

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
Annual Commission Meeting
Summary Minutes of October 20, 2016

The Annual Commission Meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission was called to order by the Chair at 9:30 a.m. in the Regional Boardroom, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

Commissioners:

Dr. Ella P. Ward, Chair (CH)	J. Randall Wheeler (PQ)
Michael Hipple, Vice Chair (JC)	Lydia Pettis Patton (PO)
James Baker (CH)	Kenneth Wright (PO)
Randy Martin (FR)	Peter Stephenson (SM)
J. Brent Fedors (GL)	Michael Johnson (SH)
Donnie Tuck (HA)	Barry Porter (SH)
Mary Bunting (HA)	Patrick Roberts (SU)
James Gray (HA)	Tyrone Franklin (SY)
Randy Keaton (IW)	Robert Dyer (VB)*
Rex Alphin (IW)	Louis R. Jones (VB)
Bryan Hill (JC)	Amelia Ross-Hammond (VB)
McKinley Price (NN)	Dave Hansen (VB)
Saundra Cherry (NN)	Barbara Henley (VB)
Kenneth Alexander (NO)*	Paul Freiling (WM)
Mamie B. Johnson (NO)*	Marvin Collins (WM)
Andria McClellan (NO)	Neil Morgan (YK)
Traci Crawford (PQ)	Thomas Shepperd (YK)

Executive Director:

Robert A. Crum, Jr.

*Late arrival or early departure.

Others Recorded Attending:

Earl Sorey (CH); Lynn Allsbrook, Brian DeProfio (HA); Britta Ayers, Cynthia Rohlf, Brian Stilley, (NN); Ann Phillips, Jeff Raliski, Michelle Washington, (NO); Sherri Neil (PO); Dannan O'Connell (PQ); Tom Leahy (VB); Cathy Davision (Albemarle Commission Regional Council of Government); Cathy Aiello (Aiello Enterprises); Mike Christ (CBBT); Dr. Gail H. Mottola (Let's Open Doors); Clint Null (Mode 5); Mike Garber (PB Mares); Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky (Portsmouth City Watch); Diane Kaufman (Senator Tim Kaine); Ellis W. James (Sierra Club) Nate Birnbaum, Roger Richards, Judy Rolfe, John Sennett, Roger Sorkin (Tidewater Security Project) Citizens: Christine Ortiz-Gumina, Catherine Lindsey, Karen Speights, Donna Sayegh; Staff: Kelli Arledge, Shernita Bethea, Nancy Collins, Rebekah Eastep, KC Filippino,

Andrea Gayer, Kathlene Grauberger, Greg Grootendorst, Danetta Jankosky, Whitney Katchmark, Sara Kidd, Sharon Lawrence, Mike Long, Jai McBride, Ben McFarlane, Camelia Ravenbakht, John Sadler, Tiffany Smith, Jill Sunderland, Tara Walker, Chris Vaigneur.

Approval/Modification of Agenda

Chair Ward requested modifications or additions to the agenda. Hearing none Commissioner Kenneth Wright Moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner James Baker. The Motion Carried.

Submitted Public Comments

Mr. Robert Crum, HRPDC/HRTPO Executive Director, indicated there were no Submitted Public Comments and asked to proceed to the Public Comment period.

(Commissioner Robert Dyer arrives)

Public Comment

Dr. Gail H. Mattola, President/Executive Director of Let's Open Doors, expressed the importance of equal access for disabled citizens who have a hard time getting in and out of commercial buildings. Dr. Mattola informed the Commission of a legislative request to include replacement of door hardware for accessibility of every door in healthcare, governmental and commercial facilities. Dr. Mottolla explained the Dillion rule in great detail, and she also expressed her concerns about discrimination on the basis of disability.

Mr. Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky of Portsmouth City Watch expressed concerns about the flood insurance rates in Hampton Roads and how it affects residents within the region doing natural disasters such as Hurricane Matthew. He suggested that the Commission consider a flood insurance subsidy program for low and moderate income residents within the Hampton Roads region.

