



Flood Resilience Advisory Committee

May 20th, 2026



Photo: Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

Full Name	Title	Organization
Nikki Rovner (Chair)	Director	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Greg Steele (Vice-Chair)	Chief Resilience Officer	Virginia Office of Resilience
Norah Carlos	Virginia Director	Chesapeake Bay Commission
Robbie Coates	Director, Grant Management and Recovery Division	Virginia Department of Emergency Management
Peter D'Alema	Director of Program Management	Virginia Resources Authority
Raka Goyal [John Swecker]	State Review Civil/Structural Engineer [State Review Civil/Structural Engineer]	Virginia Department of General Services
Joe Grist	Commissioner	Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Tamarah Holmes	Director	Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development
James Hutzler	Government Relations Associate	Virginia Association of Counties
Dr. Sessa Joi Moon	Chief Diversity Officer	Office of Diversity, Opportunity and Inclusion
Ben McFarlane	Chief Resilience Officer Hampton Roads Planning District Commission	Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions
Fernando Pasquel	Chief Policy Advisor	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Mitchell Smiley	Policy Manager, Transportation and Natural Resources	Virginia Municipal League
Chris Swanson	Director, Environmental Division	Virginia Department of Transportation
VACANT	Director	Office on Intermodal Planning and Investment

[Alternate Member]

Meeting Agenda

- 1) Call to Order & Roll Call
- 2) Adoption of the Agenda
- 3) Adoption of the Meeting Minutes from Dec 17, 2025
- 4) Freedom of Information Act Training
- 5) Summary and Adoption of Flood Resilience Advisory Committee Charter
- 6) Public Comment
- 7) Chief Resilience Officer Updates
- 8) Department of Conservation and Recreation Updates
- 9) Coastal Resilience Master Plan, Phase II
 - a) DCR Presentation on Phase II Plan
 - b) Advisory Committee comments on Phase II Plan
 - c) Process for finalizing Phase II Plan
- 10) Updates on the development of the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan
- 11) Committee Member Updates
- 12) Adjourn

Access to Public Meetings

Virginia Freedom of Information Act

Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council

<http://foiacouncil.dls.virginia.gov/>

foiacouncil@dls.virginia.gov

(804) 698-1810

Roadmap

- FOIA Policy - § [2.2-3700](#)
- Definitions - § [2.2-3701](#)
- Meeting Requirements
 - Open Meetings - §§ [2.2-3707](#), [2.2-3707.1](#), [2.2-3707.2](#), and [2.2-3710](#)
 - Closed Meetings - §§ [2.2-3711](#) and [2.2-3712](#)
- Electronic Meetings - § [2.2-3708.2](#) and § [2.2-3708.3](#)

FOIA Policy

§ 2.2-3700

- All meetings of a public body are presumed open unless a specific exemption applies.
- Liberal construction “to promote an increased awareness by all persons of governmental activities and afford every opportunity to citizens to witness the operations of government”
- Narrow construction of exemptions

Definitions

§ 2.2-3701

- “Public body”
 - Traditional public bodies (state boards, local governing bodies, school boards, bureaus, commissions, districts, etc.)
 - “[O]ther organizations, corporations or agencies in the Commonwealth supported wholly or principally by public funds.”
 - “[A]ny committee, subcommittee, or other entity however designated, of the public body created to perform delegated functions of the public body or to advise the public body.”

Definitions

§ 2.2-3701

- “Meeting”
 - means the meetings including work sessions, when sitting physically, or through electronic communication means pursuant to § 2.2-3708.2 or 2.2-3708.3, as a body or entity, or as an informal assemblage of (i) as many as three members or (ii) a quorum, if less than three, of the constituent membership, wherever held, with or without minutes being taken, whether or not votes are cast, of any public body.
 - Exception: gatherings of employees
 - Exception: gatherings where no part of the purpose of such gathering or attendance is the discussion or transaction of any public business, such gathering or attendance was not called or prearranged with any purpose of discussing or transacting any business of the public body, and no discussion or transaction of public business takes place among the members of the public body

Definitions

§ 2.2-3701

- Exception: public forum, informational gathering, candidate appearance, meeting of another public body, or debate, the purpose of which is to inform the electorate or to gather information from the public and not to transact public business or to hold discussions relating to the transaction of public business, where no discussion or transaction of public business takes place among the members of the public body, even though the performance of the members individually or collectively in the conduct of public business may be a topic of discussion, debate, or question presented by others
- For purposes of public meetings only, “public business” means “any activity a public body has undertaken or proposes to undertake on behalf of the people it represents.”

Open Meetings – Requirements

§§ [2.2-3707](#), [2.2-3707.1](#), [2.2-3707.2](#), and [2.2-3710](#)

- Notice to the Public
 - Note that notice to members is not covered by FOIA, but is often stated elsewhere in other laws
- Open to the Public
 - "Open meeting" or "public meeting" means a meeting at which the public may be present.
- Minutes

Notice Contents

§ 2.2-3707 (D through F)

- Date
- Time
- Location

Where should notice be posted?

§ 2.2-3707 (D)

- FOIA requires all public bodies to post notice in three locations:
 1. Official public government website, if any;
 - Definition: “any Internet site controlled by a public body and used, among any other purposes, to post required notices and other content pursuant to this chapter on behalf of the public body.”
 2. Prominent public location in which notices are regularly posted; and
 3. At the office of the clerk of the public body OR at the office of the chief administrator

***State public bodies** must also post notice on a central, publicly available electronic calendar maintained by the Commonwealth.

When should notice be posted?

§ 2.2-3707(D) and (E)

- **Regular meetings** → at least three working days prior to the meeting
 - Do not count the day of the meeting
 - Do not count weekends, holidays, or days when the office is closed
- **Special, emergency, or continued meetings** → at the same time as the notice that is provided to the members of the public body that are conducting the meeting AND reasonable under the circumstance

Are specific people entitled to notice?

§ 2.2-3707(F)

- Anyone who annually files a written request for notification with a public body
- Written request must include:
 - Requester's name
 - Address/Zip Code
 - Daytime telephone number
 - E-mail address, if available
 - Organization, if any

Agendas

§ 2.2-3707(G)

-
- At least one copy of the proposed agenda and all agenda packets and, unless exempt, all materials furnished to members of a public body for a meeting shall be made available for public inspection at the same time such documents are furnished to the members of the public body.
 - FOIA does not have requirements regarding specific agenda items, agenda contents or agenda changes
 - FOIA does not address parliamentary procedure

What does it mean for a meeting to be open to the public?

