



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
Mr. Doug Fawcett

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: May 23, 2025
RE: May Commission Meeting

The Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission will host its monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 28th 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 May 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

I look forward to seeing you on **May 28th**.

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Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission Meeting

7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

4521 Lewis B. Puller Memorial Highway

Mattaponi, VA 23110

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

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- IX. VHB Updates on MARAD Working Waterfront Grant
- X. Update on Federal Community Project Funding – Dredge Material Holding Site(s)
- XI. Bright Sands Industries – Silviculture Waste and Energy Production Management
- XII. MPPDC FY26 Budget Presentation
 - a. Recommendation from Budget Committee
 - b. Reorganization and Transition Planning
 - c. Budget Presentation
- XIII. Other Business
- XIV. Adjournment

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MIDDLE PENINSULA PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
April 23, 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, April 23, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. MPPDC Chairman, Ashley Chriscoe welcomed everyone in attendance.

Commissioners Present

Essex County: Bud Smith, John Magruder
Gloucester County: Ashley Chriscoe
King and Queen County: Mark Berry, Marie Norman, Vivian Seay
Mathews County: Tom Bowen, Tim Hill
Middlesex County: Wayne Jessie, Kendall Webre

Commissioners Absent

Essex County: Sarah Pope, April Rounds
Gloucester County: Tony Nicosia, Dr. Willy Reay
King William County: Justin Catlett, Benjamin Edwards
Mathews County: David Jones, Ramona Wilson
Middlesex County: Reggie Williams, Matt Walker
Town of Tappahannock: Kay Carlton, Doug Fawcett
Town of Urbanna: Dr. William Goldsmith
Town of West Point: James Pruet

Also in Attendance

Lewie Lawrence, MPPDC Executive Director
Jennifer Farmer, MPPDC Finance and Projects Manager
Taylor Ovide, MPPDC Coastal Resilience Planner
Guests

II. Approval of March Minutes

Chairman Chriscoe asked whether there were any corrections or changes to the March Minutes. There being no corrections to the Minutes, Chairman Chriscoe requested a motion to approve the March Minutes. Mr. Jessie moved that the March Minutes be approved. Mr. Smith seconded the motion; motion carried.

III. Approval of Financial Report for March

Chairman Chriscoe stated that due to the resignation of the CFO, the March and April financial reports would be voted on during the May Commission meeting. Executive

Director Lawrence provided the Board an update on the CFO resignation, the agency audit, and the third-party HR Consultant.

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

Executive Director Lawrence presented the staff activity report for April. 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 provided updates on several key initiatives, including Project 30001 – VCZMP Coastal Technical Assistance FY24; Project 30008 – VPA MP-ES Dredge Material Planning; Project 30191 – DCR Flood Fund for the Mill Creek Boat Ramp in Middlesex; and Project 30221 – VDRPT Commuter Assistance Program (CAP) Operating FY25. Notably, Consociate Media’s recent MidPenRideShare survey, conducted under Project 30221, received approximately 800 responses. A key takeaway was a significant increase in public awareness of MidPenRideShare compared to the previous survey. Additionally, Project 32169 – USDOT RAISE Public Working Waterfront Designs led to a recent reimbursement of \$700,000.

V. MPCBPAA Update

None.

VI. MPA Update

Chairman Chriscoe stated that he had been making contacts, and more information would be provided when available.

VII. MPPDC Public Relations/Communications Update

Stephanie Heinatz of Consociate Media highlighted the successful survey results for MidPenRideShare and noted her ongoing collaboration with staff on the Fight the Flood initiative, including efforts to enhance digital advertising and expand website content.

VIII. Public Comment

None.

IX. Tourism on the Middle Peninsula: An Update and Review of VTC Resources

Laura Messer of the Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC) gave a presentation highlighting available VTC resources aimed at helping communities maximize their tourism potential. The presentation also covered Tourism Action Plans, VTC grant opportunities, and insights from state and local tourism-related data and revenue trends.

X. Leveraging Regional Assets for Tourism Marketing

Stephanie Heinatz of Consociate Media gave a presentation on capitalizing on regional opportunities for tourism. She highlighted several successful grant-funded initiatives, including Get Wild, Pier Pressure, the Winter Hunting Package, Virginia’s Ice Cream Trail, and the DRIVE grant.

XI. Weldon Cooper – Federal Workforce and Contract Spending Reductions in Virginia

Executive Director Lewie Lawrence delivered a briefing on the implications of the federal workforce reduction for the Middle Peninsula economy. He noted that staff will continue to monitor developments and provide updates as the situation evolves.

XII. Other Business

Ms. Seay briefed the board on the newly approved HUB33 membership opportunities, which allow both individuals and businesses to rent office space on either a short-term or long-term basis.

XIII. Adjournment

Chairman Chriscoe requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jessie so moved; Ms. Norman 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.*

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(Secretary)

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Agencywide R&E by Category

Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission
 Period Ending: 4/30/2025
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Without Indirect Cost Detail

Code & Description	Budget	Current	YTD	Un/Over	% Bud
Revenues					
	14,279.00	15,395.00	16,726.52	(2,447.52)	117.14%
Local Match	5,628.00	0.00	0.00	5,628.00	0.00%
Local Annual Dues	639,532.99	1,277.49	489,958.96	149,574.03	76.61%
Local Other Revenues	221,594.00	0.00	80,082.94	141,511.06	36.14%
Local Other Organizations	56,030.00	0.00	80,093.88	(24,063.88)	142.95%
State Revenues	7,036,788.00	5,146.49	1,067,443.95	5,969,344.05	15.17%
Federal Revenues	2,037,389.00	361,239.66	2,185,974.80	(148,585.80)	107.29%
Miscellaneous Income	52,876.00	4,285.50	39,939.58	12,936.42	75.53%
RevolvingLoan Program Income	19,000.00	0.00	22,725.06	(3,725.06)	119.61%
Revenues	10,083,116.99	387,344.14	3,982,945.69	6,100,171.30	39.50%
Expenses					
Personnel	922,415.00	58,620.77	736,072.24	186,342.76	79.80%
Facilities	34,992.00	0.00	0.00	34,992.00	0.00%
Communications	4,500.00	0.00	184.31	4,315.69	4.10%
Equipment & Supplies	52,302.00	833.33	29,860.99	22,441.01	57.09%
Travel	24,164.00	0.00	1,665.18	22,498.82	6.89%
Professional Development	6,500.00	275.00	1,625.00	4,875.00	25.00%
Contractual	7,604,181.00	128,133.00	2,641,703.19	4,962,477.81	34.74%
Miscellaneous	28,660.00	31,053.23	256,386.19	(227,726.19)	894.58%
	218,527.00	0.00	210,703.92	7,823.08	96.42%
Expenses	8,896,241.00	218,915.33	3,878,201.02	5,018,039.98	43.59%
Agency Balance	1,186,875.99	168,428.81	104,744.67		

Balance Sheet by Category

Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission
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Assets:

Cash in Bank	(326,318.71)
Cash in Bank, Restricted	436,939.65
Receivables	1,836,107.25
Property & Equipment	6,664.71

Assets: \$1,953,392.90

Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	221,471.15
VRA Loan Payables	691,963.42
Payroll Withholdings	10,827.40
Cost Allocation Control	392,624.74

Liabilities: \$1,316,886.71

Equity:

Not Assigned to a Code	(65,663.74)
Local Initiatives/Information Resources	393,557.10
Economic Development	11,672.38
Transportation Programs	105,335.92
Onsite Repair & Pumpout	16,977.03
Housing	(26,973.95)
Coastal Community & Environmental	153,673.39
Public Access Auth Programs	47,928.06

Equity: \$636,506.19

Total Liabilities and Equity \$1,953,392.90

Balance: \$0.00

Project Financial Report

Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission
 Period Ending: 4/30/2025

