

Agenda Item #16 – New Business

Handout – Letter of Support for the Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission



MEMBER JURISDICTIONS

March 20, 2014

CHESAPEAKE

Dr. Barry W. Johnson
Senior Associate Dean
University of Virginia
School of Engineering and Applied Science
PO Box 400232
Charlottesville, Virginia 22904-4232

FRANKLIN

GLOUCESTER

RE:Letter of Support

HAMPTON

Dear Dr. Johnson,

ISLE OF WIGHT

I am writing on behalf of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission to express our support for the Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing's (CCAM) application to the United States Department of Commerce for designation as a "Manufacturing Community" through the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) initiative. The Hampton Roads Region along with the Richmond, Crater and Tobacco regions are ideally suited to collaborate with CCAM in developing an Advanced Manufacturing Apprentice Academy to provide highly skilled labor to meet the needs of manufacturers in the 21st century.

JAMES CITY

NEWPORT NEWS

NORFOLK

POQUOSON

PORTSMOUTH

The Board of Commissioners for the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission voted unanimously at their meeting today to support this partnership that we hope will increase manufacturing investment in the Hampton Roads Region by providing companies with the tools and labor that they need to become successful and competitive. We are delighted to be a member of the consortium with CCAM and the other regions and fully support the proposal to designate our Region as part of the manufacturing cluster.

SOUTHAMPTON

SUFFOLK

SURRY

Thank you for leading this effort and we look forward to working with you as we move forward with this initiative.

VIRGINIA BEACH

WILLIAMSBURG

Sincerely,

YORK

Dwight Farmer
Executive Director/Secretary