



## COMMISSIONERS

### Essex County

Hon. Edwin E. Smith, Jr.  
Hon. John C. Magruder  
(Vice-Chairman)  
Ms. Sarah Pope  
Ms. April Rounds

### Town of Tappahannock

Hon. Katherine B. Carlton  
Vacant

### Gloucester County

Hon. Ashley C. Chriscoe  
(Chairman)  
Hon. Tony Nicosia  
Dr. William G. Reay

### King and Queen County

Hon. Mark R. Berry  
Hon. Marie H. Norman  
Ms. Vivian Seay

### King William County

Hon. Benjamin Edwards  
Hon. Justin Catlett  
Vacant

### Town of West Point

Hon. James M. Pruett

### Mathews County

Hon. Tom Bowen  
Hon. David Jones  
Mr. Tim Hill  
Ms. Ramona Wilson

### Middlesex County

Hon. Wayne H. Jessie, Sr.  
(Treasurer)  
Hon. Reggie Williams, Sr.  
Ms. Kendall Webre  
Mr. Matt Walker

### Town of Urbanna

Hon. Dr. William T. Goldsmith

### Secretary/Director

Mr. Lewis L. Lawrence, III

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** MPPDC Board of Commissioners  
**FROM:** Lewis Lawrence, Executive Director  
**DATE:** April 18, 2025  
**RE:** April Commission Meeting

The Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission will host its monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the HUB33 Mattaponi Conference Room at the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission office located at 4521 Lewis B. Puller Memorial Highway in Mattaponi, VA 23110.

Enclosed are the April meeting agenda and supporting materials for you to review before the meeting.

If you have any questions concerning material in your agenda packet, please give me a call at (804) 785-8100 or email me at [LLawrence@mppdc.com](mailto:LLawrence@mppdc.com)

I look forward to seeing you on **April 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

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***Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission Meeting***

**7:00 P.M.**

**Wednesday, April 23, 2025**

**4521 Lewis B. Puller Memorial Highway**

**Mattaponi, VA 23110**

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Approval of March Minutes
- III. Approval of Financial Report for March
- IV. Executive Director's Report on Staff Activities for April
- V. MPCBPAA Update
- VI. MPA Update
- VII. MPPDC Public Relations/Communications Update
- VIII. Public Comment

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

- IX. Tourism on the Middle Peninsula: an update and review of VTC resources – Laura Messer, Destination Development Manager for Virginia Tourism Corporation
- X. Leveraging Regional Assets for Tourism Marketing – Stephanie Heintz, Consociate Media
- XI. Weldon Cooper – Federal Workforce and Contract Spending Reductions in Virginia
  - a. Handout included: (pay close attention to page 5,7,8,11,16,17,19,20,21)
- XII. Other Business
- XIII. Adjournment

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**MIDDLE PENINSULA PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**  
**March 26, 2025**  
**Mattaponi, Virginia**

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

The monthly meeting of the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission was held in the Mattaponi Board Room at the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission office in Mattaponi, Virginia on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. MPPDC Vice-Chairman, Magruder welcomed everyone in attendance.

**Commissioners Present**

Essex County: Bud Smith, John Magruder

King and Queen County: Mark Berry, Marie Norman, Vivian Seay

Mathews County: Tim Hill

Middlesex County: Wayne Jessie, Matt Walker

Town of Tappahannock: Kay Carlton, Eric Pollitt

Town of West Point: James Pruett

**Commissioners Absent**

Essex County: Sarah Pope, April Rounds

Gloucester County: Ashley Chriscoe, Tony Nicosia, Dr. Willy Reay

King William County: Justin Catlett, Benjamin Edwards

Mathews County: Tom Bowen, David Jones, Ramona Wilson

Middlesex County: Reggie Williams, Kendall Webre

Town of Urbanna: Dr. William Goldsmith

**Also in Attendance**

Lewie Lawrence, MPPDC Executive Director

Rachael Peabody, MPPDC Director of Daily Operations

Jennifer Farmer, MPPDC Finance and Projects Manager

Guests

**II. Approval of February Minutes**

Vice-Chairman Magruder asked whether there were any corrections or changes to the February Minutes. There being no corrections to the Minutes, Vice-Chairman Magruder requested a motion to approve the February Minutes. Mr. Jessie moved that the January Minutes be approved. Ms. Carlton seconded the motion; motion carried.

**III. Approval of Financial Report for February**

Vice-Chairman Magruder asked whether there were any questions regarding the financial reports for February being approved subject to audit. There being no questions, Vice-Chairman Magruder requested a motion to approve the financial reports for February subject to audit. Mr. Walker moved to approve the financial reports for February subject to audit. Mr. Hill seconded the motion; motion carried.

**IV. Executive Director’s Report on Staff Activities for the March**

Executive Director Lawrence presented the staff activity report for March. This monthly report is compiled with input from all MPPDC staff and subcontractors, organized by PDC Service Centers, and serves to update both the Commission and relevant grant funding agencies on ongoing activities.

Executive Director Lawrence highlighted several items, including but not limited to, Project 30186 – Elevated Septic Pilot FY22, Project 31005 – VDOT Rural Transportation Planning FY25 – detailing the resumption of the Local Planners Meeting after a short-term hiatus, Project 38816 DEQ IIJA Living Shoreline BMP Construction – including one of the largest reimbursements received to date, totaling over \$680,000 to pay back homeowners for living shoreline construction, Project 38100 – LGA Grants Program, and Project 38814 NOAA/VCZMP New Point Comfort Observation Deck Rehab. The deck is now complete, and the final reimbursement has been submitted.

**V. MPCBPAA Update**

None – the first meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 28, 2025.

**VI. MPA Update**

None.

**VII. MPPDC Public Relations/Communications Update**

None.

**VIII. Public Comment**

None.

**IX. Presentation on Regional Communications System Savings**

Greg Hunter with King and Queen gave a presentation on the Regional Opportunities in Public Safety and Emergency Management:

- The presentation focused on enhancing the current radio system. Significant upgrades have been made across the Middle Peninsula, with a total investment of \$19 million, utilizing state-of-the-art technology. The improved system is estimated to be valued at approximately \$38 million. A regional system can reduce the number of employees from 61 needed locally to 16 regionally reducing cost from ~\$3 million to ~\$960,000. It features redundant tower site coverage and a backhaul infrastructure, ensuring uninterrupted radio traffic in the event of a tower failure. Since the system became operational in 2018, it has remained fully functional with no major outages that have disrupted service.
- Dispatch communications have taken on additional responsibilities over the years, leading to significant staffing challenges. This discussion transitioned into the PSAP program, which focuses on the physical merging of two or more primary PSAPs into a single, integrated primary PSAP, or the consolidation of

a primary PSAP with one or more secondary PSAPs into an integrated primary PSAP. Mr. Hunter presented the cost-saving benefits associated with PSAP consolidation.

- The Board was encouraged to consult with their localities to determine if this is an initiative they would like to pursue.
- Vice-Chairman Magruder requested a motion to have PDC staff explore funding options for PSAP consolidation. Ms. Seay moved to approve; Mr. Walker seconded the motion; motion carried.

#### **X. DEQ Water Supply Resolution**

Executive Director Lawrence presented the draft resolution regarding Local and Regional Water Supply Planning and Application for a FY25 Water Supply Planning Grant. Vice-Chairman Magruder requested a motion to accept the resolution as presented. Mr. Walker moved to accept the resolution as presented. Mr. Hill seconded the motion; motion carried.

#### **XI. VRA Interim Funding on a Revolving Basis - Resolution**

Executive Director Lawrence presented the draft VRA Interim Funding on a Revolving Basis – Resolution. This authorizes the PDC to accept a loan from the Virginia Resources Authority. Vice-Chairman Magruder requested a motion to accept the resolution as presented. Mr. Jessie moved to accept the resolution as presented. Mr. Hill seconded the motion; motion carried.

#### **XII. VDOT RTP Grant Resolution**

Executive Director Lawrence presented a draft resolution pertaining to the annual VDOT RTP Technical Assistance Grant. This resolution authorizes Executive Director, Lawrence, to submit the application on behalf of the MPPDC. Vice-Chairman Magruder requested a motion to accept the resolution as presented. Ms. Seay moved to accept the resolution as presented. Ms. Carlton seconded the motion; motion carried.

#### **XIII. Other Business**

Ms. Seay provided an overview of a post-high school advanced manufacturing facility in Danville, VA. This facility could create more job opportunities for the Middle Peninsula and reduce the area's current 80% out-commute rate. Ms. Seay asked the Board if their localities would be interested in touring the facility and is currently exploring potential dates for a visit.