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-----Expenditures-----								
Code	Description	Budget	Curr Month	Project Total	Un/Over	% Budget	Revenues	Balance
30001	CZM Coastal TA FY24	128,999.00	3,151.28	29,517.36	99,481.64	22.88%	64,600.11	35,082.75
30002	DEQ WIP TA 2025	72,536.00	5,743.78	11,456.09	61,079.91	15.79%	1,874.74	(9,581.35)
30003	DEQ Water Supply Plan	0.00	1,251.08	2,515.25	(2,515.25)	0.00%	0.00	(2,515.25)
30005	DCR CFPF Resilience Planning	362,556.00	8,625.29	53,333.71	309,222.29	14.71%	13,461.35	(39,872.36)
30006	LRNow Derelict Vessels (NOAA)	10,000.00	(94.45)	3,112.02	6,887.98	31.12%	1,331.52	(1,780.50)
30007	NOAA/VCZMP Public Financing	50,000.00	2,080.72	22,128.77	27,871.23	44.26%	15,582.49	(6,546.28)
30008	MP/ES Dredge Mat. Mgt & Han	3,048,500.00	6,139.99	52,162.49	2,996,337.51	1.71%	0.00	(52,162.49)
30009	CFPF Sinclair Flood Mitigation (E	105,296.00	0.00	4,143.74	101,152.26	3.94%	102,200.00	98,056.26
30013	Housing Loan Admin (EE&CBG)	46,774.52	833.33	29,027.42	17,747.10	62.06%	1,443.25	(27,584.17)
30101	Davis Ck Dredg (VPA/DCR CFPF)	1,065,472.00	(121.43)	61,749.99	1,003,722.01	5.80%	0.00	(61,749.99)
30125	FY25 PDC Staff Support for Adm	0.00	(24.47)	(2,407.84)	2,407.84	0.00%	2,000.00	4,407.84
30170	Sm Bus Loan Admin (MPBDP Sta	0.00	0.00	1,050.40	(1,050.40)	0.00%	7,264.54	6,214.14
30186	Elev Septic Pilot (DHCD) (\$10k N	120,000.00	0.00	96,289.99	23,710.01	80.24%	120,000.00	23,710.01
30187	VHDA Housing Development	1,000,000.01	1,274.31	647,837.20	352,162.81	64.78%	454,339.16	(193,498.04)
30190	Hoskins Creek (DCR/Tapp CFPF)	91,620.00	1,485.46	15,370.36	76,249.64	16.78%	79,168.99	63,798.63
30191	Mill Creek Boat Ramp (DCR/Mse	61,680.00	(12.40)	55,067.31	6,612.69	89.28%	45,993.78	(9,073.53)
30192	FTF GIS Tool (DCR/FEMA)	147,000.00	164.72	142,447.47	4,552.53	96.90%	166,326.75	23,879.28
30196	York (CFPF) (Parker Match \$21,4	135,016.00	0.00	0.00	135,016.00	0.00%	135,016.00	135,016.00
30197	Mobjack (CFPF)	133,257.00	0.00	53,201.00	80,056.00	39.92%	61,310.50	8,109.50
30198	Gwynns Island Onsite Septic Rej	20,000.00	139.10	10,654.88	9,345.12	53.27%	30,000.00	19,345.12
30201	VA Water Trails Website (MPPD	8,063.00	18.35	5,403.54	2,659.46	67.02%	11,391.08	5,987.54
30220	FY24 CAP Operating Program (D	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	19,649.25	19,649.25
30221	FY25 CAP Operating (DRPT/TDM	84,680.00	9,040.82	55,276.63	29,403.37	65.28%	23,059.49	(32,217.14)
30321	FY24 Rural Transportation Planr	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	23,926.98	23,926.98
30420	Onsite Loan Management	0.00	0.00	15,213.82	(15,213.82)	0.00%	41,379.23	26,165.41
31002	General Assembly Lobbyist	71,253.00	0.00	30,000.00	41,253.00	42.10%	71,259.00	41,259.00
31005	FY25 RTP (VDOT)	75,032.00	6,241.89	27,536.91	47,495.09	36.70%	24,132.48	(3,404.43)
31006	Broad Creek Admin	50,000.00	27,331.24	33,032.15	16,967.85	66.06%	0.00	(33,032.15)
31500	Living Shoreline Incentive Progr	0.00	611.96	64,268.00	(64,268.00)	0.00%	22,876.84	(41,391.16)
32021	PAA GOVA Sea Grant Resilience	175,913.50	(969.86)	164,468.68	11,444.82	93.49%	175,087.25	10,618.57
32022	PDC Staff Support for Admin of	0.00	(10.92)	359.59	(359.59)	0.00%	0.00	(359.59)
32024	PAA VOF Get Outdoors-Trailblaz	5,000.00	(65.92)	4,183.19	816.81	83.66%	5,000.00	816.81
32025	PAA Admin - Reimb.	4,200.00	313.29	22,076.98	(17,876.98)	525.64%	35,610.45	13,533.47
32163	DEQ 319(h) BMP Res Septic \$96	231,860.47	2,272.98	212,119.35	19,741.12	91.49%	171,231.78	(40,887.57)
32166	DCR FTF Homeowner Fees	22,362.00	22.57	18,373.49	3,988.51	82.16%	48,340.11	29,966.62
32169	US DOT RAISE	2,018,476.00	111,145.23	1,629,173.10	389,302.90	80.71%	708,822.74	(920,350.36)
32171	DEQ CZM Next Gen PLANS - Yr2	0.00	113.69	(3,747.08)	3,747.08	0.00%	0.00	3,747.08
32173	VDH Local SWAP	299,980.00	2,352.37	177,609.07	122,370.93	59.21%	164,078.71	(13,530.36)
32174	NFWF & DEQ CZM Hog Island Re	947,200.15	(981.77)	956,382.52	(9,182.37)	100.97%	956,314.16	(68.36)
32176	NFWF Veterans Partnership	75,000.84	0.00	69,279.27	5,721.57	92.37%	71,765.25	2,485.98
32177	EDA TA (\$70k-VPA/MPA/VASG/	192,800.00	0.00	154,650.00	38,150.00	80.21%	192,800.00	38,150.00
32178	VDH SWAP (BIG)	378,933.00	7,991.92	221,303.09	157,629.91	58.40%	229,456.12	8,153.03
32179	DEQ ARPA SLPP Septic Repair(Fl	730,194.00	(1,603.59)	116,906.92	613,287.08	16.01%	115,824.06	(1,082.86)
32180	FEMA Ware Cove (H.Owner Mai	215,705.00	810.02	29,153.97	186,551.03	13.52%	90,552.85	61,398.88
32181	FY23 Coastal TA (DEQ CZM)	129,000.00	(1,317.03)	117,910.19	11,089.81	91.40%	123,117.93	5,207.74
32182	DEQ CZM Working Waterfront /	54,505.00	271.90	50,898.49	3,606.51	93.38%	87,998.27	37,099.78
32183	SCRC LDD Capacity Building	24,000.00	186.60	21,153.69	2,846.31	88.14%	19,556.61	(1,597.08)
32184	FY24 WIP TA (DEQ)(\$14.5kMatc	58,000.00	(556.41)	34,475.46	23,524.54	59.44%	86,389.75	51,914.29
32300	FEMA VDEM AHMP Update 202	172,074.00	6,347.86	37,964.00	134,110.00	22.06%	19,933.84	(18,030.16)
33001	C-515771 Septic and Living Shor	0.00	0.00	121,056.87	(121,056.87)	0.00%	32,740.31	(88,316.56)
35001	CZM Ecotourism Booster	29,836.00	(45.90)	1,512.71	28,323.29	5.07%	0.00	(1,512.71)
35002	VHDA CIG Housing Planning FY2	50,000.00	176.17	17,336.43	32,663.57	34.67%	11,700.00	(5,636.43)

Project Financial Report

Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission
 Period Ending: 4/30/2025

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-----Expenditures-----								
Code	Description	Budget	Curr Month	Project Total	Un/Over	% Budget	Revenues	Balance
35003	VTC Micobusiness Marekting - F	14,067.00	79.52	7,825.47	6,241.53	55.63%	0.00	(7,825.47)
38024	FY24 Local Projects	0.00	35.87	(4,020.22)	4,020.22	0.00%	3,004.02	7,024.24
38025	FY25 Local Projects	282,491.23	6,459.38	89,241.49	193,249.74	31.59%	286,948.09	197,706.60
38100	LGA Grants Program	128,541.00	6,656.55	159,631.18	(31,090.18)	124.19%	135,527.49	(24,103.69)
38809	Mathews HITW Dredging (VDOT	354,728.00	(24.85)	347,065.76	7,662.24	97.84%	181,322.13	(165,743.63)
38810	VPA Aberdeen Dredging	156,364.00	13.21	83,833.01	72,530.99	53.61%	82,301.15	(1,531.86)
38811	DCR CFPP Broad Creek Dredging	475,723.00	(708.73)	73,316.20	402,406.80	15.41%	32,160.92	(41,155.28)
38812	DCR CFPP Whiting Crk Dredging	153,596.00	(76.10)	9,818.32	143,777.68	6.39%	42,947.63	33,129.31
38813	Broad Crk Spot Dredging (Middl	65,000.00	22.33	28,645.03	36,354.97	44.07%	27,920.95	(724.08)
38814	DEQ/NOAA/VCZMP - NPC Board	183,952.00	(327.56)	181,395.52	2,556.48	98.61%	157,271.90	(24,123.62)
38815	Middlesex Comp Plan Audit - CL	6,423.30	9.78	5,970.81	452.49	92.96%	10,017.02	4,046.21
38816	DEQ IJJA Rapp Shoreline BMP Cc	1,847,384.00	6,442.16	621,722.87	1,225,661.13	33.65%	1,255,654.32	633,931.45
39000	General Fund Balance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	205,408.77	205,408.77
Totals:		<u>16,371,044.02</u>		<u>7,298,434.08</u>		<u>44.58%</u>		<u>7,958.03</u>
			<u>218,915.33</u>		<u>9,072,609.94</u>		<u>7,306,392.11</u>	

Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission
Executive Director's Report of Regional Progress
May 16, 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 (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 (804) 785-8100 ext. 3004
Programs: *All service center programs of the Commission with a focus in dredging and water management.*

Chief Financial Officer: VACANT

Contact Info:
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 (804) 785-8100 ext. 3003
Programs: *Finance/Commuter/Employer Transportation Services.*

Senior Planning Project Manager: Jackie Rickards

Contact Info: 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 (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 (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 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 and submitted the semi-annual report to CZM.
- Hosted training with Stephanie Fitzpatrick from EnhanceGov on May 9, 2025, at the LGA meeting to discuss a **New Rule on the Accessibility of Web Content and Mobile Apps Provided by State and Local Governments**. Ms. Fitzpatrick reviewed what localities need to do in order to comply with this new rule. There were 8 people that attended the meeting.
- Collaborated with DCR SEAS and Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR) on the Locust Point Living Shoreline project. FOR is pursuing NFWF funding to construct breakwaters and a beach system designed by VIMS and DCR SEAS. The project site is directly adjacent to the Whiting Creek dredge project, for which MPPDC is managing the design.
- Applied for DCR's 2025 Virginia's Recreational Trails Programs for ADA compliant kayak launches at the Sinclair's and Guinea Marsh PAA properties to include an interactive kayak nature trail through the Guinea Marshes.
- Applied to the NOAA Transformational Habitat Restoration Grant for ~9 million with DWR as the primary applicant for the Guinea Marsh Habitat Restoration implementation funds.
- Finalized necessary paperwork with Virginia Port Authority to transfer \$7.5 million to the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority (PAA) upon VPA Board action. PAA awaits LGIP transfer.

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.

