

ATTACHMENT 1A
THE DRAFT SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE
HAMPTON ROADS CHESAPEAKE BAY COMMITTEE, THE
REGIONAL STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE
CHESAPEAKE BAY IMPLEMENTATION SUBCOMMITTEE
March 7, 2013

1. Summary of the February 7, 2013 Meeting of the Hampton Roads Chesapeake Bay and Regional Stormwater Management Committees and Chesapeake Bay Implementation Subcommittee

The Summary of the February 7, 2013 Meeting of the Hampton Roads Chesapeake Bay and Regional Stormwater Management Committees and Chesapeake Bay Implementation Subcommittee was approved as distributed.

2. askHRgreen.org Update

Ms. Lisa Hardy and Ms. Katie Cullipher, HRPDC, updated the Committee on askHRgreen.org's activities. The second wave of askHRgreen.org campaign research was completed this winter. askHRgreen.org subcommittees will be reviewing the findings during their March meetings. A presentation of the findings will then be presented to the Joint Environmental Committee at the April 4th and to the Commission on June 20th. Research findings will direct askHRgreen.org campaign efforts, including messages and audiences.

The second edition of askHRgreen.org's *Green Living* will be included as an insert in the Virginian-Pilot and the Daily Press on April 17th. The publication will also be available online. The publication will contain editorial content from each of the four askHRgreen.org subcommittees.

The Water Awareness Subcommittee will run a Fix A Leak campaign from March 18th to March 24th.

The Stormwater Education and Water Awareness Subcommittees will run a spring "yard care" campaign from March 25th to April 7th.

The spring, askHRgreen.org is supporting Great American Cleanup events across the region. Volunteer opportunities are listed at www.askhrgreen.org/the-great-american-cleanup-2013.

There will be an all-askHRgreen.org annual meeting on May 23rd from 9:30 to 11:30. The location is yet to be determined.

Everyone is encouraged to submit upcoming events through the new calendar feature at the bottom of each page on askHRgreen.org or at www.askhrgreen.org/feature-your-event-on-the-askhrgreen-calendar/.

askHRgreen.org received an award from the Chesapeake Improvement Council.

The next meeting of the Hampton Roads Watershed Roundtable will be announced soon.

Ms. Fran Geissler, James City, asked whether the research results would be made available to local governments. The results will be included in the meeting agenda packets where they are to be presented and will also be made available for download. Information will also be presented at the Stormwater Committee meeting in April.

3. Coastal Zone Management 309 Project – Year 2 Update

Ms. Jenny Tribo, HRPDC, updated the Committee on the status of HRPDC's Section 309 Grant Project work with Suffolk and Norfolk. Ms. Tribo described the proposed project timeline and answered questions from the Committee. Product 1, which focuses on identifying stormwater BMPs well-suited to the coastal plain, will be developed with feedback from the Stormwater Committee between March and May. Product 2, which will extend the evaluation of local plans and ordinances, will be developed during the same timeframe with feedback from Norfolk and Suffolk city staffs. HRPDC staff will brief the Committee on these two products at the June meeting. A draft report of all three products will be sent out in August for Committee Review, with a recommendation request made in September. The Commission will be asked to approve the report at its October meeting.

Mr. Joe Du Rant, Newport News, asked if the BMPs researched as part of Product 1 are in the BMP Clearinghouse. Ms. Tribo responded that many probably are but if they are not then HRPDC staff will work with the state to get them into the clearinghouse. So far, the state process has focused on approving proprietary BMPs instead of non-proprietary BMPs. The report will also look at potential modifications to existing BMPs to fit the coastal plain better.

Mr. Justin Shafer, Norfolk, suggested that the project would be a good item for the Hampton Roads Watershed Roundtable and could bring in outside speakers.

4. Living Shorelines Presentation

Ms. Pam Mason, VIMS, gave a presentation to the Committee on the status of Living Shorelines regulations and guidance. Policy development on living shorelines in Virginia has been ongoing since the 1990s, but in 2011 the General Assembly passed legislation (SB964) mandating the development of guidelines and a general permit. VMRC is responsible for developing integrated guidelines, while VIMS is developing comprehensive coastal resource management guidance for local governments. Both parties are working together to develop the general permit. Currently, VIMS is working with a technical committee, composed of scientists, and an advisory committee, composed of citizens and consultants, and is looking at using two groups of living

shoreline approaches. The first group would include those with minimal adverse impacts, while the second group would include approaches with minor or significant adverse impacts. Group one would consist of non-structural activities, such as improving existing marshes, creating new marshes, beach nourishment, or native oyster shell bags. Group two would consist of rock sills with marshes; specifications will be developed for these approaches. VIMS is also looking at additional conditions or requirements related to riparian modifications, vegetation plans, and vegetated wetland impacts. At this point, VMRC has briefed the majority of coastal localities and has also hosted an open meeting. The ad hoc Technical Committee has met several times and includes representatives from VIMS, DCR, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The ad hoc Advisory Committee met in October.

