

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
Meeting – October 16, 2025
The Regional Building
723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia
Agenda

Lunch – Noon (757 Room)
Call to Order – 12:30 PM (Regional Board Room)

1. Call to Order
2. Approval/Modification of Agenda ***[Action Requested]***
3. Public Comments
 - A. Submitted Public Comments
 - B. Public Comment Period
4. Chair Report
5. Executive Director's Report
6. Community Advisory Committee Report
7. Consent Agenda ***[Action Requested]***
 - A. Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2025 Commission Meeting
 - B. Treasurer's Report – July 2025
 - C. Economic Development District Designation Application – HRPDC Chair Authorization Letter
 - D. Community Advisory Committee Membership Recommendations
8. Fiscal Year 2025 Audited Financial Statements – Michael Garber, PBMAres ***[Action Requested]***
9. Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Update – Bob Crum, HRPDC ***[Action Requested]***
10. Regional Legislative Agenda – Bob Crum, HRPDC ***[Action Requested]***
11. Chief Resilience Officer of the Commonwealth – Greg Steele, Office of Commonwealth Resilience
12. Inflationary Pressure on Local Government – Nikki Johnson, HRPDC
13. Upcoming Meetings
14. Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
15. Technical Committee Meeting Summaries
16. For Your Information
17. Old/New Business
18. Adjournment

**HAMPTON ROADS
PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING**

**Lunch will be available in the 757 Room at Noon
The meeting will begin at 12:30 PM in the Regional Board Room
723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval/Modification of Agenda *[Action Requested]***
- 3. Public Comments**

A. Submitted Public Comments

No public comments have been submitted since the last HRPDC meeting. Any written public comments received after the preparation of this agenda will be announced at the meeting.

B. Public Comment Period

Members of the public are invited to address the Commission. Each speaker is limited to three minutes.

- 4. Chair Report**
- 5. Executive Director's Report**

The Executive Director's Report is included as [Attachment 5](#).

6. Community Advisory Committee Report

The HRPDC/HRTPO Community Advisory Committee (CAC) held a regularly scheduled meeting on August 14, 2025, at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF). The agenda/discussion items for this meeting included briefings on CBF, Membership Approval, Start in Hampton Roads, the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement update, and the Regional Legislative Agenda. The next CAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 9, 2025, at the Newport News Development Center.

7. Consent Agenda *[Action Requested]*

A. Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2025 Commission Meeting

The minutes from the July 17, 2025 Commission meeting are included as Attachment 7A for Commission approval.

B. Treasurer's Report – July 2025

The Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the activities of July 2025 is included as Attachment 7B for Commission approval.

C. Economic Development District Designation Application – HRPDC Chair Authorization Letter

The Regional Planning and Economics department is preparing an application to the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) requesting designation of the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD).

The designation will enhance the region's ability to secure additional federal resources, strengthen public-private partnerships, and support coordinated implementation of the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). This application reflects the collective commitment of the region's local governments to address shared economic challenges, including elevated unemployment rates and below-average per capita income in certain areas, while also leveraging the region's strengths in transportation networks, workforce training, and business clusters.

Staff recommends that the Commission authorize the HRPDC Chair to sign and transmit the formal letter of request, on behalf of the Commission, to the U.S. Economic Development Administration in support of the region's application for EDD designation, included as Attachment 7C.

D. Community Advisory Committee Membership Recommendations

The following individuals have been recommended for CAC membership:

- Shelby Dell is a Public Relations Specialist from Virginia Beach, whose work focuses on community engagement with transportation organizations, including the Virginia Department of Transportation and Hampton Roads Transit. As a lifelong resident of Hampton Roads, she is committed to fostering regional collaboration and ensuring that all community voices are represented in the decision-making process. Ms. Dell is a graduate of LEAD Hampton Roads and is involved with the Public Relations Society of Hampton Roads and the Women in Transportation organization.

- Todd DuRose, a resident of Chesapeake, is a Business Advisor for the Hampton Roads Small Business Development Center and a former business owner. He is interested in using his business experience and community service background to support meaningful change, particularly in the redevelopment of the Greenbrier Mall corridor. Mr. DuRose is the President-Elect of the Rotary Club of Chesapeake, through which he helps organize numerous fundraisers and service projects annually
- Destini Harrell is an entrepreneur and the founder of The Blessed Rogue, a consultancy focused on turning bold ideas into tangible impact. As a resident of Virginia Beach, she is motivated to help the region realize its full potential by ensuring diverse voices and backgrounds are part of planning conversations. Ms. Harrell's community involvement includes serving on the boards of the CAN Foundation and the Elizabeth River Trail Foundation, as well as the 757 Talent Initiative and the Virginia Beach Artist Grant Advisory Panel.
- Rodney Nickens is a consultant with nearly two decades of experience in legislative advocacy, policy development, and community engagement. He is a resident of Chesapeake and is passionate about fostering equitable and sustainable regional planning that prioritizes the needs of all residents. Mr. Nickens' community work includes serving as a steering committee member for BIPOC Pride and being an active participant with the LGBT Democrats of Virginia.
- Daniel Ogunyemi is the Director of Inclusive Excellence & Belonging at William & Mary's Batten School of Coastal & Marine Sciences & VIMS. A resident of Yorktown, he seeks to represent the Peninsula and add insight into the needs of diverse communities. Mr. Ogunyemi has extensive experience serving on various boards and commissions, including a Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations and an advisory committee for a 20-year comprehensive city plan.
- Shannon Sorrell is an External Affairs Representative for Dominion Energy and a resident of Virginia Beach. Her professional experience in the utility industry gives her a deep understanding of how infrastructure, policy, and public engagement intersect to impact the region. Ms. Sorrell is actively engaged in her community, serving on the Board of Green Run Collegiate and as a member of the Central Business District's young professionals chapter (CBDX), tHRive, and the Tidewater Striders.
- Josh Sterling is a Real Estate Analyst at the Hampton Roads Alliance and a resident of Virginia Beach. As a lifelong resident of the region and a recent graduate in Commercial Real Estate from Virginia Tech, he hopes to collaborate on regional initiatives and offer fresh

perspectives. Mr. Sterling is currently an active member of the Virginia Economic Developers Association (VEDA) and the Hampton Roads Association for Commercial Real Estate (HRACRE).

- Tiaira Walker is a Lead Integration Consultant with a background in Justice and Human Rights, and is currently pursuing graduate studies in Cybersecurity Policy. As a Norfolk resident, she is passionate about ensuring community voices from rapidly changing neighborhoods are included in regional planning decisions. Ms. Walker actively volunteers with the Newby Foundation, supports social media outreach and event planning, and teaches children block coding through The Links Foundation.
- Carolyn White is a retired public service employee from the Portsmouth Department of Social Services and a resident of Suffolk. She is an advocate for disadvantaged communities and wishes to serve as a liaison to ensure residents are informed about transportation changes and have time to provide input. Ms. White is highly engaged in her community, serving as the Assistant Secretary of her Civic League, an active church member, and a volunteer who provides transportation for the elderly, as well as attending city council meetings.

Action Requested: The HRPDC should consider action to approve the October 16, 2025 Consent Agenda.

8. Fiscal Year 2025 Audited Financial Statements – Michael Garber, PBMares [Action Requested]

PBMares, LLP has completed its annual review of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 financial statements of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) and the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO).

The independent Auditors' Report states that the basic financial statements of the HRPDC/HRTPO are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (U.S. GAAP). There were no material weaknesses or deficiencies identified in any of the internal controls or processes of the financial activity, and all information was free of any material misstatements. The audited financial statements, along with supplemental management letters and the auditor's opinion report, based on census data reported to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS), are available on the HRPDC and HRTPO websites using the following links.

HRPDC Website: <https://hrpdcva.gov/Archive.aspx?ADID=248>

HRTPO Website: <https://www.hrtpo.org/Archive.aspx?ADID=249>

Additional information that may be of value to Commission members is the breakdown of the Fund Balance as shown in Attachment 8.

Mr. Michael Garber, Partner at PBMares, will brief the Commission on this item. Both the PBMares representative and Ms. Tealen Hansen, HRPDC/HRTPO CFO, will be available to address any questions the Commission may have.

Action Requested: The HRPDC should consider action to approve the FY 2025 Audited Financial Statements.

9. Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Update – Bob Crum, HRPDC [Action Requested]

The HRPDC is the recipient of a Climate Pollution Reduction Planning Grant (CRPG) from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The CCAP is due December 1, 2025. An updated draft of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) is available on the HRPDC website using the following link:

<https://www.hrpdcva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/15028/Hampton-Roads-CCAP-Draft-Public-Comment---Updated-PDF>.

HRPDC staff developed a video to provide an overview of this effort. Public comments on the report were received from October 1 to October 15, and community input was gathered through ongoing, extensive engagement efforts initiated in spring 2024. The video is available using the following link: <https://youtu.be/nOiTw45NIA>.

Mr. Robert A. Crum, Jr., HRPDC/HRTPO Executive Director, will brief the Commission.

Action Requested: The HRPDC should consider action to submit the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan to the EPA.

10. Regional Legislative Agenda – Bob Crum, HRPDC [Action Requested]

For the past ten years, the HRPDC and HRTPO have adopted a regional legislative agenda to convey to the General Assembly and Federal Delegation issues of regional significance that should be addressed on behalf of Hampton Roads. This regional legislative agenda is typically approved by the Commission and HRTPO Board at their October or November meetings to allow these regional legislative priorities to be shared with Hampton Roads Caucus members before the start of the General Assembly session in January.

The Joint HRPDC and HRTPO Regional Legislative Committee developed a recommendation for a regional legislative agenda to be considered by the Commission and HRTPO Board. The membership of this Legislative Committee is as follows:

Shannon Glover, Portsmouth
Michael Hipple, James City County
Jimmy Gray, Hampton

HRPDC Chair
HRTPO Chair
HRPDC Vice-Chair

Rick West, Chesapeake
Mary Bunting, Hampton
Chris Price, Chesapeake

HRTPO Vice-Chair
CAO Committee Chair
CAO Committee Vice-Chair

Discussion on the Regional Legislative Agenda began at the July meetings of the HRPDC and HRTPO. Since that meeting, potential regional legislative items have been discussed with the Regional Legislative Committee, Chief Administrative Officers, Community Advisory Committee, Freight Transportation Advisory Committee, and Hampton Roads Caucus. Feedback has also been received over the past several months from other standing committees of the HRPDC and HRTPO.

An overview of the proposed 2026 Regional Legislative Agenda is included as [Attachment 10](#) for review by Commission members.

Mr. Robert A. Crum, Jr., HRPDC/HRTPO Executive Director, will brief the Commission on the recommended Regional Legislative Agenda and answer any questions.

Action Requested: The HRPDC should consider action to approve the 2026 Hampton Roads Regional Legislative Agenda.

11. Chief Resilience Officer of the Commonwealth – Greg Steele, Office of Commonwealth Resilience

Mr. Greg Steele was appointed as the Commonwealth’s Chief Resilience Officer on May 9, 2025. Mr. Steele heads the Office of Commonwealth Resilience, which is housed within the Secretariat of Natural and Historic Resources. Mr. Steele will serve as the primary coordinator of resilience and adaptation initiatives in Virginia and as the primary point of contact regarding issues related to resilience. Mr. Steele will brief the Commission on the activities and plans for the Office of Commonwealth Resilience.

This item is presented for information and discussion by Commission members.

12. Inflationary Pressure on Local Government – Nikki Johnson, HRPDC

The sharp rise in inflation in recent years has driven up the cost of providing local government services, from higher personnel expenses to more expensive construction and operating materials. These forces have put sustained pressure on municipal budgets, making it harder for cities and counties to balance revenues and expenditures while maintaining core services. HRPDC staff will outline these fiscal challenges and their implications for Hampton Roads.

Ms. Nikki Johnson, HRPDC Regional Economist, will brief the Commission.

This item is presented for information and discussion by Commission members.

13. Upcoming Meetings

November 20, 2025

*****Christopher Newport University (CNU) in Newport News*****

- Appointment of Nominating Committee
- CNU President William Kelly
- Growth and Diversification Plan
- Roadway Flooding Sensor Network
- Southside Network Authority (SNA) Update – Regional Fiber Ring
- Start in Hampton Roads

December 2025

No Meeting per Regional Meeting Schedule – Happy Holidays!

January 2026 (Annual Meeting)

2026 Economic Forecast

Election of Officers

FY 2027 Budget Preview

Regional Legislative Update

14. Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

HRPDC Advisory Committee meeting minutes approved since the last Commission meeting are included as [Attachment 14](#).

15. Technical Committee Meeting Summaries

Summaries of HRPDC Technical Committee meetings held since the last Commission meeting are included in [Attachment 15](#).

16. For Your Information

- A. A letter dated July 9, 2025 from the City of Norfolk reappointing Kenneth Cooper Alexander, Ph.D. (Mayor) and Councilman Carlos J. Clanton (Superward 7) to the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission is included as [Attachment 16A](#).
- B. A letter dated July 23, 2025 to Dr. Maria Beerman-Foat of the Virginia Department of Health regarding HRPDC support for the re-designation of the Tidewater Emergency Medical Services (TEMS) Council as a Regional Emergency Medical Services Council for the Commonwealth of Virginia is included as [Attachment 16B](#).
- C. A letter dated August 26, 2025 to Ms. Kristal McKelvey of the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation regarding HRPDC support for Gloucester County's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) application seeking to elevate critical infrastructure to improve flood resilience and

longevity of public facilities at Gloucester Point Beach Park, is included as Attachment 16C.

- D. Letters dated September 2, 2025 to the City Manager or County Administrator of Newport News, York County, Hampton, Portsmouth, Virginia Beach, Suffolk, Chesapeake, Norfolk, Isle of Wight County, James City County, Southampton County, Williamsburg, and Poquoson requesting locality letters of support for the HRPDC's application to designate the Hampton Roads Region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) are included as Attachment 16D.

