

## **CZM Grant # NA09NOS419, Task 47**

### **Product 1: Local Government Coordination & Training Report**

#### **a. Regional Planning Directors Meeting Agendas**

1. October 28, 2009 (Attachment 1)
2. January 13, 2010 (Attachment 2)
3. April 14, 2010 (Attachment 3)
4. July 7, 2010 (Attachment 4)

#### **b. Coastal PDC Meeting Participation (3/15/10 & 7/13/2010)**

##### **GWRC Progress Report 7/13/2010: Virginia CZM Programs FFY2009-2010**

##### **Technical Assistance Grant:**

1. Training & Coordination:
  - Quarterly meetings with local planning directors
  - Assisted Caroline Co develop NFWF Small Watershed planning grant
  - Assisted Caroline Co develop Kodak Conservation Fund grant
2. Children & Nature Network Initiative
  - Conducted online survey in the region to identify community interest and potential stakeholders
  - Conducted kick-off meeting with stakeholders and interested parties
  - Steering Committee identified as priority initiatives:
    - Development of regional catalog of children & nature & environmental redaction/recreation opportunities (locations, programs, resources & events)
    - Develop "Kids Passport Program" to define outdoor activities which kids could do to get their CN&N "passport" stamped
  - Developing Google Earth info page for public to spatially browse locations throughout the region with links to website for more information
3. Green Government Commission Committee Support
  - Green Government Commission website: [www.gwgreengovt.org](http://www.gwgreengovt.org) (Next Page)
  - Green Building: coordinating HPwES program
  - Green Waste Management:
    - organizing regional school district source reduction & recycling symposium
    - working through Committee to assist private MRF proposal for Spotsylvania Co
    - studying Fredericksburg historic district for potential district commercial recycling program
    - analyzing existing local waste management & recycling programs for opportunities for localities to work together
  - Green Earth: working with PhotoScience Inc consultants and committee to develop regional greenway opportunities map, showing potential linkage routes between community activity centers (schools, parks, historic districts, etc).

##### **Focal Area Grant: Blue-Green Infrastructure Plan**

1. NOAA Remote Sensing Workshop: completed
2. Comparative Analysis of Impervious Surface Area Tools & Estimation Techniques: 85% complete...analysis done & report writing underway
3. CITYgreen User Training Workshop: completed
4. Regional Urban Ecosystem Analysis Report: completed (handout)
5. Develop & implement public outreach effort to explain work
  - Working on an online tool to explain program concepts & findings
  - Material being integrated into regional scenario planning focus group & public workshops being organized by FAMPO

*George Washington Regional Commission's*  
**Green Government Commission**

Home    Going Green    Green Buildings    Green Earth    Green Energy    Green Waste Management    Feedback

## Welcome

The Green Government Commission: Creating Green Policies that Protect our Planet, Save Money and Create Business Opportunities

The Green Government Commission was created by the [George Washington Regional Commission](#) in September 2007. The Commission is comprised of elected officials from each of GWRC's five jurisdictions which consists of [Caroline County](#), [City of Fredericksburg](#), [King George County](#), [Spotsylvania County](#) and [Stafford County](#) as well as members of the public having expertise in and passion for environmental issues.



One of the first projects we launched was an inventory of all the environmental initiatives underway by local governments throughout the region. From water, energy conservation and recycling efforts to incorporating "green" building plans in public facilities, we are please to find that the region was in the forefront on many "green" initiatives. But, we recognized that we could do more. So, to more forward and better manage our work, we broke down our activity into four activities:

- Green Building:** To coordinate low-impact development planning and sustainable construction practices.
- Green Energy:** To evaluate and promote alternative energy and conservation practices and technologies.
- Green Waste & Recycling:** To coordinate and enhance the region's recycling efforts in a cost-effective manner to reduce the overall level of waste through the promotion of recycling materials.
- Green Earth:** To promote good land-use, land conservation and water quality practices.

These activities all share a common theme of promoting and facilitating short- and long-term eco-friendly policies, as well as fostering economic development and creating green job opportunities in the region.