The Committee asked when the general permit would be in place. The permit may be ready by fall 2013, since the VMRC process is not as rigorous as those used by DCR or DEQ.

Mr. Todd Herbert, NASA-Langley, asked if there would be a monitoring or verification requirement. Ms. Mason stated that there may be a requirement to submit a photograph of the project upon completion.

Please contact Ms. Mason (mason@vims.edu) if you have any questions.

5. Regional Strategic Plan

Ms. Jai McBride, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on the HRPDC Retreat, held in February, and the concept for the Hampton Roads Regional Strategic Plan. The theme of the retreat was developing a process for creating a regional strategic plan. The meeting also included presentations from several groups, including the Urban Land Institute and the Hampton Roads Community Foundation.

Historically, the HRPDC regional strategic plan has been a collection of separate efforts, programs, and reports which collectively provide comprehensive guidance to the region. These have included water quality planning efforts, economic forecasts, solid waste plans, transportation plans, emergency management plans, environmental education efforts, and coastal zone management programs. HRPDC's Executive Director, Mr. Dwight Farmer, has expressed interest in developing a more formal strategic planning document, with the end product being the development of a prioritization tool for regional projects and initiatives, somewhat based on the HRTPO's project prioritization tool. The goal is to develop the process by the end of FY14-15 and have a final regional strategic plan by the end of FY16-17. The concept will be included in the HRPDC's Unified Planning Work Program for FY13-14.

Mr. LJ Hansen, Suffolk, asked if all projects and initiatives would be considered in the same matrix. He questioned how a regional strategic plan that prioritized efforts would treat smaller issues, such as environmental education. He stated that environmental

education would never beat out a 3rd crossing of the James, for example, as a regional priority.

Ms. Ellen Roberts, Poquoson, stated that the HRTPO prioritization process is extremely bureaucratic. Mr. Farmer spent some time describing the prioritization tool.

Potential regional strategic initiatives could include tourism and ports/shipping. The Committee asked how items would be scored.

Mr. Du Rant stated that the Oregon example provided (Clatsop County) was only for a single county, so may not be very applicable to a regional situation.

The Committee asked how often the plan would be updated. Mr. Farmer stated that a five-year time frame would be doable, but that the plan could be amended at any time, somewhat similar to the HRTPO's Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Mr. Clay Bernick, Virginia Beach, asked how scoring would work. Mr. Farmer stated that localities would submit ideas to the PDC for scoring using the objective tool.

Ms. Geissler stated that strategic initiatives are good, but questioned calling it a strategic plan. She suggested conducting a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis first.

6. Regional Comments on draft Arlington MS4 Permit

Ms. Tribo and Ms. Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on regional comments related to Arlington County's draft MS4 permit. The consultant is still revising the comments based on input received from the Committee. VAMSA has distributed Arlington's comments as a powerpoint presentation. Ms. June Whitehurst, Norfolk, will distribute them to the Stormwater Committee. The Committee asked if Arlington's comments could be incorporated by reference.

The major comments are:

- 1) The permit appears to penalize urbanized localities for DCR's refusal to allow these localities to adopt early standards.
- 2) MS4 localities should not be required to perform inspections and implement programs to identify and control pollutants from facilities for which DEQ has permitting responsibility.
- 3) The permit could be construed to restrict the permittee's use of vacuum trucks to remove MS4 blockages.
- 4) It is unfair to subject permittees to non-compliance by requiring the submittal of "approvable" action plans.
- 5) The permit includes several unnecessary or unworkable tracking, recordkeeping, or reporting requirements.
- 6) The permit also contains several miscellaneous errors and provisions for which clarifications or corrections are required.

The Committee voted to recommend that the Commission approve the comments and submit them to DCR.

