLE COMMUNITIES ACT**

#### **SUBJECT:**

Congress is presently considering funding for the Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities and the Livable Communities Act of 2009.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

During 2009, the federal Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency established the Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities. This partnership led in 2010 to a number of programs that support local governments and regional planning agencies, including HUD's Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grants, the DOT TIGER and TIGER II grant programs and various smart growth and transportation initiatives on the part of DOT and EPA. Congress is considering the appropriations for FY 2011 support for these programs.

A number of localities in Hampton Roads have utilized TIGER and TIGER II funds to support important transportation infrastructure investments. The HRPDC, on behalf of and in cooperation with the region's localities and a number of regional agencies, has applied for funding through the HUD's Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program. Continued funding for these programs could be beneficial to the region and its member localities.

The Livable Communities Act would provide further support for these planning initiatives through competitive comprehensive planning grants for localities and regions in further integrating transportation, housing, land use, economic development and environmental protection. The Act would also provide capital grants to support implementation of these plans.

The HRPDC staff understands that a number of Virginia localities, including at least two from Hampton Roads, have signed on to a joint letter to Virginia's Senators supporting these legislative initiatives.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Authorize the Chairman to send the attached letter to the Hampton Roads Congressional Delegation requesting the members to actively support continued funding for the programs of the Interagency Partnership for sustainable communities and for passage of the Livable Communities Act of 2009.

Attachment



October 20, 2010

FORM LETTER – Senators Warner and Webb; Congressmen Scott, Forbes, Nye and Wittman

RE: FY 2011 Funding for Partnership for Sustainable Communities & Livable  
Communities Act

Dear Senator/Congressman:

At its October 20, 2010 Annual Commission Meeting, the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission acted to urge that you support appropriations to support Interagency Partnership (HUD-DOT-EPA) for Sustainable Communities and passage of the Livable Communities Act of 2009 (S. 1619).

During 2009, the federal Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency established the Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities. This partnership led in 2010 to a number of programs that support local governments and regional planning agencies, including HUD's Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grants, the DOT TIGER and TIGER II grant programs and various smart growth and transportation initiatives on the part of DOT and EPA. Congress is considering the appropriations for FY 2011 support for these programs.

A number of localities in Hampton Roads have utilized TIGER and TIGER II funds to support important transportation infrastructure investments. The HRPDC, on behalf of and in cooperation with the region's localities and a number of regional agencies, has applied for funding through the HUD's Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program. Continued funding for these programs could be beneficial to the region and its member localities.

The Livable Communities Act would provide further support for these planning initiatives through competitive comprehensive planning grants for localities and regions in further integrating transportation, housing, land use, economic development and environmental protection. The Act would also provide capital grants to support implementation of these plans.

Your support for these funding and legislative initiatives is important to the region. Thank you for your consideration of and support for this legislation.

Sincerely,

Bruce C. Goodson  
Chairman

JMC:

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