(Commissioner Mamie Johnson arrives)

Mr. Ellis James, Norfolk Resident, reiterated Mr. Geduldig-Yatrofsky's comments on flood insurance rates within the region. Mr. James also expressed his displeasure in regards to the voter fraud accusations. Mr. James assured the Commission that Virginia has one of the best voter qualification and follow-up systems in the country. He also informed the Commission that in the last report, out of a billion votes, there were only thirty-one cases of potential fraud across the country.

Commissioner Dave Hansen informed Mr. James that Virginia Beach reached out to the Chamber of Commerce to get a reputable list of flood insurance companies. He stated that the Chamber of Commerce provided them with a thorough list, and they will be distributing it and sharing it with Norfolk and anyone else who would like a copy. Mr. Hansen stated

Attachment 8

that the Chamber is being very responsive to help Virginia Beach get those reputable firms on the line, and that is a step forward.

(Commissioner Kenneth Alexander arrives)

Ms. Karen Speight spoke in regards to flooding throughout the City of Norfolk, and how it affects citizens' commutes around the city because it causes standing water and sewage issues. She also expressed concerns on how rapidly flooding happens during an average storm, stating that it is hard to prepare. Ms. Speight informed the Commission that the city's response during such instances is greatly appreciated, but is an ongoing problem that needs to be addressed.

Mr. Roger Sorkin of the Tidewater Security Project and the American Resilience Project educated the Commission on his organization's mission, stating that it is to create media and communications to help implement smart resilient strategies around the nation. He also informed the Commission of the organization's effort to nationalize the story of Hampton Roads with hopes to get the region on the national agenda. Mr. Sorkin urged the members of the board to find ways to appeal to the nation for the region's attention in any way so that national leaders can help Hampton Roads make the progress that is needed in order to become more resilient.

Recognition of Staff

Mr. Crum stated that it is very important every once and a while to take a moment to recognize the employees that we have, and he acknowledged and thanked the following employees for their service to the organization:

- Katie Cullipher, Principal Environmental Planner, has been with the HRPDC for 5 years, and she manages Hampton Road's askhrgreen program and environmental education programs where she works with staff members throughout each locality coordinating environmental education regionally.
- Jai McBride, Principal Regional Planner, has been with the HRPDC for 5 years, and she manages several regional projects such as Envision Hampton Roads, the area's Regional Strategic Plan; she has worked with the Town of Smithfield and Surry County on updating their Comprehensive Plans, and she has assisted localities with Subdivision Ordinance rewrites.
- Tiffany Smith, Water Resources Planner, has been with the HRPDC for 5 Years, and she works behind the scenes to support the Water Resources Department.
- Shernita Bethea, Housing/Human Services Administrator, has been with the HRPDC for ten years, and she assists first time homebuyers in the local jurisdictions.

- Whitney Katchmark, Principal Water Resources Engineer, has been with the HRPDC for 10 years, and she works on issues relating to stormwater, sea level rise, coastal resiliency, and TMDLs.
- Greg Grootendorst, Chief Economist, has been with the HRPDC for 15 years, and his work includes economic benchmarking and regional forecasting.
- Shelia Wilson, Senior Accounting Manager, has been with the HRPDC for 15 years, and she works in the finance department.

Election of Officers

Commissioner Thomas Shepperd of York County stated that the Nominating Committee helped to accumulate inputs for the election of officers, and it is the recommendation of the committee that the current officers continue in their roles. This would be the Chair, Dr. Ella Ward of Chesapeake, Vice Chair, Michael Hipple of James City County, and Executive Director, Robert Crum of HRPDC as Secretary. Mr. Shepperd also stated that currently Commissioner Marcus Jones serves as the Treasurer. He congratulated Commissioner Jones on his recent selection as Charlotte, North Carolina's City Manager. He also stated that this leaves a vacancy in the office of treasurer. The Nominating Committee will come back to the Commission in November with a recommendation for treasurer.