Mr. Walker, on behalf of the Town of Urbanna (Dr. William Goldsmith), raised a question regarding the local dues paid by the town. Executive Director Lawrence offered clarification on the dues paid by towns and localities in accordance with the bylaws, including mandates outside of dues such as the DEQ water supply plan and FEMA all-hazard plan. Executive Director Lawrence presented three options that would allow the

Town of Urbanna to make a choice without fracturing the bylaws. These options will be shared with the Town of Urbanna for consideration.

Ms. Seay also discussed the membership structure for HUB33, noting that a draft has been reviewed and will be presented to the EDA. The goal is to have the facility operational by May 1. Additionally, Ms. Seay highlighted the exterior showroom at HUB33, which will feature products from Fight the Flood businesses to engage customers.

**XIV. Adjournment**

Vice-Chairman Magruder requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jessie so moved; Mr. Walker seconded the motion; motion carried.

*\*Note: All handouts distributed at a meeting are filed in the official MPPDC record book of the minutes. Copies of all PowerPoint presentations, if any, are filed with the official minutes.*

COPY TESTE:

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(Secretary)

**Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission**  
**Executive Director's Report of Regional Progress**  
**April 11, 2025**

**Note:** On May 23, 2018, the Commission voted to direct staff to email all future documents including the Commission meeting packets to save on postage. As we strive to make this report more informative and user-friendly, some previously contained information may now be accessed by clicking on the following link(s):

- For Demographic Information: [Community Profiles \(viriniaworks.com\)](http://viriniaworks.com)
- For MPPDC Website: <https://www.mppdc.com/>

**MPPDC Staff and Contact Information**

**Executive Director: Lewis Lawrence**

Contact Info: [llawrence@mppdc.com](mailto:llawrence@mppdc.com) (804) 785-8100 ext. 3001 (804) 832-6747 (cell)  
Programs: *Coastal Zone Technical Assistance, Local Initiatives, Public Access Authority*

**Director of Daily Operations: Rachael Peabody**

Contact Info: [rpeabody@mppdc.com](mailto:rpeabody@mppdc.com) (804) 785-8100 ext. 3004  
Programs: *All service center programs of the Commission with a focus in dredging and water management.*

**Chief Financial Officer: Julie A. Kaylor**

Contact Info: [jkaylor@mppdc.com](mailto:jkaylor@mppdc.com) (804) 785-8100 ext. 3002  
Programs: *Agency Finance, Treasurer, Comptroller, Septic Repair Assistance Program Management, Living Shoreline Incentive Program Management, Revolving Loan Program Management, Gants Administration, PAA Financial Staff Support, MPA Financial Staff Support*

**Finance and Projects Manager: Jennifer Farmer**

Contact Info: [jfarmer@mppdc.com](mailto:jfarmer@mppdc.com) (804) 785-8100 ext. 3003  
Programs: *Finance/Commuter/Employer Transportation Services.*

**Senior Planning Project Manager: Jackie Rickards**

Contact Info: [jrickards@mppdc.com](mailto:jrickards@mppdc.com) (804) 785-8100 ext. 3006  
Programs: *Environmental Programs, Hazard Mitigation Planning, Grant Writing, Graphic Arts*

**Coastal Resilience Planner: Taylor Ovide**

Contact Info: [tovide@mppdc.com](mailto:tovide@mppdc.com) (804) 785-8100 ext. 3005  
Programs: *Fight the Flood Program, Septic and Well Assistance Programs*

**Hub 33 Building Manager: Dawn Mantell**

Contact Info: [dmantell@mppdc.com](mailto:dmantell@mppdc.com) (804) 785-8100 ext. 3000  
Programs: *Septic Repair/Replacement Assistance Programs, MPPDC Staff Support, Building Management, Website Management*

## INFORMATION RESOURCES/ASSISTANCE

- Updated [www.mppdc.com](http://www.mppdc.com) website – meeting notices, reports, news releases, GO Va meetings, financial assistance programs, etc.

## COASTAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ ENVIRONMENTAL

Funding – VDEQ, VIMS, VDCR, local match from MPPDC General Fund & partners

### **Project 30001 – VCZMP Coastal Technical Assistance FY24**

*This project provides ongoing support to member localities of the Planning District Commission and other stakeholders committed to improving community development and coastal management within the coastal zone.*

- Drafted the FY25 Coastal TA scope of work and submitted to the VCZMP.
- Drafted the semi-annual report and semi-annual financial report. This will be submitted to the VCZMP by April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Rachael Peabody and Jennifer Farmer attended the Environment Virginia conference, where Rachael presented on MPPDC's policy work related to the beneficial use of dredged materials and its applicability in resilience projects.
- Provided general technical assistance support to marina owners in Deltaville with dredging questions.
- Consulted with staff from Essex County EDA regarding VDOT road ending and PAA land for public use in Essex County.
- Conducted extensive research on failed septic systems on PAA lands in Gloucester to determine if housing units are preexisting units.
- Discussed beetle monitoring and time of year methodology with Dr. Russ Burke of Biogenic Solutions.
- MPPDC and DWR applied for \$9.9 million for Guinea Marsh restoration through the Transformational Habitat Grant at NOAA.
- Convened a march meeting of the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority.

### **Project 30005 – DCR CFPF Resiliency Planning**

*This project looks to expand the capacity of the Middle Peninsula Fight the Flood program. In part, MPPDC staff will hire a FTF Administrator and will work with Consociate Media to implement a marketing strategy to promote and solicit additional participation in the FTF program.*

- Drafted the quarterly report to DCR.
- Updated Fight the Flood website to include new living shoreline in-take survey form.
- Onboarded John Edwards as a PDC employee focused on increasing staff capacity for the Fight the Flood Program. John will assist Taylor with coordination of applicants to the FTF program, creating a marketing plan with Consociate Media, and maintaining and updating the GIS systems.

### **Project 30006 – NOAA Marine Debris Removal Pilot**

*Project provides consulting services under a NOAA grant administered by Lynnhaven River NOW (LRNow), including conducting research, and developing recommendations for the removal of abandoned and derelict vessels in Virginia's coastal zone, as well as contributing to the formulation of an abandoned and derelict vessel (ADV) removal and prevention program tailored to Virginia's needs.*

- Lynnhaven River NOW has received confirmation from NOAA prioritizing the removal of five vessels—four located at the end of Browns Bay Road (two at the State Dock and two in the adjacent cove) and one in Monday Creek at the end of Maryus Road. MPPDC staff have coordinated with VMRC Marine Police

regarding these vessels, which are currently in various stages of enforcement action. It is the responsibility of LRN to coordinate these removals with local knowledge assistance from MPPDC.

- Submitted semiannual report 3/31/25.

#### **Project 30007 – VCZMP 309 Dredging Financing**

*Model language will be developed to assist local governments interested in establishing tax revenue financing mechanisms for supporting dredging and flood protection activities. A pilot financing structure will be developed for Middlesex County for dredging and flood protection of Broad Creek.*

- Advised the PAA Board of the status of legal white paper on dredging financing methods.

#### **Project 30008 – VPA MP-ES Dredge Material Planning**

*Developing a Dredge Material Management Initiative Master Plan for the Middle Peninsula and Eastern Shore Regions.*

- Completed a scoping meeting with our preferred contractor that will act as the coordinator of all deliverables and of the project as a whole. A draft agreement from the contractor for the first 12- 14 months of this work is expected to be received by the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April.
- Received the draft MOA from ANPDC, which is currently under review.

#### **Project 30009 – CFPF Captain Sinclairs Berm/Road Flood Mitigation**

*Project is to design and develop a draft permit application for construction of a flood mitigation berm to address recurrent flooding at the MPCBPAA Captain Sinclairs Recreation Area in Gloucester. The project also involves elevation of the public road at the site for flood mitigation purposes.*

- Drafted the quarterly report to DCR.
- Consulted with UVA student berm design team regarding berm design for Capt. Sinclairs.

#### **Project 30186 – Elevated Septic Pilot FY22**

*Construction of a vertically elevated septic system will occur at the King & Queen Telehealth and Business Development Center as part of a three-year pilot program to analyze an engineered septic unit that houses and treats all sewage effluent in a vertically elevated, self-contained unit suitable for areas with high water tables and flooding in Coastal Virginia.*

- Elevated commercial platform has been located at Hub 33 in advance of relocation of the system.

