

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission **Annual Report**

To the Department of Housing
and Community Development

FY 2013 - 2014



PEP14-04

HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

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**HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION #23
ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2013 – JUNE 30, 2014**

**This report was included in the HRPDC
Unified Planning Work Program which
was approved by the HRPDC at its
Executive Committee Meeting of
June 19, 2014**

**Prepared by the
Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
August 2014**

July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

Element #1: Strategic Planning:

Document progress in developing and implementing strategic planning in the planning district.

Strategic Plan Development Activities

Please indicate the current status of your regional strategic planning activities. Provide information on the process used to produce the plan, persons and organizations involved in producing the plan, and the key recommendations and activities that were identified. Discuss how priorities for action were established.

1. The HRPDC regularly communicates with member jurisdictions as well as regional and state organizations to provide information and support for various strategic plans. The HRPDC Executive Director serves as an Executive Committee member of the **Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance(HRMFFA)**.
2. The Hampton Roads Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) represents a transportation element of a strategic plan. The current version of the LRTP, the **Hampton Roads 2034 Long-Range Transportation Plan** was approved as satisfying Air Quality Conformity requirements on January 19, 2012 and includes highway, transit, bicycle and pedestrian improvements. Since the approval of the 2034 LRTP, the staff of the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) has continued working on the next update to the LRTP, which is due in January 2016 and will address transportation needs through 2040. During FY 14, major accomplishments towards the development of the 2040 LRTP included completing the 2040 LRTP Vision and Goals initiated in FY 13, allocating the 2040 socioeconomic data developed in FY 13 to Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ), developing revenue estimates, and developing a list of candidate projects to be evaluated for inclusion in the 2040 LRTP. In addition, with the passage of HB 2313 legislation, the HRTPO staff have been working with the HRTPO Board in developing a list of candidate projects to be funded with regional revenues generated in Hampton Roads. The result of this process will be a set of regional projects to be included in the Hampton Roads 2034 and 2040 LRTP.
3. The HRPDC developed the *Chesapeake Bay Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan: Hampton Roads Regional Planning Framework, Scenario, and Strategies* to address nutrient reductions required by the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. The Report was prepared by the HRPDC as supplemental material for inclusion in local government strategy submittals to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) as input to Virginia's Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. During FY 12 the HRPDC initiated a regional engagement effort through the formation of a Chesapeake Bay TMDL Steering Committee

The Commission appointed Steering Committee members and HRPDC staff held monthly meetings to solicit locality input on the preferred water quality management scenario for the Hampton Roads region and develop regional policy recommendations to Virginia.

4. The HRPDC is working with localities to develop strategies and policies to address recurrent flooding and sea level rise. In March 2014 the HRPDC's Executive Committee voted to establish a new Special Committee on Recurrent Flooding and Sea Level Rise. This Committee has three objectives:
 - 1) Develop specific recommendations related to recurrent flooding and sea level rise adaptation and mitigation for local governments.
 - 2) Advocate for support and action by the state government and federal government.
 - 3) Serve as the primary regional contact to coordinate efforts with federal agencies and academic institutions.

This new Committee will build on work previously done by the HRPDC and others on these issues. The Committee met for the first time in June 2014 and will meet one to two times per quarter.

5. The HRPDC is collaborating with member localities to develop and implement a comprehensive and coordinated response to state and federal enforcement initiatives in regards to sanitary sewer overflows. This effort resulted in development of a **Regional Consent Order** and a set of **Regional Technical Standards**, approved by the Virginia State Water Control Board in September 2007. In FY 14, the HRPDC managed the Regional Consolidation of Sewer System Assets Study, in cooperation with the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) and the member localities, to evaluate the potential benefits of consolidating local sewer systems under HRSD. As a result of the study, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) among fourteen localities and HRSD was executed to support modification of the federal Consent Decree and state Consent Order such that HRSD would implement and finance the entire Regional Wet Weather Management Plan.
6. With the assistance of the HRPDC, the localities created the **Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance (HRMFFA)** to address long-term issues associated with the region's military facilities, as well as other federal facilities. The HRPDC routinely provides technical assistance to the HRMFFA staff. The HRPDC Executive Director is a member of the HRMFFA Board and serves as Secretary.
7. The HRPDC has been instrumental in coordinating regional preparedness throughout the region, including coordination of the **Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS)** and the **Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI)** federal grant awards for a continued amount of time. This has resulted in utilization of both federal grant and local funding sources so there are more areas of response, and each is at a greater range than if the grants were stand-alone.
8. The Region V Measure - Hampton Roads Homeland Security Strategy (HRHSS) purpose is to ensure the Hampton Roads region has a single, data driven document

that outlines the region's risks, capability needs, vision, structure, goals, and objectives for homeland security over a three year period. The strategy is designed primarily to address terrorism risk with an understanding that capabilities enhanced to combat terrorism also often enhance the ability to manage natural disasters and other man-made incidents.

9. In May 2014, the Commission held its annual Retreat. After extensive discussion of a number of issues, the Commission directed staff to begin an effort to integrate regional functional plans and vision plans prepared by other regional agencies into a comprehensive HRPDC Strategic Plan.
10. Regional Environmental Education Planning occurs via askHRgreen.org and related committees. Extensive efforts in Search Engine Optimization (SEO) and Search Engine Marketing (SEM) have resulted in a 63% increase in site visitation. In addition, paid advertising campaigns have been leveraged with public relations efforts that netted a 5:1 ROI.
11. A regional legislative agenda/policy statement is developed each year on areas of common interest.
12. The HRPDC has embarked on an effort to develop the region's first Community-based Regional Strategic Plan entitled, Envision Hampton Roads. This innovative approach to planning will give the residents of Hampton Roads the right to set the course for their community's future. Envision Hampton Roads will use interviews, mapping exercises, surveys and other means to hear from residents and use that information to present different community scenarios based on the information gathered. This process will allow residents to react to the scenarios and choose the future that best matches their vision. The goal of the project is to engage residents to participate in the establishment of a shared Regional Vision that ultimately creates a blueprint for the Region's future that leads to Hampton Roads being a great place to live, work, play, learn, and visit. In developing Envision Hampton Roads, the HRPDC will follow a seven step Community Based Planning approach with the first step beginning with establishing Community Values followed by Vision, Strategy, Plan, Fund, Build, and Achieve.

In addition to the above, the following planning activities involve a variety of strategic planning elements:

- Environmental Strategic Planning Initiatives.
- Regional Water Program.
- Regional Stormwater Management Program.
- Coastal Resources Management Program.
- Regional Wastewater Program.
- Regional Environmental Education Program
- Annual Economic Forecast.
- Regional Benchmarking Report.

Strategic Plan Implementation Activities

What is the current status of your plan's implementation? What has been accomplished to date? What are the next projects or activities that will be undertaken? Who is involved with and responsible for the implementation of the plan?

1. The HRPDC continually monitors the Hampton Roads economy. The status of regional economic conditions is reported quarterly to the Commission via the *Hampton Roads Economic Quarterly* as well as in an annual publication of the **Hampton Roads Regional Benchmarking Study** and through information routinely updated on the HRPDC's website in the Hampton Roads Data Center. The annual Forecast, as well as information included on the website and in the Benchmarking Study, is used by local governments and regional organizations in their planning process. An electronic database covering important economic variables is available on the HRPDC website. In addition to providing updates on the current economic condition, the *Hampton Roads Economic Quarterly* provides in-depth discussion of one or two current economic issues relevant to the region. The HRTPO continually monitors progress toward meeting the goals and objectives in the **2034 LRTP** through the **Congestion Management Process (CMP)**, **Regional Freight Planning**, and Public Involvement and Community Outreach.
2. The Regional Water Supply Plan did not require implementation strategies because the region has adequate supplies to meet its projected demands. However, it identified potential reductions in groundwater permits and impacts of climate change as areas of concern. Currently, the plan is an important reference in evaluating options now that DEQ is suggesting reductions in groundwater permits.
3. The modification of the Regional Consent Order for sewer systems and the MOA to proceed with a consolidated Regional Wet Weather Management Plan will allow for potential consolidation of sewer assets in the future. These changes allow for improved coordination between HRSD and the localities on planning and expansion of the systems.
4. The HRPDC continues to monitor state and federal efforts to implement the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. Staff utilizes the *Chesapeake Bay Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan: Hampton Roads Regional Planning Framework, Scenario, and Strategies* to provide feedback to Virginia and the Chesapeake Bay Program on localities' resource needs and priorities. The Report identified alternative BMPs and reduction strategies that should be available to localities in order to meet their TMDL requirements. Staff has advocated for the review of these BMPs and strategies and often serves on the Bay Program committees to evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs and propose reduction efficiencies and procedures. In FY 14, the HRPDC staff has provided input to the Street Sweeping Panel and the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Panel. Staff continues to engage Virginia staff involved in the Chesapeake Bay Program to encourage them to act on other local government priorities included in the Report. Staff provides regular updates to localities on

Chesapeake Bay Program actions that may affect their local implementation efforts. In FY 14, the HRPDC staff began developing fact sheets to inform localities of the additional BMPs being approved by the Bay Program.

