



**MIDDLE PENINSULA
PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**

COMMISSIONERS

Essex County

*Mr. John Clickener
Hon. Margaret H. Davis
Hon. John C. Magruder*

Town of Tappahannock

Hon. Roy M. Gladding

Gloucester County

*Hon. Ashley C. Chriscoe
(Vice-Chairman)
Dr. William G. Reay
Hon. Michael R. Winebarger*

King and Queen County

*Hon. Sherrin C. Alsop
Hon. R. F. Bailey
Mr. Thomas J. Swartzwelder
(Chairman)*

King William County

*Hon. David E. Hansen
Hon. Travis J. Moskalski
(Treasurer)
Mr. Eugene J. Rivara
Ms. Bobbie Tassinari*

Town of West Point

Hon. Jack Lawson

Mathews County

*Hon. George C. Morrow
Mr. Thornton Hill
Hon. Marion C. Love
Ms. Melinda Conner*

Middlesex County

*Mr. Gordon E. White
Hon. Wayne H. Jessie, Sr.
Mr. Matthew L. Walker
Ms. Kathleen Swinehart*

Town of Urbanna


*Hon. Steve Hollberg
Ms. Holly Gailey*

Secretary/Director

Mr. Lewis L. Lawrence

MEMORANDUM

TO: MPPDC Board of Commissioners

FROM: Lewis Lawrence, Executive Director 

DATE: April 17, 2018

RE: April Commission Meeting

The Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission will host its monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Regional Board Room at the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission office in Saluda.

Enclosed are the April meeting agenda and supporting materials for your review prior to the meeting.

If you have any questions concerning material in your agenda packet, please give me a call at 804-758-2311 or email me at LLawrence@mppdc.com.

I look forward to seeing you on **April 25th**!

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***Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission
Meeting***

7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

125 Bowden Street

Saluda VA 23149

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Approval of March Minutes
- III. Approval of March Financial Reports
- IV. Executive Director's Report on Staff Activities for the Month of April
- V. MPCBPAA Update
- VI. MPA Update
- VII. Public Comment

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- VIII. Presentation on 2018 General Assembly by Robert Crockett, Advantus Strategies
- IX. Socialnomics: Is the Middle Peninsula Ready?
- X. Other Business
- XI. Adjournment

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MIDDLE PENINSULA PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

March 28, 2018
Saluda, Virginia

I. Welcome and Introductions

The monthly meeting of the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission was held in the Regional Board Room at the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission office in Saluda, Virginia on Wednesday, March 28, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. MPPDC Chairman Thomas Swartzwelder welcomed everyone in attendance.

Commissioners Present

Essex County: John Magruder, Margaret “Prue” Davis

King and Queen County: Tom Swartzwelder

King William County: Bobbie, Tassinari, Travis Moskalski, Eugene Rivara, David Hansen

Mathews County: Melinda Conner, G.C. Morrow, Marion Love, Tim Hill

Middlesex County: Gordon White

Town of Urbanna: Holly Gailey

Commissioners Absent

Essex County: John Clickener

King and Queen County: R.F. Bailey, Sherrin Alsop

Gloucester County: Ashley Chriscoe, Michael Winebarger, Dr. Willy Reay

Middlesex County: Matt Walker, Wayne Jessie

Town of Urbanna: Steve Hollberg

Town of West Point: Jack Lawson

Also in Attendance

Lewis Lawrence, MPPDC Executive Director

Beth Johnson, MPPDC Finance Director

Dawn Kirby, MPPDC Secretary

II. Approval of February Minutes

Chairman Swartzwelder asked whether there were any corrections or changes to the February Minutes. There being no corrections to the Minutes, Chairman Swartzwelder requested a motion to approve the February Minutes. Mr. Magruder moved that the February Minutes be approved. Mr. Rivara seconded the motion; motion carried.

III. Approval of February Financial Report

Chairman Swartzwelder asked whether there were any questions regarding the February financial report before being approved subject to audit. There being no questions, Chairman Swartzwelder requested a motion to approve the February financial report subject to audit. Mr. Rivara moved to approve the February financial report subject to audit. Mr. Moskalski seconded the motion; motion carried.

IV. Executive Director's Report on Staff Activities for the Month of March

Chairman Swartzwelder requested MPPDC Executive Director, Lewie Lawrence review the Executive Director's Report on Staff Activities for the month of March. The Executive Director's Report on staff activities is developed at a monthly staff meeting, organized by PDC Service Centers, and the activities are used to report grant funding activities.

Mr. Lawrence directed Commissioners' attention to several items:

- Consulted with Gary Artybridge, Newport News Shipbuilding regarding number of MP residents working at the shipyard. Information was requested by Delegate Hodges. There is a formal process to obtain the information. Mr. Artybridge expedited the request and information was forwarded to Delegate Hodges:
 - 1082 = 2.4% total MP workers
 - 824 = 5.3% Gloucester workforce
 - 105 = 3.3% Mathews workforce
 - 70 = .9% Middlesex workforce
 - 32 = .8% King and Queen workforce
 - 39 = .4% King William workforce
 - 12 = .2% Essex workforce
- Consulted with Sherrin Alsop, President of VACo with VACo-sponsored event to showcase Middle Peninsula region to take place at Captain Sinclairs Landing Recreational Area in April. MPPDC staff will help to organize the event and procure needed equipment and refreshments. Mr. Lawrence told the Commission he expects to have guest speakers from the MPCBPAA and VIMS and will provide a menu consisting of oysters and crabs in an effort to provide attendees a feel for what it's like to live in the Middle Peninsula.
- Consulted with Robert Gray, Chief of the Pamunkey Indian Tribe concerning an inquiry of land donation to the Tribe. Discussed how the Virginia Conservation Tax Credit program works and possible concerns that the Tribe may want to research. Mr. Lawrence explained that a donor was interested in donating land to the Tribe and gave examples as to the benefits to both parties involved.
- Convened a meeting with Joan Salvati, Manager, Local Government Assistance Programs DEQ – Water Planning Division concerning Bay Act compliance review at the local level and the need for agricultural BMP data collection requirements for which Soil and Water Conservation Districts have, but are reluctant to provide to the localities.
- Visited and inspected a High Pressure Processing (HPP) company with HPP equipment for oyster processing located in Topping, Virginia. HPP is a revolutionary process that simultaneously shucks the oysters and reduces the *Vibrio* bacteria to non-detectable levels without using any heat and does not

change the taste and texture of the product. Mr. Lawrence stated the company has already received certification by the Department of Health and has the ability to process 60,000 oysters a day.

- Participated in a water based economic development prospect visit. The client is interested in developing a technology to assist with dredging and sediment placement. Mr. Lawrence stated that the region is already beginning to get the attention of dredging companies - an example of water-based economic development potential.
- Met with Matt Strickler, Secretary of Natural Resources for the Commonwealth of Virginia to discuss issues and opportunities related to the blue and green assets of rural coastal Virginia.
- Consulted with Anita Powell, External Affairs Representative with Dominion Power concerning residential accounts with power turned off for more than a year to be used as a possible indicator of a vacant or dilapidated residential structure. Dominion will research and determine if they can provide a data set. Mr. Lawrence said Dominion Power has since provided a database for the last 5-10 years. The legal owners of record will be contacted to determine why the property is dilapidated or vacant. Information will be shared with William & Mary Law School to find out what other states are doing to solve this issue.

V. MPCBPAA Update

Mr. Lawrence, Executive Director provided the Commission with an update on the current activity of the PAA.

- Eco-Business
Consociate Media was contacted as to how to publicly promote and bring in marketers to translate for business activity.
- Donations
Recently closed on 15 islands (Guinea Marshes) in Gloucester County donated to the PAA.
- VOF Grant
Received Virginia Outdoor Foundation (VOF) grant for \$180,000 to put public access easement on Captain Sinclairs Landing Recreational Area in hopes of encouraging recreation and business use and bring revenue back to the county. Funds will be used for infrastructure improvements.

VI. MPA Update

Travis Moskalski, Chairman of the MPA provided the Commission with an update on the current activity of the MPA. Tim Ryan, Director of the Greater Williamsburg Launchpad, a business incubator/accelerator was the guest speaker at the March board meeting. The second tourism workshop headed by Roy Gladding is set to take place. The first workshop was well attended with 17 participants. PamunkeyNet

has received funding and is the only broadband project to receive funding from GO Virginia. An Advisory Committee will be appointed. Initiated business implementation strategy. Two businesses, Revere Gas and Consociate Media have already signed on to a 3 year agreement. Revere Gas was the initial cash investor with a max cash amount. The MPA will continue working to bring in more private investors. Mr. Magruder made a motion for the Commission to send a letter of thanks to Carlton Revere for his support to the MPA. Mr. Moskalski seconded the motion; motion carried.

VII. Public Comment

None.

VIII. Presentation of FY 19 Rural Transportation Program Scope and Adoption of Resolution

Lewie Lawrence, Executive Director reviewed the Rural Transportation Program Scope of Work and Resolution authorizing the MPPDC to contract with VDOT for rural transportation planning efforts. State Planning and Research (SPR) funds in the amount of \$58,000 are being made available to the MPPDC as usual for FY19 with a \$14,500 match requirement. The Commission has developed the Scope of Work for the benefit of the local jurisdictions. Mr. Rivara moved to adopt the Resolution authorizing the MPPDC to enter into agreement with VDOT and to administer SPR funds. Mr. Moskalski seconded the motion; motion carried.

IX. Open Discussion of Commissioners' Priorities – FY 19 Work Program

Mr. Lawrence provided the Commissioners with a handout illustrating the anticipated MPPDC Service Centers for FY2019 and the identified funding for each. Possible new service centers such as Regulatory Reform, Housing, PDC Public Outreach, and Coordinated Purchasing were discussed. Commissioner Priorities help shape the work of the Commission. The Commission spent time exploring the role of external communication with elected officials not on the Commission and the general public at large. The Budget committee will consider ways to include outreach and messaging. Commissioners were encouraged to contact Mr. Lawrence with any issues they feel should be included in the FY19 work program for consideration by the budget committee.

