

**AGENDA NOTE - HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**ITEM #14: PROJECT STATUS REPORTS AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUMMARIES**

**A. DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE SUMMARY MINUTES**

The summary minutes of the November 2, 2011 Directors of Utilities Committee Meetings are attached.

Attachment 14A

**B. HAMPTON ROADS CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMITTEE AND REGIONAL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The summary minutes of November 3, 2011 Hampton Roads Chesapeake Bay Committee and Regional Stormwater Management Committee Meeting are attached.

Attachment 14B

**C. SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY TMDL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

The summary minutes of the November 3, 2011 Chesapeake Bay TMDL Steering Committee are attached.

Attachment 14C

**D. PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

Attached are status reports on other HRPDC programs.

Attachment 14D

### **Meeting of the Directors of Utilities Committee:**

The Directors of Utilities Committee met on November 2, 2011. The following items were addressed during the meeting:

- Mr. Lonnie Byrd briefed the Committee on the current projects of the Eastern Region of Virginia Hospital Emergency Preparedness Coordinating Group to increase resiliency for hospital and support sheltering patients in place for 96 hours. Hospitals throughout the region are using grant funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Hospital Preparedness Program to install wells, treatment systems, and storage tanks to serve as alternate water sources if public water systems fail. There was no formal action on this item.
- HRPDC staff reports included updates on the Regional Water Supply Plan, which was submitted to DEQ in compliance with the regulatory deadline, and the status of the fiscal year 2011 water and sewer rate and water use data call. There was no formal action on this item.
- The Committee discussed the Water and Wastewater Work Program for the next fiscal year and provided input to staff regarding program priorities, projects, and budgets. Draft program budgets will be considered by the Committee in December or January.
- As many localities have advocated for including sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) reductions as a nutrient management strategy for the Bay TMDL, HRPDC staff asked HRSD to develop an order of magnitude estimate of the pounds of nitrogen and phosphorus attributable to past overflows. Mr. Ted Henifin reviewed the assumptions that contributed to a conservative estimate of 15,000 pounds of nitrogen per year associated with SSOs. This translates to approximately 10% of the total required urban load nutrient reduction. There was no formal action on this item. The information will be presented at the TMDL Regional Steering Committee meeting.
- The Directors of Utilities that are party to the Special Order of Consent and the Joint Defense Agreement discussed the status of the Special Order of Consent (SOC).

**ATTACHMENT 1A**  
**THE DRAFT SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**HAMPTON ROADS CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMITTEE, THE**  
**REGIONAL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE**  
**CHESAPEAKE BAY IMPLEMENTATION SUBCOMMITTEE**  
**November 3, 2011**

**1. Summary of the October 6, 2011 Meeting of the Hampton Roads Chesapeake Bay and Regional Stormwater Management Committees and Chesapeake Bay Implementation Subcommittee**

The Summary of the October 6, 2011 Meeting of the Hampton Roads Chesapeake Bay and Regional Stormwater Management Committees and Chesapeake Bay Implementation Subcommittee was approved as distributed.

**2. Great American Cleanup Presentation**

Ms. Lisa Hardy, HRPDC, gave a presentation to the Committee on the Great American Cleanup, a nationwide program headed by Keep America Beautiful. Hampton Roads will be hosting one of fifteen kickoff events held around the country to start off the event. The local event is a partnership between HRGreen and Keep Virginia Beautiful. The partnership hopes to hold an event in each Hampton Roads locality, with a regional kickoff event set for a Friday or Saturday in the spring. Partners include Keep America Beautiful, HRPDC, HRGreen, Keep Virginia Beautiful, and others. Goals include holding 16 events across the region, having 1,000 volunteers, raising \$100,000 in donations, and building awareness of HRGreen's work. The HRPDC approved a recommendation that endorsed the Hampton Roads Great American Cleanup Kickoff Event and encouraged widespread participation throughout all the region's localities.

Questions about the event should be sent to Ms. Hardy ([lhardy@hrpdcva.gov](mailto:lhardy@hrpdcva.gov)).

**3. Regional Trails Update**

Ms. Sara Kidd, HRPDC, updated the Committee on several regional trail projects.

