

AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING

ITEM #11: GRANT PROPOSAL – HOUSING VIRGINIA

SUBJECT:

The HRPDC staff submitted a grant application to support the development of the region's housing portal on June 30, 2011.

BACKGROUND:

Housing Virginia is accepting letters of intent for award under its Housing Education Partnership Program. The application is a simple two page request. The purpose of the program is threefold, to support activities of local partners that educate community leaders and promote the importance of affordable housing in Virginia; to help build the capacity of local groups and coalitions to work for the advancement of affordable housing in their communities; and to build relationships between Housing Virginia and local groups that share a common mission.

Grant Amount: \$5,000

Period of Performance: July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

General Scope of Work: The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) has submitted a funding request to Housing Virginia in the amount of \$5,000 for technical assistance in the development of the Regional Housing Service Web Portal. The HRPDC needs this funding for the technical/software development of the program. Over the last year, the HRPDC has created a database of over 400 unique programs and services throughout the region. Services related to closing cost assistance, first-time homebuyer education, foreclosure prevention, rental counseling, and housing services for persons with disabilities have been identified in this uniform database.

The HRPDC will utilize funding from Housing Virginia to purchase technical support and development from external software consultants. All other functions and development of the project can and will be supported utilizing the expertise and skills of HRPDC Staff in the areas of: Information Technology, Regional Planning, Housing and Human Services, Economics, and GIS Planning. The HRPDC is also researching additional financial support through other partners and grant sources to support the creation and continued maintenance.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize the Executive Director to submit the grant application Housing Virginia and accept a grant award if offered.