X. Update of Regional Water Supply Plan

Mr. Lawrence provided the Commission with the 5 Year Compliance Evaluation for the MPPDC Water Supply Plan prepared by EEE Consulting, Inc. The document provided is not the entire plan, only the necessary updates to the existing Water Supply Plan required by DEQ to begin the process. The report will be provided to each locality appointee/liaison and they will have three weeks to review. Commissioners were reminded that any recommended changes will need to have documentation provided as to the scientific basis for such changes so as not to hold

up the process unnecessarily. Localities interested in including information that differs from the regional plan can include that in their local ordinance if desired.

XI. GOVirginia Projects Updates

a. PamunkeyNet

Travis Moskalski, Chairman of the Middle Peninsula Alliance stated PamunkeyNet has received funding as the only broadband project approved by GoVirginia for this round. An Advisory Committee will be appointed soon.

b. Planning for a multi-regional Resilience R&D Project – Innovation & Water Economy Ecosystem: Integrating Rural, Suburban & Urban

Mr. Lawrence advised the Commission that the original GoVirginia proposal has been redirected into a planning grant, at the request of the GoVirginia Region 6 Board. The proposal has been recast to focus on learning more about how Louisiana developed a water-based economy to help guide and shape a resubmittal of a full GoVirginia Project proposal.

c. Regional Dredging Planning Grant Discussion

Mr. Lawrence stated this is a proposed multi-regional project that looks to reduce costs for dredging projects and to bring jobs to the participating region(s).

XII. Other Business

• **June MPPDC**

The Commission briefly discussed options for a gathering in June.

• **Delegate Keith Hodges**

Delegate Keith Hodges thanked the Commission for their support. The Commission applauded Delegate Hodges for his hard work in the General Assembly.

XIII. Adjournment

Chairman Swartzwelder requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Moskalski motioned to adjourn; Mr. Hill seconded. The motion carried.

**Note: All handouts distributed at a meeting are filed in the official MPPDC record book of the minutes. Copies of all PowerPoint presentations, if any, are filed with the official minutes.*

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(Secretary)

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Project Financial Report

Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission

Run Date: 04/09/2018
 Run Time: 1:49:30 pm
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Period Ending: 03/31/18

		Expenditures						
Code	Description	Budget	Curr Month	Project Total	Un/Over	% Budget	Revenues	Balance
30013	EE&CBG Project	3,975.00	-0.63	4,053.21	-78.21	101.97%	4,492.24	439.03
30109	MPEDRO Staff Support	20,800.38	968.64	23,917.03	-3,116.65	114.98%	22,305.68	-1,611.35
30111	Blue/Green Infrastructure	36,140.77	1,212.19	35,159.54	981.23	97.28%	35,155.64	-3.90
30115	VHDA Community Imp	30,000.00	839.07	4,954.40	25,045.60	16.51%	0.00	-4,954.40
30170	MPBDP Staff Support	22,213.09	111.62	20,962.33	1,250.76	94.37%	22,942.82	1,980.49
30213	FY18 TDM	84,807.00	5,759.40	49,013.34	35,793.66	57.79%	52,616.27	3,602.93
30315	FY18 Rural Transportati	72,500.00	7,837.15	37,057.03	35,442.97	51.11%	25,216.47	-11,840.56
30420	Onsite Loan Management	168,942.76	486.27	149,656.36	19,286.40	88.58%	182,213.99	32,557.63
30428	WQIF 2016, \$183500 R	216,500.00	5,134.22	85,604.18	130,895.82	39.54%	64,227.96	-21,376.22
30429	Septic Pumpout 2017/EPA	11,082.00	-22.70	6,943.36	4,138.64	62.65%	6,973.98	30.62
30502	Water Supply Planning	168,132.45	376.65	151,137.00	16,995.45	89.89%	160,632.45	9,495.45
31002	GA Lobby FY09	21,450.00	5,029.00	15,431.34	6,018.66	71.94%	5,752.25	-9,679.09
31204	Regional Emergency Plan	95,000.00	10,594.36	94,918.22	81.78	99.91%	68,597.61	-26,320.61
31205	MSAT Phones/2016SHS	47,340.88	0.00	58,426.10	-11,085.22	123.42%	58,257.51	-168.59
31206	Regional EOP Gap Analy	82,851.00	-38.22	83,103.31	-252.31	100.30%	82,851.00	-252.31
31207	MP/NN Mass Casualty E	64,473.00	-4.66	535.23	63,937.77	0.83%	0.00	-535.23
31208	MP/NN Regional Debris M	43,000.00	-4.66	535.23	42,464.77	1.24%	0.00	-535.23
31500	Living Shoreline Incentiv	25,830.00	432.63	7,479.60	18,350.40	28.96%	21,299.34	13,819.74
32012	PAA Capt Sinclair Impr	0.00	0.00	-3,100.00	3,100.00	0.00%	0.00	3,100.00
32015	FY17 PAA Staff Support	8,027.46	241.58	6,742.13	1,285.33	83.99%	8,027.46	1,285.33
32016	VIMS Living Shoreline/	92,636.80	-6.68	34,637.60	57,999.20	37.39%	34,162.42	-475.18
32017	NAWCA PAA project	75,000.00	488.87	2,932.28	72,067.72	3.91%	75,000.00	72,067.72
32138	FY17_Coastal_TA/NOA	60,000.00	0.00	60,551.61	-551.61	100.92%	60,551.61	0.00
32139	Eco_Business - PAA Mat	47,000.00	644.73	49,006.72	-2,006.72	104.27%	47,627.90	-1,378.82
32140	FY18 Coastal TA	60,000.00	4,633.26	29,773.34	30,226.66	49.62%	14,878.37	-14,894.97
32141	WWF_ANPDC	10,000.00	170.75	5,394.57	4,605.43	53.95%	0.00	-5,394.57
32142	ANPDC Ecotourism	47,495.00	2,825.57	19,894.94	27,600.06	41.89%	4,425.18	-15,469.76
32210	WWF Initative/NOAAC	50,000.00	656.58	51,909.00	-1,909.00	103.82%	50,507.12	-1,401.88
38018	FY18 Local Projects	170,904.00	34,183.84	131,429.86	39,474.14	76.90%	172,915.42	41,485.56
Totals:		<u>1,836,101.59</u>	<u>82,548.83</u>	<u>1,218,058.86</u>	<u>618,042.73</u>	<u>66.34%</u>	<u>1,281,630.69</u>	<u>63,571.83</u>

Balance Sheet by Category

Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission

Period Ending: 03/31/18
Format: 1 Board

Run Date: 4/9/18
Run Time: 1:50:26 pm
Page 1 of 1

Assets:

Cash in Bank	497,580.43
Cash in Bank, Restricted	247,617.58
Receivables	296,607.43
Property & Equipment	6,743.44
Prepaid Pension (Deferred Outflows)	30,454.00

Total Assets:

\$1,079,002.88

Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	7,889.17
VRA Loan Payables	216,724.61
Payroll Withholdings	-0.33
Accrued Leave	45,589.34
Deferred Inflows (VRS)	220,036.00
Net Pension Liabilities	56,917.00
Cost Allocation Control	3,624.55

Total Liabilities:

\$550,780.34

Equity:

Local Initiatives/Information Resources	31,806.47
Economic Development	-521.38
Transportation Programs	-8,237.63
Emergency Management Projects	-27,811.97
Onsite Repair & Pumpout	11,214.39
Housing	-4,677.78
Coastal Community & Environmental	-21,620.26
Public Access Auth Programs	72,877.87
Mandates	9,500.76
Temporarily Restricted	182,126.96
General Fund Balance	283,565.11

Total Equity:

\$528,222.54

Total Liabilities and Equity

\$1,079,002.88

Balance:

\$0.00

Agencywide R&E by Category

Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission

Run Date: 04/09/2018
 Run Time: 1:50:58 pm
 Page 1 of 1

Period Ending: 03/31/18
 Format: 1 Agencywide R&E
 With Indirect Cost Detail

Code & Description	Budget	Current	YTD	Un/Ovr	% Bud
Revenues					
Local Match	0.00	23,471.47	63,926.06	-63,926.06	0.00%
Local Annual Dues	109,899.00	0.00	109,899.00	0.00	100.00%
Local Other Revenues	28,524.00	0.00	51,090.30	-22,566.30	179.11%
Local Other Organizations	15,000.00	0.00	12,105.70	2,894.30	80.70%
State Revenues	143,817.00	0.00	100,698.00	43,119.00	70.02%
Federal Revenues	474,620.00	0.00	281,982.98	192,637.02	59.41%
Miscellaneous Income	7,700.00	1,145.32	6,587.31	1,112.69	85.55%
RevolvingLoan Program Income	9,000.00	1,016.61	58,222.03	-49,222.03	646.91%
Revenues	788,560.00	25,633.40	684,511.38	104,048.62	86.81%
Expenses					
Personnel	341,895.00	33,570.68	300,765.34	41,129.66	87.97%
Facilities	29,678.00	2,619.73	23,202.53	6,475.47	78.18%
Communications	5,600.00	533.39	3,821.20	1,778.80	68.24%
Equipment & Supplies	4,900.00	357.41	-918.28	5,818.28	-18.74%
Travel	10,350.00	345.58	5,375.45	4,974.55	51.94%
Professional Development	9,950.00	71.37	9,322.96	627.04	93.70%
Contractual	323,574.00	16,256.68	183,124.97	140,449.03	56.59%
Miscellaneous	58,685.00	5,322.56	33,360.73	25,324.27	56.85%
Regional Share	0.00	23,471.47	63,926.06	-63,926.06	0.00%
Expenses	784,632.00	82,548.87	621,980.96	162,651.04	79.27%
Agency Balance	3,928.00	-56,915.47	62,530.42		

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Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission



MPPDC General Fact Sheet

WHAT IS MPPDC?

The Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission (MPPDC) was established pursuant to the Virginia Area Development Act (Title 15.1, Chapter 34, Sections 15.1-1400, et seq., Code of Virginia (1950) as amended) and by joint resolutions of the governing bodies of its constituent member jurisdictions.

The "MPPDC" describes the geographic section of Virginia which encompasses the Counties of Essex, Gloucester, King and Queen, King William, Mathews and Middlesex and the Towns of Tappahannock, Urbanna and West Point.

BACKGROUND

The Agreement to organize a Planning District Commission was made on January 31, 1972, by and between the government subdivisions as authorized by the Virginia Area Development Act.

WHAT DOES MPPDC DO?

The purpose of the Commission is to promote the orderly and efficient development of the physical, social, and economic elements of the Planning District by planning and encouraging and assisting governmental subdivisions to plan for the future.

HOW ARE DECISIONS MADE AT MPPDC?

Decision-making occurs through the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, a governing body comprised of elected officials, citizens, and chief administrative officers representing the six counties and three towns in the region.

QUICK FACTS

Region at Glance

- > Six Counties: Essex, Gloucester, King & Queen, King William, Mathews and Middlesex
- > Three Towns: West Point, Urbanna, and Tappahannock
- > 1,387 Square Miles
- > 1,055 Miles of Shoreline
- > 888,064 Acres of Land

- > 90,826 People
- > \$681 Average Weekly Wage (State=\$1063)
- > 73% Out Commute Rate

By the Numbers

- > 1.1% Total State Population
- > \$50,001 Median Household Income

For More Information:

MPPDC
 P.O. Box 286
 Saluda Professional Center
 125 Bowden Street
 Saluda, Virginia 23149
 Phone: 804-758-2311
 Please visit the MPPDC website at:
www.mppdc.com



Regional Profile:

All data is from Census 2000 and Census 2010 unless otherwise stated

Population Trends				Median Household Income and Unemployment Rate ¹			
Locality	Total Population		Population Growth from 2000-2010	Median Income Estimates		Unemployment Rate Estimates	
	2000	2010		2006-2010	2007-2011	2006-2010	2007-2011
Essex	9,989	11,151	12%	\$46,235	\$44,581	9.0%	8.2%
Gloucester	34,780	36,858	6%	\$58,389	\$60,269	6.5%	5.9%
King & Queen	6,630	6,945	5%	\$44,442	\$48,170	8.6%	7.4%
King William	13,146	15,935	21%	\$64,964	\$64,982	7.3%	6.7%
Mathews	9,207	8,978	-2%	\$47,435	\$54,118	5.9%	6.0%
Middlesex	9,932	10,959	10%	\$50,207	\$53,615	7.4%	6.4%
Town of Tappahannock	2,138	2,375	11.1%	\$39,149	\$35,313	6.6%	7.6%
Town of Urbanna	543	476	-12.3%	\$44,813	\$45,682	1.5%	4.5%
Town of West Point	2,866	3,306	15.4%	\$51,979	\$52,768	7.4%	9.5%
Region Total	83,684	90,826	9%	\$49,735	\$51,055	7.6%	6.5%

Race in the Middle Peninsula												
Locality	White			Black			Asian			Other		
	2000	2010	Percent Change	2000	2010	Percent Change	2000	2010	Percent Change	2000	2010	Percent Change
Essex	5,790	6,370	10%	3,900	4,247	9%	81	86	6%	218	448	106%
Gloucester	30,148	32,149	7%	3,585	3,197	-11%	240	286	19%	807	1,226	52%
King and Queen	4,059	4,663	15%	2,365	1,975	-16%	18	17	-6%	188	290	54%
King William	9,703	12,297	27%	2,999	2,819	-6%	48	118	146%	396	701	77%
Mathews	8,038	7,898	-2%	1,036	823	-21%	17	31	82%	116	226	95%
Middlesex	7,797	8,680	11%	1,999	1,978	-1%	12	37	208%	124	264	113%
Regional Total	65,535	72,057	10%	15,884	15,039	-5%	416	575	38%	1,849	3,155	71%

FY18 Locality Budget Data							
Locality	Raise %	Compensation Notes	Real Property Increase	Real Property Rate	Personal Property Increase	Personal Property Rate	Other
Essex	None	Holiday bonus included	\$0.02	\$0.86	\$0.25	\$3.75	\$40 Vehicle Licenses Tax
Gloucester		1% Contingent bonus funded from FY year end operating results	None	\$0.695	None	\$2.95	
King and Queen	2%		-\$0.02	\$0.53	None	\$3.94	
King William	2%		-\$0.02	\$0.90	None	\$3.65	
Mathews	2%		\$0.035	\$0.575	None	\$3.70	
Middlesex		1.5% increase to those "County only" Salaried (not comp board) employees with a favorable evaluation	\$0.03	\$0.56	\$0.42	\$1.65	

¹ Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Local Area Unemployment data & the American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

MIDDLE PENINSULA PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

Staff Activities Service Summary of Regional Progress

Locality	Core Services Administered by the MPPDC							
	Information Resources/ Assistance	Coastal Community Development/ Environmental	Transportation	Onsite Repair and Pumpout	Economic Development	Local Initiatives	Housing	Emergency Management
Region-wide	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Essex				✓				
Gloucester		✓		✓				
King & Queen			✓	✓				
King William								
Mathews		✓		✓				
Middlesex		✓	✓	✓				
Town of Tappahannock								
Town of West Point								
Town of Urbanna		✓						
Other		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Report on Mandated Initiatives

Locality	Water Supply Plan Update Support Staff: Lewie Lawrence Start Date: 7/2016 Completion Date: TBD		All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Update Support Staff: Jackie Rickards Start Date: 1/2014 Completion Date: 8/2016	
	<i>Participating</i>	<i>Current Status</i>	<i>Participating</i>	<i>Current Status</i>
	Essex	✓	Access granted from DEQ for VAHydro Access	✓
Gloucester	NA	NA	✓	Adopted
King & Queen	✓	Access granted from DEQ for VAHydro Access	✓	Adopted
King William	✓	Access granted from DEQ for VAHydro Access	✓	Adopted
Mathews	✓	Access granted from DEQ for VAHydro Access	✓	Adopted
Middlesex	✓	Access granted from DEQ for VAHydro Access	✓	Adopted
Town of Tappahannock	✓	Access granted from DEQ for VAHydro Access	✓	Adopted
Town of West Point	✓	Access granted from DEQ for VAHydro Access	✓	Adopted
Town of Urbanna	✓	Access granted from DEQ for VAHydro Access	✓	Adopted

Opportunities Identified to Implement Commission Priorities

Service Center	Project Title and Description	Funding Requested	Status
Environmental	NFWF TA Service Provider	n/a	Approved
Environmental	DEQ – NPS Septic Repair WQIF grants to homeowners	\$200,000	Funded
Environmental	CZM – ECO PAA Dragon Run	\$40,000	Funded
Environmental	CZM – Coastal Technical Assistance – FY17	\$30,000	Funded
Environmental	NFWF – PAA Living Shoreline Oyster Bag Sills & Monitoring (VIMS)	\$96,637	Funded
Environmental	DEQ – Capitalization – MP Living Shoreline Revolving Loan Program	\$250,000	Funded
Emergency Mgmt	VDEM – Homeland Security Regional Emergency Planner	\$95,000	Not funded
Emergency Mgmt	VDEM – Middle Peninsula/Northern Neck Mass Casualty Functional Exercise	\$64,473	Funded
Emergency Mgmt	VDEM – Homeland Security Middle Peninsula/Northern Neck Regional Debris Mgmt Plan	\$43,000	Funded
Environmental	DEQ – Septic Pumpout	\$17,000	Funded
Environmental	NAWCA Acquisitions	\$75,000	Funded
Economic Dev	CZM Legal Research	\$7,000	Submitted
Environmental	CZM FY18 Coastal TA	\$30,000	Funded
Environmental	NFWF – Living Shoreline Cost Share and Demo Project	\$137,000	Not Funded
Environmental	CZM ANPDC WWF	\$10,000	Funded
Housing	VHDA – Community Impact Grant	\$30,000	Funded
Environmental	CZM ANPDC Ecotourism	\$39,263	Funded
Transportation	DRPT -FY19 TDM Operating	\$67,846	Submitted
Transportation	DRPT – TDM Marketing Research and Design	\$20,000	Submitted
Environmental	CZM – Coastal Technical Assistance – FY18	\$30,000	Submitted
MPCBPAA	Virginia Outdoor Foundation – Captain Sinclair Easement/Improvements	\$180,000	Approved
Environmental	CZM ANPDC Ecotourism	\$38,263	Submitted
Environmental	CZM NNPDC WWF	\$5000	Submitted
Environmental	CZM Dredging	\$50,000	Submitted
Environmental	CZM Rural Enhancement Authority	\$10,000	Submitted
Transportation	VDOT – RTP FY19	\$58,000	Submitted
Local	Urbanna Comp Plan Update	\$15,000	Submitted