- Continued to onboard new clients into the FTF program and work to find funding solutions living shoreline and septic repair needs.
- Updated the Business Directory on the FTF website to add new businesses.
- Drafted and submitted a quarterly report to DCR.
- Developed annual marketing and communications plan for Fight the Flood with Consociate Media.
- Researched and scheduled social media communications for late April through May 2025 to help drive community awareness of Fight the Flood program.
- Developed an email marketing and communications tool account – MailChimp – for Fight the Flood and connected it to the Fight the Flood website to build community database to communicate with as well as utilize for monthly email marketing newsletters.

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.

- LRN 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. LRN is responsible for coordinating the removal operations, with MPPDC providing local knowledge support.
- An update meeting has been scheduled by LRN as they begin preparations to pull vessels. At this time, it is uncertain whether any progress has been made on vessels identified in the Mid-Pin area. Staff will continue to monitor developments and provide assistance as needed.

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.

- Continued discussions with Middle Peninsula localities on various dredge finance strategies. Began conceptually incorporating dredging financing methodology into the VPA municipal dredging funding program.

Project 30008 – VPA MP-ES Dredge Material Planning

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

- Finalized contract with Carlexson the subcontractor that will coordinate the deliverables of this project.
- Carlexson met with ANPDC to discuss potential opportunities for alignments of subcontracts.
- Finalizing the MOU between ANPDC and MPPDC for the ANPDC portion of the project but waiting on reimbursement detail from VPA before concluding the final language.

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 and submitted a quarterly report to DCR.
- Received a draft plan for sunny day flooding berm protection from Brian Davis. Associate Professor, University of Virginia Natural Infrastructure Lab.

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 septic system for commercial waste has been installed at the King and Queen Hub 33- Tele Health and Business Innovation center.

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.

- Drafted and submitted a quarterly report to DCR.
- The project has been fully installed. MPPDC is covering the total project cost, including the required match, using a combination of DEQ IJA and DCR funds. Staff has received the DCR funding (\$69,920), which will be reimbursed to the Town following the May Commission meeting. A request for \$233,155.42 has been submitted to DEQ but has not yet been received. Staff is currently drafting an amendment to the agreement with the Town to reflect coverage of the project costs under IJA and is preparing an invoice for the agreed-upon administrative fees. The remaining construction balance of \$9,100 will be requested in the next IJA quarterly report.
- Preparing Final Report to DCR and coordinating final financial reimbursements between project partners.

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

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

- MPPDC staff continued implementation and coordination efforts on shoreline restoration projects supported through the Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPPF). During this reporting period, staff drafted the quarterly report to DCR and maintained active oversight of contractor engagement, reimbursement activities, and project progress across the funded sites.
- Importantly, reimbursement funds from the CFPPF award have now been received by MPPDC. However, these funds have not yet been disbursed to homeowners, as staff continue to finalize reimbursement documentation and ensure all project elements are fully completed before processing payments.
- The Hodges shoreline stabilization project is nearing completion, with only grass installation remaining. The total project cost is \$199,300.00. To date, \$85,060.50 has been invoiced under the CFPPF award. The remaining balance will be invoiced upon completion of the grass installation, and any remaining costs will be covered through the IJA allocation.
- The Parker project was completed on April 10, 2025, including all native grass plantings. The total project cost is \$86,050.00, with \$49,955.50 invoiced under the CFPPF award. As with Hodges, the remaining project balance will be covered by IJA funding. Although both projects have invoiced portions under CFPPF, disbursement to homeowners is still pending while final administrative steps are completed.
- MPPDC staff continue to monitor these projects closely to ensure compliance with CFPPF and IJA funding requirements and remain in regular communication with DCR and contractors to maintain project timelines and fiscal accountability.

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

VDCR CFPPF 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 and submitted a quarterly report to DCR.
- During this reporting period, MPPDC staff continued to implement and coordinate shoreline restoration projects funded by the Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPPF), including contractor coordination, financial oversight, and reimbursement activities. Staff also remained engaged with homeowners and

funding partners to ensure smooth project progression and compliance with all program requirements.

- The Harvey project is fully complete, with all construction and planting finalized. The total project cost was \$106,494.00, with \$53,201.00 invoiced under the CFPF award and \$53,293.00 under the IJA Non-MEB portion. All reimbursement requests have been submitted, and payment has been issued to the homeowner. No further costs or actions are expected for this project.
- The Robens project is substantially complete, with rock and sand installation finished. The only remaining task is installation of native grasses. The updated project cost is \$164,630.50, an increase from the original \$156,521.00 due to final design adjustments. Of the total cost, \$94,611.00 is allocated from the CFPF award and \$70,019.50 from the IJA Non-MEB portion. As final planting has not yet occurred, no reimbursement has been requested at this time. The project is being cash-flowed through a shoreline loan, and loan processing will proceed once a path forward is determined. Staff continue to navigate how to process loans without a CFO to manage the loan program.

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.

- Drafted, published on the Virginia's Coastal Wilds website and distributed press release on the trail development project at Captain Sinclair's Recreational Property, a project supported by the veterans at Knott Alone Hold Fast.
- Coordinated support from the MPCBPAA to regional business organizations and tourism destinations for the most recent Virginia Tourism Corporation marketing grant cycle.
- Developed and presented the impact of leveraging MPCBPAA properties in support of tourism marketing initiatives to the Commission for sharing with member localities for future grant writing.

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 has entered close out. MPPDC is awaiting reconciliation of \$10,000 owed to PAA from VIMS.

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.

- Finalized press release for this project that explains the project and how the created trails are being used.

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.

- MPPDC staff is working to submit the final financial report ASAP to NFWF.

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.

- Coordinated with DCR to schedule a floodplain training at the May local planners meeting.
- Coordinated with DCR on the RAD model ordinance progress for flood plain compliance.
- Received notification that MPPDC FTF companies were awarded Innovative Nutrient removal funding.

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.

- Consulted with George Washington Regional Commission and Coastal Program staff to determine efficacy of continuing the project beyond the sizzle reel development. Federal cuts may impact this 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 in close out and final reimbursement for staff management costs requests will be provided to Mathews County.

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.

- Performed monthly web maintenance and security updates on the MidPenRideShare program website.
- Added enhanced disclaimer language to the MidPenRideShare program website to provide additional support to people with disabilities working to access the information on the site.
- Finalized region-wide commuter habit survey and compiled results.
- Drafted press release on results of region-wide commuter habit survey.
- Researched and determined use of marketing funds to purchase MidPenRideShare swag for promotional purposes.
- Wrote, published and distributed blog post on importance of utilizing Park and Ride Lots in the region.
- Wrote, published and distributed blog post on how to leverage neighborhood connections for carpooling for personal and professional trips.
- Wrote, published and distributed blog post on how to carpool for summer activities.
- Wrote, published and distributed blog post on how carpooling builds stronger connections.

- Distributed March newsletter to MidPenRideShare database, which included encouragement to use program as well as shared content.
- Designed and launched landing page on MidPenRideShare website to promote Hub33, which includes commuter business resources as well as a new Park and Ride Lot.
- Designed and launched landing page on King and Queen County website to promote Hub33, which includes commuter business resources as well as a new Park and Ride Lot.
- Designed flyer to promote Hub33, which includes commuter business resources as well as a new Park and Ride Lot.
- Designed email newsletter for MidPenRideShare database to highlight opening of Hub33, which includes commuter business resources as well as a new Park and Ride Lot.
- Continued meetings with ICF for development of the new CAP Strategic Plan for MPPDC.
- Discussed Q3 report and FY26 CAP grant application with Kathy Molin (DRPT).

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.

- Convened the Local Planner's Meeting to introduce Denise Nelson and outline her goals for updating the Rural Long Range Transportation Plan.
- Updated the introduction, overview, goals, and demographic and land use sections of the 2020 plan to the working 2025 plan (sections 1-4).
- Engaged with locality, VDOT Saluda Residency, and VDOT Fredericksburg District Planning staff to update the status of projects from the 2020 plan and add recommendations to the working 2025 plan (sections 5-6).
- Attended Roaring Springs Road pedestrian feasibility study meeting with follow-up in the field scheduled for May 27.
- Met with Timmons Group to discuss scope of work for FY26.
- Drafted and submitted FY26 RWP grant application.
- Drafted and submitted Q3 report and reimbursement.

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.

- VHB continued development of the Needs Assessment document.
- VHB continued developing the engineering plans & permit documents for each of the (11) selected sites.
- VHB continued development of NEPA documents for each of the (11) selected sites.
- VHB continued developing JPA impact drawings for each of the (11) selected sites.

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.

- Coordinated and facilitated discussions with Mathews County, the MPPDC and the USACE at the conclusion of which the County provided their inputs for the ranking of upland placement sites.
- USACE considered the inputs of Mathews County and provided a ranking of the top three upland placement sites that the USACE will use for further evaluation.
- Notified property owners of selected and non selected parcels of the continuing status of the project.
- USACE has indicated that rights-of-entry will be developed and provided to selected property owners such that further evaluations can begin in the winter of 2025.
- Scheduled a meeting for Mathews County and the MPPDC to discuss with the USACE the content and process for obtaining rights-of-entry and associated roles, responsibilities and actions required going forward.
- Provided input for the MPPDC 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 appropriate location. MPPDC is administering the grant on behalf of the County with procurement and permitting assistance and project oversight.

- Updated MPPDC on the background of the development of an extensive analysis of alternatives that was prepared by Shore Consulting Group leading to a dredging project that would include an innovative use of dredged material.
- Provided input for MPPDC quarterly report to VPA.
- Advised Gloucester County of possible billing for prior staff expenses for managing the project associated with prior staff who have left MPPDC.

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.

- Staff has received RFP responses but with limited capacity, the RFP response still need to be reviewed.

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.

- Coordinated and facilitated In-Progress Review Meeting #3 with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), Middlesex County, and the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission (MPPDC)

Discussions focused on the status of current data collection efforts, dredge project design development, the draft design report, and the joint permit application.

