



**Virginia Port Authority (VPA)
Board of Commissioners Meeting
May 2015**

The Aid to Local Ports Fund appropriation, derived from the Port of Virginia’s share of the Commonwealth Transportation Fund, is \$1,000,000 for FY2016. In addition, VPA has an estimated \$2,132,297.98 in FY 2015 grant funds available as a carryover.

VPA staff met most of the potential grant applicants on February 20, 2015 during the Aid to Local Ports annual meeting. This preliminary meeting is held to determine the amount and nature of the likely grant requests.

The following chart lists the localities that are requesting grants this fiscal year and staff recommendations for funding those requests.

	FY2016 Requested	FY2016 Recommended
City of Chesapeake	\$75,000	\$56,250
City of Newport News	\$1,000,000	\$638,293
City of Poquoson	\$150,000	\$112,500
City of Portsmouth	\$250,000	\$187,500
Isle of Wight County	\$100,000	\$10,000
Northampton County	\$30,000	\$22,500
Town of Saxis	\$281,000	\$173,672
Town of Wachapreague	\$10,000	\$0
Total	\$1,896,000	\$1,200,715

Staff Recommendations

City of Chesapeake (Elizabeth River Park) Requesting \$75,000

The City of Chesapeake is requesting \$75,000 for a fishing pier dock replacement at Elizabeth River Park. The pier serves as a dock for special events and the City of Chesapeake proposes that installing new decking on the pier will provide a safe surface for visitors. The City suggests that not re-decking the pier would also have a negative impact on the local economy because commercial crabbers/fishermen use the facility on a regular basis to supply their seafood shops.

The staff recommends that this request for a grant be approved up to \$56,250.

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City of Newport News (Seafood Industrial Park) **Requesting \$1,000,000**

The City of Newport News is requesting \$1,000,000 for the replacement of the west bulkhead at the Seafood Industrial Park (SIP). SIP is a major seafood landing and marine activity port along the East Coast and has ranked as high as third busiest seafood port in the nation. With the deterioration of the bulkhead the use of it has drastically dropped from 81% of SIPs mooring fees in 1997 to 11%. If it is not replaced it will continue to deteriorate until vessels can no longer moor there.

The staff recommends that this request for a grant be approved up to \$638,292.

The City of Poquoson (Messick Point) **Requesting \$150,000**

The City of Poquoson is requesting \$150,000 for breakwaters at Messick Point. Wave action at Messick Point continues damaging boats and causing hazards. The marina location is a direct path from the storms of the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean and requires protection to make it viable. City staff has been informed that if a breakwater cannot be built, the tenants will no longer be able to maintain efforts to make the property successful.

The staff recommends that this request for a grant be approved up to \$112,500.

The City of Portsmouth (City Park) **Requesting \$250,000**

The City of Portsmouth is requesting \$250,000 for a pier in City Park. The proposed pier will be open to the public and will offer fishing lessons for more than 15,000 school-aged youth within the City.

Currently, there are no places designated within the park or within the city limits for citizens to crab or fish. Economic benefits will be gained from the educational programs, tourism dollars, and the bait shop.

The staff recommends that this request for a grant be approved up to \$187,500.

Isle of Wight County (Tyler's Beach) **Requesting \$100,000**

Isle of Wight County is requesting \$100,000 for dredging at Tyler's Beach. The project will be completed using 100% federal funds, but the county is responsible for 10% cost sharing up front. The County has an anticipated need of \$10,000 for the 10% cost share and \$90,000 to purchase the pipeline easements from private land owners.

The staff recommends that this request for a grant be approved up to \$10,000.

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Northampton County (Willis Wharf) **Requesting \$30,000**

Northampton County is requesting \$30,000 to further fund the dredging project at the County Marina at Willis Wharf. The marina provides mooring for local working watermen, charter boats and boaters. The county is unable to rent over half of the boat slips due to the buildup of sediment.

The staff recommends that this request for a grant be approved up to \$22,500.

Town of Saxis (Harbor Project) **Requesting \$281,000**

The Town of Saxis is requesting \$281,000 for a new septic system at the harbor, a building to house restrooms, a pavilion, and for engineering costs. Funding for harbor restroom facilities would allow the Town of Saxis to maintain and grow revenue for their harbor. The project would begin August 2015 and be completed by November 30, 2015.

The staff recommends that this request for a grant be approved up to \$173,672.

Town of Wachapreague (Miscellaneous Repairs) **Requesting \$10,000**

The Town of Wachapreague is requesting \$10,000 for dock structural repairs and any unforeseen minor and miscellaneous repair needs that may arise during the year.

The staff recommends that this request for a grant be denied.

Other ALP Matters

There are eight remaining matters for the Board's consideration in connection with the Aid to Local Ports. The following port communities have requested carryover of funding from FY15 into FY16:

The City of Norfolk requests to carryover funds until June 30, 2016 for the Nauticus dock, pier and gangway project. Its previous balance estimated to be \$400,000.

The County of Accomack requests to carryover funds until June 30, 2016 for the Quinby Harbor and the Harborton Barge Wharf. Its previous balance estimated to be \$450,301.

The County of Northampton requests to carryover funds until June 30, 2016 for dredging at Willis Wharf Marina. Its previous balance estimated to be \$92,150.

The Town of Cape Charles requests to carryover funds until June 30, 2016 for the completion of offshore breakwaters and the bath house. Its previous balance estimated to be \$830,250.

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The Town of Saxis requests to carryover funds until June 30, 2016 to be used toward the new project. Its previous balance estimated to be \$37,077.65.

The Accomack-Northampton Transportation District Commission (ANTDC) requests to carryover funds until June 30, 2016 for a potential carfloat operation. Its previous balance estimated to be \$200,715.33.

The Town of Onancock requests to carryover funds until June 30, 2016 for new fuel tanks. Its previous balance estimated to be \$63,879.06.

The Town of Tangier requests to carryover funds until June 30, 2016 for dock and bulkhead repairs. Its previous balance estimated to be \$57,925.

The staff recommends the above requests be approved with the exception of Accomack-Northampton Transportation District Commission (ANTDC). The staff recommends ANTDC reapply next fiscal year.