



HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

June 21, 2012

**ITEM #20
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM - FY 2013 GRANTS

SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #20: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM – FY 2013 GRANTS

SUBJECT:

Authorize competitive grants for submission to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality through the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program.

BACKGROUND:

On April 20, 2012, the Department of Environmental Quality Coastal Zone Management Program issued a Request for Proposals to the eight Coastal PDCs for competitive grant funding. This additional competitive funding had been discussed previously with the PDCs at the Quarterly Coastal PDC meeting. Grant guidance indicated that project proposals could address one or more of the following priorities:

- Water Quality
- Coastal Resiliency
- Working Waterfronts
- Habitat Restoration
- Public Access

Funding in the amount of \$175,000 is available with each PDC able to submit a maximum of two proposals with maximum funding per PDC to range between \$20,000 and \$60,000. Previous discussions among the PDCs and CZM staff indicated a desire on the part of the state to fund public access projects.

The HRPDC staff discussed the grant possibilities with the Joint Environmental Committee at its meetings on April 5 and May 4, 2012. In addition, proposals for public access projects were solicited from the Parks and Recreation Directors of the region's localities.

HRPDC staff received three proposals for public access projects had been received and were discussed. A subcommittee of the Joint Environmental Committee was established to review the proposals and develop a recommendation for Commission consideration. These proposals were for the following projects:

1. Norfolk – Lavalette Avenue Canoe/Kayak Launch and Fishing Dock
2. Portsmouth – Creating a Blueway at Paradise Creek Nature Park
3. Suffolk – Nansemond River Water Access at Constant's Wharf Park and Marina

Based on discussions with CZM staff, it was determined that the Portsmouth project is currently ineligible for funding because the property is not in public ownership.

The subcommittee agreed that the Norfolk and Suffolk projects should be recommended if total funding could be brought within the grant limits. Both applicants have submitted revised proposals to reflect the maximum available funding for the HRPDC of \$60,000 and including a set-aside for HRPDC administration of the grant.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Authorize the Executive Director to:

1. Submit the two grant proposals to the DEQ for funding through the CZM Competitive grant.
2. Accept grant offers when they are made.
3. Develop agreements with the Cities of Norfolk and Suffolk to permit project implementation following receipt of the grant(s).