#### **Project 30190 – DCR Flood Fund - Hoskins Creek (Tappahannock)**

*Project is to design, obtain permits for, and construct a living shoreline on the Town-owned property adjacent to the Rte. 17 bridge over Hoskins Creek in Tappahannock.*

- Project is in closeout

#### **Project 30191 – DCR Flood Fund – Mill Creek Boat Ramp (Middlesex)**

*Project is to design and develop a draft Joint Permit Application for the shoreline and structures adjacent to the boat ramp at the Carlton Road (Mill Creek) public wharf in Middlesex. The designed solution will help mitigate the shoaling of the boat ramp and enhance the overall resilience of the public wharf.*

- Assisted Middlesex County by coordinating a meeting with DWR staff to discuss a design solution for the shoaling boat ramp

**Project 30196 – DCR Flood Fund – Round 3 Supplemental (York Private Property Shorelines)**

*VDCR CFPF funding for two shoreline protection construction projects on private properties within the York River watershed.*

- Drafted the quarterly report to DCR.
- In April 2025, MPPDC staff continued to implement and coordinate shoreline restoration projects funded by the CFPF, including contractor engagement, reimbursement activities, and project oversight.
- Hodges, a shoreline stabilization project, is nearing completion, with only grass installation remaining. The total project cost is \$199,300.00. Of this, \$85,060.50 has been invoiced under the CFPF Award. The remaining balance will be invoiced following completion of grass installation, and the remaining funds will be covered by the IIJA allocation. However, no reimbursement has been received yet for the CFPF portion.
- Parker, is 100% complete, including all native grasses, it was completed 4/10/2025. The total project cost is \$86,050.00, with \$49,955.50 invoiced under the CFPF Award. The remaining balance for this project will also be covered by IIJA funds, and no reimbursement has been received yet for the CFPF portion.

**Project 30197 – DCR Flood Fund – Round 3 Supplemental (Mobjack Private Property Flood Mitigation)**

*VDCR CFPF funding for three shoreline protection construction projects and one stormwater flood protection project. All are located on private property within the Mobjack Bay watershed.*

- Drafted the quarterly report to DCR.
- With the loss of the Deputy Director, no advancement on Antioch Church project. We hope to return to this project need soon.
- In April 2025, MPPDC staff continued to implement and coordinate shoreline restoration projects funded by the CFPF, including contractor engagement, reimbursement activities, and project oversight.
- Harvey is 100% complete, with all work finished. The total project cost is \$106,494.00. Of this, \$53,201.00 was invoiced under the CFPF Award and \$53,293.00 under the IIJA Non-MEB portion. All reimbursement requests for the project have been submitted, and no further costs are anticipated.
- Robens is currently in progress and about 50% complete with rock and sand installation. The updated project cost is now \$164,630.50, reflecting an increase of \$8,109.50 from the original \$156,521.00. Of this, \$94,611.00 has been allocated from the CFPF Award and \$70,019.50 from the IIJA Non-MEB portion. Since the project is still under construction, no reimbursements are being requested at this time. The project is being cash-flowed through a loan, with draws made to cover ongoing costs. Construction continues as planned.

**Project 320224 – Staff Support to Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority (MPCBPAA)**

*Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority Special Project – Support of Executive Order 23, Goal 8 Coastal Management Coordination Public Access: Continue implementation of adopted annual work program, including identifying land, either owned by the Commonwealth or private holdings that can be secured for use by the general public as a public access site; researching and determining ownership of all identified sites; determining appropriate public use levels of identified access sites; developing appropriate mechanism for transferring title of Commonwealth or private holdings to the Authority; developing appropriate acquisition and site management plan. This Program allows the Authority to function by supporting the individual projects and operations of the Authority, as well as by responding to daily requests for assistance from local government staff.*

- Virginia's Coastal Wilds website maintenance and security updates for March 2025.

- Routine financial support was provided to the MPCBPAA during the month of March 2025.

**Project 32021 – PAA GO VA Sea Grant Resilience Economy**

*Virginia Sea Grant was awarded a GO Virginia award to assist the Middle Peninsula and other coastal areas with developing a water management economy to combat flooding and sea-level rise. This project will utilize land owned by the MPCBPAA as field stations to encourage business innovation in the flood resiliency space.*

- Project is in final closeout.

**Project 32024 – MPPDC Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF) Get Outdoors**

*This project will provide the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority with nature trail demarcation and location services on the Captain Sinclair's complex in Gloucester by partnering with Knott Alone Hold Fast, a veteran support program.*

- Began work on the final report and gathering photos of the new trails.
- Drafted press release on trail development.

**Project 32174 – NFWF & VCZMP Hog Island Restoration**

*Project is for permitting and constructing a nature-based shoreline protection solution along the perimeter of the MPCBPAA-owned Hog Island property which continues to experience substantial erosion. The project is funded in part with federal funding from NFWF and NOAA via the VA Coastal Zone Management Program.*

- Reviewed the needs of the final financial report. Once this is submitted the project can be closed out.

**Project 32182 – VCZMP Working Waterfront Resilience Assessments**

*MPPDC staff will be contracting with Accomack-Northampton, Northern Neck, and Hampton Roads PDCs to conduct vulnerability assessments of publicly owned working waterfronts in each region with the intent of identifying and advancing solutions at the properties which are eligible and competitive for various state and federal grant funding opportunities.*

- Project deliverables complete. Awaiting final reimbursement.

**Project 32184 – DEQ Chesapeake Bay WIP Technical Assistance 2024**

*MPPDC will continue to engage localities and regional and state partners regarding Bay WIP III programmatic actions and implementation activities with funding provided by DEQ.*

- Drafted and submitted the FY2025 WIP scope of work to DEQ.
- Attended a Bay PDC meeting hosted by DEQ to chat about septic programs that each PDC offers.
- Hosted the March planners meeting and coordinated with DEQ regarding implementation timing of the new CBPA ordinance.
- Attended Environment Virginia to get DEQ updates for beyond 2025 and other Bay WIP priorities.

**Project 35001 – VCZMP Ecotourism Booster**

*The project will add the George Washington Regional Commission to the Virginia Water Trails website, hold a planning process to develop a sustainable solution for the Virginia Certified Ecotour Guide Course (VCEG), hire a consultant to lead the 2025 VCEG, and to pilot the development of an experiential water trail video to promote recreation, tourism and history of Urbanna Creek in Middlesex County.*

- Staff continues consultation with VCZMP staff on continuing the project.

## TRANSPORTATION

Funding – VDRPT, VDOT, local match from MPPDC General Fund

### **Project 38809 – Mathews Co. Hole-in-the-Wall/Haven Beach Implementation**

*Mathews County was awarded VA Port Authority Waterway Maintenance Funding to dredge the Hole in the Wall channel to –7 feet Mean Low Water depths, place the dredged sand at the county-owned Haven Beach property, and construct new breakwaters adjacent to the renourished beach. MPPDC is administering the grant on behalf of the County with procurement and permitting assistance and project oversight. Mathews County has contracted MPPDC to provide continued oversight of the requisite beach monitoring beyond the closure of the VPA grant.*

- Project is moving towards close out.
- Discussed long term beetle monitoring needs with USFW, Biogenics Solutions, and Mathews County to ensure permit compliance is met past project closeout

### **Project 30221 – VDRPT Commuter Assistance Program (CAP) Operating FY25**

*This program assists local commuters and employers with transportation issues. The main emphasis is on lowering the number of single occupancy vehicle commutes within and from the Middle Peninsula region through marketing and promotion of the program through local media and provision of ride-matching services to commuters.*

- Wrote and published blog post on launch of 2025 commuter survey.
- Wrote and distributed press release on launch of 2025 commuter survey.
- Design and share of social media campaign to promote 2025 commuter survey.
- Design and distribution of two emails to encourage MidPenRideShare email database subscribers to take the 2025 commuter survey.
- Added ADA disability message to MidPenRideShare website, encouraging people having problems accessing elements of the website to request support.
- Photography of HUB33, new business solutions, telework and Park and Ride center.
- Videography of new Park and Ride lot at HUB33.
- Update of website to include new Park and Ride lot.
- Design and distribution of flyer to promote HUB33 and new Park and Ride lot.
- Compilation of 2025 survey results.
- Wrote and published blog post on how to best utilize Park and Ride lots as a commuter.
- Wrote and published blog post on how to carpool plan for summer and parenting activities with neighborhood connections.
- Wrote and published blog post on summer carpooling.
- Development and distribution of March 2025 monthly newsletter.
- Several meetings with consultant to provide information for the revision of the CAP Strategic Plan.
- Met with Kathy Molin at DRPT to discuss monthly progress of DRPT grant.

### **Project 31005 – VDOT Rural Transportation Planning FY25**

*This program provides rural transportation planning services through the Rural Transportation Planning Work Program which outlines specific tasks and goals to guide the rural planning of transportation services.*

- Submitted quarterly report and reimbursement request.

