

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING

ITEM #12-F: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

SUBJECT:

Authorize the Chair to sign letters of support for proposals for the FY 15 NOAA Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Program.

BACKGROUND:

In May 2015 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced the FY 15 Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Program, which seeks to develop or implement activities that build resilience of coastal regions, communities, and economic sectors to the negative impacts from extreme weather events, climate hazards, and changing ocean conditions. A total of \$5,000,000 is available to fund 5-10 awards of \$500,000-\$1,000,000. The HRPDC staff has received requests for letters of support for four proposals from regional entities:

- 1) Old Dominion University, the College of William and Mary, and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science
- 2) The Center for Coastal Resources Management at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science
- 3) The City of Virginia Beach
- 4) Virginia Sea Grant and Wetlands Watch

This grant program and proposals were discussed by the Regional Environmental Committee at its meeting on July 2, 2015. The Committee and the HRPDC staff recommend that the Chair sign letters of support for these proposals on behalf of the Commission.

Attachment 12-F1

Attachment 12-F2

Attachment 12-F3

Attachment 12-F4

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize the Chair to sign letters of support for the four proposals for the FY 15 NOAA Regional Coastal Resilience Program.

MEMBER
JURISDICTIONS

July 16, 2015

CHESAPEAKE

Dr. Joshua G. Behr
Virginia Modeling, Analysis, & Simulation Center
Old Dominion University
1030 University Boulevard
Suffolk, VA 23435

FRANKLIN

GLOUCESTER

RE: NOAA Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Proposal

HAMPTON

Dear Mr. Behr:

ISLE OF WIGHT

I am writing to convey our support for your proposal for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Program. This proposal promises to help Hampton Roads communities better plan for and adapt to the impacts of recurrent flooding and sea level rise. The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) supports this work and is dedicated to making its findings directly applicable to local governments.

JAMES CITY

NEWPORT NEWS

The HRPDC is composed of seventeen member local governments representing nearly 1.7 million people. The HRPDC is one of twenty-one like agencies throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, with the purposes of encouraging and facilitating local government cooperation within the region as well as cooperation between local governments and state agencies in addressing, on a regional basis, problems of greater than local significance.

NORFOLK

POQUOSON

PORTSMOUTH

The HRPDC has a strong history of collaborating and engaging with local governments, state agencies, and academic partners to identify and address issues and concerns. This engagement results in better cooperation between the different levels of government as well as between governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. In addition, the HRPDC has direct experience with planning for climate change impacts and coastal resiliency, both of which are relevant to the proposed project. As part of this work, the HRPDC staff has identified a need for additional research to inform local planning efforts and for coordination and collaboration between the various academic institutions in the region. Your proposal will serve both needs well.

SMITHFIELD

SOUTHAMPTON

SUFFOLK

SURRY

VIRGINIA BEACH

The proposal shows great promise for improving the resiliency of the Hampton Roads region, and we are happy to support it. We look forward to working with you and your team on this effort.

WILLIAMSBURG

Sincerely,

YORK

Kenneth L. Wright
Chair

BJM/jc

MEMBER
JURISDICTIONS

July 16, 2015

CHESAPEAKE

Dr. Carl Hershner
Center for Coastal Resources Management
Virginia Institute of Marine Science
P.O. Box 1346
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

FRANKLIN

GLOUCESTER

RE: NOAA Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Proposal Reference

HAMPTON

Dear Dr. Hershner:

ISLE OF WIGHT

I am writing to convey our support for your proposal for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Program. This proposal promises to help Hampton Roads communities better adapt to the impacts of recurrent flooding and sea level rise. The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) supports this work and is dedicated to making its findings directly applicable to local governments.

JAMES CITY

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PORTSMOUTH

The HRPDC has a strong history of collaborating and engaging with local governments, state agencies, and academic partners to identify and address issues and concerns. This engagement results in better cooperation between the different levels of government as well as between governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. In addition, the HRPDC has direct experience with planning for climate change impacts and coastal resiliency, both of which are relevant to the proposed project. As part of this work, the HRPDC staff has identified a need for additional research and tools to inform local planning and adaptation efforts. The proposal shows great promise for improving the resiliency of the Hampton Roads region, and we are happy to support it. We look forward to working with you and your team on this effort.

SMITHFIELD

SOUTHAMPTON

SUFFOLK

SURRY

VIRGINIA BEACH

Sincerely,

WILLIAMSBURG

YORK

Kenneth L. Wright
Chair

BJM/jc

MEMBER
JURISDICTIONS

July 16, 2015

CHESAPEAKE

Mr. James K. Spore

City Manager

City of Virginia Beach

FRANKLIN

2401 Courthouse Drive, Suite 234

Virginia Beach, VA 23456

GLOUCESTER

RE: NOAA Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Spore:

HAMPTON

I am writing to convey our support for your proposal for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Program. This proposal promises to help Hampton Roads communities better plan for and adapt to the impacts of recurrent flooding and sea level rise. The City of Virginia Beach has been and continues to be a leader and example for other Hampton Roads communities in addressing these issues. The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) supports this work and is dedicated to making its findings directly applicable to local governments.

ISLE OF WIGHT

JAMES CITY

NEWPORT NEWS

NORFOLK

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POQUOSON

PORTSMOUTH

SMITHFIELD

The HRPDC has a strong history of collaborating and engaging with local governments, state agencies, and academic partners to identify and address issues and concerns. This engagement results in better cooperation between the different levels of government as well as between governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. In addition, the HRPDC has direct experience with planning for climate change impacts and coastal resiliency, both of which are relevant to the proposed project. As part of this work, the HRPDC conducted several studies and established an official advisory committee on sea level rise and recurrent flooding. Virginia Beach city staff members have been instrumental in both areas. In particular, the Commission's advisory committees offer excellent opportunities for Virginia Beach to engage other communities in the region and share findings.

SOUTHAMPTON

SUFFOLK

SURRY

VIRGINIA BEACH

The proposal shows great promise for improving the resiliency of the Hampton Roads region, and we are happy to support it. We look forward to working with you and your team on this effort.

WILLIAMSBURG

Sincerely,

YORK

Kenneth I. Wright

Chair

BJM/jc

Attachment 12-F3

MEMBER
JURISDICTIONS

July 16, 2015

CHESAPEAKE

Dr. Troy Hartley
Director, Virginia Sea Grant
Virginia Institute of Marine Science
P.O. Box 1346
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

FRANKLIN

GLOUCESTER

RE: NOAA Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Proposal

HAMPTON

Dear Mr. Hartley:

ISLE OF WIGHT

I am writing to convey our support for your proposal for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Regional Coastal Resilience Grant Program. This proposal promises to provide Hampton Roads communities with tangible examples of adaptation to sea level rise. The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) supports this work and is dedicated to making its findings directly applicable to local governments.

JAMES CITY

NEWPORT NEWS

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The HRPDC has a strong history of collaborating and engaging with local governments, state agencies, and academic partners to identify and address issues and concerns. This engagement results in better cooperation between the different levels of government as well as between governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. In addition, the HRPDC has direct experience with planning for climate change impacts and coastal resiliency, both of which are relevant to the proposed project. As part of this work, the HRPDC staff has identified a need for cost-effective design strategies that can be implemented at multiple scales, from the individual property to locality-wide.

SMITHFIELD

SOUTHAMPTON

SUFFOLK

The proposal shows great promise for improving the resiliency of the Hampton Roads region, and we are happy to support it. We look forward to working with you and your team on this effort.

SURRY

VIRGINIA BEACH

Sincerely,

WILLIAMSBURG

YORK

Kenneth I. Wright
Chair

BJM