

Potential Regional Legislative Priorities

Chief Administrative Officers Committee

October 6, 2021

Process

- June 30: Regional Legislative Committee held first meeting
- July 15: HRPDC Meeting
- September 23: Regional Legislative Committee
- October 6: CAO Committee Meeting
- *Potential for Additional Legislative Committee Meeting*
- October 21: Consider adoption by HRPDC/HRTPO Boards (November as backup)

Potential 2022 Regional Legislative Priorities

- Create the Commonwealth Flooding Board
- Offshore Wind
- Broadband
- Economic Development Site Readiness
- Affordable Housing

Potential 2022 Regional Legislative Priorities

- Urban Areas Security Initiative
- Complete the I-64 Gap Between Hampton Roads and Richmond
- Elizabeth River Crossings Toll Agreement
- Improved Passenger Rail Service
- Alternative funding source for transportation – fuels tax insufficient

Potential 2022 Regional Legislative Priorities

- Support funding for School Construction and Modernization
- Public Safety – address Virginia Code language on blight, repetitive criminal activity
- Increased State Funding for Planning District Commissions

Additional Item

- Proposed Solid Waste Tax of \$3/ton to support State Parks/Conservation Efforts
- Regional Public Utilities Committee recommends that the HRPDC oppose this proposal
- SPSA opposes
- Legislative Committee recommends we monitor and discuss if legislation is introduced

Additional Item

Preserving and expanding tree canopy:

Support legislation to provide local governments with greater authority in the reforestation, preservation, and management of urban forests in recognition of their ability to capture and store carbon, reduce stormwater runoff, improve air quality, reduce energy use, and mitigate urban heat islands and their health effects.

In addition, support appropriating \$50M to the Department of Forestry's Urban and Community Forestry Program to enable local governments to expand and better maintain urban tree canopy.

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