

Virginia's Working Waterfront Plan Recommendations

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Working Waterfronts Support

- * **Commercial fishing operations - large and small**
- * **Ship and boat building, maintenance and repair operations**
- * **Marine research facilities**
- * **Export and import facilities**
- * **Recreational boating and support**
- * **Marine transportation**
- * **US Navy operations**

Problem

Loss of or threat to traditional working waterfronts

Causes of Problem:

- * Natural – sea level rise, subsidence, global warming (increased threat of heightened natural disasters), channel siltation, shoreline erosion, water quality
- * Changing economic conditions and global competition
- * Land/water use conflicts
- * Inadequate institutional structures – governmental policies that pose barriers or do not adequately support working waterfront development – direct and indirect

Policy Matrix

* Level of action

- * Federal
- * State
- * Regional
- * Local
- * Private Sector

* Topic

- * Natural
- * Economic
- * Land/water use

* Type

- * Planning
- * Fiscal – taxation, expenditures
- * Regulatory
- * Developmental – Incentives, Institutions
- * Education
- * Research and data analysis

Recommendations

Federal Actions

- * **Congress should adopt a national Working Waterfront Preservation Act.**
- * **Congress should reinstate funding for the shallow channel-dredging program of the Army Corps of Engineers.**
- * **The US Maritime Administration should designate additional America's Marine Highway Program corridors in Virginia.**
- * **The National Park Service should more actively promote and highlight working waterfronts along the Captain John Smith Chesapeake Bay Historic Trail.**

Recommendations

General Assembly Actions

- * **Working Waterfront Preservation Act,**
- * **Legislative study commission - review the long-term viability of Virginia's working waterfronts,**
- * **Shallow channel dredging matching grant program,**
- * **Marine motor fuel tax and other marine related taxes/fees to working waterfront improvements,**
- * **Enable localities to establish Working Waterfront Development Areas,**
- * **Enable localities to classify commercial fishing vessels and related equipment as a separate class of personal property,**
- * **Expand the Port of Virginia Economic and Infrastructure Development Fund to include private investment a smaller commercial harbors,**
- * **Establish a state Working Waterfront Preservation income tax credit.**

Recommendations Governor's Actions

- * **Establish priority for working waterfront improvements in numerous State administered grant**
- * **Evaluate the impacts of State storm water and Chesapeake Bay Act regulations on working waterfronts**
- * **Charge the Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency with the long-term planning for the resiliency of working waterfronts of regional importance.**

Recommendations

Other State Actions

- * **VA Port Authority - expand funding for small port and harbor improvement throughout Tidewater Virginia**
- * **Continue active fishery resource management and Chesapeake Bay cleanup programs**
- * **Establish adequate workforce development programs and facilities for the changing marine related industries.**

Recommendations

Regional Actions

- * **Coastal PDC's should:**
 - * **Research and planning for the preservation and redevelopment of working waterfronts,**
 - * **Technical assistance - preservation and redevelopment of working waterfronts,**
 - * **Test demonstration organizations/sites for working waterfront preservation methods,**
 - * **Create loan funds for commercial waterfront development and equipment financing.**
- * **Public Access Authorities - future acquisition and development of select working waterfront sites.**

Recommendations

Local Government Actions

- * **Adopt a working waterfront policy,**
- * **Establish permissive, by right, zoning policies,**
- * **Establish favorable local taxation policies that (personal property, real estate, BPOL, and machinery and tools taxes),**
- * **Review shoreline zoning provisions,**
- * **Establish development incentives,**
- * **Invest in the development of select working waterfronts,**
- * **Use development districts (EZ, Technology Zone, CDA, TIF, etc.) to achieve the desired development,**
- * **Plan for adaptation and resiliency of public facilities along the waterfront.**

Recommendations

Private Sector Actions

- * Education of the public, community leaders and decision makers on the importance of our working waterfronts to our economy and our culture,**
- * Conduct sufficient succession planning to ensure continuation of marine businesses,**
- * Plan for the resiliency of private waterfront businesses at our working waterfronts,**

Working Waterfront Plan Recommendations

That's All Folks!

Questions?