

## Air Power Park Tidal Flooding Mitigation, Shoreline Protection and Site Drainage Improvement Project

### A. Points of Contact:

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Jasmine Bryson, (757) 725-1050, [Jbryson@hampton.gov](mailto:Jbryson@hampton.gov)

8th Floor, City Hall, 22 Lincoln St., Hampton, VA 23669 (Address applies to both points of contact).

### B. Installation Need:

Military families crave stability and spending more time together which makes community assets like Air Power Park essential to service members and their family's quality of life. Air Power Park and Museum was established in October, 1963 (as Aerospace Park, on the fifth anniversary of the founding of NASA) and is located at the intersection of Mercury Boulevard (so named in honor of the NASA program) and LaSalle Avenue (located approximately 1.5 miles from the LaSalle Gate at Langley Air Force Base which is a part of Joint Base Langley-Eustis (JBLE)). The Park was created to honor the men and women of Langley Air Force Base and NASA Langley Research Center (LaRC) who crafted Hampton's remarkable aerospace heritage. This heritage connects service members to the history and upholds the military values within it. Since its opening, the Park has showcased aircraft, spacecraft, and missiles on loan from the National Museum of the United States Air Force, NASA, and the National Naval Aviation Museum that represent past and present accomplishments of Langley AFB and NASA LaRC.

In the last few years, annual visitation by the thousands of visitors has increased by 30% year over year. Air Power Park and Museum have always been free and open to the public: this includes JBLE with over 54,000 active duty soldiers and airmen, VA Air National Guard, and dependents; to include 3,400 civilian employees and their families at NASA LaRC along with; countless veterans, military and NASA retirees. These planned improvements will not only ensure continuation of these services, but also provide sound infrastructure to accommodate the expansion of programming including educational programs, docent lead tours, a fresh suite of interpretive stations, and exhibits within the Park's 1967 architecturally historic geodesic structure. As a part of the City's Adopt an Airman program, plans are underway with JBLE-Langley that would offer first term Airmen initially assigned to the installation an opportunity to meet at Air Power Park for guided instructional tours and conversations related to the history and heritage of Langley Air Force Base.

Air Power Park is also the home to the trail-head for the newly completed "Waterwalk at Central Park" which stretches 2.25 miles through the heart of Coliseum Central to the Power Plant shopping area. This shared, multi-use path creates an exciting and safe experience for pedestrians, bicyclists and joggers. Behind Air Power Park, "Waterwalk" is a raised wooden walkway providing a quiet observation deck with views of the wetlands of Newmarket Creek, filled with wildlife. Visitors may see herons, egrets, redwing blackbirds and various types of crabs. The planned improvements replace an existing floating dock, making it handicapped accessible for kayakers and canoers. These quality of life amenities in the City of Hampton offer great morale, welfare and recreation opportunities for all service members and their families assigned to JBLE.

### B. Installation Endorsement:

Attachment

### D. Project Description:

This project will resolve a long-standing and worsening drainage and shoreline erosion problem that impedes usage and improvements at Hampton's Air Power Park. Time and changing sea levels have made community utilization of the Park challenging. Tidal flooding and fresh water pooling threatens the artifacts and make the grounds wet, soft and muddy much of the year. In these conditions, public programming and artifact conservation is problematic at best. In 2018, the Hampton City Council approved the Air Power Park Phased Recovery Plan and embarked on a program of improvements to ensure Air Power Park's future as a community asset. Hampton Department of Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services developed this multi-year, multi-phase plan to accomplish this. In FY2019 and FY2020 we made great progress within a limited budget. To date, we have completed the first two phases: restoring the historic aircraft and spacecraft, addition of new interpretation stations, installation of new aesthetic amenities, and most importantly to this proposal - design of the grading and drainage plan. Overall, the City of Hampton Parks Recreation and Leisure Services and Public Works Department have already invested \$430,000. The third proposed phase will implement the drainage and grading plan (See section E: Project Engineering). Unfortunately, the costs for this phase exceeds our capacity to absorb. We would like to continue our efforts to preserve the Park through DCIP funding and save this historic military asset, one of the most prominent connections for military families and their community in the region.

#### E. Project Engineering Information:

This project will construct an engineered solution to the flooding, shoreline erosion, stormwater retention problems at Air Power Park and is summarized by the accepted approach below as proposed by AECOM 2/25/2020. See attached 30% design drawings for details, the 100% design is due 8/15/2020.

The tidal and stormwater flooding conditions in the park and the shoreline erosion will be addressed by fill and regrading of a portion of the site such that the entire park is a minimum of 4' above sea level – see sheet D-1 of the attached plan. This would allow for a uniform slope from the higher parking area along Mercury Boulevard down to the creek, thereby eliminating the low areas in the outdoor exhibit areas where storm water has been collecting. During the construction, many of the outdoor exhibits will be removed while the grounds were being regraded and the existing pads and pedestals were being demolished. Once the new grades are established, new pads or pedestals will be poured at the higher elevation for the exhibits.

To address the shoreline erosion problem, a bulkhead will be constructed with a top elevation of 4' above sea level along the lowest-lying portion of the shoreline as shown on sheet S-1 of the attached plan. Beyond the limits of the proposed bulkhead at either end the ground elevations are 5' or higher, which provides a natural barrier against storm tides up to the 5' elevation.