- Waterways Surveys has been contracted to perform the bathymetric survey and sediment analysis, with results expected by mid-June. These findings will inform VIMS's final project design and help further refine material management options.
- VIMS will update the Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) data layer on the project plans to determine whether the SAV bed observed in the 2024 dataset is still present in the 2025 data. If the bed remains, the project team will coordinate with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) regarding potential impacts and necessary actions.
- A review of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) data on historic placement sites was completed; however, no associated real estate records were identified.
- Additionally, an overview of USACE Section 408 requirements was provided to VIMS, Middlesex County, and MPPDC.

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.

- NSTR (transitioned into Project 38811).

Project 38813 – Broad Creek Spot Dredging (Middlesex) VPA Emergency Dredging

- Construction is ongoing with an estimated May completion date.
- Provided continuing inputs to the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission regarding the Federal confined disposal site.
- Provided input for MPPDC quarterly reports to DCR and to VPA

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 May 16**, 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 an email from the Mathews Community Foundation Chairman, William Whitley requesting the status of the FY25 grant funding awarded to assist low-income homeowners on Gwynn's Island with repairing/replacing their septic system. In response, staff provided updated information and requested modification to the program's BMP (Best Management Practice) to include assistance for septic system pump-outs.

- Provided a request to the Mathews Community Foundations to assist low-income residents with septic pump out while searching for a qualified septic repair client on Gwynn's Island.

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 May 16**, 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 their AOSE to resubmit a second design to the local health department for a repair permit and to their septic contractor for an estimate.
 - (0)** Homeowners remain on the Septic Pumpout list.
 - (1)** Homeowner remains on the Septic Repair/Replacement list. (1 Middlesex)
- 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.
- Middlesex County homeowner stopped in the office to provide an update on their septic repair/replacement project. AOSE, Larry Madison visited the property again. During his visit, Mr. Madison explained the remaining process and reported the second design is nearing completion and will be submitted to the local health department in the upcoming days.
- Received email from Essex County homeowner requesting 319(h) septic pumpout assistance. Address of the septic system is not in the target area set by DEQ. Homeowner was referred to VA DHCD, VHDA, and SERCAP for possible assistance and placed on the septic pumpout waiting list as requested.

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.

- Throughout the months of April and May, MPPDC staff remained focused on advancing the Septic and Well Assistance Program (SWAP), managing ongoing projects, and resolving key issues that had been impeding progress. A significant development during this period was the long-awaited execution of a funding amendment by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to reallocate funds to the King William well project. This funding shift had been requested by MPPDC staff since November 2023, as it had been identified as a critical delay in the project's progress. Despite repeated follow-ups and the clear urgency of the situation, VDH did not finalize the amendment until May 15, 2025, which led to a delay of more than a year and a half. This prolonged funding issue had stalled the well project, preventing it from moving forward. With the amendment now approved, MPPDC staff are preparing to issue a Notice to Proceed, allowing the project to begin after significant delays.
- MPPDC staff continued to manage the broader SWAP program. The application period for SWAP

officially closed in March 2025, with a total of 22 completed applications received. Of these, 20 applicants provided the necessary income documentation, which was verified by the Local Health Department. All 20 applicants were confirmed to meet the eligibility threshold of $\leq 200\%$ of the federal poverty guidelines. One applicant was determined to be over-income and was referred to alternative programs, while another applicant failed to submit the required documentation and was unable to proceed in the program.

- While no new projects were completed during this reporting period, staff remained focused on advancing existing projects. A septic evaluation and design in King and Queen County was posted for bids, and one bid was received, which is currently under review. This project had previously been delayed due to the original contractor's inability to provide the required professional engineer's design, necessitating a rebid.
- As of this report, seven projects have been completed under the SWAP program. These include one septic system each in Gloucester and Mathews counties, one well in Gloucester, three wells in Essex, and three well abandonment projects also in Essex. While these completed projects show progress, there are still several pending, primarily due to delays in permitting, engineering requirements, and the earlier funding issue for the King William well project.
- Throughout this period, MPPDC staff maintained consistent communication with VDH and other stakeholders to monitor the status of the program, ensuring compliance with all requirements and addressing issues as they arose. A coordination meeting earlier in the quarter allowed staff to review the status of the King William well project, discuss financials, and ensure that the budget remained on track. Budget monitoring continues to be a priority, as staff work to ensure that all funds are allocated appropriately and efficiently.
- Despite ongoing challenges, particularly with permitting and external coordination, MPPDC staff remain committed to moving projects forward. The resolution of the funding delay for the King William well project has been a significant development, and with that obstacle now removed, the team is optimistic that further progress can be made in the coming months. MPPDC staff will continue to work diligently to ensure that low-income homeowners have access to safe, functional septic and well systems as part of the broader program goals.

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 the months of April and May, MPPDC staff continued to implement the septic repair initiative supported through the Fight the Flood (FTF) program. A major update during this period is that 20 homeowners have now submitted assistance requests, reflecting a steady increase in engagement. While the majority of the new applicants are from areas outside of the designated King William target area, staff have been working to evaluate their eligibility for participation in the program. For those applicants located outside the target area, a letter has been drafted, informing them of the program's focus on King William and referring them to available alternatives, such as the septic loan program. The letter also reassures these homeowners that MPPDC will continue to pursue additional grant funds to support septic repairs in their regions, thus keeping them engaged and informed about future opportunities for assistance.
- As staff work through the intake process, efforts have focused on assisting homeowners with known septic system failures. One particular case, involving a homeowner with a septic failure, has been a priority. Staff coordinated with the Local Health Department to obtain a formal Notice of Alleged Violation (NOAV) and worked closely to ensure that the necessary steps were taken to facilitate the issuance of a repair permit. Income documentation has been collected, and staff are navigating the logistics and funding options for this repair. Several site visits were conducted, both at the homeowner's property and with the Local Health Department, to ensure thorough coordination for this first active project.
- The revised program application, which was developed last month to streamline homeowner intake and ensure compliance with qualifying criteria, continues to be in use. This application process has helped staff efficiently assess requests and manage the growing number of entries into the program. In addition, outreach materials are being distributed across multiple platforms, including county offices, libraries, social services departments, and the Local Health Department. This outreach is designed to raise awareness about the program and encourage more homeowners to submit requests for assistance.
- MPPDC staff have also been pushing forward with the first fleet purchase project, an important step in expanding the capacity to serve affected areas. Progress has been made, and staff are now very close to issuing a Notice to Proceed (NTP) to the contractor for the first applicant's project. The fleet purchase is critical to ensuring that MPPDC can respond quickly to ongoing needs, and staff are working diligently to move this project forward.
- Throughout this reporting period, staff have continued to coordinate closely with the Local Health Department to identify additional households with verified septic system failures, ensuring that the program reaches those most in need. Efforts to streamline the intake process, increase outreach, and move forward with active projects are a priority as the program progresses.

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.

- Awaiting the calling of a meeting by Delegate Keith Hodges.

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.

- In the previous staff activities report, an incorrect reimbursement amount of \$231,946.00 was reported for April 2025. However, on April 15, 2025, MPPDC submitted a total reimbursement request of \$495,453.37 to DEQ, which accurately reflects all eligible expenditures for the projects under consideration. This has not yet been received as of 5/16/2025. The previous staff report did not capture both buckets of funding, leading to the underreporting.
- During this reporting period, MPPDC staff continued their coordination efforts across several shoreline restoration projects. These efforts included loan processing, contractor engagement, and reimbursement activities, all of which remain on track despite the ongoing uncertainty about program timelines. In response to the ambiguity surrounding federal grant programs, some homeowners have opted to pause their shoreline projects due to concerns about reimbursement eligibility. In an effort to encumber available funds and keep projects moving forward, MPPDC staff have identified and advanced alternative eligible projects, including a proposed shoreline BMP on town-owned property in Urbanna. Staff held a site meeting with town officials and attended the April 10, 2025, Town Council meeting to discuss the project's scope, feasibility, and funding strategy.
- At this time, all sites seeking reimbursement are either 100% complete or only awaiting marsh grass installation, except for one project, which has experienced delays. Funds previously requested are now being processed, and additional reimbursement packets are being prepared for submission.
- Here is an update on the individual projects:
- Site 1: The BMP is complete, with only grass installation remaining. A total of \$102,999.50 in IJA funds has been requested for reimbursement to date. The remaining \$11,240.00 will be invoiced following the final installation of grasses.
- Site 2: The property owner halted the project before construction began due to concerns about reimbursement. This project requires 895 feet of shoreline protection, with 175 feet designed and permitted, but no construction has occurred.
- Site 3: The project is complete, and all funds have been requested for reimbursement. This BMP covers 83 feet of shoreline and includes 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 are complete, covering 265 feet of shoreline. A total of \$75,500 has been paid to the contractor through financing, and \$350 was requested for reimbursement for permitting. \$6,860 remains to be invoiced for 4,287 square feet of native grasses following installation.
- Site 5: This is a low-income homeowner project that is being cash-flowed through a loan. \$170,721.00 has been received and is being processed for reimbursement. The project covers 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: This civic association project covering 12 parcels was found to be unsuitable for BMP implementation based on a coastal engineering consultation and feedback from landowners. No construction has taken place.
- Site 7: The BMP is 100% complete. This 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 requested.