- Definition (§ [2.2-3701](#)): "Open meeting" or "public meeting" means a meeting at which the public may be present.
- Any person may photograph, film, record, or otherwise reproduce any portion of a meeting required to be open. (§ [2.2-3707](#) (H))
- No public body shall conduct a meeting required to be open in any building or facility where such recording devices are prohibited. (§ [2.2-3707](#) (H))

Meeting Minutes

§ 2.2-3707(I)

- Only required to be taken at open meetings
- Must include:
 - Date, time, location of the meeting
 - Members of the public body present and absent
 - A summary of matters discussed, deliberated, or decided
 - A record of any votes taken
 - Any motions to enter into a closed meeting and certification after a closed meeting

Posting Meeting Minutes

§§ 2.2-3707.1 and 2.2-3707.2

- State executive branch public bodies (§ 2.2-3707.1)
 - Post on official public government website
 - Draft minutes posted no later than ten working days after the conclusion of the meeting
 - Final minutes posted no later than three working days after final approval
- Local public bodies (§ 2.2-3707.2)
 - Post on official public government website, if any
 - If no such website, make copies available at a prominent public location in which meeting notices are regularly posted or the office of the clerk or chief administrator
 - Post final minutes within seven working days of final approval

Votes

§§ 2.2-3710 and 2.2-3711(B)

- All votes taken to authorize the transaction of any public business must be taken and recorded in an open meeting conducted in accordance with FOIA
- No written or secret ballots
- May reach consensus or take straw polls in closed meetings
- However, decisions made in closed meetings are not effective until a vote is taken in an open meeting that reasonably identifies the substance of the vote (§ 2.2-3711(B))

Closed Meeting Procedures

§§ 2.2-3711 and 2.2-3712

Motion, Discussion, Certification

Motion to Enter into a Closed Meeting

§ 2.2-3712(A)

- Public body must take an affirmative recorded vote in an open meeting approving a motion that:
 1. Identifies the subject matter for the closed meeting;
 - Must be more than quoting or paraphrasing the exemption
 2. States the purpose of the closed meeting; and
 - Quoting or paraphrasing the exemption does state the purpose
 3. Makes specific reference to the applicable exemption from the open meeting requirements

Closed Meeting Discussions

§ 2.2-3712(C, F, G, and I)

- Restricted to those matters specifically exempted from the provisions of FOIA and identified in the motion (do not stray off topic)
- Who may attend?
 - Nonmembers if they are necessary or will aid consideration of the topic
 - Other members of public bodies may attend, but not participate in, closed meetings of committees, subcommittees, and other sub-entities of the parent body
- Minutes are not required, and if taken, are exempt from FOIA

Certification of a Closed Meeting

§§ 2.2-3712(D) and 2.2-3714(C)

- At the conclusion of a closed meeting, public body must certify that the only things heard, discussed, or considered in the closed meeting were:
 1. Public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements, and
 2. Such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened
- Additional penalty for improper certification
 - Civil penalty of up to \$1,000 paid by the public body to the Literary Fund
 - Court may consider mitigating factors

Exemptions

§ 2.2-3711(A)

- Discussion of personnel - § 2.2-3711(A)(1)
- Consideration of acquisition or disposition of real property - § 2.2-3711(A)(3)
- Discussion of prospective business or industry - § 2.2-3711(A)(5)
- Actual or probable litigation - § 2.2-3711(A)(7)
- Consultation with legal counsel on specific legal matters - § 2.2-3711(A)(8)
- Discussion of public safety - § 2.2-3711(A)(19)
- Discussion of award of public contract - § 2.2-3711(A)(29)

Electronic Meetings

§§ 2.2-3708.2 and 2.2-3708.3

- As of September 1, 2022, there are three general categories:
 - Remote participation: “participation by an individual member of a public body by electronic communication means in a public meeting where a quorum of the public body is otherwise physically assembled.”
 - All-virtual public meetings: “a public meeting (i) conducted by a public body, other than those excepted pursuant to subsection C of § 2.2-3708.3, using electronic communication means, (ii) during which all members of the public body who participate do so remotely rather than being assembled in one physical location, and (iii) to which public access is provided through electronic communication means.”
 - States of emergency declared by the Governor or the locality

Electronic Meetings

Remote participation (may be used by any public body) - § 2.2-3708.3

- Four allowed reasons for remote participation:
 - Temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents member's attendance
 - Medical condition of a family member that prevents member's attendance
 - Member's principal residence is more than 60 miles from the meeting location
 - Personal matter that prevents member's attendance
- All require a physical quorum and prior adoption of a participation policy
 - Exception: persons with disabilities and their caregivers who participate remotely are counted as if physically present for purposes of determining whether there is a quorum
- Remote location from which the member participates does not have to be open to the public
- Personal matters may be used twice per calendar year per member or 25 percent of the meetings of the public body rounded to the next whole number, whichever is greater

Electronic Meetings

All-virtual public meetings - § 2.2-3708.3

- May be used by any public body except “local governing bodies, local school boards, planning commissions, architectural review boards, zoning appeals boards, and boards with the authority to deny, revoke, or suspend a professional or occupational license”
- Requires prior adoption of a participation policy (but no quorum)
- Remote locations do not have to be open to the public unless 3 or more members are present at that location
- All-virtual public meetings may be used twice per calendar year or 50 percent of the meetings of the public body rounded to the next whole number, whichever is greater
- Additional procedural requirements

Electronic Meetings

Policy for remote participation and all-virtual public meetings - § 2.2-3708.3(D)

- Before using remote participation or all-virtual public meetings, the public body must adopt a policy on participation at least once annually that:
 - Is applied strictly and uniformly, without exception, to the entire membership and without regard to the identity of the member or the matters to be considered or voted upon
 - Describes the circumstances under which an all-virtual public meeting and remote participation will be allowed and the process the public body will use for making requests to use remote participation, approving or denying such requests, and creating a record of such requests
 - Fixes the number of times remote participation for personal matters or all-virtual public meetings can be used per calendar year, not to exceed the limitations set forth in FOIA
 - Does not prohibit or restrict any individual member of a public body who is participating in an all-virtual meeting or who is using remote participation from voting on matters before the public body

Electronic Meetings

During declared states of emergency (§ 2.2-3708.2 and State Budget)

- During a Governor-declared or local state of emergency:
 - *Purpose:* to provide for the continuity of operations of the public body or the discharge of its lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities- § [2.2-3708.2](#) (version in FOIA last amended in 2022)
- During a Governor-declared state of emergency ONLY
 - Different procedural requirements and limitations – State Budget Item [4-0.01](#) (g) (version in the state budget originally added in 2020)
- Both may be used by any public body
- No requirement for a physical quorum or to have a policy in place

Electronic Meetings

(continued)

- Members may monitor (listen/watch) even if they cannot participate
- Public & staff participation is always allowed – restrictions only apply to members
- Please see our Electronic Meetings Guide on the [Reference Materials webpage](#) for a more detailed discussion

FOIA & Social Media

- Because the definition of “public records” includes all types of records that are in the transaction of public business, various forms of social media may be public records
- Because any assemblage of three or more members (or a quorum of two) of a public body discussing or transacting public business simultaneously is a meeting subject to FOIA, social media may also be used to conduct meetings
- Please see our guide on FOIA & Social Media on the [Reference Materials webpage](#) for a more detailed discussion



Flood Resilience Advisory Committee

Committee Overview

Charter Overview

Flood Resilience Advisory Committee

Roles and Responsibilities via [§10.1-659](#)

- The DCR Director, in coordination with the Chief Resilience Officer of the Commonwealth, shall establish the Virginia Flood Resilience Advisory Committee (the Committee) to assist with developing, updating, and implementing the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan pursuant to [§ 10.1-602](#) and implementing the Commonwealth's flood resilience, preparedness, prevention, and protection programs.
- Members appointed to the Committee shall serve in an advisory role without compensation.
- The Committee shall meet at least two times per calendar year.
- DCR shall provide staff support to the Committee.

