

*CHAIR*  
The Hon. Bruce R. Williams  
Maryland

*VICE CHAIR – At-Large*  
The Hon. Daniel Chao  
District of Columbia

*VICE CHAIR – MD*  
The Hon. Kelly Porter  
Maryland

*VICE CHAIR – PA*  
The Hon. Ann Simonetti  
Pennsylvania

*VICE CHAIR – VA*  
The Hon. Richard A. Baugh  
Virginia

The Hon. James Barnhart  
West Virginia

The Hon. Ruby A. Brabo  
Virginia

The Hon. Sheila Finlayson  
Maryland

The Hon. J. Richard Gray  
Pennsylvania

The Hon. Penelope A. Gross  
Virginia

Larry Land  
Virginia

The Hon. Leo Lutz  
Pennsylvania

The Hon. Andria McClellan  
Virginia

The Hon. Brianne K. Nadeau  
District of Columbia

The Hon. Donovan Phillips Jr.  
Delaware

The Hon. John V. Thomas  
Pennsylvania

James Wheeler  
Pennsylvania

The Hon. Robert C. Willey  
Maryland



April 4, 2017

Chesapeake Executive Council:

We are writing to request your support in advocating for maintaining EPA Chesapeake Bay Program funding at the current level of \$73 million. As noted in your 2016 Resolution to Support Local Government Engagement (2016 Resolution), “citizens desire clean water in their local streams and rivers and local, state and federal elected officials are responsible to their constituents to help maintain the quality of life that clean water provides.”

In your 2016 Resolution you also noted that “current levels of public funding and private investment are insufficient to carry out conservation and restoration activities that achieve local healthy streams, rivers and a vibrant Chesapeake Bay.” Additionally, you committed to pursue opportunities to increase public funding and private investment for local implementation of conservation and restoration activities that achieve local healthy streams, rivers and a vibrant Chesapeake Bay, particularly activities that reduce pollutants from stormwater runoff and address the problem of recurrent flooding.

The elimination of funding for the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program, as proposed in the President’s 2018 Budget Blueprint, will limit our ability to protect healthy waters, put a halt to many local water protection and restoration initiatives, and threaten the scientific integrity of the restoration effort.

Local governments throughout the watershed are investing millions of dollars to protect and restore local waters. Bay Program funding and other federal programs such as the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, along with state funding, are vital to our success.

We know you share our understanding that a healthy Chesapeake Bay is an economic engine for our region and a critical resource for our nation and hope that we can count on your support of our efforts.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Bruce Williams  
Chair, Local Government Advisory Committee

cc. Nick DiPasquale, EPA Chesapeake Bay Program

