

**SUMMARY OF THE
MEETING OF THE
ELIZABETH RIVER STEERING COMMITTEE
February 1, 2013**

1. COE Project Status Report:

Mr. Pretlow, COE, provided a brief on restoration projects. The scuffletown creek sediment project is still moving forward as part of the mitigation package for the Craney Island expansion. Mr. Pretlow will arrange for an update on that project in May or November. The COE is still pursuing funding to implement the remaining wetlands projects, but federal money is limited. Grandy Village will be the next project initiated when funding becomes available. The Elizabeth River Restoration Project is being audited at the COE level, so Mr. Pretlow may be contacting project partners to provide details on hours provided as in-kind match.

2. Chesapeake Bay Program Update:

Jenny Tribo, HRPDC, provided an update on activities at the Bay Program since the development of the Phase II WIPs. The focus of the Bay Program in FY13 has been on establishing the BMP verification framework, planning for the midpoint assessment, and establishing new work groups and BMP review panels. Detailed information can be found in the attached presentation from the meeting.

3. Update on Living Shoreline General Permit Development:

Kevin DuBois, City of Norfolk, provided the committee with an update on the development of the living shoreline general permit as he serves on the ad hoc committee. After one meeting, the committee is considering a two tiered permitting process. Tier one projects that do not contain any structural elements will not have monitoring requirement and will have a streamlined permitting process. Tier two projects that contain any structural elements will require monitoring. The committee still needs to address questions regarding the inspection schedule and who will be designing and reviewing the projects. A draft is anticipated by the end of summer. VMRC is also preparing draft guidance on local permitting of phragmites removal.

4. Committee Reports:

Virginia Beach: A sewer rehabilitation project is underway in the Carolanne Farms area of the City. Phase I includes the replacement of 24,000 feet of pipe and sliplining 4,000 feet of pipe. The City's active sewer rehabilitation program has reportedly resulted in single digit overflows in the city this year. In the Western Branch area, Virginia Beach is implementing a stormwater retrofit project that will treat 40 acres and a restoration of 1 acre of tidal vegetated wetlands.

Norfolk: Phase I of the Colley Bay restoration project will conclude in April 2013, and Phase II will begin next year. Two more restoration projects are planned to begin construction in the summer in Myrtle Park and Greenway Park. The City is

working with Fugro to establish tide stations throughout its tributaries. Stations are being added in Broad Creek and Little Creek.

HRSD: HRSD plants are below their WLA's for 2012. Construction on the Virginia Initiative Plant will begin in 2017 to upgrade the nutrient removal technology to achieve a total nitrogen discharge of 5 mg/l.

NOAA: Two living shoreline projects are underway. Sleepy Hollow in Suffolk is in design and Mill Creek in Hampton is going to construction.

CBF: The Maryland oyster restoration vessel will be coming to the Lafayette River in May to complete several projects.

5. Next Meeting:

The Committee discussed future meeting dates and topics. The December meeting will be moved to November 1. Committee members suggested that meeting materials should be posted to the HRPDC website. Staff will explore this option before the next meeting.

ATTENDEES

HRPDC	Jenny Tribo
Chesapeake	Joan Fowler, Jennifer White
Norfolk	Kevin DuBois
Portsmouth	Kari Lynch
Virginia Beach	Rich Nettleton, Clay Bernick
CBF	Chris Moore
COE	Robert Pretlow.
DEQ	Roger Everton
HRSD	Jamie Mitchell
NOAA Fisheries Service	David O'Brien
NOAA Restoration Center	Walter Priest