

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

### **ITEM 9N: HAMPTON ROADS ADAPTATION FORUM - SEA GRANT APPLICATION –**

#### **SUBJECT:**

Authorize the execution of a grant application along with Virginia Sea Grant, Old Dominion University, and The College of William and Mary to continue and expand the Hampton Roads Adaptation Forum.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

As part of efforts to promote discussion of and adaptation to the impacts of climate change on Hampton Roads localities, Virginia Sea Grant has invited the HRPDC to participate with Old Dominion University and the College of William and Mary in a joint application for national Sea Grant Funding to continue and enhance the Regional Adaptation Forum. The Hampton Roads Adaptation Forum is a local community-university partnership, originally funded in 2011, and proposed through this grant to build on and add to existing local adaptation capacity over the next two years.

Specific actions will include: (1) Maintain and enhance the existing Hampton Roads Adaptation Forum and guide related projects and initiatives; (2) study the legal structure and liability associated with coastal land use and development policies, climate adaptation actions and options for reducing liability risk from climate change impacts; (3) administer studio projects in #2, disseminate information nationally and assess economic development potential of adaptation technologies, strategies and options.

The Principal Investigator for the grant proposal is Dr. Troy Hartley, Director of Virginia Sea Grant. Co-Principal Investigators include Dr. Larry Atkinson, Director of the ODU Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Initiative, Ms. Shana Jones, Director of the Virginia Coastal Policy Clinic at W&M Law School. HRPDC Regional Planner Benjamin McFarlane has also been invited to participate as a Co-Principal Investigator.

Total Funding Request: \$270,000

HRPDC Funding Request: \$40,000

HRPDC Match: \$0

Period of Performance: January 31, 2014 – January 2016

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Authorize the Executive Director to participate in the grant application along with Virginia Sea Grant and others to continue and expand the Hampton Roads Adaptation Forum and to execute an agreement with them if the grant is awarded.