

## Notes from the 6 August 2008 Meeting of the Council of Civic Organizations

Mayor Oberndorf christened August 6, 2008 as the “Maiden Voyage” of the CCO and the Chamber of Commerce. State Representatives, Cosgrove, Perky, Bouchard, Wagner, Blevins, Tata and Iaquinto were there along with Representative Thelma Drake’s assistant and 10 of the 11 CC members (Reba McClanan did not attend). Mr. Spore and two other city managers attended as did other city representatives, including the City Attorney.

Mr. Wagner reported the State Transportation bill had been declared unconstitutional. Mr. Tata is dubious that transportation will be addressed anytime soon. The Virginia budget will suffer a shortfall due to a struggling economy. Since Virginia is a balanced budget state, either taxes will go up or some programs must be cut. Delegate Joe Bouchard believes the budget will be the overwhelming issue in 2009, and it’s going to be painful. Drastic cuts will be needed. Revenue problems are going to make transportation difficult. Transportation, however, is not going to be Governor Kaine’s top priority. He intends to focus on Climate Change. CCO President Sam Reid pointed out the neighborhoods are the backbone of the city and our secondary roads are being neglected. He suggests the city to oppose impact fees and expand proffers. The Dillon Rule came up, but it cannot be removed without a Constitutional Amendment. No federal money for roads this year.

Elizabeth Gregory  
CCO Representative  
Chesapeake Beach