

AGENDA NOTE - HRPDC QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING

ITEM #7: Operation Sail (OpSail 2012)

SUBJECT:

Resolution to endorse and support OpSail 2012.

BACKGROUND:

OpSail 2012 is a national event to commemorate the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the *Star-Spangled Banner*. Virginia is one of five official ports to host the international naval tall ship fleet and to be engaged in the Department of Defense's national bicentennial commemoration.

OpSail 2012 has been endorsed by the Virginia Commission on the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 as a signature event for the Commonwealth. It provides excellent opportunities for Hampton Roads communities to plan affiliate events that commemorate the historic themes and to capitalize on the educational, marketing and tourism initiatives that will be developed in conjunction with event.

Ms. Karen Scherberger, Executive Director for Norfolk Festevents, will be present to provide a brief overview of OpSail 2012.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize the Chairman to sign the attached resolution endorsing and supporting OpSail 2012.

Attachment



Commemoration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812
OpSail 2012 Virginia
June 6-12, 2012
Norfolk/Hampton Roads, Virginia

Background

OpSail 2012 is an international military and maritime project sponsored by the **US Department of Defense and OpSail, Inc. based in New York, New York.**

Norfolk/Port of Hampton Roads was selected by the Chief of Naval Operations in 2009 as one of five ports to participate in this national Bicentennial Commemoration (**New Orleans, LA, Virginia, Baltimore, MD, Boston, MA, and New York, NY.**)

OpSail 2012 Virginia was endorsed January 6, 2010 by the **Virginia Commission on the Bicentennial of the War of 1812** as a signature event for the Commonwealth.

Significance of OpSail 2012 Virginia to Hampton Roads and the Commonwealth of Virginia:

- ♦ Places Hampton Roads and Virginia in a position of honor as one of five states selected by the United States Government;
- ♦ Creates an opportunity to advance the rich, historical relationship between Virginia and Military Forces;
- ♦ Creates a platform to support the initiatives of the Virginia Commission (War 1812);
- ♦ Guarantees worldwide recognition for Virginia's Port, Tourism, and other Regional and Commonwealth priorities;
- ♦ Guarantees Direct Economic Impact on the Region's and Virginia's participating communities via attendance/tourism at events;
- ♦ Creates a strategic platform for Regional and Commonwealth Protocol/Diplomatic/Economic Development events;
- ♦ Guarantees strategic Marketing Opportunities for the Region, the Commonwealth and participating communities.

Goals and Objectives

OpSail 2012 Virginia Planned Initiatives

1. To establish ***OpSail 2012 Virginia*** as the "WOW" Signature Event for the Commonwealth of Virginia's Bicentennial of the War of 1812;
2. To position ***OpSail 2012 Virginia*** as a key participant in the national OpSail2012 project with the other national ports;
3. To position ***OpSail 2012 Virginia*** as the "platform event" for additional cities and communities throughout the region and Commonwealth for participation using ***OpSail 2000*** as a model for organization and engagement;
4. To create significant, meaningful and measurable economic and social impact for the Commonwealth and participating communities through the following initiatives:
 - A) Virginia Tourism Initiatives
 - B) Historical Initiatives
 - C) Educational Initiatives
 - D) Economic Development Initiatives
 - E) International Military Relations Initiatives
 - F) International Government Relations Initiatives
 - G) Virginia Port Initiatives
 - H) Maritime Trades Initiatives
 - I) Cultural Initiatives
 - J) Government Engagement
 - K) Community and Civic Engagement
 - L) Corporate Engagement
 - M) Commemorative Events and Activities



**HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
RESOLUTION 2010-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION TO
ENDORSE AND SUPPORT OPERATION SAIL 2012**

WHEREAS, Operation Sail (OpSail) 2012 is a national military and maritime project sponsored by the U.S. Department of Defense to commemorate the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the *Star-Spangled Banner*; and

WHEREAS, OpSail 2012 Virginia has been endorsed by the Virginia Commission on the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 as a signature event for the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norfolk, Virginia was selected to be one of five official ports of call to participate in the Bicentennial Commemoration; and

WHEREAS, the sixteen cities and counties of Hampton Roads embrace this historic world-class event and support the joint efforts of the planning and execution of OpSail 2012; and

WHEREAS, Hampton Roads recognizes the importance and potential great benefit to the region and state of this rare opportunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission does hereby pledge support of OpSail 2012 and encourages all citizens of the region to join in the international camaraderie that it will foster.

APPROVED and ADOPTED by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission at its meeting on the twenty-first day of July 2010.

Bruce C. Goodson
Chairman
Hampton Roads
Planning District Commission

Dwight L. Farmer
Executive Director/Secretary
Hampton Roads
Planning District Commission