17. Old/New Business

18. Adjournment

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The HRPDC/HRTPO Community Advisory Committee held its regularly scheduled meeting on August 14 at the Brock Environmental Center at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation in Virginia Beach. Agenda items included the following:

- Start in Hampton Roads Talent Initiative
- Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement Update
- Regional Legislative Agenda
- Approval of Membership Recommendations from the CAC Membership Subcommittee
- Tour of Brock Environmental Center



REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Over the past two months, the Executive Director has discussed the proposed Regional Legislative Agenda with various committees to receive input on topics that should be considered as regional legislative items. The input from these sessions has been used to prepare a draft Regional Legislative Agenda, which will be presented to both the HRPDC and HRTPO Board on October 16 for consideration.

HAMPTON ROADS CAUCUS MEETING – JULY 30

The Hampton Roads Caucus met at the Tidewater Community College Campus in Chesapeake on July 30. The Executive Director and HRPDC Chair provided a briefing to the Caucus members on the development of the Regional Legislative Agenda, including background information on the need for a Primary and Secondary Road Fund, funding to support the development of a regional and interconnected bike/walk trail system, and state support for HRPDC operational funding needs.



HAMPTON ROADS PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

Over the past several weeks, the HRTPO staff learned about potential impacts to passenger rail service in Hampton Roads during the five-year construction of the Long Bridge project in Northern Virginia. Due to noise and vibration regulations in the District of Columbia, construction work on the Long Bridge project will be limited to a 5-hour work window, which will be from 8:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. During this construction window, trains will not be able to utilize the Long Bridge Facility. Through discussions with the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority (VPRA), staff learned that during this five-year construction window, one of the three trains currently serving the Norfolk station will be replaced by a bus, and one of the three trains serving Newport News will be replaced by bus service.

While the work window negotiated between CSX, Amtrak, Virginia Railway Express and the Long Bridge Contractor is necessary for construction, HRTPO staff is concerned that replacing rail service in Hampton Roads with buses during this five-year period could reverse the positive growth in passenger rail ridership in our region and potentially have an impact on long-term ridership due to the differences in seating capacity and travelers' preference for the train experience.

To ensure our local governments were aware of these plans and our concerns, the Executive Director communicated this information to our HRTPO Board and community partners in early September, and asked localities and regional partners to express their concerns to VPRA. A total of 15 local governments/regional organizations submitted letters to VPRA expressing their concerns about plans to replace two passenger rail trains to Hampton Roads with buses until 2030. In addition, the HRTPO Executive Director submitted a letter to Amtrak expressing concerns and requesting that Amtrak support VPRA's efforts to review and evaluate all alternatives to the current plan, including HRTPO staff's proposal to maintain rail service to Alexandria during the Long Bridge construction project.

The VPRA Executive Director will attend the HRTPO Board meeting on October 16 to brief our region on this topic.

MY FUTURE 757 EVENT AT THE REGIONAL BUILDING

On July 25, the HRPDC hosted summer campers from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Southeast Virginia as part of the "My Future 757" event, which was organized by a team from the LEAD Hampton Roads Class of 2025 that includes the HRPDC/HRTPO Director of Communications Katie Cullipher. We are thankful to all the partners and organizations who supported this event. The campers learned all about what makes Hampton Roads a great place to live, work, and play.





CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER COMMITTEE

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Committee met on September 3 at the Chesapeake Conference Center. Agenda items included:

- Tax System Modernization Discussion
- Regional Legislative Agenda
- Information Sharing on Items of Regional Interest

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSIONS (VAPDC)

The Executive Director attended the summer meeting of the VAPDC Executive Directors and Board on October 7 and 8 in Lynchburg. A variety of topics were discussed, including Resilience in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the value of PDCs and the need for increased State funding, Power, Supply and Demand, and the potential role of small modular reactors and other important items. The Central Virginia Planning District Commission hosted the meetings.



VAPDC SUMMER SERIES – LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKING FOR YOU

On August 18, the Executive Director served as moderator for a VAPDC Virtual Training Session entitled “Local Government Working for You”. He was joined on this panel by Timothy K. Fitzgerald, County Administrator for Augusta County and Ron Carlee, Assistant Professor of Public Service at Old Dominion University and former CAO for several local governments. Approximately 50 people participated in this session.

OTHER MEETINGS AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OUTREACH

- Participated in the Southside Network Authority (SNA) meeting on July 11.
- Participated in the Public Information Officer meeting on July 15
- Presented to the Tidewater Trail Alliance regarding the Trail757 project on July 15
- Coordinated a meeting on Trail757 with the Newport News Management team and staff on July 29.
- Supported a special meeting of the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) Board on July 31.
- Met with Virginia Port Authority management and staff on July 31
- Met with HRPDC Chair Mayor Shannon Glover in Portsmouth on August 6.
- Met with representatives of the Elizabeth River Trail Board/Management on August 13.



- Participated in a meeting with Hampton and Newport News City management and the SNA to discuss the regional fiber network on August 14.
- Participated in weekly meetings on federal policy discussions with other regional organizations
- Met with representatives of the Virginia Beach economic development department and the SNA on August 15.
- Attended the Christopher Newport University State of the University Address on August 19.
- Facilitated a meeting between Virginia and North Carolina Department of Transportation officials on August 20 to discuss potential collaboration opportunities.
- The Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director met with HRPDC Chair Shannon Glover in Portsmouth on September 2 to discuss planning for HRPDC agendas.
- Participated in a meeting with FHWA representatives on September 4 to discuss the Federal Certification Review.
- Met with representatives of THRIVE Peninsula and participated in a tour of the facility on September 8.
- On September 11, the HRPDC Emergency Management team hosted an emergency preparedness table-top exercise with CAOs and locality emergency response personnel.
- Attended the Hampton Roads Chamber legislative reception at the Norfolk Waterside on September 11.
- Participated in the September 12 meeting of the Southside Network Authority Board.
- Attended the Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance (HRMFFA) Board meeting on September 18.
- Participated in the Regional Organization Presidents Council (ROPC) Meeting on September 22 at the Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce in Newport News.
- Met with the Franklin Interim City Manager on September 23 to provide a briefing on regional initiatives of the HRPDC and HRTPO.
- The Executive Director facilitated a meeting between the City of Norfolk City Manager and the President and CEO of the Virginia Port Authority on October 2 to discuss the HRTPO rail crossing study and collaboration opportunities.
- Met with the Smithfield Town Manager on October 2 to discuss the Town's Strategic Plan.
- Met with the new President and CEO of the Virginia Ship Repair Association and representatives of HRMFFA and HRTAC on October 6.
- Attended the State of the Region on October 7 in Norfolk.

**Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
Minutes of July 17, 2025 Meeting**

The July 17, 2025 meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) was called to order by the Chair at 12:34 p.m. in the Regional Board Room located at 723 Woodlake Drive in Chesapeake, Virginia with the following in attendance:

Commissioners in Attendance:

Shannon Glover, Chair (PO)
Jimmy Gray, Vice-Chair (HA)
Andrew Trivette, Treasurer (WM)*
Patricia King (CH)*
Christopher Price (CH)*
Debbie Ritter (CH)
Brian Solis (CH)
Ella Ward (CH)*
Michelle Ferebee (HA)
Carol Steele (GL)
Joel Acree (IW)
Don Robertson (IW)
Steven Carter (PO)

David Hux (PQ)
Randy Wheeler (PQ)
William Gillette (SH)
Brian Thrower (SH)
Albert Moor (SU)
Lue Ward (SU)*
Patrick Duhaney (VB)*
Bobby Dyer (VB)
Worth Remick (VB)
Joash Schulman (VB)
Mark Bellamy (YK)
Sheila Noll (YK)

Commissioners Absent:

Paul Kaplan (FR)
Rosylen Oglesby (FR)
Phillip Bazzani (GL)
Mary Bunting (HA)
Michael Hipple (JC)
Scott Stevens (JC)
Alan Archer (NN)
Phillip Jones (NN)
Cleon Long (NN)
Kenneth Alexander (NO)
Carlos Clanton (NO)

Courtney Doyle (NO)
Jeremy McGee (NO)
Patrick Roberts (NO)
Steven Bowman (SM)
Michael Stallings (SM)
Leroy Bennett (SU)
Walter Hardy (SY)
Melissa Rollins (SY)
Barbara Henley (VB)
Amelia Ross-Hammond (VB)
Douglas Pons (WM)

Executive Director:

Robert A. Crum, Jr., Secretary

Other Participants:

Brian DeProfio (HA)
Jason Purse (JC)
David Freeman (NN)

Trista Pope (NO)
Barbara Ramsey (WM)
Lauren Roberts Carter (CAC)

**Late arrival or early departure*

Others Recorded Attending:

Bryan Spivey (Bolton); Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky, Collin Johnson, and Randy Keaton (Resident); Peter Shaw (Future of Hampton Roads); Willough Perry (Hampton Roads Alliance); Nancy Grden and Drew Lumpkin (Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable); Rick Dwyer (HRMFFA); Mindy Carlin (HRT); Angela Hopkins and Jerri Wilson (NN); Bryan Pennington (NO); Rhonda Russell (PO); Jeanne Darby Hubbard (PQ); Marcellus Nixon (SNA); Kevin Hughes and Nicole Porter (SU); Ed Reed (Two Capitols Consulting); Andrew Damon and Brent McKenzie (VB); Erin Carter, James Coleman, Ben Green, and Blaine Hutchens (U.S. Senator Mark Warner's Office); Joel Rubin (WINDSdays); and Greg Grootendorst, Husain Alegimenlen, Sean Asbrand, Kelli Arledge, Shernita Bethea, Robert Cofield, Emma Corbitt, Katie Cullipher, Simone Elmore, KC Filippino, Markay Hall, Tealen Hansen, Nikki Johnson, Whitney Katchmark, Sara Kidd, Matt Klepeisz, Andrew Margason, Ben McFarlane, Quan McLauren, John Mihaly, Adithi Moogoor, Cynthia Mulkey, Ivy Ozmon, Pavithra Parthasarathi, John Sadler, Jill Sunderland, Dale Stith, Tho Tran, Joe Turner, Christopher Vaigneur, and Eric Walberg (HRPDC/HRTPO Staff).

Chair Shannon Glover welcomed new Commission member Mr. Don Roberston, Isle of Wight County, County Administrator.

Approval/Modification of Agenda

Chair Glover called for a motion to approve the July 17, 2025 agenda as presented.

Motion: Commissioner Ella Ward Moved to approve the Agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Albert Moor. The Motion Carried.

Public Comments

Mr. Robert Crum, HRPDC Executive Director, stated that there were no submitted public comments. He invited members of the public to address the Commission. There were no requests to provide public comment.

Chair Report

Chair Glover announced that Mr. Albert Moor, Suffolk City Manager, will retire at the end of the month, concluding a career spanning over 40 years in public service. Chair Glover recognized him for his leadership roles and service within the region.

Mr. Crum recognized Mr. Randy Keaton, who recently retired as County Administrator for Isle of Wight County and attended the meeting in the audience, for his contributions to the region.

Chair Glover announced that the November 20, 2025 meeting will be held at Christopher Newport University in Newport News.

**Commissioners Andrew Trivette and Lue Ward arrived*

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Crum referenced his monthly report in the agenda packet. He introduced Ms. Adithi Moogoor, who joined the HRPDC as housing specialist on July 1, 2025.

Mr. Crum invited Mr. Greg Grootendorst, HRPDC Deputy Executive Director, to address the Commission and provide information on the handouts distributed in advance of the meeting.

Mr. Grootendorst referenced the Start in Hampton Roads handout and stated that the Hampton Roads Workforce Council and the Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable are leading a regional talent marketing pilot to address outmigration, talent attraction, and talent retention.

The GO Virginia handout addressed the 2025 Growth and Diversification Plan, which is required to receive funding through the GO Virginia initiative. The Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable developed this plan in partnership with the Hampton Roads Alliance, the Old Dominion Dragas Center, and the HRPDC.

Lastly, Mr. Grootendorst referred to the Economic Monthly, created by Ms. Nikki Johnson, HRPDC Regional Economist, highlighting the latest economic topics relevant to the region. This month's edition focuses on shipbuilding and repair, which was allocated \$29 billion through the budget reconciliation bill signed into law last week. Mr. Grootendorst stated that over 20% of the nation's shipbuilding and repair employment occurs in Hampton Roads.

The handouts are available on the HRPDC website using the following links:

- Start in Hampton Roads Regional Initiative:
https://hrpdcva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14838/071725-PDC-05B_Handout-Start-in-Hampton-Roads-Regional-Initiative-PDF?bidId=
- Go Virginia Region 5 2025 GD Plan:
https://hrpdcva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14839/071725-PDC-05C_Handout-GO-VA-Region-5-2025-GD-Plan-one-page-handout-FINAL-PDF?bidId=
- Economic Monthly:
https://hrpdcva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14840/071725-PDC-05A_Handout-Economic-Monthly-July-25-PDF?bidId=

Community Advisory Committee Report

Ms. Lauren Carter Roberts stated that the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) met in June at the Greer Environmental Center at Virginia Wesleyan University. Additionally, the CAC Subcommittee convened to review membership applications. She stated that her goal as chair of the CAC is to increase the frequency and effectiveness of bringing information to the public to engage and receive input.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Crum noted that the Consent Agenda included the following items for consideration and approval:

- Meeting Minutes – May 15, 2025 Commission Meeting
- Treasurer’s Report – May 2025
- Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Amendment #2
- Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) Contract and Agreement Extension
- Davis Ad Agency – Contract Renewal
- Fiscal Year 2026 Hampton Roads Regional Meeting Schedule

Motion: Commissioner Ward Moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Moor. The Motion Carried.

Partnering with Industry for River Restoration

Ms. Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC Principal Water Resources Engineer, provided context for the Buckeye implementation project. Many years ago, the state developed a strategy for cleaning the Bay and assigned pollution reductions to different sectors, such as wastewater, agriculture, and urban. Much of the urban reductions need to come from unregulated, non-permitted entities, which account for 10% of the pollutant loads in the region. This project aims to work with private industry to directly implement projects that improve water quality in this sector and reduce runoff going to the Elizabeth River.

