



A-NPDC NEWSLETTER

ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

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JULY 2002

A-NPDC NEWS SUMMARY: At the June 17, 2002 A-NPDC meeting, the Commission learned that:

- In the Locust Mount Community, contracts were signed for the construction of more replacement houses and two new houses are under construction. A concrete slab was installed recently in the covered pavilion at the community park.
- In the Makemie Park Community, Phase I of the treatment and disposal systems are complete. Design work continues on the collection system (Phase II).
- In the Savage Town/Cats Bridge Community, demolition and clearance of two trailers and other debris is complete. The engineer is performing design work for five alternative sewage systems.
- In the Town of Tangier, plans and schedules are complete for vacating houses to be demolished under the Disaster Recovery Initiative. The contractor is planning to install all six foundations at once.
- In the Bayview Community, a Bayview Citizens for Social Justice, Inc., request of the engineer to redesign the streets and pathways of the new subdivision has been accomplished, and various agencies are reviewing the proposed changes.
- In the New Road Community, NCALL and NRCDG are working to obtain construction estimates for the sixteen rental units to be constructed in the community and six Indoor Plumbing Rehabs will be bid soon.

WEB SITE OF THE MONTH:

The U.S. Route 13 / Wallops Island Access Management Plan was recently presented to Accomack County and Northampton County officials. View or download the plan and maps by visiting the Virginia Department of Transportation web page, at www.virginiadot.org/projects/constHRO-rt13-wallops.asp

PRODUCTION FACILITY WILL MOVE TO S.T.I.P.

In a recent press release, Governor Mark R. Warner announced that Wako Chemicals USA, Inc. will relocate its Haemachem Division production facility from North Carolina to Northampton County's Sustainable Technology Industrial Park. The announcement comes after several months of intense competition for the project between Virginia and North Carolina. The relocation will require the company to invest \$500,000 locally and will create five biotech jobs, with the potential for more. The new Wako Chemicals USA facility will perform research with blood products derived from horseshoe crabs (*Limulus*). Materials produced from horseshoe crab blood are used in testing injectible drugs for the presence of bacterial endotoxins. Horseshoe crabs are not harmed during the process, so they may be returned to local waters to sustain the stock.

Wako Chemicals USA Senior Vice President Kiyoshi Misu stated in the Governor's press release that Northampton County was chosen because of the proximity of horseshoe crabs, the resources available from Virginia Tech and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, the company's existing infrastructure at nearby facilities, and the excellent facilities available [at the] Sustainable Technology Industrial Park. The Eastern Shore of Virginia Economic Development Commission assisted Wako Chemicals USA with its decision to relocate to the Sustainable Technology Industrial Park.

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

THE A-NPDC WILL NOT MEET DURING JULY 2002. THE NEXT A-NPDC MEETING DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE AUGUST 2002 NEWSLETTER.

VDOT PRESENTS FINAL U.S. ROUTE 13 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has completed the U.S. Route 13 / Wallops Island Access Management Study and presented its final recommendations to the Accomack County Board of Supervisors on May 29, 2002 and to the Northampton County Board of Supervisors on June 5, 2002. The study recommends \$139.3 million worth of improvements to U.S. Route 13 and Route 175 over the next 20 years, including \$7 million in short-term safety improvements. The recommendations include corridor-wide policy actions and physical improvements, as well as site-specific highway improvements in both counties.

Corridor-wide policy actions include adoption of access management guidelines by VDOT, adoption of conceptual highway plans by local governments, and adoption of highway corridor overlay zoning district ordinances by local governments. "Access Management" refers to a variety of techniques for improving roadway safety to reduce highway congestion, including safer standards for commercial development, consolidating entrances and driveways, adding turn lanes, modifying medians, eliminating or adding crossovers, adding or synchronizing traffic lights, and constructing alternative roadways. Short-term corridor-wide safety improvements include installing shoulder rumble strips, raised pavement markers, mile markers, turn lanes, and safer drainage structures.

Site-specific physical improvements also include short-term and long-term goals. Short-term projects include clearing vegetation, improving intersections, widening medians, and constructing frontage roads in densely developed areas. Major long-term projects include the following improvements in Accomack and Northampton:

Accomack County

- Route 175 paved shoulders
- Oak Hall/Temperanceville Bypass
- Medians in Mappsville, Nelsonia, and northern Accomac
- Access road between Community College and Industrial Park
- Access road between Route 179 and Chesapeake Square in Onley
- Relocate railroad and build medians in Melfa, Keller, and Painter

Northampton County

- Access road at Fresh Pride/Trawler
- Relocate K-Mart traffic light and build access road into Exmore
- Relocate railroad and build median in Nassawadox
- Improve Machipongo intersection
- Overpass at Route 184
- Improve Cape Center access
- Improve State Park access

The U.S. Route 13 / Wallops Island Access Management Study was conducted by Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., of Glen Allen, Virginia. Copies of the study, maps, and aerial photos can be reviewed on-line at www.virginiadot.org. From the VDOT home page, click on Projects. When the map comes up, click on the Eastern Shore. The U.S. Route 13 / Wallops Island Access Management Study will be listed under the Hampton Roads District projects. The study can also be reviewed at the VDOT Accomac Residency Office in Accomac, 757-787-1550.

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