

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING

ITEM #5: REGIONAL SEWER CONSOLIDATION STUDY UPDATE

SUBJECT:

The consulting firm, HDR Engineering, has completed a draft report that evaluates the benefits of consolidating the region's sanitary sewer assets. The recommendations of the study will be discussed and the next steps outlined.

BACKGROUND:

In Hampton Roads, each locality owns and operates their own sanitary sewer collection system carrying sewage away from homes and businesses to facilities owned and operated by the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD), the regional entity that treats sewage for all of Hampton Roads. The Regional Sewer Consolidation Study evaluated whether there are benefits to consolidating all sanitary sewer assets under HRSD.

The study must be completed and submitted to the EPA by August 31, 2013. The draft report recommends consolidating the sewer systems. Consolidation would save approximately \$1B over 30 years and simplify implementing sewer upgrades to address the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) compliance actions to reduce sanitary sewer overflow (SSOs).

The schedule approved by DEQ and the EPA requires each governing body to make a decision by February 2014 on whether or not to pursue consolidation. If the decision is to move forward with complete or partial consolidation, an additional year is built into the schedule to work out the details and enter into a binding agreement.

Mr. Glen Elmers, HDR, will brief the Commission on the study recommendations. Mr. Ted Henifin, HRSD General Manager, will brief the Commission on next steps.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

For information purposes only.