Dr. KC Filippino, HRPDC Senior Water Resources Planner, stated that the project started in 2020 while working with the state to find solutions to address unregulated urban stormwater. Funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) was received to identify potential industrial partners with property located along the waterways in Hampton Roads. With the help of a consultant, a list was developed to include industry recognition programs, working towards sustainability goals, and willing to implement projects.

Several recognition programs are available, such as the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program, the Elizabeth River Project’s Riverstar Business Program, and the askHRgreen.org Bay Star Business program. The data collected through these programs, in addition to a survey, was used to find a good candidate for a pilot project. For this purpose, Buckeye Terminals was picked. Buckeye is willing to implement projects, as it also needs to address legacy contamination from an old creosote plant. Buckeye is also part of a larger plan for revitalizing the Elizabeth River and is included in the City of Chesapeake’s Industrial Waterfront Plan.

The project’s overall goals were to construct a living shoreline, restore contaminated parcels or Brownfields, and increase green space. More funding from NFWF aided in building a rock sill backfilled with sand and marsh plants to create a living shoreline. Native grasses were planted to increase the habitat of oysters, fish, and shellfish and reduce stormwater runoff.

As a team-building exercise, 50 Buckeye staff volunteered to plant over 15,000 plants with oversight from the Elizabeth River Project.

A Brownfields design workshop was held to develop designs for the two contaminated parcels and educate local government staff on accessing funds and reimagining Brownfield restoration sites. Additional funding was secured to eventually revitalize these sites to address contamination, create a natural habitat, and promote conservation landscaping. To date, spraying has been eliminated, and native plants are already thriving at these sites. In the future, stormwater runoff and contamination will be addressed by adding clean soil and native plants.

Dr. Filippino highlighted the success of the project as follows:

- Learned by doing, as the HRPDC was project managing
- Pollutant reductions will be achieved
- Considerations for sea level rise
- Broadened awareness of Brownfield restoration
- Low maintenance is important
- Partnerships lead to success

Dr. Filippino stated that public procurement for a private property was difficult. Additional challenges were legacy contamination, the need to reconsider oyster habitats, rising costs, the need for more incentives, and finding more willing private partners.

Dr. Filippino concluded her presentation by summarizing the partners involved in the project.

Dr. Filippino's presentation is available on the HRPDC website using the following link:
[https://www.hrpdcva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14841/071725-PDC-08 Presentation-River-Restoration-Buckeye-PDF?bidId=](https://www.hrpdcva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14841/071725-PDC-08%20Presentation-River-Restoration-Buckeye-PDF?bidId=).

Strategic Plan for Hampton Roads: Issue Prioritization

Mr. Eric Walberg, HRPDC Principal for Planning and Economics, and Mr. Tho Tran, HRPDC Senior Regional Planner, briefed the Commission on this item.

Mr. Walberg began his presentation by providing background information on the strategic plan, which builds on existing local, regional, and state plans. The plan, which is required by the Code of Virginia, focuses on inter-jurisdictional and cross-disciplinary issues.

The strategic plan aims to improve the quality of life, enhance regional competitiveness, promote cross-jurisdictional collaboration, and provide guidance for long-term decision-making. The plan is currently in Phase I out of II. Phase I focuses on the evaluation of the current status, which includes a compilation of regional statistics, analysis of existing plans, stakeholder engagement, and identification of regional priorities. Phase II of the project will center on establishing goals linked to the regional priorities and developing action plans to achieve these goals.

Mr. Walberg invited Mr. Tran to provide information regarding the strategic planning framework and the analytic process.

Mr. Tran stated that the strategic plan divides the region into the following six core dimensions:

- Economy
- Infrastructure
- Housing and Community Development
- Natural Environment
- Resident Well-Being
- Visitor Appeal

To create the methodology, help and input from staff, the public, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) were used. Over 50 state, regional, and local plans were evaluated. Using this information, a 12-point evaluation framework was created for the AI analysis. In order to get the best results, the AI needed to be trained with a human-in-the-loop approach to accommodate project context, literature, role, and expectations. The result of this analysis is a summary of common issues across the plans by topic.

To receive input and feedback for the strategic plan, the board room was set up in a retreat-style format to allow the Commissioners to engage more fully in the issue prioritization exercise. Nineteen prioritization items were divided into the six core dimensions mentioned above. To determine the most critical topics, the Commissioners were asked to allocate \$1,000 to these topics in \$100 increments.

First, the Commissioners were asked to determine how they would individually invest in strategies to improve the quality of life and enhance regional competitiveness. In the second part of the exercise, Commission members were asked to collaborate with the members at their tables to reach consensus on the group's top priorities.

To conclude the exercise, each table was asked to report on the priorities discussed and the decision-making process.

Commissioner Randy Wheeler reported that his group identified place-making and the road network as the most significant topics discussed. Some funding was allocated to federal spending to break the tie, leaving place-making the top priority.

Commissioner Joel Acree reported that the group determined partnering with the private sector to increase wages as another economic strategy, with an allocation of \$200. Utility investments to improve water quality were added for the natural environment category and allocated \$100. The remaining funding was allocated \$100 per topic: Public transit, road network, energy, education, regional marketing, housing, and place-making.

Mr. David Freeman stated that his group mainly focused on the economy and infrastructure categories. After discussion, \$100 each were allocated as follows: opportunity and wage,

private sector, innovation, public transit, road network, broadband, flooding, social equity, amenities, and housing.

Mr. John Sadler reported that his group prioritized energy and regional marketing as most significant, with an allocation of \$200 each. An allocation of \$100 each was decided for opportunity and wage, private sector, economic development, road network, flooding, and housing.

Commissioner Robert Dyer stated that the cost of government has risen exponentially. New revenue streams need to be created to maintain the quality of life and infrastructure. His group focused on the road network and flooding and allocated \$200 each. Additional topics discussed that received \$100 in allocations were opportunity and wage, private sector, energy, health, education, and housing.

Mr. Walberg presented the summary results by category: 32% infrastructure, 22% economy, 20% housing and community development, 10% natural environment, 8% resident well-being, and 8% visitor appeal.

For the individual categories, the ratings were as follows:

- \$900 Road network
- \$600 Place-making
- \$400 Flooding, energy, and housing
- \$300 Regional marketing, private sector, opportunity and wage
- \$200 Education, public transit, private sector wages, innovation
- \$100 Amenities, social equity, health, utility investments, broadband, and economic development

Commissioner Joash Schulman commented that he was pleasantly surprised by how well place-making and regional marketing performed. Many efforts are being made to attract talent to the region and to create a regional identity. Investments in place-making are necessary to attract businesses and establish a workforce.

Commissioner Stacy Cummings noted that the priorities might depend on the localities. Some have many parks and green areas, and place-making might not score that high in these localities due to their abundance and availability.

Commissioner Joel Acree stated that broadband may need more money allocated to keep the region competitive, especially since technology changes much faster than transportation.

The Regional Strategic Plan presentation is available on the HRPDC website using the following link:

[https://hrpdcva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14649/051525-PDC-09_Presentation-Water-Supply-Planning-PDF?bidId=.](https://hrpdcva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14649/051525-PDC-09_Presentation-Water-Supply-Planning-PDF?bidId=)

The handout to prioritize the categories and topics is available on the HRPDC website using the following link:

https://www.hrpdcva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14843/071725-PDC-09_Handout-Strategic-Plan-Issue-Prioritization---Tally-Sheet-and-Definitions-PDF?bidId=

**Commissioners Patrick Duhaney, Patricia King, Christopher Price, and Ella Ward departed*

Regional Legislative Agenda

Mr. Crum stated that for the past eight years, the HRPDC and the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) have approved regional legislative agendas, which expressed the region's priorities and items the General Assembly is asked to address on its behalf.

The process for the current legislative agenda started with a meeting of the Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) and was continued at the HRTPO meeting earlier that day. There was conversation regarding network investments and the need for improvements to primary and secondary roads. The HRTPO supported resubmitting the legislation to establish a primary and secondary road fund. The Regional Legislative Committee, which consists of the leadership of the HRPDC, HRTPO, and CAOs, will convene, along with various committees and then present a recommendation to the Commission in the October meeting.

Mr. Crum addressed the importance of an all-of-the-above approach to energy development and the need for sufficient funding in the Commonwealth Flood Protection Fund. He added that local governments require substantial non-federal contributions to unlock federal funding for flood prevention projects.

Mr. Crum also highlighted the growing regional trail network and its appeal to young professionals seeking good jobs, affordable housing, and active transportation options. He emphasized the need to address housing issues and maintain local land use authority as the legislative process begins.

Mr. Crum announced the Hampton Roads Caucus meeting on July 30, 2025 at the Tidewater Community College Campus in Chesapeake, stating that this provides an opportunity to ask for funding from the state partners.

Chair Glover reinforced the importance of community support for the legislative agenda, particularly regarding secondary road issues. He encouraged the Commission members to participate in the Hampton Roads Caucus meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

Chair Glover noted that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2025. There are no HRPDC meetings scheduled for August and September 2025. He added that the November 20, 2025 meeting will be held in Newport News at Christopher Newport University (CNU).

Advisory Committee Minutes

Chair Glover stated that links to HRPDC/HRTPO Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting minutes approved since the last Commission meeting were provided in the agenda packet for Commission member information.

Technical Committee Meeting Summaries

Chair Glover indicated that summaries of HRPDC Technical Committee meetings, including Coastal Resiliency Committee, Directors of Utilities Committee, Planning Directors Committee, Public Information Officer Committee, and Regional Environmental Committee, held since the last Commission meeting, were included in the agenda for Commission member information.

For Your Information

Chair Glover referenced the correspondence of interest included in the agenda packet for Commission member information.

Old/New Business

Chair Glover asked if there was any old or new business to discuss. There was none.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Shannon E. Glover
Chair

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director/ Secretary

FISCAL YEAR 2026
7/31/25
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
8% OF FISCAL YEAR COMPLETE

REVENUES	Annual Budget	Previous YTD	Current Month	YTD	% Received /Expended
State PDC Revenue	\$ 190,943			\$ -	0%
DEQ	350,536			-	0%
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	1,610,298			-	0%
Housing DHCD/ Portsmouth/ Chesapeake/IoW	582,652			-	0%
Virginia Housing VHDA Spac Grant	8,500			-	0%
HRSB Sponsorship	-			-	0%
Water Quality Assessment	670,200		\$ 111,700.00	111,700.00	17%
SCRC LDD	24,000			-	0%
VDEM	1,116,263			-	0%
Local Jurisdiction Membership Dues	1,764,653		\$ 749,621.00	749,621.00	42%
Local Jurisdiction Programs	2,057,468		\$ 1,007,174.50	1,007,174.50	49%
HRMFFA	62,659			-	0%
HR Economic Development Site Readiness	1,174,631			-	0%
DCR Community Flood Preparedness Fund Grant	6,000			-	0%
Solid Waste Planning Unit	20,000			-	0%
Southside Network Authority	88,269			-	0%
VA Telecommunications	17,532,586			-	0%
SALES, INTEREST & MISC	312,815		\$ 25,586.65	25,586.65	8%
VDOT-PL SEC 112	5,559,122			-	0%
HRTAC	301,645			-	0%
VDRPT 5303/ Pass Through	1,208,508			-	0%
Special Contracts/Deferred/Pass Through	818,017	-	\$ -	-	0%
Total Revenue	35,459,765	-	1,894,082	1,894,082	5%
EXPENDITURES					
PERSONNEL	\$ 6,892,345		\$ 407,018	\$ 407,018	6%
STANDARD CONTRACTS	214,825		\$ -	-	0%
SPECIAL CONTRACTS/PASS THROUGH	27,325,275		\$ 427,999	427,999	2%
OFFICE SERVICES	1,027,320		\$ 53,698	53,698	5%
INDIRECT COSTS			169,472	169,472	0%
Total Expenses	35,459,765	-	1,058,186	1,058,186	3%
TOTALS	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 835,896	\$ 835,896	*

* HRTPO grants operate on a quarterly reimbursement basis; as such the total YTD does not reflect the commission's current financial position.

**Member
Jurisdictions**

October 16, 2025

Chesapeake
Franklin

Ms. Lauren Stuhldreher
U.S. Economic Development Administration
Robert Nix Federal Building
900 Market St. Room 602
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Gloucester

RE: Proposed Economic Development District Designation for the Hampton Roads Region

Hampton

Dear Ms. Stuhldreher:

Isle of Wight
James City

I am writing on behalf of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) as Chair of our District Organization to request action on our application for an Economic Development District (EDD) designation. Our organization is committed to advancing regional economic development through the implementation of an EDA-approved Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) that fully complies with the CEDS Content Guidelines.

Newport News
Norfolk
Poquoson
Portsmouth

Our designated region will comprise 14 local governments that share significant economic challenges and opportunities. Specifically, we face notable issues, including elevated unemployment rates, below-average per capita income in targeted areas, and challenges related to economic diversification and resilience. These economic distress factors, together with our region's robust transportation networks, established business clusters, and ongoing workforce training efforts underscore the critical need for EDD designation. This action will enhance our capacity to secure additional federal resources, stimulate coordinated public-private partnerships, and address shared regional challenges.

Smithfield
Southampton

The proposed designation is supported by comprehensive economic data that highlights the connectivity among our communities and the shared need for an integrated approach to economic development. By formalizing our status as an Economic Development District, we will not only align our planning efforts with the EDA's mission but also position our region for sustainable job creation and long-term economic resilience.

