(401) 783-3370 Fax (401) 783-2069

AGENDA

*Amended January 06, 2022

Semi-Monthly Meeting – Full Council Tuesday, January 11, 2021; 6:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86923110695?pwd=Qm94b2dTVEJaZXM2RGMvblBsSmpiQT09

Meeting ID: 869 2311 0695 Passcode: 471716 Or Telephone:

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Please see meeting participation information at the end of the Agenda

Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting – Tuesday, November 23, 2021 **Subcommittee Reports Staff Reports**

COUNCIL REVIEW and ACTION ON PROPOSED RULEMAKING:

CRMC Rules and Regulations Governing the Protection and Management of Freshwater Wetlands in the Vicinity of the Coast (650-RICR-20-00-9)

The CRMC proposes to adopt new freshwater wetlands in the vicinity of the coast rules in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 46-23-6 and 2-1-18 through 2-1-20.1 to strengthen the protection of freshwater wetlands in the vicinity of the coast and to provide clarity, predictability and streamlining of the regulatory framework. These new rules will replace the CRMC's existing freshwater wetland rules (650-RICR-20-00-2), which will be repealed upon adoption and implementation of these new rules. The CRMC has closely coordinated with the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) on the development of these new freshwater wetland rules for consistency of rule application throughout the state as required by state law. The CRMC and DEM regulations for freshwater wetland protection, including the new buffer standards are identical with the exception of some necessary differences to reflect the specific CRMC and DEM regulatory procedures and authorities as prescribed in state law. The CRMC is proposing adoption and implementation of these rules to be consistent with the effective date of the DEM freshwater wetland rules on July 1, 2022.

*Please be aware that upon entering the virtual Webinar, all audience participants will have their audio automatically muted and their video turned off. All such participants will still be able to see and hear the Council members. Should an audience participant wish to speak or ask a question, please use the "Raise Hand" option or type in a question using the Chat Feature. We request that you identify yourself to the Moderator prior to entrance into the meeting. Upon recognition by the Chair, you may be asked to present yourself and/or ask your question.