Chair Ward called for a motion to reappoint the current Officers. A recommendation will be put forth for the treasurer in November. Commissioner Thomas Shepperd Moved to approve the item; seconded by Commissioner Kenneth Wright. The Motion Carried.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Crum reported on the status of the Lake Gaston project. Mr. Crum informed those who were not present at the meeting in September of the details of the project, stating that it dealt with the Lake Gaston water supply issue and a proposal for the HRPDC to consider funding for the Roanoke River Basin Association (RRBA) in their efforts to advocate for clean water in the watershed that leads to Lake Gaston. He stated that the issue before us was that Lake Gaston provides significant water supply to our Southside jurisdictions, and the conversation was whether or not the HRPDC and the Hampton Roads region should help support the efforts of the RRBA. The Commission took an action last month that bifurcated two issues; first it said we support the work of the RRBA to protect clean water within the Roanoke Basin. The issue of funding was forwarded to the Personnel and Budget committee for review and a recommendation.

Mr. Crum reported that the Personnel and Budget Committee met at 8:15 on the morning of the Annual meeting to begin deliberations. The Committee discussed the idea, and staff received some very good direction in terms of research. The Personnel and Budget Committee asked staff to incorporate the discussion into a report. He expects that the

Committee will continue working on this over the next month, and should be in a position to report back to the Commission in November.

Mr. Crum stated that on November 21st, the Commission will host a regional forum on antipoverty. He stated that there is going to be a group from Atlanta, Georgia who will share their best practices from throughout the country on antipoverty initiatives. More information will be provided within the next week.

Mr. Crum also introduced two new staff members. Ms. Mignon Burton who is joining the Housing Department as a Housing Program Specialist, and KC Filipino who is joining the Water Resources Department as a Senior Water Resources Planner.

Commissioner Wright asked about the group from Atlanta, GA. Ms. Bethea stated that the name of the organization is Purpose Built Communities. They are out of Atlanta, GA, but they have worked with a lot of jurisdictions and cities throughout the United States. The Commission is using this forum to start the conversation of what the best practices are to address poverty. Mr. Crum reiterated that the forum is going to be on the morning of November 21st, and asked the Commissioners to put a hold on the date.

Approval of Consent Items

Mr. Crum highlighted the following items in the Consent Agenda for approval:

- A.** Meeting Minutes – September 15, 2016 Executive Committee
- B.** Treasurer’s Reports of June, July, and August 2016
- C.** Transcribed Public Comments – September 15, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting
- D.** Consultant Services Contract – Regional Construction Standards Program Support
- E.** Resolution – Community Planning Month
- F.** askHRgreen.org Annual Campaign Results (Enclosure)
- G.** Authorization to Receive State Homeland Security Grants

Chair Ward called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Tyrone Franklin Moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Commissioner Amelia Ross-Hammond. The Motion Carried.

Audited Financial Statements

Ms. Nancy Collins introduced the HRPDC’s new audit firm, PB Mares to the Commission. She also introduced Michael Garber as a partner with the firm, and stated that he will present the audit to the Commission, and answer any questions they may have. Mr. Garber stated that he met with the Personnel and Budget Committee prior to start of the annual meeting, and discussed the audit findings with them in detail as well as answered questions

that they had. Mr. Garber stated that the Commission did have an unmodified opinion on the financial statements. He informed the Commission that there were some suggestions to help improve internal controls. He congratulated Sheila Wilson on her 15 year anniversary, and recognized the finance department for guiding and helping them with the audit while answering all of the questions they had. Mr. Crum asked the Commission to take action to accept the FY2016 audited financial statements.

Chair Ward called for a motion to accept the FY2016 audited financial statements. Commissioner Michael Hipple Moved to accept this item; seconded by Commissioner Louis Jones. The Motion Carried.