As we move forward, we will strive: to increase education of and outreach to our local residents on all things "green"; to facilitate constructive relationships and open dialogue with the private sector; and debunk myths that "green" techniques are too costly or of lesser quality than traditional methods or products.

The members of the Green Government Commission are excited about the work we're doing and the progress we've made - and the opportunities ahead! We welcome and invite public involvement...use our [Feedback](#) link to submit your ideas, comments or suggestions.

 This project was funded, in part, by the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program at the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality through Grant # NA09NOS419 of the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended.

 **Virginia Coastal Zone**  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

George Washington Regional Commission's  
Green Government Commission  
406 Princess Anne Street  
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### c. Other Environmental Meetings

1. George Washington Environmental Educators Mtg: Ferry Farm (12/1/09): Presentation on Children & Nature Network Initiative
2. Fredericksburg Area Celebration of Earth Day @ Alum Springs Park in Fredericksburg: GWRC set-up information booth about regional green government commission, coastal zone-funded programs, solicited public input to on-line survey on Children & Nature Network Initiative.

**GWRC Regional Planning Directors Meeting  
October 28, 2009**

**Attendance** (check off)

Wanda Parrish, Spotsylvania Co  
Jeff Harvey, Stafford Co  
Mike Finchum, Caroline Co  
Ray Ocel, Fredericksburg

Jack Green, King George Co  
Stephen Manster, Bowling Green  
Alex Long, Port Royal

**AGENDA**

1. GWRC FY 2009 Annual Report/Progress on Regional Strategic Plan Implementation (Handout)
2. Regional Scenario Planning process (Waple) – Handout
3. Regional All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Update Grant – Revised Application (Byrnes) – Handout
4. Discussion of Regional Application for pilot EECBG Grant from DMME for Home Performance with Energy Star  
Handout: “Recovery through Retrofit”
  - DMME EECBG Application: Due November 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm
  - EPA Energy Star Sponsorship Application – submit pending DMME grant award
  - DOE Funding Opportunity Announcement
    - a. Voluntary Letters of Intent Due Date: Nov 19, 2009
    - b. Application Due Date: Dec. 14, 2009 at 11:59 pm
5. CZM: Phase III Review Coordination Report – (Byrnes) Handout
  - Discuss plan for follow-up
6. APA Advocate: Legislation in Support of Regional Comp Planning & Livable Communities (Handout)
7. Local Roundtable Comments

**JAN 2010 Quarterly Meeting for Local Planning Directors**

**Attendance:** (X = present)

Wanda Parrish, Spotsylvania Co  
 Jeff Harvey, Stafford Co  
 Jack Green, King George Co  
 Mike Finchum, Caroline Co

Ray Ocel, City of Fredericksburg  
 Stephen Manster, Bowling Green  
 Alex Long, Port Royal  
 Kevin Byrnes, GWRC

**AGENDA:**

- 1) Distribution of Local Reference Copies of FY 2008-2009 CZM Project Reports
  - a. Technical Assistance Projects
  - b. Focal Area: Green Infrastructure Project
  - c. Va DGIF Project- Refining the Natural Heritage Data Sets (Handout)
- 2) Reporting the Phase III Study recommendations to GWRC Board & resolution for regional & local consideration (Byrnes)
  - a. See Item 1a, pages 7 – 72
  - b. Recommendations: pages 13 – 16
  - c. Ozone Non-Attainment Handout (attached) & proposed Amendment of Sec 15.2-961.1 of Code of Virginia (see TA Report, page 30)
- 3) Update on Regional Green Infrastructure & Conservation Corridor Planning & coordination with Spotsylvania Greenway Initiative & Forestry grant (Byrnes)
  - a. Handout...work session on ranking matrix on Feb 12, 8:30....**need local staff input**
- 4) Ideas for CZM Training Topics for 2010 – local suggestions:
  - Look at NOAA Coastal Science Center offerings
- 5) Local Roundtable Discussion....sharing issues, concerns & ideas
  - Port Royal: Need regional vision for leveraging regional location and assets to work with DOD for greater regional benefit from base installations in the region

- Stafford: Meeting convened by GWRC for local govt staff to meet with EPA in Stafford was very beneficial....EPA announced strategy to try to work with local govts in this region as a pilot for improved Chesapeake Bay performance.

