CITY OF POQUOSON

ENGINEERING

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January 4, 2016

TO: City Council
THROUGH: Randy Wheeler, City Manager
FROM: Ellen Roberts, City Engineer

RE: Chesapeake Bay TMDL Action Plan Revision: January 11, 2016 Work Session

As you are aware, the City of Poquoson Chesapeake Bay TMDL Action Plan for 2013-2018 was drafted this summer and made available on line for public comment. Information on the draft plan was provided at a City Council work session on May 21, 2015. The City's stormwater permit required that its draft action plan be completed by July 1, 2015 and submitted to DEQ for review by October 1, 2015. Poquoson met those requirements.

The City's action plan did not include BMPs developed prior to 2009. It was unclear at the time what if any BMPs the state would credit. Poquoson can now take credit for BMPs brought online between January 1, 2006 and June 20, 2009. Use of these BMPs to meet the 2018 goal equates to a savings of about $590,500 of phosphorous removal.

The additional credit means that Poquoson will meet and exceed the 5% reduction required by June 2018 when the two Oxford Run projects are completed. These projects are partially funded by a Stormwater Local Assistance Fund grant and have been bid.

The proposed grass filter strips and enhanced swale at the Public Works yard are no longer needed to meet the 5% goal. These measures may be included in the 2023 plan and used to meet the 40% goal. The City may opt to substitute other measures for these BMPs if the Bay Program approves new practices that are more cost effective for coastal communities. City staff will continue to work toward the 2023 goal after the 2018 target is met. However, reaching the 5% target two years early provides additional time for Poquoson to take advantage of grant opportunities or new, more cost effective treatment options.

The Poquoson Bay TMDL Action Plan has been revised to include these existing BMPs. It has been submitted to the Virginia DEQ and will be made available on the City's website.