HRPDC Legislative Agenda

Mr. Crum informed the Commission that the legislative agenda presented is one they hope to carry forward representing the 17 jurisdictions that comprise the Hampton Roads region and the membership of the HRPDC. He stated that last year there were some deliberate efforts to take a much more active role during the General Assembly session, representing the region's legislative priorities, and the HRPDC received very positive feedback. During the legislative workshop held on August 31st at the HRPDC, the Commission, HRTPO, HRTAC, and 14 members of the Hampton Roads Caucus discussed potential important legislative issues for the region. He noted that input on regional legislative items was also received at the May HRPDC meeting and from the Regional CAO Committee. The Commission will focus on items of regional significance, and staff is recommending five items for the Commission's consideration:

- Continuation of efforts from the 2016 General Assembly session to provide increased state funding for K-12 public education.
- Financial support through the General Assembly to support a regional Summer Enrichment Program that provides employment opportunities to youth in the Hampton Roads region.
- State funding to support an employment transition center for our region's veterans.
- Consideration of funding for a land subsidence monitoring program in support of the HRSD groundwater injection project.
- Assistance from our state and federal partners to restore the Hampton Roads region's UASI designation.

Mr. Crum concluded by asking for questions from the HRPDC. He asked that the HRPDC consider approving our 2017 regional legislative agenda while keeping in mind that the HRTPO will discuss transportation legislative priorities. Those two agendas come together to form a comprehensive regional agenda.

Commissioner Andria McClellan stated that given what the region just experienced recently with regards to flooding, and so many of our speakers from the public expressed their concerns, she was surprised that flooding was not in the legislative agenda. She asked if it would be somewhere else in the agenda, or how is the Commission addressing that elsewhere?

Mr. Crum stated that the Commission could add that type of item to the legislative agenda. The question would be what are the specific asks. The Commission's focus is working with Regional Coastal Resiliency committees, and also working on the two joint land use studies with Virginia Beach and Norfolk, and then with Chesapeake and Portsmouth.

Commissioner McClellan recommended the Commission take a look at possibly asking for funding for the revolving fund that was passed in the last General Assembly session. She stated that it is a revolving fund to help homeowners with mitigation of flood damages and working in abeyance. It's a revolving fund that has no money in it. Chair Ward stated that the recommendation would be taken into consideration.

Commissioner Wright supported forwarding the issue on the revolving fund to the resiliency committee because it ties in with their work.

Commissioner Paul Freiling asked the Commission, where they stand on the issue of short-term vacation rentals, and requesting the state not to assault local control over zoning. He also asked whether or not that is something that has been discussed as part of the legislative agenda. He stated that it is one of the few efforts that wouldn't require the state to actually spend money to assist the region.

Mr. Crum stated that the Airbnb issue was discussed with the Legislative Caucus. There are different perspectives on how that issue would be approached, and he does not think that there would be a consistent strategy for how each jurisdiction would like to approach it. He stated that the Commission could make a general statement to say that they would like to retain local authority for those decisions so that localities can make their own individual choice.

Commissioner Ross-Hammond stated that she was pleased to hear about the Summer Enrichment Program, and thanked the HRPDC on behalf of Virginia Beach for adding that item to the Legislative Agenda.

Chair Ward called for a motion to accept the legislative agenda for 2017. Commissioner Ross-Hammond Moved to accept item; seconded by Commissioner McKinley Price. The Motion Carried.

Governance Proposal

Mr. Crum stated that the next item relates to the Governance Proposal, and how to improve the process for discussion of regional items that come before the HRPDC.

He noted that Commission members stressed the need to involve as many local officials around the table as possible. Therefore weighted voting was not a model that the Commission supported.

Secondly, the Commission currently has only 60 minutes to discuss regional issues. There needs to be more time in order to have better dialogue.

The third item identified was the confusion between a full Commission Meeting and an Executive Committee meeting. Mr. Crum proposed that all HRPDC meetings be full Commission meetings. This proposal would get as many people around the table as possible.

