

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING

ITEM #9L: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM – FY 2014 GRANT

SUBJECT:

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality manages the Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program. PDCs are eligible for formula grants to support technical assistance programs and competitive grants for projects addressing a high priority issue, as determined by the CZM Program.

BACKGROUND:

In October 1986, Virginia received its first grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for the State's Coastal Zone Management Program. Since that time, the HRPDC and its predecessors have received over \$2,500,000 through this program to provide technical assistance on environmental issues to the local governments and to complete a variety of technical studies.

The process is also underway for distributing funds for the FY 2013-14 CZM 309 Strategy. CZM 309 funds are match free and must propose creation of enforceable polices in any of nine identified areas: wetlands, coastal hazards, public access, marine debris, cumulative and secondary impacts, special area management plans, ocean resources, energy and government facility siting and aquaculture. The HRPDC 309 proposal focuses on Cumulative and Secondary Impacts and was included in the state's proposed Section 309 Strategy. It will evaluate on a pilot basis the relationship between local plans and regulations and water quality. The HRPDC staff is currently working with the Cities of Norfolk and Suffolk on this project. The grant proposal will be submitted to DEQ by April 8, 2013 and will be included in the UPWP and Budget for FY 2013. The HRPDC anticipates receiving funding in the amount of \$81,000, which reflects cuts made due to sequestration.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Authorize the Executive Director to submit grant proposals to the DEQ to support the CZM 309 Strategy Grant as well as to accept grant offers when they are made.