MPPDC ACRONYMS

ACH	Automated Clearing House	MPRSC	Middle Peninsula Regional Security Center
AFG	Assistance to Firefighters Grants	NHD	Natural Heritage Data
AFID	Agricultural and Forestry Industries Development	NIMS	National Incident Management System
AHMP	All Hazards Mitigation Plan	NFWF	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
BCC	Building Collaborative Communities Project	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
BOS	Board of Supervisors	NPS	National Park Services
CBPA	Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area	OCVA	Oyster Company of Virginia
CBSF	Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund	OLGA	On-line Grant Administration
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant	PAA	Public Access Authority
CEDS	Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy	RBEG	Rural Business Enterprise Grant
CIP	Capital Improvement Plan	RBOG	Rural Business Opportunity Grant
COI	Conflict of Interest	RFP	Request for Proposal
CRS	Credit Rating System	RFQ	Request for Qualifications
CVE	Countering Violent Extremism	RLF	Revolving Loan Fund
CZMP	Coastal Zone Management Program	RTP	Rural Transportation Planning
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality	SERCAP	Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project
DGIF	Department of Game and Inland Fisheries	SHSG	State Homeland Security Grant
DHR	Department of Historic Resources	SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District
DHCD	Department of Housing and Community Development	SWM	Storm Water Management
DMME	Department of Mines Minerals and Energy	SWRP	State Water Resource Plan
DOC	Department of Corrections	THIRA	Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment
DOE	Department of Energy	TIF	Tax Increment Financing
DRPT	Department of Rail and Public Transportation	TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Loads
EDA	Economic Development Administration	USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
EDO	Economic Development Organization	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
EECBG	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant	VAPA	Virginia Planning Association
EOC	Emergency Operation Center	VAPDC	Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	VASG	Virginia Sea Grant
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	VAZO	Virginia Association of Zoning Officials
Fracking	Hydraulic Fracturing	VCP	Virginia Coastal Program
GIS	Geographic Information System	VCZMP	Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program
HAM	Amateur Radio	VCWRLF	Virginia Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund
HRPDC	Hampton Roads Planning District Commission	VDEM	Virginia Department of Emergency Management
LGA	Local Government Administrators	VDH	Virginia Department of Health
LPT	Local Planning Team	VDOT	Virginia Department of Transportation
LSIP	Living Shoreline Incentive Program	VDMME	Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding	VEE	Virginia Environmental Endowment
MPA	Middle Peninsula Alliance	Vertical Assets	"Towers or other structures that hold cell, broadband and other equipment"
MPBA	Middle Peninsula Broadband Authority	VHB	Vanasse Hangen Brustlin
MPCBPAA	Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority	VIMS	Virginia Institute of Marine Science
MPEDRO	Middle Peninsula Economic Development and Resource Organization	VMRC	Virginia Marine Resource Commission

VOAD	Volunteer Organization Active in Disasters
VOP	Virginia Outdoors Plan
VRA	Virginia Resources Authority
VSMP	Virginia Stormwater Management Program
VTA	Virginia Transit Association
VWP	Virginia Water Protection
VWWR	Virginia Water Withdrawal Reporting
WIP	Watershed Implementation Plan
WQIF	Water Quality Improvement Fund

Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission
Executive Director's Report of Regional Progress
April 17, 2018

MPPDC: Membership, Appointments, Committee Assignments, and Networks

Coastal Policy Team (CPT): The CPT, whose members and alternates represent the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program's key partners and eight planning district commissions, provides a forum for discussion and resolution of cross-cutting coastal resource management issues. Members serve on the team at the discretion of their agency or planning district commission director. The CPT recommends funding levels to the DEQ Director for coastal zone management projects. (MPPDC Staff 15 years +)

Congressman Robert Wittman's Fisheries Advisory Committee and Environmental Advisory Committee: (MPPDC Staff 8 years +)

Virginia Sea Grant Program External Advisory Committee (EAC): The EAC provides stakeholder input on the strategic planning process, the research proposal review process, and on Commonwealth-wide trends and needs. The EAC is a diverse group of end-users including representatives from state agencies, the education community, coastal planning and management, the private sector, and NGOs. (MPPDC Staff 9 years+)

The Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT) (Telework Council Secretary): ACT is the premier association for professionals and organizations whose focus is the delivery of commuting options and solutions for an efficient transportation system. The Telework Council is concerned with promoting telework and providing telework information and technical assistance to employers (MPPDC Staff 10 years+)

Middle Peninsula Northern Neck Coordinated Human Services Mobility Committee: Provides direction for a unified comprehensive strategy for transportation service delivery in the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck Planning Districts focused on unmet transportation needs of seniors, people with disabilities, and people with low incomes. (MPPDC Staff 12 years)

The Coastal Society: The Coastal Society is an organization of private sector, academic, and government professionals and students. The Society is dedicated to actively addressing emerging coastal issues by fostering dialogue, forging partnerships, and promoting communications and education. (MPPDC staff serves as a Director)

Hurricane Evacuation Coordination Workgroup: The Hurricane Evacuation Coordination Workgroup is comprised of state and local emergency representatives tasked with finding solutions to fill in the gaps in the Commonwealth's and Locality's plans to respond to a Major Hurricane Evacuation.

Shelter Location Identification Subcommittee of the Hurricane Evacuation Coordination Workgroup: Local and state experts tasked with identifying state and local shelter locations that can meet the needs of individuals with access and functional needs. A recent federal court ruling indicates that prior knowledge of shelter locations allows for more complete personal preparedness planning.

Shelter Staffing Subcommittee of the Hurricane Evacuation Coordination Workgroup: Local and state experts tasked with recommending solutions to alleviate staffing limitations in emergency shelters.

Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Advisory Committee (EVGMAC) Workgroup #2B: EVGMAC is charged with assisting the State Water Commission and DEQ in developing, revising and implementing a management strategy for groundwater in Eastern Virginia Groundwater Management Area. Group #2B will identify trading options and programs used in other states; evaluate how trading programs might help with future growth and development, and individual and regional solutions; and evaluate feasibility, data needs, cost and possible participants.

Stakeholder Advisory Group for fees related to the consolidated Virginia Erosion and Stormwater Management Program: Item 8 of Chapters 68 and 758 of the 2016 Acts of Assembly directed Virginia Stormwater Management Program Authorities and Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Program Authorities to submit information to DEQ by August 1, 2016 and directed DEQ to conduct its evaluation based on revenues and resource needs from July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2016.

MPPDC Staff and Contact Information

Executive Director: Lewis Lawrence

Contact Info: llawrence@mppdc.com (804) 758-2311x24 (804) 832-6747 (cell)

Programs: *Coastal Zone Technical Assistance, Local Initiatives, Public Access Authority*

Finance Director: Beth Johnson

Contact Info: bjohnson@mppdc.com (804) 758-2311x22

Programs: *Commuter/ Employer Transportation Services, Septic Repair & Pumpout Assistance, Revolving Loan Programs Administration, PDC Finance & Grants Administration, PAA staff support, MPEDRO Staff support*

Planner 2: Harrison Bresee

Contact Info: hbresee@mppdc.com (804) 758-2311x26 (757) 871-2245 (cell)

Programs: *Regional Emergency Planning*

Planner 2: Jackie Rickards

Contact Info: jrickards@mppdc.com (215) 264-6451 (cell)

Programs: *Environmental Programs, Graphic Arts*

Secretary: Dawn Kirby

Contact Info: dkirby@mppdc.com (804) 758-2311x21

Programs: *Septic Pumpout Assistance, Facilities Scheduling*

Project 30502 Water Supply Planning

9 VAC 25-780 establishes a planning process and criteria that all local governments will use in the development of local or regional water plans. The plan will be reviewed by the Department of Environmental Quality and a determination will be made by the State Water Control Board on whether the plan complies with this regulation. Within five years of a compliance determination by the board, the plan will be reviewed to assess adequacy and any significant changes will require the submission of an amended plan and review by the board. All local programs will be reviewed, revised, and resubmitted to the Department of Environmental Quality every 10 years after the last approval. The jurisdictions of Essex, King and Queen, King William, Mathews, Middlesex, Tappahannock, Urbanna and West Point opted to prepare a regional plan with assistance from Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission staff and EEE Consulting, an environmental consulting firm. The Regional Plan was completed and submitted to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for compliance review by the November 2, 2011 deadline for Regional Plan submission.

- Localities received login information to VA Hydro on January 19, 2017 where they can access the current status of the Middle Peninsula Water Supply Plan. Each locality has different outstanding compliance requirements. The table below shows the incomplete compliance requirements for each locality.

Locality	Incomplete Compliance Requirements	Completed Compliance Requirements
Essex County & Town of Tappahannock	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing resource info. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing water source info. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing water use info. <input type="checkbox"/> Projected water demand info.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Water System Disaggregated Water Use <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community water system service area maps needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drought response and contingency plans <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statement of need and alternatives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Demand management info. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water supply Plan adoption info.
King & Queen County	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing resource info. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing water source info. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing water use info. <input type="checkbox"/> Projected water demand info. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement of need and alternatives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Water System Disaggregated Water Use <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community water system service area maps needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drought response and contingency plans <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Demand management info. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water supply Plan adoption info.
King William County & Town of West Point	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing resource info. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing water source info. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing water use info. <input type="checkbox"/> Projected water demand info. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement of need and alternatives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Water System Disaggregated Water Use <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community water system service area maps needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drought response and contingency plans <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Demand management info. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water supply Plan adoption info.
Mathews County	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Water System Disaggregated Water Use <input type="checkbox"/> Existing resource info. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing water source info. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing water use info. <input type="checkbox"/> Projected water demand info. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement of need and alternatives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Water System Disaggregated Water Use <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drought response and contingency plans <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Demand management info. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water supply Plan adoption info.
Middlesex County & Town of Urbanna	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Water System Disaggregated Water Use <input type="checkbox"/> Existing resource info. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing water source info. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing water use info. <input type="checkbox"/> Projected water demand info.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community water system service area maps needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drought response and contingency plans <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statement of need and alternatives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Demand management info. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water supply Plan adoption info.

