

## **AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING**

### **ITEM #11: PROJECT STATUS REPORTS**

#### **A. Joint Environmental Committee**

The Joint Environmental Committee met on July 1, 2010. The meeting included:

- Resolutions of appreciation from the Committee for Mr. Wayland Bass of James City County, Mr. Jeff Bliemel of the City of Poquoson, and Mr. Eric Walberg of the HRPDC staff for their work with the Committee.
- An update from Ms. Jenny Tribo on the status of the Chesapeake Bay TMDL.
- A briefing from Ms. Julia Hillegass on a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action for Pesticide Discharges to Surface Waters.
- A presentation from Mr. Gamal Hassan, PE, of HWR, on technologies for modeling stormwater and water quality impacts.
- A discussion of a change to the regional stormwater budget.
- An update from HRPDC staff on various grants being looked into or pursued, including a Green Infrastructure education grant from the National Association of Regional Councils, and Community Challenge Grants and the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Program from HUD.
- A discussion of steps to be taken to complete the transition to a public advisory committee, including the establishment of bylaws. A subcommittee of representatives of the Regional Stormwater Management and Chesapeake Bay Committees was established to work with representatives of the Directors of Utilities Committee in drafting Committee Bylaws.
- A briefing on the potential sale to private industry of satellite bandwidth currently used by weather and environmental data transmissions by USGS and NOAA.
- An update from DCR-CBLA on recent actions by the Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Board information and resources available on their website.
- Status reports and updates from localities and other Committee members.

#### **B. Stormwater Management Program and Chesapeake Bay Program**

- Stormwater Management Program:  
The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has formed a Regulatory Advisory Panel (RAP) to assist the Department in considering revisions to the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board's Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Permit Regulations. The first meeting of the RAP will be at the Virginia State Capital on July 23, 2010 at 10:00 am.
- DCR is currently in negotiations with Fairfax County to renew their Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. HRPDC staff and members of the Regional Stormwater Committee have reviewed the permit and drafted a letter of concerns to DCR. PDC staff will be meeting with DCR staff to discuss these issues and the timeline for permit renewal in the coming weeks.

- Chesapeake Bay TMDL Update:  
EPA released draft nitrogen and phosphorus targets for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL on July 1, 2010. The draft Allocations and related correspondence are included in Agenda Item #13. Sediment targets are expected to be released on August 15. The Chesapeake Bay States have until September 1, 2010 to submit a draft Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) to EPA that details how these reductions will be met. Virginia has formed a Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) to aid DEQ in DCR in developing the strategies for the WIP. At the last SAG meeting on June 15, 2010, source sector workgroups for agriculture, wastewater, urban/suburban lands, and onsite systems. HRPDC staff attended the urban/suburban workgroup meeting on July 12, 2010.

### **C. Directors of Utilities Committee**

The Directors of Utilities Committee met on July 7, 2010. The following matters were addressed at the meeting:

- Following approval of the H2O – Help to Others – Program MOA by the H2O Board of Directors, the Directors of Utilities Committee recommended that the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission approve the H2O – Help to Others – Program Memorandum of Agreement.
- The Committee nominated Mr. Joe Durant, Newport News, to serve on the Bylaws Subcommittee to draft bylaws for the Directors of Utilities Committee.
- The HRPDC staff submitted a comment letter on behalf of the Committee to the Federal Communications Commission regarding the proposed leasing or sale of the 1675-1710 MHz Band. The letter expressed the region's dependence on the availability of NOAA's weather forecasting, tracking of hurricanes, and predictions of flood conditions; and that any reduction in availability would impact the region's ability to prepare for and respond to emergencies. The region is also a USGS cooperator and has funded the installation of real-time groundwater monitoring stations which use the 16750-1700 MHz band.
- The HRPDC staff submitted a comment letter on behalf of the Committee to the Department of Environmental Quality regarding the Pesticide NOIRA. The letter discussed the use of pesticides in the region for control of algae in water supply reservoirs and for mosquito control; and also recommended individuals to serve on the Technical Advisory Committee. The Committee asked staff to also submit the comments to the EPA.
- The Committee asked staff to develop comments on the possible changes to the NPDES Regulations regarding satellite collection systems and SSOs, which are presently being considered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and to develop draft comments on the proposed Groundwater regulations. Both matters will be considered by the Committee at its August meeting.