Attachment

#### F. Project Parties:

**City of Hampton, Virginia**

**City Manager's Office**

Bruce Sturk, Director Federal Facilities Support

[Bsturk@hampton.gov](mailto:Bsturk@hampton.gov)

757-771-7587

## **Department of Parks Recreation and Leisure Services**

David McCauley, Director

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757-727-6474

Allen Hoilman, Project Lead, Curator of Hampton History Museum

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## **Department of Public Works**

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Jason Mitchell, Public Works Director

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Brian Lewis, Project Lead, Water Resource Engineer

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## **Project Design and Engineering**

AECOM

11832 Rock Landing Drive

Suite 306

Newport News, Virginia 23606, US

757-499-4224

[www.aecom.com](http://www.aecom.com)

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Senior Project Manager

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### **G. Grant Funds and other Sources of Funds:**

To date, Hampton has engaged three phases of the project. The work for the first two completed phases total \$430,000. The upcoming third phase will cost an estimated \$1,414,000. The total cost of all three phases will be an estimated \$1,844,000. This proposal requests partial (grant) funding for the third phase, implementation of the Air Power Park Tidal Flooding Mitigation, Shoreline Protection, and Drainage

Improvement Plan. As we request a grant of 50% of \$1,414,000, our contribution would be \$707,000 plus the previous investment of \$430,000. This totals \$1,137,000 (62% of the total project cost). DCIP would invest \$707,000 38% of total project cost). (see section H).

In case of any cost overages associated with the Air Power Park occur or other unforeseen financial impacts the City of Hampton will obtain a 15% surety. The Bond shall be released or terminated upon issuance of a certificate of completion pursuant to § 13.1-25 by the Director of Public Works or his authorized designee or agent as defined in § 13.1-1 (the "Director"), with instructions that grant payment be made, in whole or in part, to the Owner and/or the City.

Attachment

H. Uses of Construction Project Funds:

Funding for this project will be used primarily for three interconnected purposes: waterfront improvements, site filling and grading, and Exhibit remounting (referred to as “Exhibit Foundations” in the budget). In order to mitigate tidal flooding and prevent further shoreline erosion, the plan installs a sheet pile bulkhead along a 500’ section of Newmarket Creek. With this, the plan calls for installation of a handicapped accessible floating dock/kayak launch. Total cost for this work is estimated at \$477,000.

The Site Drainage issue is resolved by a regrading and filling of most of the Park, bringing it to a proper elevation and grade to drain of freshwater flooding. Total cost is estimated to be \$252,500.

The final major component of funding usage is for remounting the aircraft, spacecraft, and missiles in a manner consistent with programmatic usage, conservation requirements, and need created by the raised elevation of the grounds as above. This requires that the artifacts be removed for the work, new foundations and mounts be fabricated at new grade, aircraft returned to their new exhibit spaces. Cost estimated at \$200,000.

The balance consists of the traditional 4% project administration, 4% inspections and utility service, and a 15% contingency. The total of all sections is \$1,414,017. See attached budget for more detailed breakdown of this estimate. These estimates were provided by an independent contractor, AECOM Design and Engineering (see section F) who has served as engineer and designer on the project.