- Began onboarding process for consultant to work on the RL RTP.
- Received training for the 2025 VDOT Rural Park and Ride Count.
- Attended the Route 14 and Route 17 STARS Studies - Growth Rate and Planned Development Discussion.
- Organized and held the Local Planners Meeting at HUB33 which included updates from VDOT regarding the opening of the Revenue Sharing and TAP grant application cycles.

**Project 32169 – USDOT RAISE Public Working Waterfront Designs**

*Project is to conduct a region-wide planning project that will result in a suite of shovel-ready, high-priority multi-modal transportation infrastructure improvements intended to address critical needs related to the region’s publicly owned working waterfronts in order to meet the modern and future needs of the region’s growing commercial seafood and maritime industries. The project will involve three distinct tasks: 1) State of Good Repair Condition Assessments, 2) Multimodal Working Waterfront Needs Assessment and Improvement Strategies, and 3) Multimodal Working Waterfront Improvement Plan Development.*

- Coordinated with MARAD and VHB on initiating the NEPA phase of the project. VHB and MPPDC concluded that an EA will be created for each individual proposed working waterfront.
- The March reimbursement was stalled due to lack of review from the MARAD project manager. The April reimbursement will include those missed requests plus March and April.
- VHB continued development of the Needs Assessment document.
- VHB continued developing the engineering plans & permit documents for the (11) selected sites.
- VHB coordinated with MARAD and MPPDC on initiating the NEPA phase of the project. VHB and MPPDC concluded that an EA will be created for each individual proposed working waterfront.
- VHB, Shore Consulting Group, and MPPDC met with City of Newport News’s Port Development Administrator, Doreen Kopacz to discuss the management of their commercial fishing waterfronts as it related to the planned improvements on the Middle Peninsula – March 6, 2026
- VHB continued developing JPA impact drawings
- Submitted Reimbursement request covering the period of October 2024 – April 2025 - \$700,000

**Project 301012 – DCR Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF)/VPA Waterway Maintenance Fund (WMF) Davis Creek Dredging**

*Project is for finalizing dredged material disposal solution and implementing dredging of Davis Creek.*

- Worked with Mathews County and the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission to develop a listing of upland placement sites to be provided to the USACE for use in their ranking process.
- Drafted the quarterly report to DCR.

**Project 38810 – VPA Aberdeen Dredging**

*Gloucester County was awarded VA Port Authority Waterway Maintenance Funding to dredge the Aberdeen Creek*

channel to -7 feet Mean Low Water and place the dredged material at an upland disposal site. MPPDC is administering the grant on behalf of the County with procurement and permitting assistance and project oversight.

- NSTR

**Project 38811 – DCR Flood Fund – Broad Creek Dredging and Jetty Design (Middlesex)**

*Project is for designing and dredging Broad Creek while concurrently designing and developing a draft joint permit application for the construction of shoaling protection structures along the mouth of the channel to ensure long-term navigability.*

- Drafted the quarterly report to DCR.
- A meeting was held on 4-11 between all project members to discuss the potential for additional dredging because of additional capacity in the dredge material management area.

**Project 38812 – DCR Flood Fund – Whiting Creek Dredging (Middlesex)**

*Project is for designing and developing a draft permit application for dredging and beneficial reuse of disposal of dredged material at Whiting Creek in Middlesex County.*

- In-Progress-Review meeting held with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.
- Worked with the Norfolk District USACE and Middlesex County to obtain historical information to include size and acreage points, ownership, as-builts and other information that the USACE and Middlesex County may have.
- Drafted the quarterly report to DCR.

**Project 38813 – Broad Creek Spot Dredging (Middlesex)**

*Project is for designing and developing draft permit applications for dredging (Phase 1) and dredging and material disposal (Phase 2) at Broad Creek in Middlesex County.*

- Project dredging and placement of dredged material in the federal upland placement site began in April 2025 and is anticipated to end in May 2025.

**ONSITE REPAIR & PUMPOUT**

Funding – Grants, VRA Loan Funds, local match from MPPDC General Fund, cost-sharing

**Project 301981 – FY25 Gwynn’s Island Septic**

*To support the MPPDC Regional On-Site Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Funding Program, this grant from Mathews Community Foundation provides septic repair assistance to LMI homeowners on Gwynn’s Island.*

- **As of April 11**, MPPDC staff has received inquiries from **(10)** homeowners interested in receiving assistance with pumping out or repairing/replacing their septic system: **(3)** were an Ineligible Practice; **(1)** Placed project on hold; **(3)** were Over the Income Limits; and **(3)** Never submitted an application/No Response. Staff continues to screen inquiries for eligibility to receive financial assistance through this grant program provided by the Mathews Community Foundation. The physical addresses of each of these septic systems were entered into the ArcGIS mapping tool to verify their location is within the program’s target area, Gwynn’s Island.
- Received voicemail from Gwynn’s Island homeowner requesting septic repair/replacement assistance. Returned phone call and homeowner was screened for income qualification based on current median family

income as published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The homeowner was over the program's income limits.

- Available funding provided by the Mathews Community Foundation to assist low-income homeowners on Gwynn's Island with any repair approved by the Virginia Department of Health and not prohibited by any local ordinance was advertised in the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal.
- Reminder of available funding to assist low-income homeowners on Gwynn's Island with any repair approved by the Virginia Department of Health and not prohibited by any local ordinance was emailed to Mathews County Administrator, Board of Supervisors, and Health Dept, and local septic contractors. Funds will be awarded based on current median family income as published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- MPPDC Coastal Resilience Planner received an inquiry from Gwynn's Island homeowner interested in septic repair/replacement. Homeowner was screened for income qualification based on current median family income as published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The homeowner was over the program's income limits.
- At MPPDC CFO's suggestion, Jan Bassett, Gwynn's Island Civic League was contacted and informed of the \$9k in available grant funds provided by the Mathews Community Foundation for low-income homeowners on Gwynn's Island to address septic repair/replacement. More information, including application deadline and the income limits as published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development were emailed to Ms. Bassett, as requested.

#### **Project 32163 – DEQ 319(h) NPS IP for BMP Residential Septic 2021**

*This project provides cost-share assistance to landowners, homeowners, and agricultural operators as an incentive to voluntarily install nonpoint source (NPS) best management practices (BMPs) in designated watersheds.*

- **As of April 11**, MPPDC staff has received phone calls from **244** homeowners in Gloucester, Mathews, and Middlesex Counties in response to the press release for available 319(h) funding. The physical addresses of each of these septic systems were entered into the mapping tool to verify their location is within the program's target areas. **(99)** homeowners had miscellaneous requests, declined moving forward, requested ineligible practices such as voluntary upgrades and reimbursement for work completed prior to the submission of a complete and qualified 319(h) application; **(6)** Mathews County homeowners placed their project on hold; and **(117)** homeowners' septic system isn't located in the program's target area. To-date, **(11)** Alternative Septic Systems in Mathews County have been installed; **(2)** Conventional Septic Systems, **(1)** in Gloucester County and **(1)** in Mathews County have been repaired; **(8)** Septic systems have been pumped out; **(2)** in Middlesex County, **(2)** in Gloucester County, and **(4)** in Mathews County. All 21 homeowners were approved and reimbursed 50% of the average practice cost set by DEQ. **(1)** Middlesex County homeowner is waiting on an estimate from a second septic contractor after the first contractor didn't have the appropriate licensure.  
**(0)** Homeowners remain on the Septic Pumpout list.  
**(1)** Homeowner remains on the Septic Repair/Replacement list. (1 Middlesex)
- Submitted FY25 Q1 Quarterly report and reimbursement request to DEQ TMDL NPS Data Coordinator and Program Manager, Madison Whitehurst. Reimbursement was approved.
- Met virtually with Madison Whitehurst, DEQ TMDL NPS Data Coordinator to review the progress of the 319h project. Discussed expended and remaining funding to-date; Goals and Deliverables; Challenges; Updated Forms; and Final Reporting.
- Continue to receive inquiries for septic assistance from homeowners with septic systems located in DEQ undesignated areas of King William, King & Queen, and Essex Counties. When applicable, these inquiries are screened for interest and eligibility in other MPPDC program funding, referred appropriately to VA DHCD, VHDA, and SERCAP for possible septic repair/replacement assistance and those seeking

septic pumpout assistance are placed on the waiting list for when the next funding opportunity becomes available.

