

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE  
Mayor



THOMAS J. STOSUR  
Director

Dr. Kevin Sellner  
Executive Director  
Chesapeake Research Consortium  
645 Contees Wharf Road  
Edgewater, MD 21037

September 7, 2010

Dear Kevin:

The Baltimore City Department of Planning is providing this letter in support of the proposal that the Chesapeake Research Consortium is submitting to the NOAA Climate Services Special Competition for the Coastal Zone entitled, "***Improved Resiliency of Chesapeake Bay Communities to Storm Surge and Inundation under Climate-Induced Sea Level Rise.***" The description of the plans for the project are highly relevant to our future needs, particularly zoning considerations for future construction, utility and health care facility siting, emergency evacuation routes and important elements of the Baltimore Climate Action Plan.

As a City with sixty-four miles of waterfront, one of the largest Port facilities on the east coast, and thousands of existing and potential waterfront residences, Baltimore faces huge challenges not only in approving appropriate land uses to meet current restoration goals mandated through the EPA, but implementing practices and construction that will remain functional under increasing sea level and possible further surge inundation and flooding. The models you plan to develop will be extremely useful to our plans for the coming decades, and the interactions and dialog you offer with the modeling team to meet our needs for the future are extremely appealing.

I look forward to hearing your proposed work has been supported. Once this occurs, please contact Beth Strommen, Director of the Office of Sustainability, to identify City staff and partners to meet with you to insure the tools you develop can be applied to all aspects of the future of our City.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom J. Stosur", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Thomas J. Stosur  
Director

TS/bas

Cc: Beth Strommen