

ATTACHMENT 1A
THE DRAFT SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE
HAMPTON ROADS CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMITTEE, THE
REGIONAL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE
CHESAPEAKE BAY IMPLEMENTATION SUBCOMMITTEE
April 4, 2013

1. Summary of the March 7, 2013 Meeting of the Hampton Roads Chesapeake Bay and Regional Stormwater Management Committees and Chesapeake Bay Implementation Subcommittee

Chesapeake staff requested a change to the city's status report at the March meeting. The City is not hosting a plan reviewer class; staff was only gauging interest. The Summary of the March 7, 2013 Meeting of the Hampton Roads Chesapeake Bay and Regional Stormwater Management Committees and Chesapeake Bay Implementation Subcommittee was approved as modified.

2. askHRgreen.org Update

The update on askHRgreen.org was postponed until the May meeting.

3. Coastal Resilience Final Report

Mr. Ben McFarlane, HRPDC, led a discussion on the Coastal Resilience Final Report and project. The Committee made several suggestions:

- 1) Look into DCR's arrangement with North Carolina for the hosting of Sea Level Rise GIS layers
- 2) Develop informational material for the public
- 3) Evaluate infrastructure such as pump stations and outfalls
- 4) Incorporate life expectancy of infrastructure into analysis

The Committee also suggested that the work needs to include a good explanation of risk and uncertainty.

4. Hampton Comprehensive Waterways Management Plan Presentation

Ms. Gayle Hicks and Ms. Sabrina Carr, Hampton, gave a presentation to the Committee on Hampton's Comprehensive Waterways Management Plan. The plan was the result of a citizen-driven process to address many of the city's water-related issues, including flooding, dredging, and water quality. The organization included a steering committee composed of citizens appointed by council, with subcommittees composed of steering committee members and citizen volunteers. Ms. Hicks and Ms. Carr discussed the process, lessons learned, educational topics covered, and results. Some of the lessons learned included:

- 1) Clearly defined roles are needed.
- 2) Having a 3rd party facilitator is very helpful.

- 3) It is difficult finding the balance between technical expertise and citizen experience, but including both is vital.
- 4) Need to coordinate consultants with city staff.
- 5) It is difficult to get the time and commitment needed from everyone to do the work.
- 6) Giving everyone a baseline of knowledge through educational presentations at the beginning is important.

The research collected during this process is documented in an appendix to the plan. The strategies identified in the plan are now being used to identify and select projects. Some of these projects include a stormwater utility study, Hampton 101 (a special flooding workshop), construction of a breakwater at Buckroe Beach, and dredging at Salt Ponds Inlet.

Mr. Bill Johnston, Virginia Beach, asked if the beach nourishment projects were “haul and dump” projects. Ms. Hicks stated that they were, since hydraulic dredging was not cost-effective.

Ms. Fran Geissler, James City, asked what the next steps were for the citizen committee. There will be monthly updates to the steering committee, but there has been no decision on how or whether to use the subcommittees for other projects. Ms. Geissler noted that the steering committee seemed similar to James City County’s citizen stormwater committee.

Ms. Shereen Hughes, Wetlands Watch, asked about relating the city plan to other efforts, such as Hampton University’s waterfront plan or plans for Fort Monroe. Ms. Hicks indicated that there was no connection.

The Committee asked if there were any surprises the city staff found during the process. Ms. Hicks stated there were several, including:

- Someone was concerned about hazardous materials in waterways
- Someone was interested in floating homes
- Some ideas weren’t supported by the subcommittees, so did not make it very far in the process
- Some citizens wanted some of the recommendations removed from the plan, but the city manager refused.

The Committee asked if any changes would be made to the process if they were to do it again. Ms. Hicks indicated that they would try harder to keep on schedule.

Ms. Hughes asked if they found a simple message that worked for sea level rise? Ms. Hicks stated that they discussed higher freeboards, but did not look at other flood issues.

5. Stormwater Memorandum of Agreement

HRPDC staff presented the Stormwater Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to the Committee for its consideration. There had been no significant changes to the document since the last review. The changes include making it clear that the Joint Environmental Committee is the formal advisory committee to the Commission, not the stormwater subcommittee. Staff suggested renaming the Committee to reflect the lack of actual subcommittees. Staff will also be working with the Committee to develop bylaws concerning voting and membership. The Committee voted to recommend approval of the MOA by the Commission. Staff will brief the Chief Administrative Officers on the agreement and the stormwater program at their next meeting.

6. Unified Planning Work Program

Ms. Jai McBride, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on the HRPDC's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY2013-2014. The UPWP includes all the projects and programs HRPDC staff will work on during the next fiscal year and covers economics, emergency management, housing, public information and community affairs, regional planning, and water resources. The UPWP is out for public comment until close of business on April 5, 2013.

