

Simmons, Ellen

From: Morgan, Neil
To: BOS
Subject: Letter to Federal Delegation for Funding to Support the Federal Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program
Attachments: RCPG Program Funding Support.pdf

From: Robert A. Crum, Jr. [<mailto:rcrum@hrpdcva.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:17 PM

To: Baker, James E. ; Benda, Wynter; Bunting, Mary; Collins, Marvin ; Fedors, J. Brent; Fedors, J. Brent ; Franklin, Tyrone W.; Hansen, David; Johnson, Michael W.; Keaton, Randy; Markowski, Kimberly K.; Martin, Randy ; Morgan, Neil; Patton, Lydia Pettis; Porter, William; Roberts, Patrick; Rohlf, Cynthia D.; Smith, Doug; Stallings, Michael; Stephenson, Peter M.; Wheeler, J. Randall

Cc: Lumpkin, Drew; Kaufman, Diane; John Sadler; Keith Cannady; Barnard-Bailey, Wanda; Benson, Nicole; Deprofio, Brian; Dillard, Joe; Drake, Thelma; Hunt, Sherry; Matthias, Robert R.; Neil, Sherri; Robertson, Donald; Smith, Brian; Sorey, Earl; Trivette, Andrew; Whayland, Morgan ; Wilson, Jerri

Subject: Letter to Federal Delegation for Funding to Support the Federal Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program

Good afternoon – Attached is a copy of the letter that was emailed to Hampton Roads’ Federal Delegation requesting their support in funding the Federal Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program. A hard copy will also be sent to each Congressman & Senator.

Thank you.
Bob



Robert A. Crum Jr.

Executive Director

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization

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MEMBER JURISDICTIONS

March 28, 2018

CHESAPEAKE

The Honorable Timothy Kaine
Senator
United States Senate

The Honorable Mark R. Warner
Senator
United States Senate
101 W. Main Street, Suite 4900
Norfolk, VA 23510

FRANKLIN

222 Central Park Avenue, Suite 102
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

GLOUCESTER

The Honorable A. Donald McEachin
Congressman
U.S. House of Representatives
131 N. Saratoga Street, Suite B
Suffolk, VA 23434

The Honorable Bobby Scott
Congressman
U.S. House of Representatives
2600 Washington Avenue, Suite 1010
Newport News, VA 23607

HAMPTON

ISLE OF WIGHT

JAMES CITY

The Honorable Scott Taylor
Congressman
U.S. House of Representatives
1 Columbus Center, Suite 900
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

The Honorable Rob Wittman
Congressman
U.S. House of Representatives
6501 Mechanicsville Turnpike, Suite 102
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

NEWPORT NEWS

NORFOLK

RE: Support for funding of the Federal Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP)

POQUOSON

PORTSMOUTH

Dear Senator Kaine, Senator Warner, Congressman McEachin, Congressman Scott, Congressman Taylor and Congressman Wittman:

SMITHFIELD

SOUTHAMPTON

SUFFOLK

The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) staff requests your support for funding of the Federal Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) in the amount of \$35 million. The HRPDC represents 17 local governments and over 1.7 million residents in southeastern Virginia. Funding for this program would greatly assist our region's 17 localities in developing regionally coordinated plans to prevent and prepare for catastrophic events in the Hampton Roads region.

SURRY

VIRGINIA BEACH

WILLIAMSBURG

YORK

Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the federal government recognized the need to have a regional and collaborative approach in responding to catastrophic emergencies. Funding through the RCPGP supports the coordination of regional all-hazard planning for catastrophic events, including the development of integrated planning communities, plans, protocols, and procedures to manage a catastrophic event. The U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law 110-28) first provided funds to Tier 1 urban regional areas, as selected by the Department of Homeland Security, to create plans to address catastrophic events in urban areas most at risk.

Congress continued this initiative by formally establishing the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) in the FY 2008 Homeland Security Appropriations bill. From FY 2008 through FY 2010, Congress annually distributed a total of \$35 million through this program among ten high-risk urban areas to build regional and collaborative plans to respond to catastrophic emergencies. Funding for the program concluded in FY 2011 with \$14.9 million appropriated after all the plans created through the program were finalized and implemented.

The ten RCPGP sites were:

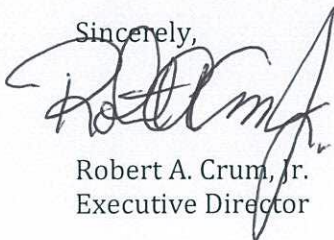
- Bay Area
- Chicago Area
- Hampton Roads, VA Area
- Honolulu Area
- Houston Area
- Los Angeles Area
- National Capital Region
- New England Regional Area
- NY-NJ-CT-PA Regional Area
- Puget Sound Region

The Hampton Roads region utilized these funds to collect data, conduct analysis, and establish plans, protocols, annexes, job-aids, and best practices to enhance preparedness for natural and man-made, catastrophic incidents. These plans were instrumental in responding to Hurricane Matthew in 2016. Additionally, the region benefited from and contributed to a national partnership with the other nine RCPGP sites that shared and leveraged deliverables representing a substantial cost-savings and maximization of federal funds.

Almost eight years after finalizing regional plans, it is necessary for these plans to be updated or re-established to address new and emerging threats such as the proliferation of lone wolf and complex coordinated terrorist attacks. Additionally, natural events such as Hurricanes Irma and Harvey will continue to be exacerbated due to the effects of sea-level rise and climate change. In light of these growing threats, we request your support in ensuring that \$35 million in the FY 2019 Homeland Security Appropriations bill be allocated to the RCPGP to ensure that these life-saving plans can be updated and for new plans to be created. In Hampton Roads, we would approach this planning process in a regionally coordinated manner which would include all 17 local governments in this critical regional planning effort.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions or need assistance as you advance this effort on behalf of our region, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director

RAC/ka