

**Transcribed Public Comments of the  
February 20, 2020 HRPDC Commission Meeting**

**Mr. Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky:** *Good afternoon Mr. Chair, Honorable Commissioners, and fellow interested parties. So, I see one of my favorite topics, the promotion of Hampton Roads as a region, is going to be discussed today, but I want to add a note of caution. I'm a believer in full disclosure, and so, I believe it's right for us to promote ourselves, but I believe embedded in our promotion effort, there needs to be some sort of statement about the fact that we are on the front lines of global climate change, particularly sea-level rise and that it will have implications for anybody who comes here and anybody who is here. It's not something that we should be sweeping under the carpet. Even if the administration changes next year, the administration in Washington, we are well behind the curve in terms of what we need to do to contain the rate of mean temperature rise on the planet, and it is going to affect us. If we're partly successful, it's going to affect us less than if we're not successful at all. So, I would urge you to be upfront in promoting our region about where we are in terms of climate change. Thank you.*