- Dept. of Conservation and Recreation [Chair]*^
- Chief Resilience Officer [Vice-Chair]*^
- Dept. of Emergency Management*^
- Dept. of Environmental Quality*^
- Dept. of General Services*
- Dept. of Housing and Community Development*^
- Dept. of Transportation*
- Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment*
- Virginia Resources Authority
- Virginia Marine Resources Commission*

- Chesapeake Bay Commission^
- Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*
- Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions
- Virginia Municipal League
- Virginia Association of Counties

* - Member of Interagency Resilience Management Team

^ - Member of CFPF & RVRP Advisory Committees

Flood Resilience Advisory Committee

Roles and Responsibilities via [§10.1-659](#)

The Committee shall receive updates to the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan, the Coastal Resilience Master Plan, and other regional flood resilience plans.

The Committee shall advise the Department on:

- Assessing the impacts of flooding on people, the economy, and the environment;
- Establishing and measuring flood resilience goals and metrics for the Commonwealth;
- Prioritizing state policies, programs, funding, and other strategies to mitigate the impacts of severe and repetitive flooding;
- Enhancing intergovernmental and interagency coordination for flood resilience planning and strategy implementation;
- Conducting stakeholder outreach and engagement in support of flood resilience planning and implementation;
- Assisting local governments to minimize loss of life, property damage, and negative impacts on the environment resulting from flooding; and
- Issues relating to the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan in accordance with the requirements established in [§ 10.1-602](#).

Flood Committee Charter Overview

- **Section 1 – Purpose and Basic Principles**
 - Membership
 - Role of the Flood Committee
- **Section 2 – Meetings**
 - Policy for Remote Participation
 - Policy for All-Virtual Meetings
- **Section 3 – Officers**
- **Section 4 – Conduct of Business**
 - Order of Business
 - Public Comment
 - Robert's Rules of Order
- **Section 5 – Flood Committee Appointments**
 - Subcommittees
 - Advisor Appointments
 - Attendance

Public Comment

Chief Resilience Officer Updates

Greg Steele - Chief Resilience Officer

Department of Conservation and Recreation Updates

Nikki Rovner – DCR Director

The Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) – Round 6

Round 6 of the Community Flood Preparedness Fund received the highest subscription to the program to date, both in terms of applications submitted and grant funds requested.

- 78 applications were submitted by local and tribal governments across the Commonwealth, totaling \$124 million in requested grant funds.
- 55 grant awards were made, totaling approximately \$74 million in grant funds.
- 7 eligible projects that did not score high enough for grant funding were offered low-interest loans totaling \$33 million.

Round 6 awards across each category of funding:

	Capacity Building and Planning	Studies	Projects	USACE Projects
Application Count	25	16	13	1
Dollar Figure	\$11,168,034.26	\$8,458,846.43	\$29,287,476.23	\$24,986,500.00

CFPF Round 7 is planned to be open for applications on December 1st, 2026.

The Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund (RVERF) and Helene Recovery

- The 2025-2026 Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund (RVERF) funding opportunity is available to provide recovery support to localities impacted by Hurricane Helene and the winter storms of 2025.
- Eligible Recipients: Mt. Rogers, New River Valley Regional Commission, LENOWISCO, Cumberland Plateau PDCs.
- Category 1 consists of grants to support the resilient rebuilding of privately-owned property, with \$30 million available to support the eligible activities listed below:
 - A - Flood resilient bridges, slope stabilization, or mitigation reconstruction of location-dependent access structures.
 - B - Buyouts demolition of structures for open space, relocation assistance, costs related to projects that provide flood hazard mitigation benefits or lower flood risk to buildings, post-flood debris removal and management measures.
 - C - Other projects and activities consistent with the statutory scope of the Fund.

Building Resilience in Southwest Virginia (SWVA)

Regional Impact & Future Focus



Public Comment Period Ended May 14th

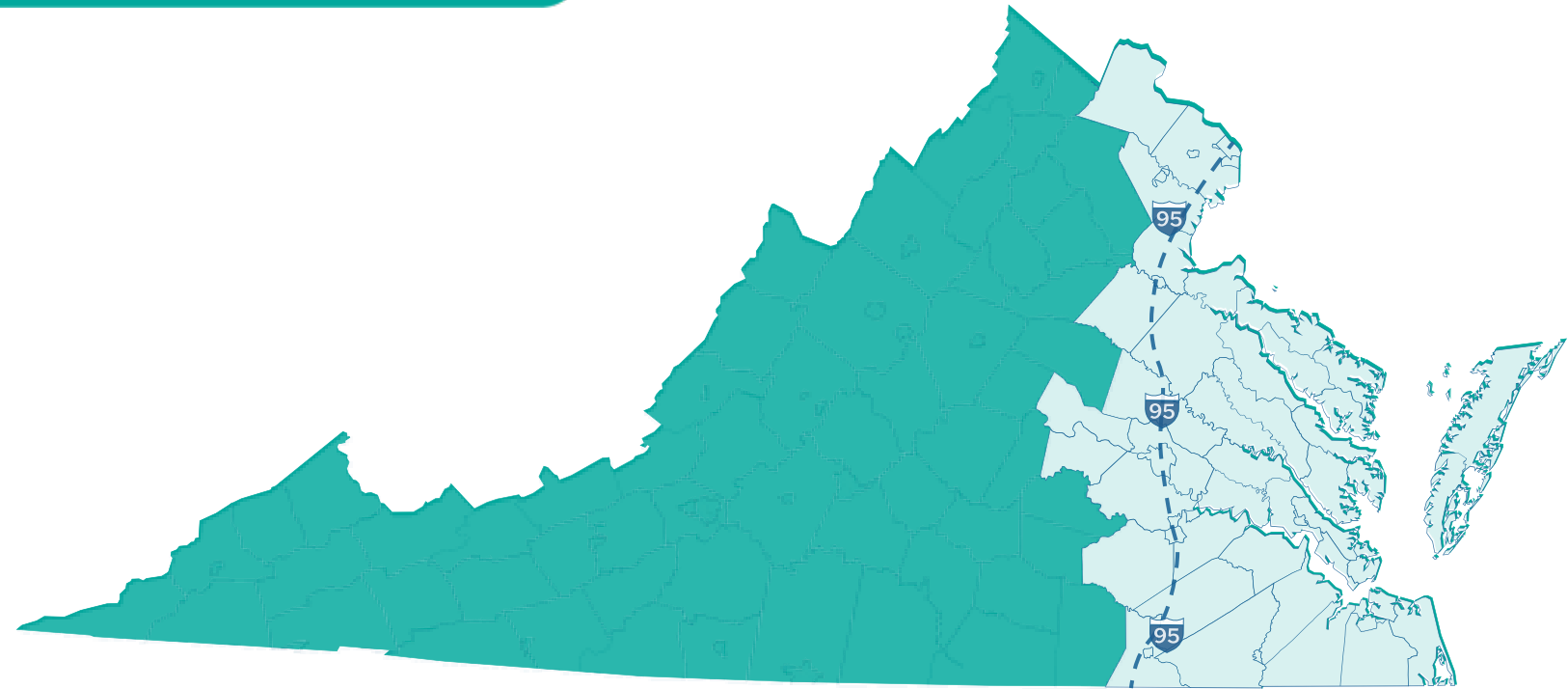
State-Led Flood Resilience Planning

Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan, Phase II Update

Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan

VIRGINIA
FLOOD PROTECTION
MASTER PLAN

VIRGINIA COASTAL
RESILIENCE
MASTER PLAN



State interest in resilience and flood control.

