

PROJECT STATUS REPORTS

A. Regional Housing Program

Housing and Human Service Technical Support

Housing and Human Services staff is continuing to assist with the facilitation of state-wide trainings on the Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 (S.A.F.E Act). Staff members have been instrumental in assisting other regions in Virginia with training opportunities and information. While the HRPDC's Hampton Roads Loan Fund Partnership efforts were thought to be previously exempt from the provisions of the law, staff members will also be licensed as safe measure. The HRPDC Staff has already completed the 20 hours pre-education requirement and will be taking the State and National test for licensing in the weeks to come. Staff members are assisting with technical support and input for Northern Virginia, South West Virginia and will be offering more regional trainings in Hampton Roads.

Staff members are working on an upcoming Regional Housing Symposium, "Jobs Transportation and Housing: Connecting Home and Work." This symposium is a collaborative effort/partnership with Housing Virginia, BB&T, Tidewater Builders Association, Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation, The Housing Roundtable, Hampton Roads Housing Consortium, and Light Rail Now, Inc. The goal of this forum is to provide a platform to invoke dialogue on the correlation between, jobs, transportation and affordable housing. Approximately 100 regional partners in transportation and housing will be in attendance. A subsequent video of this event will be made available. The Housing and Human Services staff is assisting with the marketing of this event as well as the agenda. Staff members from the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization (HRTPO) will also participate on a panel discussion at this event.

Regional Housing Portal

HRPDC staff members are continuing to work on the implementation of the Regional Housing Portal. Currently all known housing resources pertaining to foreclosure prevention and mortgage default services have been identified and a database has been created. Staff is currently working on the completion of a gap analysis of services and programs. This information will be used to create a regional web-based portal for consumers and housing providers to access appropriate services.

Hampton Roads Loan Fund Partnership

The FY11 allocation of HOME funds for the downpayment and closing cost assistance program has been announced for the HRPDC. Planning District #23 will initially receive \$180,000. Training with regional partners to discuss new guidelines and procedures related to the utilization of this funding was held on December 16, 2010. The staff has begun to receive requests for funding from qualified first-time homebuyers in the region.

B. 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 responded to information requests from individuals, member localities, regional organizations, and the media. Economics staff released special reports following releases from the Census Bureau and information from the Navy Region Mid-Atlantic. Staff has also provided economic modeling assistance to the Governor's Office for a grant submittal to the Office of Economic Adjustment in relation to the recommendation of the disestablishment of Joint Forces Command.

Regional Competitiveness

Staff is working 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.

C. Emergency Management Project Update

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 FY09 Port Security Grant Application that was submitted to VDEM in August 2010 as a potential temporary solution for sustainment. Awaiting DHS approval.

Peninsula Local Emergency Planning Commission (PLEPC)

The HRPDC continues to support the work for updating the Peninsula Local Emergency Response Plan. No updates to report this month.

FY11 Healthcare Organization Emergency Preparedness Seminars (HOEPS)

The Emergency Management staff continues to lead the planning for this seminar with emergency managers, public health partners and multiple health care organizations. The HOEPS planning committee continues meeting on a monthly basis to advance the plans for this year's seminar. This year's seminar will include a scaled down tabletop exercise for participants. The exercise team members have been identified and are working on the development of the exercise component. Dates for the event are May 4th on the Peninsula and May 5th on the Southside.

Hazard Mitigation Planning

The HRPDC and Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (for the Southside Hampton Roads Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Franklin Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Southampton Hazard Mitigation Plan) conducted a project kick-off meeting on January 5, 2011 with the consultant. Data calls for required information, plans, and GIS files were initiated during this month in support of this project.

The Emergency Management staff continues to work with the City of Hampton's Fire Chief (Project Manager) by providing support to update the Peninsula Hazard Mitigation plan. Current activities in progress are those supporting data requests from the HRPDC and involved localities to support the needs of the contractor.

A website supporting this project for the staff, local agencies and future public participation has been established: www.remtac.org/mitigation. Currently, the Peninsula plan is not represented on this site. This will change in the near future as the consultant is working with the HRPDC to have the Peninsula section included at the Peninsula localities' request.

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. The project was re-scoped for consultant support.

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). FY11 UASI Grant planning has been initiated in anticipation of grant guidance being released last month. Unfortunately, until Congress approves the budget, DHS cannot release the new grant guidance. We will remain engaged and be ready to implement guidance once released.

The FY07 UASI grant is nearing completion. Only one project remains open and an extension has been approved. The project remains open as a vehicle to expend all funds that are remaining. VDEM found an error in their accounting and discovered we had left over funds that we thought had been expended. As such, we are utilizing those funds in compliance with FY07 grant guidelines and with the expectation to be completed by the end of March 2011.

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

The WebEOC Subcommittee continues to implement their plan for institutionalizing WebEOC in the region. No updates to report this month.

The Special Needs website and registry (www.hrspecialneeds.org) continues to be populated by/for citizens with special needs in Hampton Roads.

Multi-Region Target Capabilities Assessment (FY08 UASI Project)

The Emergency Management staff provides program management and implementation support for the Target Capabilities Assessment (TCA), through the UASI Grant program. A new task order was executed with the consultants to implement a scope of work for the next set of DHS Target Capabilities to be assessed. The next set of capabilities to be assessed will focus on public health, EMS, medical and hospital areas. A project kick-off meeting will be held January 12, 2011 with the stakeholders.

First Responder Authentication Credential (FRAC)

The next FRAC Committee meeting will be held on January 24, 2011.

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.

Current efforts are focused on the development of the regional Critical Infrastructure Protection Resiliency Strategy. Staff has been working with the consultants (University of Virginia). A final version of the strategy was delivered electronically on January 5, 2011 and staff has begun reviewing it. A website supporting this project has been established: www.hrcipp.org.