

## **AGENDA NOTE - HRPDC ANNUAL RETREAT**

### **ITEM #15: HAMPTON ROADS STRATEGIC PLAN**

#### **SUBJECT:**

The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission may want to consider preparation of a strategic plan for the region.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Regional Cooperation Act establishes, in Section 15.2-1409, a requirement that each PDC “shall prepare a regional strategic plan for the guidance of the district. The plan shall concern those elements which are of importance in more than one of the localities”...”shall include regional goals and objectives, strategies to meet those goals and objectives and mechanisms for measuring progress toward the goals and objectives.” Section 15.2-1409 further addresses plan content and the range of interests that should be involved in preparing the plan.

Since passage of the strategic plan requirement, the HRPDC has relied on the *Plan 2007* effort of the Chamber of Commerce and *Vision Hampton Roads*, prepared by the Hampton Roads Partnership, as the regional strategic plan in its annual reports to the Department of Housing and Community Development. HRPDC reporting has augmented this by referring to a wide range of HRPDC planning efforts as elements of a strategic plan.

A number of strategic planning initiatives have been undertaken in Hampton Roads. *Vision Hampton Roads*, which focuses on economic development. Reality Check, to be conducted in May 2012 through the auspices of the Hampton Roads Chapter of the Urban Land Institute, is expected to focus on development patterns and land use. The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation has recently completed the *Hampton Roads Transit Vision Plan*. A number of functional plans are being prepared by the HRPDC and other regional agencies. They include the Hampton Roads Regional Water Supply Plan, the HRTPO Long Range Transportation Plan, Regional Wet Weather Management Plan, and the regional Chesapeake Bay TMDL work.

There is relatively little coordination and integration of these “vision” and functional plans. A Regional Strategic Plan, prepared under the auspices of the HRPDC, would engage the elected officials of the region’s localities in establishing a framework for guiding and integrating these regional planning efforts. It could capitalize on the work already completed by others and the capabilities of the HRPDC staff to facilitate the process and to undertake the technical studies necessary to support the regional vision.

Mr. John Carlock, Deputy Executive Director, will brief the Commission on this proposal.