

## AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING

### ITEM #9K: COASTAL ZONE PROGRAM – AMENDMENTS TO HAMPTON ROADS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – FINAL REPORT

#### SUBJECT:

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality manages the Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program. During FY 2012 the HRPDC received a grant to support the Coastal Zone Management technical assistance program.

#### BACKGROUND:

In March 2011, the HRPDC applied for and received grant funding from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality through the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program to continue the HRPDC Technical Assistance (Regional Coastal Resources Management) Program. The HRPDC has received annual funding through this grant program since 1986. This program encompasses HRPDC staff efforts to review state and federal Environmental Impact Assessment/Statements, support the Hampton Roads Chesapeake Bay Committee, the evolving Chesapeake Bay-wide TMDL process, and provide regular technical assistance on environmental issues. It also supports HRPDC staff participation in the Chesapeake Bay Program and a variety of state and federal environmental initiatives. In the past, this program has provided the seed money for the establishment of the regional water, stormwater and environmental education programs.

The Commission approved the report, *Hampton Roads Technical Assistance Program Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Final Report*, at its Quarterly Meeting in January 2012. After the report was submitted, Virginia CZM Program contacted HRPDC staff to request several changes to the report. Those changes are summarized below.

At its meeting on April 4, 2013, the HRPDC Joint Environmental Committee recommended the Commission approve the changes to the report.

#### REPORT CHANGES:

| Page #/Section | Change   |
|----------------|--|
| 4              | New sentences  |
| 4              | New material added at end of first paragraph:<br>“HRPDC’s responses are combined with any others from state agencies when DEQ makes its final determinations. While these determinations (and the collected comments) are conveyed back to HRPDC, DEQ staff does not generally identify any specific impacts to projects based on HRPDC staff comments. However, in several cases DEQ staff has followed up with HRPDC staff to have comments clarified. Occasionally, HRPDC staff also submits scoping comments for environmental impact studies which have been addressed in draft documents (an example would be scoping comments submitted for the Camp Peary Range 37 Shoreline Stabilization Project in York County, which are included in Appendix A).” |

| <b>Page #/Section</b> | <b>Change</b>  |
|-----------------------|--|
| 8                     | Replace entire second paragraph with:<br>“HRPDC staff met with the members of the Elizabeth River Steering Committee, including the Cities of Chesapeake, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), to discuss the possibility of upgrading a previously developed methodology for assessing and prioritizing wetlands restoration projects. This working group met several times and developed a grant proposal and project scope of work to be used as future grant opportunities become available.” |
| 8                     | New sentence added at end of third paragraph:<br>“This analysis is discussed further in Appendix B.”   |
| 8                     | New sentence added to fourth paragraph:<br>“A goal of this exercise was to help in the development of a regional vision for the future of Hampton Roads, in terms of recognizing and capitalizing on existing assets, including coastal resources, and identifying where future growth should occur.”  |
| 8                     | New sentences added to fourth paragraph:<br>“Several other maps developed by HRPDC staff for the participant guidebook were based on previous projects funded by VCZMP. These maps provided critical information on coastal natural resources and hazards for game participants to consider.”  |
| 15                    | New sentence added to first bullet point:<br>“(This presentation is included as part of Appendix E).”  |
| 16                    | New sentence added to second-to-last paragraph:<br>“In addition, HRPDC staff regularly places articles on the HRPDC website discussing items of regional relevance. Examples of these articles are included in Appendix E.”  |
| Appendix A            | DEQ#12-162F comment letter removed.<br>Comment letter (and attachments) on Camp Peary Range 37 Shoreline Stabilization Project added.<br>Comment letter for DEQ #12-008F added.<br>Comment letter for DEQ #12-065F added.<br>Comment letter for DEQ #12-151F added.  |
| Appendix B            | “Analysis of Areas Eligible for Designation as Targeted Employment Areas in Hampton Roads” replaced with “Development of Seamless Regional Digital Elevation Model (DEM)”  |
| Appendix C            | Section on “Reality Check Hampton Roads and Coastal Zone Management” added.  |
| Appendix E            | New appendix: “Representative Educational and Outreach Materials”.   |

Enclosure

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The HRPDC staff and Joint Environmental Committee recommend the Commission approve the changes to the report.