He informed the Board that he has also worked on this proposal with Kevin Page of HRTAC, Dr. Camelia Ravanbakht of HRTPO, and Admiral Craig Quigley of HRMFFA. He stated that there are four regional boards that could maintain the third Thursday of each month as the regional meeting day. The HRPDC and the HRTPO would meet on the same days, and HRMFFA and HRTAC would meet on the same days. Mr. Crum directed the Commissioners to the proposed schedule in their agendas (attached). Mr. Crum informed the Commission that both HRTAC and HRMFFA have approved this revised meeting schedule. In September, all four meetings are scheduled on the same day with the suggestion that once a year the four boards come together for an exchange of information in order to prepare for the upcoming General Assembly session. The new schedule would take effect in January of 2017. Mr. Crum stated we would have one meeting a year on the Peninsula.

He asked Chair Ward that the Commission consider approving the proposed governance structure recommended by the regional Chief Administrative Officers.

Chair Ward called for a motion to accept the governance report as it has been presented. Commissioner Alphin Moved to accept the item; seconded by Commissioner Price. The Motion Carried.

HRPDC Three Month Tentative Schedule

Mr. Crum discussed the three month tentative schedule of the agenda.

Advisory Committee Summaries

Mr. Crum reviewed the Advisory Summaries section of the agenda.

For Your Information

Mr. Crum highlighted letters from Drive Safe Hampton Roads appreciating the General Services Staff

Old/New Business

There was no old or new business.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, the meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Ella P. Ward
Chair

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

Hampton Roads Regional Meetings HRPDC/HRTPO/HRTAC/HRMFFA

Month	HRTPO 10:30 AM	HRPDC 12:30 PM	HRMFFA 10:30 AM	HRTAC 12:30 PM
JANUARY	✓	✓		
FEBRUARY	✓	✓		
MARCH			✓	✓
APRIL	✓	✓		
MAY	✓	✓		
JUNE			✓*	✓*
JULY	✓	✓		
AUGUST				
SEPTEMBER	✓	✓	✓	✓
OCTOBER	✓*	✓*		
NOVEMBER	✓	✓		
DECEMBER			✓	✓

**Annual Meeting*

FISCAL YEAR 2017
9/30/16
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
25% OF FISCAL YEAR COMPLETE

REVENUES	Annual Budget	Previous YTD	Current Month	YTD	% Received /Expended
STATE PDC REVENUE	\$ 151,943	\$ -	\$ 37,985	\$ 37,985	25%
DEQ	173,400	-	-	-	0%
HOUSING DHCD	375,780	9,500	-	9,500	3%
WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT	504,000	336,000	84,000	420,000	83%
VDEM	150,227	-	-	-	0%
UASI	19,000	-	-	-	0%
Local Jurisdiction Membership Dues	1,372,414	285,970	127,604	413,574	30%
Local Jurisdiction Programs	1,688,854	694,733	151,417	846,150	50%
HRMFFA	30,000	-	15,000	15,000	50%
JLUS	232,472	-	-	-	0%
SALES, INTEREST & MISC	53,700	7,313	4,311	11,624	22%
VDOT-PL SEC 112	2,260,812	-	-	-	0%
HRTAC	136,000	-	-	-	0%
VDRPT 5303	745,374	-	-	-	0%
SP&R	58,000	-	-	-	0%
SPECIAL CONTRACTS/ DEFERRED	1,303,090	-	-	-	0%
Total Revenue	<u>9,255,066</u>	<u>1,333,516</u>	<u>420,317</u>	<u>1,753,833</u>	19%
EXPENDITURES					
PERSONNEL	\$4,613,511	\$ 637,810	\$ 315,100	\$ 952,910	21%
STANDARD CONTRACTS*	189,360	3,377	59	3,436	2%
SPECIAL CONTRACTS/PASS THROUGH*	3,280,182	198,067	210,905	408,972	12%
OFFICE SERVICES*	1,172,013	29,655	12,962	42,617	4%
INDIRECT COSTS*	-	77,526	46,353	123,879	0%
Total Expenses	<u>9,255,066</u>	<u>946,435</u>	<u>585,379</u>	<u>1,531,814</u>	17%
TOTALS	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 387,081</u>	<u>\$(165,062)</u>	<u>\$ 222,019</u>	

* -Budget amount is in the above three categories.