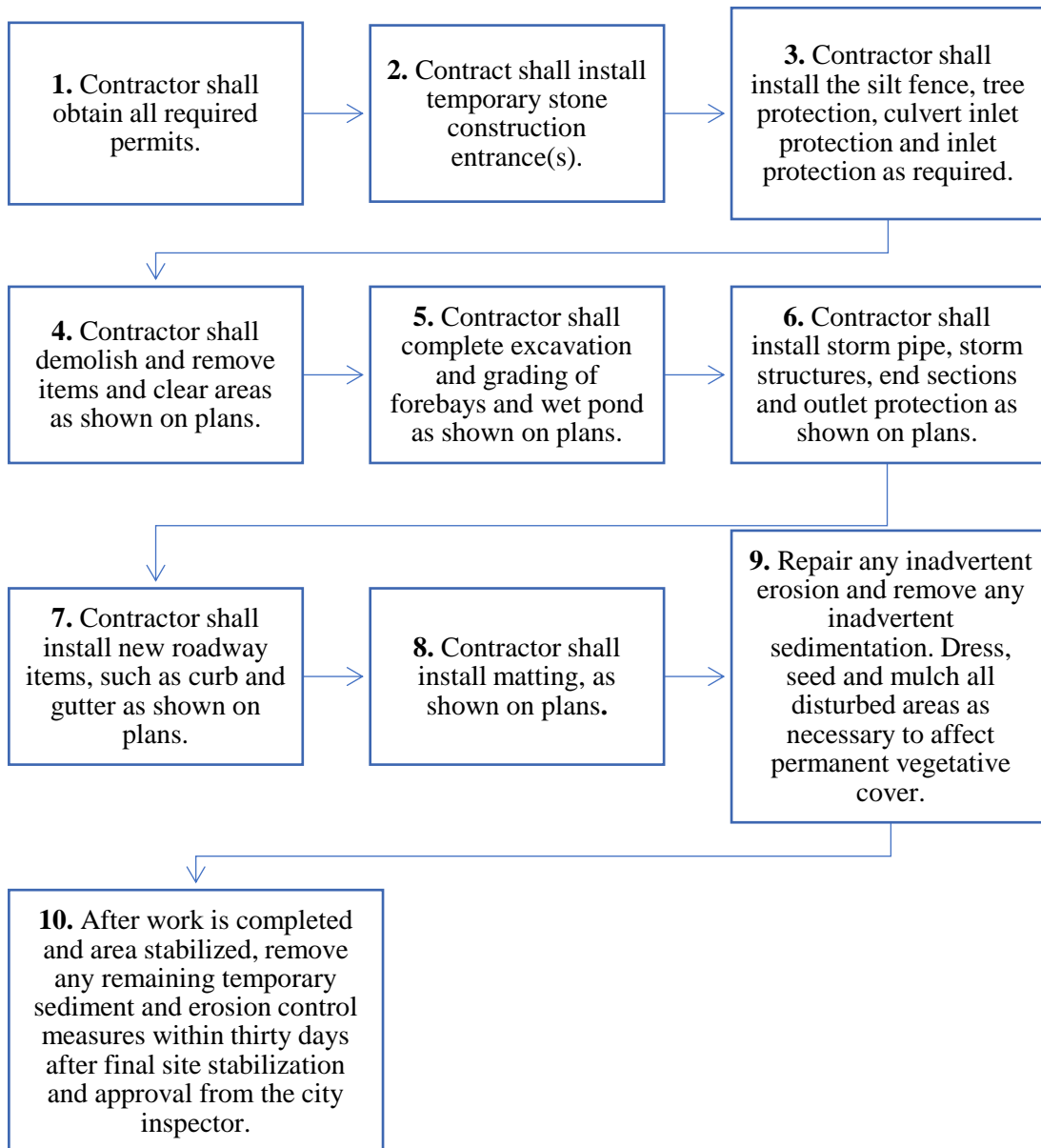
Attachment

I. Project Development Schedule:

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Milestones</b>
2/25/2020	Preliminary Engineering Report (AECOM)
6/1/2020	30% Engineering Plan delivered (AECOM)
6/24/2020	Approval of 30% Plan (PRLS/PW)
8/15/2020	100% Engineering Plan completed (AECOM)
8/30/2020	Invitation to Bid released (PRLS/PW)
10/30/2020	Proposals Due
12/29/2020	Contractors selected
1/15/2021	Final Permits
1/15/2021	NEPA approvals
2/1/2021	Final contract approvals and award
3/1/2021	Site mobilization
3/1/2021	Final permitting
3/15/2021	Relocation of artifacts as necessary

4/1/2021	Work begins in bulkhead installation
4/15/2021	Work begins on grading and infill
11/30/2021	Substantial Completion
12/15/2021	Punch List generation
12/15/2021	Permit compliance and close out (30 days)
1/15/2022	Resolution of punch list
1/20/2022	Final Completion

Sequence of Construction (Weather Permitting):



J. Environmental Approvals:

1. State (VMRC) and Federal (Corps of Engineers) permits will be required for the proposed bulkhead. The permit applications will be submitted on approval of the 30% plans by the City (6/25/2020) and will be in process by final design submission (8/15/2020). Final permits 1/15/2021
2. City Erosion and Sediment control permit/ Land Disturbing permit will be required prior to filling and grading (3/1/2021).
3. City building permit will be required for the bulkhead and for any new waterfront piers (3/1/2021).
4. The NEPA applications will be submitted upon approval of 30% plans and modification to scope of design contract to reflect potential federal funding source (6/25/2020) and will be in process by final design submission (8/15/2020). NEPA approvals 1/15/2021.
5. Environmental assessment complete 12/1/2020.

#### K. State and Local Planning:

Hampton Parks Recreation and Leisure Services, of which Air Power Park is a constituent component, began working on the recovery plan described above for the Park in summer, 2018. On November 14, 2018 the multi-phase, multi-year plan was presented to Hampton City Council for approval and guidance. The plan was approved with the guidance that it proceeds within existing budgets until the Tidal Flooding Mitigation, Shoreline Protection, and Site Drainage Improvement design was complete and approved. The first two phases have consisted of restoration of the artifacts, catch-up on deferred maintenance, aesthetic and interpretive enhancements, and (most importantly) development of the plan for which we seek this grant funding. Phase III will comprise implementation of the plan at an estimated cost of \$1,414,000. The fourth and fifth phases of the plan will consist of refurbishment of the historic geodesic building/museum and development of a new suite of educational programs, guided tours, and exhibits as well as implementation of the long-term maintenance and improvement plan. Budget estimates for these final phases have not yet been developed.

As mentioned above Air Power Park serves as a major access to the newly completed “Waterwalk at Central Park” trail which is only one part of the amenities listed in the Coliseum Central Master Plan approved by the Hampton City Council. The plan also stipulates a linear park system that will sit along Newmarket Creek, connecting Air Power Park and the Power Plant Parkway. This park will offer a range of activities that will link together natural open space areas with more designed hardscape areas and include access to freshwater and saltwater natural features. In addition to Newmarket Creek, other water bodies include Lake Hampton, Coliseum Lake, and Bass Pro Lake. Park features would include a multi-purpose path for cyclists, runners, walkers, canoe/kayak launches, docking areas, overlooks, promenades, parking, programmable open spaces, and wildlife interpretive areas.

Also, Air Power Park is noted in the Newmarket Creek Park and Trail Master Plan as an access to a two loop Oxford Trail Apartments’ northeast side which depicts one loop, which would bridge Newmarket Creek and connect to Air Power Park’s southeast side. A second loop that extend the raised boardwalk and upland trail network along a proposed residential development on the east side, north of the Oxford Trail Apartments. The trail system bridges Newmarket Creek to access Air Power Park near an enhanced canoe/kayak launch. Is this accurate?

#### L. Grants Management:

The City of Hampton has a grant management team comprised of a grant writer, project managers, and several various internal departments, i.e. City Attorney’s Office, City Manager’s Office and Budget Division, City Council’ Office, Finance Department, Human Resources and Risk Management. The grant management and overview process is a collaborative effort provided by these departments in their

respective areas which helps to ensure that the proper protocols are adhered to in accordance with grant and City requirements. Awarded grant funds will be managed through a excel based tracking system and the New World System manage by the Finance Department and a designated administrative staff (accountant) that works directly with the grant writer and the corresponding departments. We operate under a system of easy access to information, simplified reporting, time-saving workflow to help increase financial transparency to make informed business decisions, and ensure accountability.

