

## **AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **ITEM #8: SEA GRANT APPLICATION – HAMPTON ROADS ADAPTATION FORUM**

#### **SUBJECT:**

Authorize the execution of a grant application along with Virginia Sea Grant and Old Dominion University to establish and fund the Hampton Roads Adaptation Forum.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

As part of its efforts to promote discussion of and adaptation to the impacts of climate change on Hampton Roads localities, Old Dominion University and Virginia Sea Grant have invited HRPDC to participate in a joint application for national Sea Grant Funding for a regional forum. The Hampton Roads Adaptation Forum will result in a local community-university partnership that will build on and add to existing local adaptation capacity over a two-year period. Specific actions will include: (1) appointing a Forum coordinator and establishing a coordinating mechanism; (2) administering a Forum, including identifying members, holding quarterly meetings, and establishing working groups; (3) designing and implementing a knowledge management system to enhance capacity; (4) designing and hosting two facilitated public town hall meetings; and (5) tracking implementation of specific adaptation solutions adopted by localities. The Principal Investigator for the grant proposal is Dr. Troy Hartley, Director of Virginia Sea Grant. Co-Principal Investigators include Dr. C. Ariel Pinto, Graduate Program Director of the Department of Engineering Management & Systems Engineering at ODU and Dr. Larry Atkinson, Director of the ODU Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Initiative. HRPDC Regional Planner Benjamin McFarlane has also been invited to participate as a Co-Principal Investigator. The required local government match is \$50,000, which is expected to be achieved through in-kind local and regional staff participation in forum and work group meetings.

Funding Request: \$100,000

Local Government Match: \$50,000 (in-kind)

Period of Performance: February 1, 2012 – January 31, 2014

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Authorize the Executive Director to participate in the grant application along with Virginia Sea Grant and Old Dominion University to establish and fund the Hampton Roads Adaptation Forum and to execute an agreement with them if the grant is awarded.