- Site 8: The homeowner has requested a change in sill type and contractor for a large property with over 6,000 feet of shoreline. No reimbursement has been submitted yet. Due to extended delays, this project may be reallocated.
- IJA Site 1: Construction is complete, with only grass installation remaining. Total project cost is \$199,300.00, with \$102,999.50 already requested for reimbursement. The remaining \$11,240.00 will be invoiced once grasses are installed.
- IJA Site 2: This project is 100% complete, including grasses, with a total cost of \$86,050.00. \$28,645.00 in IJA funds was previously requested, and \$7,450.00 is being requisitioned with this report.
- IJA Site 3: The project is fully complete, and all reimbursement requests have been submitted. The total cost was \$106,494.00, and all funds have been requested.
- IJA Site 4: This site is 50% complete, with an updated project cost of \$164,630.50. The project is being cash-flowed through a loan, and no reimbursement is being requested at this time while construction continues.
- IJA Site 5: Substantial completion has been reached, with all sand and rock sill installation finished, though grass plantings are still pending. Total project cost is \$244,833.00, with \$224,496.00 being submitted for reimbursement. The remaining \$20,337.00 will be invoiced once grasses are installed. The project is entirely funded through a shoreline loan, with three draws processed and a fourth pending.
- Staff continue to provide technical assistance and conduct outreach efforts to ensure property owners are well-informed about the program. DEQ-approved educational materials have been distributed to eligible property owners and utilized in on-site consultations.
- In addition, 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.

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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

- Monthly maintenance and security updates to VA Water Trails website were performed.

Project 38025 – FY25 Local & Regional Technical Assistance

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

to provide.

- Responded to various general inquiries for assistance from Commissioners and LGA staff.

Project 30003–DEQ Water supply Plan Update

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

- Hosted DEQ on April 30th for Regional Water Supply Plan Development kickoff meeting for the Northern Plain 2 regional planning unit. DEQ reviewed plan elements, development, and DEQ resources.
- MPPDC staff continue to work with Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc (WSSI) to develop a proposal to update/renew the MPPDC regional Water Supply Plan. WSSI has provided MPPDC staff with a proposal and staff is currently reviewing the details.

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.

- Submitted two DCR Recreational Trails Program (RTP) proposals for trail maintenance:
 - Gloucester County, Beaverdam Park Swan Bridge replacement: \$250,000 to demolish & replace bridge
 - Essex County, Poor House Tract Park: \$173,600 for trail & trailhead ADA upgrades
- Submitted three Community Project Funding (earmarks) requests for dredging:
 - MPCBPAA Regional Dredging Program: \$4.7M to purchase dredge & support equipment necessary to launch municipal dredging program
 - MPCBPAA Regional Dredging Program: \$1M to purchase/lease dredge material disposal sites to support municipal dredging program
 - Winter Harbor Dredging: \$4M pass-through to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for maintenance dredging
- Submitted two Congressionally Directed Spending (earmarks) requests:
 - Regional EOC Generators Project: \$673,842 to purchase and install generators providing backup power to emergency operations centers in Gloucester, Middlesex, and Essex counties
 - MPCBPAA Water-level Monitoring Program: \$933,585 to purchase, deploy, and operate for one-year water-level monitoring stations across the Middle Peninsula
- Continuing to coordinate with DOD, NPS, DCR and Virginia Office of the Secretary of Veterans & Defense Affairs 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:
 - Updated original proposal based on new yellow book appraisal.
 - Submitted DHR Review documents.
 - Coordinating meetings between Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Mid-Atlantic Realty Specialist, Naval Weapons Station Yorktown liaison, MPCBPAA & appraiser to establish conservation easement language & requirements.

- o Submitted application for required 50% matching funds via Virginia Military Community Infrastructure Grant Program (VMCIGP).
- o Completed due diligence with NPS staff to apply for required 50% matching funds through Land & Water Conservation Fund.
- o \$255,000 in Virginia Land Conservation Fund matching funds already secured.
- Developing State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) Grant Program pre-proposal for eco-business development on PAA properties in King & Queen County
- Developing VDH Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) proposal to fund Perrindise Marina boat slips and dock improvements.
- Working with GO Virginia Region 6 program director on potential regional planning grant to increase number of business ready sites to Tiers 3-5 & support localities in identifying viable sites for development.
- Met with Virginia Clean Cities & connected project leads with local planners to provide feedback on site locations for project adding EV fast-charging stations to bus routes that will be available for public use.
- Shared funding opportunity through Resilient Virginia that would provide engineer-designed plans for energy resilience hub with solar-plus-storage.
- Researched funding opportunity requests including:
 - o Mathews County lighthouse renovations
 - o Middlesex County’s Rawley Park workforce housing construction project
 - o Middlesex County law enforcement body cameras
 - o Middlesex County’s Norview Marina boat ramps
 - o Hartfield Volunteer Fire Department fire truck purchase

HOUSING

Funding – Housing Loan Program Income

Project 30187 – VHDA Affordable Workforce Housing Development

The three-year project involves 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.

- One single-family rental unit at 10204 Margaret Lyell Rd. in Gloucester County has been renovated and an agreement with Knott Alone – Hold Fast has been signed for the rental of the property for their program participants.
- The contract with VHDA was amended to reduce the 10-unit production of rental units to 7 since the cost estimates to produce the remainder units exceeded the available grant funds awarded. The original planning for the Captain Sinclair property included the renovation of the south wing of the Main House for three rental units, the addition of a second story addition to the Pool House for three rental units, and the construction of three tiny homes on individual lots. The construction of the three tiny homes were eliminated from the work plan.
- The construction contract for the renovation of the Main House and addition to the Pool ~~26~~use was

executed in October of 2024 with Fresh Start Renovations. Permitting delays extended the start of the renovation on the Main House. Issues related the issuance of the building permit for Pool House and projected cost overruns at the Main House and Pool House have resulted in abandonment of the addition to the Pool House. A modification of the grant agreement with VHDA has been requested to reduce further the rental unit production number to four units.

- The cost overruns at the Main House are now being evaluated for resolution prior to grant expiration. It is anticipated that the renovation of the Main House will be completed within the grant period.
- Continue to reconcile cost to determine if cost overruns are present or inaccurate costing which should be incurred by Shinning Light as modification to the non-residential portion of the Main House
- In March of 2025 the septic system serving the Main House and Pool House failed. Grant assistance from DEQ and VRA was authorized to replace the existing failed system with a new engineered system large enough to serve both the Main House and Pool House. Design and permitting of the new engineered system are underway.
- Continue to work with Three Rivers Heath District staff and Balzer engineering on a septic system design to provide safe and sanitary septic for both the pool house and main house.

Project 35002 – VHDA CIG Housing Planning FY24

VHDA awarded MPPDC a \$50,000 Community Impact Grant – Innovation Planning to scope out three innovation building systems, floating moisture barrier system (FMBS) – Home Mechanix, onsite wastewater treatment & reuse system (OWTRS) – Triangle Environmental, and structural steel insulated panel system (SSIP) – ThermaSteel. The grant was for the preparation of three “white papers” that would mirror the application for a VHDA Housing Innovation Implementation Grant. These three innovative housing systems can significantly improve the resiliency of housing, allow for the development of resilient housing in low-lying coastal areas, and reduce the overall cost of housing, particularly for lower-income households. The purpose of the project was to test demonstrate each innovative building system at the Captain Sinclair property with the objective increasing the deployment of each system in coastal Virginia.

- Project research continues on housing innovations. Anticipate research to be completed by June 30, under budget.
- The grant had four milestones and three deliverables. Two of the four milestones have been completed and drafts of the three deliverables, “white papers”, have been prepared.
- Three VHDA Housing Innovation Implementation grant applications were prepared and submitted to VHDA. Unfortunately, VHDA did not award grants to any of the three demonstrations during this round of funding.

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.

- MPPDC continues to work with King and Queen County on Hub 33 energy efficient purchases for the new building.

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.

- Reconciled invoices. Drafted and submitted the final reimbursement request to FEMA for this project.
- Began to draft the final report to FEMA.

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.

- Updated the reimbursement requests.
- Foundations were poured, inspected and approved. CMU block is to be installed for utility area as the last step before framing.

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.

- Hosted the first and second meeting of the AHMP Local Planning Team. In part, MPPDC staff organized agendas and presentations for each meeting. The table below shows meeting attendance. Also, MPPDC staff has updated community profiles for the AHMP update. Staff sent drafts to LPT locality representatives for review and updates. The table below shows those localities that have reviewed the community profiles and returned it to MPPDC staff for inclusion in the updated plan.

Locality	Meeting Attendance		Plan Components
	✓ = attended meeting -- = did not attend meeting		
	LPT Meeting 1 (4/23/25)	LPT Meeting 2 (5/5/25)	Community Profile (due to PDC staff by 5/16)
Essex County	✓	✓	
Gloucester County	✓	✓	✓ submitted to PDC staff
King William County	✓	✓	✓ submitted to PDC staff
King & Queen County	✓	✓	✓ submitted to PDC staff
Mathews County	✓	✓	
Middlesex County	✓	✓	✓ submitted to PDC staff
Town of Urbanna	✓	✓	✓ submitted to PDC staff

Town of Tappahannock	✓	--	✓ submitted to PDC staff
Town of West Point	✓	✓	✓ submitted to PDC staff

- Received 2 scopes of work and estimates to complete the HAZUS assessment. MPPDC staff reviewed both scopes to ensure that they met the needs of the AHMP update. MPPDC staff had a follow up meeting with Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. (WSSI) about their scope and estimate to review the assumptions that were included in the scope. MPPDC staff sent the WSSI scope and estimate to FEMA and VDEM for review.
- Reached out to Consociate Media regarding outreach efforts needed for the AHMP update, including publishing press releases in local newspapers and a posting of a public survey.
- Followed up with FEMA regarding the MPPDC’s request for repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss structure data for inclusion into the AHMP. The FEMA contact responded with, “Due to ongoing changes at HQ there has been what I can only call a moratorium on the processing of all ISAAs/data requests.” MPPDC staff will proceed with cumulative repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss structure data received from DCR in January.
- Worked to update the Kaiser Permanente hazard vulnerability and assessment tool for localities to update.

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.

- Continue to field questions from constituents requesting loan and grant assistance for water quality impairments

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.

