



## Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance Legislative Priorities for 2017

### Defense Authorization and Appropriations Issues

- **Sequestration:** Without Congressional action, budget sequestration returns in Fiscal Year 2018 after a two-year reprieve. In order to avoid further cuts to national security budgets, Congress needs to either repeal the Budget Control Act; modify the legislation with higher funding caps; or remove the wall separating defense and non-defense spending.
- **Military Construction:** Support the President's FY2018 budget request of \$xx Million for military installations in Hampton Roads (projects to be listed from the FY18 President's Budget Request expected early in 2017).
  - Support funding for Hampton Roads Region Unfunded Priorities (e.g. funding for pier lengthening/repairs at Norfolk Naval Station).
- **BRAC:** The President-elect's Transition Team is studying the need for a future BRAC round or for "right-sizing military bases." Each of the past five years, the Department of Defense has requested authorization for a BRAC round and Congress has denied the request. Given the uncertainty, the region seeks Congressional support for initiatives to protect and expand missions and opportunities for existing Hampton Roads military installations.
- **Center for Global Challenges at William & Mary:** Building on the recently released feasibility study, the project is entering the implementation phase. Last year the Congressional delegation secured legislative language supporting the "Whole of Government" approach to national security challenges in the FY17 National Defense Authorization Act. In October, the delegation sent a letter to Secretary Carter seeking feedback on the project. HRMFFA is seeking support from the delegation to inform the new Secretary of Defense and Service Secretaries about the opportunity for uniformed and civilian leadership training. (*Report Language for NDAA and Defense Appropriations*)



- **Enhancement of East Coast Ranges for Regional Exercises and Training Opportunities:** In November the Virginia and North Carolina Congressional delegations sent a joint letter to Air Force Chief of Staff General Goldfein seeking the investment of a joint threat emitter for the regional training ranges. HRMFFA is seeking assistance from the delegation to secure support from the next Secretary of Defense and Service Secretaries. *(Report Language for NDAA and Defense Appropriations)*

### **Other Federal Government Authorization and Appropriations Issues**

- **NASA Research - New Aviation Horizons:** The ten-year investment plan announced by the President's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Clean Transportation Plan accelerates key components of the NASA Aeronautics Plan. The New Horizons Plan starts a continuing series of experimental aircraft to demonstrate and validate high impact concepts and technologies. Five major demonstrations are scheduled over the next 10+ years in the areas of Ultra-Efficiency, Hybrid-Electric Propulsion, and Low Noise Supersonic Flight. There is significant private sector support for the program and it would have a major positive impact on the Langley Research Center.
- **NASA Unmanned Systems Research:** The Langley Research Center is a key research facility for integrating unmanned systems into the national airspace. HRMFFA seeks support from the delegation to secure language promoting NASA Langley as the lead NASA UAS research center. *(Authorization and Appropriations legislative language).*
- **Ion Collider Project at Jefferson Lab in Newport News:** The ion collider facility would bring an estimated \$1.0 billion in spending and 4,974 jobs to the Commonwealth during the seven to 10 years of construction. Of that, \$557 million in spending and 4,050 jobs would be in Hampton Roads alone. It will take another four years for the Department of Energy to determine if and where it will be built.
- **UASI Grant Funding for the Region:** The President's FY2017 budget request made severe cuts to four key homeland security grant programs - cut by 44 percent below FY2016 levels. The Urban Area Security Initiative program would be cut by 45 percent, from \$600 million this year to \$330 million next year. The federal government is still operating under a Continuing Resolution. Work with Congress, the Department of Homeland Security and the Commonwealth of Virginia to designate Hampton Roads as eligible for UASI grants in FY2018.

- **Army Corps of Engineers/Energy and Water Appropriations:** Advocate for resolution of potential electrical power shortfalls on the Peninsula to ensure reliable power for federal facilities there.
- **Federal Aviation Administration:** Seek support for conducting an Environmental Impact Study for the construction of a parallel runway at Norfolk International Airport. The new runway would help deconflict flight operations at Norfolk Naval Station and Naval Air Station Oceana, and improve flexibility and safety of operations at the airport.
- **Funding for the VA South Hampton Roads Health Care Center:** Advocate for support of funding to build a VA health care center in South Hampton Roads. The lack of capacity at the Hampton VA Medical Center to meet the needs of the growing veteran population in Hampton Roads has had a negative impact on the quality and timeliness of care to veterans. This new facility will accelerate the scheduling of appointments and lessen the transportation burden for veterans in this area now forced to use the main hospital in Hampton.