



**HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION 2015-01**

**RESOLUTION OF THE HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION  
ENCOURAGING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN HAMPTON ROADS TO CONSIDER ADOPTING  
NEW OR HIGHER FREEBOARD REQUIREMENTS TO REDUCE THE IMPACTS OF  
RECURRENT FLOODING AND SEA LEVEL RISE ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY.**

**WHEREAS**, the "Recurrent Flooding Study for Tidewater Virginia," completed at the request of the General Assembly by the Center for Coastal Resources Management of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, found that "recurrent flooding is a significant issue in Virginia coastal localities and one that is predicted to become worse over reasonable planning horizons."

**WHEREAS**, reports by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission staff have found the Hampton Roads region to be vulnerable to flooding and sea level rise.

**WHEREAS**, implementing freeboard requirements makes structures safer and better able to withstand damage from flooding.

**WHEREAS**, incorporating freeboard into residential construction can result in lower flood insurance premiums for individual homeowners.

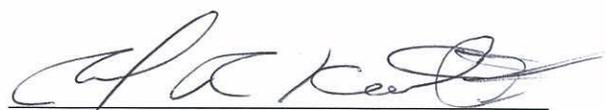
**WHEREAS**, higher freeboard requirements can help communities earn credit through the Community Rating System, which can reduce flood insurance premiums community-wide.

**WHEREAS**, freeboard requirements can provide continued protection against flooding by keeping structures above the base flood elevation as sea level rises.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission hereby encourages localities in Hampton Roads to consider adopting freeboard requirements as part of their floodplain management regulations if they have not already done so and to consider adopting higher freeboard requirements if such requirements are already included in local regulations.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January 2015.

  
Kenneth I. Wright  
Chair

  
Randy R. Keaton  
Interim Executive Director/Secretary