### **Project 32173 VDH Septic Well Assistance Program (SWAP)**

*This project will provide grant funding to assist VDH approved low-income Middle Peninsula homeowners with costs associated with septic repair/installation, private well installation/abandonment, and connecting to public water and sewer for the purposes of wastewater/water improvements.*

- During the month of March and into early April, staff continued efforts to manage and advance the SWAP program. The application period for SWAP has officially closed, with a total of 22 completed applications received. Of these, income documentation for 20 applicants was submitted to the Local Health Department for verification. All 20 were confirmed to meet the low-income eligibility threshold ( $\leq 200\%$  FPG). One applicant was determined to be over-income and referred to alternative programs, and one applicant failed to provide the required documentation.
- During this reporting period, one septic evaluation and design in King and Queen County was posted for bids. One bid was received and is currently under review. This project is moving forward following delays related to engineering requirements. The previous AOSS contractor was unable to provide a professional engineer design, which had necessitated a rebid.
- While no new projects were completed during this reporting period, staff focused on moving ongoing projects toward completion. To date, a total of seven projects have been completed, including 1 septic project in Gloucester, 1 septic project in Mathews, 1 well project in Gloucester, 3 well projects in Essex, and 3 well abandonments in Essex.
- The King William well project remains pending, awaiting a Notice to Proceed. This delay is tied to the need for a grant amendment to reallocate funding to cover the well project. Staff continue working with VDH and relevant partners to facilitate the amendment process.
- Staff remain in regular communication with VDH and other stakeholders to resolve outstanding issues and ensure compliance with program requirements. One coordination meeting held earlier in the quarter with VDH leadership reviewed the status of the well project amendment and overall financials. Budget monitoring continues to ensure funds are allocated and managed effectively.
- Although challenges remain related to permitting, engineering, and amendment processing, staff are committed to advancing projects and ensuring successful outcomes for participating homeowners.

### **Project 32178 VDH Septic Well Assistance Program (SWAP) Direct to Partner Initiative (D2PI)**

*This project will utilize American Rescue Plan Act Funding (ARPA) through the SWAP Program to expedite the installation and completion of ~5 VDH approved Middle Peninsula low-income homeowner's shovel-ready septic, sewer, and well installation projects for the purposes of wastewater/water improvements.*

- During this reporting period, MPPDC staff continued their work on septic replacement and shoreline protection efforts supported through this grant. In Essex County, the professionally engineered evaluation and design has been completed for one septic project. The design, which includes an alternative system required due to site constraints, is currently out for bids for construction. Additional coordination was required to finalize the design, including on-site visits and communication with the engineer and surveyor. This project must be completed and all funds expended by June 2025, and staff continue to monitor the timeline closely.

- MPPDC staff also supported progress on a direct discharge project in Chesapeake. This project was added by VDH at the request of HRPDC. Because HRPDC does not manage septic programs, MPPDC is assisting with implementation under an existing Memorandum of Understanding. The bid package for this project was finalized and advertised during this reporting period. One bid was received and is currently under review by staff. MPPDC continues to coordinate with VDH and the local health department to ensure the project proceeds within scope and budget.
- Throughout the month, MPPDC staff remained in close coordination with local health department officials and VDH program staff to keep all remaining projects on track.

**Project 32179 DEQ ARPA Septic Local Partner Program**

*This project will utilize American Rescue Plan Act Funding (ARPA) through the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to utilize a new and more cost-effective septic repair pilot program approach for participating Middle Peninsula homeowners with failing septic systems.*

- During this reporting period, staff continued implementation efforts for the Fight the Flood-supported septic repair initiative. Sixteen homeowners have now submitted assistance requests. The majority of these requests are from homeowners located outside of the designated target area. Staff are working to evaluate the eligibility of these applicants and continue to prioritize outreach to those located within the target geography.
- Staff have focused efforts on assisting one homeowner with a known septic failure. Staff worked with the Local Health Department to obtain a formal Notice of Alleged Violation (NOAV) and have been coordinating closely to ensure the necessary steps are taken to allow a repair permit to be issued. Income documentation has been collected from the homeowner, and staff are working through project logistics and funding pathways. As part of this process, staff have conducted site visits to both the home and the Local Health Department. This coordination has been critical as the program works through its first active project.
- The revised program application developed last month continues to be used to streamline homeowner intake and ensure all qualifying criteria are met. Staff are also distributing outreach materials through county offices, libraries, social services departments, and the Local Health Department to raise awareness about the program. Coordination remains ongoing with the Local Health Department to identify additional households with verified septic system failures.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Funding – EDA, local match from MPPDC General Fund, BDP Loan Program Income

**Project 301250 – Staff Support to Middle Peninsula Alliance (MPA) FY25**

*MPPDC staff are providing clerical and fiscal assistance to the Middle Peninsula Alliance.*

- Routine monthly financial support.

**Project 38816 – DEQ IJJA Living Shoreline BMP Construction**

*MPPDC staff are constructing living shorelines within and outside of defined Most Effective Basin areas and submitting the projects to the DEQ BMP warehouse to help the Commonwealth meet its federally-mandated requirements to reduce nutrients and sediment pollution within the Chesapeake Bay.*

- Anticipated requisition \$231,946.00 to be submitted with quarterly report on 4/15/25.

- In April 2025, MPPDC staff continued implementation and coordination efforts across shoreline restoration projects, including loan processing, contractor engagement, and reimbursement activities.
- Due to recent uncertainty surrounding executive actions and federal grant programs, several homeowners elected to halt their shoreline projects out of concern they would not be reimbursed. In response, staff have worked to encumber those funds by identifying and advancing other eligible projects, including a shoreline BMP proposed on town-owned property in Urbanna. Staff met on site with town officials and attended the April 10, 2025, Town Council meeting to discuss the project's scope, feasibility, and funding strategy.
- All sites where reimbursement is being sought are either 100% complete or awaiting only marsh grass installation with the exception of 1 project.
- Funds previously received have now been fully disbursed, and additional reimbursement packets are being prepared for submission.
- Staff remain in regular contact with contractors, permitting agencies, and property owners to ensure all projects remain on track and compliant with program requirements.
- Site 1: The BMP is complete, with only grass installation remaining. A total of \$102,999.50 in IJA funds has been disbursed to date. The remaining \$11,240.00 will be invoiced following final installation of grasses.
- Site 2: The project was halted by the property owner prior to construction due to concerns about grant reimbursement. Approximately 895 feet of shoreline requires protection, with 175 feet designed and permitted. No construction activity has taken place.
- Site 3: This project is complete, and all funds have been disbursed. The BMP installed covers 83 feet of shoreline and included 82 linear feet of sill and 1,230 square feet of grass planting. The total cost was \$82,500.
- Site 4: Sill and sand installation is complete. The project covers 265 feet of shoreline. \$75,500 has been paid to the contractor through financing, and \$350 reimbursed for permitting. \$6,860 remains to be invoiced for 4,287 square feet of native grasses following installation.
- Site 5: A low-income homeowner project, cash-flowed through a loan. \$170,721.00 has been received and is processing through to reimburse the loan. The project includes 84 feet of shoreline and 2,520 square feet of Flexamat. A final draw of \$3,267.00 will be submitted once grasses are installed.
- Site 6: A civic association project covering 12 parcels. It was determined that the site is unsuitable for BMP implementation based on coastal engineering consultation and landowner feedback. No construction has occurred.
- Site 7: This BMP is 100% complete. The shoreline stabilization includes 168 feet of sill and 1,275 square feet of grass planting. The project was cash-flowed by the property owner, and all reimbursement funds have been fully disbursed.
- Site 8: A large property with over 6,000 feet of shoreline. The homeowner is no longer proceeding with the previously permitted design and has requested a change in sill type and contractor. Staff have asked for updated permitting approval before proceeding. No reimbursement has been submitted, and this project may be reallocated due to extended delays.
- IJA Site 1: Construction is complete with only grass installation remaining. Total cost is \$199,300.00. \$102,999.50 has already been disbursed. The remaining \$11,240.00 for grasses will be invoiced once planting is complete.

- IJA Site 2: This project is now 100% complete, including grasses. Total project cost is \$86,050.00. \$28,645.00 in IJA funds was previously disbursed, and \$7,450.00 is being requisitioned with this report.
- IJA Site 3: This project is fully complete, and all reimbursement requests have been submitted. The total project cost was \$106,494.00. All funds have been disbursed, and no further action is needed.
- IJA Site 4: This site is approximately 50% complete. The updated project cost is \$164,630.50. The project is being cash-flowed through a loan. No reimbursement is being submitted at this time while construction continues.
- IJA Site 5: Substantial completion has been reached, with all sand and rock sill installation finished. Grass plantings are still pending. Total project cost is \$244,833.00. To date, \$224,496.00 is being submitted with this requisition. The remaining \$20,337.00 will be invoiced once grasses are installed. The project is being funded entirely through a shoreline loan, with three draws processed and a fourth pending.
- MPPDC staff continue to coordinate technical assistance and document outreach efforts. DEQ-approved educational materials have been shared with eligible property owners and used in on-site consultations.
- Loan support remains ongoing for two homeowners using the Living Shoreline Loan Program to finance BMP installations at their respective sites.