Minimize
loss of life,
property damage,
and negative impacts
on the environment

Flood Resilience Planning Principles



(i) base decision making on the best-available science



(ii) identify and address socioeconomic inequities and strive to enhance equity through the adaptation and protection measures by considering all areas of recurrent flooding



(iii) recognize the importance of protecting and enhancing natural infrastructure and nature-based approaches to flood mitigation, when possible



(iv) utilize community and regional scale planning to the maximum extent possible, seeking region-specific approaches tailored to the needs of individual communities



(v) include an understanding of fiscal realities and focus on cost-effective solutions for the protection and adaptation of communities, businesses, and critical infrastructure

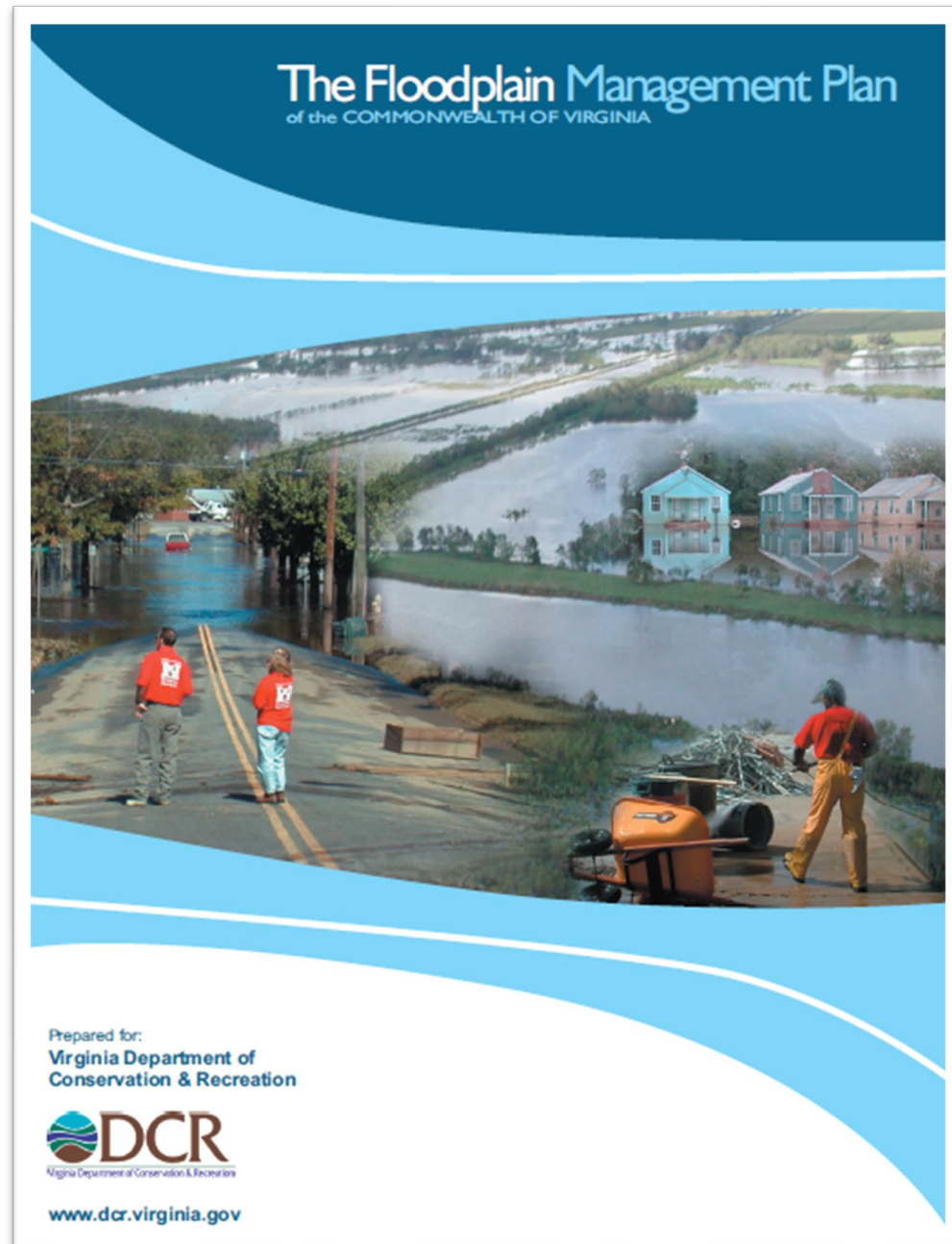
Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan

History

- Established via Virginia House Document 64 in 1989
- Codified in §10.1-602 with updates in 2022 GA (HB 516 / SB 551)
- Published in 1989, 1991, and 2005 (2005 included a Guide for Citizens and Localities)

Current Code Requirements

- The Plan shall be a place-specific plan for mitigating severe and repetitive flooding, [adhere to the Coastal Resilience Framework Principles], and include, at a minimum:
 - An inventory of flood-prone areas;
 - An inventory of flood protection studies;
 - A record of flood damages;
 - Strategies to prevent or mitigate flood damage; and
 - The collection and distribution of information relating to flooding and floodplain management.
- Due no later than Dec 31, 2026 (5-year update cycle)
- Must use a watershed-based approach



