

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING

ITEM #10-J: CZM PROGRAM – FY 2016 GRANTS

SUBJECT:

The Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCZMP), part of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, regularly makes available grant opportunities to Planning District Commissions (PDC) in Virginia's Coastal Zone. The VCZMP has announced two grant opportunities under Sections 306 and 309 of the Coastal Zone Management Act for Coastal Zone PDCs for the federal fiscal year beginning October 1, 2015.

BACKGROUND:

In October 1986, Virginia received its first grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program. Since that time, the HRPDC and its predecessors have received over \$2.5 million through this program to provide technical assistance on environmental issues to local governments and to complete a variety of technical studies.

The VCZMP has announced the availability of Section 306 and Section 309 grants for Coastal Zone PDCs for the federal fiscal year beginning October 1, 2015. Each PDC is allowed to apply for up to two individual projects for each grant type, with the combined requested funding for each pool no greater than \$40,000. Matching funds will be required for Section 306 grants. Any grants awarded will begin October 1, 2015 and end September 30, 2016.

Applications are due to VCZMP staff by 5:00 pm Friday, February 13, 2015. The Regional Environmental Committee will review proposals at its February 5, 2015 meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The HRPDC staff and Regional Environmental Committee recommend the Commission authorize the Interim Executive Director, in consultation with the Regional Environmental Committee, to submit grant proposals to the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program for FY15-16, and accept grant offers if and when they are made.