7. Coastal Zone Management Grants

Mr. McFarlane briefed the Committee on PDC Competitive Grants expected to be available for Coastal Zone PDCs to apply for in June. Currently HRPDC staff is considering two proposals: a local sea level rise adaptation plan with Virginia Beach and a native plants campaign. Ms. Geissler suggested that, for the native plants project, a rain garden guide developed for shallow water table situations would be very useful for the region and also seems to be overlooked in many other documents. The Committee also suggested working with the cooperative extension and looking at dunes.

8. Coastal Zone Management Update

Mr. McFarlane briefed the Committee on changes made to the HRPDC FY11-12 Coastal Resources Management Technical Assistance Final Report. The Commission approved the report at its meeting in January. However, CZM staff in Richmond requested some changes to the final report. These changes included adding some new material and removing some sections. The Committee voted to recommend approving the report with the changes by the Commission.

9. Status Reports

HRPDC staff made several announcements:

- 1) HRPDC staff will forward VAMSA emails to the Phase II MS4's. 22 compliance orders were issued for all Phase II MS4's in Virginia.

- 2) HRPDC staff will be giving a presentation to the Commission on the state ignoring regional comments.
- 3) Mr. Noah Hill, DCR, sent in some updates via email:
 - a. Thank you to the localities for sending in their extension requests.
 - b. The review of the packets will be done by April 12.
 - c. Each locality that requested an extension will receive a letter advising them of whether or not the extension was granted.

Ms. Hughes stated that there will be “Envisioning Sessions” at the Environment Virginia conference. One of these will discuss sea level rise.

Chesapeake staff made two announcements:

- 1) The public comment period for the state construction general permit starts April 8 and lasts 60 days. Ms. Barbara Brumbaugh, Chesapeake, suggested paying attention a few specific items, including:
 - a. Self-inspection requirements
 - b. The application process, which requires both hard copies and e-permitting
 - c. The definition of “common plan of development”
 - d. Public availability of general permits
 - e. SWP requirements
- 2) There will be three public hearings for the permit in Richmond, Roanoke, and Northern Virginia
- 3) Public notices for VPDES permits include nothing covering TMDLs. Ms. Brumbaugh suggested developing a form letter including TMDL requirements and waste load allocations to send as a response.

Suffolk staff announced that DEQ had issued an industrial permit for a private residence with a failing septic system. Evidently the Health Department is not comfortable with enforcing illicit discharge violations. Mr. LJ Hansen, Suffolk, suggested the Committee keep track of these issues.

Isle of Wight staff reported that the county board is considering whether to adopt authority to implement a stormwater utility fee (but not actually implementing a fee) this month.

Norfolk staff reported that the city and the Elizabeth River Project are co-hosting Riverfest on April 27 in the Colonial Place neighborhood on the Lafayette River. The goal of Riverfest is to help make the Lafayette River fishable and swimmable by 2014.

York County staff reported a similar situation to Suffolk’s concerning the Health Department and a failing septic system.

Virginia Beach staff reported that the city adopted its Sustainability Plan on March 12 and is in final review of a sustainable procurement directive. Mr. Johnston stated that the Health Department appears to be a “paper tiger” concerning failed septic tanks. He also asked how localities were supposed to track reductions in nitrogen, phosphorus,

and sediment (for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL), since the e-permitting system does not track those reductions. Mr. Johnston also noted that there are no standards for calculating reductions. Ms. Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC, stated that the state is setting up a local government panel to develop guidance for tracking reductions, and suggested possibly developing a regional tool. Ms. Geissler suggested that the VAST system could be modified in some way to track reductions.

- 4) APA-Virginia will be holding a Coastal Planning Symposium on March 22nd at the Half Moone Cruise Terminal in Norfolk. CM and CFM credits will be available. Please contact Ben McFarlane (bmcfarlane@hrpdcva.gov) for more information.
- 5) The Stormwater Committee MOA will be sent to the region's Chief Administrative Officers in March and then to the Commission at the April meeting. If anyone has any comments, please contact Ms. Jenny Tribo (jtribo@hrpdcva.gov).

Chesapeake staff announced their intentions to host a plan reviewer class from DCR in Chesapeake. 10 participants are needed, so if anyone is interested in attending please contact Ms. Barbara Brumbaugh.

Norfolk staff announced that they would be hosting basic E&S training from DCR on March 13th and 14th and inspector training on the 28th. Please contact Ms. June Whitehurst if you want more information.

10. Other Matters

The next meeting of the Joint Environmental Committee is scheduled for May 2, 2013 at the HRPDC office in Chesapeake, Virginia. Materials will be sent in advance for review.