- Updated Fight the Flood letter to help steer those who aren’t eligible for grants into the loan.

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%.

- Continued work on draft budget for FY 26

Closed Projects

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

Project 32182 – VCZMP Working Waterfront Resilience Assessments

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

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 VLCF 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
FY 2025 Awarded Total (July – November 2024)			\$705,522 (2 awards)	
FY 2025 Requested Total (July – November 2024)			\$16,889,219 (15 proposals submitted)	
FY 2025 Funding Request Remaining Award Potential Total			\$13,490,070 (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	Not Awarded
Environmental	DCR Resilient VA Revolving Fund - MPPDC Resilience Loan Funding Program launch	Dec. 2023	\$500,000	Awarded
Environmental	FEMA BRIC - VA low water state project scoping	Nov. 2023	\$150,000	Not Awarded
FY 2024 Awarded Total (July 2023 – June 2024)			\$18,427,222 (23 awards)	
FY 2024 Requested Total (July 2023 – June 2024)			\$105,764,809 (70 proposals submitted)	
FY 2024 Funding Request Remaining Award Potential Total			\$2,321,085 (6 proposals awaiting award decision)	
FY 2024 & FY 2025 Cumulative Funding Request Remaining Award Potential Total			\$15,061,155 (14 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

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FY2026 Community Project Funding Request Portal: Representative Robert Wittman (VA-01)

From Google Forms <forms-receipts-noreply@google.com>
Date Fri 5/9/2025 1:09 PM
To Clara Vaughn <cvaughn@mppdc.com>

Google Forms

Thanks for filling out [FY2026 Community Project Funding Request Portal: Representative Robert Wittman \(VA-01\)](#).

Here's what was received.

[Edit response](#)

FY2026 Community Project Funding Request Portal: Representative Robert Wittman (VA-01)

The Appropriations process is how Congress exercises its role to direct spending for the general welfare of the United States. Members of Congress have firsthand knowledge of their district's needs and can prioritize federal funding for the most critical local projects, rather than an unelected bureaucrat in Washington with no direct connection to the community. With stronger transparency measures and safeguards now in place, CPFs can be implemented responsibly to genuinely address our community's needs.

The process of submitting CPF requests will be extensive and must meet the highest ethical standards. What follows is specific criteria the House Appropriations Committee will consider when considering CPF requests:

- Ban on For-Profit recipients: The Appropriations Committee is imposing a ban on directing CPF to for-profit entities. For-Profit corporations or organizations need not apply. With that being said, memorials, museums, and commemoratives (i.e., projects named for an individual or entity) are not eligible for Community Project Funding.
- One-Year Funding: Each project request must funds must be used in Fiscal Year 2026 which covers October 1st, 2025, to September 30th, 2026.
- Federal Nexus Requirement: All Community Project Funding requests must have a federal nexus, meaning they must already be eligible under current federal programs (i.e. grant opportunities).
- Priority will be given to requests that have matching or supplemental funding sources.
- To review last year's eligible accounts, please click [here](#).
- When submitting a Community Project Funding request to the Office of Congressman Rob Wittman, we will ask the following be submitted:
 - Formal Request: Submit a letter on official letterhead which provides a description of the project that needs federal funding. Also include the name and title of the local official who will oversee the request/project; provide that individual's contact information including address, telephone number, and email address; and provide the funding level that you will be requesting for the project and the total funding needed to complete the project. If applicable, please include documentation of project specifics, plans, pictures, etc.
 - Proof of Community Support: Community engagement and support is crucial in determining which projects are worthy of Federal funding. Only projects with demonstrated community support will be considered. This recommendation builds on past Committee reforms, and Members will be required to present to the Committee evidence of community support that were compelling factors in their decision to submit the request.
- Examples of these include, but are not limited to:
 - Letters of support from elected community leaders (e.g. mayors or other officials);

- Press articles highlighting the need for the requested CPF;
- Support from newspaper editorial boards;
- Projects listed on State intended use plans, community development plans, or other publicly available planning documents; or
- Resolutions passed by city councils or boards. Since requests for funding are highly competitive, please submit your information to our office no later than close of business on DATE (dependent on guidance).

Deadlines for submission for the office are as follows:

- Friday, April 18th at 5:00 p.m. EDT for Rep. Wittman office
 - Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies
 - Subcommittee on Commerce-Justice-Science
 - Subcommittee on Homeland Security
 - Subcommittee on Interior-Environment
- Friday, May 9th at 5:00 p.m. EDT for Rep. Wittman office
 - Subcommittee on Energy and Water
 - Subcommittee on Military Construction-Veterans Affairs
 - Subcommittee on Transportation-Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies
- Please note that these deadlines are different as outlined by the House Appropriations Committee website. This is to ensure time to review and submit.

Once you submit a request form, a copy will be automatically e-mailed to you. If something needs corrected, you will have the opportunity to edit the submission through the Google Form.

If you have questions, please e-mail Katherine Getty at Katherine.Getty@mail.house.gov or (202)-424-9676 or Andrew Maloney at Andrew.Maloney@mail.house.gov or 202-225-2207.

Please note that submissions for consideration are not a guarantee of funding. As noted above, each Member has a limited number of requests that can be submitted and not every submission from Congressman Wittman will be included in the final bill.

Email *

cvaughn@mppdc.com

Organization Name *

Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority

Is funding requested by a governmental entity or non-profit organization? If so, please provide information to support the recipient's status and include the organization's Employer Identification Number (EIN)

26-2009058

Organization Address, City, State, Zip *

P.O. Box 399, Shackelfords, VA 23156

Point of Contact Name *

Clara Vaughn

Point of Contact Title *

Grant Writer Program Manager

Point of Contact Office Phone Number *

757-710-2623

Point of Contact Cell Phone Number *

757-710-2623

Point of Contact E-mail Address *

cvaughn@mppdc.com

Project Title *

Securing Upland Dredge Material Sites to Sustain Waterway Access in the Middle Peninsula

Project Address/Location *

4521 Lewis B Puller Memorial Highway, Mattaponi, VA 23110

Project Description: Describe the project in detail below. In addition, you may also email project plans to Katherine.Getty@mail.house.gov and Andrew.Maloney@mail.house.gov *

This project allows the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority to purchase or lease land for the storage of dredged material, a critical component of maintenance dredging that ensures the navigability of the Middle Peninsula's 120 shallow-draft channels that support of the region's working waterfronts, recreational boating economies, and property values associated with water access. With federal and state funding limited to support shallow-draft dredging projects, the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority (MPCBPAA) in 2021 commissioned the "Middle Peninsula Local Government Dredging Implementation Plan" -- a 10-year feasibility study providing recommendations for restoring and maintaining the region's navigable waterways. The Plan recommends the 6 Counties and 3 incorporated Towns of Virginia's Middle Peninsula join together under the MPCBPAA to purchase and operate their own medium-sized hydraulic cutter dredge at the most cost-effective approach to maintaining and restoring navigable channels. The Plan found the cost per cubic yard of dredged material to be \$43.72 if implemented through private sector contractors, compared to \$27.00 for a regional, municipally operated program. Funding to acquire sites for dredge spoil disposal would further reduce this cost, lowering debt service to the localities that will fund dredging as a public service while increasing efficiency, supporting coastal resilience, and helping Virginia's coastal communities protect their tax base and ensure critical maritime highways remain open for commerce.

Project Scope of Work *

An estimated 10-20 sites across the Middle Peninsula's coastal areas will be needed for the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority to conduct a regional, municipally operated dredging program, presenting the opportunity for a scalable CPF request enabling the MPCBPAA to acquire several sites critical to carrying out maintenance dredging projects. This project's Scope of Work includes funding to purchase or lease land for the storage of dredge material, as well as engineering required for these holding areas.

Project Community Benefits: Describe how the project benefits the community with an emphasis on why it is a good use of federal taxpayer dollars. *

Maintaining shallow-water channels supports safe navigation and commerce while strengthening coastal communities' tax base and their ability to respond to shoreline erosion and coastal flooding. Historically, federally designated channels authorized by Congress have been dredged when natural channels no longer allow safe passage by vessels, establishing dredging as a critical need to support commercial shipping and the working waterfronts, fishing operations, and seafood industries that rely on waterway access; as well as recreational boating. Ensuring shallow channels remain accessible strengthens coastal Virginia as a place to live and recreate on the water, ensuring property values and real estate revenues grow over time. Dredging also supports coastal resilience through the beneficial reuse of dredge material to strengthen shorelines against erosion and flooding and restore coastal habitat; however, not all dredge material is suitable for shoreline stabilization. This project provides funding to purchase upland disposal sites for such material. The Virginia Institute of Marine Science Shoreline Studies Program collected sediment samples and performed physical and chemical analysis of the sediments at Middle Peninsula dredging sites to classify the material to be dredged and disposed of, providing the basis for this decision. Upland dredge spoil sites provide a critical component of dredging projects, without which maintenance of navigable waterways, recreational and economic activities, and boating safety will be impacted – reducing economic activity, shoreline property values, and real estate taxes that help fund local governments.

Project Community Support: Describe below past community support expressed for this project. Examples include: links to news articles, council minutes, elected letters of support, list of supporting organizations, etc. (Please describe below then email supporting documentation to Katherine.Getty@mail.house.gov and Andrew.Maloney@mail.house.gov). *

The nine member localities of the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority commissioned a 2021 feasibility study exploring cost-effective recommendations to restore and maintain the Middle Peninsula and rural Coastal Virginia's navigable waterways, demonstrating a regional investment in providing dredging as a public service and maintaining the Middle Peninsula's shallow-draft channels.

Total Funding Needed: Provide the total funding cost of the project. *

\$1,000,000

Budget Breakdown: Provide a detailed budget breakdown for how the funding is anticipated to be spent (e.g. what items or services will be bought or how research dollars will be spent).

