

**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: December 9, 2009

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jack Fraley, Chairman, Planning Commission

SUBJECT: Planning Commission Annual Report

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The attached report, prepared in accordance with Section 15.2-2221 of the Code of Virginia, summarizes the activities of the James City County Planning Commission and the Planning Division for Fiscal Year 2008.

The development community stepped it up this year and submitted a number of innovative, creative, and high-quality rezoning applications; special use applications, site plans, and subdivision plans. We were presented with developmental plans that included preliminary environmental inventories, reclaimed, and recyclable water systems; stream monitoring systems, green industry certifications, Green roofs, adherence to the County's special stormwater criteria policy, developmental phasing, and the conceptual plan review process. Many of these elements were a first for James City County. We were also presented a site plan containing a stormwater management design 100 percent committed to Low Impact Development measures, eliminating the need for any stormwater management surface ponds. This represents another first for James City County.

Two important new initiatives by the Planning Commission, and supported by staff, were recommended to reform James City County's Capital Budgeting Process and Adequate Public Facilities Policy. The Commission and staff will be presenting a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors in a joint January work session to reform the Capital Budgeting Process. Staff has completed work on the first phase of a new model to assess the cumulative impact of development on public facilities. Work on the second phase will resume upon completion of the Comprehensive Plan update.

The Planning Commission was fully engaged in the Comprehensive Plan update in 2008 as three members served on the Community Participation Team and four members are now serving on the Steering Committee. We will be using modeling techniques in this Comprehensive Plan to develop a build-out analysis of James City County under two scenarios: current zoning and land use designations in the Comprehensive Plan.

The Comprehensive Plan update will be the dominant activity for the Planning Commission and staff in the upcoming year. Citizen commentary will be critical to this work and we encourage all citizens to be actively engaged in the process.

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Jack Fraley

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Attachment