

**HAMPTON ROADS  
PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION  
MEETING**

**March 17, 2022  
12:30 PM**

**The Regional Building  
723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval/Modification of Agenda**
- 3. Public Comments (Attachment 3)**

- a. Submitted Public Comments**

There was one submitted public comment since the last HRPDC meeting. Any new 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 Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. Each speaker is limited to three minutes.

- 4. Special Presentation in Recognition of Ted Henifin, Hampton Roads Sanitation District**
- 5. Executive Director's Report (Attachment 5)**

Mr. Robert A. Crum, Jr., HRPDC Executive Director, will provide an update on HRPDC work activities and address the Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Implementation discussion from the February 17, 2022 Commission meeting.

- 6. Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Report**
- 7. Consent Agenda (Attachment 7)**

- a. Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2022 Commission Meeting**

- b. Treasurer's Report – January 2022**

**c. 2022 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Regional Priorities**

The Virginia Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides funding to eligible units of local government to address critical community development needs, including housing, infrastructure, and economic development. This program has been administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) since 1982. CDBG funds are made available to DHCD by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Each year, the DHCD requests Planning District Commissions to rank regional priorities for the CDBG program and provide a list of anticipated CDBG project proposals from non-entitlement localities. The attached CDBG priorities and project list was coordinated with the planning staff of the Cities of Franklin, Poquoson, and Williamsburg and the Counties of Isle of Wight, James City, Southampton, and York.

Staff recommends approving the attached 2022 Virginia CDBG Regional Priorities list for transmittal to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

**d. Memorandums of Agreement for Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) Grant Administration**

The HRPDC, on behalf of the City of Suffolk, Isle of Wight County, and Southampton County and in partnership with Spectrum Southeast, LLC (Charter Communications), submitted a grant application to the Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to provide universal broadband service in the three localities. In December 2021, the project set forth in the VATI grant application was awarded \$21,120,053.50. Additional funding from the localities and Charter Communications will serve as match funding for the project.

The localities and Charter Communications have requested the HRPDC to serve as the fiscal agent and administrator of the project. To accomplish this, DHCD requires two memorandums of agreement (MOA) – one between the HRPDC and the City of Suffolk, Isle of Wight County, and Southampton County and a second between the HRPDC and Charter Communications.

Term: July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025

General Scope of Work: To provide grant administration and management services, including serving as the fiscal agent and a liaison between the localities, Charter Communications, and DHCD.

HRPDC will receive administrative funding for its services.

Staff recommends authorizing the HRPDC Executive Director to execute (1) a memorandum of agreement between the HRPDC and the City of Suffolk, Isle of Wight County, and Southampton County, and (2) a memorandum of agreement between the HRPDC and Charter Communications.

**e. Contract Amendments (Roadway Flooding Sensors)**

Procurement of Consultant Services – Roadway Flooding Sensors. The HRPDC has developed a roadway flooding sensor project through the Coastal Resiliency committee. The sensors will provide data on when the roadway is flooded at each location. The data will be distributed via WAZE and can be sent out in text or email alerts. This project was recommended by Joint Land Use Studies on the Peninsula and Southside making it eligible for an implementation grant from the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC). The initial budget for the pilot project was approximately \$220,000. The HRPDC received a grant from OLDCC for approximately \$197,000 for the initial pilot project, with the non-federal match requirement of approximately \$23,000 covered using existing Coastal Resiliency funds. A contract was executed with YSI Incorporated/Xylem in April 2021. The contract includes acquisition of sensor equipment, installation, maintenance, and data management services, including setting up communication with WAZE to identify flooded roads to drivers in real time.