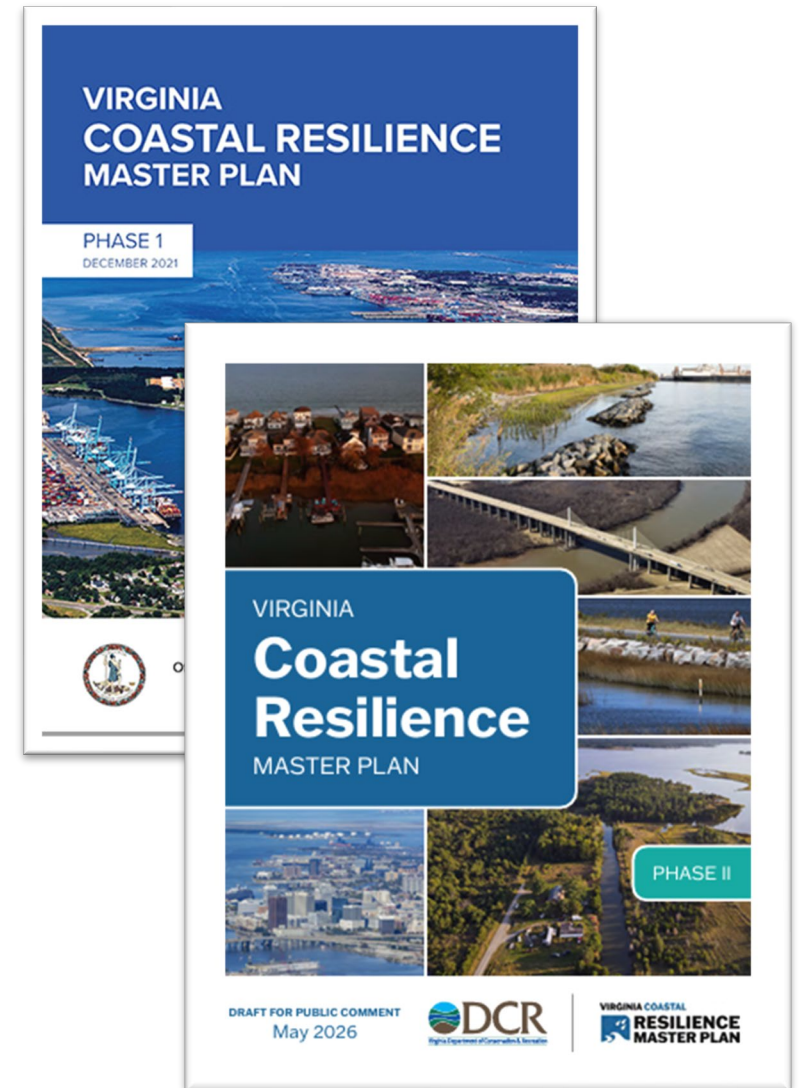
Coastal Resilience Master Plan

History

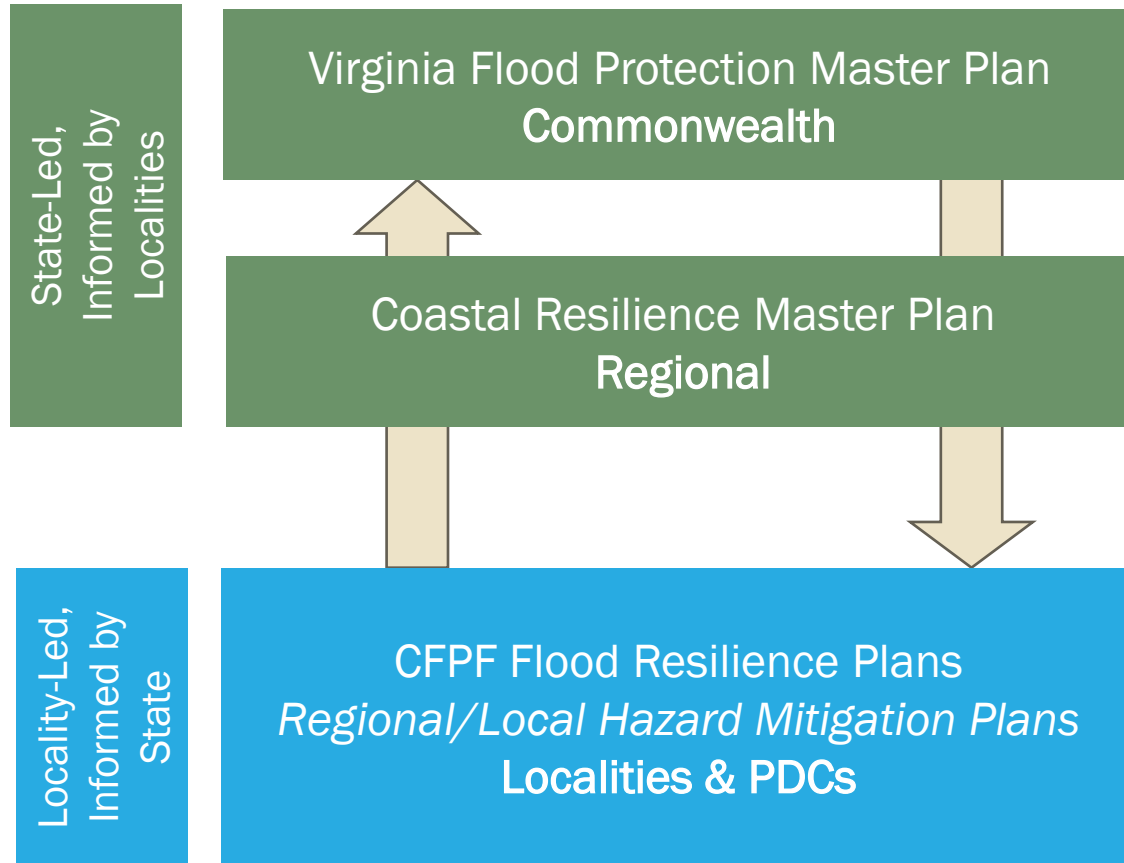
- Established via Executive Order 24 in 2018
- Codified in §10.1-602, 658, 659 with updates in 2022 GA (HB 516 / SB 551)
- Coastal Resilience Master Planning Framework in 2020
- Coastal Resilience Master Plan Phase I released in 2021
- Coastal Resilience Master Plan Phase II is out for public comment

Current Code Requirements

- The Plan shall be a place-specific plan for mitigating severe and repetitive flooding, [adhere to the Coastal Resilience Framework Principles], and include, at a minimum:
 - Incorporate all major flood hazards, including precipitation-driven flooding;
 - Include a list of all projects considered
 - Include an update on the status of all projects previously implemented
 - Include a comprehensive risk assessment of critical human and natural infrastructure.



Integrated Flood Resilience Planning



Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan

- State Priorities
- Inter-Agency Coordination
- State Action (Policies, programs, funding)
- Statewide Data

Coastal Resilience Master Plan

- Regional Priorities
- Inter-Governmental Coordination
- Regional/Local Action with State Support (Projects, Initiatives)
- Regional/Local Data

Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan Phase II Update

Our Plan Products

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Virginia Coastal Resilience Web Explorer. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Hazards & Impacts, Projects & Initiatives, Funding Opportunities, and Help & Information. The main header features the title "Virginia Coastal Resilience Web Explorer" and the tagline "Planning for a flood-resilient future." Below this, there are four main navigation icons: Hazards and Impacts, Projects and Initiatives, Funding Opportunities, and Help & Information. A section titled "About the Effort" provides context on the plan's purpose and the web explorer's functionality.

Virginia Coastal Resilience Web Explorer
Planning for a flood-resilient future.

Hazards and Impacts
Explore coastal, riverine, and rainfall-driven flood hazards and their potential impacts on our communities and resources.

Projects and Initiatives
Explore the living inventory of flood resilience projects and initiatives.

Funding Opportunities
Search the living funding database to find the opportunities to finance or fund your flood resilience activities.

Help & Information
Learn more about how to use the web explorer, including its datasets, methods and limitations.

About the Effort
Flooding is increasingly threatening our cherished coastal region's economic, cultural, and environmental resources. The Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan is designed to be a trusted resource to assist government entities in making evidence-based decisions using high-quality flood resilience data. It provides the Commonwealth with a unified analysis of the threat of increasing flood exposure and impacts in coastal Virginia. In addition, the plan identifies opportunities to prioritize impactful flood resilience solutions.

This Coastal Resilience Web Explorer presents findings from the plan in an interactive format. It allows users to visualize modeled flood hazards and impacts at a variety of planning horizons and geographic scales using maps and dashboards. It also presents a "living" inventory of ongoing and planned flood resilience projects, initiatives, and funding opportunities.

<https://floodplan.dcr.virginia.gov/crwe/>



A collage of images related to coastal resilience, including aerial views of coastal towns, a bridge over a waterway, a coastal road with cyclists, a marshy area, and a city skyline. A large blue text box is overlaid on the collage, and a teal box in the bottom right corner indicates the phase of the plan.

VIRGINIA Coastal Resilience MASTER PLAN

PHASE II

DRAFT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
May 2026

DCR
Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

VIRGINIA COASTAL RESILIENCE MASTER PLAN

<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/crmp/plan-phase2>

Coastal Resilience Master Plan, Phase II

OUR CONSULTANT TEAMS



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- 200+ people participated in webinars, meetings, and workshops on resilience and flooding in coastal Virginia.
- 50+ primary stakeholders provided direct input to inform the plan through a survey designed to collect feedback from the plan's intended end users.
- The Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee ("TAC") was a public body established by Code to advise and support the plan's development and implementation.