Also the City of Hampton has been awarded and managed the following grant opportunities from the Office of Economic Adjustment, as listed below:

1. JOINT LAND USE STUDY GRANT FUNDING PROGRAM THROUGH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SERVICES; \$343,800 in federal funds and \$38,200 in local in-kind match, for a total award of \$382,000 (December 2019 – December 2020)
2. MILITARY INSTALLATION RESILIENCY PROJECT STUDY GRANT FUNDING PROGRAM THROUGH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SERVICES; \$366,544 in federal funds and \$40,730 in local in-kind match, for a total award of \$407,274 (July 2020-July 2021)
3. JOINT LAND USE STUDY GRANT FUNDING PROGRAM THROUGH THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SERVICES; \$200,000 in federal funds and \$22,000 in local in-kind match, for a total award of \$222,000. (Completed August 2010)

#### M. Spousal Program Support

The improvements to Air Power Park will preserve its goal to serve the needs of the community, military service members, and their families. Military culture is significantly different from civilian culture, and there is often a perceived disconnect between the military and civilian worlds.

Historic landmarks like Air Power Park have long served as place-based hubs for service member's spouses to engage in informal learning, access collections for educational or aesthetic purposes, and participate in civic dialogue. Across the country, changing community needs and priorities along with new modes of engagement have created an imperative wall for military spouses to connect with and serve in the community. The park is one of the ways and connections that extend beyond traditional institutional formats and settings. Since 1963, Air Power Park has interconnected the public and military community in deeper ways, strengthening the social and institutional networks that support community wellbeing, and act as catalysts to spark positive connections.

The improvements to Air Power Park will preserve its goal to serve the needs of the community, military service members, and their families. These improvements will not only ensure the continuity of this service, but drive it into the future. The changes will offer fresh opportunities to develop new educational programs and activities, guided tours, interpretations of our rich aeronautical heritage (all planned in the following phase of improvements). Not, only will Air Power Park serve our military and civilian community, but it will also offer families and retirees opportunities for active participation in programs as volunteers and docents, sharing their expertise and experience with a new generation. Military culture is significantly different from civilian culture, and there is often a perceived disconnect between the military and civilian worlds.

The Commonwealth of Virginia is staunchly committed to spousal support programs that includes a variety of efforts underway specifically addressing reciprocity/licensing. Please see the attached document from the Secretary of Veterans & Defense Affairs for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Attachment

N. Submitting Official:

Not applicable

O. Attachments:

Not applicable



**City of Hampton**  
**Air Power Park Improvements**  
**Estimate of Construction Costs- Based on 30% Plans**  
**6/1/2020**

<b>Waterfront Improvements</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Unit Cost</b>	<b>Total</b>
Demolish Existing Pier and Dock	Lump sum	NA		\$ 15,000
Sheetpile bulkhead and concrete cap (4' top elev)	Linear feet	400	\$ 1,105	\$ 442,000
Pedestrian railing along bulkhead	Linear feet	400	\$ 50	\$ 20,000
New pier and floating dock/kayak launch	Lump sum			\$ 209,000
<b>Subtotal Waterfront work</b>				<b>\$ 477,000</b>
<b>Site Filling and Grading</b>				
Erosion and Sediment Control	Lump sum	NA		\$ 15,000
Demolition ( concrete/asphalt/drainage structures)	Lump sum	NA		\$ 10,000
Strip/Stockpile Topsoil	Lump sum	NA		\$ 15,000
Select Fill ( in place)	Cubic yards	1900	\$ 40	\$ 76,000
Concrete Curbing, Sidewalk and Swales	Linear feet	300	\$ 75	\$ 22,500
Drainage Structures	Each	2	\$ 3,500	\$ 7,000
Drainage Piping (PVC Sch 80 18" dia.)	Linear feet	70	\$ 150	\$ 10,500
Tide Flex Valves	Each	2	\$ 5,500	\$ 11,000
Asphalt Roadway Modifications	Tons	560	\$ 75	\$ 42,000
Gravel Paths (4" thickness)	Linear feet	300	\$ 50	\$ 15,000
Spread Top Soil & Seed	Square yds	5700	\$ 5	\$ 28,500
<b>Subtotal Filling and Grading</b>				<b>\$ 252,500</b>
<b>Exhibit Foundations</b>				
Lift Aircraft/Rockets	Lump sum	4	\$ 15,000	\$ 60,000
Demo/Replace Foundations	Lump sum	4	\$ 25,000	\$ 100,000
Install new mountings	Lump sum	8	\$ 5,000	\$ 40,000
<b>Subtotal Exhibit Foundations</b>				<b>\$200,000</b>
Project Administration				\$45,540
Inspections, utilities, misc.				\$45,540
<b>Total all work</b>				<b>\$1,229,580</b>
<b>15% Contingency</b>				<b>\$184,437</b>
<b>Total Estimated Construction Cost</b>				<b>\$1,414,017</b>

# AIR POWER PARK

CITY OF HAMPTON, VIRGINIA



## INDEPENDENT COST ESTIMATE & PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT *for* TIDAL FLOODING MITIGATION, SHORELINE PROTECTION *and* SITE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

FEBRUARY 25, 2020

**CITY OF HAMPTON, VA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
22 LINCOLN STREET, HAMPTON, VA 23669  
757-727-6346 (TEL) 757-727-6123 (FAX)**

**AIR POWER PARK  
TIDAL FLOODING MITIGATION, SHORELINE PROTECTION  
AND SITE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS  
CITY PROJECT XX-XXX  
MAY 2020**

OFFICE REVIEW SUMMARY:	JFW	FINAL
PROJECT MANAGER:	30% <input type="checkbox"/> 60% <input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/>	FINAL
PROJECT O.A.Q.C.:	JFW	FINAL
PROJECT ENGINEER:	30% <input type="checkbox"/> 60% <input type="checkbox"/> 100% <input type="checkbox"/>	FINAL
DRAFTSMAN:	MAB	FINAL