Captain John Smith National Historic Trail (NHT): A comprehensive management plan and an environmental assessment have been completed. The trail's James River focus group met twice. The National Park Service (NPS) is preparing a final plan for the James River segment of the trail.

Star-Spangled Banner NHT: The NPS has asked for comments on three trail alternatives; only the third option includes sites in Virginia. No decision has been made yet.

Southeast Coast Paddling Trail: This trail includes sites in Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia. The Virginia section draft is completed. The group applied

for but did not receive funding for a website and maps. The group still needs to discuss how to move forward.

James River Heritage Trail: This trail is an off-road, multi-use trail, incorporating pathways, water trails, bike routes, etc. The draft conceptual plan is complete. Comments are due to DCR by December 1, 2011: [http://dcr.state.va.us/recreational\\_planning/trailjrhdraft.shtml](http://dcr.state.va.us/recreational_planning/trailjrhdraft.shtml)).

The South Hampton Roads Trail: This trail's different segments are in various stages of development. There have been some property ownership issues with railroad rights of way. Environmental studies are currently underway in Chesapeake and Portsmouth.

Dismal Swamp Canal Connector Trail: The Chesapeake City Council approved an application for Transportation Enhancement Funds for the interstate connection on October 25, 2011. This project has been amended to include the final 0.9 mile extension to North Carolina and has an estimated cost of \$4 million. The North Carolina segment has a completed 30% design and is estimated to cost \$2 million.

Several other trails have been added to the regional trails inventory. These include the Washington-Rochambeau NHT, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways, the TransAmerica Bike Route (US Route 76), the Virginia War of 1812 Heritage Trail, the Virginia Civil War Trail – Peninsula Campaign, and the Virginia Wildlife and Birding Trail.

Questions about regional trails and the inventory should be sent to Ms. Kidd ([skidd@hrpdcva.gov](mailto:skidd@hrpdcva.gov)).

#### **4. Urban Tree Canopy Analysis Project Presentation**

Ms. Barbara White, Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF), gave a presentation to the Committee about the benefits of urban tree canopy and some tools which can be used to analyze and improve canopy coverage in localities. VDOF provides an assessment tool that helps to increase awareness of urban forestry assets and benefits. The assessment is conducted at the locality level and by parcel; this produces two different sets of results which help to guide future planning. The analysis identifies areas that could be planted; these areas are then refined into areas that would be preferable and possible for tree planting. The benefits of urban tree canopy include areas for parks, water and air quality improvements, and relaxation and recreation. Once an assessment is completed, recommendations should be formalized and implemented through an ordinance or master plan.

#### **5. Chesapeake Bay Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Update**

HRPDC staff updated the Committee on the status of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan. Virginia sent a letter to EPA stating that the Chesapeake Bay model was not appropriate for setting local pollutant allocations or targets. EPA responded with a letter that stated that they do not expect to have local

targets (in terms of pounds of nutrients) in the Phase II WIP, but they do expect local program strategies. HRPDC sent a letter to the EPA requesting the removal of individual waste load allocations from the TMDL. HRPDC also sent a letter to Virginia's Secretary of Natural Resources requesting the same and also requesting that new permits not be issued until the TMDL situation is resolved.

Mr. Noah Hill, DCR, stated that DCR is working with localities on BMP implementation based on the Phase I WIP. A letter from Director Johnson should be sent within the next week to localities with expectations for the WIP. In addition, VAST has a WIP I grouping that localities can use in their reporting. Virginia has not yet submitted a draft Phase II WIP to EPA. The December submittal to EPA will be an outline of what will be submitted in March.

Localities should continue working on groundtruthing their BMPs.

Ms. Jenny Tribo, HRPDC, reported that the Virginia LID Competition is looking for development sites to use in the competition. Potential sites should be in one of three categories (residential, redevelopment, or roadway), have a site survey or draft plan of development completed, and cannot currently be under a service agreement for site development planning or engineering or any phase of construction. The deadline for submittal is November 11, 2011. Interested localities should contact Chip Rice (540-373-3448 x112).

## 6. **Status Reports**

### A. Hampton Roads Sanitation District

HRSD representatives had nothing to report.

### B. Hampton Roads Planning District

HRPDC representatives had nothing to report.

### C. Soil and Water Conservation Districts

SWCD representatives had nothing to report.

