

Loudoun County, Virginia

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Office of the County Administrator 1 Harrison Street, S.E., 5th Floor, P.O. Box 7000, Leesburg, VA 20177-7000 Telephone (703) 777-0200 • Fax (703) 777-0325

At a business meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Loudoun County, Virginia, held in the County Government Center, Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room, 1 Harrison St., S.E., Leesburg, Virginia, on Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

IN RE:

TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE COMMITTEE REPORT: PHASE II
WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (WIP)- RESPONSE TO THE
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
(DCR) (COUNTYWIDE)

Mr. Buona moved that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Chairman to send the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation a letter (Attachment 1 of the October 2, 2013 staff report) that generally describes the County's Phase II WIP Work plan, significant findings of the Work Plan process, and the support needed from the state of Virginia and the federal government.

Seconded by Mrs. Volpe.

Voting on the Motion: Supervisors Buona, Clarke, Delgaudio, Higgins, Letourneau, Reid, Volpe, Williams and York - Yes; None-No.

DEPUTY CLERK FOR THE LOUDOUN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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October 2, 2013

David Johnson, Director

Department of Conservation and Recreation
600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

RE: Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On behalf of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors, I would like to provide you with information on Loudoun County's planning efforts related to the Phase II Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP).

In a letter to me dated November 9, 2011, you requested that the County develop preferred scenarios and strategies for meeting Phase II WIP local pollution reduction goals. You also requested that the County provide DCR with resource needs necessary to implement local scenarios and strategies. In response to this request, I sent a letter (attached) indicating that the County intended to develop scenarios and strategies through a public process. I am pleased to report that this extensive process is complete and the results are described below.

In May of 2012, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors approved a work plan to develop a reasonable and cost effective approach for meeting the local pollution reduction goals of the Phase II WIP. The plan included roles, responsibilities and potential actions of a Steering Committee, Technical Advisory Committee, Stakeholder Committee and the community. This process resulted in a mix of best management practices (BMPs) that could be implemented in Loudoun County through 2025.

Detailed information on the work plan, scenarios, and strategies can be found at www.loudoun.gov/wip. Some of the important findings identified during the process include:

- Agricultural BMPs are very cost-effective and therefore could be heavily relied upon to meet pollution reduction goals in Loudoun County. However, due in part to minimal local authority to require BMP implementation, efforts to meet local pollution reduction goals will primarily be voluntary.
- There are numerous BMPs that improve water quality but do not receive pollution reduction credit. Approval of additional BMPs would greatly improve the County's ability to meet local pollution reduction goals.
- Urban stormwater BMPs can be implemented in accordance with Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit requirements.
- The current level of agricultural cost-share funding for existing programs and initiatives is not sufficient to support the level of effort necessary to meet local pollution

- reduction goals. In Loudoun County, an estimated additional \$14,000,000 in cost-share funding through 2025 would be necessary to fund cost-share BMPs (in 2012 dollars).
- The Phase II WIP will have a significant potential financial impact on the County and its citizens. The estimated impact for meeting local pollution reduction goals in Loudoun County is estimated to be approximately \$180,000,000 (in 2012 dollars) through 2025.

In summary, Loudoun County will continue to work towards meeting Phase II WIP local pollution reduction goals by: administering and promoting agricultural cost-share programs, administering urban stormwater programs in accordance with MS4 permit requirements, leveraging existing water quality improvement efforts, promoting volunteer and voluntary water quality improvement efforts, and educating our citizens about the Phase II WIP.

It is clear that the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) will have a significant financial impact on localities and that substantial support from the state and federal government is needed. The County requests that Virginia and the federal government assist localities in meeting local pollution reduction goals by:

- Increasing funding to the agricultural cost-share programs and other cost-effective BMPs.
- Approving additional BMPs that improve water quality such as conservation easements and alternative onsite sewage systems.
- Developing a central data system that accounts for all BMPs across all sectors and programs. The system should make it possible for smaller volunteer and community efforts to be accounted for and tracked.

The County appreciates the opportunity to update you on our planning efforts to date.

Sincerely

SCOLL TOLK

Chairman

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

cc: Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
Tim Hemstreet, County Administrator

James Davis-Martin, Department of Environmental Quality