Coastal Resilience Master Plan, Phase II

OBJECTIVES OF THE PLAN

- Provide a unified baseline analysis of the threat of increasing flood exposure and impacts in coastal Virginia.
- Identify opportunities to create impactful flood resilience solutions.



INNOVATIONS OF THE PLAN

- Enhancing Flood Exposure Modeling
- Adopting Planning Scenarios
- Updating the Projects, Initiatives and Funding Inventory
- Recommending Actions for Flood Resilience
- Strengthening Stakeholder Engagement

The Coastal Resilience Master Plan at a Glance

Chapter 1: INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Coastal Resilience Master Plan
History of the Plan
Our Approach

Chapter 2: FLOODING IN COASTAL VIRGINIA

Modeling Changing Flood Conditions
Flooding in Coastal Virginia
Flood Impacts

Chapter 3: ADVANCING FLOOD RESILIENCE

Projects and Initiatives Inventory
Financing Flood Resilience
Recommendations

Chapter 4: LOOKING AHEAD

The Commonwealth's Role in Flood Resilience
How to Use the Plan and Its Products
Next Steps for the Office of Resilience Planning

How to Use this Plan



Understanding the Challenges of Increased Flooding



Developing Locally Specific or Sector-Specific Plans



Identifying Opportunities to Coordinate With Others



Filling Flood Resilience Gaps



Using Data Information In Operational Decisions



Seeking Funding and Policymaker Support



Educating Public Audiences

CHAPTER 2

FLOODING IN COASTAL VIRGINIA

Major Sources of Flooding

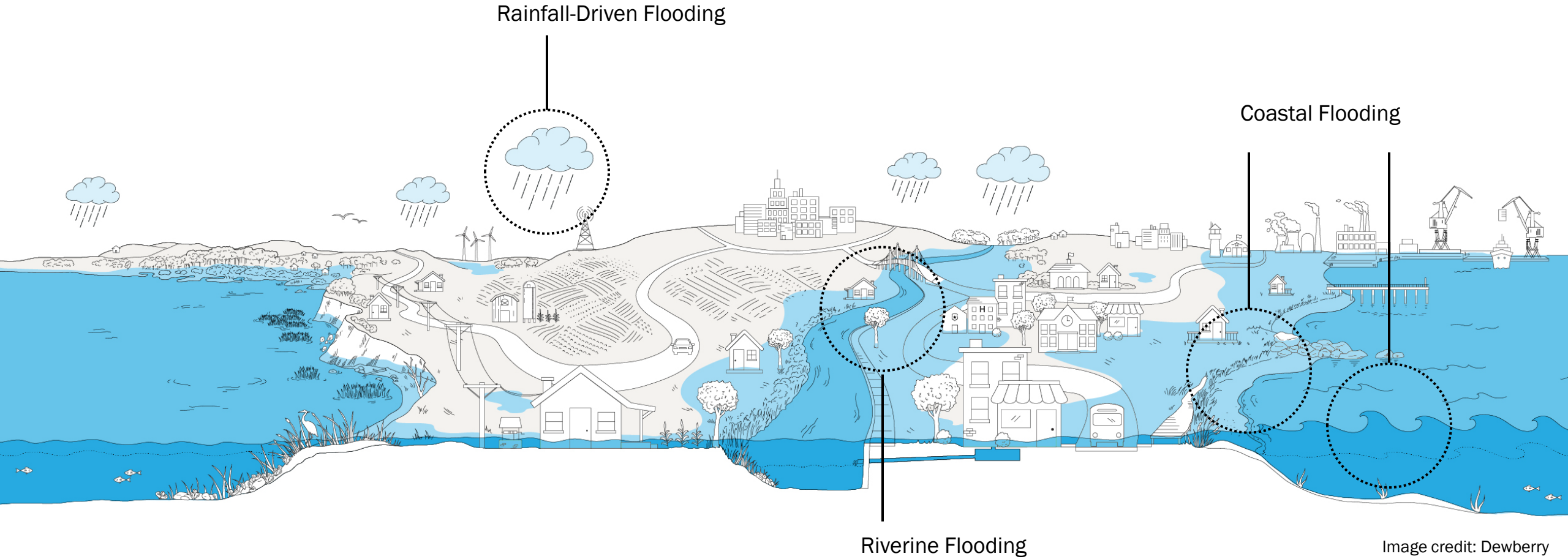
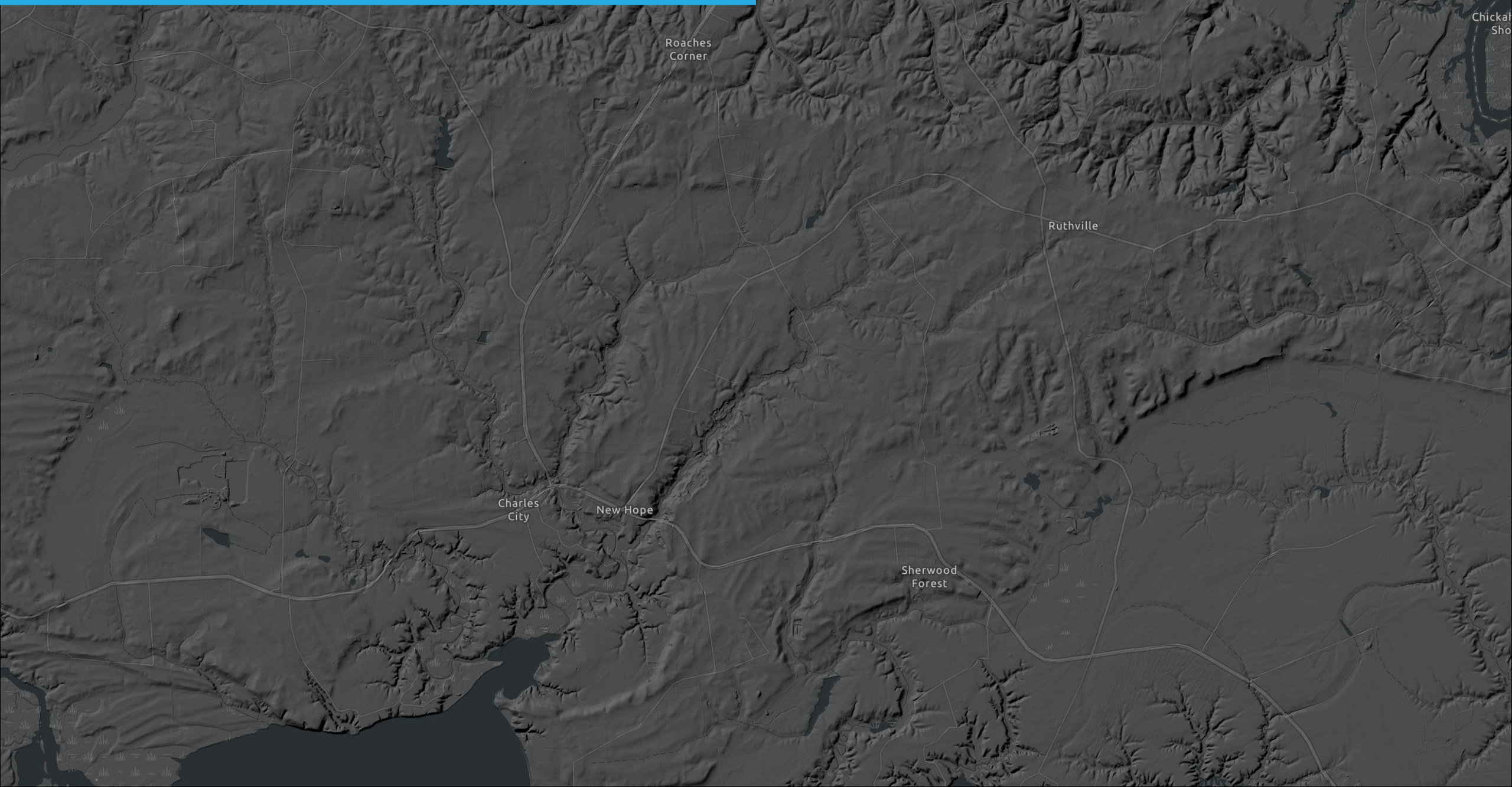


