

January 15, 2021

To WQGIT:

As members of the local government organizations noted below, we are writing to support the candidacy of Katherine Filippino to the Chesapeake Bay Program's Water Quality Goal Implementation Team (WQGIT).

Dr. Filippino is well qualified for this role. She supports local governments as a Senior Water Resources Planner at the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission and as co-chair of the Bay Program's Land Use Workgroup. Through her contacts with the network of organizations noted below, she can represent local government throughout the Bay region.

The Bay Program has long recognized the importance of having multiple stakeholders providing input at various levels of its organizational structure. The at-large membership of the WQGIT is one of the most important of these venues for stakeholder input.

Local governments are among the Bay Program's most important stakeholders. Through our investments in wastewater treatment and stormwater management technology, we have accounted for much of the nutrient reduction progress made to date by the entire Bay Program. Local government expenditures in both sectors total hundreds of millions of dollars and continued participation and investment by local governments is critical to further progress.

Dr. Filippino will be an excellent contributor to the WQGIT's policy deliberations, for which a local government voice, which is currently absent, is essential.

Best-

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