

# REGIONAL 2020 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

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August 1, 2019

Regional Environmental Committee

# HRPDC 2019 legislative agenda

- Federal/state funding for recurrent flooding/sea level rise projects
- Support appropriation and retention of matching funding for US Army Corps of Engineers 3x3x3 studies
- Support state funding in the amount of \$500,000 for the Virginia Shoreline Resiliency Fund that was created during the 2016 General Assembly session but received no appropriations.
- Recommend increasing state funding to the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF)
- Request that the Commonwealth consider new State funding sources to assist localities in addressing Chesapeake Bay nutrient reduction requirements.

# *Tree Canopy*

- **History**

- **2008:** Enabling legislation adopted for *conservation* in N. VA and *planting and replacement* of trees (pop. Density > 75 persons/sq mi)
- **2009:** CH and VB drafted enabling legislation for tree canopy preservation
- **2018:** Enabling legislation adopted for *planting and replacement* of trees for localities within the Chesapeake Bay watershed
- **2019:** Enabling legislation proposed to include all localities to allow minimum requirements for *conservation, planting, and replacement of trees*

# *Tree Canopy*

- **Minimum requirements**

§ 15.2-961. & § 15.2-961.1. (similar language for conservation)

**B. The ordinance shall require that the site plan for any subdivision or development include the planting or replacement of trees on the site to the extent that, at 20 years, minimum tree canopies or covers will be provided in areas to be designated in the ordinance, as follows:**

- 1. Ten percent tree canopy for a site zoned business, commercial, or industrial;**
- 2. Ten percent tree canopy for a residential site zoned 20 or more units per acre;**
- 3. Fifteen percent tree canopy for a residential site zoned more than 10 but less than 20 units per acre; and**
- 4. Twenty percent tree canopy for a residential site zoned 10 units or less per acre.**

# SLAF Criteria

- Comments made by HRPDC and others in 2016 to include nitrogen in criteria
  - DEQ could not take this on, too complicated, recommended HRPDC lead the effort
  - Incorporated TN and TSS reductions in application to start tracking?
- Propose legislation for DEQ to conduct a study to include options for establishing a point system that includes nitrogen
  - **Include both nutrients:** Maximize points for projects that prioritize reductions of TN and TP
  - **Focus on geography and effectiveness:** Score projects based on TP in regions that have high TP delivery factors and TN in regions that have high TN delivery factors
  - **Focus on loads and geography:** Score projects based on TP in regions that have high TP loads and TN in regions that have high TN loads
  - **Split the funds:** Provide separate funding for projects that prioritize TP vs TN

# *Offshore Wind*

- **Support the adoption of a renewable energy requirement in Virginia**
- **Request State support to explore the potential for Port of Virginia property to be used to support the supply chain for the offshore wind industry**

# *Recurrent Flooding Sea Level Rise*

**Support federal/state funding for recurrent flooding/sea level rise projects in Hampton Roads:**

- **Projects that protect our region's military bases**
- **Priority to communities with adopted JLUS**
- **Defense Access Roads Program**
- **Defense Community Infrastructure Program**

# *Recurrent Flooding*

## *Sea Level Rise*

- **State funding for matching funds for local governments participating in Federal programs**
- **Provide the necessary Federal/State funding to support a regional resiliency planning program (similar to federal transportation planning funds)**