

AGENDA NOTE - HRPDC ANNUAL RETREAT

ITEM #14: COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

SUBJECT:

The region's localities presently contract on a regular basis with the HRPDC to undertake comprehensive planning and related studies, in addition to grant-funded work in environmental planning.

BACKGROUND:

The Regional Planning Department receives annual funding through the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program to provide a basic level of technical environmental assistance to the region's localities. The HRPDC has been very successful over the years in augmenting this funding through competitive grants to support specialized environmental planning studies, addressing such areas as sea level rise, development of tools for use by localities in managing land use and water quality, environmental education and wetlands management.

Additionally, over the past twenty years, the region's localities have contracted with the HRPDC to develop comprehensive plans; parks and recreation plans; and to conduct specialized planning studies. These have included ground water studies, watershed plans and the environmental (Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act) elements of comprehensive plans.

Ms. Jimontanae "Jai" McBride, Principal Regional Planner, will provide an overview of these programs and HRPDC staff capabilities to assist the localities.