

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mark L. Bellamy, Jr.



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September 4, 2025

Lauren Stuhldreher
Economic Development Administration
Robert Nix Federal Building
900 Market St. Room 602
Philadelphia PA 19107

RE: Letter of Support for the Proposed EDD Designation

Dear Ms. Stuhldreher:

On behalf of the York County government, I am writing to express our support for the designation of the Hampton Roads region as an Economic Development District (EDD) as proposed by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. Our County recognizes the critical importance of a regionally coordinated approach to addressing our shared economic challenges and fostering sustainable growth.

York County is committed to enhancing regional economic development. Our County faces specific challenges such as aging infrastructure, increasing utility demands, environmental threats, a limited range of job sectors, a lean business ecosystem, and a declining industrial tax base that require a unified and strategic response. The Comprehensive Economic Development Plan (CEDS) submitted by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission clearly outlines how coordinated public-private partnerships, improved infrastructure, and targeted workforce development efforts can drive long-term economic resilience and job creation across our region.

Furthermore, the designation will not only enable our County to better leverage federal resources but also facilitate stronger intergovernmental collaboration across the Hampton Roads region. This integrated approach is essential for addressing regional economic challenges and capitalizing on our shared strengths, including robust transportation networks and established business clusters.

In light of these factors, York County supports the proposed EDD designation and urges the Economic Development Administration to favorably review this application. We are confident that this strategic action will yield significant benefits for our County and the region.

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A Hampton Roads Community

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Thank you for your consideration. Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (757) 890-3320 or bellamy@yorkcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "M Bellamy", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark L. Bellamy, Jr.
County Administrator

Copy to: York County Board of Supervisors
Mr. Robert A. Crum, Jr., Executive Director, HRPDC