

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission Proposed 2019 Legislative Agenda

Federal/State funding for recurrent flooding/sea level rise projects

The HRPDC requests Federal and State funding for projects that address flooding and sea level rise, particularly those projects that protect the mission of our region's military installations. The HRPDC is currently managing two Joint Land Use (JLUS) Studies with the following partners:

- Cities of Norfolk and Virginia Beach and the military installations in these localities
- Cities of Chesapeake and Portsmouth and the military installations in these localities

In addition, similar JLUS planning efforts have occurred with the localities and military installations on the Peninsula. Each of these JLUS efforts will identify projects that can help address the impact of coastal flooding on the core mission of these military bases. Due to the importance of these projects to national security and the state and regional economy, the HRPDC believes a Local/State/Federal funding partnership should be pursued to advance projects identified in these JLUS planning efforts.

US Army Corps of Engineers 3X3X3 Studies

The HRPDC supports the appropriation and retention of matching funding for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 3X3X3 studies for flood mitigation and other resiliency projects. These studies are an important step in identifying flood mitigation projects and beginning the process to acquire federal funding to address these needs. In previous General Assembly sessions, \$500,000 was included in the State budget to provide a local match for these 3X3X3 Studies. With the passage of the Water Resources Development Act, the HRPDC believes it is critical that these monies be protected for this use in the State budget. In addition, the HRPDC believes consideration should be given to increasing this funding level.

The HRPDC also requests that the US Army Corps of Engineers prioritize the completion of 3X3X3 studies for the Peninsula and Southside due the importance of these areas to our nation's military and economy.

Virginia Shoreline Resiliency Fund

The HRPDC supports 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. Localities may use this fund to create a low-interest loan program to help residents and businesses that are subject to recurrent flooding as confirmed by a locality-certified floodplain manager. Monies in the Fund may be used to mitigate future flood damage.

Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF)

The HRPDC recommends increasing state funding to the SLAF to support localities' work to implement stormwater controls that have been instrumental in reducing pollution to the Chesapeake Bay.

Chesapeake Bay Program

The HRPDC requests that the Commonwealth consider new State funding sources to assist localities in addressing Chesapeake Bay nutrient reduction requirements.

K-12 Public Education

The HRPDC supports a continuation of efforts to provide increased state funding for K-12 public education.

Virginia Housing Trust Fund (VHTF)

The HRPDC supports legislation that continues to appropriate funding of the VHTF for housing programs and projects. VHTF enables the preservation and production of affordable housing opportunities.

Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI)

The HRPDC requests assistance from our state and federal partners to increase the level of UASI funding provided to the Hampton Roads region. Although Hampton Roads contains the second highest number of military personnel of any metropolitan region in the country and is home to the largest naval base in the world, Hampton Roads is ranked #25 in the UASI funding list. Due to the critical importance of our region's military assets to national security, the HRPDC requests that Hampton Roads be elevated on this ranking/funding list.

Impact Fees

The HRPDC supports the ability of localities to ensure orderly, rational, and fiscally prudent growth appropriate for their communities by restoring a viable process for conditional zoning and enabling the use of impact fees to offset the capital cost created by new development.