2016 Coast Smart Council Annual Report:

- Finalizing and Approving Report & Recommendations
- Communicating with External Stakeholders
- Setting Agenda for 2017

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- It appears the original intent of annual report was to provide feedback to the Council regarding State-wide progress and agency-specific implementation.

- The report can help identify areas where the Program seems to be working and where it may need improvement. For instance, it can help the Council improve or refine siting and design criteria as well as the review/approval process for categorical exceptions and criteria waivers.

- A review of the annual report can help set the agenda for the upcoming year by highlighting issues and setting priorities.

- **Do we agree with Recommendations (page 25) as written?**

- **How might we revise statements?**

- **Are there additional Recommendations?**

- **Overall assessment of report? Content? Format?**

- **Is it a model for future annual reports to the Coast Smart Council?**

- **Can we accept report as is or with revisions (conditional)?**

1. Evaluating New Sea Level Rise Science - Scientific understanding of the causes and rates of sea level rise is rapidly evolving. In 2013 the Maryland Climate Change Commission updated its projections of sea-level rise for Maryland over the rest of the 21st century in order to provide reference points for planning state facilities under the Coast Smart Program. Since then, new projections and science merit reconsideration of the Maryland projections. The Coast Smart Council will coordinate with the Maryland Climate Change Commission to understand, evaluate and assess how best to account for new sea-level projections in coastal resilience planning.

2. Waterway Construction Regulatory Program – The Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) is now discussing ways to incorporate the Coast Smart construction and resiliency guidelines into its waterway construction regulatory program. One idea is to promulgate regulations similar to those adopted by the Critical Area Commission in December 2014. This strategy would:

- Limit any additional burden on State agencies, because any agency that has proposed a project in the Critical area since December of 2014 is already familiar with the requirements and

- Create a consistent process for State agencies working in either coastal or riverine areas.

Some of the ideas discussed to date include:

- Incorporating new definitions related to climate change;

- Requiring State agencies to design and construct new permanent State structures or to reconstruct or rehabilitate substantially damaged State structures located in Special Flood Hazard Areas with a minimum of two feed of freeboard above the 100-year base flood elevation or document that the Department of General Services has issued a variance from this requirement; and

- Requiring State agencies to demonstrate that they have conducted an alternatives analysis regarding the location of a structure; avoided, to the extent practicable, locating critical or essential facilities within Special Hazard Areas or areas likely to be inundated by sea level rise; assessed other climate resilient practices that address flood hazards, coastal hazards, extreme weather events, sea level rise, identified and protected ecological features that buffer a project from the impacts of flood hazards, coastal hazards, extreme weather events, sea level rise or storm surge.

Once it has completed its internal discussion and a developed a proposal, MDE will broaden the discussion by meeting with staff supporting both the Coast Smart Council and the Adaptation and Response Working Group.

***3. Smart Growth Coordinating Committee Waiver Review Process* –** Delegate the authority of the Governor's Smart Growth Subcabinet consideration of waiver requests to the Smart Growth Coordinating Committee. The Program Document that was ratified in July 2015 established the Smart Growth Subcabinet as the decision making authority for waiver requests, with input from the Coast Smart Council. As the Smart Growth Subcabinet meets quarterly, the delegation of this authority to the Smart Growth Coordinating Committee, which meets monthly, will help ensure timely and effective review decisions on state agency waiver requests while ensuring that the Coast Smart siting and design criteria are applied to the maximum extent practicable.

4. Coast Smart "Checkoff" for State Projects at the Board of Public Works – Investigate developing a Coast Smart Certification for State Projects provided to the Board of Public Works. The Council will investigate the merits of developing a checklist or certification ~~similar to MDE's Report and Recommendations document~~ that provides the Board of Public Works and understanding of how the project meets Coast Smart siting and design principles.

What other issues or actions might be recommended?

Brainstorm using Strengths –Weaknesses-Opportunities -Threats (SWOT) Analysis Chart

- **A broader distribution of the report has advantages and pitfalls, which we may want to identify and discuss.**

- **Is broader dissemination a good idea?**

- **Who is the intended audience, what content and what format is appropriate?**

The Board of Public Works was identified as a potential stakeholder that has expressed interest (especially Treasurer Nancy Kopp). Other potential stakeholders include the Department of Legislative Services, the General Assembly and the general public.

- **How often should the Council meet?**

- **Does it make sense to coordinate Council meetings with Adaptation and Response Working Group meetings?**

- **How will Report Recommendations drive our agenda**

- **What are Opportunities related to the Program/Council?**

- **What are Threats potentially impacting the Program/Council?**

Questions?

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Chesapeake and Coastal Service

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http://dnr2.maryland.gov/climateresilience/Pages/cs_Council.aspx

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Thanks for your attention!