#### **Project 301702 – Small Business Revolving Loan Fund**

*MPPDC agreed to service Middle Peninsula Business Development Partnership’s (MPBDP) Small Business Loan Portfolio after MPBDP’s dissolution November 30, 2011. MPPDC established a revolving loan fund and staff initiate ACH loan payments from clients’ bank accounts and manages the accounts. Principal repaid will be held until the Commission determines the best use for these funds as allowed by the USDA (RBEG) original lending restrictions. Interest earned will be used to offset administration costs.*

- \$149,376.76 (Asset #10002)

#### **LOCAL INITIATIVES**

Funding – local dues, PDC base-funding from VDHCD and/or MPPDC General Fund. Funding for specific projects may come from a locality requesting assistance.

#### **Project 302010 – FY25 VA Water Trails Website Maintenance**

*MPPDC partners with PlanRVA, Accomack-Northampton PDC, and Northern Neck PDC to host and maintain the VA Water Trails website as a recreational, tourism, and public access resource to water trails within the partner regions – [www.VirginiaWaterTrails.org](http://www.VirginiaWaterTrails.org)*

- Monthly maintenance and security updates to website.

#### **Project 38025 – FY25 Local & Regional Technical Assistance**

*This program responds to daily requests for technical assistance which other commission programs are unable to provide.*

- Developed a resolution to the MPPDC Board to authorize development of an application for water supply planning grant funds to offset to the extent feasible the cost of developing said regional water supply plan; to have the MPPDC manage all grant funds received and allocate these shared funds towards the tasks and deliverables proposed in the grant; and authorizing Lewis Lawrence, MPPDC Executive Director, to sign the DEQ contract and other appropriate documents related to the water supply planning grant and the regional water supply plan. This was approved at the March 26<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting.

#### **Project 30003–DEQ Water supply Plan Update**

*This program addresses the Virginia General Assembly mandate to develop a water supply plan.*

- Developed a proposal to the DEQ 2025 Local and Regional Water Supply Planning Grant Program to supplement Water Supply Plan development expenses. In part, MPPDC staff worked with eVA to create a supplier account on eVA and to upload a COV (Commonwealth of Virginia) W-9 form on the account.
- Worked with WSSI (Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc.) to develop a rough estimate for the update of the Water Supply Plan that was used for the grant proposal to DEQ.
- Received confirmation from DEQ that the Northern Plain 2 RPU Water Supply Kickoff meeting is scheduled at the MPPDC office on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

### **Project 38100 – LGA Grants Program**

*Research, write, secure, and monitor federal, state, local, and foundational grants for participating Middle Peninsula local governments based on needs identified by Local Government Administrators.*

- Working with DOD, NPS, DCR and Virginia Office of the Secretary of Veterans & Defense Affairs staff to complete items required to execute contract for \$350,000 Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program award to Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority to acquire 513 acres near Middle Peninsula Regional Airport for conservation and public recreation.
  - Updating original proposal based on new yellow book appraisal.
  - Completing DHR Review.
  - Working with Naval Weapons Station Yorktown liaison to determine allocations for REPI award (acquisition vs. recreational improvements).
  - Working with Virginia Military Liaison to apply for required 50% matching funds through state's Military Community Infrastructure Grant Program (VMCIGP).
  - Working with NPS staff to apply for required 50% matching funds through Land & Water Conservation Fund.
  - \$255,000 in Virginia Land Conservation Fund matching funds already secured.
- Updated Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) awarded to Middlesex County and Urbanna to meet new procurement standards required to execute contract for \$132,000 to conduct energy audits of County buildings.
- Developing DCR Recreational Trails Program (RTP) proposals for trail maintenance:
  - Gloucester County - Beaverdam Park Swan Bridge replacement
  - Essex County - Poor House Tract Park trail and trailhead upgrades.
- Developing FY26 Congressionally Directed Spending (earmarks) requests:
  - Middlesex County & Bay Aging's Rawley Park workforce housing construction project
  - Mathews County municipal water system improvements
  - Tappahannock airport site redevelopment
  - Essex County animal shelter
  - Resubmitting FY25 project to purchase and install generators providing backup power to emergency operations centers in Gloucester, Mathews, Middlesex, and Essex counties. No supported FY25

projects received funding after Congress failed to pass an FY25 budget.

- o Resubmitting FY25 project to purchase, deploy and operate for one-year water level monitoring stations across the Middle Peninsula.
- o Congress is using FY25 guidelines and qualifying projects subject to change after Senate & House Appropriations Committees publish new FY26 guidelines.
- Developing VDH Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) proposal to fund Perrindise Marina boat slips and dock improvements.
- Working with Essex County to determine project readiness and 20% matching funds availability to apply for VDOT Transportation Alternative's Program (TAP) to fund Queen Street pedestrian crossing.

#### **Project 38814 – NOAA/VCZMP New Point Comfort Observation Deck Rehab**

*Rehabilitation of the observation deck at the New Point Comfort Natural Area Preserve in Mathews County.*

- Construction for the project is complete, and staff are currently drafting the final report due April 15, 2025.

## **HOUSING**

**Funding – Housing Loan Program Income**

#### **Project 30187 – VHDA Affordable Workforce Housing Development**

*The three-year project will involve planning, designing, and constructing approximately ten affordable workforce housing units on property owned by the Middle Peninsula Public Access Authority. The project goals involve creating resilient and safe housing for citizens who need to live and work on or near the water. The designs will involve long-range planning for increased flooding and sea-level rise where the units can be readily moved once a site becomes unsafe for continued residential use.*

- Continue construction of main house offering living space for PAA workers who qualify under the program.
- Met with Balzer Engineering to review work to date. Main house fire rated walls need to be completed as part of the project
- New engineering complications, permit complications and structural complications on the pool house continue to delay the project. Discussed new engineering and structural issues with Balzer Engineering
- Provided Gloucester County with additional FEMA valuation for market value of the pool house.

#### **Project 30013 – Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Revolving Loan Fund**

*The program emphasizes a community-based approach to help meet energy and climate protection goals. MPPDC was awarded a contract to provide weatherization renovations to 12 homeowners ineligible for LMI weatherization programs in each of the 6 counties. MPPDC subcontracted the promotion and construction portions of this project to Bay Aging but was tasked with administering the overall project. MPPDC is administering the revolving loan program per DMME.*

- \$46,919.19 (Asset #10003)
- Working with K&Q to use the remaining fund balance at Hub 33.

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**Funding – VDEM/FEMA/Homeland Security**

#### **Project 30192 – DCR/FEMA - Fight the Flood GIS Tool Enhancements**

*Improvements will be made to the FTF online and GIS tools which are intended to enhance the GIS data tool*

capabilities and the overall management of the program. Improvements will include automated programs to expedite and streamline the grant application process, programs for identifying needs and advancing projects which align with available funding resources, improvements which will help feature products and services for participating FTF businesses, and training for MPPDC staff.

- Drafted and submitted the final report to DCR.
- Continued working with Consociate Media to finalize the one pager to educate the community on project types, a video and geo-targeting.
- Completed new rack card for Fight the Flood promotional purposes, encouraging residents to register their property into the database.
- Completed social media series for Fight the Flood promotional purposes, encouraging residents to register their property into the database.
- Complete 30 second video for Fight the Flood promotional purposes, encouraging residents to register their property into the database.
- Publication and boosted ad (geotargeted) video on Facebook for Fight the Flood promotional purposes, encouraging residents to register their property into the database.

#### **Project 32180 – FEMA Ware Cove LLC**

*This project is for the mitigation reconstruction of a residential structure in Gloucester County. The current structure will be demolished and a smaller, more code-compliant and more hazard-resistant structure on an elevated foundation system will be constructed. The mitigation reconstruction project will mitigate flood risk and the associated costs.*

- Worked with VDEM to submit reimbursement requests to FEMA for receipts of expenses.
- Working with vendors to establish accounts to order construction material.

#### **Project 32300 - FEMA VDEM AHMP**

*This project will guide Middle Peninsula localities through the updating of the regional All Hazards Mitigation Plan (AHMP). The Plan evaluates all hazards that may affect the region and proposes mitigation strategies to reduce the impacts of future hazardous events.*

- Scheduled the first meeting of the AHMP Local Planning Team for April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10am. In part, MPPDC staff began to prep materials for this meeting.