PRELIMINARY  
NOT FOR  
CONSTRUCTION  
30% SUBMITTAL

**AECOM**  
11832 ROCK LANDING DRIVE  
SUITE 306  
NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA  
(571) 499-4224  
WWW.AECOM.COM

HAMPTON AIR POWER PARK TIDAL FLOODING, SHORELINE  
PROTECTION AND SITE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS  
**TITLE SHEET**  
CITY OF HAMPTON DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
22 LINCOLN STREET, HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23669  
TEL. 757-727-6346 FAX 757-727-6123

PROJECT REVISIONS	DATE

ISSUE DATE:  
MAY 2020  
**SHEET  
T1**  
SHEET 1 OF 15

**BEFORE YOU DIG CALL  
"MISS UTILITY"  
OF VIRGINIA  
811**

THE LOCATION OF EXISTING SEWER, WATER, AND GAS PIPES, CONDUITS AND OTHER STRUCTURES ACROSS, UNDERNEATH, OR OTHERWISE ALONG THE LINE OF PROPOSED WORK ARE NOT NECESSARILY SHOWN ON THE PLANS, AND WHERE SHOWN ARE ONLY APPROXIMATELY CORRECT. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE LIABLE FOR ALL DAMAGES DONE TO ANY STRUCTURES OR PROPERTY THROUGH HIS NEGLIGENCE OR CARELESSNESS. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY THE LOCATION AND ELEVATION OF ALL UNDERGROUND STRUCTURES AND UTILITIES SHOWN ON THE PLAN IN THE AREA OF CONSTRUCTION PRIOR TO STARTING WORK. CONTACT THE ENGINEER IMMEDIATELY IF STRUCTURE LOCATIONS OR ELEVATIONS ARE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE SHOWN ON THE PLAN, OR IF THERE APPEARS TO BE A CONFLICT, OR UPON DISCOVERY OF UTILITIES OR STRUCTURES NOT SHOWN ON THE PLAN. A MINIMUM OF **72 HOURS** PRIOR TO EXCAVATING, "MISS UTILITY" OF VIRGINIA (811) MUST BE CONTACTED.



LOCATION MAP SCALE: 1"=120'

DRAWING INDEX	
SHEET NUMBER	SHEET TITLE
T1	TITLE SHEET
G1	LEGEND, GENERAL NOTES, SURVEY NOTES AND ABBREVIATIONS
D1	OVERALL SITE EXISTING CONDITIONS AND DEMOLITION PLAN
C1	FILLING AND GRADING PLAN
C2	MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS
ESC1	SITE EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN
ESC2	SITE EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL NOTES
ESC3	SITE EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL DETAILS
S1	BULKHEAD PLAN
S2	SECTIONS

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

<b>OWNER:</b> CITY OF HAMPTON, VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  22 LINCOLN STREET HAMPTON, VA 23669 TEL: (757) 727-6786 FAX: (757) 727-6123	<b>ENGINEER:</b> AECOM  11832 ROCK LANDING DRIVE SUITE 306 NEWPORT NEWS, VA 23606 TEL: (757) 873-0559 DIRECT: (757) 383-6206
<b>CONTACT:</b> MOHAMMAD SHAR, PHD, P.E., CFM	<b>CONTACT:</b> MR. FRED WHITLEY, P.E.

FILE NAME: D:\VA\...\_062020\17 Hampton Air Power Park Drainage Improvements\00-00-000\010-000\010-SHEETS\T1\_Coverpage.dwg USER: T1 T1UTED: Wednesday, May 27, 2020 10:52 AM



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
**HEADQUARTERS 633D AIR BASE WING**  
**JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS VA**

**OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER**  
125 Mabry Avenue  
Joint Base Langley-Eustis VA 23665-2522

Mary Bunting  
City Manager  
22 Lincoln Street  
Hampton VA 23669

Dear Ms. Bunting

Joint Base Langley-Eustis (JBLE) strongly endorses the City of Hampton's, Defense Communities Infrastructure Program (DCIP) application, for site enhancements related to resiliency and restoration of critical infrastructure at the Air Power Park historical center.

Air Power Park was established in October 1963 to be a tribute to Hampton's Air and Space heritage honoring the men and women of JBLE-Langley and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Langley Research Center (LaRC) who crafted this heritage. In 1964, over 100,000 visitors enjoyed the parks offerings. In the decades since, the park has continued to offer a unique opportunity to show case numerous aircraft, spacecraft, and missiles on loan from the National Museum of the United States Air Force, NASA and the National Naval Aviation Museum that represent past and present accomplishments of JBLE-Langley and NASA LaRC. Today, thousands of visitors enjoy and learn from the exhibits each year.

Many of these visitors are active duty service members and their families assigned to JBLE, including government civilians at NASA LaRC and their families. Not only does Air Power Park attract active duty service members and their families, but is likewise visited by numerous military retirees and Veterans. Time and changing sea levels have made continued utilization of the Park in these important ways challenging. These planned improvements will not only ensure continuation of these services, but also provide sound infrastructure to accommodate the expansion of programming including educational programs, docent lead tours, a fresh suite of interpretive stations, and exhibits within the Park's 1967 architecturally historic geodesic structure. We believe Air Power Park is an important component to the mission of JBLE-Langley and helps us collectively tell the story of Air and Space power. The Park maintains and interprets important artifacts for all to enjoy, learn from and reflect upon our past and potential.