## **D. Emergency Management Project Update**

### **Debris Management**

A date for the annual debris management meeting has been coordinated with SPSA, VPPSA, and VDEM. The date is July 19, 2010 and will be at the HRPDC.

### **Hampton Roads Regional Jail and Inmate Evacuation Committee**

The committee met again on July 8th and began drafting an RFP to solicit a consultant to conduct the functional jail assessments for emergency operation plan enhancements and development of jail evacuation planning.

### **Hampton Roads Tactical Regional Area Network (HRTacRAN)**

The EM Administrator continues to work with the Hampton Roads Interoperability Communications Advisory Committee (HRICAC) Oversight Group in an effort to find a funding solution for sustainment of the system for follow-on service and maintenance procurement. The FY10 Port Security Grant Application that was submitted to VDEM in March 2010 as a potential temporary solution for sustainment was not selected for funding. However, the FY07 Port Security Grant has some leftover funding that may be applied to this project. Also, the FY09 Port Security Grant application period will open soon and those funds applied for and not received for FY10 will be applied for.

### **Peninsula Local Emergency Planning Commission (PLEPC)**

A grant application was submitted to VDEM, by the City of Hampton on behalf of the PLEPC, for funds to update the current Peninsula Local Emergency Response Plan. On March 1st, the Emergency Management staff were informed that the City of Hampton was granted this the award in the requested amount. All funds must be exhausted by September 2010. The HRPDC is willing to support the work for this grant and assist with the management of the project with the City of Hampton and PLEPC; however, no progress has been made.

### **FY10 Healthcare Organization Emergency Preparedness Seminars (HOEPS)**

The Emergency Management staff led and completed the seminar with public health partners and multiple health care organizations on May 6th and 7th. Participant feedback is being compiled and will be provided soon. Also, the HOEPS planning committee will be meeting in this month to begin planning next year's event.

### **Hazard Mitigation Planning**

The grant applications for updating the Southside Hampton Roads Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Franklin Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Southampton Hazard Mitigation Plan are in the process of review at with a notification of an announcement of an award expected in the summer of 2010 and funding made available in early fall 2010. FEMA has requested additional information from Southampton County on their application and the staff are reaching out to the County Administrative staff for support to fulfill the requested information.

The Emergency Management staff continues to work with the City of Hampton's Emergency Manager by providing support to update the Peninsula Hazard Mitigation plan. An RFP was released through the City of Hampton and a pre-proposal meeting with potential proposers was held on May 26. A meeting with all the Peninsula emergency managers took place on July 6 to select a consultant for this project. Pending any other contracting requirements to be met, the City of Hampton will work with the selected vendor to establish a contract with the hopes that work will begin in late July 2010.

The City of Portsmouth has contacted the EM staff at the HRPDC regarding participation in updating their flood plain management plan. Staff has attended the kick-off meeting in June and will continue to participate in this planning process until complete.

### **Regional Catastrophic Planning Grant Program (RCPGP) Support**

The Emergency Management staff continues to support the Regional Catastrophic Planning Team and the three workgroups to ensure existing projects and data is integrated. The three workgroups are (1) Evacuation and Transportation, (2) Commodities, Resources, and Volunteers, and (3) Mass Care and Sheltering.

### **Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)**

The Emergency Management staff continues to manage and support the Hampton Roads Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Grant Program for the Urban Area Working Group (UAWG). During the May UAWG meeting, the consultant performing the Capabilities Assessment work brief the UAWG on the strategy to be employed for updating the Hampton Roads Homeland Security Strategy. A small subcommittee, consisting of specific disciplines, will work with the consultants to draft the revised strategy for submission to the UAWG

Discussions and planning for future grant years continues with the refinement of a tool to track all projects under the UASI grant that have been requested, supported, and requires sustainment in the future. The UAWG has indicated that they want to ensure a portion of future grant funds are made available for sustainment with the rest dedicated towards new projects that will only be supported by the soon to be revised Hampton Roads Homeland Security Strategy.

The FY07 UASI grant is nearing completion. A few projects have not been completed and an extension request for 6 months has been submitted by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management to DHS on behalf of the UAWG.