Preliminary Engineering & Design for Disposal Activities Not Included in Dredging Activities Above (Including Joint Permit Application): \$65,000 Community Engagement: \$7,800 Environmental Assessment: \$39,000 Federal, State, and Local Permits: \$32,500 Legal Coordination: \$13,000 Financial Coordination: \$32,500 Dredge Material Placement Site Acquisition: \$810,200

Local Funding Source, if applicable: Include secured/anticipated local funding. We encourage you to research the grant program you are applying for to see if a local match is required. *

N/A

State Funding Source, if applicable: Include secured/anticipated state funding. We encourage you to research the grant program you are applying for to see if a state match is required. *

N/A

Total Federal Funding Request: What amount is requested by applicant? *

\$1,000,000

Minimum Federal Funding Request: What is the lowest possible dollar amount awarded for Project to move forward? *

\$500,000

Land Acquisition Status, if Applicable. *

N/A - Project Budget includes funds for land acquisition

Environmental Review Status, if Applicable *

N/A - Project Budget includes funds for Environmental Assessment

Engineering Report Status, if Applicable *

N/A - Project Budget includes funds for Preliminary Engineering & Design

Can the Requested Funds be Spent in Federal Fiscal Year 2026? *

Yes

No

Project Timeline: Estimated Start Date and Completion Date. (Please use following format for dates: mm/dd/yyyy) *

10/01/2025 - 9/30/2026

Have you had previous discussions/correspondence with our office about this project? If yes, describe briefly. If applicable, please include the staff member your organization corresponded with. *

Yes - Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission Executive Director Lewie Lawrence has discussed the Middle Peninsula Municipal Dredging Program with District Director Joe Schumacher

Have you previously tried to secure federal funds for this project? If yes, describe briefly. *

No

Have you applied for Community Project Funding in the past for this project? *

Yes

No

If you have applied for Community Project Funding in the past for this project, which Fiscal Year(s) and which Member(s) of Congress/Congressional District(s)? *

N/A

Have you submitted this project for consideration by a US Senator or another U.S. Representative for FY26? *

Yes

No

If marked YES in previous question, please list which US Senator/Representative? *

N/A

If you are making more than one Community Project Funding Request with this office, please rank this request in order of priority. (Ex: 2/5 for second highest priority out of five requests) *

2/3

Indicate the eligible federal grant program this project falls underneath and explain why it is eligible. Please cite the Code of Federal Regulations or a federal government website/document/publication.

Economic Development Initiatives (EDIs) - Purchase or lease of land for the storage of dredged material meets eligibility standards of section 5305 of chapter 69 of title 42, United States Code, which states: "Activities assisted under this chapter may include ... provision of public services, including but not limited to those concerned with ... welfare or recreation needs, if such services have not been provided by the unit of general local government." This project would provide a critical component required to enact the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority's municipally operated regional dredging program, providing dredging to maintain navigable channels as a public service to commercial watermen who rely on channel navigability for subsistence fishing, recreational boaters, local landowners, and others who access the Middle Peninsula's shallow-draft channels for recreational needs.

Select Subcommittee of Jurisdiction. *

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies

Homeland Security

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

These questions are required by and worded as requested by the subcommittee of jurisdiction.

Account

- DOT: Transportation Infrastructure Projects
- DOT: Highway Infrastructure Projects
- DOT: Airport Improvement Program
- DOT: Port Infrastructure Development Program Projects
- DOT: Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement Projects
- HUD: Economic Development Initiative

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Project Name

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Project Recipient

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: general description and scope of project, including benefits and explanation for why project is a priority.

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Total project cost

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Has the project completed the required review(s) under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)? If yes, what is the status and/or outcome of the NEPA review?

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for capital projects?

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: If the project receives less than requested for the transit infrastructure projects, are there additional sources of Federal or non-Federal funding available to deliver the full scope presented in the submitted application? If not, and the full scope cannot be completed with that reduced award, please describe the revised version of the project with a reduced scope, including revised costs.

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Does the project intend to apply for any DOT discretionary programs before proceeding? If yes, will the project sponsor still proceed if not selected?

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include formula funds and any discretionary grants.

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Where is the project in the construction process?

- Planning and Environmental Review
- Final Design
- RFP/IFB Issued
- Contract Awarded
- Capital Purchase or Lease
- Construction
- Other

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Estimated start and completion dates.

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Is the project currently on a state, tribal or territorial transportation improvement plan (STIP) or a transportation improvement plan (TIP) as of 12/31/2023? If yes, provide a link to the plan.

Transportation Infrastructure Projects only: Provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan the ID number comes from.

Bright Sand Industries Inc.
Silviculture Waste Conversion: High Carbon Soil Amendment and Nutrient Removal Process

Overview

Bright Sand Industries has developed a proprietary system to convert silviculture waste and invasive aquatic biomass (e.g., alligator weed) into a high-carbon, USDA Bio Preferred soil amendment and renewable energy. This solution directly supports Virginia's denitrification goals by removing nitrogen and phosphorus from the ecosystem while generating economic value from otherwise unmanaged biomass.

How It Works – Step-by-Step Process

1. **Feedstock Collection and Preparation**
 - *Silviculture Waste*: Tree tops, limbs, and brush are sourced from forest operations and storm cleanup.
 - *Alligator Weed*: Harvested from tributaries and wetlands of the Chesapeake Bay.
 - Materials are chipped and passed through a screw press to reduce excess moisture.
 2. **Drying Phase**
 - Biomass is air-dried or preheated to reach ~15–20% moisture, ensuring energy-efficient processing.
 3. **Thermal Conversion (Low-Oxygen Pyrolysis)**
 - Feedstock enters the Bright Sand Continuous Feed Processor operating at ~400°C in a low-oxygen chamber (rotary furnace).
 - This process stabilizes nitrogen and phosphorus while concentrating carbon in solid form.
 4. **Plasma Curtain and Gas Treatment**
 - Volatile gases pass through a high-energy plasma curtain, breaking down hydrocarbons and neutralizing pollutants (NO_x/SO_x).
 - CO₂ and other gases are scrubbed and optionally captured for credit generation or sequestration.
 5. **Final Products**
 - **High-Carbon Soil Amendment**: Sieved, cooled, and packaged for agricultural and horticultural use.
 - **Renewable Energy**: ~22 MWh/day is generated from syngas combustion for heat or electricity.
-

Nutrient Removal and Stabilization

- **Nitrogen Capture:** Nitrogen embedded in alligator weed is stabilized during conversion and bound into the solid amendment.
 - **Phosphorus Retention:** Plant-derived phosphorus remains bioavailable in the high-carbon matrix.
 - **Soil Enhancement:** Amendment improves soil structure, moisture retention, and slow nutrient release, reducing fertilizer demand.
-

Environmental and Economic Benefits

- **Supports Forest Health:** Removes low-value biomass and promotes sustainable silviculture.
 - **Improves Bay Water Quality:** Reduces aquatic overgrowth and eutrophication drivers.
 - **Creates Circular Economy:** Turns waste into a value-added product with strong retail and agricultural markets.
 - **Mobile Deployment:** Scalable mobile units allow for flexible processing near collection zones.
-

Conclusion

Bright Sand Industries offers a proven, modular solution to convert unmanaged woody and aquatic biomass into high-value soil amendments and clean energy. This approach not only meets DEQ's nutrient reduction targets but also supports local economies, forestry, and agriculture in a single integrated process.

Alligator Weed and Phragmites Pyrolysis for Nutrient Reduction, Biochar/Ash Crop Application, and Chesapeake Bay Protection

1. Executive Summary

Bright Sand Industries Inc proposes a 2 tons/h pyrolysis system to process a 50:50 mix of Alligator weed and Phragmites (17,520 tons/year) in Virginia's Chesapeake Bay watershed, reducing nonpoint source (NPS) pollution, generating nutrient credits, and applying biochar and ash to agricultural crops to prevent nutrient runoff and lower fertilization rates. Key features:

- Nutrient Sequestration: Produces 780 kg/h biochar (6833 tons/year, 1.25% N, 0.15% P) and 50 kg/h ash (438 tons/year, K/Ca-rich), sequestering 94 tons/year N, 11.3 tons/year P.
- Runoff Prevention: Biochar/ash reduce N runoff by 30–50%, P by 20–40% on treated fields.
- Fertilization Reduction: Lowers N/P fertilizer use by 20–40%, K/lime by 10–15%, saving ~\$50–\$100/ha/year.
- Nutrient Credits: Certifies ~94,000 lbs/year N, 11,300 lbs/year P, yielding ~\$441,060/year via Virginia's Nutrient Trading Program.
- Biochar Sales: Markets 6833 tons/year at \$150/ton wholesale, generating ~\$1,024,950/year.
- Invasive Species Control: Removes 17,520 tons/year of weed/reed.
- Energy Production: SOFC generates 1119 kWh/h net from syngas (~9.8 GWh/year).
- Total Revenue: ~\$1,466,010/year (credits + biochar), ensuring financial sustainability.

With a \$5.75M grant, we will deploy a regional facility in the Tidewater region, conduct crop trials to validate runoff and fertilizer reductions, and certify credits, delivering significant Chesapeake Bay restoration outcomes.

2. Project Description

2.1 Problem Statement

Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) and Phragmites (**Phragmites australis**) are invasive species clogging Virginia's waterways, releasing nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) during decay, which fuels algal blooms in the Chesapeake Bay. Traditional best management practices (BMPs) like cover crops or buffers are costly and limited in scope.

Farmers face high fertilization costs and struggle to manage runoff, exacerbating nonpoint source pollution. The DEQ's NPS Pilot Program seeks innovative, outcome-based solutions, and Virginia's Nutrient Trading Program offers a market to monetize nutrient reductions.