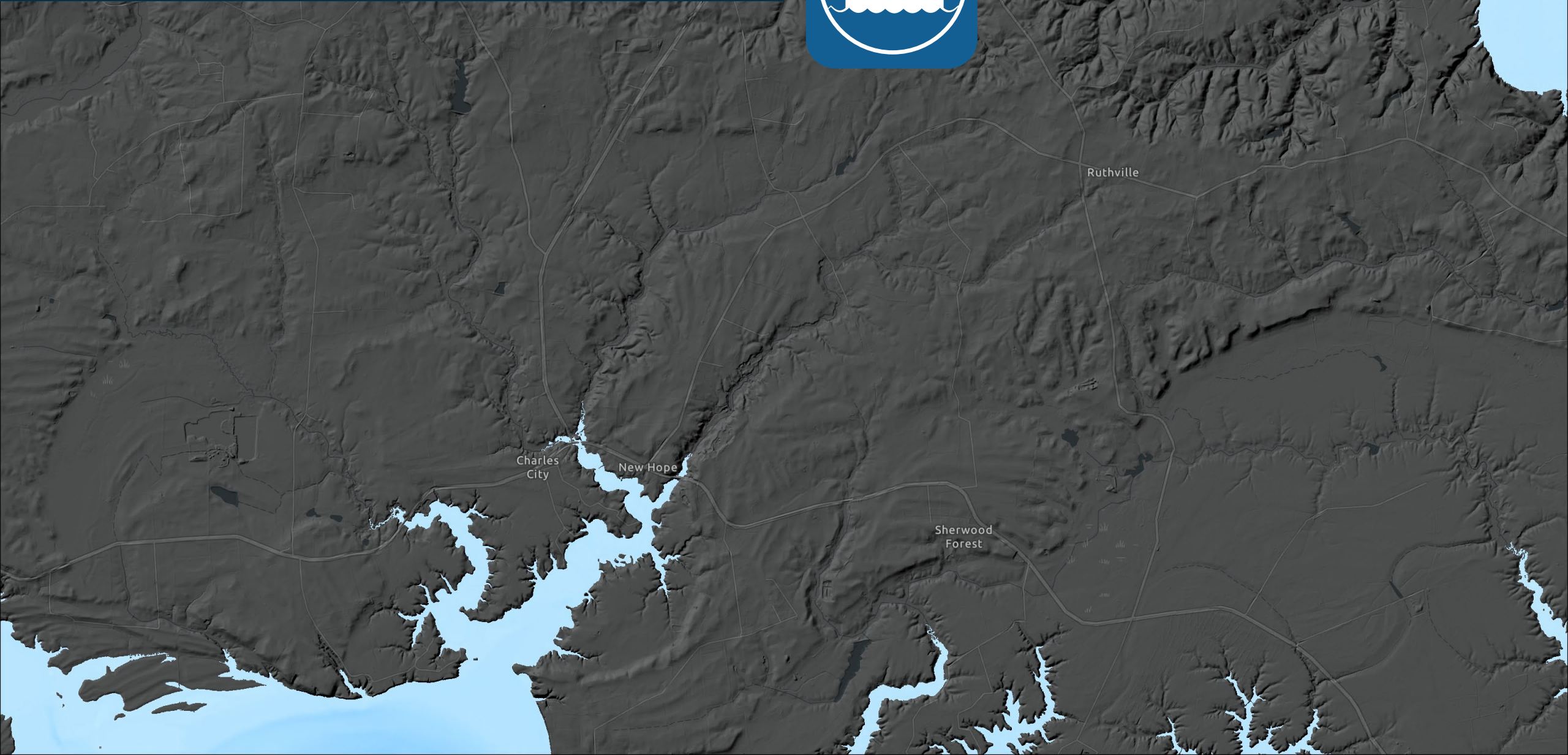
Image credit: Dewberry

FLOODING IN COASTAL VIRGINIA



FLOODING IN COASTAL VIRGINIA

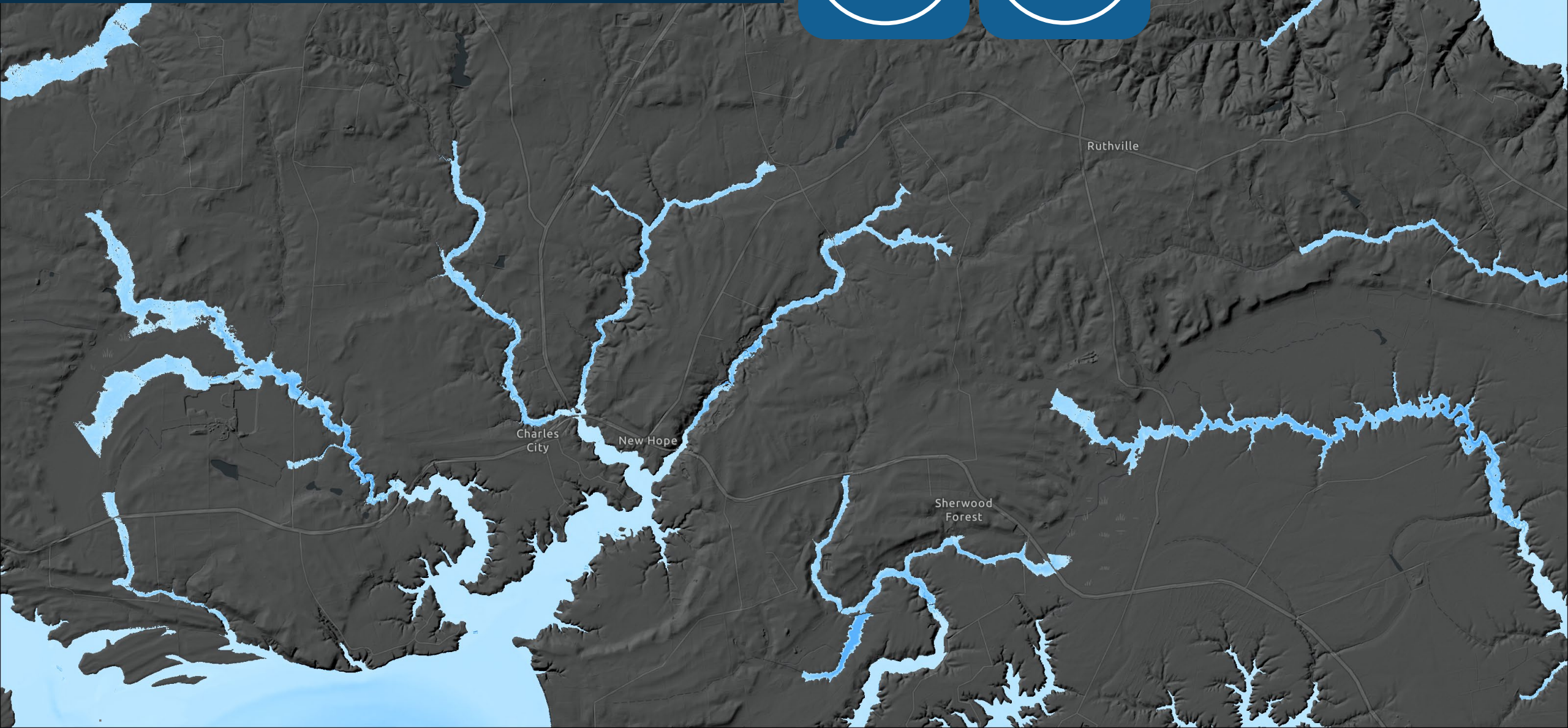
+ Coastal Flooding (1% AEP)