### **LOAN FUNDS FOR SEPTIC AND LIVING SHORELINES**

Funding – VRA

#### **Project 30420 – On-Site Technical Guidance Assistance and Loan Program**

*The On-Site Technical Guidance Program aids the Middle Peninsula localities and residents in the technical understanding and implementation of approaches to address On-Site Disposal Systems and improve water quality by assisting local homeowners with repairing failing septic systems through low-interest loans and/or grants. In addition, MPPDC received funding under the Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) to provide grants to low-to-moderate income Middle Peninsula and New Kent County homeowners to repair failing septic systems impacting water quality and health in the region. Grants can be paired with loans from the MPPDC Onsite Wastewater Revolving Loan Fund to provide matching funds as required. It is anticipated this funding will be used to provide assistance to 20-27 homeowners.*

- Uncommitted septic repair fund balance: \$23,555.18 (loan/\$21,641.00 (grant)

#### **Project 33001 – Loan Fund Program for Septic and Living Shoreline**

*During 2022, the MPPDC received a \$3M line of credit for living shoreline and septic repair projects from the*

*VA Resources Authority. The fund provides a single financing program for activities historically covered by the MPPDC's On-Site Technical Guidance and Living Shoreline Incentive Programs.*

- Remaining uncommitted funds: \$1,546,338.66 in loan funds - \$258,908 in principle forgiveness (grant funds).
- Continue to work with clients in need to process loan applications.
- Continued management of multiple reimbursements monthly.

## **AGENCY ADMINISTRATION**

Funding - Indirect cost reimbursements from all PDC projects

### **MPPDC Administration**

*Administrative services provided to MPPDC programs. Planned FY25 Indirect Cost rate = 16.41%.*

- Continue routine financial management

## **Closed Projects**

### **Project 31500 – Living Shoreline Loan Program**

#### **Project 30124 – Staff Support to Middle Peninsula Alliance (MPA) FY24**

*MPPDC staff are providing clerical and fiscal assistance to the Middle Peninsula Alliance.*

#### **Project 30195 – Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) – Round 3 Supplemental (Piankatank) VDCR CFPF**

*funding for one shoreline protection construction project on private property within the Piankatank River watershed.*

#### **Project 30198 – Gwynn’s Island Septic**

*To support the MPPDC Regional On-Site Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Funding Program, this grant from Mathews Community Foundation provides septic repair assistance to LMI homeowners on Gwynn’s Island.*

#### **Project 30220 – Commuter Assistance Program (CAP) Operating FY24**

*This program assists local commuters and employers with transportation issues. The main emphasis is on lowering the number of single occupancy vehicle commutes within and from the Middle Peninsula region through marketing and promotion of the program through local media and provision of ride-matching services to commuters.*

#### **Project 30321 – Rural Transportation Planning FY24**

*This program provides rural transportation planning services through the Rural Transportation Planning Work Program which outlines specific tasks and goals to guide the rural planning of transportation services.*

#### **Project 32164 – CZM 306 Next Generation Shoreline Plan (Pilot Project – Yr1)**

*VIMS Shoreline Studies Program will develop a whitepaper to examine the use of technology, modeling, alternative materials, proprietary products, and innovative nature-based mitigation measures in the planning process for “next generation shorelines” which are intended to provide an enhanced level of shoreline resilience and water quality in response to more frequent and severe flooding and accelerated sea-level rise. One design of a next generation shoreline for a publicly owned property in a high energy wave environment will be completed. Year 2 will involve further development of the whitepaper and a next generation shoreline design for a moderate wave energy publicly owned site.*

#### **Project 32170 – Virginia Coastal TA FY22**

*This project provides ongoing support to member localities of the Planning District Commission and other stakeholders committed to improving community development and coastal management within the coastal zone.*

#### **Project 32171 – CZM 306 Next Generation Shoreline Plan Yr2**

*VIMS Shoreline Studies Program will continue to develop a whitepaper to examine the use of technology, modeling, alternative materials, proprietary products, and innovative nature-based mitigation measures in the planning process for “next generation shorelines” which are intended to provide an enhanced level of shoreline resilience and water quality in response to more frequent and severe flooding and accelerated sea-level rise.*

*One design of a next generation shoreline for a publicly owned property in a moderate energy wave environment publicly owned site will be completed.*

#### **Project 32172 – DEQ CZM ANPDC Ecotourism VI FY23**

*This project will build on the efforts completed between 2020-2021. During this project, PDCs will focus on implementing actions identified in the 36-month Marketing Strategy and Action Plan. MPPDC staff will also develop a grant application to seek funds which address resilience needs identified in the 2022 resilience assessment of MPCBPAA properties. PDCs will also collaborate to identify a long-term sustainability plan for maintaining the site for years to come.*

#### **Project 32175 – DEQ Chesapeake Bay WIP Technical Assistance 2023**

*MPPDC will continue to engage localities and regional and state partners regarding Bay WIP III programmatic actions and implementation activities with funding provided by DEQ.*

#### **Project 32176 – NFWF Veterans Partnership**

*MPPDC will develop and formalize an operating agreement between the MP-PAA and Knott Alone-Hold Fast, Inc, a nonprofit organization providing counseling and coastal eco and restoration workforce development services focusing on leveraging Chesapeake Bay coastal environs for veterans. The project will build capacity to address a known gap in local workforce for resilience and restoration activities.*

**Project 32177 – EDA Technical Assistance Program 2023**

*MPPDC will facilitate the maintenance, update, and implementation of the Middle Peninsula Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) utilizing existing regional partnerships and building upon recent and ongoing regional initiatives focusing on fostering economic growth within the region.*

**Project 32181 – VCZMP Coastal Technical Assistance FY23**

*This project provides ongoing support to member localities of the Planning District Commission and other stakeholders committed to improving community development and coastal management within the coastal zone.*

**Project 32183 – FY2023 SCRC Local Development District Capacity Building**

*MPPDC received funding from the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission to provide technical assistance for economic and community development activities within the region. This year's grant will focus on partnering with the Middle Peninsula Alliance to hire a trainer who can relaunch a business development course which is a requisite for accessing available MPPDC small business loan funding.*

**Project 38024 – FY24 Local & Regional Technical Assistance**

*This program responds to daily requests for technical assistance which other commission programs are unable to provide.*

**Project 38815 – Middlesex County Comp Plan Audit – Feb 2024**

*A diagnostic review and analysis of the Middlesex County Comprehensive Plan will be conducted to identify areas in need of improvement or addition to ensure compliance with state requirements.*

**Project 321771- GO Virginia – West Point Adjacent Land Airport Study**

*Project studies the needs for moving the land adjacent to the airport to the next tier under the VEDP site readiness program.*

**Project 321772 – DCR Flood Fund - West Point Bridge Study**

*Project is to conduct a Hydrologic and Hydraulic Study and Structural Design and Level of Service Study to address ongoing flooding for a Town owned bridge adjacent to the Middle Peninsula Regional Airport.*

## MPPDC: Membership, Appointments, Committee Assignments, and Networks

**Coastal Policy Team (CPT):** The CPT, whose members and alternates represent the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program's key partners, and eight planning district commissions, provides a forum for discussion and resolution of cross-cutting coastal resource management issues. Members serve on the team at the discretion of their agency or planning district commission director. The CPT recommends funding levels to the DEQ Director for coastal zone management projects. (MPPDC Staff 15 years +)

**Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan Technical Advisory Committee:** As appointed by the Governor in EO-71, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) with representatives of state agencies, coastal planning districts and regional commissions, and academic advisors, among others will facilitate the coordination and the development of the Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan. The Commonwealth's Chief Resilience Officer, Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection, and TAC will work with localities, regional entities, citizens, and stakeholder groups to identify critical infrastructure, at-risk communities, adaptation strategies, and specific resilience projects for inclusion in the Plan.

**Congressman Robert Wittman's Fisheries Advisory Committee and Environmental Advisory Committee:** (MPPDC Staff 8 years +)

**Virginia Sea Grant Program External Advisory Committee (EAC):** The EAC provides stakeholder input on the strategic planning process, the research proposal review process, and on Commonwealth-wide trends and needs. The EAC is a diverse group of end-users including representatives from state agencies, the education community, coastal planning and management, the private sector, and NGOs. (MPPDC Staff 9 years+)

**The Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) (Telework Council Secretary):** ACT is the premier association for professionals and organizations whose focus is the delivery of commuting options and solutions for an efficient transportation system. The Telework Council is concerned with promoting telework and providing telework information and technical assistance to employers (MPPDC Staff 10 years+)

**The Coastal Society:** The Coastal Society is an organization of private sector, academic, and government professionals and students. The Society is dedicated to actively addressing emerging coastal issues by fostering dialogue, forging partnerships, and promoting communications and education. (MPPDC staff serves as a Director)

**Virginia Shoreline Working Group:** The Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program launched the working group in 2022 to focus in on complex regulatory and legal matters pertaining to shoreline management and to help advance shoreline protection and habitat restoration projects that can compete for federal funding.

