

**Hampton Roads
Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) Meeting**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021
11:30 AM**

**Newport News Marriott at City Center
740 Town Center Dr
Newport News, VA 23606
Pearl Room**

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Public Comment

Members of the public will be provided an opportunity to address the CAO Committee. Comments should be limited to three minutes per speaker.

IV. Hampton University Center of Excellence for Severe Weather Research

Hampton University is home to a national Center of Excellence for Severe Weather Research. The Center has the capability of providing significantly improved severe weather forecasts for the region including, but not limited to, higher hurricane landfall location and track accuracy; 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. Bill Thomas, Associate Vice President for Governmental Relations, will be present, along with members of the Center for Excellence team to discuss this opportunity.

V. Solid Waste Processing Facility

Mr. Ray Crabbs, President and CEO of Chesapeake IBC, LLC (CIBC), will brief the CAO Committee on a proposed facility that would convert waste materials into usable products. Nearly all waste can provide feedstock for the production of zero sulfur diesel, cosmetic grade waxes, green electricity and aggregate. Background information on this proposed facility is provided in the enclosed table. CIBC has a conditional use permit from the City of Chesapeake to locate a proposed facility on the former Huntsman Chemical Plant site. CIBC indicates that the patented technology would achieve a 95% conversion of waste to products.

VI. Build Back Better Regional Challenge

The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) is accepting proposals for Phase I of the Build Back Better Regional Challenge program through October 19, 2021. A total of \$500,000 is available to successful applicants through Phase I of this program to assist regions with transforming economically distressed communities by strengthening and advancing regional industry growth clusters.

The goal for this program is for EDA to fund approximately 50-60 regions through Phase I of this regional competition, with grants of up to \$500,000 available to each successful region. The Phase I award recipients will use these resources to further develop their proposals in preparation for a Phase II submission that would occur by March 15, 2022. In Phase II, successful regions can compete for \$25 - \$75 million per region to advance up to 3 – 8 projects or programs.

The HRPDC, Hampton Roads Alliance, Reinvent Hampton Roads, Hampton Roads Workforce Council, Old Dominion University, Port of Virginia and other regional partners have held a series of meetings to discuss a potential regional submission for the Hampton Roads region under the themes of offshore wind/energy sustainability, maritime/port, resiliency and diversity/inclusion. The HRPDC Executive Director and representatives of these partner organizations will be present to discuss this approach with the CAO Committee, and request input from Committee members.

VII. Other Business

- On August 27, the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health (VOSH) Program will consider new guidelines for areas of high transmission of the COVID-19 virus. A CAO Committee member has requested discussion on any guidance that may be established and how localities will respond.
- The next regularly scheduled meetings of the HRPDC and HRTPO will occur on October 21. Agenda items will include consideration of the Regional Legislative Agenda and an update on the Build Back Better Regional Challenge.

VIII. Regional Meeting Schedule

Attached for the CAO Committee's review and information is the Regional Meeting Schedule.

IX. Adjournment