

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #16: GRANT PROPOSAL – 2011 KODAK AMERICAN GREENWAYS GRANT PROGRAM

SUBJECT:

Submit application for financial assistance to the Kodak American Greenways Grant Program to support the Southeast Coast Saltwater Paddling Trail

BACKGROUND:

HRPDC planning staff has been involved on the committee for planning the Virginia section of the new Southeast Coast Saltwater Paddling Trail. The concept behind the project is to plan a paddling trail along the Atlantic coast connecting Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia using existing facilities (ramps, campgrounds, etc.). The planning effort is being facilitated by the National Park Service - Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program in partnership with representatives from each of the four states. Local stakeholders have also been involved in each state.

In order for the Trail to gain national recognition and support, the Trail committee recommended applying for grant funds in order to develop a website for the new Trail. The website will house Trail maps for all states and other important information all in one location. The HRPDC will manage the development of the website with input from NPS and the other state partners.

The Eastman Kodak Company, The Conservation Fund and the National Geographic Society team up each year to present the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program. One major element of the Program involves “seed” grant awards to organizations that are growing our nation's network of greenways, blueways, trails and natural areas.

The HRPDC proposes to apply for the grant on behalf of all the stakeholders due to the ineligibility of federal and state agencies to apply.

Grant amount: \$2500
HRPDC in-kind: \$2500

Project period will be one year from the date of grant award.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize the Executive Director to submit the grant application to the Kodak American Greenways Grant Program to support the Southeast Coast Saltwater Paddling Trail and to accept a grant award if offered.