- Provided a draft report to the Middle Peninsula Water Supply Planning Committee for local accuracy review. Localities have until May 7th(three weeks) to review the draft document and submit comments. To help manage how comments are received, localities have two categories for submitting comments: Science and General Content.
 - a. If questioning the Science, provide peer reviewed sources to validate questions or changes you are offering. The sources need to be recognized as reasonably accredited and routinely used as reference material for similar purposes.
 - b. If questioning content, provide rationale and verifiable sources that can easily be recognized and accepted by DEQ and include your suggested modification language and where you desire such to be located in the document and why.

INFORMATION RESOURCES/ASSISTANCE

- Updated www.mppdc.com website – meeting notices, reports, news releases, GoVa meetings, MPA notices.

COASTAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/ ENVIRONMENTAL

Funding – VDEQ, VIMS, VDCR, local match from MPPDC General Fund & partners

Project 32015 - Staff Support to Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority (MPCBPAA)

Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority Special Project – Support of Executive Order 23, Goal 8 Coastal Management Coordination Public Access: Continue implementation of adopted annual work program, including identifying land, either owned by the Commonwealth or private holdings that can be secured for use by the general public as a public access site; researching and determining ownership of all identified sites; determining appropriate public use levels of identified access sites; developing appropriate mechanism for transferring title of Commonwealth or private holdings to the Authority; developing appropriate acquisition and site management plan. This Program allows the Authority to function by supporting the individual projects and operations of the Authority, as well as, by responding to daily requests for assistance from local government staff.

- Prepared vouchers, processed A/P, reconciled bank statements. Prepared monthly financial statements.
- Consulted with Estie Thomas, Easement Project Manager for the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF) concerning a grant award to the PAA to place a public access easement on a portion of Captain Sinclair’s Recreation Area waterfront in exchange for financial compensation to improve public access infrastructure. Received draft easement for review and incorporation of public access protection provisions.
- Attended the Environment Virginia Conference held at the Virginia Military Institute. The PAA was awarded the God Award for Conservation Land Protection, the highest honor given by the Governor of Virginia for work of the Public Access Authority to create a land donation program to improve public access across the region.
- Began preparation of FY19 budget.
- Convened MPCBPAA Board meeting on April 13. Agenda items included Eco business Launch Campaign, VOF funding and easement review, Possible marina donation discussion, Perrin Wharf VDH Sewage Handling concerns, VACO leadership meeting at Captain Sinclairs Landing.

Project 32016 - VIMS Living Shoreline

MPPDC submitted a proposal to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for VIMS. The objective of this project is to leverage previous funding from NFWF to install oyster bag sills at two publicly-owned (MPCBPAA) properties on and monitor them for a year. In addition, existing oyster bag sill installations at four private locations will be monitored to determine overall project effectiveness. This work will provide recommendations for installations along fetch-limited shorelines of Chesapeake Bay.

Project 31500 - Living Shoreline Incentive Program RLF

This program provides low interest loans to homeowners to install living shorelines as defined by § 28.2-104.1 of the Code of Virginia: “Living shoreline” means a shoreline management practice that provides erosion control and water quality benefits; protects, restores or enhances natural shoreline habitat; and maintains coastal processes through the strategic placement of plants, stone, sand fill, and other structural and organic materials. Revolving loan program capitalization provided through an interest free loan from the Virginia Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund through the Virginia Resources Authority.

- Consulted with Mathews homeowner regarding “insurance program”. Provided LSIP Insurance Program guidelines and copies of legal loan document templates.
- Consulted with Donna Milligan, VIMS Shoreline Studies regarding best practices for living shoreline plantings to help inform MPDC LSIP Insurance Program guidelines. Drafted “insurance program” guidelines for program.
- Consulted with Mathews homeowner regarding termination of loan process.
- Met with Mathews homeowner to return documents with personnel information. Homeowner, although approved, did not wish to formalize the loan and requested return of documents.
- *Executed ACH loan payments for loans. All MPPDC loan funding programs require that loan recipients authorize loan payments to be made automatically from loan recipients’ bank accounts. Loan clients authorize the payments at loan closing (ACH Authorizations). MPPDC staff process these payments on the 15th of each month. This places the onus to not make a payment on the loan client contacting MPPDC staff prior to the loan processing date of the 12th of the month to request a payment be held. This has significantly reduced defaults and delinquent repayments of MPPDC loans.*
- **Remaining uncommitted funds - \$120,027**

Project 32017 - NAWCA PAA Acquisitions

The Wetlands Conservation on the Middle Peninsula of Virginia Phase I proposal is the first in a series of projects planned by the Middle Peninsula District Commission (MPPDC) in coordination with local, state and federal agencies, non-government organizations and landowners to protect key wetlands along the Chesapeake Bay. This project will employ a novel, creative and cost effective land conservation model in order to perpetually protect 77.05 acres of coastal habitat.

- Discussed land match requirement and appraisal requirements with Christina Ryder, Project Manager and how to interconnect NAWCA grant requirements with Virginia Outdoor Foundation easement requirements.

Project 32140 - Virginia Coastal TA FY18

This project provides ongoing support to member localities of the Planning District Commission and other stakeholders committed to improving community development and coastal management within the coastal zone.

- Consulted with an attorney from Northern Virginia interested in learning about the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission septic repair program and how we addressed heir ownership issues.

- Consulted with a Middlesex County citizen interested in knowing more about the public trust doctrine and legal enforcement powers to deal with public access use conflicts. Advised that a request has been made to the Virginia Coastal Policy Center to conduct a study on law enforcement authority as it relates to riparian rights and the Public Trust Doctrine.
- Received a draft copy of the Virginia Coastal Policy Center report on enforcement authority of matters related to use conflict on and around the waterfront. Submitted comments and awaiting a final copy of the report for dissemination.
- Consulted with a Gloucester County Board of Supervisors member concerning new stormwater regulations and the relationship to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act.
- Consulted with Mary Carson of Wetlands Watch on Federal Flood Insurance reform and its relation to the Community Rating Systems and the costs to local governments to not participate versus participating in the CRS program.
- Participated in a conference call with coastal PDC's to discuss DEQ's Phase III Watershed Implementation Plan direction and how DEQ is looking to the Planning District Commissions to coordinate local data input for Phase III.
- Consulted with a Mathews County citizen regarding waterfront business locations for possible aquaculture operation and the loading and unloading of shells for oyster seeding.
- Consulted with Shep Moon, Virginia Coastal Planner for the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program concerning the preparation of a proposal to address future dredge spoil permitting placement and the use of appropriate dredge material for living shorelines and resilience planning.
- Consulted with a Gloucester County citizen who owns property in Mathews County concerning an aquaculture expansion operation and potential upland and in water use conflict. The citizen had general questions regarding an upland property owner's rights and options regarding the permitting process.
- Consulted with the Mayor of the Town of Urbanna concerning comprehensive plan consistency requirements under the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act and strategies to determine consistency for DEQ review.
- Consulted with Dr. Richard Williams, Three Rivers Health District concerning sewage handling requirements at Perrin Wharf and the implications for watermen not paying slip rent.
- Convened the April meeting of the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority. Agenda items include discussion of Perrin Wharf and sewage handling requirements; VOF Public Access Easement; possible marina donation and VACo Leadership Day at Captain Sinclair's.
- Convened the April meeting of the Local Government Administrators. Discussion included implementation of HB1307 & 1308; local budgets, WIP III implementation, K-12 budgets.
- Prepared and submitted semi-annual financial report and reimbursement request to April Bahen, CZM program.

Project 32141 – Working Waterfront Zoning and Coastal Living Policy Development

MPPDC staff in partnership with Accomack-Northampton PDC and the Northern Neck PDC will work to develop a legislative brief for the 2018 General Assembly Session. Also staff will work with localities to develop working waterfront zoning and coastal living policy language. This work will then be shared with interested Board of Supervisors, Town Councils and the general public.

- Attended a meeting called by Shannon Alexander, Planner with the Accomack-Northampton PDC to discuss project updates and legislative matters related to working waterfronts.
- Consulted multiple times with Beth Polak, Coastal Planner for the Virginia Coastal Zone Management program concerning the final year of NOAA Section 309 Working Waterfront funding and how proposal could be structured to meet the intentions of NOAA 309 requirements. The proposal will look to “stand up” the Rural Coastal Enhancement Authority and to educate elected officials about the impact of coastal legislation accomplishments over the last three general assembly sessions.
- Prepared and submitted financial report and invoice to Shannon Alexander, ANPDC.
- Prepared and submitted semiannual progress report to Shannon Alexander, ANPDC.

Project 32142 – ANPDC Ecotourism

This project is a collaboration between rural PDCs (ANPDC, NNPDC, and MPPDC) to develop and expand watertrails within each region. MPPDC staff will focus on developing watertrails on the York River, Pamunkey River, Mattaponi River and the Mobjack. MPPDC staff will also work with PDCs to create an interactive itinerary tool and to develop an overall Rural Coastal Virginia Water Trails theme/brand.

- Attended a meeting called by Shannon Alexander, Planner with the Accomack-Northampton PDC held at VIMA to discuss project progress and future directions of the projects. Reviewed draft logo, project mission and vision statements.
- Prepared and submitted financial report and invoice to Shannon Alexander, ANPDC.
- Prepared and submitted semiannual progress report to Shannon Alexander, ANPDC.

TRANSPORTATION

Funding – VDRPT, VDOT, local match from MPPDC General Fund

Project 30212 - Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Services

This program assists local commuters and employers with transportation issues. The main emphasis is on lowering the number of single occupancy vehicle commutes within and from the Middle Peninsula region through marketing and promotion of the program through local media and provision of ride matching services to commuters.

- Updated website – www.midpenrideshare.org
- Received application from Mechanicsville resident commuting to Montross. No match available. Referred to NeckRide for assistance.
- Convened ACT Telework Council meeting via phone conference.
- Consulted with Mike Stevens, Bay Transit regarding bus wrappers.
- Prepared quarterly ACT Telework Council report to ACT Board.
- Current commuter database – 154

Project 30314 – Rural Transportation Planning

This program provides rural transportation planning services through the Rural Transportation Planning Work Program which outlines specific tasks and goals to guide the rural planning of transportation services.