7. DCR Local Programs Update

Mr. Noah Hill, DCR, briefed the Committee on developments related to local program adoption. Questions on the process should be sent to DCR's regional offices, not the central office. DCR has developed two new FAQ documents. The first will be out next week and focuses on program integration. The second focuses on what will happen to localities if they do not adopt programs, and will be presented to the local government advisory committee on March 21st. The schedule for program adoption was approved by the Board at its last meeting. Virginia Beach has already sent in their extension request package. Extension requests should be sent to Noah by April 1st. The Board will consider the extensions at its June 6th meeting. If localities do not apply for an extension, their programs will have to be adopted by July 1st. Localities who are requesting extensions need to send their entire package to DCR by December 16th. This package should include the "final" ordinance. Local councils and boards will have until April 1st, 2014 to actually approve and adopt these ordinances.

The General Assembly approved at its last session moving oversight of erosion and sediment control, stormwater management, and Chesapeake Bay Preservation ordinances to DEQ. A model combined SWM/E&S permit and application template are being put together by the central office. The certification program will be completed this spring and will be similar to the E&S certification program.

Ms. Connie Bennett, York, asked if localities would need to revise their E&S ordinances. Mr. Hill replied that it was not yet necessary, but may be required by December.

Mr. Hill could not state definitively how the Suffolk DCR office would be transferring to the Tidewater DEQ office. Office locations may change.

Mr. Hill will send out the timeline to the Committee.

MS4 oversight will also transfer to DEQ regional offices. The Soil & Water Conservation Board will approve the permit, while the State Water Control Board will enforce the permits beginning July 1, 2013.

8. Committee Organization

Ms. McBride led a discussion with the Committee on potential changes to the Committee's organization, purpose, scope, and meetings. Ms. McBride summarized the results of a survey sent out to Committee members prior to the meeting. Most Committee members prefer monthly meetings to bi-monthly or quarterly meetings. Most also prefer to keep the meeting at the beginning of the month. Most prefer

morning meetings held at HRPDC. Most members work in stormwater or related departments rather than planning.

Ms. Geissler stated that the Committee seems to want to maintain a focus on stormwater, but that this seems redundant with monthly Stormwater Committee meetings. Other members pointed out that the Committees have different, if related, focuses, so both should keep meeting. Ms. Geissler asked HRPDC staff to look into teleconference options or alternative meeting locations on the Peninsula.

Mr. Bernick asked for more Committee information – presentations, reports, agendas – to be made more readily accessible through the website.

Mr. David Imburgia, Hampton, stated that without the Joint Environmental Committee meetings there is no regional forum to discuss other issues.

9. Coastal Resiliency – Sea Level Rise Mapping

Mr. Ben McFarlane, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on the methods used to develop new sea level rise inundation maps for HRPDC’s Coastal Resilience grant project. These maps take advantage of existing high-resolution elevation data available for Hampton Roads localities and are consistent with global sea level rise scenarios developed for the 2013 National Climate Assessment. HRPDC staff created a seamless regional digital elevation model (DEM) from the various individual DEMs and used NOAA’s VDATUM software to reference the regional DEM to mean higher high water (MHHW). This referenced DEM was used to identify areas under various scenarios that are hydrologically connected to the ocean (and thus would be potentially affected by sea level rise). This results in maps with much higher precision and accuracy.

Committee members recommended using various years and scenarios instead of a “bathtub” approach using regular elevation intervals for the maps.

10. Status Reports

HRPDC staff made several announcements:

- 1) The next Hampton Roads Adaptation Forum meeting will be held March 13th at VMASC. Please contact Ben McFarlane (bmcfarlane@hrpdcva.gov) for more information.
- 2) APA-Virginia will be holding a Coastal Planning Symposium on March 22nd at the Half Moone Cruise Terminal in Norfolk. CM and CFM credits will be available. Please contact Ben McFarlane (bmcfarlane@hrpdcva.gov) for more information.
- 3) The Stormwater Committee MOA will be sent to the region’s Chief Administrative Officers in March and then to the Commission at the April meeting. If anyone has any comments, please contact Ms. Jenny Tribo (jtribo@hrpdcva.gov).

Chesapeake staff announced their intentions to host a plan reviewer class from DCR in Chesapeake. 10 participants are needed, so if anyone is interested in attending please contact Ms. Barbara Brumbaugh.

Norfolk staff announced that they would be hosting basic E&S training from DCR on March 13th and 14th and inspector training on the 28th. Please contact Ms. June Whitehurst if you want more information.

11. Other Matters

The next meeting of the Joint Environmental Committee is scheduled for April 4, 2013 at the HRPDC office in Chesapeake, Virginia. Materials will be sent in advance for review.