Suffolk
Surry

I respectfully request that you review our application favorably and grant the action necessary to designate our region as an Economic Development District. Should you require any additional information or clarification, please feel free to contact me directly at 757-364-9295 or mayor@portsmouthva.gov. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Virginia Beach

Sincerely,

Williamsburg

York

Shannon E. Glover
Chair

**FUND BALANCE REPORT
FROM FY2024 - FY2025**

	FY2024	FY2025
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	7,343,166	6,827,402
LESS:		
DESIGNATED*	(1,490,556)	(1,016,379)
RESERVES	(1,402,104)	(1,272,103)
Minus: Prepaid Expense	(72,139)	(33,939)
GASB 75	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)
LEAVE	<u>(666,947)</u>	<u>(666,049)</u>
AVAILABLE FUND BALANCE (UNASSIGNED)	2,711,420	2,838,932
 CASH IN BANK:		
TRUIST Investments	522,646	529,864
LGIP Investments	7,200,398	6,532,890
Checking & Petty Cash	<u>811,827</u>	<u>746,249</u>
TOTAL CASH IN BANK	8,534,871	7,809,003
Plus: A/R	9,170,389	4,798,876
Plus: Prepaid Expense	<u>72,139</u>	<u>33,939</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	17,777,399	12,641,818
Minus: A/P	(2,917,499)	(774,743)
Minus: Contracts A/P & Deferred Revenue	(7,507,562)	(5,030,936)
Minus: Misc. A/P	<u>(9,172)</u>	<u>(8,737)</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>(10,434,233)</u>	<u>(5,814,416)</u>
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	7,343,166	6,827,402
DESIGNATED (Committed)*	(1,490,556)	(1,016,379)
RESERVES (Committed)*	(1,402,104)	(1,272,103)
Minus: Prepaid Expense	(72,139)	(33,939)
GASB 75 (Assigned)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)
LEAVE (Assigned)	<u>(666,947)</u>	<u>(666,049)</u>
AVAILABLE FUND BALANCE (Unassigned)	2,711,420	2,838,932
 DIFF	 0	 0
	272,507	127,512

Note 1: From Balance Sheet

Total Assets
Minus: Capital Assets
Minus: Accounts Payable
Minus: Trans Pass-Thru (Contracts Payable)
Minus: Misc. Accounts Payable
= Fund Balance

Regional Legislative Agenda

REGIONAL PRIORITIES

The following statements are recommended as Regional Legislative Priorities for the HRPDC and HRTPO. If approved, we will actively advocate to advance these items on behalf of the Hampton Roads region.

Transportation Funding

Create a Primary and Secondary Road Fund for the Hampton Roads region that provides funding to advance critical and unfunded transportation projects

- The Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission (HRTAC) has used the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund (HRTF) to finance and construct a generational package of transportation improvements in Hampton Roads. The HRTF is funded by a regional sales and use tax and a regional gasoline tax. The regional sales and use tax is the primary funding source for the HRTF, and currently stands at 7/10 of a penny. With the pending completion of nearly \$6 billion of regional transportation improvements on the region's interstate network, now is the time to advance improvements to our region's local primary and secondary roads.
- We ask that the General Assembly create a Primary and Secondary Road Fund to advance transportation projects that are necessary to support/address economic development, the Port of Virginia, military/federal facilities, resiliency/flooding, public safety and other issues in Hampton Roads.
- We request that the General Assembly consider an increase in the regional sales and use tax to address these regional transportation funding needs (*per consensus at the July 2025 HRTPO Board meeting and August 2025 Regional Legislative Committee meeting*).
- The HRTPO has identified over \$3 billion in unfunded needs on our region's primary and secondary roads. These unfunded needs include a number of congested primary and secondary roads on both the Peninsula and Southside, including but not limited to Route 17, Victory Boulevard, the James River Bridge, Hampton Boulevard, Route 460, Independence Boulevard, Route 58, and other critical roadway segments.

State Funding for Planning District Commissions

Restore state funding to Planning District Commissions to the levels provided over two decades ago

- The HRPDC serves as the hub for regional cooperation in Hampton Roads and provides services and promotes collaboration that results in cost savings and a tremendous return on investment for the region and the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- State funding for the Hampton Roads PDC has continuously decreased over the past two decades from just over \$366,000 in 2001 to \$190,943 in 2025.
- When the Peninsula and Southside PDCs were merged, the HRPDC was reduced to one PDC funding share from the State.
- We request that the General Assembly demonstrate support for regionalism in Virginia by restoring \$250,000 of funding to each PDC in Virginia.

Flooding

Provide adequate funding through the Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) to meet the flood preparedness and resilience needs of the Commonwealth

- The Hampton Roads region has successfully accessed CFPF funding to assist with the costs of completing vulnerability assessments and develop action-oriented approaches to bolster flood preparedness and increase resilience in our communities.
- We request that the Commonwealth allocate a minimum of \$200 million per year to the CFPF to assist localities with their efforts to reduce the impacts of flooding.

Develop a state funding program to provide the non-federal match for federal grants to support large-scale flood relief projects

- Localities cannot afford the non-federal local match to unlock federal funding for flood mitigation projects. For example, the Army Corps of Engineers Coastal Storm Risk Management program provides 65% federal funding with a 35% non-federal match.
- In the case of Norfolk, a non-federal match of approximately \$900 million is needed to access the required federal funding. This challenge will also apply to several other local governments in our region.
- Since there is a significant return on investment and cost savings for the Commonwealth if our communities can access federal funding, we request that the state develop a funding program to contribute to the required non-federal share.

Trails

Provide state funding to help support a regional biking and walking trail network in Hampton Roads

- Our region has unanimously endorsed a regional trail network that, when completed, will provide over 250 miles of interconnected walking and biking trails, with portions of this system already developed.
- We ask that the General Assembly contribute funding to our regional trail backbone system, which includes the following trail segments:
 - Dismal Swamp Trail
 - Elizabeth River Trail
 - South Hampton Roads Trail
 - Trail757
 - Virginia Beach Trail
- The average cost of trail construction is between \$2 million and \$6 million per mile, depending on whether the trail is in a rural, suburban, or urban environment.
- Bike/walk trails have proven to be economic drivers for metropolitan areas across the country. Trail networks provide environmentally sustainable transportation options for all residents, promote a healthy and active lifestyle, and attract residents and visitors to our region. Community surveys demonstrate broad support for walking and biking trails in Hampton Roads.
- This regional network will brand Hampton Roads as the epicenter for walking and biking opportunities in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Emergency Response and Sheltering

Provide State assistance to address regional emergency sheltering/mass care needs

The Hampton Roads region and the entire Coastal Region of Virginia have the potential to be significantly impacted by storm and tidal events that may create a need for emergency response and sheltering. It is clear that planning and responding to these emergency events requires coordination at a scale larger than any one PDC region. Depending on the scale or location of a storm event, sheltering or other responses will need to be coordinated throughout Virginia and neighboring states.

We request the assistance of the Virginia General Assembly to address the following emergency sheltering needs at the State level:

- Improve Emergency Shelter Staffing
- Increase Regional Sheltering/Mass Care Capabilities

- Create a Statewide Shelter Registration System
- Strengthen Emergency Management Capabilities through the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) by enhancing VDEM's financial independence (currently, only 20% of VDEM's budget is supported with State funding – 80% is provided by Federal grant monies)

Energy

Support State policies and programs that provide for an “All of the Above” approach to energy development

- Access to reliable, affordable, and increasingly clean energy is critical to the economic growth of Hampton Roads and the entire Commonwealth of Virginia. Energy demand within Dominion Energy's service territory, which includes eastern Virginia, including Hampton Roads, is forecast to increase by more than 5 percent annually over the next decade and double by 2040. Meeting this demand will require an “all of the above” approach that includes significant investments in new generation sources, an expanded and improved transmission and distribution grid, and continued focus on energy efficiency programs.
- To unlock economic development opportunities for the Hampton Roads economy, we must explore advancements in all available generation sources, including offshore wind, solar, advanced nuclear, natural gas, and energy storage.
- We support State policies and programs that encourage a diversified energy portfolio.

Water Quality

Provide funding through the Water Quality Improvement Fund to support Chesapeake Bay Clean Up efforts in Hampton Roads

- We request funding support through the Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) to support the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) in its efforts to meet nutrient reduction goals.
- HRSD is currently carrying the largest share of Virginia's Chesapeake Bay cleanup under the state-mandated 2021 Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty Program (ENRC). In the last twenty years, the Commonwealth has invested hundreds of millions from the WQIF in northern Virginia upgrades—now Hampton Roads is where the burden falls.
- Without sufficient appropriations in the State Budget, the shortfall will fall upon Hampton Roads ratepayers.
- HRSD's SWIFT program is under active construction to comply with the upcoming regulatory deadlines.

Transit Funding

Provide adequate funding support for Hampton Roads' three transit systems

- Public transportation options contribute to the quality of life for Hampton Roads residents and are a key component of our region's goals for a multi-modal transportation system.
- We request that the General Assembly preserve and consider increased funding to support Hampton Roads Transit, Williamsburg Area Transit Authority, and Suffolk Transit.

Passenger Rail

Continue to support efforts that will produce faster and more reliable passenger rail service between Hampton Roads, Richmond, and the Northeast Corridor

- Passenger rail ridership continues to grow within Hampton Roads, with over 950,000 riders using either the Norfolk or Newport News trains in the last year.
- With modern passenger rail stations in both Newport News and Norfolk, and significant increases in passenger rail ridership in Hampton Roads, now is the time to expand our current service and continue efforts to reduce travel time.
- We support projects that will reduce passenger rail travel time from the Norfolk and Newport News stations to the Richmond/I-95 corridor and Washington, DC.
- We also request that our region's current and planned passenger rail trains be maintained during the construction of the Long Bridge project in Northern Virginia.

Elizabeth River Crossings Toll Relief

Support continued efforts to mitigate the impact of tolls at the Downtown and Midtown Tunnels

- We applaud the work of the Virginia General Assembly to continue to expand toll relief efforts at the Downtown and Midtown Tunnels.
- We support and encourage continued collaboration to explore all options to further reduce toll rates for our residents and businesses.

REGIONAL POSITION STATEMENTS

The HRPDC/HRTPO will monitor the following Regional Position Statements during the General Assembly session and support and oppose proposed legislation as appropriate.

Housing

We support State policy decisions that assist in providing housing opportunities and inventory for all Hampton Roads residents. We also support the continuation of funding for the Housing Trust Fund and extension, expansion, and improvement of the Housing Opportunity Tax Credit. The HRPDC is leading the preparation of our region's first housing assessment to identify housing gaps and needs and determine strategies to address our housing challenges. We request support for this regional housing assessment and the recommendations and strategies that will be produced by this effort.

Flood Sensors

We encourage the State to continue to gather data on roadway flooding occurrences, including making investments in flood sensor networks to assist in predicting roadway flooding events.

Jefferson Lab

We offer unanimous regional support for efforts to advance the Department of Energy's High Performance Data Facility at Jefferson Lab.

Protect Local Land Use Authority

We support maintaining and expanding local authority to plan and regulate land use and oppose any legislation that weakens these key local responsibilities.

Reject Unfunded Mandates

We ask that the General Assembly oppose any proposals that would impose new unfunded mandates and fiscal responsibilities on local governments, including tax exemptions that will have unintended consequences on the localities' operating budgets.

Economic Development Site Readiness

We continue to support state funding programs and policies that assist local governments with preparing shovel-ready economic development sites.

Transportation Maintenance and Repair

Costs for transportation system maintenance continue to rise with inflation. The Commonwealth should consider increased assistance to address these maintenance needs.

**Summary Minutes of the HRPDC/HRTPO
Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
April 10, 2025**

The April 10, 2025, meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC)/ Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) was held at the Nauticus in the Nauticus Conference Room 2nd floor at 1 Waterside Dr. Norfolk, VA 23510.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 12:00 PM with the following in attendance:

CAC Members in Attendance

Lauren Roberts Carter(NO)
Sharon D. Anderson (PO)

Maleah Amos (PO)
Frank Cotrupi (NN)

CAC Members Absent

Anthony Piglowski (SU)
Travis Davidson (NO)

Brad Martin (VB)

HRPDC/HRTPO Staff

Quan McLaurin
Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Pavithra Parthasarathi

John Mihaly
Rob Case
Robert Cofield

Partner Agencies

Mitzi Crystal (VDOT)
Todd Nichols, HRMFFA

Larry Belcher, VWU
Keith Moore, VWU

Additional Attendees

Michael McKendall, Sentara
Ray Amoruso, HRT
Todd DuRose, SBDC
Shelby Dell, On Point Trans.
Nate Sandel, Nauticus
Josh Sterling, HRA
Shannon Sorrell, Dominion Energy
Daniel Ogunyemi, VIMS

Sherri Dawson, HRT
Michael Glover, Truist/VAPC
Kelsey Backt, WHRO
Cat Taterway, Nauticus
Patricia Gibson, ULHR
Michael Evans, HRA
Jimmy Fay, State Farm

Approval/Modification of Agenda

The Chair, Lauren Roberts Carter, asked the committee if there were any amendments or discussions surrounding the agenda's approval. There was no discussion or amendments brought forth.

Without objection, the Chair and committee allowed the agenda to move forth as presented.

Public Comments

- **Submitted Public Comments**

Mr. Quan McLaurin reported that no public comments had been submitted.

- **Public Comment Period**

Members of the public were invited to address the CAC, but no in-person requests for public comment were received.

Minutes

The Chair, Lauren Roberts Carter, asked the committee if there were any requested modifications or discussions surrounding the approval of the February CAC 2025 minutes. There was no additional discussion or requested modifications.

Maleah motioned to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

HRPDC/HRTPO Summary Report – Quan McLaurin, HRPDC, DEI & Title VI Civil Rights Liaison

Mr. McLaurin shared the HRPDC/HRTPO Summary report with the committee with specific emphasis on the most recent Executive Director's Report for the April 2025 Commission meeting, current HRTPO public notices, and the regional Great American Cleanup.

Nauticus – Cat Taterway, Associate Director of Marketing for Nauticus, and Nate Sandel, Director of Education/Community Engagement for Nauticus

Cat Taterway welcomed the CAC and thanked the group for holding the CAC meeting at Nauticus. Ms. Taterway then provided an overview of Nauticus and shared updates related to Nauticus, including recent renovations. Nauticus is currently trying to see how the organization can be more engaged with Norfolk's important conversations, such as sea level rise and the proposed floodwall. Ms. Taterway then shared updates related to the Half Moon cruise terminal and how it is growing and expanding, and the city of Norfolk is invested in its success.

Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) 757 Express Updates – Sherri Dawson and Ray Amoruso of HRT

Mr. Ray Amoruso shared about the latest Hampton Roads Transit (HRT) improvements to HRT. Mr. Amoruso began by reinforcing the importance of public transit for socially vulnerable populations. In regards to funding, HRT is funded by the Hampton Roads Regional Transportation Fund (HRRTF) approximately \$31 million/year in perpetuity) from the General Assembly. This has provided the funding needed for the 757 Express, which provides a core "backbone" of routes that run in 15 minute intervals throughout the region.

Three of the 757 Express routes have been deployed (route 112, 114, 20). They are all on primary travel pathways in proximity to employment and population centers. In addition, other HRT updates include capital improvements (passenger amenities, maintenance facilities), support for commuter service, the purchase of 48 new buses, investment in real-time bus information via mobile devices and QR codes at stops, conversion of fareboxes to allow for mobile ticketing.

Additionally, HRT has a goal of equipping 650 more stops with shelters, benches, ADA compliant accommodations, lighting, and waste receptacles. There is a long term goal of 2,700 stops. Additionally, there are terminal upgrades being planned in Virginia Beach, Hampton, and Chesapeake as well as a new Southside bus maintenance facility.

Mr. Amoroso shared that there is a bus operator shortage that is causing significant challenges to HRT.

The CAC discussed creating an “Adopt a Stop” program which could consist of potential partnership with businesses, colleges, and community groups to fund and enhance bus stops.

Elizabeth River Trail – Kindra Greene, Executive Director

Ms. Kindra Greene provided the CAC with an overview of the Elizabeth River Trail (ERT). It is a 10.5-mile existing trail from near Norfolk State University (NSU) to the Port of Virginia. It is 97% off-road, aiming for a completely off-road protected trail. The ERT connects 30 neighborhoods and major anchor institutions (Port of Virginia, NSU, Old Dominion University, EVMS/Sentara Complex, CHKD). The trail serves as recreation and transportation infrastructure, connecting to light rail and HRT stops. There is even a conceptual “Blue Way” or water trail with kayak launches. The trail was formed in 2016 as a 501c3 spinoff of Greater Norfolk Corporation. Their mission is to plan, program, and advocate for the ERT, with the goal to connect Naval Station Norfolk to the Virginia Beach Trail.

Ms. Greene reviewed some of the ERT accomplishments including installing 500+ wayfinding signs, developing Plum Point Park trailhead with various amenities, installation of the “Glow Line” in Jeff Robertson Park, development of the Water Street Resilience Park with porous asphalt and living shoreline, widening the East End trail section, numerous public art installations (approx. 12 pieces), and over 100 free programs annually.

An economic impact study showed an \$18.7 million dollar impact to Norfolk. ERT is a line item in the Norfolk’s budget (\$150,000), providing a 4-to-1 ROI. The current proposed city budget includes continued funding at the same level. The trail had over 672,000 trail interactions in 2024.

Future plans include connecting to St. Paul’s Greenway, integrating the trail with the upcoming flood wall project, and connecting to the Virginia Beach Trail.

There was a call to action for advocacy for trail funding and volunteer support.

Membership Subcommittee – Quan McLaurin, HRPDC, DEI & Title VI/Civil Rights Liaison and Lauren Roberts Carter, CAC Chair

Mr. McLaurin provided the CAC with an update about the CAC Membership Subcommittee. The subcommittee has been meeting to review applications and onboard new members. Mr. McLaurin and Ms. Roberts Carter encouraged members to refer prospective members from their respective communities, and for current members in attendance to engage with one another.

Report Out from Members – Quan McLaurin, HRPDC, DEI & Title VI Civil Rights Liaison

Mr. McLaurin invited members to report out any updates. Kelsey Backt from WHRO highlighted their newsroom and daily newsletter encouraging organizations to send press releases.

Next Meeting

Mr. McLaurin shared that the next CAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 12, 2025, at Virginia Wesleyan University's Greer Environmental Center.

Old/New Business

There was no new old/new business to address.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Roberts Carter adjourned the meeting at 2:10 pm.

**Summary Minutes of the HRPDC/HRTPO
Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting
June 12, 2025**

The April 10, 2025, meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC)/ Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) was held at the Greer Environmental Center at Virginia Wesleyan University located at 5817 Wesleyan Drive Virginia Beach, VA 23455

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 12:00 PM with the following in attendance:

CAC Members in Attendance

Lauren Roberts Carter(NO)
Sharon D. Anderson (PO)
Brad Martin (VB)

Maleah Amos (PO)
Frank Cotrupi (NN)

CAC Members Absent

Anthony Piglowski (SU)

Travis Davidson (NO)

HRPDC/HRTPO Staff

Quan McLaurin
Kyle Gilmer
Sean Asbrand
Tho Tran
Matt Klepeisz

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Dale Stith
Keith Nichols
Eric Walberg
KC Filippino

Partner Agencies

Scott Miller, VWU
Damon Pauly, VDOT
Drew Lumpkin, HRER

Oge Nwandu-Vincent, VDOT
Jo Ann Short, Planning Council
Mariah David, VDOT

Additional Attendees

Shawn Tasch, GoCommute HRT
Destini Harrell, The Blessed Rogue
Josh Sterling, HRA
Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky
Dr. Maynard Schaus, VWU

Michael Evans, HRA
Cami Castleberry, CNU
Michael Evans, HRA
Tom Finderson, Isle of Wight

Approval/Modification of Agenda

The Chair, Lauren Roberts Carter, asked the committee if there were any amendments or discussions surrounding the agenda's approval. There was no discussion or amendments brought forth.

Without objection, the Chair and committee allowed the agenda to move forth as presented.

Public Comments

- **Submitted Public Comments**

Mr. Quan McLaurin reported that no public comments had been submitted.

- **Public Comment Period**

Members of the public were invited to address the CAC, but no in-person requests for public comment were received.

Rail Crossing Study – Keith Nichols, HRTPO

Mr. Nichols briefed the CAC on the latest updates to the Rail Crossing Study, with which they had previously been engaged in 2024.

The study was created to address freight movement conflicts and leverage new federal and state funding for improvements. There are 619 rail crossings in the region; 473 are at-grade, and 307 are public and at-grade. Norfolk has the most public at-grade crossings (73).

Mr. Nichols then introduced and explained the prioritization methodology. Prioritization factors include traffic volume, safety (crashes, emergency response access), roadway characteristics (type, military importance, proximity to grade-separated crossings), train volumes, estimated delay, and area factors (sole access points, vulnerable communities). [\[31:37\]](#)

Mr. Nichols then discussed the top prioritized crossings: [\[36:15\]](#)

- #1: Hampton Boulevard at Terminal (Norfolk)
- #2: Granby Street (Norfolk)
- #3: Church Street near 20th (Norfolk)
- The top 25 list includes locations in Isle of Wight (US 258 at Route 460), Suffolk, and one on the Peninsula (Airport Road). [\[37:52\]](#)

Mr. Nichols then outlined the next steps in the study: [\[40:22\]](#)

- Analyze the top 25 crossings in detail to develop a candidate list of projects.
- Investigate federal and state grant programs.
- Engage with localities and railroads.
- Aim for a draft report by Fall/Winter 2025.

Mr. Nichols reiterated that the study addresses daily commutes, emergency response, and the economic impact of freight movement, and it prepares for future increases in rail freight. [\[42:34\]](#)

Hampton Roads Climate Action Plan Update – KC Filippino, HRPDC

Ms. Filippino provided the CAC with an update related to the administration of the HRPDC's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.

Ms. Filippino shared that the goal of the grant is to develop a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the region, funded by an EPA grant. [\[50:40\]](#) The planning area includes the HRPDC footprint plus three North Carolina localities and Mathews County. [\[51:20\]](#)

The overarching goals include: Cleaner air, job creation, lower energy costs, and community collaboration. The process has included several steps so far:

- A steering committee with diverse representation was formed. [\[52:18\]](#)
- A Priority Climate Action Plan (PECAP) is available online. [\[52:37\]](#)
- Consultants analyzed greenhouse gas emission sources. [\[52:48\]](#)
- Draft measures and actions have been developed. [\[53:36\]](#)

There are six focus sectors & draft actions:

- Industry: Support emission reductions, coordinate with healthcare, develop sustainability plans, explore innovative strategies (hydrogen, carbon capture). [\[55:10\]](#)
- Solid Waste & Wastewater: Decrease landfill waste, improve recycling, expand composting, support wastewater plant upgrades and innovative technologies. [\[56:10\]](#)
- Agricultural & Natural Lands: Preserve/increase forests and wetlands, support local food production, improve soil health and agricultural practices. [\[57:17\]](#)
- Transportation: Increase zero-emission vehicle adoption, improve EV charging, support port sustainability, reduce vehicle miles traveled, enhance public transit and cycling/pedestrian infrastructure. [\[58:38\]](#)
- Buildings: Monitor/lower energy usage, make buildings more energy-efficient, access funding for better-than-code construction. [\[59:38\]](#)
- Large-Scale Grid Energy: Grow solar programs, support grid-scale clean energy (wind farms), enhance grid resiliency. [\[01:00:23\]](#)

To ensure that the plan is reflective of community sentiment, there is a concerted public engagement effort associated with the plan. A webinar and public survey are being launched to prioritize draft measures.

Ms. Filippino asked CAC members to take the survey and share it within networks to gather broad community input, especially from vulnerable communities. [\[01:01:05\]](#)

Regional Strategic Planning – Eric Walberg and Tho Tran, HRPDC

Mr. Walberg and Mr. Tran provided CAC members with an overview of the development of the regional strategic planning efforts. The plan is required by the Code of Virginia, focuses

on the regional level, and builds on existing local, regional, and state plans. [\[01:12:59\]](#)

The plan aims to improve quality of life, enhance regional competitiveness, integrate locality needs, and create a framework for long-term decision-making. [\[01:14:25\]](#)

The process included the following:

- Phase 1: Analysis of existing plans (over 50 reviewed using AI), stakeholder engagement, identification of regional priorities and metrics. [\[01:15:20\]](#)
- Phase 2: Focus on goals linked to priorities and create action plans for a subset.

The framework centers on Hampton Roads residents, aiming to attract visitors, investors, and talent, with six core dimensions: Economy, Visitor Appeal, Housing & Community Development, Residential Well-being, Infrastructure, and Natural Environment. [\[01:17:10\]](#)

Mr. Tran provided the group with Hampton Road's regional context.

- Aging population. [\[01:20:45\]](#)
- Slow aggregate population growth. [\[01:21:37\]](#)
- Changing development footprint (growth in greenfield areas, demand for warehouse space). [\[01:22:01\]](#)
- Rising diversity. [\[01:23:38\]](#)
- Increasing impacts of sea-level rise and changing precipitation patterns. [\[01:24:12\]](#)

☑CAC members were asked to participate in an interactive Menti poll and survey.

- Early survey results (staff & CAC) indicate Economy and Housing as top concerns. [\[01:25:30\]](#)
- The CAC Menti Poll showed the following economic feedback [\[01:26:57\]](#)
 1. Losing skilled workers/struggling to attract new talent.
 2. Lack of competitive wages.
 3. Slow private sector growth.
 4. Weak entrepreneurship and innovation.

CAC discussion highlighted interconnections (e.g., wages and talent retention), the need for an entrepreneurship-friendly culture, regional approaches to remove barriers, lack of venture capital, and the importance of site readiness for business attraction. [\[01:29:47\]](#)

- CAC Menti Poll showed the following infrastructure priorities feedback: [\[01:43:06\]](#)
 1. Limited public transit options.
 2. Traffic congestion.
 3. Insufficient funding for local road upgrades.
 4. Energy infrastructure lagging behind demand.

CAC discussion emphasized the need for better transit (learning from other cities) and the critical issue of energy infrastructure capacity for economic development, including the potential of small modular reactors (SMRs) and challenges with natural gas supply. [\[01:44:50\]](#)

Members were asked to continue to remain engaged in the strategic planning effort.

Next Meeting

Mr. McLaurin shared that the next CAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 14, 2025, at Brock Environmental Center.

Old/New Business

Lauren shared about the forthcoming Talent Attraction Pilot Program launching soon, run in partnership with the Hampton Roads Chamber and Executive Round Table. The program aims to showcase Hampton Roads, industry sectors, and housing options to retain and attract talent.

Adjournment

With no further business, Chair Roberts Carter adjourned the meeting at 2:10 pm.

**Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC)
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Committee Meeting
Summary Minutes of July 2, 2025**

The July 2, 2025 meeting of the CAO Committee was called to order at 11:45 am by CAO Committee Chair Mary Bunting at Two City Center, 11820 Fountain Way, Suite 300, Newport News, VA 23606.

CAO Committee Members in Attendance

Mary Bunting, Chair	Hampton
Rosylen Oglesby	Franklin
Carol Steele	Gloucester County
Don Robertson	Isle of Wight County
Scott Stevens	James City County
Alan Archer	Newport News
Randy Wheeler	Poquoson
Michael Stallings	Smithfield
Brian Thrower	Southampton County
Al Moor	Suffolk
Melissa Rollins	Surry County
Andrew Trivette	Williamsburg
Mark Bellamy	York County

CAO Committee Members Absent

Chris Price, Vice Chair	Chesapeake
Patrick Roberts	Norfolk
Steven Carter	Portsmouth
Patrick Duhaney	Virginia Beach

Executive Director:

Robert Crum	HRPDC
-------------	-------

Others Recorded Attending:

Doug Beaver	City of Norfolk
Erin Carter	Senator Mark Warner's Office
Alex Case	Cordillera Applications Group
Annie Eng	Access Point
Alex Frazier	Senator Tim Kaine's Office
Bob Geis	City of Chesapeake
Greg Grootendorst	HRPDC
Gretchen Heal	Hampton Roads Chamber
Blaine Hutchens	Senator Mark Warner's Office
Diane Kaufman	Senator Tim Kaine's Office
Peter Stephensen	VRSA
Cassidy Taylor	Access Point/City of Suffolk
David Westcott	City of Chesapeake
Jerri Wilson	City of Newport News

Welcome

Ms. Bunting thanked Mr. Alan Archer for hosting the CAO meeting. Mr. Archer welcomed the CAO Committee and provided a brief overview of the new office space in City Center.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Bunting reviewed the proposed agenda for the CAO meeting and asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda as distributed. There being none, Mr. Stallings moved to approve the agenda as presented, Mr. Wheeler seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Ms. Bunting asked if there were any members of the public present who wanted to address the CAO Committee. There being no comments, the Public Comment period was closed.

