

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #6: GREEN SEA BLUEWAY AND GREENWAY MANAGEMENT PLAN

SUBJECT:

The City of Virginia Beach, in partnership with the City of Chesapeake and Currituck County, North Carolina, developed the Green Sea Blueway and Greenway Management Plan, which is a regional sustainable management and development strategy for protecting shared resources in the area known as the Green Sea.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of the Green Sea Blueway and Greenway Management Plan is to develop a long-term management strategy that protects, conserves and manages a unique system of natural resources, open space areas, and selectively-chosen recreational uses, activities and facilities that are sustainable for the Green Sea area (North Landing River, Northwest River, and Albemarle-Pamlico Sound watersheds). The Plan calls for the establishment of a nonprofit Partnership group to lead the effort as well as be accountable for and help coordinate Plan implementation. No new layers of local government or ongoing capital expenditures are adopted with this Plan. This Plan proposes a systems approach to establish and cultivate the long-term stewardship of the Green Sea area's natural, cultural, and recreational resources through ongoing outreach and education, protection of the area's ecological integrity, and the provision of passive recreational uses and activities that can coexist with the area's tremendous array of natural resources and amenities. More information about the Plan can be found at <http://www.vbgov.com/greensea>.

The Green Sea Blueway and Greenway Management Plan builds on the success of the Southern Watershed Area Management Program (SWAMP) which was a collaborative management plan effort was led by the HRPDC and the cities of Chesapeake and Virginia Beach.

Mr. Clay Bernick, City of Virginia Beach – Environment and Sustainability Office will brief the Commission on the Plan.

Note: This item is for informational purposes only.