**Transcribed Public Comments of the
October 20, 2016 HRPDC Annual Commission Meeting**

Dr. Gail H. Mottola: *Good morning, Dr. Ward, Vice Chair Hipple and members of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. My name is Dr. Gail Matolla. I live at 115 88th Street in Virginia Beach. I am President/Executive Director of Let's Open Doors, a Nonprofit 501(C) (3) Organization whose mission is to support equal access to groups and services. We educate the public about their civil right to accommodation and advocate the replacement of door hardware on existing buildings constructed before the 1991 Americans with Disabilities Act. I thank you for allowing me to speak to you today regarding our legislative request to include replacement of door hardware for the accessibility of every door of healthcare, governmental and commercial facilities. All of Hampton Roads City Councils and Boards of Supervisors have received our packet of information regarding the request for support of legislative action. Senator Wagner is carrying forward the healthcare portion of our legislative request, and is having his team writeup the legislative draft for the General Assembly. I sincerely hope your cities and counties will support accessibility of healthcare entry doors which includes doctors' offices and rehabilitation centers in your legislative package. The Dillon Rule giving authority to localities to make ordinances to enforce replacement of door hardware in accordance with the 2010 ADA standards can accelerate and ensure access compliance in healthcare facilities. We are not talking about delegates and other state senators to take the commercial part of the Commission to the 2017 General Assembly. We know discrimination on the basis of disability by public accommodations is prohibited by the ADA law. The pre-1991 existing doors become discriminatory when compromised people can no longer open a heavily pressured door with its paddle type door hardware set to a seventy degree opening. People struggle in a narrow opening to enter or exit with a walker or wheelchair, anxious that they will be hit by the door, and most often are. The flat panel handle was never, let me say that again, never acceptable in the 1991 standards of the American Disability Act. Yet the handle and its obstructive push bar with the other flat panels still remain on an overwhelming number of existing buildings. The Department of Justice published the door handle in its 2006 ADA guide for small business declaring it not accessible. That is the Department of Justice. The 2014 case in your packet from the Department of Justice held, that the property owner who was also the lessor was solely responsible in a lawsuit over a single item to "specifically the exterior entrance is inaccessible to people who use wheelchairs or have mobility impairments". The 2012 General Assembly acknowledged the need for rehabilitating existing housing and commercial buildings constructed prior to the ADA law of 1991, and stated its willingness to change the uniform state building code. Chair Emery Rogers of the Virginia Building and Code Officials Association (VBCOA) has written Let's Open Doors this statement, the VBCOA administrative and VRC, which is the rehabilitation code and the IEBC, which is the International Existing Building Code, can put on our 2017/2015 USBC agenda your matter. Therefore, Let's Open Doors requests you include both the healthcare and the commercial 2010 ADA compliant accessibility of entry doors in your legislative package. Being struck by a door, anxiety of entering and exiting, fear when hit by the door denies people equal access as they stop going to old favorites, such as restaurants, retail shops, and banks. Thank you so much.*