Approval of the Minutes

Ms. Bunting asked if there were any questions on the minutes of the previous meeting; hearing none, Mr. Stallings moved to approve the minutes, Ms. Steele seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Regional Operational Coordination Tabletop Exercise Briefing

Mr. Bob Geis of Chesapeake and Mr. Doug Beaver of Norfolk introduced Mr. Alex Case of Cordillera Applications Group to brief the CAOs on a series of emergency management tabletop exercises planned for 2025.

Mr. Case explained that the exercises are designed to strengthen coordination and decision-making during emergency situations through a tiered training approach. An initial staff-level exercise took place on June 24, involving representatives from all 17 jurisdictions as well as other local and regional agencies. The next session is scheduled for July 29 and will engage Deputy City Managers and Assistant County Administrators. A final exercise with Chief Administrative Officers is planned for September 11. These upcoming sessions will utilize regionally relevant scenarios to reinforce internal procedures, enhance cross-jurisdictional understanding, and foster stronger regional collaboration.

Items of Regional Interest

Ms. Bunting opened the discussion on topics of regional interest, emphasizing that a key benefit of CAO meeting agendas is the exchange of information on shared issues, challenges, and best practices across localities. She noted that, at the Executive Director's recommendation, today's regional information-sharing item was moved to the beginning of the agenda. Each CAO then had the opportunity to present an item of regional interest from their locality in a roundtable format.

A summary of items reported out by the CAOs is as follows:

- Surry County staff are working to bring a YMCA to the county
- Mr. Robertson is new to his role as CAO and looks forward to future participation in regional meetings
- The City of Hampton received an “All American City” award for its efforts on resilience
- Virginia 250 will be kicking off at Fort Monroe
- Kevin Hughes of Suffolk will be assuming the role of acting City Manager
- Providing additional benefits for emergency dispatchers is a topic requiring regional attention. Suggestions include personal property tax breaks, adding operators to VRS, and adding dispatchers to the LEOs plan; animal control and park rangers also require consideration
- Gloucester Point Beach restoration project received \$2.4 million to construct a living shoreline

Regional Legislative Agenda

Ms. Bunting initiated the legislative agenda discussion, noting that Bob Crum will begin developing the Regional Legislative Agenda in July to prepare for its consideration and approval by the Commission and HRTPO Board in October and November.

Mr. Crum outlined the timeline and general process necessary for the development of the regional legislative agenda, noting the scope and the significant role it has as a regionally relevant document.

Mr. Crum discussed the following topics specifically:

Primary and secondary road funding
Regional flood prevention
Funding for walking and biking trails
Regional energy supply
State funding for Planning District Commissions

There was discussion regarding the veteran’s tax deferral program, with a general consensus that this topic requires further discussion. Decisions made by the Commonwealth that have a significant impact on localities can result in questions of equity, hardship, and effective administration. Further discussion resulted in an agreement to discuss tax modernization at the next CAO meeting.

HRPDC/HRTPO Committee Structure

Mr. Crum noted that the HRPDC has numerous committees made up of staff from localities, who offer guidance on a wide range of regional initiatives and programs led by both the HRPDC and the HRTPO. At present, 49 committees, subcommittees, and working groups are facilitated by HRPDC and HRTPO staff; a list of the committees was provided to the CAOs. Mr. Greg Grootendorst and Mr. Crum provided a brief synopsis on several committees and working groups, noting the benefits of collaboration, sharing of best practices, and uniformity in working towards solutions to

common issues. Mr. Al Moor shared some experiences he has had with his involvement in the Directors of Utilities Committee, touching on the benefits of camaraderie with neighboring localities when problem-solving.

Hampton Roads 2050 Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

Mr. Crum provided the CAO Committee with an update on the 2050 LRTP planning process and highlighted the input needed from each locality to ensure their transportation projects are incorporated into the ranking process of the long-range plan.

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the CAO Committee.

Next Scheduled Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on September 3, 2025, at 11:30 AM and will be hosted by the City of Chesapeake.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the CAO Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Crum
Recording Secretary

MEETING SUMMARY

ASKHRGREEN.ORG ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION COMMITTEES

The askHRgreen.org Environmental Education Committees met in July, August, and September to discuss the following ongoing programs and initiatives.

All committees discussed their FY26 education and outreach messaging and campaign priorities to help develop the overall FY26 askHRgreen.org media and marketing plan.

askHRgreen.org Recycling & Beautification Committee – July 8, August 26, September 9

- The Committee is implementing a three-year EPA Recycling Education and Outreach Grant. Recent work includes completing the *Feet on the Street* cart tagging initiative and analyzing results from the regional recycling confidence benchmarking survey and focus groups.
- A new “Foam Free” campaign was launched to help small restaurants and food service establishments in Hampton Roads comply with Virginia’s EPS ban, which goes into effect July 1, 2026. Business owners can request free sample kits to test alternative packaging options by submitting a form online at askHRgreen.org/foam-free.

askHRgreen.org Stormwater Education Committee – July 18, September 19

- The Committee received a \$4,700 grant from the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund to support environmental education mini grants, rain barrel workshops, and new stormwater education display materials in FY26.
- Work continues on refreshing the Bay Star Homes and Bay Star Business programs. Goals include updating the logo, aligning the residential and business programs, and simplifying the registration process.

askHRgreen.org Fats, Oils, & Grease Education Committee – July 15, August 19, September 16

- The Committee continues to work with translation services to make Food Service Employee FOG training videos available in both Spanish and Chinese to better serve populations with limited English proficiency in the region.
- The Committee finalized a new brochure to educate food service establishments on the benefits of high-capacity grease control devices.

askHRgreen.org Water Awareness Committee – July 24, September 25

- The Committee discussed regulatory requirements related to lead and PFAS outreach.
- The Committee finalized campaign plans to promote Imagine a Day Without Water, a national awareness initiative, on October 16.

MEETING SUMMARY COASTAL RESILIENCY COMMITTEE

The HRPDC Coastal Resiliency Committee met on September 26, 2025. The following items were discussed.

- Ms. Carolyn Heaps-Pecaro, DCR Office of Resilience Planning, gave a presentation to the Committee on the office's activities supporting local, regional, and state resilience initiatives, including data and other resources.
- Mr. Ben McFarlane, HRPDC, updated the Committee on the Community Flood Preparedness Fund.
- Ms. Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC, updated the Committee on the regional roadway flooding sensor network project.
- Mr. McFarlane updated the Committee on regional design guidelines, NOAA precipitation intensity-duration-frequency products, LiDAR elevation data, and ASCE 24-24.
- Ms. Emma Corbitt, HRPDC, updated the Committee on flood insurance outreach efforts, including the proposed regional program for public information (PPI) and updates to GetFloodFluent.org.
- Mr. McFarlane updated the Committee on the Virginia Flood Resilience Advisory Committee.
- Mr. McFarlane briefed the Committee on the proposed FY27 Coastal Resiliency Program budget and work program.

MEETING SUMMARY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Development Review Committee met on September 12, 2025. The following items were discussed.

Introductions & Purpose

- Meeting convened by HRPDC (Hampton Roads Planning District Commission) at the request of the City of Chesapeake.
- Goal: establish a new forum (Development Review Committee) to coordinate and improve development review processes across localities.
- Participants included planners, zoning administrators, engineers, and directors from multiple localities (Suffolk, Surry, Gloucester, Newport News, Isle of Wight, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth, York, Chesapeake, Williamsburg, and HRPDC staff).

Initial Poll & Priorities

- A Menti poll was used to set priorities for the group.
- Top priority: Information sharing between localities.
- Other important areas:
 - Sharing best practices and lessons learned.
 - Standardizing processes where feasible.
 - Discussing responses to legislation (notably HB 2660).
 - Considering limited engagement with the development community (perhaps once annually).
 - Exploring case study presentations from different localities at future meetings.

Key Themes from Discussion

1. Information Sharing Needs
 - Localities face similar complaints and challenges from developers.
 - Beneficial to compare notes on staffing models, new trends (e.g., battery energy storage systems), and tools for handling state mandates.
 - Small localities especially value learning how larger localities address issues with more staff.
2. House Bill 2660 Concerns
 - Shortens review timelines for site plans and plats.
 - Localities fear it removes flexibility and may worsen review quality.
 - Some report unintended consequences:
 - More frequent plan denials.
 - Increased workload from poor-quality resubmittals.
 - Developers making major changes mid-review without resetting the timeline.
 - Chesapeake, Newport News, and others now treat substantial revisions as new submittals.
 - Some localities impose 6-month expiration rules for resubmittals.

3. Work Group Update (HB 2660 Implementation)
 - A state-level work group was created to review the Virginia Code and make recommendations.
 - So far, focused mainly on organization and definitions, not substantive changes.
 - Must report findings by Nov 1, 2025.
 - Many localities are skeptical that it can resolve deeper issues given the limited scope and timeline.
4. Best Practices & Case Studies
 - Interest in rotating locality-led presentations on new regulations, electronic processing, stormwater, and erosion/sediment control.
 - Suggested categorizing topics and scheduling ahead.
5. Legislative Advocacy
 - Mixed views: some want to push recommendations to the General Assembly; others are skeptical that the state will listen.
 - Recognized the importance of presenting unified feedback to avoid being caught off guard (as happened with HB 2660).
6. Engagement with Development Community
 - Acknowledged tension: need input from developers but including them in every meeting could limit candid discussion among peers.
 - Proposal: Inviting developers once per year for a structured dialogue.

Next Steps/Actions

- Continue quarterly meetings.
- Consider structured rotating presentations by localities.
- Track developments of the HB 2660 work group and prepare unified feedback for future legislative sessions.
- Explore further topics: new land uses (data centers, battery storage), online permitting tools, and coordination on mandatory vs. optional requirements.

Overall takeaway:

The committee is forming a collaborative regional platform to share knowledge, standardize processes, and respond collectively to legislative changes (especially HB 2660). Concerns center around review timelines, staffing constraints, developer quality control, and unintended consequences of state mandates.

MEETING SUMMARY DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The Directors of Utilities Committee met virtually on July 2, 2025. The following items were discussed:

- The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) regulation for reporting emergencies within two hours
- HRSD's proposed changes to their Integrated Plan (Regional Wet Weather Management Plan)
- Renewal of the Groundwater Mitigation Program MOA that expires in December
- Infrastructure funding challenges
- Smart meter implementation plans and projects across the region
- Regional Water Supply Planning data collection and review efforts by HRPDC staff

The Directors of Utilities Committee met in Chesapeake and via Teams on August 6, 2025. The following items were discussed:

- Updates on Water Supply planning data review by HRPDC staff
- Communications from VDH or the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) related to potential impacts from wastewater spills upstream of Hampton Roads
- HRSD's program and partnerships with localities to convert properties served by septic systems to public sewer service
- The Richmond Water Outage in Winter 2025 with Richmond's current Director of Public Utilities
- Updates on groundwater research and policy initiatives
- The FY 2027 program budgets for the HRPDC Water Program and Wastewater Program

The Directors of Utilities Committee met virtually on September 3, 2025. The following items were discussed:

- Updates on Water Supply Planning guidance from DEQ
- HSRD's High Priority Inflow and Infiltration Reduction Program
- Engaging with MissionH2O members on groundwater policy initiatives
- Water and wastewater sector strategies to improve energy efficiencies and reduce emissions

The Directors of Utilities Committee met in Newport News and virtually on October 1, 2025. The following items were discussed:

- Updates on DEQ Water Supply Planning Grants for FY 2025 and FY 2026
- Approaches to addressing contractor damages to utility infrastructure during the construction of new developments
- Changes to HRSD's door tagging operations to notify customers of impending shut-offs resulting from non-payment
- Toilet rebate programs and other customer programs that help to address affordability
- Updates from state and regional water and wastewater sector meetings

MEETING SUMMARY PLANNING DIRECTORS COMMITTEE

The Planning Directors of the Hampton Roads region met on July 31, August 28, and September 25, 2025. The following items were discussed.

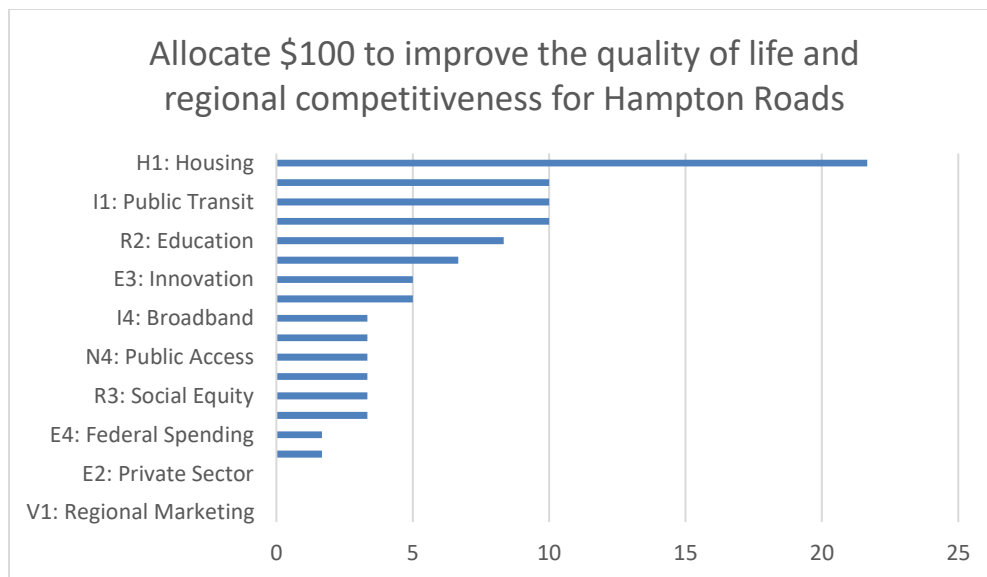
July 31 Meeting

Presentation: Regional Strategic Plan

Presenters: Eric Walberg, Tho Tran, HRPDC

- Purpose: Develop a regional strategic plan per Virginia Code requirements; outward-facing plan for the Hampton Roads region.
- Goals:
 1. Improve the quality of life for residents.
 2. Enhance regional competitiveness through cross-jurisdictional collaboration.
- Approach:
 - Phase 1 (Current): Evaluate current status, compile regional data, analyze existing state/regional/local plans (50+ reviewed), conduct stakeholder engagement.
 - Phase 2 (Upcoming): Prioritize key issues, set goals, and develop actionable plans.
- Engagement to date: Commission meeting in July, young professionals' group (Southside meeting completed; Peninsula meeting pending), Community Advisory Committee, upcoming meetings with partner agencies, and public survey in the fall.