### D. Department of Conservation and Recreation

Mr. Noah Hill, DCR, reported that the Suffolk District office has had some staff leave, so some things may take more time.

### E. Department of Environmental Quality

In the absence of a DEQ representative, there was no report.

#### F. U.S. Geological Survey

In the absence of a USGS representative, there was no report.

#### G. Department of Transportation

VDOT representatives had nothing to report.

#### H. U.S. Navy

Navy staff is training on CWSP (a point of compliance tool for new regulations based on voluntary stormwater controls). Navy staff is also working on a program for residential BMPs for some standardization to do accounting for the WIP (such as master gardeners, garden clubs, etc.). They are looking at other models (such as Maryland) to get credits for BMPs in hard urban areas and will try to bring money to the table to help with implementation. Currently, \$100,000 is being spent on this effort.

#### I. Local Programs

Virginia Beach staff reported that the City is still trying to figure out what they are required to do under the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. The City is going through the budget process and is working with the Army Corps of Engineers on a restoration project in the Lynnhaven River. The floating wetlands study is ongoing. DCR is evaluating the City's E&S program. The City also is starting the public engagement process for its Sustainability Plan.

York County staff reported that the County is being audited by DCR and is undergoing a program review.

Suffolk staff reported that the City is preparing its legislative package. They are also concerned about the direction of the TMDL process.

James City County staff reported that the draft report of the state's Nutrient Credit Exchange Study should be out for public review by November 9, 2011. More information can be found on the DEQ website: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/vpdes/NutCrdExStudy.html>.

Norfolk staff reported that EPA program reviews for Phase II localities are underway in the form of table top reviews that compare plans to annual reports.

### 7. **Other Matters**

The next meeting of the Joint Environmental Committee is scheduled for December 1, 2011 at the HRPDC office in Chesapeake, Virginia. Materials will be sent in advance for review.

## **Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee for the Chesapeake Bay Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan:**

The Regional Steering Committee for the Chesapeake Bay Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) met on November 3, 2011. The following items were addressed during the meeting:

- HRPDC staff briefed the Committee on HRPDC's October correspondence to Virginia and EPA requesting clarification on expectations for the level of local governments' involvement in the Phase II WIP process and whether the waste load allocations will be removed from the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. A copy of Maryland's revised Phase II WIP schedule was distributed for reference. Given the Phase II WIP deadlines and the need for additional information from Virginia, the Committee agreed that qualitative planning strategies can be developed for submittal to Virginia in February, but the development of quantitative implementation strategies will require a longer time frame beyond July 2012. This information will be presented to the HRPDC.
- Mr. John Jastram, USGS, briefed the Committee on Fairfax County's small urban/suburban watershed stream flow and water quality monitoring project. The project includes 14 monitoring stations for flow and water quality data such as turbidity. Four of the 14 stations also collect samples to quantify nutrient loads. The 14 stations cost \$275,000/year to operate. This methodology will allow Fairfax County to estimate nutrient loads in the local watershed and measure the impact of BMPs and nutrient management programs on water quality. This methodology could be applied to small watersheds (1-6 square miles) in Hampton Roads; however, the monitoring stations would require more expensive equipment for tidal streams. There was no formal action on this item.
- As many localities have advocated for including sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) reductions as a nutrient management strategy for the Bay TMDL, HRPDC staff asked HRSD to develop an order of magnitude estimate of the pounds of nitrogen and phosphorus attributable to past overflows. Mr. Ted Henifin reviewed the assumptions that contributed to a conservative estimate of 15,000 pounds of nitrogen per year associated with SSOs. This translates to approximately 10% of the total required urban load nutrient reduction. There was no formal action on this item.
- The Septic System Legislative Subcommittee met on September 21, 2011 and HRPDC staff provided a briefing on the subcommittee's recommendations. The Committee agreed that all three recommended initiatives shall be included in the legislative package and in the regional Phase II WIP strategies.
- The Committee recommended that the regional legislative package should request that the State fund basin scale nutrient management projects.