- Continued to assist Mathews County with strategic planning to address impact to maritime commerce due to shoaling and need for dredging.
- Discussed with local planners the need for inclusion of dredging and water based transportation commerce issues in the Middle Peninsula Long Range Transportation Plan update as an emerging transportation issue.
- Consulted with Berkley Group regarding invoice documentation requirements.
- Consulted with Drew Williams, Berkley Group regarding quarterly reporting needs.
- Prepared and mailed quarterly financial report and reimbursement request to Stephen Haynes, VDOT.
- Convened Middle Peninsula Local Planner meeting. Agenda items included RTP Update, Smartscale applications, economic development efforts, VOF update, local needs.
- Prepared and submitted FY19 RTP plan and proposal to VDOT.
- Coordinated “skinny” long-rnage plan update.
- Assisted King and Queen County with data request.
- Provided responses to a citizen’s inquiry questioning the accuracy of MPPDC transportation updates to the Mathews County Comprehensive Plan. Provided evidence of correctness in response to MPPDC services rendered. The citizen asserted that the Rt. 3 Burke Mill Stream Bridge Replacement project was not located in Mathews County. Provided a copy of the 2016 Draft Six Year Plan which was used to identify project costs.

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

Six-Year Improvement Program

Home User's Guide About

All Projects Major Projects MPO Fund Reports

All Projects

Program: District: Jurisdictions Residencies Road System:

Only Show Projects with Programmed Allocations

Route: ZIP: UPC: Keyword:

Project Search Results (1 Project found)

UPC	Description	Route	District	Road System	Estimate	Previous	FY16	FY17-21	Balance
					(Values in Thousands of Dollars)				
105240	BRIDGE REPL- WBL RTE 3 OVER BURKE MILL STREAM (FED ID 11834)	0003	Fredericksburg	Primary	\$2,536	\$0	\$0	\$304	\$2,232

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ONSITE REPAIR & PUMPOUT

Funding –VRA Loan Funds, local match from MPPDC General Fund, cost sharing

Project 30420/30428 - On-Site Technical Guidance Assistance and Revolving Loan Program

The On-Site Technical Guidance Program aids the Middle Peninsula localities and residents in the technical understanding and implementation of approaches to address On-Site Disposal Systems and improve water quality by assisting local homeowners with repairing failing septic systems through low-interest loans and/or grants. In addition MPPDC received funding under the Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) to provide grants to low to moderate income Middle Peninsula and New Kent County homeowners to repair failing septic systems impacting water quality and health in the region. Grants can be paired with loans from the MPPDC Onsite Wastewater Revolving Loan Fund to provide matching funds as required. It is anticipated this funding will be used to provide assistance to 20-27 homeowners.

- Consulted with Tammy Faulkner, Gloucester Health Department regarding possible assistance with financing sewer hook-up.
- Convened loan committee to review Gloucester repair. Approved assistance - \$4000 WQIF grant and \$1000 loan at 2.5% for 36 months. Closed on loan. Project completed.
- Received phone call from Northumberland homeowner regarding assistance available. Referred to Bay Aging for assistance.
- Received phone call from Mathews homeowner. Mailed application.
- Received phone call from Gloucester homeowner. Discussed assistance available. Consulted with Tammy Faulkner, Gloucester Health Department regarding permit process and DEQ regarding eligibility of grant for Terralift procedure under new RB3R cost-share. Received confirmation that process is eligible for funding. Convened loan committee. Project approved for \$1300 grant, \$750 loan at 3% for 24 months. Closed on loan.
- Provided release of lien documentation for repaid loan to Gloucester homeowner.
- Consulted with Allen Farmer, Farmers Septic regarding Mathews septic repair.
- Received phone call from Gloucester homeowner regarding assistance available for voluntary upgrade to move remote drainfield onto homeowner's property. Met with homeowner to complete application. Consulted with Julia Goens, Gloucester Health Department regarding situation.
- Received phone call from Gloucester homeowner regarding septic problems. Mailed application. Application received and preliminary approval provided for conventional septic repair. Homeowner to provide estimate.
- Received phone call from Middlesex homeowner regarding assistance available for septic repair. Discussed loan terms and mailed application.
- Received voicemail from homeowner regarding septic pumpout. Unable to reach homeowner or to leave message.
- Received phone call from Gloucester homeowner regarding septic pumpout. Placed on waiting list and referred for possible septic repair.
- Received septic pumpout application from Essex homeowner. Mailed program ended letter and placed on waiting list.

- Received phone call from Middlesex resident regarding septic pumpout. Discussed when the last time was she applied and how often assistance is available under the program.
- Consulted with Katie Ranger, DEQ regarding utilization of WQIF funds for septic pumpouts. Approval received to provide cost-share for pumpouts.
- Received phone call from homeowner regarding assistance available. Mailed application.
- Received phone calls from several homeowners with questions regarding application documentation requirements.
- Received phone call from King and Queen homeowner regarding assistance available for septic repair. Mailed application.
- Received phone call from Gloucester homeowner regarding next steps. Provided preliminary approval for grant/loan. Still need permit and estimates.
- Received phone call from Kevin Blake, Blakes Septic regarding estimate for septic job. Asked him to fax estimate.
- Prepared and submitted reimbursement request to Walter Gill, DEQ for VRA loan funds disbursed.
- Prepared and submitted reimbursement request for review to Katie Ranger, DEQ for WQIF funds expensed.
- Consulted with Chris Burrell, Turlingtons Septic regarding completion statement for Gloucester repair.
- Consulted with Chris Burrell, Turlingtons Septic regarding permit for Gloucester repair.
- Provided follow-up to Middlesex homeowner regarding application process via email.
- Received email request from Gloucester homeowner regarding septic repair assistance. Emailed application and provided follow-up information via phone.
- Consulted with loan client regarding loan payoff.
- Consulted with Katie Ranger and Rick Hill, DEQ regarding extension of WQIF grant. Received approval to extend grant until December 2019. Updated scope and milestone tables for extended grant period and emailed to Rick Hill.
- Consulted with Mike McMahan, Gloucester Health Department regarding septic permit for conventional repair.
- *Executed ACH loan payments for septic repair loans. All MPPDC loan funding programs require that loan recipients authorize loan payments to be made automatically from loan recipients' bank accounts. Loan clients authorize the payments at loan closing (ACH Authorizations). These payments occur on the 15th of each month. This places the onus to not make a payment on the loan client contacting MPPDC staff prior to the loan processing date of the 12th of the month to request a payment to be held. This has significantly reduced defaults and delinquent repayments of MPPDC loans as well as collection efforts.*
- **Remaining uncommitted septic repair funding – \$123,223 in loan funds, \$130,723 in grant funds.**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Funding – EDA, local match from MPPDC General Fund, BDP Loan Program Income

Project 30111 - Blue/Green Infrastructure

Commission's effort to promote compatible economic development across the Middle Peninsula looking to leverage blue and green assets.

- Consulted with Mike Vernon, Flood Mitigation Specialist concerning various new business ventures centering on building a new water based economy. Mr. Vernon reported that it would take 350 years to elevate all residential structures within high hazard flooded areas across Tidewater Virginia based on the current number of contractors trained to elevate residential structures.

Project 301702 - Small Business Revolving Loan Fund

MPPDC agreed to service Middle Peninsula Business Development Partnership's (MPBDP) Small Business Loan Portfolio after MPBDP's dissolution November 30, 2011. MPPDC established a revolving loan fund and staff initiate ACH loan payments from clients bank accounts and manages the accounts. Principal repaid will be held until the Commission determines the best use for these funds as allowed by the USDA (RBEG) original lending restrictions. Interest earned will be used to offset administration costs.

- Received USDA RBDG grant application packet from B.J. Fulcher, USDA. MPA interested in submitting application to provide entrepreneur training to MP businesses at pending King and Queen Business Incubator.
- Executed ACH loan payments for MPBDP loans. All MPPDC loan funding programs require that loan recipients authorize loan payments to be made automatically from loan recipients' bank accounts. Loan clients authorize the payments at loan closing (ACH Authorizations). MPPDC staff process these payments on the 15th of each month. This places the onus to not make a payment on the loan client contacting MPPDC staff prior to the loan processing date of the 12th of the month to request a payment be held. This has significantly reduced defaults and delinquent repayments of MPPDC loans.
- **Funds available – \$134,652**

Project 30109 – Staff Support to Middle Peninsula Alliance (MPA)

MPPDC staff are providing clerical and fiscal assistance to the Middle Peninsula Alliance.

- Prepared vouchers, processed A/P, processed deposits and balanced bank account. Prepared monthly financial statements.
- Prepared MPA Board meeting minutes, printed monthly meeting materials, placed monthly reminder calls and provided Liz Povar, MPA Principal Officer with the anticipated attendance.
- Distributed MPA Consent forms to MPA Board in response to request from legal counsel.

LOCAL INITIATIVES

Funding - local dues, PDC base-funding from VDHCD and/or MPPDC General Fund. Funding for specific projects may come from locality requesting assistance.

Project 380181 - Local & Regional Technical Assistance

This program responds to daily requests for technical assistance which other commission programs are unable to provide.

- Consulted with Andrew Cohill, President of Design Nine regarding preparation of a USDA proposal to seek funding for wireless broadband structures.

- Consulted with Sherrin Alsop and David Lynch regarding VACo event to be held at Captain Sinclairs Landing on April 21. Agreed to provide logistics for catering, tent rentals, etc. MPPDC will provide payment to vendors and invoice VACo after event.
- Coordinated with Ken Pollok, Bay Transit regarding VACo event trip to Dragon Run nature viewing platforms.

Project 31002 – GA Lobby

This program provides professional services to represent Middle Peninsula interests at the General Assembly during the current session.