5. Currently, regional emergency preparedness efforts are diffused across several regional committees with varying missions and strategic documents. The HRPDC is leading an effort to consolidate regional emergency preparedness into one committee, with a single, comprehensive strategic document; *the Region V Measure (RVM)*. The RVM is a compilation of all previous regional plans, capability assessments, and major after-action reports. The HRPDC is working to create a dashboard interface for this plan that will allow the tracking of capabilities and capability gaps in real-time.
6. A multi-year plan has been developed and is being implemented for askHRgreen.org, the region's environmental education initiative. The plan includes traditional and social media, as well as market research to refine and guide future efforts.
7. During FY 14, the HRPDC prepared and adopted a Legislative Agenda, encompassing a variety of issues – economic, environmental, emergency management, housing, planning and development and financing. Transportation issues were addressed separately in the Legislative Agenda of the HRTPO.
8. Environmental Education - Message refinement and targeting continued with emphasis this past fiscal year on SEO and SEM. This is a direct result of HRPDC staff research findings. Staff facilitated regional environmental education committees in the areas of recycling and beautification; fats, oils and grease abatement; stormwater pollution prevention and drinking water. In addition, an overall askHRgreen.org Committee focused on branding askHRgreen as the ultimate resource for environmental information in Hampton Roads. The firm of Cahoon & Cross as marketing and media consultants was utilized.
9. Envision Hampton Roads builds on the Urban Land Institute's Reality Check Hampton Roads and several other past and current conversations regarding regional planning in the area. The Envision Hampton Roads Project has had an enormous impact on the Region, and the HRPDC has successfully built an Envision Hampton Roads Stakeholders (EHR) group whose role is to guide the scenario planning process. In building the Stakeholder Group, the HRPDC followed a 5 step process which consisted of preparing for stakeholder engagement, identifying and prioritizing the list of stakeholders, considering potential motivations for participating, and selecting a stakeholder engagement strategy. The group consists of a diverse makeup of Hampton Roads Residents, as well as, Federal, State, Regional, Local, & Community based Agencies and Organizations. Additionally, with the assistance of the EHR Stakeholders, in June 2014 the HRPDC was successful in developing the Envision Hampton Roads Shared Values and Aspiration Report.

10. The HRPDC and HRTPO **FY 2014 Unified Planning Work Programs (UPWP)** describe ongoing and future regional activities to be undertaken by both entities

Element #2: Duties Performed:

Provide a concise description of all activities accomplished under the duties assigned under the Regional Cooperation Act.

A. Conduct studies with regional significance (initiated and/or completed).

1. **Congestion Management Process (CMP)** for Hampton Roads Virginia. In 2001, the HRTPO initiated the Hampton Roads Regional Safety Study, a comprehensive analysis of highway safety throughout the region. In October 2013, the HRTPO released the **Hampton Roads Regional Safety Study 2013 Update Part I: Crash Trends and Locations** the first full update to the original Regional Safety Study. Part I addressed trends in traffic crashes in Hampton Roads. It included information related to injuries and fatalities resulting from traffic crashes, as well as examination of the locations and characteristics of crashes, injuries and fatalities on the Hampton Roads roadway system. The **Hampton Roads Regional Safety Study 2013/2014 Update Part II: Crash Countermeasures**, prepared during FY 13-14 and released in July 2014, built on the results of Part I by examining ways to improve roadway safety – broadly and for specific high crash locations. In June 2014, the HRTPO released the **State of Transportation in Hampton Roads 2014**, which details the current status of all facets of the transportation system in Hampton Roads, including air, rail, water, and highways. The CMP is a vital element of the HRTPO planning process and is used as a guide to develop project recommendations for the Transportation Improvement Program and the LRTP.
2. In July 2013, the HRTPO released the Hampton Roads **Military Transportation Needs Study – Roadways Serving the Military and Sea Level Rise/Storm Surge** which builds primarily on the Military Commuter Survey released in 2012 by estimating the sea level rise and potential storm surge threats to the “Roadways Serving the Military” network established in the Highway Network Analysis report released in 2011.
3. During FY 14, the HRTPO prepared several studies regarding management of the Hampton Roads transportation infrastructure. **Regional Procedures for Planned Closures at River Crossings**, released in January 2014, was prepared in response to several recent closing of multiple river crossings resulting in significant delays at remaining crossings, and in light of the fact that five different organizations operate 15 river crossings. **Prioritizing Highway Projects for Improvement of Hurricane Evacuation**, released in March 2014, records analysis undertaken by HRTPO staff to identify and prioritize, according to cost effectiveness, highway projects designed to

improve hurricane evacuation in Hampton Roads. **Pavement Performance Measurement in Hampton Roads**, prepared for release in July 2014, presents, analyzes, and summarizes publically available pavement data in order to determine the condition and smoothness of the region's pavements.

4. During FY 14, the HRTPO released **Existing and Future Truck Delay in Hampton Roads: Preparation for Project Prioritization**. This Study built on the work contained in the 2012 Hampton Roads Regional Freight Study, expanding the analysis of existing truck volumes and delays by location to include future truck volumes and delays in Hampton Roads. This analysis uses the new truck component and time-of-day capability of the regional travel demand model to forecast truck volumes and congestion to be faced by trucks in the next 20 years. The results of this analysis include future roadway segments with the highest total weekday truck delays, allowing the HRTPO to better consider freight when making funding decisions for transportation improvements.
5. In March 2014, the HRTPO released **Positioning Hampton Roads for Freight Infrastructure Funding: MAP-21 and Beyond**. MAP-21, considered the precursor to the next federal authorization starting FY 15, possesses a new strong freight emphasis where states, MPOs, and other stakeholders will all have a role. States and MPOs that are organized, with data and analysis, will be in a better position to benefit from the next authorization. At the present time, final designation of the National Freight Network has not been established. In order to assist the State of Virginia and the United States in preparation for this effort, the Study identifies a base network of highways within Hampton Roads that are anticipated to be part of the National Freight Network and evaluates the condition and performance of those same highways and determines freight bottlenecks and major trade gateways in order to strategically position the State and the region for future freight infrastructure funding initiatives.
6. In January 2010, the HRTPO initiated an effort to develop a regional high-speed and intercity passenger rail campaign and vision plan component for the HRTPO 2034 LRTP. Phase I of the consultant Study evaluated the potential for the development of high-speed passenger rail service from Norfolk to Richmond along the Norfolk Southern/Route 460 rail corridor and the enhancement of the existing intercity passenger rail service between Newport News and Richmond. This initial passenger rail planning effort has resulted in two reports -1) **Hampton Roads High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail Preliminary Vision Plan (Phase 1)**, approved in July 2010; and 2) **Hampton Roads Strategic Long-Term High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail Plan - Phase 1(B) Blueprint Study**, approved in January 2011. During FY 12, the HRTPO initiated the **Hampton Roads Passenger Rail Study - Data Collection: Phase 2A**, which was completed and approved in March 2013. Additionally, In March 2013, the HRTPO initiated the **Hampton Roads Passenger Rail Study: Phase 2B: Passenger Rail Alternatives Analysis Norfolk-Richmond Corridor**. The Phase 2B study tasks will assess two

additional passenger rail alternatives beyond the existing DRPT Amtrak service to Norfolk; higher speed (110 mph) operation and high speed (125 mph) operation. In March 2014, the Draft **Hampton Roads Passenger Rail Study: Phase 2B: Hampton Roads High Speed Passenger Rail Vision Plan Alternatives Analysis** was completed and is currently under review by the HRTPO Passenger Rail Task Force.

7. The **Hampton Roads Emergency Management Planning Program** has been in existence since 1997. It was recognized and approved by the localities to ensure that the cities, counties and the region were prepared to respond to and recover from major emergencies or disasters caused by terrorism, manmade, or natural events. The Regional Emergency Management Technical Advisory Committee (REMTAC) is composed of representatives from all 16 localities' emergency management personnel. The Committee and several subcommittees address topics of regional importance including but not limited to mitigation planning, debris removal, and ensuring inclusive planning for people with disabilities. The Program is annually funded by each of the local jurisdictions.
8. During FY 14, the HRPDC staff continued efforts to increase awareness and promote preparedness within the Hampton Roads area. The HRPDC staff is targeting outreach to those organizations that work directly with specific populations including senior groups, disability and aging commissions, and Mayors' taskforces. Additionally, the Regional Inclusive Emergency Planner is working with the Regional Catastrophic Planning Group and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) to include training and exercise of functional needs support services in sheltering operations.
9. The **Inclusive Emergency Planning Subcommittee** continues to enhance access and functional needs emergency planning on the local, regional, and state level. The Subcommittee's current strategic focus is on ensuring accessible public information, sheltering program accessibility and evacuation support. Additionally, the Regional Inclusive Emergency Planner has begun working with individual localities to provide guidance and assistance in meeting federal and State regulations regarding inclusive planning.
10. The annual **Regional Healthcare Organizations Emergency Preparedness Seminars** (HOEPS) program (<http://hoeps.org>) was developed and coordinated by the HRPDC staff, the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS), American Red Cross (ARC), and multiple other stakeholders in the healthcare profession. The focus of the seminars is to provide emergency preparedness information, education, and guidance to assisted living facilities and nursing homes.

11. The HRPDC continues to support **Regional Debris Management** and the effectiveness of the regional debris reduction and removal contracts. The 1998-2013 contracts were replaced after a new RFP was issued which simplified operations and included Automated Debris Management Systems. Additionally, Regional Debris Stakeholders expressed interest in regional debris monitoring contracts and this was accomplished. The new contracts for years 2013-2018 are in place and available at <http://debris.readyhr.org>.
12. The transition to branding all outreach and public education under the Ready Hampton Roads banner is complete. The HRPDC continues to manage readyhamptonroads.org and has added @ReadyHR on Twitter and ReadyHR on Facebook. In FY 13, the HRPDC staff continued to transition other related organizations and websites to the secure "Practitioner" portion of the website and further enhanced the regional calendar for improved meeting, training and exercise coordination.
13. Hurricane Evacuation Plans within the area continue to be addressed by REMTAC in cooperation with VDEM and Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). The Virginia Hurricane Evacuation Guide was updated to be inclusive of those with access and functional needs.
14. The HRPDC Emergency Management staff continues to expand support for **mitigation planning** throughout the region. In FY 13 the HRPDC staff was awarded grant funds to update Poquoson's Mitigation Plan. A consolidated Hampton Roads mitigation plan application was submitted to garner money for a planning effort that will culminate in an updated plan in 2016. Funds were received and the HRPDC staff is working with localities to complete the Plan.
15. The HRPDC continued its support of the Peninsula and Southside **Local Emergency Planning Commissions** (LEPCs) by providing assistance to develop, maintain, and update local and regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plans in accordance with the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III. Additionally, HRPDC staff provides website support (<http://plepc.org>) for the Peninsula LEPC.
16. In FY 13, the **Urban Area Work Group (UAWG)**, composed of representatives as identified by the Chief Administrative Officers (CAO's), continued to address topics of regional homeland security importance. The UAWG is the regional body that helps administer UASI program funds allocated annually by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). However, as Hampton Roads lost UASI funding eligibility status in FY 12, the UAWG, with staff support, has been exploring sustainment strategies for regional grant-funded capabilities and initiatives.