- 6) Population Forecasts for Regional Scenario Planning Community Viz Inputs
- 7) WashCOG CAC meeting Thursday 1/14/10 on BRAC impacts and demographic trends in Washington DC MSA

### Attachment 3

#### Regional Planning Directors Quarterly Meeting Wed April 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am – 10:30 am

##### Attendance:

\_\_\_\_ Wanda Parrish, Spotsylvania Co  
 \_\_\_\_ Jeff Harvey, Stafford Co  
 \_\_\_\_ Mike Finchum, Caroline Co  
 \_\_\_\_ Jack Green, King George Co (or Kyle Conboy)  
 \_\_\_\_ Ray Ocel, Jr., City of Fredericksburg  
 \_\_\_\_ Stephen Manster, Town of Bowling Green

\_\_\_\_ Alex Long, Planning Commission Chair, Town of Port Royal

##### GWRC/FAMPO Staff:

\_\_\_\_ Kevin F Byrnes, GWRC  
 \_\_\_\_ Andy Waple, GWRC/FAMPO  
 \_\_\_\_ David Lee, GWRC/FAMPO  
 \_\_\_\_ Danny Reese, GWRC/FAMPO

##### Discussion Topics

1. Regional Scenario Planning Process & Local Planning (Waple & Byrnes, Handouts)
2. Stafford Co Experience: APA land use classification system (Jeff Harvey, Handout)
3. CZM Programs (Byrnes)
  - a. Progress on current GWRC CZM-funded projects
    - o Technical Assistance Grant
    - o Green Infrastructure Planning Grant
  - b. Submitted CZM proposals for FFY2010-2011
    - o Technical Assistance Grant
    - o Green Infrastructure Planning Grant
4. Status of Forestry grant (see Handouts) (Byrnes)
5. Local Roundtable...discussing local issues

### Attachment 4

#### GWRC Regional Planning Directors Meeting July 7, 2010: 3:30 – 5:00 pm

##### Attendance:

Jeff Harvey, Stafford Co  
 Wanda Parrish, Spotsylvania Co (Leon Hughes, Alternate)  
 Jack Green, King George Co  
 Mike Finchum, King George Co  
 Alex Long, Town of Port Royal  
 Stephen Manster, Town of Bowling Green

Ray Ocel, Jr., City of Fredericksburg  
 Kevin Byrnes, GWRC staff  
 Laurel Hammig, GWRC staff  
 Maria Gannett, GWRC Intern  
 Wade Dickinson, GWRC Intern  
 Lauren Leupold, Regional Governor's School Intern

##### Agenda:

#### I. GWRC CZM Project Updates

- d. Urban Ecosystem Analysis report (Kevin)
  - [http://www.gwrftp.org/Regional\\_Planning/Green\\_Govt/Green%20Earth/Urban%20Ecosystem%20Analysis%20GWRC%20Regional%20Report%20Final.pdf](http://www.gwrftp.org/Regional_Planning/Green_Govt/Green%20Earth/Urban%20Ecosystem%20Analysis%20GWRC%20Regional%20Report%20Final.pdf)
- e. ISAT impervious surface analysis (Wade & Laurel)  
 See: <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/isat/>

c. Regional Greenway analysis (Laurel)

**GWRC and MillionMile Greenway Project**

Background: The MillionMile Greenway (MMG) based in Atlanta, Georgia, aims to solve the problem of disconnected communities due to daily destruction of undeveloped land. MMG believes it is possible to achieve a balance between incredible population growth and conservation of land and water resources for parks, trails, and natural spaces. Connections can be made between communities and natural spaces across town, a county, or a region.

The MMG consulted with the George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC) on the methodology for obtaining stakeholder input into a “greenway” planning model. Based on the model inputs, the greenway model would illustrate a set of corridors to provide natural experiences through active recreational opportunities. In contrast, the previous green infrastructure “eco-corridors”, identified by GWRC in FY2009, focused on natural corridors for wildlife to travel between larger areas of natural habitat.