## **PROJECT STATUS REPORTS**

### **1. Regional Housing Program**

#### **Hampton Roads Loan Fund Partnership**

The HRPDC staff recently completed activities under its FY11 contract for the HOME program that provides downpayment and closing cost assistance funding to local administrators on behalf of qualified first-time homebuyers. The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) extended the FY11 contract as it relates to the HOME grant to October 31, 2011. Staff has been working with regional partners to administer funding to localities that are currently out of funding as well as other jurisdictions that use the HOME funding as their sole resource for downpayment and closing cost assistance.

HRPDC staff also completed the current grant application for FY12 funding. Notification of funding is expected in November.

#### **Housing & Human Services Technical Assistance**

HRPDC staff continues to assist the Hampton Roads Housing Consortium and will represent the region at the upcoming Governor's Housing Conference on November 16-18, 2011 in Hampton, Virginia. The Governor's Housing Conference is the largest and most comprehensive housing-related event in Virginia. Each year, the Housing and Human Services staff oversees the development of the regional exhibit that showcases affordable housing opportunities and activities in Hampton Roads.

Staff members are also working with Housing Virginia, a statewide non-profit housing advocacy organization, to develop a special edition of its regional newsletter, "Start Here". This publication will be released in December and will spotlight housing initiatives and programs throughout the Hampton Roads region.

### **2. Regional Economics Program**

#### **Technical Assistance**

Economics staff routinely provides technical assistance and support to member jurisdictions and regional organizations. Information from both the HRPDC Data Book and the Commission's Benchmarking Study provides easy access to a great deal of regional information. Over the past month, staff has delivered several presentations to regional organizations and responded to information requests from individuals, member localities, and the media.

#### **Analysis of Energy Development Strategies**

Staff is beginning work on an analysis of energy development strategies in Hampton Roads. At present, very little is commonly understood as to the ability of the region

to capitalize on various forms of energy development. Staff will be collecting and compiling information on the region's capacity to develop energy and research the potential economic benefits associated with energy development.

### **Hampton Roads Benchmarking Study**

Each year staff compiles regional data on the economy, demographics, housing, transportation, and various quality of life indicators. This information is the basis for the Hampton Roads Benchmarking Study, a publication that is designed to provide the region's decision makers with information on all facets of the Hampton Roads region. Information is illustrated through charts and graphs and accompanied by a brief explanation about the purpose of the specific benchmark as well as the current condition. Staff has begun work on the seventh annual benchmarking report.

## **3. Emergency Management Project Update**

### **Regional Emergency Management Technical Advisory Committee (REMTAC)**

The Emergency Management staff continues to manage and support the Regional Emergency Management Technical Advisory Committee and its associated tasks and committees. Below is a summary of the meeting from November 25, 2011:

- It was agreed that REMTAC FY08 UASI Project Funds would be allocated to supplement funding an emergency generator for a Gloucester shelter and additional regional WebEOC System enhancements.
- Lessons learned from Hurricane Irene were discussed. It was agreed to perform several website enhancements as well as survey emergency management on the utility of the special needs registry and possibly survey registrants as well.
- Special Needs Subcommittee Progress: The Subcommittee discussed Public Outreach initiatives recommended by the Public Outreach Workgroup. Public and Private Transportation logistics issues highlighted during Irene were discussed and are being addressed by the Subcommittee.

### **Hampton Roads Regional Jail and Inmate Evacuation Committee**

The HRPDC on behalf of the Jail and Inmate Evacuation Committee has released an RFP for a functional jail assessment. The assessment is funded by the FY 10 UASI grant.

### **Hampton Roads Tactical Regional Area Network (HRTacRAN)**

HRPDC staff continues to work with Virginia Beach to begin HRTacRAN redundant system installation. In review, Virginia Beach (as recipient of the FY08 UASI Communication award) received approval from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to modify the FY08 UASI grant to support HRTacRAN. The intent was to utilize a preexisting contract. However, a contract to support this initiative could not be found requiring Virginia Beach to go out for bid. With the addition of the bid

process, Virginia Beach requires additional time to expend the funds before the end of the FY08 performance period (currently extended to February 29, 2012). HRPDC staff and Virginia Beach continue to explore several options to utilize allocated FY08 UASI funds.