Mr. Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky: *Good morning. Madam Chair, Honorable Commissioners and fellow citizens. On Tuesday night, I attended a civic league meeting in my town of Portsmouth, and heard from several citizens, members of that civic league, about flooding damage to their homes that resulted from the passage of Hurricane Matthew. The press has covered some flooding stories, Windsor Oaks in Virginia Beach, and one of our public housing projects in Portsmouth, but it appears that there were many more stories that have not been told, and as the climate changes, as relative sea level rises, I fear that we are going to hear more of these stories. I bring this idea to you in an unformed state because the HRPDC acts as our regional think tank. So I want to put this out here for consideration and further refinement. I believe that we need to consider a flood insurance subsidy program for low and moderate income residents of this area. Many of them find the rates prohibitive causing them to put their homes at risk by not acquiring flood insurance, and then sustaining losses which they can ill afford. The people I met at that civic league meeting and visited with yesterday are people who have been part of the workforce their entire lives, and the substantial portion of their net wealth is tied up in their homes. I watched as people were tearing out wall boards, tearing out molding strips, redoing floors, and running dehumidifiers so these people could return to their homes, but the expense will exceed the amount of money that they have in their own savings and accessible to them through flood insurance. So I would like to ask you to use your resources to consider a way to make this a possibility. Thank you very much.*

Mr. Ellis James: *Thank you, Dr. Ward; Members of the HRPDC. My name is Ellis W. James. I reside at 2021 Kenlake Place in the City of Norfolk, and I assure you that Mark's comments are of great concern to all of us. I too have been working in precincts going door to door, and we have many residents in the Granby Shores area who were flooded out. They are having problems getting the follow through on their insurance because requests are being made by certain insurance companies that they have estimates of what the cost to repair their homes will be. I checked with the city, I checked at a meeting last night, I checked with people who should know if there is a list of certified or reputable repair companies, and the answer was no, there is not. So now those folks those good folks, three houses in a row that I saw, are between a rock and a hard place. Okay. I wanted to say to you this morning that the disrespect shown to our hard working, I mean really hard working voter registrars and their clerks is unacceptable. In the City of Norfolk, which does an excellent job, there is no voter fraud. There is a mountain of work being conducted as we speak this morning. Yesterday, at noon, the request for absentee ballots was 3,078. I believe that's a record, and return about 700. I was told that the mailman had delivered a boatload of requests that had not been processed yet. That's not a criticism of the registrar's office. I do want to ask all of the counties and the cities and the big cities to not accept this falsehood that is being promulgated even in our area today that the election is rigged. Virginia has one of the best voter qualification and follow-up in the country, and I dare anybody to bring forward any kind of proof. We have requested, those of us who work in elections as volunteers on many occasions, to show us the fraud. The last report out of a billion votes, out of a billion votes, there were 31 cases of potential terrible fraud across the country. Thank You.*

Commissioner Dave Hansen informed Mr. James that Virginia Beach reached out to the Chamber of Commerce to get that reputable list. He stated that the Chamber of Commerce provided them with a

thorough list, and they will be distributing it and sharing it with Norfolk and anyone else who would like a copy. Mr. Hansen stated that the Chamber is being very responsive to help Virginia Beach get those reputable firms on the line, and that is a step forward.

Ms. Karen Speights: *Good morning Committee Members, and all those in attendance. Thank you for allowing me the time to speak. I am here as a resident of the City of Norfolk, and I also represent my community. I live in Chesterfield Heights. My concern is flooding. I am a caregiver. Our home has flooded inside two times, and we also experience other flooding whenever there's a high flood event in our garage. One of my concerns is the high flood insurance that continues to go up. We are fortunate to be able to pay it, but it's still a burden. One of my other concerns is that during high flood events, is getting in and out of the neighborhood. In particular, during one particular storm, we had to stay in our home for three days. It was okay, you know, we made it through, and that was okay, but at the same time, where do we park, or how do we get in and out. I'm a caregiver, so one of my problems is getting home to take care of my mother. When we have a storm event, sometimes it floods so rapidly that you can't prepare. Getting in and out of the neighborhood when I'm leaving is a problem. I'm close to the light rail at Ballentine. We're the last one to go through the light at the Light Rail. Sometimes you can't get through that. Going on the entrance to 264 heading east, continuously, if it just rains hard they're pumping that water out, and that entrance is closed. If it continues and the storm gets a lot worse, you're coming home and you may have a detour getting off the interstate. So my problem is, you know, navigating the city. I do have concerns with the flooding, getting around the city and the standing water, and also a problem with the sewer. I have to always call the city regarding that, but they do respond and I appreciate that so much. We have a problem with that as well. So those are my concerns. Thank you.*