HOUSING

Funding –Housing Loan Program Income

Project 300132 – Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Revolving Loan Fund

The program emphasizes a community-based approach to help meet energy and climate protection goals. MPPDC was awarded a contract to provide weatherization renovations to 12 homeowners ineligible for LMI weatherization programs in each of the 6 counties. MPPDC subcontracted the promotion and construction portions of this project to Bay Aging but was tasked with administering the overall project. MPPDC is administering the revolving loan program per DMME.

- *Executed ACH loan payments for MPBDP loans. All MPPDC loan funding programs require that loan recipients authorize loan payments to be made automatically from loan recipients' bank accounts. Loan clients authorize the payments at loan closing (ACH Authorizations). MPPDC staff process these payments on the 15th of each month. This places the onus to not make a payment on the loan client contacting MPPDC staff prior to the loan processing date of the 12th of the month to request a payment be held which has significantly reduced defaults and delinquent repayments of MPPDC loans.*
- **Funds available = \$39,986**

Project 30115 – VHDA Community Impact Grant

This project will consider new approaches to address vacant homes and clouds on deeds within the Middle Peninsula. Using recommendations derived from VCPC's extensive policy analysis, MPPDC will identify feasible strategies to address housing issues in the region. This work will also include a limited field inventory which will help MPPDC better evaluate how many vacant homes are in the Middle Peninsula. The short-term objective of Phase I is to identify tools available to address housing vacancies and determine how many vacant homes are in the Middle Peninsula. MPPDC will contract with VCPC and the Berkley Group to provide needed analysis and footwork.

- Developed a concept approach (Pilot) using payment in lieu of tax program as a mechanism to encourage reinvestment in housing stock that could become rental property with minimal investment and incentives focusing on dilapidated or vacant houses with rental preference going toward public employees.
- Prepared and submitted financial report and reimbursement request via VHDA grants to VHDA.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Funding - Pending

Project 31204 – Regional Emergency Management Planner

Regional Emergency Planner position housed at the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission (MPPDC) in Saluda. The Middle Peninsula crosses VDEM Region 1&5 boundaries. Position will support local Emergency Coordinators by assisting/coordinating homeland security & disaster response preparedness; Rt. 17 evacuation planning; & resource data collection.

- Attended the 2018 Virginia Emergency Management Seminar (“VEMS”). The annual seminar has several breakout sessions on Emergency Management issues, general sessions with updates on state and local current issues, a VEMA member association meeting, and an update of issues of federal concern by FEMA. Speaker highlights included:
 1. “Team Rubicon and the 2017 Hurricane Deployment Season”
 2. “A Message of Hope” by My Brothers’ Crossing
 3. “Best Practices During an Active Shooter Threat”
 4. “Virtual EOC for Small Localities”
 5. “Local Pharmacies Assisting with Emergencies”
 6. “Shooting in Alexandria (VA): It Did Happen Here”
 7. “Building Universally Accessible Evacuation and Sheltering Programs”
 8. “National Weather Service Town Hall”
 9. “Moving VEMA Forward Through Legislative Advocacy”
 10. “Whose Spill is it? Multi-Agency Coordination of the Jet Fuel Spill in Virginia Beach”
- Attended the National Hurricane Conference in Orlando, FL. Took the “EMI L0202 Debris Management Planning for State, Tribal and Local Officials”. Attended sessions on the 2017 Hurricane Season, Indirect Tropical Cyclone Fatalities, Life-Threatening Inland Fresh Water Flooding, and Water and Power Lessons from Hurricane Harvey, Irma and Maria. Toured the Osceola County EOC, a regional EOC and 911 call center in a Category 5 rated building. Met with contractors and other Emergency Managers from across USA and Caribbean. Earned professional development hours for participation.
- Attended the quarterly Hurricane Evacuation Coordination Workgroup. The workgroup discussed the new Hurricane Evacuation zones in Virginia, was updated on VDEM’s re-entry planning, and set the next meeting date for June. The Regional Emergency Planner sits on the Mass Care Committee, which is responsible for collecting data on shelter resources in Virginia.
- Prepared and submitted Final Report to VDEM for this project: “32104 MP Regional Emergency Planning FY 17”.
- Prepared and submitted financial report and reimbursement request via EGMS to VDEM.

Project 31207 – MP/NN Mass Casualty Exercise

The 2017 Gap Analysis of the Middle Peninsula/Northern Neck’s Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs), identified the need of integrating as a region, including the need for a regional exercise that would require multiple jurisdictions to carry out a coordinated response to an incident. This functional exercise will include the Middle Peninsula, will invite the Northern Neck, and will provide jurisdictions that recently purchased regional support trailers, the opportunity to deploy and use that gear in a simulated real-world event.

- Began developing a Draft Exercise Plan and have identified Core Capabilities and Objectives for the September 22, 2018 joint exercise with Three-Rivers Health District.

Project 31208 – MP/NN Regional Debris Management Plan

The Middle Peninsula/Northern Neck Debris Management Plan improves and supports the jurisdictions within the Middle Peninsula/Northern Neck's Operational Coordination, Information Sharing and Recovery Planning. The 2017 Gap Analysis of the Middle Peninsula/Northern Neck's Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs), identified the need to develop a Regional Debris Removal Plan that would engage the 10 county area in a joint planning process.

- Attended and passed the “EMI L0202 Debris Management Planning State, Tribal and Local Officials” during the 2018 National Hurricane Conference in Orlando, FL.
- Prepared and submitted financial report and reimbursement request via EGMS to VDEM.

AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

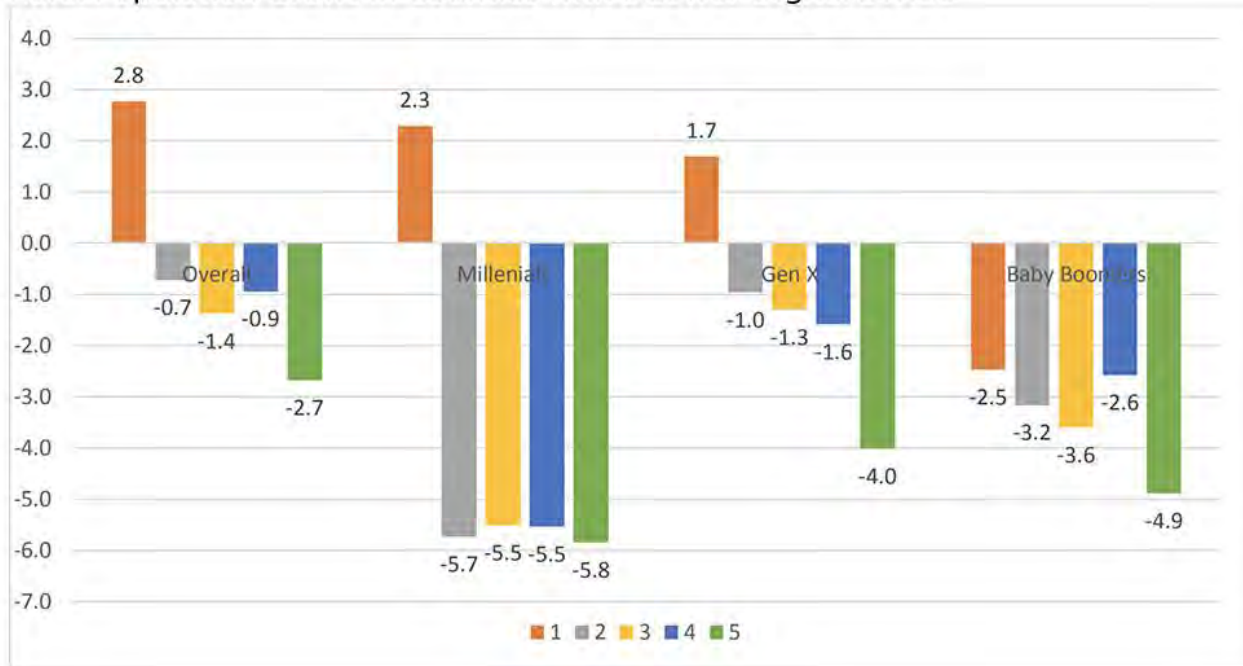
Funding - Indirect cost reimbursements from all PDC projects

MPPDC Administration

Administrative services provided to MPPDC programs. Planned FY18 Indirect Cost rate =58.9%.

- Met with Nora Pierre, VML to receive FY19 insurance quote.
- Continued preparation of FY19 draft budget. Set date for Budget Committee meeting.
- Consulted with Drew Williams and Bryant Phillips, Berkley Group regarding invoicing requirements.

Rural Population Grows in Counties with a Lower 'Digital Divide'



Sources: USDA; Pew Research; US Census Bureau; Purdue Center for Regional Development This graph shows that the number of Millennials and Gen Xers living in the nation's most rural counties is on the increase in counties with a low "digital divide index." The graph splits the population in "noncore" (or rural) counties into three different generations. Then, within each generation, the graph looks at population change based on the Digital Divide Index. The index measures the digital divide using two sets of criteria, one that looks at the availability and adoption of broadband and another set that looks at socio-economic factors such as income and education levels that affect broadband use. Counties are split into five groups or quintiles based on the digital divide index, with group No. 1 (orange) having the most access and No. 5 (green) having the lowest.

WHEN IT COMES TO BROADBAND, MILLENNIALS VOTE WITH THEIR FEET

By Roberto Gallardo – Robert Bell – Norman Jacknis April 11, 2018

When they live in remote rural areas, millennials are more likely to reside in a county that has better digital access. The findings could indicate that the digital economy is helping decentralize the economy, not just clustering economic change in the cities that are already the largest.

Cities are the future and the countryside is doomed, as far as population growth, jobs, culture and lifestyle are concerned. Right?