GWRC staff obtained local citizen and government staff input to identify the necessary model inputs through the Green Earth Subcommittee of GWRC’s Green Government Commission. GWRC staff provided the necessary spatial (GIS) data required to run the suitability models. MMG, through their technical partner PhotoScience Inc., took the GWRC data and performed a suitability analysis to determine the most suitable areas within the GWRC Region for new greenway development based on the input provided by GWRC stakeholders and the data provided by GWRC. The MMG technical team reviewed the preliminary results of this analysis with GWRC staff and provided additional technical input on the interpretation of preliminary model results.

MMG then provided the derived data sets to GWRC to use in local planning. Also, MMG hosted a webinar meeting to demonstrate and present the results of the greenway analysis. In the future, GWRC may perform routing analysis using the suitability maps provided as a result of this project. MMG has committed to providing GWRC with step-by-step documentation to explain how to perform the routing analysis in case GWRC chooses to pursue this additional analysis. MMG is also available to offer other technical support and answer any questions that GWRC may have when using or modifying this data.

- [http://www.gwrctf.org/Regional\\_Planning/Green\\_Govt/Green%20Earth/Greenway\\_Connections/](http://www.gwrctf.org/Regional_Planning/Green_Govt/Green%20Earth/Greenway_Connections/)
- See attached Notes of Committee work session

d. Children & Nature Network project (Maria)

- Kick-off meeting Highlights:
  - The group agreed that the first step was to build a “catalog” or comprehensive inventory. Non-profits with programs and local government staff will provide GWRC staff with program information within two weeks. GWRC staff will provide a template example of information needed on each program, place or resource.
  - The group agreed to meet in mid-July to look over a draft of the “catalog”, the related regional “passport program”, and an inventory of information received to date. Another meeting will be held in mid-September and then the group will move to meeting on a quarterly basis. Members who are unable to attend the meeting will be afforded the opportunity to provide electronic input. Ms. Rosenberg offered to spearhead the development of the passport program.
  - In the future, Ms. Blom suggested the group could collectively pursue large grants and offer smaller mini-grants to applicable organizations. Mr. Byrnes agreed and proposed that with regional collaboration growing out of this effort, an identified program need could be taken to a foundation or government agency to build the case for a large grant award to meet that
- Progress on Program Resource Inventory & Passport Program Development

e. **Regional Planning Grant under HUD Sustainable Communities Initiative (Kevin)**

- [Link to June 24<sup>th</sup> Press Release](#)
- [Link to NOFA Program Guidance Document](#)
- Program Goals: (from HUD NOFA Program Announcement)

“The goals of the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program are the following:

I. Foster the development of sustainable communities throughout the United States that are consistent with the following Livability Principles (see June 16, 2009, United States Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Greener Communities, Greater Opportunities: New Ideas for Sustainable Development and Economic Growth):

- Provide More Transportation Choices.* Develop safe, reliable, and affordable transportation choices to decrease household transportation costs, reduce energy consumption and dependence on foreign oil, improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote public health.
- Promote equitable, affordable housing.* Expand location- and energy-efficient housing choices for people of all ages, incomes, races, and ethnicities to increase mobility and lower the combined cost of housing and transportation.
- Enhance Economic Competitiveness.* Improve economic competitiveness through reliable and timely access to employment centers, educational opportunities, services, and other basic needs by workers, as well as expanded business access to markets.
- Support Existing Communities.* Target federal funding toward existing communities—through strategies like transit-oriented, mixed-use development, and land recycling—to increase community revitalization and the efficiency of public works investments and safeguard rural landscapes.
- Coordinate Policies and Leverage Investment.* Align federal policies and funding to remove barriers to collaboration, leverage funding, and increase the accountability and effectiveness of all levels of government to plan for future growth, including making smart energy choices such as locally generated renewable energy.

f. *Value Communities and Neighborhoods.* Enhance the unique characteristics of all communities by investing in healthy, safe, and walkable neighborhoods—rural, urban, or suburban.

2. Support metropolitan areas and multijurisdictional partnerships that commit to adopt integrated plans, strategies, and management tools to become more sustainable.