While the region was reinstated into the UASI program in federal fiscal year 14, the UAWG is still working to identify sustainment solutions for previous UASI initiatives. The HRPDC staff provides grants management for prior multimillion dollar UASI investments that will continue until the end of 2014.

17. The **Hampton Roads Metropolitan Medical Response System (HRMMRS)** has been ongoing since August 1999. The last funded grant for FY 11 is almost complete. Local jurisdiction funding is continuing, and is being used, to sustain this federal initiative to keep the plan, pharmaceutical, equipment, and responder training/exercises current.
18. **Regional Groundwater Management Program.** Through this Program, the HRPDC conducts technical analyses of the impacts of groundwater withdrawal and completes groundwater impact mitigation reports. The Mitigation Program primarily addresses impacts of municipal groundwater withdrawals on residential wells. The HRPDC collaborated with USGS on a Technical Report (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/1392/>) on land subsidence in the region. The Report summarized the available measurements and described the likely causes of land subsidence.
19. **Regional Wastewater Program.** During FY 14, the HRPDC managed the Regional Consolidation of Sewer System Assets Study on behalf of HRSD and the localities. The Study evaluated the benefits of consolidating the locality-owned portions of the sewer system with HRSD's portion. The Study recommendations led to an agreement in which HRSD will implement and finance a single Regional Wet Weather Management Plan. The plan will eliminate the need for thirteen localities to create plans and coordinate them with HRSD's plan.
20. During FY 06, the HRPDC facilitated an effort by the region's six largest communities to develop regionally consistent applications for renewal of their **Municipal Separate Stormwater System (MS4) permits** from the State. The permits and supporting MS4 Program Plans were submitted to the State and have been administratively continued since the spring of 2006. The HRPDC is preparing several components of the Annual Reports for these six localities.
21. The HRPDC continues to coordinate efforts by the region's six smaller localities, covered by Phase II of the **Stormwater Permitting Program** to comply with the State Stormwater Management Regulations and with their MS4 Permits. The Phase II Small MS4 Permit was revised and became effective on July 1, 2013. The HRPDC staff coordinated regional review of the permit revisions and participation on the Regulatory Advisory Panel. The HRPDC is preparing substantial portions of their Annual Reports.

23. **Water and Wastewater Utilities, Designing the Rate Structure of the Future.** The region's municipal water and wastewater utilities are facing unprecedented financial challenges. Pricing of water and wastewater services must evolve to provide for long-term financial stability, water conservation, and customer affordability. In September 2013, the HRPDC Directors of Utilities Committee, published a detailed Report that characterizes the factors contributing to utility revenue gaps and describes strategies being explored by municipal water and wastewater utilities at local and national levels.
23. **Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Summary and Interactive Map Viewer.** As part of the technical and planning support provided to local drinking water utilities, the HRPDC continues to monitor permitted groundwater withdrawals in the Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area, which is an important drinking water source for the Hampton Roads region. The 2013 summary indicates a total of 168 groundwater withdrawal permits on record for the allocation of approximately 150.4 million gallons per day (mgd) of groundwater from 8 source aquifers for public water supply, industrial, commercial, agricultural, landscape irrigation, and other uses. Web users can also view groundwater permit information through a GIS-based map viewer.
24. At the request of the CAOs of the Southside Hampton Roads localities, the HRPDC is facilitating a number of activities associated with **solid waste management** in these communities. In November 2008, a consultant Study to examine solid waste management options after 2018, when the localities' current contracts with the Southeastern Public Service Authority (SPSA) expire, was completed. Since completion of the 2018 study, the HRPDC staff and consultant continued intensive efforts to support the CAOs in evaluating options for solid waste management in the region after the existing locality-SPSA contracts expire. The HRPDC recently updated the **Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for Southeastern Virginia**. The HRPDC staff also completed the annual Recycling Rate Reporting to the State, on behalf of the Southside Hampton Roads localities. Based on the updated plan, the HRPDC, SPSA and the cities, counties and towns covered by the Plan requested the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to designate the HRPDC as the regional solid waste planning agency for the region.
25. Planning District Commissions (PDCs) are called to collect and maintain demographic, economic, and other data concerning the region and member localities, and act as a state data center affiliate in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission. The HRPDC staff produces the **Regional Benchmarking Study** on an annual basis, and provides a host of socioeconomic data through the Commission's website via the PDC's Data Center.

26. During FY 13, the HRPDC, with financial support from DEQ, completed the Coastal Resiliency Report which built upon the HRPDC's previous efforts to address the challenges of climate change and sea level rise by focusing on how research into the region's vulnerability to current and future coastal hazards can be incorporated into local and regional long-range plans.
27. The HRPDC staff continues in the development of a **Regional Housing Service Portal** www.hrhousingresources.org for the Hampton Roads Planning District service area. The HRPDC staff continues identifying these services and creating a web portal for consumers and housing providers to utilize. The purpose of this tool is to provide a "one-stop" shop environment for obtaining and accessing reliable and legitimate services for housing such as first-time homebuyer education and counseling; and foreclosure prevention.
28. The HRPDC continues to maintain the website and associated mapping to support the multi-state Southeast Coast Saltwater Paddling Trail. This project was a cooperative venture among the States of Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia and the National Park Service.

B. Identify and study opportunities for local cost savings and staff efficiencies through coordinated local efforts.

1. The HRPDC Economics staff operates various **economic modeling software**, most notably the Regional Economic Modeling Inc. (REMI) model, to assess the potential economic impact of a wide variety of proposed projects. Local governments, public and private agencies, and regional organizations routinely contact the HRPDC for assistance with impact studies. Having this impact analysis capability at the HRPDC represents a savings to area jurisdictions since they can turn to a regional resource for this ability as opposed to developing this expensive capability themselves.
2. Each January, the HRPDC Economics staff generates an **Annual Economic Forecast**. This detailed Forecast represents a savings to area jurisdictions in that local governments are provided with a resource that they might otherwise have to outsource.
3. The development of a region-wide Long Range Socioeconomic Forecast for each jurisdiction in Hampton Roads provides for a cohesive and uniform forecast to enable consistent planning for large infrastructure investments
4. The HRTPO continued to provide local jurisdictions with technical assistance on critical transportation issues. During FY 13, this technical assistance included providing transportation data and analysis to several localities.
5. Over the past several years, numerous cooperative approaches to the development of environmental education services have evolved. They include **HR WET** (water conservation), **HR STORM** (stormwater education),

HR CLEAN (litter control and recycling education), **HR FOG** (wastewater education) and water quality advertising (drinking water quality). These programs now operate under the umbrella brand of askHRgreen.org. This cooperative effort is funded by the localities and managed by the HRPDC with dedicated staff. Regional advertising is conducted through traditional and social media, reaching the entire Hampton Roads region with a common message. School activity booklets, keyed to the Standards of Learning, have and are being developed. Educational displays, both mobile (trailer) and static (table-top) have been developed and are used in a variety of venues. A mini-grant program for local schools and other youth organizations is operated. Program coordination and administration and staffing to carry out the programs, including development of informational materials, are provided by the HRPDC. The regional environmental education programs conducted through **askHRgreen.org** is continuously refined based on success and lessons learned across the region. This approach allows both economies of scale and consistent regional messaging on topics that are highly important, and in some case regulatory in nature, for local governments. Based on research findings, the various committees are compiling individual topical campaigns, as well as their unified message into one master marketing plan.

6. **Stormwater Program Effectiveness Project.** In 1997, the HRPDC completed a technical evaluation of the existing water quality monitoring program and developed a set of indicators of stormwater program effectiveness. Each locality's stormwater discharge permit since 2001 includes the effectiveness indicators as a major monitoring and reporting element. Reports are prepared annually by the HRPDC for each locality and the region. To facilitate tracking and reporting on stormwater permit requirements, the HRPDC has developed a web-based reporting system – Permit Administration and Reporting System (PARS). The localities have pooled their financial and technical resources to make these efforts as efficient as possible.
7. **Wastewater Program -** The HRPDC, in cooperation with the localities and HRSD, is pursuing several major wastewater initiatives. A web-based online reporting system (SSORS – Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reporting System) was fully implemented in the fall of 2004 and continues to be refined based on input from localities and state agencies. The web-based reporting system ensures greater consistency in data collection, enables localities to build a database to help them plan infrastructure improvements, and streamlines reporting. Localities have pooled their financial and technical resources to make these efforts as efficient as possible. During FY 14, the HRPDC managed the Regional Consolidation of Sewer System Assets Study on behalf of HRSD and the localities. The resulting MOA will eliminate the need for 13 localities to create plans and coordinate them with HRSD's plan. The consolidated approach is anticipated to save the region's ratepayers roughly \$1B.
8. **Groundwater Management Program.** The HRPDC employs staff expertise in groundwater management and analysis to support the region's 16 localities in analyzing the impacts of groundwater withdrawals for both public and private

water supply purposes. Without this regional capability, many of the localities would be required to employ their own groundwater modeling expertise at a significant cost.