Since the October update, the HRPDC has formally requested an extension from DHS. The decision is still pending and would constitute an exception on the part of DHS as extension requests are usually not considered until the last 60 days of the performance period (January 1, 2012 for the fiscal year 2008) However, during the October 24, 2011, Urban Area Work Group (UAWG) meeting, the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) indicated that work on the fiscal year 2008 project must be completed by February 29, 2012, but Virginia Beach would be allowed an additional 60 days to close out the project administratively. Based on this information, communications representatives from Virginia Beach indicated that it would be possible to release the bid without approval of the extension. Furthermore, a preexisting contract may have been discovered that could be utilized to install the redundant HRTacRan microwave ring.

#### **Peninsula Local Emergency Planning Commission (PLEPC)**

The quarterly PLEPC meeting will be held on November 17, 2011.

#### **FY12 Healthcare Organization Emergency Preparedness Seminars (HOEPS)**

The HOEPS committee met in November and further focused seminar goals and objectives. Conflicting conferences were identified and are being resolved. One facility manager of a Sentara facility on the coast with evacuation/reentry experience is confirmed as a keynote speaker, with a possible second speaker being investigated in the areas affected by wildfires in Texas.

#### **Hazard Mitigation Planning**

The HRPDC and Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee plan updates (for the Southside Hampton Roads Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Franklin Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Southampton Hazard Mitigation Plan) are nearly complete and are being scheduled for adoption. The City of Franklin and Southside Hampton Roads Plans have been reviewed and are undergoing final corrections in response to minor FEMA comments for formal approval. The Southampton County plan is expected to begin review shortly.

#### **Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant Program (RCPGP) Support**

The Emergency Management staff continues to support the Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (RCPT) to ensure existing projects and data are integrated.

#### **Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)**

The Emergency Management staff continues to manage and support the Hampton Roads Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Grant Program for the Urban Area Working Group (UAWG). During the October meeting, the FY08 project managers briefed the UAWG on the status on their initiatives and provided a spending plan to

close projects out before the end of the extended fiscal year 2008 performance period. Based on the presentations, the UAWG decided to allow all FY08 projects to retain their funding. As such, all FY08 projects have until February 28, 2012 to be completed. The UAWG will ask for a project briefing in February, 2012 for initiatives funded with the fiscal year 2009 UASI grant. Lastly, Hampton Roads has not been awarded fiscal year 2011 funds as they are currently tied to the award of the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP), which is still going through their application process.

### **WebEOC Implementation Update**

The WebEOC Subcommittee met in November, and per REMTAC's request to find the best use of remaining grant project funds, recommended the addition of WebEOC Mapper to the regional server and to those localities that could utilize it. WebEOC Mapper is a Geographic Information System component to allow for better situational awareness through mapping of data passed through WebEOC. The HRPDC has released a survey to localities utilizing WebEOC. The survey asks if the jurisdiction wishes to utilize WebEOC Mapper in addition to IT specifications necessary to install it. Once the specifications are collected, they will be used to draft a contract amendment planned to be put before the Commission during the December meeting for approval.

### **Hampton Roads Medical Special Needs**

The Special Needs Subcommittee was briefed by the RCPT as it relates to special needs planning, sheltering status and other findings. Separately, the initial findings of the Hurricane Irene After Action Report being developed by the Endependence Center were discussed with possible follow up, based upon the report's recommendations once finalized. The Special Needs website and registry ([www.hrspecialneeds.org](http://www.hrspecialneeds.org)) continues to be populated by/for citizens with special needs in Hampton Roads. The registry continues to mature and find better utility by emergency management, while recognizing the continuing need to manage public expectations of local capabilities.

### **Multi-Region Target Capabilities Assessment (FY08 UASI Project)**

The project was completed following the adoption of the Hampton Roads Homeland Security Strategy by the Urban Area Working Group in October.

### **Pet Sheltering Support (FY09 UASI Project)**

The project has been completed.

### **Hampton Roads Critical Infrastructure Protection Program (HR CIPP)**

HRPDC staff is working with the Office of Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs to reengage stakeholders and the HR CIPP working group.

#### **4. HR Green**

Staff continues to promote a consistent regional environmental message via [www.askHRgreen.org](http://www.askHRgreen.org) and the associated blog. Messages for November include America Recycles Day and proper disposal of fats, oils and grease (FOG). The FOG message will continue through the holiday season. Additional messages regarding best practices for fall leaf disposal and the value of tap water will also be featured.