3. Facilitate strong alliances of residents and regional interest groups that are able to maintain a long-term vision for a region over time and simultaneously support progress through incremental sustainable development practices.

4. Build greater transparency and accountability into planning and implementation efforts.

5. Expedite implementation of the Livability Principles through changes in local zoning and land use laws and regulations that remove barriers to sustainable development for housing, economic development, transportation, and related water, sewer, and other environmental quality issues.

6. Align local, state, and tribal capital improvement programs with the Livability Principles.

7. Assist all regions to move toward sustainability and livability, and, for the regions that have shown a long-term commitment to sustainability and livability, prepare them for implementation and to demonstrate on-the-ground results. The participation of regions in the grant program will help the Federal Government to identify ways in which it can better support local and regional planning for sustainable outcomes and reduce redundant and conflicting federal requirements.

- **Funding Categories:**

“**Funding Categories.** Recognizing that areas are in different stages of achieving sustainability, HUD is establishing two funding categories:

**1. Category 1: Regional Plans for Sustainable Development** — Funds would support the preparation of Regional Plans for Sustainable Development that address housing, economic development, transportation, energy, water, and environmental quality in an integrated fashion where such plans do not currently exist or where they exist but need to be significantly revised or enhanced. Funds will: support stakeholder-driven visioning and scenario planning exercises that are intended to address and harmonize critical land uses and investment decisions, such as those for the location and the distribution of affordable housing, schools, and employment centers throughout the region; support cost-effective and sustainable transportation and water infrastructure investments; designate lands for conservation and ongoing agricultural use; and proactively consider risks from disasters and climate change. Applicants will be expected to work with HUD to identify a set of locally appropriate performance metrics that are consistent with the performance measures developed by the Sustainability Partnership and the Livability Principles that are listed in this NOFA.

**2. Category 2: Detailed Execution Plans and Programs** — Funds in this category would support efforts to fine-tune existing regional plans so that they address the full complement of Livability Principles in an integrated fashion, the preparation of more detailed execution plans for an adopted Regional Plan for Sustainable Development, and limited predevelopment planning activities for a catalytic project/projects that are a significant aspect of the regional plan, and that would demonstrate the strength of the efforts of the coalition to achieve sustainability through the regional planning process. Applicants will also be expected to outline implementation steps and ongoing governance assignments for the plan.

- **Funding Amount**

Medium-Sized Regions (PD 16): Population between 200,000 and 499,999 within the proposed geographic area. **Minimum grant of \$200,000 and maximum grant of \$2,000,000**, with a minimum of \$25 million awarded to Medium & Small Regions

- **Period of Performance.** The period of performance shall not exceed 36 months.

- **Cost Sharing or Matching.** Matching funds are not required. However, applicants must provide 20 percent of the requested funding amount in **leveraged resources** in the form of cash and/or verified in-kind contributions or a combination of these sources. Successful applicants must have the required amount of leveraged resources (20 percent) at the time of signing the cooperative agreement. In-kind contributions may be in the form of staff time, donated materials, or services. Please see Section VIII.C. for a list of possible in-kind contributions<sup>1</sup>. All assistance provided to meet this requirement must be identified by their dollar equivalent based upon accepted salary or regional dollar values. **Cash contributions** may come from any combination of **local, state, and/or federal funds**, and/or private and philanthropic contributions dedicated to the express purposes of this proposal. **Applicants will receive credit for leveraging resources greater than 20 percent of the requested amount**, as described in Section V., Rating Factor 4.

f. **Local Roundtable/ Planning Updates**

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<sup>1</sup> In-kind contributions can include physical items such as office supplies, computer equipment and supplies, materials for projects, and flyers and other marketing materials. They can also be in the form of office and meeting space, including allowed use of computers, the phones, fax and copy machines, or the use of a vehicle, construction equipment, and other project related items. In-kind contribution can also be contribution of professional time. When an individual donates his/her time in a professional capacity to supervise members, train or engage in member development, provide technical assistance on a project, evaluate a project, oversee project quality, or provide pro bono work as a member of the nonprofit organization on a permanent or temporary basis, the time involved is an in-kind contribution.