

# CRATER PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

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## **Crater PDC Environmental Resource Management Task Force FY22 CZM & FY23 WIP Phase III**

Wednesday, May 31, 2023  
1:00pm to 3:00pm  
Digital Meeting and Conference Call

### **MEETING MINUTES**

*In attendance (14):* Jay Ellington (Crater PDC); Ron Svejkovsky (Tri-Cities MPO); Gabi Kinney (Wetlands Watch); Prarthana Rao (City of Colonial Heights); Michael Rae (City of Emporia); Kelly Davis (City of Hopewell); Darryl E. Walker, Darryl Tabor (City of Petersburg); Brett Meadows (Chesterfield County); Lin Pope (Greensville County); Angela Blount (Prince George County); Michael Zehner, Luke Peters, Nadya Syazsa (The Berkley Group)

#### Meeting Summary:

The May meeting of the Environmental Resource Management Task Force (ERMTF) includes an overview of upcoming rounds of grants and funding opportunities as well as a roundtable discussion regarding regional data collection amongst the ERMTF members.

#### **Regional Updates on WIP and CZM**

- FOLAR will be holding a benefit event tomorrow (June 1<sup>st</sup>) – with music, beer, and wine, and tour of a historic house in Petersburg. Tickets are sold at the door for \$50 to benefit FOLAR and there will also be an award ceremony – one of which goes to Crater PDC’s own Ron Svejkovsky.
  - FOLAR is to also share their Invasive Species Plan – with hopes of rolling it out completely in August.
    - There is more talk recently of utilizing native plants in landscaping – but not much discussion on maintenance, such as how to keep out the invasive species.
- CZM quarterly meeting hosted by MPPDC last week – many of the agenda items were related to coastal issues

- NOAA to release funding opportunities to upgrade culverts and aquatic organism/fish passages – Rachel Peabody (VRMC) help coordinate with VDOT in figuring out how to attain the funding best
  - Ron (Crater MPO) – map out different areas that may need to be upgraded – to prepare an application for this funding opportunity
  - LP – there is a tool from the Nature Conservancy to show blockages to fish passage – could be added to the data hub already started by CPDC.
    - <https://maps.freshwaternetwork.org/chesapeake/>
  - VDOT has a list of culverts and fish passage/stream crossings (including existing conditions, when it was last inspected, etc.)
  - Match may be appreciated – but not required; Curt Smith (MPPDC) figuring out on how VDOT may administer these grants. Ron Svejksky has information on culvert conditions collected for the LRTP.
- CZM Program updates:
  - Likely getting total budget cut (\$2-3MM), though they might receive more money for administrative purposes through non-competitive grants (e.g. \$900k over 5 years).
  - Federal agencies are preparing to use the BIL money by releasing several funding opportunities – two larger ones discussed:
    - \$57MM in competitive grants coming down the pipeline
    - Large federal NOFO for “transformational habitat restoration” – actual grant TBA
  - Jeff Flood – becomes the primary contact at DEQ (with Will Isenberg at paternity leave)
- Speaker on USDA grants for next meeting (potentially)

## Regional Projects and Data Collection

- Gathering data from localities and collating it to make it beneficial for the localities themselves, such as:
  - **Chesapeake Bay Land Cover Project**, including data such as street midline, building footprint, impervious surfaces, local land use, crop v. pasture lands, etc.
    - This type of data has only been shared from Prince George Co.
    - Calling to other localities to share their data – would be useful for long-term planning, inform regional cooperation to help attain grants

- However, how does this data collection actually land on the priority list for the localities? Use ‘impervious surfaces’ for example:
  - Darryl Walker (Petersburg) – when the City started the Stormwater Utility Program, external consultant mapped out the impervious surfaces in the City, to determine these surfaces in residential areas
    - This layer was created for ALL city parcels – though it has not been updated since 2013, i.e., new development with impervious surfaces would not be automatically added into the GIS map layer
  - Kelly Davis (Hopewell) – May be worth looking into regional planimetric mapping to get fine-grained and accurate GIS data – a different locality she worked for had done this as part of a PDC-level mapping effort
    - There is another dataset that includes impervious and land cover data from 2018; <https://www.chesapeakeconservancy.org/conservation-innovation-center/high-resolution-data/lulc-data-project-2022/>
    - LP to contact the Planning Department and GIS analysts at Hopewell to collect data on these facilities
  - Angela Blount (Prince George Co) – new development would have to submit a Land Disturbance Permit (to be sent to DEQ monthly – include location and parcel numbers), which then help populate the GIS layer map with details including building footprint, impervious surfaces (not initially, though when the development is completed the GIS analysts then insert the proper information into the map)
  - Ron Svejksky (CPDC) – in relation to the impervious surfaces, the PDC is developing a multi-modal transportation plan to include sidewalk data
  - Brett Meadows (Chesterfield Co) – first involvement with the ERMTEF, may need to be more familiar with the existing data and get back to the group
    - **GeoSpace** tool that includes impervious surface dataset, covers type (e.g., paved roads, sidewalks)
      - [https://opengeospace.chesterfield.gov/datasets/86d3595104df4edd9c1848edfddd104c\\_1/about](https://opengeospace.chesterfield.gov/datasets/86d3595104df4edd9c1848edfddd104c_1/about)
      - A separate building footprints layer/dataset: [https://opengeospace.chesterfield.gov/datasets/6ed48d4a8cfa4f55ace33bc57b79765c\\_0/explore](https://opengeospace.chesterfield.gov/datasets/6ed48d4a8cfa4f55ace33bc57b79765c_0/explore)
  - Lin Pope (Greensville Co) – Many of the data points for the County are maintained by VDOT, and so given the time, the County can potentially gather this data to create these maps (e.g., dams, reservoirs)

- Michael Rae (City of Emporia) – Representatives from the USACE to collect the data and help with mapping needs for the City
- CFPF grants relying more on data on **LMI households** – useful to map out the LMI areas within the Crater region, can be separated by ZIP Codes/neighborhoods or by localities
  - Using different determination of LMI – what makes up the LMI factor
- **Location and types of BMPs** – would be useful to collate and be shared to create a larger map with projects at the PDC-level
  - Include stormwater infrastructure and similar assets
  - Timmons Group is performing Petersburg’s mapping for the citywide drainage study
- Multi-modal study:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> year – Needs assessment & inventory; Since Jay Ruffa’s departure, Ron has taken up the position of GIS manager and currently hiring more planners to help start building the project

### **Additional Information**

- Gabi Kinney (Wetlands Watch) – Trees Fund is still open until July 7th; approximately \$80,000 split evenly for tree planting and resilience projects
  - <https://wetlandswatch.org/coastal-resilience-trees-fund?rq=VOF>
- Additional information from Reggie Tabor (City of Petersburg):
  - Links from APA Webinar on Chesapeake Bay: Data Dashboard Homepage
    - <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=1c929ee315874d999f90949710a6c19e>
  - Targeting Restoration Module
    - <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=1c929ee315874d999f90949710a6c19e>

With no other businesses to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:20pm.

**Next meeting – June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 1:00pm**