The HRPDC staff is requesting authorization to extend the contract with Xylem and increase the budget. The pilot project has required unanticipated costs for utility pole rental, local permit fees, curb cuts, and labor for permit negotiations. The cost of lane closures during installation is included but may not be required for all sites. The budget also includes annual maintenance of the 20 sensors. The initial one-year contract may be renewed upon written agreement of both parties for up to four successive one-year periods, under the terms of the initial contract. The HRPDC staff proposes to cover the increase in the budget using Coastal Resiliency program funds if additional federal funding cannot be obtained. The budget and period of performance will be revised if the Commission decides to pursue the installation of the full scale network of over 200 sensors.

Original Contract Amount: \$207,000

Proposed Increase: Up to \$95,000

Period of Performance for Extension: March 25, 2022, to March 25, 2023

**f. HRPDC Resolution 2022-01 for FY 2023 FHWA State, Planning, and Research (SPR) Funds Program**

Each year, the HRTPO applies for regional planning funds under the FHWA State Planning and Research (SPR) Funds program that supplements the primary planning funds the HRTPO receives under the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Section 112 Metropolitan Planning (PL) Funds program. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) allocates part of the SPR funding to provide annual transportation planning assistance for non-urbanized areas within the Commonwealth. The Rural Transportation Planning (RTP) Program was created to aid the State in fulfilling the requirements of the State Planning Process to address the transportation needs of non-metropolitan areas. SPR funds require matching funds of 20%.

As the Commission provides planning and administrative staff to the HRTPO and all duties thereof as well as serves as fiscal agent for the HRTPO, the SPR Funds program requires an HRPDC resolution authorizing the Executive Director to:

- File an application for the funds on behalf of the HRTPO/HRPDC
- Execute and file all necessary certifications and assurances, as well as any other documents or information required for the application
- Execute a grant agreement on behalf of the HRTPO/HRPDC

The attached resolution also certifies that the local share required to match the federal funds shall be made available from resources available to the HRTPO/HRPDC. Also attached is the draft HRTPO FY 2023 UPWP Rural Transportation Planning Task.

Staff recommends approving HRPDC Resolution 2022-01 and authorizing the Executive Director to file applications and execute the associated documents for the FY 2023 SPR funding program.

**g. Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Appointments**

The following individuals have been recommended for CAC membership:

- Mr. Richard Parison, a resident of Hampton, is an Artistic Director with The American Theatre. Mr. Parison has over 30 years of experience in professional arts and culture and volunteer experience with the Virginia Commission on the Arts Panel, Strategic Travel and Tourism Committee, Association of Performing Arts Professionals Regional Committee (APAP), and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

- Mr. Frank Cotrupi, a resident of Newport News, is a semi-retired Real Estate Broker with Real Estate Cafe at Creed Realty. Mr. Cotrupi is civic-minded and involved in the community and has volunteer experience with Rotary, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Realtor Associations, Framework for the Future, and various commissions and committees.
- Mr. Mike Sawchuk, United States Navy Retired and a resident of Suffolk, is a Linux Systems Administrator with CACI International. Mr. Sawchuck is an avid cyclist and advocate for universal bicycle access in Hampton Roads and has volunteer experience with Eagle Scout Troop 16 and Community Church.

***Action Requested: The HRPDC should consider action to approve the March 17, 2022 Consent Agenda.***

**8. Hampton University Severe Weather Research Center (SWRC) – presented by Mr. Bill Thomas, Associate Vice President, Hampton University Office of Governmental Relations, and Dr. James Russell, Co-Director of the Center for Atmospheric Sciences**

Hampton University is home to a national Center of Excellence for Severe Weather Research. The SWRC has the capability to provide significantly improved severe weather forecasts for the region including, but not limited to, higher accuracy hurricane landfall location and track; tornado occurrence location with hours of lead time versus minutes; and enhanced severe thunderstorm and snowstorm location and intensity accuracy. Hampton University is interested in engaging the region's localities in a partnership that can enhance the region's severe weather forecasting and response.