Roger Sorkin: *Good morning and thank you very much for the opportunity to speak. My name is Roger Sorkin and I represent the Tidewater Security Project and the American Resilience Project. I'm not from here, but I care a lot about what happens in this region because of the important role that Hampton Roads plays to our National Security. We create media and communications to help implement smart resilient strategies around the nation. We are nonpartisan and we believe that the best ideas are the ones that matter no matter who speak them. Because of the importance of national security, we've come here trying to nationalize the story of Hampton Roads. We want this region to be put on the national agenda. And I would just urge all of you to continue to find ways to appeal to the nation for our attention and for our help in any ways that our national leaders can help you make the progress that you need to make to become more resilient. I want to say I really appreciate the work that you're doing. I'm inspired by what seems to me a very unique assembly of jurisdictions, of minds and expertise, and I hope that Hampton Roads can help write the book on resilient strategy and resilient planning. Thank you.*



**HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
RESOLUTION 2016-02**

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE VIRGINIA WORKING WATERFRONTS MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, working waterfronts are defined in Hampton Roads as areas or structures on, over, or adjacent to navigable bodies of water that provide access to the water and are used for water-dependent commercial, industrial, or government activities, including commercial fishing, recreational fishing, tourism, aquaculture, boat and ship building, boat and ship repair, boat and ship services, seafood processing, seafood sales, transportation, shipping, marine construction, and military activities;

WHEREAS, working waterfronts provide critical access to Virginia coastal waters for people engaged in commercial and recreational fishing, seafood processing, boat building, repair and maintenance, aquaculture, port activity, and other water-dependent businesses;

WHEREAS, some coastal communities are experiencing increased demand for waterfront properties along Virginia's coast that result in an increase in property values and higher costs for traditional waterfront businesses which has resulted in Virginia slowly losing its working waterfronts – an issue that may have long-term consequences for local economies, the environment, coastal culture and quality of life;

WHEREAS, other coastal communities are experiencing decreasing real-estate values, populations are leaving, and some are seeing an increase in donations of waterfront land for public use which presents a new opportunity for new public holdings for working waterfronts enhancements;

WHEREAS, natural factors of sea level rise, increasing frequency and magnitude of coastal storms, shoaling of navigable channels and shoreline erosion pose increasing threats to the existence of working waterfronts;

WHEREAS, a loss of Working Waterfronts constitutes a potential loss of jobs for watermen (e.g. fishers, shellfish farmers) and the agriculture industry (timber and grain barges); a loss of the identity of the region; and a loss of support industry jobs (boat building, transport, seafood processing, etc.);

WHEREAS, Virginia's coastal Planning District Commissions and the Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program have worked to address the threats and the loss of working waterfronts since FY 2011, these entities have collaborated to develop a Virginia Working Waterfronts Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Working Waterfronts Master Plan synthesizes the work completed to date under the CZM Cumulative and Secondary Impacts strategy (FY 11-FY15) and provides communities with a comprehensive understanding of what Virginia

working waterfronts are; where existing water-dependent commercial infrastructure is located; discussion of the long-term impacts associated with the loss of working waterfronts; and lastly recommend policy action and tools which the Commonwealth, regional organizations, local governments and private industry should consider to better manage growth pressures and ensure the preservation of Working Waterfronts as important economic drivers and cultural resources for rural, suburban and urban communities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission accepts the Virginia Working Waterfronts Master Plan as a policy document to help preserve or encourage the redevelopment of working waterfronts throughout coastal Virginia.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission this 17th day of November, 2016.

Dr. Ella Ward
Chair

Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director/Secretary