**Virginia Bay Enhancement Working Group (BEWG):** The Northam Administration and VMRC launched BEWG in 2020 as result of administration policy of no future overboard discharge of dredged material. The group is tasked with identifying beneficial reuse opportunities for the 1 Million cubic yards of material that is dredged every 3-5 years from the York Spit Navigation Channel which is the primary shipping channel for the Baltimore Harbor in the southern section of the middle of the Chesapeake Bay. MPPDC staff were requested to serve to evaluate alternatives from around the Bay and including the Middle Peninsula.

**Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA):** The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), founded in 1906, represents public finance officials throughout the United States and Canada. The association's more than 20,000 members are federal, state/provincial, and local finance officials deeply involved in planning, financing, and implementing thousands of governmental operations in each of their jurisdictions. GFOA's mission is to advance excellence in public finance. (MPPDC Staff 9 years). No longer a member of this organization.

**Virginia Government Finance Officers Association VGFOA:** The Virginia Municipal Finance Officers' Association was organized on January 12, 1968. The name of the organization was changed to The Virginia Government Finance Officers Association on October 5, 1984. The VGFOA provides educational opportunities to members through the VGFOA Certification Program, provides networking and educational opportunities through two annual conferences, provides legislative updates and updates from standard-setting bodies such as GASB, OMB, etc. (MPPDC Staff 15+ years and Certified)

**National Grants Management Association (NGMA):** NGMA provides national and international leadership, helping its members achieve success in the grants management community through the advocacy of best practices and the promotion of professional excellence. (MPPDC Staff 3 months)

**Opportunities Identified to Implement Commission Priorities**  
*Proposals Status for Grant Applications Submitted*  
**FY2025**

Service Center	Project Title and Description	Date Applied	Funding Requested	Status
Environmental	DCR CFPF Rd. 5 – Captain Sinclairs Portadam Flood Protection	Nov. 2024	\$132,680	Submitted
Environmental	DCR CFPF Rd. 5 – West Point Flood Protection Master Plan	Nov. 2024	\$1,413,304	Submitted
Environmental	DCR CFPF Rd. 5 – Parametric & Flood Insurance Accelerator (Try #2)	Nov. 2024	\$883,167	Submitted
Environmental	DCR CFPF Rd. 5 – Gloucester Point Beach Living Shoreline (Try #2)	Nov. 2024	\$2,565,000	Submitted
Environmental	DCR CFPF Rd. 5 – Haven Beach Living Shoreline Gap Funding (Try #2)	Nov. 2024	\$1,393,557	Submitted
Environmental	DEQ 319h Mattaponi Watershed Septic Repair	Sep. 2024	\$493,668	Submitted
Environmental	DEQ IJJA Shoreline BMP Construction FY25	Sep. 2024	\$699,022	Awarded
Local/Reg	US EDA Technical Assistance 2025	Sep. 2024	\$70,000	Submitted
MPCBPAA	DCR VLFC Robinson-Bakers Creek Acquisition	Aug. 2024	\$303,975	Submitted
Local/Reg	DCHD Regional Coop. Act – Local Tech. Assistance FY25	Aug. 2024	\$114,971	Submitted
Local/Reg	VTC Microbusiness Marketing - Hunters' Lodging Program	Jul. 2024	\$6,500	Awarded
Local/Reg	NOAA Saltonstall-Kennedy Blue Catfish Marketing pre-proposal	Jul. 2024	\$148,500	Submitted
MPCBPAA	NERRS BIL West Point Airport Property Acquisition LOI (Try #2)	Jul. 2024	\$797,000	Not Awarded
MPCBPAA	NOAA BIL West Point Airport Property Acquisition LOI (Try #2)	Jul. 2024	\$797,000	Not Awarded
Local/Reg	NOAA BIL Middlesex Co. Bushy Park Farm Acquisition LOI (Try #2)	Jul. 2024	\$5,971,248	Submitted
<b>FY 2025 Awarded Total (July – November 2024)</b>			<b>\$705,522</b> (2 awards)	
<b>FY 2025 Requested Total (July – November 2024)</b>			<b>\$16,889,219</b> (15 proposals submitted)	
<b>FY 2025 Funding Request Remaining Award Potential Total</b>			<b>\$13,490,070</b> (11 proposals awaiting award decision)	

***Status of Pending Applications Submitted during FY2024***

Service Center	Project Title and Description	Date Applied	Funding Requested	Status
Local/Reg	DOD REPI West Point Airport Acquisition	May 2024	\$697,000	Submitted
Local/Reg	Congressionally Directed Spending - Parametric Tide Gauges	Apr. 2024	\$801,585	Submitted
Environmental	DEQ Ches. Bay WIP Technical Assistance FY25	Mar. 2024	\$72,500	Submitted
Transportation	FEMA BRIC– Essex Coleman Island Rd. Flooding Study	Jan. 2024	\$100,000	Submitted
Environmental	DCR Resilient VA Revolving Fund - MPPDC Resilience Loan Funding Program launch	Dec. 2023	\$500,000	Submitted
Environmental	FEMA BRIC - VA low water state project scoping	Nov. 2023	\$150,000	Submitted
<b>FY 2024 Awarded Total (July 2023 – June 2024)</b>			<b>\$17,927,222</b> (22 awards)	
<b>FY 2024 Requested Total (July 2023 – June 2024)</b>			<b>\$105,764,809</b> (70 proposals submitted)	
<b>FY 2024 Funding Request Remaining Award Potential Total</b>			<b>\$2,321,085</b> (6 proposals awaiting award decision)	
<b>FY 2024 &amp; FY 2025 Cumulative Funding Request Remaining Award Potential Total</b>			<b>\$15,811,155</b> (17 proposals awaiting award decision)	

## ACRONYMS

ACH	Automated Clearing House	OLGA	Online Grant Administration
AFID	Agricultural and Forestry Industries Development	PAA	Public Access Authority
AHMP	All Hazards Mitigation Plan	RBOG	Rural Business Opportunity Grant
BCC	Building Collaborative Communities Project	RFP	Request for Proposal
BOS	Board of Supervisors	RFQ	Request for Qualifications
CBPA	Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area	RLF	Revolving Loan Fund
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant	RTP	Rural Transportation Planning
CEDS	Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy	SERCAP	Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project
CIP	Capital Improvement Plan	SHSG	State Homeland Security Grant
COI	Conflict of Interest	SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District
CZMP	Coastal Zone Management Program	SWM	Storm Water Management
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality	SWRP	State Water Resource Plan
DCR	Department of Conservation & Recreation	THIRA	Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment
DGIF	Department of Game and Inland Fisheries	TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Loads
DHR	Department of Historic Resources	USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
DHCD	Department of Housing and Community Development	USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
DMME	Department of Mines Minerals and Energy	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
DOE	Department of Energy	VACORP	Virginia Association of Counties Risk Pool
DRPT	Department of Rail and Public Transportation	VAPA	Virginia Planning Association
EDA	Economic Development Administration	VAPDC	Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions
EDO	Economic Development Organization	VASG	Virginia Sea Grant
EECBG	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant	VCP	Virginia Coastal Program
EOC	Emergency Operation Center	VCRMP	Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	VCWRLF	Virginia Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	VCZMP	Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program
Fracking	Hydraulic Fracturing	VDEM	Virginia Department of Emergency Management
GIS	Geographic Information System	VDH	Virginia Department of Health
HRPDC	Hampton Roads Planning District Commission	VDOT	Virginia Department of Transportation
LGA	Local Government Administrators	VEE	Virginia Environmental Endowment
LPT	Local Planning Team	VIMS	Virginia Institute of Marine Science
LSIP	Living Shoreline Incentive Program	VLCF	Virginia Land Conservation Fund
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding	VMRC	Virginia Marine Resource Commission
MPA	Middle Peninsula Alliance	VOAD	Volunteer Organization Active in Disasters
MPBA	Middle Peninsula Broadband Authority	VOP	Virginia Outdoors Plan
MPCBPAA	Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority	VRA	Virginia Resources Authority
MPEDRO	Middle Peninsula Economic Development and Resource Organization	VSMP	Virginia Stormwater Management Program
NIMS	National Incident Management System	VTA	Virginia Tourism Association
NFWF	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	VTC	Virginia Tourism Corporation
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	VWP	Virginia Water Protection
NPS	National Park Services	VWWR	Virginia Water Withdrawal Reporting
OCVA	Oyster Company of Virginia	WIP	Watershed Implementation Plan
OIPI	VA Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment	WQIF	Water Quality Improvement Fund