### **Hampton Roads Medical Special Needs and WebEOC Implementation Update (FY07 & FY08 UASI Project)**

The WebEOC Subcommittee met in June and has developed an implementation plan for institutionalizing WebEOC based on the workshop and training conducted on June 8th.

The Special Needs website and registry ([www.hrspecialneeds.org](http://www.hrspecialneeds.org)) reconstruction is nearly complete to include accessibility requirements being met. It is expected to be back up and running by late July 2010 and be fully functional as initially envisioned by the Emergency Management community.

#### **Maritime Security and Response (FY08 UASI Project)**

Staff continues to solicit input from the Area Maritime Security Committee for the FY08 UASI project that is a follow-on project from FY07. At this time, it is also unclear whether the AMSC will utilize the funds available for this project. If not, further direction will be sought from DHS via VDEM.

#### **Multi-Region Target Capabilities Assessment (FY08 UASI Project)**

The Emergency Management staff, on behalf of and in cooperation with the HR and Central Virginia (Richmond area) UASI regions, provide program management and implementation support for the Target Capabilities Assessment (TCA), through the UASI Grant program. Interviews with localities in Hampton Roads for assessing the selected target capabilities began in late January and are in progress. All sixteen have been completed as of June 9th. The consultant will now take all the data and begin analyzing it to determine what the strengths and gaps are for the region against the DHS Target Capabilities List. Also, now that all the data has been compiled, it allows the region to begin setting metrics in order to determine if a capability has been met and to what degree. The final component to be developed is the revision to the Hampton Roads Homeland Security Strategy as indicated above in the UASI section. A plan for revising this plan has been developed and has been structured to ensure all homeland security partners (local, regional, state, and federal) have the opportunity to participate.

#### **Pet Sheltering Support (FY09 UASI Project)**

The Committee supporting this effort met and finalized what equipment and supplies need to be procured for the trailers to support pet management in shelters. Some of the equipment and supplies are not allowable under the grant guidelines and staff drafted a letter to DHS via VDEM requesting a waiver for those items not allowed. VDEM has reviewed this request and has provided a waiver for the unallowable supplies with DHS concurrence. Staff will be working with the procurement staff to establish a contract mechanism to begin procuring the trailers.

#### **First Responder Authentication Credential (FRAC)**

The Emergency Management (EM) staff continues to advance the First Responder Authentication Credential (FRAC) pilot program in Hampton Roads initiated and lead by the Governor's Office of Commonwealth Preparedness (OCP) through State Homeland Security Grant funds. OCP continues to work with Verizon to establish the issuing stations. The Hampton Roads Fire Chiefs Association has been working with OCP's project manager in order to have the FRAC's first issued to the fire service throughout Hampton Roads. The FRAC issuance system was demonstrated at Newport News City Hall on July 7 to show the Hampton Roads Fire Chiefs the equipment and process. The contractor providing the equipment is finishing up with

some updates and then the system will need to be certified as production ready. As soon as that happens we will be up and running by the end of July.

### **Hampton Roads Critical Infrastructure Protection Program (HR CIPP)**

Strategic planning by the Emergency Management staff for the development of a regional Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CIKR) program is on-going in coordination with the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness Critical Infrastructure Protection Coordinator.

The development of a regional workshop with private and public stakeholders has been completed. Invitations for the July 14 workshop were sent on May 28 with nearly 58 RSVP's received. This workshop invites business/industry and infrastructure owners and operators, government, and academic leaders in risk analysis and business security strategy development to explore the benefits, costs, and risks of developing a regional critical infrastructure protection plan for improving regional resilience. The results of the workshop will improve the capability of organizations to improve continuity of operations and community resilience, and to decrease the overall level of risk to critical infrastructure and the public and private sectors. Moreover, the results will implement key objectives of the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) and the Virginia Critical Infrastructure Protection and Resiliency Strategic Plan (VCIPRSP).

### **2010 Department of Education's Emergency Management for Higher Education (EMHE) Grant**

As part of the grant application process, colleges and universities in the region have the opportunity to apply for grant funds "to develop, or review and improve, and fully integrate campus based all-hazards emergency management planning efforts for institutions of higher education." The College of William and Mary and the Virginia Tidewater Consortium for Higher Education (which represented Old Dominion University, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Virginia Wesleyan College, and Christopher Newport University) requested and received a letter of support for the grant application. We are currently awaiting notification of the award.