Certainly, that is the mainstream view expressed by analysts at organizations such as Brookings. This type of analysis says the "clustering" of business that occurred during the industrial age will only accelerate as the digital economy takes hold. This argument says digital economies will only deepen and accelerate the competitive advantage that cities have always had in modern times.

But other pundits and researchers argue that the digital age will result in "decentralization" and a more level playing field between urban and rural. Digital technologies are insensitive to location and distance and potentially offer workers a much greater range of opportunities than ever before.

The real question is whether a rural decline is inevitable or if the digital economy has characteristics that are already starting to write a different story for rural America. We have recently completed research that suggests it is.

Millennial Trends

While metro areas still capture the majority of new jobs and population gains, there is some anecdotal evidence pointing in a different direction. Consider a CBS article that notes how, due to high housing costs, horrible traffic, and terrible work-life balances, Bend, Oregon, is seeing an influx of teleworkers from Silicon Valley. *The New York Times* has reported on the sudden influx of escapees from the Valley that is transforming Reno, Nevada – for good or ill, it is not yet clear.

Likewise, a *Fortune* article argued that “millennials are about to leave cities in drones” and the *Telegraph* mentioned “there is a great exodus going on from cities” in addition to Time magazine reporting that the millennial population of certain U.S. cities has peaked.

Why millennials? Well, dubbed the first digital-native generation, their migration patterns could indicate the beginning of a digital age-related decentralization.

An Age-Based Look at Population Patterns

In search of insight, we looked at population change among the three generations that make up the entire country’s workforce: millennials, generation X, and baby boomers.

First, we defined each generation. Table 1 shows the age ranges of each generation according to the Pew Research Center, both in 2010 and 2016, as well as the age categories used to measure each generation. While not an exact match, categories are consistent across years and geographies.

Table 1. Generation, Age Ranges, and Census Categories Utilized

Generation	Years	Age in 2010	Age in 2016	2010 Categories	2016 Categories
Millennials	1981-1997	14-29	20-35	15-19	20-24
				20-24	25-29
				25-29	30-34
Generation X	1965-1980	30-45	36-51	30-34	35-39
				35-39	40-44
				40-44	45-49
Baby Boomers	1946-1964	46-64	52-70	45-49	50-54
				50-54	55-59
				55-59	60-64
				60-64	65-69

Source: Pew Research Center; U.S. Census Bureau

In addition to looking at generations, we used the Office of Management core-based typology to control by county type (metropolitan, small city [micropolitan], and rural [noncore]). To factor in the influence of digital access affects local economies, we used the Digital Divide Index. The DDI, developed by the Purdue Center for Regional Development, ranges from zero to 100. The higher the score, the higher the digital divide. There are two components to the Digital Divide Index: 1) broadband infrastructure/adoption and 2) socioeconomic characteristics known to affect technology adoption.

Looking at overall trends, it does look like the digital age is not having a decentralization effect. To the contrary, according to data from the economic modeling service Emsi, the U.S. added 19.4 million jobs between 2010 and 2016. Of these, 94.6 percent were located in metropolitan counties compared to only 1.6 percent in rural counties.

Population growth tells a similar story. Virtually the entire growth in U.S. population of 14.4 million between 2010 and 2016 occurred in metropolitan counties, according to the Census Bureau. The graph below (Figure 1) shows the total population change overall and by generation and county type. As expected, the number of baby boomers (far right side of the graph) is falling across all county types while millennials and generation x (middle two sets of bars) are growing only in metro counties.

Figure 1. 2010-2016 Population Change by Generation and County Type



Sources: USDA; Pew Research; US Census Bureau; Purdue Center for Regional Development

But there is a different story. When looking at *only rural counties* (what the OMB classification system calls “noncore”) divided into five equal groups or quintiles based on their digital divide (1 = lowest divide while 5 = highest divide), the figure at the very top of this article shows that rural counties experienced *an increase in millennials where the digital divide was lowest*. (The millennial population grew by 2.3 percent in rural counties where the digital divide was the lowest.) Important to note is that this same pattern occurs in metropolitan and small city counties as well.

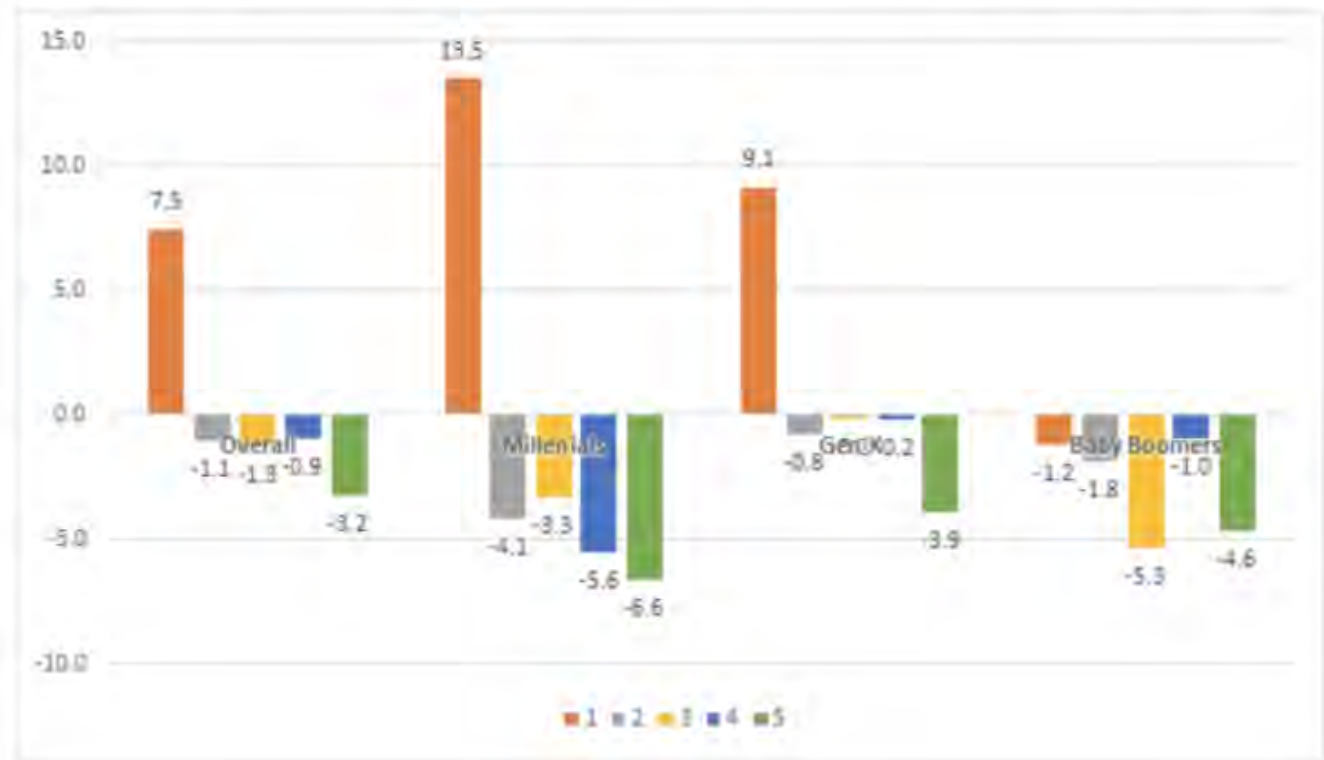
Impact on the “Really Rural” County

“Urban” and “rural” can be tricky terms when it comes to demographics. The Census Bureau reports that 80% of the population lives in urban areas. Seventy-five percent of those “urban” areas, however, are actually small towns with populations of under 20,000. They are often geographically large, with a population density that falls off rapidly once you leave the center of town.

On the other hand, some rural counties are adjacent to metro areas and may benefit disproportionately from their location or even be considered metropolitan due to their commuting patterns. Because of this, we turned to another typology developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service that groups counties into nine types ranging from large metro areas to medium size counties adjacent to metro areas to small counties not adjacent to metro areas.

Figure 3 (below) shows counties considered completely rural or with an urban population of less than 2,500, not adjacent to a metro area. Among these counties, about 420 in total, those with the lowest digital divide experienced a 13.5 percent increase in millennials between 2010 and 2016. In other words, in the nation’s “most rural” counties, the millennial population increased significantly when those counties had better broadband access.

Figure 3. 2010-2016 Population Change by Generation and DDI Quintile, Rural not Adjacent to Metro



Sources: USDA; Pew Research; US Census Bureau; Purdue Center for Regional Development. This graph shows population change by generation and “DDI” quintile in the nation’s most rural counties (rural counties that are farthest from metropolitan areas). In rural counties with the best digital access (a low digital divide index), the number of Millennials and Gen Xers increased.

The New Connected Countryside: A Work in Progress

To conclude, if you just look at overall numbers, our population seems to be behaving just like they did in the industrial age – moving to cities where jobs and people are concentrated. Rural areas that lag in broadband connectivity and digital literacy will continue to suffer from these old trends.

However, the digital age is young. Its full effects are still to be felt. Remember it took several decades for electricity or the automobile to revolutionize society. Besides, areas outside metro areas lag in broadband connectivity and digital literacy, limiting their potential to leverage the technology to affect their quality of life, potentially reversing migration trends.

Whether or not decentralization will take place remains to be seen. What is clear though is that (while other factors are having an impact, as well) any community attempting to retain or attract millennials need to address their digital divide, both in terms of broadband access and adoption/use.

In other words, our data analysis suggests that if a rural area has widely available and adopted broadband, it can start to successfully attract or retain millennials.

Roberto Gallardo is assistant director of the Purdue Center for Regional Development and a senior fellow at the Center for Rural Strategies, which publishes the Daily Yonder. Robert Bell is co-founder of the Intelligent Community Forum. Norman Jacknis is a senior fellow at the Intelligent Community Forum and adjunct faculty at the Columbia University.