9. **Chesapeake Bay Program.** Through various tasks, the HRPDC is participating actively in the Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) on behalf of the localities. Through monitoring CBP activities, the staff is able to represent the region's interests in the Bay Program, keep the localities apprised of Bay Program activities and facilitate local analysis of the CBP and the impact of its initiatives on the region's localities. The HRPDC continues to coordinate the Hampton Roads Watershed Roundtable in considering regional water quality and other environmental issues.
10. **Virginia Coastal Policy Clinic.** The HRPDC staff has worked with the Virginia Coastal Policy Clinic, part of the College of William and Mary Law School, to support legal analysis of environmental policies, regulations, and issues affecting Hampton Roads communities. The HRPDC staff has provided input and review on research and materials produced by the Clinic's students and fellows. Specific examples include providing comment on student papers on legal questions concerning potential local adaptation efforts related to recurrent flooding and sea level rise and working with a summer researcher on possible connections between the Community Rating System (part of the National Flood Insurance Program) and Virginia Stormwater Management Regulations.
11. **Legislative and Regulatory Involvement.** Through the HRPDC, the region's localities are active participants in the State and federal legislative and regulatory development processes. Through the aforementioned technical committees, proposed regulations are reviewed and consensus positions developed for consideration by the HRPDC. When State technical advisory committees are established to assist with development of the regulations, HRPDC staff frequently are asked to represent the region; in other cases, an individual local government staff person may serve on the State committee. In both cases, the appropriate HRPDC committee serves as the sounding board to review the regulation and provide input through the region's representative. Regional representatives serve on several State technical advisory committees dealing with coastal policy issues, stormwater management, groundwater management and nutrient trading.
12. **Regional Training Program.** The HRPDC continued to provide and coordinate training programs to support local implementation of state regulatory programs. These efforts involve pooling of local government financial resources and use of grant funds when available. Training efforts again this year focused largely on food service establishments and grease haulers. The regional training and certification program is now available online.

13. By coordinating the capabilities of both MMRS and UASI grant funds, the region has been able to better leverage these funds and cover more areas of response than if each grant had to use its funds independently. Examples also include equipping the region with better shelters by jointly procuring generators and portable Shelter Support Units.
14. HOEPS was jointly funded by MMRS and the HRPDC in the past to increase preparedness and resiliency in the healthcare community. Combining these with VDH Community Based Emergency Response Seminars (CBERS) will consolidate funding streams and reduce duplication of efforts.
15. Regional Debris Management efforts now include monitoring contracts as well as expanded pricing to include vehicle and boat removal and other lessons learned from Hurricane Sandy that impacted other areas.
16. The ultimate creation of the **Regional Housing Portal** (www.hrhousingresources.org) will support savings and staff efficiency by creating a centralized database for consumers as well as housing providers. A future goal of the project is to create a “No Wrong Door” approach as well as a “One Stop Shop” model addressing problems of service providers locating referrals for existing clients, programs receiving inappropriate referrals of clients that do not meet their program criteria, and simply being understaffed to address client needs.
17. At the request of the CAOs of the Southside Hampton Roads localities, the HRPDC is facilitating a number of activities associated with solid waste management in these communities. In November 2008, a consultant Study to examine solid waste management options after 2018, when the localities’ current contracts with SPSA expire, was completed. Since completion of the 2018 study, the HRPDC staff and consultant have continued intensive efforts to support the CAOs in their evaluations of several proposals under the PPEA to acquire some or all of SPSA’s assets. During FY 12, the localities requested the HRPDC to facilitate a renewed effort to address the post-2018 management of solid waste in the SPSA service area. This effort continued during FY 14.
18. The HRPDC completed **the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for Southeastern Virginia**, which was adopted by the HRPDC and the SPSA Board in September 2011. The Plan was accepted by the DEQ as meeting the State requirements for local and regional solid waste planning.
19. In 2010, the HRPDC assumed responsibility for the annual Recycling Rate Reporting to the State, on behalf of the Southside Hampton Roads localities.
20. The member localities frequently request the HRPDC staff to retain consultants to assist the localities in addressing critical regional issues. Ongoing efforts include solid waste management.

C. Identify mechanisms for coordinating local interests on a regional basis.

1. Local efforts with regard to transportation planning and programming are coordinated through the **Legislative Ad-Hoc Committee, the Passenger Rail Task Force, the TRAFFIX Oversight Committee, the EJ Roundtable, the LRTP Subcommittee, the Transportation Programming Subcommittee (TPS), the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC), the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), the Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee, (CTAC), the Freight Transportation Advisory Committee, (FTAC), and the HRTPO.**
2. **Regional Water Resources Program.** The Hampton Roads region is served by a complex system of water utilities owned and operated by the region's 16 member localities. While the region's water system is characterized by a multitude of contractual relationships and historically difficult inter-jurisdictional relations, a significant degree of cooperation now characterizes the system's management relations. The HRPDC staff and Directors of Utilities Committee completed the Regional Water Supply Plan to address the State's requirements for local water supply planning. Related water quality and utility infrastructure management issues are also addressed through this program.
3. **Regional Stormwater Management Program.** This program involves exchange of information among the localities on stormwater management issues, participation in State and federal regulatory processes and conducting technical studies. Funded by the localities, the HRPDC staff provides technical support and program administration and coordination for this Program. To facilitate compliance by all Hampton Roads localities with State stormwater management requirements, the local governments participating in the Regional Stormwater Management Program and the HRPDC signed a MOA. In addition, engineering consultants and legal counsel are retained through contracts funded by the localities and administered through the HRPDC.
4. The HRTPO staff continues to staff and coordinate all activities relating to the **Hampton Roads Transportation Operations Subcommittee (HRTO).**
5. The HRPDC continues to staff and coordinate the activities of the **Regional Construction Standards Committee (RCSC).** On behalf of the RCSC, comprised of representatives of the region's localities, major private utilities and the construction industry, the HRPDC continued to coordinate the development of regionally consistent standards, specifications and construction details for heavy utility construction.
6. The HRPDC continues to staff and coordinate emergency management planning and hurricane evacuation planning efforts for and on behalf of the Hampton Roads **REMTAC.**
7. The HRPDC staffs and supports the Hampton Roads UASI Grant Program for **UAWG.** The UASI program funds address the unique planning, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density Urban Areas, and

assists them in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism.

8. The HRPDC Emergency Management staff continues to maintain a relationship with the **Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (VMASC)** managed through the Office of Research at Old Dominion University. Through this multi-disciplinary modeling, simulation and visualization collaborative research center, the Emergency Management staff provides emergency management and homeland security subject matter expertise from a local and a regional perspective to the various Clusters (e.g., Transportation/Evacuation, and Homeland Security) in a collaborative effort for all-hazards planning.
9. Hampton Roads continues to participate in the **Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP)** that is intended to enhance regional catastrophic preparedness and continuity of operations efforts, with the aim of strengthening the Hampton Roads Region against risks associated with catastrophic events. The HRPDC Emergency Management staff supports this effort to ensure regional planning centers on the highest risks of the surrounding region, where its impact will have the most significant effect on the collective security and resiliency of the region.
10. The **Virginia Area Maritime Security Committee (AMSC)** continues to be supported by the Emergency Management staff as the Committee continues to develop a plan that provides an all-hazard operational framework and long-term preparedness program for facilitating the recovery of the U.S. Marine Transportation System (MTS) from either a natural, technological, or man-made disaster. A central component of this program is the pre-incident preparation of an MTS Unit (MTSU) by the Captain of the Port (COTP) in partnership with the AMSC, port stakeholders, local public safety officials (i.e., emergency management, fire and law enforcement agencies) and the establishment of an MTS Recovery Unit (MTSRU). The HRPDC provides emergency planning and exercise support for MTS recovery planning and preparation by serving as an advisory member to the director of the MTSRU, AMSC, and COTP.
11. The HRPDC Emergency Management staff continues to support the **Hampton Roads Interoperable Communications Advisory Committee (HRICAC)** and their task of ensure regional, interoperable, public safety communications.
12. The HRPDC continues to staff the **Hampton Roads Mayors and Chairs Caucus**. The Caucus is concentrating on regional issues and engaging the General Assembly on matters important to the region. The HRPDC also works with the area's Chambers of Commerce and regional community interest groups.
13. The **Hampton Roads CAO's** meet monthly to discuss the regional agenda. The HRPDC staffs and provides research and analysis to these efforts.
14. The HRPDC continues to staff and coordinate several regional environmental education programs:

- **HR WET** - water conservation plans and educational efforts, representing the 16 localities, HRPDC, HRSD and all military facilities in the region.
- **HR STORM** - regional stormwater management education program, representing the 16 localities, VDOT, HRSD and the HRPDC.
- **HR CLEAN** - regional educational program focusing on litter control and recycling. Participants include the sixteen localities, two Public Service Authorities, VDOT and the HRPDC.
- **HR FOG** – regional educational program focusing on proper management of fat, oil and grease in the wastewater system. Participants include the 16 localities, HRSD and the HRPDC.

These topical Subcommittees serve as Workgroups for **askHRgreen.org**. There is a cross-functional Executive Committee, which meets at least quarterly to ensure progress on joint educational efforts.