Following the presentation, the Directors participated in an exercise to rank regional priorities, resulting in the table below:



Locality Round Table Discussion

Topics covered included several new housing projects in Newport News, increased development review workload, and changes in development review processes in York County, Suffolk, and Williamsburg due to recent changes to the State Code.

August 28 Meeting

Guest Presentation: Right-Sizing Affordable Housing Strategies

Presenter: Jeremy Goldstein & Amanda Klepper, Line and Grade

- No single solution: Strategies must align with local market conditions, capacity, and resources.
- Affordable housing has shifted from federally driven to partnership-based models involving private sectors, nonprofits, and governments.
- Three main approaches:
 1. Regulatory – Inclusionary zoning, density bonuses, expedited reviews, mandates.
 2. Financial – Incentives (grants, abatements, land provision) or requirements (fees in lieu).
 3. Programmatic – Outreach, technical assistance, grant writing, and smaller interventions.

Takeaways:

- Market context matters (strong vs. weak housing markets).
- Partnerships with developers are critical.
- Developers value clarity, predictability, and incentives.

Case Studies:

- Pinellas County, FL – toolkit of consistent policies.
- Tampa, FL – density bonus policy calibrated to market feasibility.
- Charleston, SC – development feasibility calculator.
- Tools and checklists help evaluate context-appropriate strategies.

Locality Round Table Discussion

The discussion following the presentation went long, so only a few minutes remained for the round table discussion. Vape shop regulations were briefly discussed.

September 25 Meeting

Guest Presentation: Virginia Statewide Community Land Trust

Speaker: Michelle Winters, CEO

- **What is a Community Land Trust:** A nonprofit that owns the land and leases it (99-year renewable ground lease) to maintain permanent affordability; the homeowner owns the home.
- **Resale/Equity:** Owners keep down payment, principal paydown, and modest, formula-based appreciation. VSCLT uses several formulas: the most common links price growth to Area Median Income (AMI), so the home stays affordable at the same AMI band over time.
- **Why it matters:**
 - Converts one-time subsidy into permanent affordable homeownership (avoids expiring covenants).
 - Build wealth for households who'd likely remain renters.
 - Shields units from gentrification pressures; CLT stewards properties long-term (policy, repair support, homeowner guidance).
- **Financing:** Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac programs (approved for VSCLT model) and Virginia Housing participating lenders support CLT mortgages. Loan-to-value (LTV) is favorable because underwriting considers market value vs. lower CLT sale price; down payment may not be required depending on the program.
- **Supply side:** VSCLT typically partners with developers (nonprofit or for-profit) and habitats, pursuing economies of scale, standardized plans, and modular homes where suitable. VSCLT is exploring limited in-house development capacity.
- **Affordability levels achieved:** With strong partners (e.g., Habitat) as low as ~40% AMI; many current efforts target ≤80% AMI (policy-driven).
- **Appraisals & comparable:** CLT sales are flagged as non-market; should not be used as market comparable.
- **Inheritance:** Heirs can inherit; whether they must be income-qualified affects what happens at future resale, but built equity passes to the family.

Current & Emerging Virginia Examples

- Waynesboro (rezoning proffer): Private townhouse rezoning included 4 CLT homes at 80% AMI (approved; not yet under construction).
- Henry County/Martinsville area: County land + Harvest Foundation + regional PDC; 13 homes total (2 near completion).
- Spotsylvania County: Private developer donating land; proposed ~60 townhouse-style condos (rezoning anticipated). Partners include Central Virginia Housing and local Habitat; a small share is reserved for traditional Habitat delivery for deeper affordability.
- Powhatan County: VSCLT building a "program design" (income targets, resale rules, etc.) the county can point to in proffer/review.

- Warrenton (rehab example): Rehabbed historic home on Haiti Street entered VSCLT; buyer used First-Generation Homebuyer assistance.
- Exploratory/other: Conversations with James City County (considering own CLT vs. partnering) and others statewide.

Opportunities for Hampton Roads (from discussion)

- Use rezoning proffers to secure permanently affordable ownership units via VSCLT partnership.
- Develop a PDC-wide program design (targets, formulas, resale rules, partner roles) to streamline locality adoption.
- Explore land bank or blight recovery pathways (coordinate with local legal tools; learn from Maggie Walker CLT/Richmond).
- Identify local delivery partners (Habitat, counseling agencies, CDFIs, foundations) to handle outreach, pipeline, and buyer support.
- Consider modular options and builder-contract relationships for scale and cost control.
- Align with Virginia Housing and lender partners early to ensure a financing pipeline.

MEETING SUMMARY REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

The Regional Environmental Committee met on August 7, 2025. The following items were discussed.

- Ms. Kindra Greene, Elizabeth River Trail Foundation, gave a presentation to the Committee on the organization's short-term and long-term plans for improving the Elizabeth River Trail.
- Dr. KC Filipino, HRPDC, gave a presentation to the Committee on proposed revisions to the 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement.
- Ms. Katie Cullipher, HRPDC, updated the Committee on the regional EPA Recycling Education and Outreach Grant.

The Regional Environmental Committee met on September 4, 2025. The following items were discussed.

- Mr. Scott Martin, Fort Monroe Authority, gave a presentation to the Committee on the FMA's economic development and historic preservation activities and future plans.
- Ms. Kathie Angle and Mr. Chris Williams, Newport News, gave a presentation to the Committee on the city's master planning efforts for stormwater management, floodplain management, and flood resilience.
- Ms. Alyssa Bucci, ODU, and Ms. Stephanie Letourneau, Wetlands Watch, briefed the Committee on the Measure the Muck flood sampling project and the upcoming Catch the King sea level rise/flooding citizen science effort.
- Mr. Eric Walberg and Mr. Tho Tran, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on the HRPDC Regional Strategic Plan effort and conducted an exercise to help identify priority regional issues.

The Regional Environmental Committee met on October 2, 2025. The following items were discussed.

- Mr. Adam Motsinger, Norfolk Southern, gave a presentation to the Committee on a living shoreline project recently completed at the Lambert's Point coal terminal in Norfolk.
- Mr. Kevin Finn, Chesapeake, gave a presentation to the Committee on the city's recently adopted Trails and Connectivity Plan.
- Ms. Katie Cullipher, HRPDC, updated the Committee on regional environmental education activities undertaken in FY25.
- Mr. Ben McFarlane, HRPDC, updated the Committee on the Community Flood Preparedness Fund.



REGIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

7/15/25 Meeting Highlights

The quarterly Regional Public Information Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, July 15, 2025 virtually via Microsoft Teams. View the meeting recording [here](#). The meeting brought together regional communicators to align on key initiatives and strengthen collaborative efforts. Below are some highlights from the meeting:

1. **May Recap & Announcements:** Members reviewed the May 27 meeting outcomes, including the decision to alternate virtual (9:30 a.m.) and in-person (11:30 a.m.) meetings quarterly. An upcoming regional FOIA training has been scheduled for November 14 in partnership with VDEM. More details and a calendar invitation will be shared closer to the date.
2. **Roundtable Discussion:** Localities and partners shared key updates including preparations for VOPEX (Virginia Operations Plan Exercise), ongoing flooding communications, VDOT outreach related to ongoing construction, toll removal for the Coleman Bridge, and regional trail projects. Several participants highlighted challenges managing public perception around localized weather events. HRPDC encouraged members to promote the regional Climate Action Plan survey, open through the end of July. Customizable outreach materials will be shared following the meeting. The group also received a brief update on the [“Start in Hampton Roads” campaign](#), a talent attraction initiative led by the Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable and Hampton Roads Chamber. The effort aims to position the region as a desirable place to live and work, targeting young professionals and skilled workers through strategic messaging and regional collaboration.
3. **Misinformation & Messaging:** A brief discussion emphasized the growing need to manage misinformation and media narratives responsibly, particularly during weather or safety-related incidents. Norfolk shared success using Waze for real-time flood reporting. Members expressed the importance of sourcing information from trusted partners and consistent messaging strategies. HRPDC also shared recent efforts to safeguard access to virtual meetings following incidents of unauthorized disruptions.
4. **Locality Collaboration Efforts:** HRPDC and HRTPO staff highlighted several ongoing regional initiatives that bring localities together to share best practices, align strategies, and strengthen collaboration. These include the All-Hazards Advisory Committee, the Hampton Roads Housing Consortium, the askHRgreen.org environmental education program; and emerging innovation efforts around water infrastructure and economic development led by HRSD. Staff also noted key transportation initiatives underway through HRTPO’s committee structure, including the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TTAC), regional freight planning, and transit coordination. Staff will follow up with additional information on these collaborative efforts.
5. **Regional Update:** Executive Director Bob Crum shared regional legislative priorities, the role of the Legislative Liaisons Committee, and an overview of the Regional Organizations Presidents Council (ROP-C), which aligns efforts across major regional entities. He also previewed upcoming General Assembly engagement and funding priorities around flood mitigation and broadband access.

The Next Meeting will be held in person on Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. at the HRPDC office in Chesapeake. Lunch will be provided. HRPDC staff will send out a save-the-date.



City of Norfolk Virginia

Office of the City Clerk

July 9, 2025

Mr. Robert A. Crum
Executive Director
Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
723 Woodlake Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Dear Mr. Crum:

Attached for your records is a copy of the Resolution adopted by the Norfolk City Council on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, reappointing Kenneth Cooper Alexander, Ph.D. (Mayor) and Councilman Carlos J. Clanton (Superward 7) to the **Hampton Roads Planning District Commission** for certain terms.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at #757-664-4296.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Bull
City Clerk

Form and Correctness Approved:

BAP

Contents Approved:

By: *BAP in Law*
Office of the City AttorneyBy: *Richard A. Bue*
DEPT. Clerk

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

R-3**RESOLUTION NO. 1,947**

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING AND REAPPOINTING
31 MEMBERS TO 4 COMMISSIONS and 10 BOARDS,
FOR CERTAIN TERMS.

- - -

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Norfolk:

Section 1:- That the following persons are hereby appointed and reappointed to the **Norfolk Criminal Justice Board**:

1. Hon. Lyn M. Simmons (Chief Judge, J&D Relations Court), is hereby appointed for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2026.
2. Hon. Robert B. Rigney (Chief Judge, Circuit Court), is hereby appointed for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2026.
3. Hon. Leondras J. Webster (Chief Judge, General District Court), is hereby reappointed for a term beginning July 1, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2026.
4. James Rogers (City Manager Representative), is hereby appointed for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2026, the unexpired term of Catheryn Whitesell.

Section 2:- That Hon. John E. (J.P.) Paige (Ward 4), is hereby reappointed to **STOP, Inc.**, for a term beginning July 1, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2028.

Section 3:- That Charles L. Peek (citizen-at-large), is hereby appointed to **Commission for Persons With Disabilities** for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring September 30, 2028.

Section 4:- That the following persons are hereby reappointed to the **Norfolk Police-Fire Trial Board**:

1. Nathaniel J. Berry (citizen-at-large), for a term beginning July 1, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2026.
2. Peter G. Decker, III (citizen-at-large), for a term beginning July 1, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2026.
3. Robin H. Putnam (citizen-at-large), for a term beginning July 1, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2026.

Section 5:- That Rev. Kirk T. Houston (citizen-at-large), is hereby reappointed to the **Tidewater Community College Board** for a term beginning July 1, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2029.

Section 6:- That Ivory Morgan-Burton (citizen-at-large), is hereby appointed to **Norfolk Public Library Board of Trustees** for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2026, the unexpired term of R. Starr Armstrong, resigned.

Section 7:- That the following persons are hereby appointed and reappointed to the **Chrysler Museum Inc., Board of Trustees**:

1. Matthew Fine (citizen-at-large), is hereby reappointed for a term beginning June 16, 2025, and expiring June 15, 2029.
2. Penelope Meredith (citizen-at-large), is hereby reappointed for a term beginning June 16, 2025, and expiring June 15, 2029.
3. Jason Davis (citizen-at-large), is hereby appointed for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring June 15, 2029.
4. Tonya Byrd (citizen-at-large), is hereby appointed for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring June 15, 2029.

Section 8:- That the following persons are hereby reappointed to the **Towing Advisory Board**:

1. Sgt. Ryan L. Batteen (NPD), for a term beginning May 20, 2025, and expiring May 19, 2026.
2. Elizabeth (Liz) Dowgiello (citizen-at-large), for a term beginning May 20, 2025, and expiring May 19, 2026.
3. Lt. Michael M. Felix (NPD), for a term beginning May 20, 2025, and expiring May 19, 2026.
4. William (Bill) Higgins (Tow Company), for a term beginning May 20, 2025, and expiring May 19, 2026.
5. Taurean L. McClary (Tow Company), for a term beginning May 20, 2025, and expiring May 19, 2026.