2.2 Proposed Solution

Our continuous-feed pyrolysis system (400°C) with a plasma curtain (600°C, 15 kHz pulsed, 341 kW) processes 2000 kg/h (1000 kg/h each Alligator weed and Phragmites) to:

- Produce Biochar: 780 kg/h (6833 tons/year, 86% C, 1.25% N, 0.15% P), sequesters nutrients, prevents runoff, and reduces fertilizer needs; sold at \$150/ton wholesale.
- Produce Ash: 50 kg/h (438 tons/year, K/Ca-rich), corrects soil pH, reduces P runoff, and supplements fertilizers; applied with biochar.
- Generate Syngas: 1040 kg/h, powers SOFC (1460 kWh/h gross, 1119 kWh/h net).
- Eliminate Bio-oil: Plasma curtain converts VOCs/CH₄ to H₂/CO, ensuring clean syngas.
- Certify Nutrient Credits: ~94,000 lbs/year N, 11,300 lbs/year P, sold via Nutrient Credit Exchange (~\$441,060/year).
- Conduct Crop Trials: Apply biochar (1–5 tons/ha) and ash (~0.3 tons/ha) to crops (e.g., corn, soybeans, wheat), demonstrating 30–50% N runoff reduction and 20–40% fertilizer savings.

2.3 Process Details

- Input: 2000 kg/h (50:50 mix, 30 kg/h N, 3 kg/h P, 930 kg/h C, 120 kg/h H, 870 kg/h O, 50 kg/h ash).

System:

- Pyrolysis: 400°C, low-oxygen, continuous-feed reactor.
- Plasma Curtain: 600°C, 15 kHz pulsed AC (5–30 kHz, 341 kW), 400 plates (1 m² each, 10 stacks).
- SOFC: Converts syngas to electricity.

Output:

- Biochar: 6833 tons/year (86% C, 1.25% N, 0.15% P, 6.7% ash).
- Ash: 438 tons/year (K: ~1–2%, Ca: ~0.5–1%, silica-rich).
- Syngas: 9110 tons/year (CO: 665 kg/h, H₂: 176 kg/h, CO₂: 163 kg/h, NH₃: 15 kg/h).

Site: Tidewater region, 6 acres, with Phragmites grinding capability.

2.4 Agricultural Application

Carbon rich Soil amendment:

- Runoff Prevention: High porosity and CEC (~25 cmol/kg) adsorb N/P, reducing N runoff by 30–50% and P by 20–40% (e.g., studies show 40% less nitrate leaching).
- Fertilizer Reduction: Supplies 94 tons/year N, 11.3 tons/year P (slow-release), cutting N/P fertilizer use by 20–40% (e.g., ~50–100 kg/ha less for corn).
- Yield Benefits: Enhances water retention and microbial activity, boosting yields by 10–20% (e.g., soybeans, wheat).

- Ash:

- Runoff Prevention: K/Ca bind soil, reducing P solubility (~10–20% less P runoff).
- Fertilizer Reduction: Supplies K/Ca, reducing potash/lime needs by 10–15% (e.g., ~20–30 kg/ha less for wheat).
- Soil pH: Raises acidic Virginia soils (pH 5–6) to 6.5–7, improving nutrient uptake.
- Application Rate: Biochar at 1–5 tons/ha, ash at ~0.3 tons/ha, treating ~1367–6833 ha/year (6833 ÷ 1–5).

3. Alignment with NPS Pilot Program and Nutrient Trading

NPS Pilot Program:

- Quantifiable Outcomes: Reduces ~94,000 lbs/year N and 11,300 lbs/year P through biochar sequestration, with crop trials validating 30–50% N and 20–40% P runoff reduction.
- Innovation: Combines pyrolysis, plasma catalysis, SOFC, and biochar/ash applications, surpassing traditional BMPs (e.g., cover crops, ~1000–5000 lbs/year N reduction).
- Chesapeake Bay Impact: Prevents nutrient pollution, restores waterways, and enhances agricultural sustainability.
- Nutrient Trading:

- Certifies ~94,000 lbs/year N and 11,300 lbs/year P under 9 VAC 25-900, generating ~\$441,060/year.

- Targets buyers like wastewater treatment plants or municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s, e.g., Arlington County) via the Virginia Nutrient Credit Exchange.

4. Environmental and Community Benefits

- Nutrient Reduction: Prevents ~94,000 lbs/year N and 11,300 lbs/year P, with 30–50% N and 20–40% P runoff reduction on treated fields.

- Fertilizer Savings: Reduces N/P fertilizer by 20–40%, K/lime by 10–15%, saving farmers ~\$50–\$100/ha/year.

- Carbon Sequestration: Biochar sequesters ~5858 tons/year C (~21,500 tons/year CO₂).

- Invasive Species Control: Removes 17,520 tons/year of Alligator weed and Phragmites, restoring wetlands and waterways.

- Agricultural Enhancement: Biochar/ash treat ~1367–6833 ha/year, improving soil health and crop yields.

- Energy Production: SOFC generates ~9.8 GWh/year net (~\$980,000/year at \$0.10/kWh, not included in base revenue).

- Community Benefits: Creates ~15–20 jobs (operators, harvesters, trial coordinators) and supports local farmers through affordable biochar (\$150/ton).

5. Budget

Total Requested: \$5,750,000 (1-year pilot).

Breakdown:

- Capital Costs (\$3,800,000):

- Pyrolysis reactor: \$1,500,000.

- Plasma system (400 plates, platinum-coated): \$1,000,000.

- SOFC unit: \$500,000.

- Drying/grinding equipment (for Phragmites): \$500,000.

- Facility setup (6 acres): \$300,000.
- Operational Costs (\$1,300,000):
 - Labor (15 staff, ~\$40,000/year): \$600,000.
 - Maintenance (reactor, plasma, SOFC): \$300,000.
 - Weed/reed collection and transport: \$400,000 (increased for crop trial logistics).
- Monitoring and Crop Trials (\$650,000):
 - Nutrient analysis (N/P in biochar, ash, soil): \$200,000.
 - Water quality testing (Bay tributaries): \$200,000.
 - Crop trials (100 ha, corn/soybeans/wheat): \$150,000.
 - Data reporting to DEQ: \$100,000.
- Cost per Pound: ~\$61/lb N ($\$5,750,000 \div 94,000$ lbs), offset by ~\$1,466,010/year revenue, competitive with BMPs (\$200–\$1000/lb).

6. Methodology

- Phase 1 (Months 1–3):
 - Select site in Tidewater region (6 acres, near weed/reed infestations).
 - Secure permits and procure equipment (reactor, plasma, SOFC, grinder).
 - Partner with Virginia Cooperative Extension and local farmers for crop trials.
- Phase 2 (Months 4–6):
 - Construct facility, install pyrolysis reactor, plasma curtain (400 plates), SOFC, and Phragmites grinder.
 - Prepare ~100 ha of trial fields (corn, soybeans, wheat) for biochar/ash application.
- Phase 3 (Months 7–12):
 - Operate system at 2000 kg/h, producing 780 kg/h biochar and 50 kg/h ash.
- Crop Trials:
 - Apply biochar at 1–5 tons/ha and ash at ~0.3 tons/ha to ~100 ha.

- Measure N/P runoff (lysimeters), fertilizer use (input tracking), and crop yields (e.g., bushels/ha).
 - Target 30–50% N runoff reduction, 20–40% P runoff reduction, 20–40% N/P fertilizer savings, and 10–15% K/lime savings.
 - Certify nutrient credits (~94,000 lbs/year N, 11,300 lbs/year P) via lab analysis (CHNS/O, leaching tests) and DEQ verification (9 VAC 25-900).
 - Sell soil amendment at \$150/ton to farmers/co-ops and credits via Nutrient Credit Exchange.
 - Monitor water quality in Bay tributaries (e.g., James River) for N/P reductions.
 - Partners: Virginia Cooperative Extension, local co-ops, Nutrient Credit Exchange, DEQ regional offices.
-

7. Expected Outcomes

- Nutrient Reduction:
 - Total: ~94,000 lbs/year N and 11,300 lbs/year P prevented via biochar sequestration.
 - Field Trials: 30–50% N runoff reduction, 20–40% P runoff reduction on ~100 ha.
- Fertilizer Savings: 20–40% less N/P fertilizer, 10–15% less K/lime, validated in trials, saving ~\$50–\$100/ha/year.
- Revenue: \$1,466,010/year (\$441,060 from nutrient credits, \$1,024,950 from biochar sales).
- Biochar and Ash: 6833 tons/year biochar and 438 tons/year ash, treating ~1367–6833 ha/year.
- Scalability: Model expandable to other invasive species (e.g., kudzu) or regions.

8. Compliance and Application Details

- NPS Pilot Program:
 - Comply with DEQ's scoring criteria (Table C, RFA), emphasizing innovation and cost-effectiveness.

- Nutrient Trading:

- Certify credits under 9 VAC 25-900, using lab-verified N/P sequestration data.
- Engage Virginia Nutrient Credit Exchange for credit sales.

9. Conclusion

Bright Sand Industries Inc] proposes a transformative solution to reduce NPS pollution in the Chesapeake Bay watershed by processing 17,520 tons/year of Alligator weed and Phragmites into biochar and ash, which are applied to agricultural crops to prevent 30–50% N and 20–40% P runoff and reduce fertilization rates by 20–40% (N/P) and 10–15% (K/lime). The system generates ~\$1,466,010/year from nutrient credits (\$441,060) and biochar sales (\$1,024,950 at \$150/ton), removes invasives, and produces 9.8 GWh/year net energy. With a \$5.75M grant, we will deploy a regional facility, conduct crop trials, and certify credits, delivering measurable, cost-effective outcomes for Chesapeake Bay restoration and setting a new standard for sustainable agriculture and invasive species management.

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MIDDLE PENINSULA PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION ORG CHART EXAMPLE 1