15. The HRPDC continues to staff and coordinate regional technical committees addressing major environmental issues. All involve the 16 localities and associated regional, state and federal agencies. They include:

- **Regional Stormwater Management Workgroup** - comprised of the 16 affected localities, HRSD, DEQ and DCR It provides for coordination of regional stormwater management studies, stormwater education programs, cooperative involvement in regulatory processes and exchange of information.
- **Directors of Utilities Committee** comprised of the sixteen localities and HRSD. It provides for exchange of information, coordination of regional water supply and wastewater related initiatives and development of regional positions. The Committee meets semiannually with the Directors of the region’s Local Health Departments and the **VDH Office of Water Programs** to address issues of common concern, ranging from water supply regulations, security issues, pandemic influenza planning, water-borne diseases, emergency response and water system operations.
- **Regional Environmental Committee**, consisting of the members of the Hampton Roads Chesapeake Bay Committee and Regional Stormwater Management Workgroup, five Soil and Water Conservation Districts, several state agencies and the U.S. Navy. It provides for exchange of information and integration of planning and stormwater management activities.
- The HRPDC staff chairs the Steering Committee for the **Elizabeth River Restoration Feasibility Study**. The Steering Committee is comprised of

representatives of the four Basin localities, State and federal agencies, academia, the private sector and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

- The **Regional Solid Waste Technical Committee** is composed of representatives of the eight Southside Hampton Roads localities that are members of the Southeastern Public Service Authority of Virginia (SPSA). Representatives include the Directors of Public Works or their designees for these eight localities. The Committee advises the HRPDC staff on the development and maintenance of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for Southeastern Virginia and the preparation of the annual Regional Recycling Rate Report, which is developed by the HRPDC staff and submitted to the Virginia DEQ on behalf of the eight localities. The Committee also provides technical support to the CAOs in their evaluation of post-2018 options for solid waste management in the SPSA service area.
16. The HRPDC staff coordinates legislative activities of the local governments with regular meetings of the local legislative liaisons and local elected officials to review and monitor activity of the General Assembly. When requested, special policy analyses and issue papers are developed for the leadership of Hampton Roads to pursue with the Hampton Roads legislative delegation. The HRTPO has established a legislative Subcommittee of Board members and senior staff to develop legislative recommendations for consideration by the HRTPO Board. Both the HRPDC and the HRTPO adopted Legislative Agendas in FY 14.
 17. The HRPDC staff Chairs the Steering Committee for the **Elizabeth River Restoration Feasibility Study**. The Steering Committee is comprised of representatives of the four Basin localities, state and federal agencies, academia, the private sector and the Corps of Engineers.
 18. The HRPDC has partnered with Old Dominion University and the Virginia Sea Grant Program to develop a Sea Level Adaptation Forum. The Forum is intended to provide a vehicle for bringing expertise from both within and outside the region to assist the localities in addressing climate change and sea level rise impacts.
 19. The HRPDC continues to facilitate and coordinate the **Hampton Roads Watershed Roundtable** in addressing a variety of watershed and other environmental issues. The Hampton Roads Roundtable includes a broad range of private interests as well as local governments.
 20. The HRPDC continues to staff and participate in the leadership of **the Hampton Roads Housing Consortium (HRHC)**. This regional organization provides a mechanism for networking, consensus building, education and project coordination for governmental, private and non-profit organizations interested in affordable housing issues. The HRPDC actively supported HRHC organizing efforts in 1995-96 and is represented on the HRHC's Board of Directors and Executive Committee. The HRPDC also provides ongoing

technical assistance and administrative support to the HRHC and assisted with the coordination of several trainings and seminars for regional housing providers.

21. The HRPDC staff facilitates periodic meetings of **Community Development Block Grant/HOME** coordinators for the eight Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) entitlement localities in Hampton Roads. These meetings act as a clearinghouse for issues of mutual interest and assist in the preparation of Consolidated Plans and annual Action Plans.
22. The HRPDC continues to support the **South Hampton Roads Disability Services Board (SHRDSB)**. This Committee works with local governments in the effort to improve service delivery, public awareness, as well as information and referral on issues that affect persons with physical and sensory disabilities. Due to State budget cuts, the Disability Services Board program was defunded as of May 31, 2008. While the actual program was discontinued, the SHRDSB has continued to be an active Committee. The group's goal is to enhance the communication between the local governments, local training organizations, the Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services system, and citizens with disabilities in order to facilitate preparation for employment and future hiring. The HRPDC staff continues to assist the group with strategic planning efforts and work plan development. Through these efforts, the SHRDSB changed its name to the **Hampton Roads Disability Board (HRDB)**. The newly reorganized Committee expanded its focus beyond persons with sensory and physical disabilities to include other forms of disabilities. This year, the HRDB board held several training sessions on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to local government, regional organizations, and non-profit agencies.
23. The HRPDC continues to serve as the fiscal agent and regional coordinator for MMRS.
24. The staff continues to work with the **Regional Housing Portal** (www.hrhousingresources.org) Committee of stakeholders that include State as well as local partners in an effort to develop and maintain a true regional vehicle to disseminate sound and accurate information on affordable housing services and programs in the region.

D. Implement services upon request of local governments.

To date, the HRPDC has not been requested by its local governments to implement services. However, the HRPDC has been requested to provide for the establishment and initial administrative support to a number of agencies created to implement services

In carrying out local requests to manage various operational programs, the HRPDC is, in fact, implementing certain programs:

1. The HRPDC continues to provide substantial research and analysis to member jurisdictions, regional organization, such as the Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance, the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce, the HRMMFA, and Opportunity Inc. Staff provides information and analysis on the Hampton Roads economy, job creation, transportation, and other critical aspects of community life. Additionally, HRPDC staff routinely serves as a technical resource on local and regional panels, advisory groups and boards.
2. While not implementation in the traditional sense, the environmental education program being managed through the HRPDC constitutes implementation. Through the **HR WET, HR STORM, HR CLEAN, and HR FOG** programs, the localities provide dedicated funding to the HRPDC to administer educational programs dealing with water conservation, stormwater management, litter control and recycling, and fat, oil and grease in the wastewater system, respectively. The HRPDC staff manages the annual program budgets, purchases supplies, develops and produces educational materials and conducts educational programs. **askHRGreen.org**, the umbrella for the regional environmental education committees, has become the overarching catalyst for regional environmental messages. The effort is web-based in the form of a content-rich website and highly informative blog. askHRgreen.org has become for some localities, their only environmental education effort, ensuring compliance with environmental regulations and other requirements for public information and education relative to environmental issues. The program is funded solely from local contributions.
3. The **H2O - Help to Others - Program** is funded by citizen donations and managed by the HRPDC. Operational activities are conducted by HRSD and the participating localities. The Program provides one-time financial assistance to individuals who are in danger of losing their water service due to inability to pay their bills as a result of catastrophic situations, such as illness, loss of job or death of a family member. The Program was incorporated as a 501(c) (3) nonprofit under state law in November 2007. The organizational meeting of the H2O Program as a nonprofit was held in March 2009. A MOA among the HRPDC, HRSD and the H2O Board to govern program operations was executed in July 2010. IRS approval of the H2O Program was received early in Calendar Year 2011. Several changes and enhancements are underway for donation collection as well as service delivery.
4. The **Hampton Roads Loan Fund Partnership (HRLFP)** was organized in 1996 to access low interest homeownership mortgages and down payment assistance offered through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development/Virginia Housing Development Authority (DHCD/VHDA) Single Family Regional Loan Fund initiative.

HRLFP participants include local governments, housing authorities, nonprofit housing organizations and private lenders. The HRPDC serves as Regional Administrator and fiscal agent for this program.

5. The HRPDC continues to administer the **Hampton Roads Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reporting System (SSORS)** on behalf of the region's localities, HRSD and DEQ. Based on this model, an electronic reporting system for the region's stormwater management programs, **PARS**, has been developed. The HRPDC is administering a contract with USGS and HRSD to create a regional water quality monitoring network for the stormwater system to estimate the nutrient loads for residential and commercial land uses.
6. The HRPDC Emergency Management staff administers and supports UASI and State Homeland Security Grant Programs with the UAWG at the request of the localities and or State.
7. The HRPDC contracted with a private company to procure and install **WebEOC®** for the localities' emergency operations centers (EOC) and maintains a contract for onsite technical support and sustainment. This web-based application allows emergency management and local elected officials to manage crisis via real-time information sharing during an event. Expanding the use of WebEOC® throughout Hampton Roads strengthens regional collaboration and provides for a common Crisis Management Information System for all EOCs.
8. The HRPDC and all 16 member localities support the operation of the **MMRS**, including the Program Manager and management of all program elements funded by the federal grants. The Program Manager and staff develop training modules, plan and assist in regional exercises, and research and obtain the best equipment to support the regional response efforts needed in mass casualty situations, resulting from acts of terrorism and man-made and natural disasters.
9. At the request of local government, **Regional Hazard Mitigation Planning** support was provided by the HRPDC Emergency Management staff for updating the Poquoson Hazard Mitigation Plan.
 - Researching and identifying mitigation projects and opportunities for funding
 - Strengthening local and regional hazard mitigation activities
 - Facilitating the implementation of regional and local goals and objectives
 - Facilitating and increasing public outreach and education
 - GIS analysis and mapping support

Hazard Mitigation is a new capability that the HRPDC has developed for continued support to all localities.

