

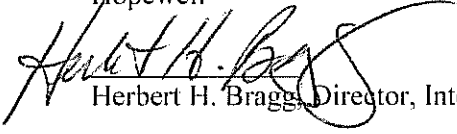


City of Hopewell

300 North Main Street
Hopewell, VA 23860

December 13, 2011

To: The Honorable City Council, and Legislative Committee, City of Hopewell

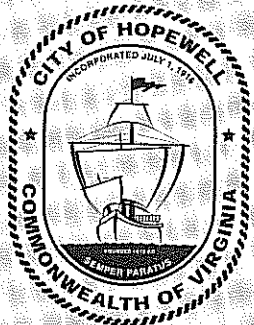
From:  Herbert H. Bragg, Director, Intergovernmental & Public Affairs

RE: Summary listing of the 2012 General Assembly State Legislative Priorities

Please find attached a summary listing of the 2012 General Assembly Legislative Priorities for the City of Hopewell.

1. We **SUPPORT** state funding in the amount of \$5,000,000 for the City's Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility capital project for the purpose of constructing a new nitrogen removal facility to aid in compliance with VPDES and Nutrient General Permits.
2. We **SUPPORT** elimination of the Mandatory Aid to state (ATL) Reductions. The state should appropriate its surplus revenues to eliminate the \$60M/year mandatory reduction in aid to localities.
3. We **SUPPORT** full funding for K-12 education. It is essential that the state meet its constitutional responsibility to adequately fund k-12 education, including full funding for the biennial re-benchmark of Virginia's Standards of Quality.
4. We **SUPPORT** continued funding of the Water Quality Improvement Fund in an effort to expand the plant's facility and reduce nitrogen in our wastewater treatment processes.
5. We **SUPPORT** regulations that provide a nutrient reduction goal for individual jurisdictions, but allow local governments flexibility in determining the best approach.
6. We **SUPPORT** the business development of Route 36 Corridor as a vital revenue source for the City of Hopewell.
7. We **SUPPORT** HB _____ (Patron Dance & Co-Patron Ingram) a Bill to amend and reenact 15.2-901 of the Code of Virginia, relating to grass, weeds and other foreign growth.

8. We **SUPPORT** local government autonomy to make policy decisions on local issues, particularly concerning land-use and zoning regulations, enterprise zones and local revenue measures.
9. We **SUPPORT** full funding of all state mandates on local governments.
10. We **SUPPORT** funding of HB 599 (Public Safety funds/crime prevention) at the current levels.
11. We **SUPPORT** local government authority requiring new development to cover the cost of expanding public infrastructure through tools such as impact fees and cash proffers.
 - a. We **SUPPORT** a vibrant downtown historic district that will play a key role in Hopewell's on-going community development and provide a family-friendly urban center for Hopewell natives and military families.
12. We **SUPPORT** thorough analysis and consideration of the impact on local government budgets and services before adopting, creating, or implementing new regulations or programs.
13. We **SUPPORT** administrative funding of Social Services employees and state restoration of the 2.5% SFY administrative reduction.
14. We **SUPPORT** Trails, Pathways and Green Corridors and Park Acquisition and Development. An appropriate mix of transportation choices should recognize the urban, suburban and rural differences across the commonwealth. Where practical, pedestrian and bicycle-friendly environments that facilitates walking and bicycling support independence, healthy living and convenience while saving public funds. Public demand for park land and open space has been repeatedly demonstrated by state and local bond referenda. Virginia's population continues to grow and so does the need for park land and open space.
15. We **SUPPORT** Regionalism.
16. We **OPPOSE** any new state mandates requirement or eligibility Criteria for CMPT Boards.
17. We **OPPOSE** the continuation of existing unfunded mandates or the creation of new unfunded mandates.
18. We **OPPOSE** Sen. Watkins Bill pertaining to local speed limits and related funds.

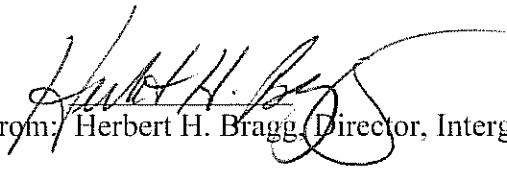


December 13, 2011

City of Hopewell

300 North Main Street
Hopewell, VA 23860

To: The Honorable City Council and Legislative Committee, City of Hopewell

From:  Herbert H. Bragg, Director, Intergovernmental & Public Affairs

RE: City of Hopewell 2012 Federal Legislative Priorities

Please find attached a summary listing of the 2012 Federal Legislative Priorities for the City of Hopewell.

- (1) We **SUPPORT** Dredging of the City Marina and further development of the Boardwalk in concert with Petersburg National Battlefield. This effort ties directly to a regional project called "The Appomattox River Federal Navigation Project" and is under the host of the City of Petersburg and administered by the Army Corps of Engineers. Affected localities include the Cities of Hopewell, Petersburg, Colonial Heights and the counties of Prince George and Chesterfield.
- (2) We **SUPPORT** the National Park Service Bluff Stabilization Project which connects the Boardwalk with the regional trail system described above to enhance and improve the quality of life. The City has worked with Petersburg National Battlefield to design a trail and canoe launch into the Bluff Stabilization Project. The first phase of the stabilization and trail has been completed. The second phase, estimated to cost \$3.5M, is scheduled to receive National Park Service funding in 2014. Planning, design and compliance of phase 2 is largely complete and the project could begin as early as 2012 if funding were available. In addition, to directly contributing to a regional trail system, the Bluff Stabilization Project will preserve and protect Hopewell's rich archaeological resources and history. The site has a tremendous history dating from prehistoric times to the modern day but it is at risk of being lost forever due to erosion.
- (3) WE **OPPOSE** federal mandates for local collective bargaining.