Mr. Bill Thomas, Associate Vice President, Hampton University Office of Governmental Relations, will be present to discuss this opportunity. Dr. James Russell, Co-Director of the HU Center for Atmospheric Sciences, will present an overview of SWRC capabilities and applications. He and his Co-Director, Dr. M. Patrick McCormick, have spent their careers developing and leading NASA satellite experiments to study the atmosphere including the Hampton University AIM satellite mission now in its 15th year in orbit. Both scientists are American Geophysical Union Fellows, named Virginia Outstanding Scientists in 2007 and 2008, and are recipients of NASA awards for scientific achievement and leadership. Dr. William Smith, Director of the HU SWRC, is a world-class scientist and leader in the field of weather forecasting who was recently awarded NOAA's highest medal for his innovative research.

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

**9. 2022 Hampton Roads Economic Update - presented by Mr. Greg C. Grootendorst, HRPDC Chief Economist**

Mr. Greg C. Grootendorst, HRPDC Chief Economist, will present a regional economic update to include a review of national and regional economic trends and provide an assessment of what we might expect for the Hampton Roads economy in the coming year. The economic update will include estimates for the gross regional product, employment, unemployment, retail sales, and residential construction for the coming year.

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

**10. Regional Broadband Update - presented by Mr. Robert A. Crum, Jr., HRPDC Executive Director**

Mr. Robert A. Crum, Jr., HRPDC Executive Director, will update the Commission on regional broadband efforts, including the work of the Southside Network Authority and the schedule to begin construction on the Southside Fiber Ring.

**11. Three Month Tentative Schedule**

**April 2022**

No Meeting per the Regional Meeting Schedule

**May 19, 2022**

Fiscal Year 2023 Budget  
Annual HRPDC Work Program  
Hampton Roads Housing Market  
Planning & Economics Department Update

**June 2022**

No Meeting per the Regional Meeting Schedule

**12. Advisory Committee Minutes (Attachment 12)**

HRPDC Advisory Committee meeting minutes approved since the last Commission meeting are attached for review.

**13. Technical Committee Meeting Summaries (Attachment 13)**

Summaries of HRPDC Technical Committee meetings held since the last Commission meeting are attached for review.

#### **14. For Your Information (Attachment 14)**

- Letter from York County announcing the reappointment of Supervisor Sheila Noll as a member of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
- Letter from Surry County announcing the reappointment of Supervisor Robert L. Elliott, Jr. as a member of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
- AskHRgreen.org Awards \$10,000 to Region's Star Environmental Educators

Recently, askHRgreen.org leaders recognized 10 local educators with its Green Star Teachers Awards. Held in concert with the organization's 10th anniversary year, the educator recognition program included a \$1,000 monetary award for each of the teachers to use for future green-themed classroom projects. The winning submissions included teachers from throughout the greater Hampton Roads region. Among the recipients were those who involved their students in planting community gardens, organizing school recycling programs, creating outdoor classrooms, and planting trees on school grounds. The Green Star Teachers may use their awards to cover needs such as supplies, classroom resources, or funding to underwrite a dynamic "green" student-driven initiative.

##### Green Star Teachers Honorees:

Tonya Bangley / Kings Fork High School, Suffolk  
Crissie Crusemire / Academy for Discovery at Lakewood, Norfolk  
Michele Ferrel / Kilgore Gifted Center, Hampton  
Pamela Hall / Carrollton Elementary School, Isle of Wight County  
Angela McElroy / Nansemond River High School, Suffolk  
Charlie Morse / Williamsburg Community Growers, James City County  
Melissa Powell-Riedl / Paul Burbank Elementary School, Hampton  
Jeannette Reynolds / Rosemont Elementary, Virginia Beach  
Adrienne Sawyer / Chesapeake Public Schools  
Kathleen (Kathy) Shambo / Southside STEM Academy at Campostella, Norfolk

To learn more about the Green Star Teachers recognition program, and to view information/photos of all the recipients and their winning projects, visit [askhrgreen.org/greenstarteachers](http://askhrgreen.org/greenstarteachers).

#### **15. Old/New Business**

#### **16. Adjournment**