E. Provide technical assistance to local governments.

1. Throughout the fiscal year, the Chief Economist delivers presentations to the Commissioners of the HRPDC in order to keep them informed about the latest economic trends occurring in the region. The HRPDC economics staff continues to provide specialized assistance to local governments as needed, providing technical reports, economic impact analyses, responding to general information requests, and delivering quarterly economic updates on the regional economy.
2. The HRTPO continues to provide local jurisdictions with technical assistance on critical transportation issues.
3. The HRPDC assists member local governments as well as a number of volunteer organizations and private non-profit organizations in researching the availability of grant funds and developing the appropriate grant fund applications or proposals.
4. The HRPDC provides technical assistance to cities, counties and towns through its **local comprehensive planning program**, including development of draft plans, ordinances, etc. and analysis of the impacts of various development proposals. Representative of these efforts include assistance in research and analysis in the development of comprehensive plans and development ordinances; research on Best Management Practices and other engineering design approaches to addressing stormwater, water supply and groundwater management issues; and research on urban design and growth management issues. All of the above support local ordinance and guidance development.
5. During FY 14, the HRPDC staff pursued, under contract with the localities, a number of studies including:
 - **Franklin Comprehensive Plan.**
 - **Town of Windsor Comprehensive Plan**
6. **Annual Stormwater, Water, and Wastewater Program Surveys.** As part of the technical and planning support provided to local stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater utilities, the HRPDC continues to conduct annual data calls for each sector. The **Stormwater Program Matrix** summarizes all current-year stormwater utility information for localities with MS4 programs. The **Water and Sewer Rates Summary** provides current-year and historic information on rates and connection fees, water sales, and water use. The **Water Quality Response Plan Emergency Contact List**, part of a regional emergency management process, provides contacts for Hampton Roads water utilities, local health districts, and VDH in the event of a waterborne public health threat.

7. During FY 14, the HRPDC prepared a variety of maps depicting census and environmental data at the request of local governments and private nonprofit organizations. Maps to support local land acquisition activities were also prepared based on local requests.
8. **Regional Environmental Organizations.** The HRPDC staff continues to work with the Elizabeth River Project, Lynnhaven River Now, Hoffer Creek Wildlife Foundation, a new North Landing River Watershed Organization and Back Bay Restoration Foundation.
9. The HRPDC provides **graphic services** to small communities and various private, nonprofit organizations, serving the region's localities. The HRPDC manages its Board Room and related facilities to serve the region's localities and regional agencies. Examples include:
 - Design and print Resolutions of Appreciation and Certificates.
 - Design and layout for informational and promotional brochures and booklets.
 - Design and layout of business cards.
 - Design logos and seals for private, nonprofit organizations.
 - Design and print letterhead and envelopes.
 - Other technical assistance on printing and reprographic services.
 - Manage meeting and conference facilities.
10. Throughout the year, the staff provides briefings to various civic, business, governmental, professional and environmental groups on regional issues, including the state of the economy, transportation issues and projects, emergency management and homeland security issues and environmental issues and programs.
11. The HRPDC continues to collect and disseminate regional housing statistics and information, such as census data, foreclosure statistics and local housing information, regarding housing issues to local governments and nonprofit housing organizations.
12. The HRPDC staff manages the **Hampton Roads Mayors and Chairs Caucus** and the **Hampton Roads CAO's** process.

F. Serve as liaison between local governments and state agencies as requested.

1. Work with **VDEM**, local jurisdictions, Hampton Roads MMRS, UASI, and the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) to develop a coordinated prevention, preparedness, response and recovery strategy for natural and man-made disasters and emergencies, including terrorism attacks. Funding also being provided through DHHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparation & Response (ASPR) grants to expand the medical response efforts to mass casualty incidents and other threats that could rapidly overwhelm public health and healthcare systems. This unified regional approach to coordination and collaboration in Hampton Roads creates a safe

and secure environment for the citizens of our region and greatly increases the effectiveness of local, state and federal funding in these areas.

2. Collaborate with the **Eastern Virginia Healthcare Coalition (EVHC)** to develop and promote emergency preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery capabilities of regional healthcare entities by strengthening community medical resiliency, surge capacity and capabilities, building relationships and partnerships, and developing emergency preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery capability guidelines. EVHC was developed from the Healthcare Committee of the HRMMRS, a program started and funded by the RHPDC with support from the DHS Homeland Security Grant Program. The EVHC is a regional initiative of the DHHS ASPR Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) and the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Cooperative Agreement administered through **VDH** to prepare governmental jurisdictions, communities, health and emergency response systems, and other Emergency Support Function (ESF) #8 partners to prevent, protect against, respond to, mitigate, and rapidly recover from threats to our healthcare system and public health infrastructure.
3. Five of the six Homeland Security programs are now being funded with federal pass-through dollars through VDEM to the local jurisdictions. The sixth, the HRMMRS, is further being passed from VDEM through to the localities. The HRMMRS has been active in this area since 1999 and has representatives from VDEM, VDH and EVHC on the HRMMRS Oversight Committee
4. The HRPDC Emergency Management staff work with VDEM, local jurisdictions, HRMMRS, the **Governor's Office of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security**, UAWG, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the DHS to coordinate efforts in holistic Emergency Management and Homeland Security initiatives. This collaborative effort has resulted in local, state and federal funding being used to a much greater effect to maximize the resources, capabilities and opportunities to better prepare Hampton Roads for a disaster.
5. The HRPDC staff is the grant and program administrator for the Hampton Roads UASI and several **State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)** initiatives. The UASI and SHSGP funds are distributed DHS to VDEM. VDEM is the State Administering Agent (SAA) for the Commonwealth. Once VDEM receives the funds, they are passed through to the HRPDC. The HRPDC staff then administers the funds to implement the programs.
6. HRPDC Emergency Management staff members continue to serve on a number of local, regional, state, and federal advisory homeland security, emergency preparedness, and planning committees where collaboration and knowledge gained from this participation can be extremely beneficial to local communities.

7. The HRPDC serves as a partner with the **U.S. Census Bureau** in addressing issues of regional significance that are related to the 2010 Census Count.
8. The HRPDC and HRTPO are working with the **Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation and Research** and **VDOT** to evaluate a technical manual developed by the Federal Highway Administration for determining impacts and associated mitigation of sea level rise on transportation facilities.
9. During FY 2014, the HRPDC continued coordinating participation by the Hampton Roads localities in a study of Working Waterfronts. This study is being conducted by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in cooperation with the Hampton Roads, Middle Peninsula and Accomack-Northampton PDCs. Funded through the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program, this project addresses one of the high priorities identified in the State's Coastal Zone Enhancement Strategy.
10. The HRPDC and HRTPO staff members continue to serve on a number of **State advisory committees** where knowledge gained from this participation can be extremely beneficial to local communities.
 - Chesapeake Bay Program Urban Stormwater Work Group
 - Chesapeake Bay Program Land Use Work Group
 - Chesapeake Bay Program Water Quality Goal Team
 - Virginia Water Resources Research Center Statewide Advisory Board
 - Member, Board of Directors, South Hampton Roads Resource Conservation and Development Council
 - Transportation Planning Research Advisory Committee (TAPRAC)
 - Virginia Association of MPOs (VAMPO)
 - State Operations Research Advisory Committee (SORAC)
 - DMV Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (TRCC)
 - Virginia Freight Transportation Technical Committee
 - Transportation Research Board (TRB) Multimodal Statewide Planning Committee
 - TRB Military Committee
 - Hampton University Eastern Seaboard Intermodal Transportation Applications Center Research Selection Committee
 - Virginia Watershed Alliance, Steering Committee
 - Virginia Association of Housing Counselors, Certification Committee
 - DEQ, Regulatory Advisory Panel on Nutrient Trading
 - DEQ, Construction General Permit Regulatory Advisory Panel
 - DEQ, Stormwater BMP Clearinghouse Committee
 - DCR, Stormwater Management Regulations Regulatory Advisory Panel
 - DEQ, Stormwater Local Government Advisory Committee
 - DEQ, Coastal Policy Team

- DEQ, Coastal PDC Committee
- VAPDC, Committees on Communications, Environment, GIS/Technology and Transportation
- Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) Senior Housing Council
- Virginia Housing Coalition
- Virginia Hurricane Evacuation Preparedness Committee
- Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA)/Virginia Housing Search – Stakeholder Steering Committee
- BOEMR, Offshore Wind Task Force
- North Carolina, Albemarle-Pamlico Estuarine Study Policy Committee
- Secretary of Natural Resources, Stakeholder Advisory Group for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL and WIP
- Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Recurrent Flooding Study Stakeholder Advisory Group – Core Group
- Keep Virginia Beautiful
- Virginia Homeland Security Working Group

G. Review local government aid applications.

The HRPDC staff regularly reviews environmental impact assessments, environmental impact statements, and federal consistency determinations on State and federal projects and coordinates with local staff to address any issues a locality may have with a particular project. During FY 14, the HRPDC staff reviewed approximately 21 PNRS items and approximately 58 environmental impact reviews and federal consistency determinations.

H. Develop regional functional plans upon request.

1. The Hampton Roads region is served by several public transportation providers. Two of the largest of these providers are the **Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads (HRT)** and **Williamsburg Area Transit Authority (WATA)**. Each of these agencies develops regional functional plans. The HRTPO staff coordinates activities being undertaken by them with other ongoing planning activities to ensure compatibility and continuity.
2. There are a significant number of regional service agencies that have been created to implement regional plans, such as HRMFFA
3. HRSD is a public utility created to provide regional wastewater treatment. The HRPDC staff works closely with HRSD staff to ensure its plans are coordinated with other ongoing regional efforts. During FY 2014, the HRPDC completed a consultant study, on behalf of HRSD and the region’s localities, to evaluate the potential regionalization of sewer system assets throughout the HRSD service area.

