

RESOLUTION

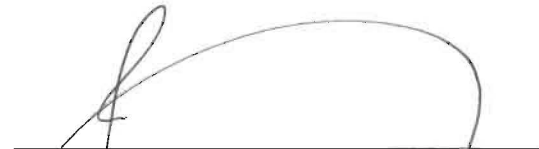
ENDORSEMENT OF DECLARATION OF INTERDEPENDENCE

WHEREAS, the Hampton Roads Partnership seeks endorsement from its member localities of the attached Declaration of Interdependence; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Interdependence is a regional compact for municipalities addressing issues such as legislative unity, education, transportation public safety and public communication; and


WHEREAS, the Hampton Roads Partnership will seek a roll call vote from each of its member localities to support the Declaration of Interdependence at Regional Day to be held on May 6, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of James City County, Virginia, hereby endorses the attached Declaration of Interdependence.



James G. Kennedy
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:


Sanford B. Wanner
Clerk to the Board

<u>SUPERVISOR</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
MCGLENNON	AYE
GOODSON	AYE
ICENHOUR	AYE
JONES	AYE
KENNEDY	AYE

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors of James City County, Virginia, this 28th day of April, 2010.

InterDepend_res

Convocation of Regional Stewards

Declaration of Interdependence

Preamble:

We, the elected officials of Virginia's Hampton Roads, realize that competition is no longer between cities or counties but rather between metropolitan regions in the global economy. Accordingly, we recognize that neighboring localities often experience the ripples of each other's economic gains or losses and should thus work cooperatively to improve the region's standing in the global marketplace.

Cooperation and communication are crucial for the economic health of localities and the region as a whole. Interdependence and collaboration open localities to greater resources and opportunities. We thus encourage representatives of Hampton Roads localities to actively and respectfully engage with each other to enable the implementation of regional goals.

The Hampton Roads region consists of the cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg, the counties of Gloucester, Isle of Wight, James City, Southampton, Surry, and York and the town of Smithfield. As local government officials, our goal is to become a more competitive region with a vibrant quality of life extending across academic, economic, cultural and recreational boundaries. For the benefit of our citizens and workforce, we present and endorse this Declaration of Interdependence for Hampton Roads to increase efficiency through cooperation and to achieve the following goals:

Article I: Legislative Unity

We see the need for the Hampton Roads delegation in the General Assembly to speak with a unified voice on those issues with regional significance. The Hampton Roads Caucus of Senators and Delegates must be a vibrant and useful body meeting actively and working collaboratively with local government and the constituent communities of the region to make decisions for the benefit of all of Hampton Roads. We commit our localities to support these efforts and help create and maintain a unified delegation.

Article II: Education

Our public schools are the key to producing productive adult citizens in our society. Education provides the base for all future workforce or other skills training throughout the Hampton Roads region. Students educated in one district may choose to work in another locality. It hurts the entire region when one locality's schools are underperforming, and it benefits the entire region when all students are achieving at their highest levels. Competition between school divisions, for teachers or any other resources, only hinders the ultimate success of the region. We therefore urge our School Boards and Superintendents to look for new opportunities of collaboration between divisions in order to provide the best learning environment for all students.

Article III: Transportation

Our citizens do not limit their travels to their home locality. Approximately half travel to another locality for employment, and many others travel to visit, shop, and recreate. Furthermore, employers look at the region for workforce needs and its overall mobility for ease of doing business. This is of particular importance to Hampton Roads given the presence of the Port of Virginia and its movement of goods into

and out of the region. Therefore, we commit to identifying regional transportation solutions including a system of roads and public transportation opportunities accessible to all citizens.

Article IV: Public Safety

Crime does not respect political boundaries, but by working together and sharing information we can better protect all of our citizens. Additionally, it does no good for one locality to incur the expense of recruiting and training an officer, only for another locality hire that officer causing the first to repeat the process at additional expense. Furthermore, when an incident occurs near a locality's border, a neighboring locality is often better equipped to respond to the situation. Therefore, we ask our police and fire departments to actively support formal plans to coordinate activities with other Hampton Roads' localities.

Article V: Public Communication

We recognize the value of productive, inclusive and informed public debate and decision making processes. The potential for increased mutual understanding is directly linked to information sharing and open communication. This requires a commitment for the timely distribution of widely accessible and accurate information. Connected to the expanding use of new means of communication should be determination to use approaches to listening to one another and our public.