

RICHMOND REGIONAL PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
&
CRATER PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION JOINT NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Public Listening Session
on Multi-Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
on Wednesday, May 11

Richmond, Virginia - April 18, 2011: The Richmond Regional and Crater Planning District Commissions are holding a public listening session to obtain citizens' input on the *Richmond-Crater Multi-Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan*.

The *Crater Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan* and the *Richmond Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan* were initially adopted by the participating jurisdictions in 2006. Every five years, local governments must review and update the mitigation plan from the original date of the plan to continue Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mitigation grant program eligibility. The Planning District Commissions and their participating jurisdictions have decided it is in the best interest of the regions to conduct a joint planning process resulting in the *Richmond-Crater Multi-Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan*. Area local governments will be considering the plan for re-adoption during the fall of 2011. Citizens' comments will be addressed and, as appropriate, be incorporated in the updated plan.

The meeting will be held from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11, at the Appomattox Library, located at 245 East Cawson Street, Hopewell, VA.

A brief overview of the plan update process will be given to attendees as well as information on changes to risk and vulnerability. Citizen input on areas of concern and ideas for future projects to reduce the impact of natural disasters will be taken.

"This planning effort will help our community assess its vulnerability to natural hazards and prepare a plan that reduces the impact of natural disasters to the Richmond and Crater Regions. We encourage the community's participation in this important regional planning effort," said Robert A. Crum, Jr., Executive Director of the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission. "We are very interested in any ideas the community may have to ensure that we are adequately prepared for future natural hazards."

The 2006 *Crater Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan* and the *Richmond Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan* are posted on the Virginia Department of Emergency Management Web site at www.vaemergency.com/library/plans/mitigation.cfm under "Crater Planning District Commission" and "Richmond Regional Planning District Commission," respectively. Individuals who are unable to

attend the meeting can fax comments to Jane Frantz (703) 206-0803 or mail comments to her attention at Dewberry, 8401 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax, VA 22031.

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The Richmond Regional Planning District Commission is a regional planning agency with major emphasis in the areas of transportation, local technical assistance and information services including demographic, economic and geographic information systems. This PDC serves Town of Ashland; the City of Richmond; and the counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent, and Powhatan.

The Crater Planning District Commission is comprised of 11 local governments in south central Virginia. These are the cities of Colonial Heights, Emporia, Hopewell and Petersburg, and the counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Greensville, Prince George, Surry and Sussex. The major focus of the Commission's Work program is economic, industrial and small business development, reflecting the priorities which have been established by the member localities. Another important work area involves environmental issues, in response to local needs. The Commission also addresses regional transportation issues and assists localities in their transportation planning efforts.