

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Neil A. Morgan



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February 15, 2018

The Honorable Thomas K. Norment, Jr.
Senate of Virginia
P.O. Box 396
Richmond, VA 23218

Dear Senator Norment:

On behalf of the York County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express support for Senate Bill 942. We appreciate and commend your leadership in sponsoring and advocating passage of this legislation that will allow the three Historic Triangle jurisdictions – Williamsburg, James City County, and York County – to continue to financially support the area's tourism industry, but with the benefit of an alternative revenue source.

The additional 1-cent sales tax to be authorized by passage of the bill would, based on all indications, provide a net increase in funds available in the region for tourism promotion and enhancement while also providing the three jurisdictions with a modest revenue boost that could be used to fund other essential public services and governmental functions (e.g., Education, Public Safety, Capital Improvements). In that respect, it addresses one of York County's long-standing legislative priorities – that being the authority to supplement the real estate and personal property tax with an alternative revenue source.

We note that you have referred to this as a “self-help” opportunity for the Historic Triangle jurisdictions, similar to the Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia transportation initiatives. We agree with that assessment and believe that the benefits to the Greater Williamsburg area would be significant.

Again, thank you for your leadership on this initiative and for your service to York County and the Historic Triangle.

Sincerely,

Sheila S. Noll, Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors

Copy to: York County Board of Supervisors
Neil A. Morgan, County Administrator
James E. Barnett, Jr., County Attorney