4. Historical regional planning efforts have led to the creation of the **SPSA and Virginia Peninsula Public Service Authority (VPPSA)** to handle solid waste disposal and management and recycling on a regional basis. The HRPDC staff continues to work with staff from the two authorities to coordinate regional infrastructure and service provision, including public information, education programs and debris management. At the request of the CAOs from eight of the Southside localities, the HRPDC facilitated an examination of solid waste management needs and implementation options for the period after 2018, when the current contracts between the localities and SPSA expire. This work was completed in November 2008. Since that time, the HRPDC and its consultant have continued to support the eight localities in evaluating various options associated with the sale of SPSA's assets through a PPEA. During FY 10, the HRPDC was requested by the CAOs to complete the 2010 Update to the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan and to facilitate development of a transition plan between 2010 and 2018, when the current SPSA-local government contracts expire.
5. Inmate Evacuation Planning continues at the request of the **Hampton Roads Inmate Evacuation Planning Committee (HRIECP)**. In FY 2013 HRPDC staff, utilizing federal fiscal year 10 UASI funds facilitated a series of jail exercises. The HRPDC Staff was also requested by the Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail (VPRJ) for GIS mapping assistance for employee recall and other purposes. HRPDC Staff, working with ESI, took the opportunity and developed a tailored WebEOC solution on the Regional WebEOC server to allow VPRJ to actively update and produce their own recall maps and utilize other available functions to improve their plans and operational capabilities.

I. Assist State agencies, upon request, in developing Sub-State plans.

1. The HRTPO staff continues to assist in coordinating the activities of the **Hampton Roads Transportation Operations Subcommittee (HRTO)** of the TTAC by providing technical and administrative assistance to the HRTO as it works toward a collaborative to develop operational and management strategies to improve the performance of existing transportation facilities to relieve vehicular congestion and maximize the safety of people and goods.
2. HRTPO staff continues to participate in the review of proposals **for Hampton Roads Public-Private Partnership pipeline projects.**
3. The HRTPO continues to support VDOT in the update of **VTRANS 2035 and the development of VTRANS 2040.**
4. The HRPDC continues working closely with the localities through REMTAC, the Hampton Roads Emergency Management Committee, and the emergency management community in the area of emergency management planning and coordination. This effort involves close work with VDEM, VDOT, and other organizations within the region to refine hurricane evacuation plans and contingencies for coastal Virginia.

5. Through a comprehensive effort begun in FY 00 by **DEQ, USGS, and HRPDC**, the Virginia Coastal Plain Model was developed and completed during FY 10. DEQ has begun using the model to evaluate the new and existing groundwater withdrawal permits. The HRPDC has served as a liaison to share DEQ's concerns with declining groundwater levels and localities' concerns about impacts to their permits. The HRPDC has also supported the DEQ study of the economic impacts of changing existing groundwater permit conditions by providing data and contacts to the Virginia Tech/Abt Assoc team.
6. The staff continues to participate in the ongoing refinement of the **Virginia Coastal Program**. During FY 14, this included extensive participation in studies related to working waterfronts, climate change, and water quality issues associated with land use and development.
7. The HRPDC continues to provide extensive input to the discussions of state agencies and others on improving the State's Stormwater Management Programs through membership on state advisory committees and positions adopted by the HRPDC. During FY 14, regional efforts continued to focus on the development of the implementing regulations, implementation of the **State BMP Clearinghouse**, implementation of the **MS4 Permits** for the twelve permitted localities and improvements to the regional reporting system.
8. The region maintains an active involvement in state and federal regulatory initiatives. During FY 14, these efforts focused on the State Stormwater Management Regulations and the Chesapeake Bay TMDL and WIP.

J. Participate in Statewide Geographic Information System.

1. The HRPDC continues to maintain and update enhanced coverage for each of its jurisdictions as a part of the development of a GIS platform for Hampton Roads. In concert with the ongoing development of the regional GIS, the HRPDC continues to enhance the organization and content of the regional transportation database, including demographics and economic data, traffic counts for the region's roadway network and other transportation related information.
2. The HRPDC continues to update regional GIS coverage and local area maps, conduct comprehensive planning analyses using GIS technology and participate in staff training in GIS applications. This ongoing effort enhances the region's ability to contribute to the Statewide GIS.
3. The HRPDC plays an active role in the **Hampton Roads GIS Users Group** and the **VAPDC GIS/Technology Committee**.

4. Through the **VAPDC Environmental Committee** and the **DEQ Coastal Policy Team**, staff continues to work toward the maintenance of a State environmental GIS. Through a number of projects funded by the Coastal Program and being conducted by DCR, DEQ, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF), VIMS, and the eight Coastal PDCs progress continues to be made.
5. The HRPDC continues its efforts to develop readily accessible and comprehensive environmental information on environmental conditions and permit issues for the Hampton Roads region.
6. Extensive use of GIS technology and analysis is being made by the HRPDC staff to support ongoing local comprehensive planning efforts and similar studies and local implementation efforts.

K. Serve as an affiliate of the State data center and collect and maintain demographic, economic, and related data for the region and member governments.

1. The HRPDC maintains a computerized database covering economic and demographic data for member localities and the region. This database contains information as reported on a monthly, quarterly, and annual basis. In addition to contributing to a regional economic and demographic analysis, this data is used for regional business cycle tracking. The Economics Department also publishes the **Hampton Roads Regional Benchmarking Study**, which includes descriptions, data tables, and graphic illustrations of 100+ regional indicators, providing a comprehensive review of the quality of life in Hampton Roads. In addition to the indices, the benchmarking study also outlines significant changes to, or impacts on, the regional economy. Both documents are available on the HRPDC website.
2. The HRPDC maintains an **historic file of aerial photographs** of the region, dating to the 1960s. The most recent update of aerial photographic coverage for the Hampton Roads region was completed in June 2000. These photos are intensively used by consultants conducting environmental assessments to support financing of business transactions, property transfers and forestry studies. During FY 04, the HRPDC acquired the **Digital Orthphotoquad** coverage for Hampton Roads from the Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN). HRPDC staff is using this information to support local planning and environmental assessment work.
3. The HRPDC maintains **comprehensive environmental information** on a variety of environmental characteristics for the region. GIS data layers are developed through ongoing studies and will be incorporated into a comprehensive database as those studies are completed.

Element #3: Highlight successes and achievements of special note with regional efforts in cooperation.

Highlight #1:

On March 8, 2014, the General Assembly passed legislation included in HB1253 and SB513 that created the Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC). In accordance with the new legislation, the monies deposited in the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund (HRTF) created in 2013 by HB2313, shall be used solely for new construction projects on new or existing highway, bridges, and tunnels as approved by HRTAC. The legislation also states that the HRTPO and VDOT staff shall work cooperatively to assist the proper formation and effective organization of HRTAC, and that until such time as HRTAC is fully established and functioning, the staff of the HRTPO shall serve as its staff and provide administrative support. During FY 14, the HRTPO has worked closely with VDOT and the Secretary of Transportation to lay the groundwork for the establishment of HRTAC beginning July 1, 2014.

Highlight #2:

The HRPDC has successfully completed the Envision Hampton Roads Regional Values and Aspirations Report. This Report marks the completion of the first step of the Envision Hampton Roads seven step process and outlines our regions values, aspirations, and expectations of our leaders.

As a region we value the following:

- What and who we are.
- Comfortable place to live; strong communities.
- Diversity of people.
- Diversity of landscape and localities.
- Water & natural environment.
- The Military.
- The Region's History.

As a region we aspire to:

- Work to make the region better.
- Be bold and forward-thinking.
- Be proactive in addressing challenges and opportunities.
- Show greater willingness to embrace change.
- Think more regionally.
- Be conscientious stewards of the region's natural assets.

As a region we want our leaders to:

- Address the region's transportation challenges.
- Create the very best public education resources.
- Bring jobs to the region...creative economy.
- Replace brain "drain" with brain "gain."

Highlight #3:

During FY 12, HRSD and the localities began considering regional consolidation of sewer system assets as a potentially cost-effective strategy to comply with the Consent Decree and Order. This consolidation study was conducted in FY 13 and led to a MOA in FY 14 that supported a consolidated Regional Wet Weather Management Plan that is anticipated to save ratepayers \$1B.

Highlight #4:

In September 2011, the HRTPO released phase 1 of the **Hampton Roads Military Transportation Needs Study**, entitled **Highway Network Analysis**, a study to determine military transportation needs and to provide an efficient and safe environment for the military in Hampton Roads. During FY 2013, the HRTPO released the **Military Commuter Survey** as phase 2 of the **Hampton Roads Military Transportation Needs Study**. The Military Commuter Survey was developed by HRTPO staff in coordination with local, U.S. Armed Forces, local government, the Port of Virginia, HRT, and VDOT, and the purpose of the survey was to determine the transportation challenges facing local military personnel during their daily commutes in Hampton Roads. During FY 14, the HRTPO released the Hampton Roads **Military Transportation Needs Study – Roadways Serving the Military and Sea Level Rise/Storm Surge** which builds primarily on the Military Commuter Survey released in 2012 by estimating the sea level rise and potential storm surge threats to the “Roadways Serving the Military” network established in the Highway Network Analysis report released in 2011.

Highlight #5:

The State of Transportation in Hampton Roads 2014, released in June 2014, is a product of CMP, an on-going process that identifies, develops, evaluates, and implements transportation strategies to enhance mobility region wide. The State of Transportation Report 2014 details the current status of all facets of the transportation system in Hampton Roads, including air, rail, water, and highways. Many aspects of the highway system are highlighted, including roadway usage, pavement condition, bridge conditions, costs of congestion, commuting characteristics, roadway safety, truck data, transit usage, active transportation (which includes biking and walking), highway funding, and operations.

Highlight #6:

The HRTPO is currently in the process of developing the 2040 LRTP. As part of this process, the HRTPO staff must examine how the region may develop over the next twenty years based upon projected population and employment growth. During FY 14, HRTPO staff developed socioeconomic control totals for each locality in the region, which were then allocated to TAZ's. This data, released in October 2013, in the report **Hampton Roads 2040 Socioeconomic Forecast and TAZ Allocation**, will be used in the region's travel demand model in the development of the 2040 LRTP. Additionally, during FY 14, the HRTPO developed a list of more than 200 candidate projects to be considered for inclusion in the 2040 LRTP.