Section 9:- That Mark Perryman (citizen-at-large), is hereby appointed to the **Veterans Affairs Advisory Commission** for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring September 10, 2026, the unexpired term of Mark Fulton.

Section 10:- That the following persons are hereby reappointed to the **Hampton Roads Planning District Commission**:

1. Hon. Kenneth Cooper Alexander, Ph.D. (Mayor), for a term beginning July 1, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2027.
2. Hon. Carlos J. Clanton (Superward 7), for a term beginning July 1, 2025, and expiring June 30, 2027.

Section 11:- That the following persons are hereby reappointed to the **Norfolk Botanical Garden Inc., Board of Directors**:

1. C. Wiley Grandy (citizen-at-large), for a term beginning May 16, 2025, and expiring May 16, 2028.
2. Michael "Mike" Kearns (citizen-at-large), for a term beginning May 16, 2025, and expiring May 16, 2028.

Section 12:- That the following persons are hereby appointed to the **Norfolk Community Services Board**:

1. McLain Gore (citizen-at-large), for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring May 16, 2027, the unexpired term of Dawn Freeman, resigned.
2. Trevellis Lewis (consumer), for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2026, the unexpired term of Carly Gelles, resigned.

Section 13:- That the following persons are hereby appointed to the **Norfolk Wetlands Board**:

1. Ian T. Blair (alternate), for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring February 17, 2027.
2. Nicholas P. Romano (alternate), for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring February 17, 2027.

Section 14:- That the following persons are hereby appointed to the **Bicycling, Pedestrian, and Active Transportation Commission**:

1. Sheldon L. Cuffee (citizen-at-large), for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring February 27, 2028.
2. Julee A. Martin (citizen-at-large), for a term beginning July 8, 2025, and expiring February 27, 2028.

Section 15:- That this resolution shall be in effect from
and after its adoption.

Adopted by Council July 8, 2025
Effective July 8, 2025



Richard A. Bull

RICHARD ALLAN BULL

BY:

**Member
Jurisdictions**

July 23, 2025

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Dr. Maria Beerman-Foat
Virginia Department of Health
Director, Office of Emergency Medical Services
1041 Technology Park Drive
Glen Allen, Virginia 23059

Subject: Support for Tidewater EMS Council Re-Designation

Dear Dr. Beerman-Foat:

On behalf of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC), I am pleased to offer our full support for the re-designation of the Tidewater Emergency Medical Services Council (TEMS) as a Regional Emergency Medical Services Council for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

For more than 50 years, the Tidewater EMS Council has been an essential partner in supporting and enhancing the delivery of emergency medical services throughout our region. TEMS continues to provide invaluable leadership and coordination across the 10 jurisdictions, 14 hospitals, and more than 50 EMS agencies that serve Hampton Roads.

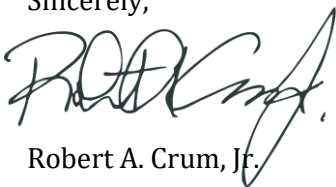
The Council's longstanding commitment to collaboration and regional planning is evident through its wide array of initiatives and programs, including hospital re-stocking agreements, coordinated stroke, trauma, and STEMI planning, and Mass Casualty Incident Support. Furthermore, TEMS provides critical EMS education and training, a Critical Incident Stress Management Team, and training on Rescue Squad Assistance Fund grants.

Most recently, TEMS has further demonstrated its dedication to advancing patient care by implementing innovative programs such as the Whole Blood and Ultrasound Initiatives. These efforts directly benefit the safety and well-being of our communities by ensuring that residents receive high-quality, life-saving care when they need it most.

The HRPDC greatly values the Tidewater EMS Council's role as a trusted partner in promoting an integrated, effective, and resilient emergency medical services system. We wholeheartedly support TEMS' re-designation and encourage the Virginia Department of Health to continue this important partnership for the benefit of our region's residents and communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

**Member
Jurisdictions**

August 26, 2025

Chesapeake

Ms. Kristal McKelvey
Recreation Grants Manager

Franklin

Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
600 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Gloucester

RE: Support for LWCF Application for Gloucester Point Beach Park
Infrastructure Improvements

Hampton

Dear Ms. McKelvey:

Isle of Wight

On behalf of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) staff, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Gloucester County's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) application seeking to elevate critical infrastructure at Gloucester Point Beach Park, improving flood resilience and longevity of public facilities at the beachfront park in Gloucester Point, Virginia. Over 150,000 visitors use this park annually for swimming, sunbathing, fishing, and picnicking. This project will ensure Gloucester County continues to provide public restrooms, showers, and programming at this outdoor recreational facility.

James City

Newport News

The HRPDC promotes regional cooperation among the 17 local governments in the Hampton Roads "757" region, representing approximately 1.8 million residents. As our community's regional planning organization, the HRPDC provides technical assistance to our localities on important issues and supports efforts to develop regional strategies to strengthen Hampton Roads.

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Gloucester Point Beach Park is the only publicly accessible beach in Gloucester County. The 4.2-acre park is located in Virginia DCR's Nature-based Recreation Access Model for both Land-based Recreation Need and Water-based Recreation Need, highlighting its importance in providing public recreational opportunities. However, the park is located in a FEMA-designated high-risk flood area, making its infrastructure vulnerable to flooding and blocking public access to essential facilities during and after stormwater events. This project will address this issue by demolishing, rebuilding, and elevating the park's 60-plus-year-old restrooms and pavilion, allowing both structures to be combined into one raised facility and moved to a more ideal location in the park. Gloucester County anticipates this project will extend the lifespan of these facilities to over 25 years, with the building's lifespan extending beyond 40 years with regular maintenance.

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

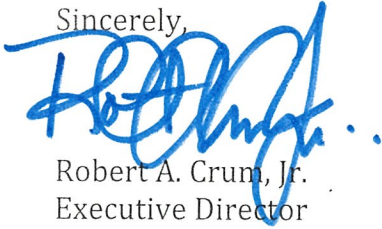
Williamsburg

York

Ms. Kristal McKelvey
August 26, 2025
Page 2

Should you need any additional information in support of these projects, please contact me at rcrum@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 420-8300.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Crum, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Copy: Carol Steele, Gloucester County Administrator

**Member
Jurisdictions**

September 2, 2025

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Mr. Alan Archer
City Manager
City of Newport News
2400 Washington Avenue, #10
Newport News, VA 23607

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear Mr. Alan Archer:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Crum, Jr.", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

September 2, 2025

**Member
Jurisdictions**

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Mr. Mark Bellamy
County Administrator
York County
224 Ballard Street
Yorktown, VA 23690

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear Mr.  Bellamy:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "RACrum", is written over the typed name of Robert A. Crum, Jr.

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment



Shannon E. Glover, Chair | James Gray, Jr., Vice-Chair
Robert A. Crum, Jr., Executive Director/Secretary

**Member
Jurisdictions**

September 2, 2025

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Ms. Mary Bunting
City Manager
City of Hampton
22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear ~~Ms.~~ *Mary* Bunting:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

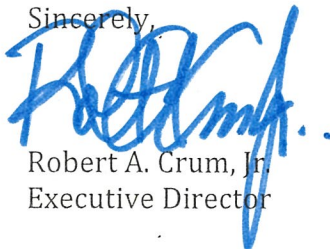
The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

September 2, 2025

**Member
Jurisdictions**

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Mr. Steven Carter
City Manager
City of Portsmouth
801 Crawford Street, #6
Portsmouth, VA 23704

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear  Mr. Carter:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

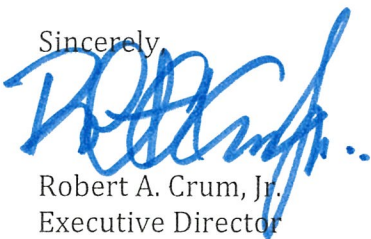
The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

**Member
Jurisdictions**

September 2, 2025

Chesapeake

Mr. Patrick Duhaney
City Manager
City of Virginia Beach
1 Municipal Center, #234
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Franklin

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Gloucester

Dear Mr. *Patrick* Duhaney:

Hampton

Isle of Wight

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

James City

The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Newport News

Norfolk

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

Poquoson

Portsmouth

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Smithfield

Southampton

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Suffolk

Sincerely,

Surry

A large, stylized blue ink signature of Robert A. Crum, Jr. is written over the word "Sincerely," and extends down over the printed name.

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

Attachment

York

September 2, 2025

**Member
Jurisdictions**

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Mr. Kevin Hughes
Acting City Manager
City of Suffolk
127 E. Washington Street, Suite 200
Suffolk, VA 23434

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear Mr. Kevin Hughes:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

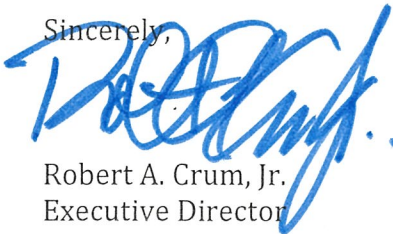
The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

**Member
Jurisdictions**

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

September 2, 2025

Mr. Christopher M. Price
City Manager
City of Chesapeake
306 Cedar Road, 6th Floor
Chesapeake, VA 23322

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear  Mr. Price:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

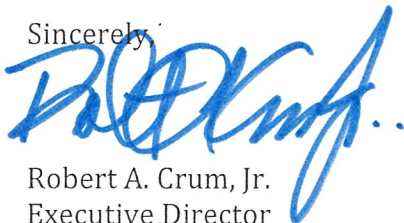
The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "RACrum", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

**Member
Jurisdictions**

September 2, 2025

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Mr. Patrick Roberts
City Manager
City of Norfolk
810 Union Street, Suite 1101
Norfolk, VA 23510

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear Mr. Roberts:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

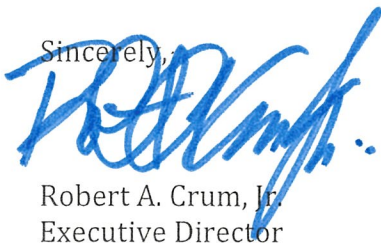
The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

September 2, 2025

**Member
Jurisdictions**

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Mr. Donald T. Robertson
County Administrator
Isle of Wight County
17130 Monument Circle, Suite A
Isle of Wight, VA 23397

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear Mr.  Robertson:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

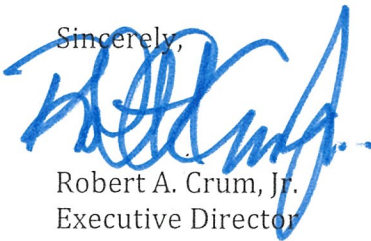
The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "R. Crum, Jr.", is written over the word "Sincerely," and the name "Robert A. Crum, Jr.".

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

September 2, 2025

**Member
Jurisdictions**

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Mr. Scott Stevens
County Administrator
James City County
101 Mounts Bay Road, Building D
Williamsburg, VA 23185

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear Mr. Stevens:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

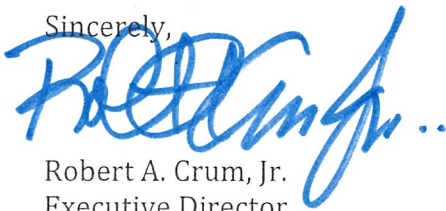
The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Crum, Jr.", followed by three dots.

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

September 2, 2025

**Member
Jurisdictions**

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Mr. Brian S. Thrower
County Administrator
Southampton County
26022 Administration Center Drive
Courtland, VA 23837

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear Mr. Brian Thrower:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

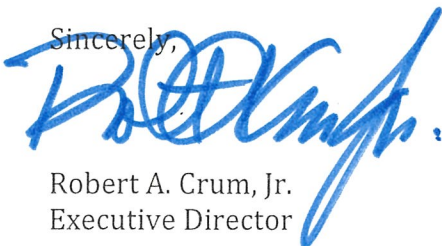
The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bob Crum", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

**Member
Jurisdictions**

September 2, 2025

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Mr. Andrew O. Trivette
City Manager
City of Williamsburg
401 Lafayette Street
Williamsburg, VA 23185

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear  Mr. Trivette:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

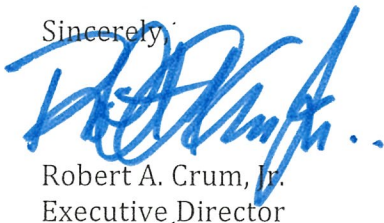
The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Crum, Jr.", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment



Shannon E. Glover, Chair | James Gray, Jr., Vice-Chair
Robert A. Crum, Jr., Executive Director/Secretary

September 2, 2025

**Member
Jurisdictions**

Chesapeake

Franklin

Gloucester

Hampton

Isle of Wight

James City

Newport News

Norfolk

Poquoson

Portsmouth

Smithfield

Southampton

Suffolk

Surry

Virginia Beach

Williamsburg

York

Mr. J. Randall Wheeler
City Manager
City of Poquoson
500 City Hall Avenue
Poquoson, VA 23662

RE: Request for Locality Letter of Support
Hampton Roads Economic Development District (EDD) Application

Dear Mr. Wheeler:

I am reaching out to request your support for our application to designate the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) through the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA).

The EDD designation is a critical step in strengthening regional economic collaboration, attracting federal and private investment, and advancing long-term economic resilience in Hampton Roads. By formalizing this designation, our region will be better positioned to implement strategic development initiatives that foster economic growth, workforce development, and infrastructure improvements in areas of greatest need.

Attached, you will find a template letter of support that can be customized to reflect your locality's mission and role in the region's economic development. We greatly appreciate your endorsement; letters of support from our member localities are vital for the application and will demonstrate a broad regional commitment to this effort.

If you can provide a signed letter of support, please return it to Jeffrey DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov by Wednesday, September 10, 2025. If you have any questions or would like assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dr. DiScala at jdiscala@hrpdcva.gov or (757) 938-7388.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate your partnership in strengthening economic opportunities for the Hampton Roads region.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment