

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

### **ITEM #4: REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECT – PHASE III FINAL REPORT**

#### **SUBJECT:**

HRPDC Regional Planning staff has completed the third and final year of a Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCZMP) Focal Area Grant for studying the impacts of climate change on the Hampton Roads region.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

At the June 21, 2012 Executive Committee meeting Benjamin McFarlane, HRPDC Regional Planner, briefed the Commission on the report, entitled *Climate Change in Hampton Roads Phase III: Sea Level Rise in Hampton Roads, Virginia*, which summarizes the third and final year of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission's Climate Change Adaptation project. The report describes a methodology developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to project local and regional sea level rise based on global sea level rise scenarios. The report also describes a sea level rise exposure analysis that estimates the impacts to Hampton Roads localities in terms of population, property, infrastructure, and natural resources. The report documents HRPDC's coordination and public outreach efforts related to climate change, sea level rise, and flooding.

The Joint Environmental Committee (JEC) and other local staff have reviewed and commented on the draft report. Additionally, the Commission discussed the report and the Committee's comments at length at the June 21, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting.

Benjamin McFarlane, HRPDC Regional Planner will provide an overview of the finalized report focusing on the study methodology results, recommendations, associated issues, how issues raised by the Commission and the JEC have been addressed and next steps.

**Note: This item will be presented for action under agenda Item 10D.**