The Historic Air Power Park, is also a trail head connection to "Waterwalk at Central Park" which is a 2¼-mile linear park. This shared, multi-use path creates an exciting and safe experience for pedestrians, bicyclists and joggers. Behind Air Power Park, a raised wooden walkway provides a quiet nature observation deck with views of Newmarket Creek, where wildlife abounds. Visitors may see herons, egrets, redwing blackbirds and various types of crabs. Within the Park is an active kayak dock allowing visitors to access the waterway. The planned improvements expand this dock and make it handicapped accessible.

*Global Power For America*

While there are many local entities within the Hampton Roads area which offer recreational and learning activities for service members and their families, the proximity of Air Power Park to JBLE and it's close ties to the Air and Space heritage of Hampton Roads make it an important feature in the local community. The project proposed by the City of Hampton would support and improve the military quality of life and military value to JBLE and all service members assigned here. Therefore, I strongly recommend approval of the City of Hampton's DCIP application.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clinton Ross". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Clinton" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Ross".

CLINTON A. ROSS, Colonel, USAF  
Commander



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Carlos L. Hopkins  
Secretary of Veterans  
and Defense Affairs

June 17, 2020

Dear Sir or Ma'am:

This letter is provided in support of and in response to item 2 M. Spousal Program Support under Proposal and Submission Information of the Federal Funding Opportunity, Defense Community Infrastructure Pilot Program submitted by military installations within the Commonwealth of Virginia. On behalf of the Governor of Virginia, I am pleased to endorse the package going forward and to include an overview of Virginia's work and programs that provide support to service members, veterans, and their families. As this grant application will be judged on the merits of Spousal Program Support, I would like to provide context to those efforts as well as emphasize that the Commonwealth of Virginia remains staunchly committed to ensuring we remain among the most military and veteran friendly states in the Nation.

Virginia is home to more than 30 major military installations and commands, including the Pentagon, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC), Quantico, the world's largest Navy base in Norfolk, and the small, but vitally important Radford Army Ammunition Plant where they produce munitions and propellants, ranging from those for the individual soldiers' weapons systems to much larger munitions for systems such as tanks, field artillery, air defense, missile and certain Navy weapons. Home to the second-largest contingent of Department of Defense active duty service members of any state as well as more than 714,000 veterans, the Commonwealth of Virginia takes great pride in its commitment to the military and veteran communities within its borders. These service members, veterans, and their family members strengthen the fabric of the Commonwealth's communities through their diversity, experiences, and character.

In order to serve these important communities, the Commonwealth aggressively pursues public policies that cultivate an environment of opportunity and support for its Active and Reserve components, veterans, and their families. Below are successful efforts Virginia has taken to ensure that it remains the best state in the Nation for service members, veterans, and their families:

**Enhanced Occupational and Professional Licensure for Military Spouses:** In 2012, Virginia became one of the first states in the Nation to adopt an expedited occupational and professional application and license equivalence-determination process for military spouses. Over the years, the process was improved to include an automatic temporary licensure process so that military spouses are able to search for employment opportunities

and report to work as soon as they are ready and established in their new community. In a survey conducted by the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel & Readiness in February 2020, the Department of Defense (DoD) assessed there were “...no changes needed” for Virginia’s military spouse licensing process.<sup>1</sup>

Virginia, however, continues to pursue change and improvements through innovative policies and regulations. During the 2020 General Assembly, new legislation was passed to enhance the military spouse license process and, as of July 1, 2020, an enhanced licensing process will take effect.<sup>2</sup> The new law passed in the 2020 General Assembly session improves Virginia’s existing process by allowing eligibility to the spouses of: service members assigned to installations in **all** surrounding states and jurisdictions, National Guardsmen who are activated on Title 10 orders, and Veterans who have transitioned from active duty within one year. Additionally, the new law grants Virginia’s licensing boards explicit and enhanced authority to waive “time in practice requirements,” making license portability and transferability seamless.

**Statewide Military Spouse Economic Empowerment Zone:** In 2019, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce designated the entire Commonwealth as a Military Spouse Economic Empowerment Zone (MSEEZ). Virginia is also the first state to establish four Military Spouse Economic Empowerment Zones (MSEEZ). Working with a broad array of regional public and private sector supporters, the federal and state leaders of MSEEZ foster collaboration among local stakeholders and work to identify opportunities as well as barriers to entry for military spouses seeking meaningful employment. MSEEZ communities address local military spouse unemployment and underemployment issues through the efforts of local working groups. These groups work to establish a range of local employment-related tools and resources to help tackle military spouse employment issues head on.

**Virginia Transition Assistance Program:** The Virginia Department of Veterans Services’ (DVS) Virginia Transition Assistance Program (VTAP) offers transitioning service members and their spouses the best Virginia has to offer. By providing peer-to-peer support through the transition process, VTAP works alongside the transitioning service member or spouse to make referrals that address specific needs. The referral services include, but are not limited to, resume review, introduction to the Virginia Labor Market index, connection with Virginia Values Veterans (V3) certified companies for employment, and other DVS programs as applicable. The VTAP core areas of focus are those seeking employment, education, and entrepreneurship.

Over time, VTAP has developed a refined network of employers and other resources that have made a commitment to our transitioning service members and their spouses. Through that network, VTAP partners to offer multiple connection points with those seeking employment and entrepreneurs through networking events, job fairs, hiring

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<sup>1</sup> Donovan, Matthew P. Letter to Governor Ralph Northam. 13 February 2020.

<sup>2</sup> “H 967: *Expediting the Issuance of Credentials to Spouses Of Military Service Members.*” § 54.1-119, Code of Virginia. <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?201+ful+CHAP0028>.

events, and electronic communications promoting jobs and events. DVS also works with the Virginia Chamber of Commerce to conduct job fairs and professional networking opportunities through the *Hire Vets Now* initiative.<sup>3</sup>

**Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program:** The Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Program is a Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Veterans Services Program whose mission is to educate and train employers throughout the Commonwealth on the value of Virginia's Veterans, and to help employers connect with these veterans, transitioning service members and military spouses to maximize the productivity of their workforce. We are committed to assisting employers recruit, hire, train, and retain Veterans. Since 2012, when Virginia became the first state to create an official program dedicated to improving the employment of Veterans by training employers on national best practices to recruit, hire, train and retain Veterans, more than 60,000 veterans and military spouses have been hired as a result of the V3 Program.

**Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood-PLUS Pilot:** In October 2019, the Department of Defense (DoD) selected the Commonwealth of Virginia as one of two states to participate in a pilot to expand the military childcare fee assistance program, Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood (MCCYN).<sup>45</sup> Previously, only a limited number of community childcare providers were eligible to participate in the MCCYN program, which provides fee assistance for families of active duty sponsors, civilians, guard/reservist, and guard/reserve technicians who are unable to access on-installation childcare.

Through the new pilot "MCCYN-PLUS," Virginia-licensed childcare providers serving military families in the fee assistance program who are not nationally accredited must participate in Virginia Quality, the state's quality rating and improvement system (QRIS). The QRIS is a systemic approach to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early care and education programs. The pilot provides a unique opportunity for this collaborative and value-added partnership with DoD.

**Purple Star School Designations:** Virginia public schools serve more than 75,000 military connected students whose parents serve on active or reserve duty in the United States military or Virginia National Guard, more than any other state in the Nation. The Commonwealth works hard to ensure that these students are supported especially during periods of transition and the deployment of their service member parent(s).<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> "Virginia State MSEEZ." U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation.  
<https://www.vachamber.com/foundation/hirevets/>

<sup>4</sup> Newsroom. Office of the Governor. Commonwealth of Virginia. <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/all-releases/2019/october/headline-847724-en.html>.

<sup>5</sup> "MCCYN-PLUS FAQs" Child Care Aware. <https://www.childcareaware.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/MCCYN-PLUS-FAQS.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> "Virginia Purple Star Designation Program for Schools." Military Families. Virginia Department of Education. [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/student\\_family/military/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/student_family/military/index.shtml).



In the fall of 2017, the Virginia Council on the Interstate Compact on the Education Opportunity for Military Children approved the Purple Star Designation Award to be given to schools that excel in support of military connected students and their families. Currently there are 191 public and private schools in Virginia honored with Purple Star Designation.

Virginia schools must meet specific criteria to earn Purple Star designation. This includes designating a school point of contact who completed Virginia Department of Education training on *Supporting Our Military-Connected Children in School Settings: Moving them from Risk to Resilience*. The contact works with school administration and military program partners to conduct a school wide professional development that informs staff of the unique needs of military-connected students and on the type of support available to military connected students. Evidence of this training would include copies of sign in sheets and training materials presented. Additionally, the school maintains a student led transition program to include a student transition team coordinator. This program should provide peer support for newly enrolled and withdrawing students to include those that are military connected.

**STARBASE**: The Commonwealth and its Virginia National Guard are proud to be hosts to the Department of Defense (DOD) STARBASE program. STARBASE is a DOD science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) program designed to inspire 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in considering a future in STEM careers. The mission is to reach at-risk students who are traditionally underrepresented in the STEM field.

Approximately 1,400 students visit the Winchester STARBASE Academy annually to participate in five days (for a total of 25 hours) of authentic hands-on, problem-based activities. The program's highly qualified instructors choose from a large offering of peer-reviewed experiential learning opportunities that support grade level standards and encourage 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and collaboration.

A future in STEM is encouraged with every lesson taught and through interactions with military personnel and community STEM professionals. Additionally, Virginia operates a STARBASE 2.0, a middle school after-school mentoring program that focuses on using robotics and drones to extend the impact and effect of the STARBASE program. Next summer, plans are to pilot a STARBASE 3.0 summer program with JROTC cadets at Randolph-Macon Academy in Front Royal, VA.

**Virginia National Guard Commonwealth ChalleNGe Youth Academy**: Located on the State Military Reservation in Virginia Beach, the Virginia National Guard sponsored Commonwealth ChalleNGe Youth Academy (CCYA) is a mentor based program focused on reaching at risk youth across the Commonwealth. The Mission of CCYA is to intervene in the lives of 16-18 year old teenagers by providing the values, skills, education, and self-discipline needed to produce responsible, productive citizens, and to do so in a highly structured learning environment. The curriculum focuses on eight core components; Academic Excellence, Life Coping Skills, Health and Hygiene, Physical Fitness, Service to Community, Job Skills, Responsible Citizenship and

Leadership/Followership. CCYA utilizes a quasi-military approach in all aspects of Cadet Life promoting best effort, self-discipline and teamwork.

Annually, CCYA conducts two 22-week residential sessions selecting over 300 applicants to attend. CCYA graduates 250 Cadets annually; Cadets either earn credits and return to High School, earn GED's, join the Military, directly join the Virginia Workforce or further their education at institutions of Higher Learning. CCYA has forged lasting partnerships with Virginia Industry, institutions of Higher Education and the military providing Cadets opportunities to follow their dreams and aspirations. Graduating Cadets are matched with a mentor trained by CCYA and tracked by Career Counselors for an additional year ensuring cadets remain on successful path. ChalleNGe Graduate/Alumni enjoy a lifelong relationship with CCYA and can reach out at any time for assistance if needed or participate in some way helping fellow Cadets. CCYA has successfully graduated over 5000 Cadets since inception in 1994.

**Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service members, Veterans, and their Families (SVMF):** In January 2019, Governor Northam announced that Virginia was selected as one of seven states to participate in the inaugural Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF).<sup>7</sup> Over the past year, Virginia's interagency team has trained more than 500 community services providers in military cultural competency and suicide prevention, hosting six statewide Military Culture and Suicide Prevention Summits. The team also hosted two regional planning sessions focused on closing access to behavioral healthcare gaps for SMVF.

