



A-NPDC NEWSLETTER

ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

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A-NPDC NEWS SUMMARY: At the January 28, 2002 A-NPDC meeting, the Commission learned that:

- In the Makemie Park Community, septic tanks are ready to be installed when the ground dries.
- In the Locust Mount Community, two new houses on new lots are nearing completion. One rehab is almost complete and a second rehab has started. Also, The "Build for the Future" home is complete.
- In the Savage Town/Cats Bridge Community, housing construction is 65% complete on the unit that was contracted in November. Members of ten households participated in the December workshop on budgeting, housekeeping, and home maintenance.
- In the Bayview Community, contracts for two new houses are being signed this week.
- In the New Road Community, three new houses were completed earlier this month and two new houses are now underway.
- In the Fairview Community, seven units have been bid out as a group. Also, two families were approved for the IPR program.

WEB SITE OF THE MONTH:

2000 Virginia Statistical Abstract Online

Sponsored by the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia, this is the reference to consult for data tables on employment, taxes, agriculture, and hundreds of other topics. Compare Virginia to the nation or to surrounding states at <http://www.ccps.virginia.edu/demographics/> by selecting *Virginia Statistical Abstract*.

TOWNS COMPLETE REVIEW PROCESS

The Accomack County towns of Hallwood and Tangier each recently completed the process of reviewing and updating their Town Plans. The Hallwood and Tangier Planning Commissions prepared the revised Town Plans with A-NPDC staff assistance. After holding Joint Public Hearings with their respective Planning Commissions, the Hallwood and Tangier Town Councils adopted their revised Town Plans.

The Commonwealth of Virginia requires local governments to review their comprehensive plans, at a minimum, every five years. Town Plans and County Plans are the official comprehensive plan documents adopted by local governments to guide policy decisions about land use development and provisions of public services. Comprehensive plans are general in nature and are used as the basis for zoning ordinances.

Accomack-Northampton Planning District Estimated Labor Force Components

| <u>Period</u> | <u>Civilian Labor Force</u> | <u>Unemployment</u> | <u>Rate</u> |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Dec01 | 20,501 | 1,100 | 5.4% |
| Nov01 | 20,781 | 989 | 4.8% |
| Dec00 | 19,796 | 792 | 4.0% |

Source: Virginia Employment Commission, EIS Division. January 2002.

In honor of *President's Day*, the February 2002 A-NPDC Meeting will be held one week later than usual.

NEXT A-NPDC MEETING

Monday, February 25, 2002

7:30 PM

THE ENTERPRISE BUILDING

ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SUBMIT \$1,228,578 IN VDOT APPLICATIONS

Accomack County, Northampton County, the Town of Chincoteague, and the Town of Exmore have submitted a total of \$1,228,578 in Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Transportation Enhancement Grants applications. VDOT's Transportation Enhancement Grant Program is funded through TEA 21, the Federal Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century. VDOT's Transportation Enhancement Grant Program provides competitive funding for a variety of non-traditional transportation related projects, such as restoration of historic transportation facilities, development of bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and landscaping and scenic beautification. The VDOT grants require a 20 percent local government match. The following is a summary of the four VDOT grant proposals prepared by A-NPDC staff.

Wisharts Point Landing Project, \$300,000, Accomack County

The Accomack County Board of Supervisors has applied for \$300,000 to restore the Wisharts Point Landing near Atlantic. The Wisharts Point Landing Project includes a boat ramp with piers, parking lot, restrooms, landscaping, non-point source pollution control structures, interpretive signs, and provisions for pedestrian and bicycle access. The 2.7-acre site was recently donated to Accomack County by the members of Wisharts Point Boat Harbor, Inc. The VDOT grant proposal was prepared by Jim McGowan, A-NPDC Director of Planning.

Northampton County Gateway Project, \$200,000, Northampton County

The Northampton County Board of Supervisors has requested \$200,000 for the Northampton County Gateway Project, which includes a visitor center, gateway signs and plantings, and landscaping along U.S. Route 13. The visitor center and a Northampton County gateway sign and landscaping will be located near the northern terminus of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. Another Northampton County gateway sign and landscaping will be located in northern Northampton near the Accomack County line. Two town gateway signs and landscaping will be located along U.S. Route 13 at Cape Charles, Cheriton, Eastville, Nassawadox, and Exmore. Additional Crape Myrtle trees will also be planted along U.S. Route 13. The VDOT grant proposal was prepared by Jim McGowan, A-NPDC Director of Planning.

Main Street Corridor Enhancement Project, \$350,000, Town of Chincoteague

The Town of Chincoteague has applied for \$350,000 to purchase the property at the foot of the new Chincoteague Bridge to develop a hub-stop for a seasonal trolley system that will serve the island's motels, campgrounds, and business districts. The funding will also be used to expand the "wayfinding" sign system being developed as part of the Chincoteague Downtown Revitalization Project. The wayfinding sign system provides an attractive, clearly identifiable source of information to visitors regarding parking, points of interest, etc. A final element of the proposed project is the development of a public landing and boat ramp. The VDOT Grant proposal was prepared by Kat Edwards, A-NPDC Community Development Coordinator.

Town of Exmore \$378,578 The Town of Exmore has applied for \$378,578 in its third round of VDOT requests to ensure there is enough funding available for the streetscape, parking and utility relocation activities proposed in Exmore's Phase I and II applications. These activities are part of the Town's downtown revitalization efforts. The VDOT Grant proposal was prepared by Kat Edwards, A-NPDC Community Development Coordinator.

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