### **Hampton Roads CAO Table Top Exercise**

On Thursday, May 27, 2010 the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), conducted a Tabletop Exercise (TTX) in Hampton, VA at the Peninsula Workforce Development Conference Center. The purpose of the VDEM Region 5 Hampton Roads Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) TTX was to engage the senior executives in consequence-based, decision-making activities involving large-scale catastrophic events and the strategic implications of these decisions on regional and local levels.

The strategic objectives were to (1) Discuss and examine local executive leader understanding of strategic emergency preparedness concepts related to local, regional and State capabilities to evacuate populations in response to a catastrophic weather event and (2) Discuss and examine local executive leader understanding of

strategic emergency preparedness concepts related to local, regional and State capabilities to provide mass care and sheltering of large, diverse populations in response to a catastrophic weather event.

An After Action Report and Improvement Plan are being developed in coordination with the regions Emergency Managers from all HRPDC jurisdictions that attended. The report is expected to be complete by early August.

### **National Emergency Communications Plan Goal 1 Assessment by DHS**

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) sent representatives to Hampton Roads on June 12, 2010, during Harborfest, to observe Hampton Roads' progress toward Goal 1 of the National Emergency Communications Plan. Hampton Roads is one of 64 Urban Areas designated by the Department of Homeland Security for the Urban Areas Security Initiative Grant Program. As a participant in this program, DHS periodically reviews various aspects of preparedness for these designated Urban Areas. During the 2010 Harbor Fest, the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications observed Hampton Roads' progress toward Goal 1 of the National Emergency Communications Plan which states:

“By 2010, 90 percent of all high-risk urban areas designated within the UASI are able to demonstrate response-level emergency communications within one hour for routine events involving multiple jurisdictions and agencies.”

For Goal 1, demonstration of response-level emergency communications during a planned event was to be observed in each UASI region nationally. Through a planning group stood-up from the membership of the Urban Area Working Group that included stakeholders from the Hampton Roads Interoperable Communications Advisory Committee, Norfolk Police (Homeland Security Commanding Officer), Fire, and Communications Department, the Marine Incident Response Team Director, and the U.S. Coast Guard, this effort was well coordinated and managed. The OEC will utilize Federal and State/local peer observers to attend Harbor Fest to determine if the primary operational leadership is able to effectively demonstrate response-level communications during a planned event.

The observance of Hampton Roads' progress toward Goal 1 of the National Emergency Communications Plan was very successful and DHS has already provided a draft After Action Report. The report was vetted by the planning group and a final version should be delivered within the next month. The Commission will receive a full brief of this report in September 2010.

## **E. Regional Economics Program Report**

### **Technical Assistance**

Economics staff routinely provides technical assistance and support to member jurisdictions and regional organizations. Information from both the HRPDC Data Book and the Commission's Benchmarking Study provides easy access to a great

deal of regional information. Over the past month, staff has provided information to individuals, member localities, regional organizations, and the media.

### **Census 2010**

HRPDC staff continue to act as a Regional Census Partner to the U.S. Census Bureau. Census information has been added to the organization publications and the Commission's website. HRPDC staff serve on complete count committees at both the regional and jurisdictional levels, and has offered a variety of services to the Census Bureau.

### **Regional Competitiveness**

Staff has begun work on a regional competitiveness study. The purpose of the study is to review the components of growth in competitive economies and evaluate the regional capacity for growth. This analysis will include an in-depth analysis of the region's occupational and industrial composition, with a particular focus on the region's labor supply.

### **Hampton Roads Data Book**

Staff has completed work on the Hampton Roads Data Book. The 2010 Data Book contains a variety of current and historical time series data on the region's population, income and earnings, employment, labor force, retail sales, building permits, real estate, lodging, ports, vehicle registrations, and local tax collections. The Data Book represents part of our efforts to fulfill § 15.2-4208 of the Code of Virginia, which requires planning district commissions to collect and maintain demographic, economic and other data concerning the region and member localities.

### **Hampton Roads Economic Quarterly**

The summer edition of the Hampton Roads Economic Quarterly will be released in July. Each quarterly publication includes an analysis of the region's current economic condition and several graphics that include the most recent information available for the regional economy.