As part of the Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide among SMVF, the Commonwealth launched a pilot program in December that will run until September 2020.<sup>8</sup> The program's aim is to help prevent suicide and closing gaps in access to care for SMVF by enhancing efforts to identify SMVF, screen for suicide risk, and connect individuals to services. This program is just one of the many ways Virginia's helping agencies work to connect its SVMF population with connecting to available behavioral health services and counseling.

**Best State for Military Retirees and Military-Friendly Schools:** For two consecutive years, Wallethub.com named Virginia the best state for military retirees, due to the Commonwealth's economic environment, quality of life, access to quality healthcare, and support for veterans, military retirees, and their families. Additionally, in 2019, six public and private Virginia schools were identified as being in the "Top Ten Most Military Friendly Schools" in their respective size and educational categories for their support of veteran students and transitioning service members.

In conclusion, we are proud of the hard work and non-partisan efforts the Commonwealth of Virginia undertakes to develop programs and initiatives that support our military and veteran

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<sup>7</sup> Newsroom. Office of the Governor. Commonwealth of Virginia. <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/all-releases/2019/january/headline-837916-en.html>.

<sup>8</sup> Newsroom. Office of the Governor. Commonwealth of Virginia. <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/all-releases/2019/december/headline-850263-en.html>.

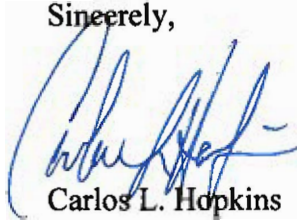
Letter from the Honorable Carlos L. Hopkins

June 17, 2020

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communities and families. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require additional information about these initiatives or any other issues. I strongly endorse the enclosed application and look forward to hearing from you in the upcoming months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carlos L. Hopkins', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Carlos L. Hopkins

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



**Langley Research Center**  
100 NASA Road  
Hampton, VA 23681-2199

June 26, 2020

Reply to Attn of 140

Mary Bunting  
City Manager  
22 Lincoln Street  
Hampton VA 23669

Dear Ms. Bunting,

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Langley Research Center (LaRC) understands the City of Hampton has submitted a Defense Communities Infrastructure Program (DCIP) application, for site enhancements related to resiliency and restoration of critical infrastructure at the Air Power Park historical center. In the event the application is accepted, NASA LaRC looks forward to collaborating with the City to support Air Power Park, subject to continuing our property loan agreement and the availability of any required appropriated funds and resources.

Air Power Park was established in October 1963 to be a tribute to Hampton's Air and Space heritage honoring the men and women of JBLE-Langley and NASA LaRC who crafted this heritage. In 1964, over 100,000 visitors enjoyed the parks offerings. In the decades since, the park has continued to offer a unique opportunity to showcase numerous aircraft, spacecraft, and missiles on loan from the National Museum of the United States Air Force, NASA, and the National Naval Aviation Museum that represent past and present accomplishments of JBLE-Langley and NASA LaRC. Today, thousands of visitors enjoy and learn from the exhibits each year.

NASA LaRC presently loans 12 NASA aeronautics and space-themed artifacts, displays, and models to the City of Hampton for exhibit at the Air Power Park. NASA's Exhibits Program is part of the Agency's Public Engagement efforts, to provide exhibits to help us engage, inspire and inform the general public about NASA's achievements. Our goal is to seek and share with diverse and non-traditional audiences throughout the Nation and excite persons with interactive displays, models, and artifacts. These 12 NASA assets have been on loan to the City of Hampton since the 1990s and are housed in the NASA Room and the Women in Aerospace Room located inside the park's museum. These exhibits help educate and inform the general public about NASA's achievements and the success of the Agency's programs through hands-on adventures in science, aeronautics and exploration of space. Enthusiasts to the park view these assets and learn about our rich heritage and discover how NASA has contributed to aeronautics and space research from the Mercury Program to the present.

The Historic Air Power Park is also a trail head connection to the “Water walk at Central Park” which is a 2¼-mile linear park. This shared, multi-use path creates an exciting and safe experience for pedestrians, bicyclists, and joggers. Behind Air Power Park, a raised wooden walkway provides a quiet nature observation deck with views of Newmarket Creek, where wildlife abounds. Visitors may see herons, egrets, redwing blackbirds, and various types of crabs. Within the Park is an active kayak dock allowing visitors to access the waterway. The planned improvements expand this dock and make it handicapped accessible.

NASA LaRC collaborates with the Air Power Park staff to engage the public during events. Recently, NASA LaRC worked with the Air Power Park Director, Curator, and Promotions Director in July 2019 as part of the park’s efforts to highlight the restoration of the Little Joe Rocket and to commemorate the Apollo 50th anniversary. During this event, NASA Langley’s Director, Clayton Turner, and the City of Hampton’s Mayor, Donnie Tuck, spoke to an assembly of VIPs and the public about the significance of NASA’s history and importance to the City. Over 500 patrons attended this event and viewed the NASA assets and learned not only about the Apollo program but flight research, careers, and space exploration. NASA LaRC and the Air Power Park were featured in local media outlets: WVEC, WAVY, The Daily Press, and also featured in NASA reports, NASA social media, and the NASA Apollo website.

Air Power Park is a significant public outreach activity for all the Federal organizations represented by the Park’s historical artifacts. Maintaining the infrastructure at the Air Power Park historical center will help ensure a promising future for this great community Park. NASA looks forward to continuing a great partnership with the City of Hampton at Air Power Park and other community outreach activities.

Respectfully,



Loretta Kelemen  
Director, LaRC Center Operations