

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 24, 2002  
TO: The Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Michael H. Drewry, Administrator, Purchase of Development Rights Program  
SUBJECT: USDA Farmland Protection Program Grant - Cooperative Agreement

---

The James City County Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program submitted an application and is seeking \$371,559 for a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Farmland Protection Program (FPP) Grant. In order to continue seeking the grant, the USDA requests a Cooperative Agreement be signed before September 30, 2002.

The purpose of the Grant is to assist with the purchase of conservation easements on parcels identified during the initial PDR application period that closed on May 31, 2002. The Cooperative Agreement is the authorizing document that obligates USDA funds to acquire conservation easements. The USDA is required to obligate the funds by September 30, 2002. The USDA's contribution cannot be more than 50 percent of the appraised market value of the conservation easement. Before any grant funds are utilized, the Board of Supervisors will be asked to allocate the grant funds to supplement existing James City County funds allocated in FY 2002 and 2003 for the PDR Program.

Staff recommends approval of the attached resolution allowing the Cooperative Agreement for the Farmland Protection Program to be signed by the County Administrator before September 30, 2002.

---

Michael H. Drewry

CONCUR:

---

Anthony Conyers, Jr.

MHD/adw  
usdafarm.mem

Attachment