The list was approved by the HRTPO in June 2014 and was developed using the 2034 LRTP projects as a base, and then expanded to include public input reached via the 2040 LRTP Visioning Survey and locality input received through work with the LRTP Subcommittee.

Highlight #7:

The HRTPO began a series of regional freight studies in the 1990s, and released the region's first report in 1996. The Regional Freight Program is an ongoing process that identifies, develops, evaluates, and implements transportation strategies to improve the movement of goods and enhance connectivity among all modes of transportation. In March 2014, the HRTPO released **Positioning Hampton Roads for Freight Infrastructure Funding: MAP-21 and Beyond**. MAP-21, considered the precursor to the next federal authorization starting FY 15, possesses a new strong freight emphasis where states, MPOs, and other stakeholders will all have a role. States and MPOs that are organized, with data and analysis, will be in a better position to benefit from the next authorization. At the present time, final designation of the National Freight Network has not been established. In order to assist the State of Virginia and the United States in preparation for this effort, the study identifies a base network of highways within Hampton Roads that are anticipated to be part of the National Freight Network and evaluates the condition and performance of those same highways and determines freight bottlenecks and major trade gateways in order to strategically position the State and the Hampton Roads region for future freight infrastructure funding initiatives.

Highlight #8:

During FY 14, the HRTPO prepared several studies regarding management of the Hampton Roads transportation infrastructure. **Regional Procedures for Planned Closures at River Crossings**, released in January 2014, was prepared in response to several recent closing of multiple river crossings resulting in significant delays at remaining crossings, and in light of the fact that five different organizations operate 15 river crossings. **Prioritizing Highway Projects for Improvement of Hurricane Evacuation**, released in March 2014, records analysis undertaken by the HRTPO staff to identify and prioritize, according to cost effectiveness, highway projects designed to improve hurricane evacuation in Hampton Roads. **Pavement Performance Measurement in Hampton Roads**, prepared for release in July 2014, presents, analyzes, and summarized publically available pavement data for Hampton Roads in order to determine the condition and smoothness of the region's pavements.

Highlight #9:

In preparation for the annual Virginia General Assembly session, the HRTPO Board develops annually a set of legislative priorities for the General Assembly to review, consider and ultimately approve. For the 2014 General Assembly session, the HRTPO Board adopted a resolution on November 21, 2013 containing nine legislative recommendations which were transmitted to local governments and the Hampton Roads Delegation to the General Assembly. The priorities listed in the legislative agenda were developed by the HRTPO Legislative AD-hoc Committee and are consistent with the region's transportation planning and programming priorities, and were prepared in

collaboration with locally elected officials, representatives from the regional transit authorities, General Assembly, and Commonwealth Transportation Board, as well as from state agencies such as the VDOT, Department of Rail and Public Transportation, Virginia Port Authority and Virginia Department of Aviation, and federal agencies such as the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and Federal Aviation Administration.

Highlight #10:

The HRPDC Emergency Management staff, as part of REMTAC, continued its work with Subcommittees including: **Inclusion Emergency Planning, Debris Management, HOEPS,** and Hazard Mitigation.

Highlight #11:

The HRPDC Emergency Management staff, in conjunction with a planning committee and support from local emergency managers (members of REMTAC), planned and executed **the annual Healthcare Organization Emergency Preparedness Seminars** (<http://hoeps.org>) **for assisted living facilities, nursing homes, and group homes on the Peninsula and South Hampton Roads.** The seminar in FY 14 was focused on helping these organizations improve facility disaster planning for no notice events.

Highlight #12:

The HRPDC Emergency Management staff continued support of the **Hampton Roads Interoperability Communications Advisory Committee (HRICAC)** to facilitate collaboration between emergency management and communications officials. Also, the staff facilitated the grant application that obtained funding for an augmentation and equipment refresh of the HRTacRAN, in collaboration with the HRICAC, to harden the HRTacRAN microwave ring built by the initial \$6 million grant from DHS (2003-2006) to support emergency communication needs for local jurisdictions in the region. The HRPDC will provide administrative and fiduciary support to HRICAC for the HRTacRAN HR Emergency Communications Plan

Highlight #13:

In FY 07, the HRPDC began facilitating the **UASI Program** for the region. The UASI Program funds address the unique planning, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density Urban Areas, and assist them in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism. The funding has a direct impact on State, regional, and local preparedness for a range of threats facing our Nation's communities. Hampton Roads has been allocated funding in the amount of \$7.76 million for FY 08, \$7.3 million for FY 09, \$7.3 million for FY 10, \$5.1 million for FY 11, and \$1 million for FY 14. The HRPDC will continue to administer the grant and provide program management open grant cycles.

Highlight #14:

The HRPDC staff continues to participate in the **Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP)** initiative provided to Hampton Roads by DHS in FY 08-. With this funding, difficult projects (Mass Care and Sheltering; Evacuation and Transportation; and Commodities, Resources and Volunteer Management) continue to be addressed by consultants hired by VDEM.

Highlight #15:

Based on the region-wide success of the **Hampton Roads MMRS** Program in contributing to the cooperative training and exercise efforts of the program, all Hampton Roads jurisdictions continue to fund the Sustainment budget based on population, which funds the operational arm of the program at \$335,886 annually, as well as ensuring that the federal deliverables are being met. A total of \$13,288,091 in federal dollars has been awarded between the fall of 1999 and the summer of 2012.

Highlight #16:

The Region supported the final Stormwater Management Regulations that established a Statewide phosphorus standard for post-construction stormwater runoff. The regulations were approved by the Soil and Water Conservation Board in May 2011, and were implemented by localities by July 1, 2014. The HRPDC staff represented the region on the Stormwater Local Government Advisory Committee, Stormwater BMP Clearinghouse, and the Advisory Panel to create guidance for developing Action Plans to meet TMDL requirements. The HRPDC staff identified local concerns about the transition to the new regulations to DEQ and in FY 14 set up multiple meetings to resolve problems. The HRPDC staff volunteered to Co-Chair the Chesapeake Bay Program's Land Use Workgroup to promote better integration of local land use and land cover data into the Bay Program's model. The HRPDC staff also served on Chesapeake Bay expert panels and tracked Bay Program policy decisions that impact local government options for compliance with the Bay TMDL.

Highlight #17:

The 16 localities of Hampton Roads address a variety of regional environmental issues through the **HRPDC's comprehensive environmental education program**. Beginning in 1994 with the establishment of HR WET, the regional water conservation education program, the program has been continually refined and expanded. In FY 99, a regional stormwater management education program, HR STORM, was established. In FY 01, the regional environmental education effort was again expanded to include a litter control and recycling program, HR CLEAN. In FY 04, the HRPDC Directors of Utilities Committee recommended the development of a new educational program addressing fat, oil and grease (FOG) in the wastewater system. For each program element, the localities provide dedicated funding to support the development of regionally consistent messages which are conveyed to the public through advertising in the various public media, development of publications, acquisition of promotional items, development of educational curricula and coordination of local efforts. To further enhance program effectiveness, the program advisory committees have implemented approaches to integration of common program

elements. Cost-efficiencies are realized through sharing of specialized staff capability at the HRPDC, joint development of media campaigns, joint advertising in the Hurricane Guide produced by one of the region's major television stations, joint development and purchasing of educational and promotional materials. The latter included a Newspaper in Education initiative in cooperation with the region's two major daily newspapers, which was reprinted during FY 09 and distributed in FY 11. The environmental education programs are making extensive use of social media in their efforts to educate the region's citizens about the various environmental issues and solutions. Beginning in FY 10, the programs have undertaken a comprehensive initiative to integrate and rebrand the region's environmental education as askHRgreen.org to further enhance their effectiveness. Work continues on these efforts to more fully integrate comprehensive regional environmental education messages.

Highlight #18:

The HRPDC took the lead in organizing the **HRLFP**, one of 14 regional partnerships participating in the DHCD/VHDA Single Family Regional Loan Fund initiative. The HRPDC continues to act as Regional Administrator and fiscal agent for the HRLFP. The HRLFP is the first regional service delivery organization of its kind in Hampton Roads and serves as a model for future initiatives in regional cooperation. Since its establishment in 1997, the program has enabled more than \$44.5 million in VHDA low interest first mortgages and approximately \$7.0 million in DHCD down payment and closing cost assistance. The program has also leveraged more than \$17.3 million in other loan and grant funds including Federal Home Loan Bank funding, local land grant programs and Individual Development Account (IDA) programs. As a result of this program, over 661 low income households have been able to purchase their first homes.

Highlight #19:

In FY 14, the HRPDC continued to support the **Virginia Association of Housing Counselors (VAHC)**, a Statewide Organization consisting of Housing Counselors or those in related fields, who have joined together for the purpose of strengthening housing counseling as a profession and to assure that all low and moderate income families and individuals are offered the opportunity to live in safe, decent and affordable housing. The HRPDC staff supported VAHC's efforts by serving on several committees, providing workshops and trainings, and creating materials and course criteria for the organization's training and certification modules.

Highlight #20:

During FY 14 the HRPDC staff worked with the City of Virginia Beach on a grant project from the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program. The goal of this project was to develop a plan for Virginia Beach to begin updating its policies and programs to better adapt to sea level rise and recurrent flooding. By doing so, the plan would also serve as a model for other communities in Hampton Roads and the Commonwealth and enable the HRPDC staff to continue refining policy recommendations and analysis techniques for future efforts.