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FLOODING IN COASTAL VIRGINIA

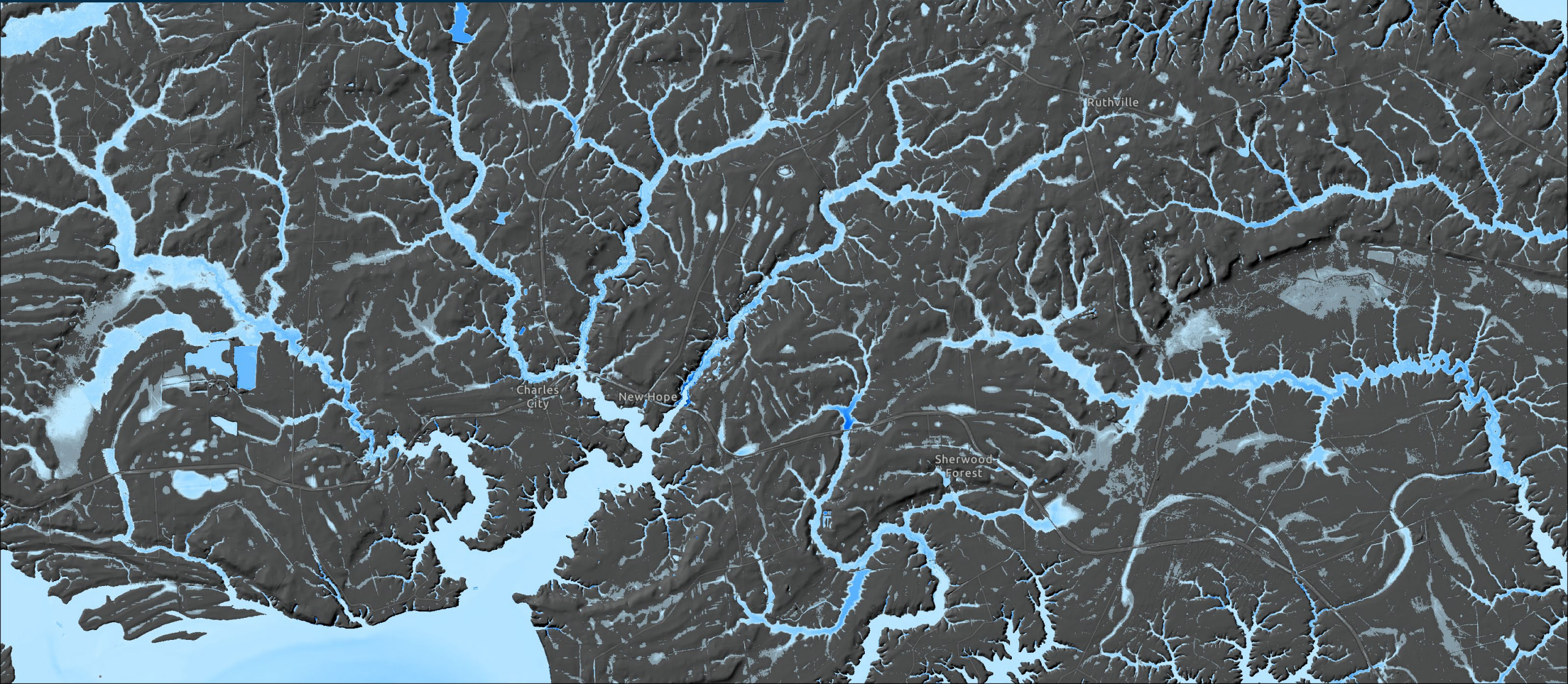
Coastal Flooding (1% AEP)
+ Riverine Flooding (1% AEP)



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FLOODING IN COASTAL VIRGINIA

Coastal Flooding (1% AEP)
Riverine Flooding (1% AEP)
+ Rainfall-Driven Flooding (1% AEP)



Forecasting Future Flooding with Planning Scenarios



Understanding Flood Impacts

Multiple Flood Hazard Types



Coastal



Rainfall



Riverine

Multiple Planning Scenarios



Multiple Asset Types



Community Resources



Built Infrastructure



Human Infrastructure



Natural Infrastructure

Impact Highlights

In the near moderate future, Coastal Virginia is likely to see...



About

+13%

Increase in the **acres of land** that could be exposed to major* rainfall driven flooding.



About

+53%

Increase in the **number of buildings** that could be exposed to major* coastal flooding.



About

9%

Of **lands managed for permanent natural resource conservation** inundated by tidal flooding.



About

15%

Of the **regional population** (1.5 million people) living in areas that could be exposed to a major* flood.

FLOODING IN COASTAL VIRGINIA

Flood Hazard Condition

Hazard Type

Rainfall

Planning Scenario

Far Future, High

Geographic Filter

Scale

PDC/RC

Area of Interest

Middle Peninsula

Asset & Impact Type

Asset Theme

Buildings

Asset Type

All Buildings

Impact Metric

Exposure

Impact Results

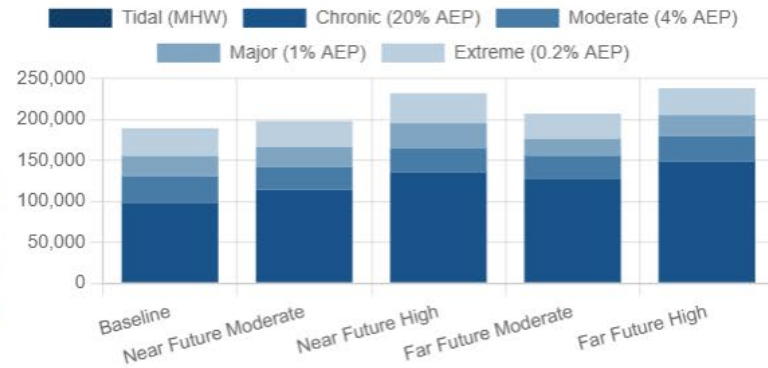
Count Percent

Map Display

Census Block Group

Summary Charts

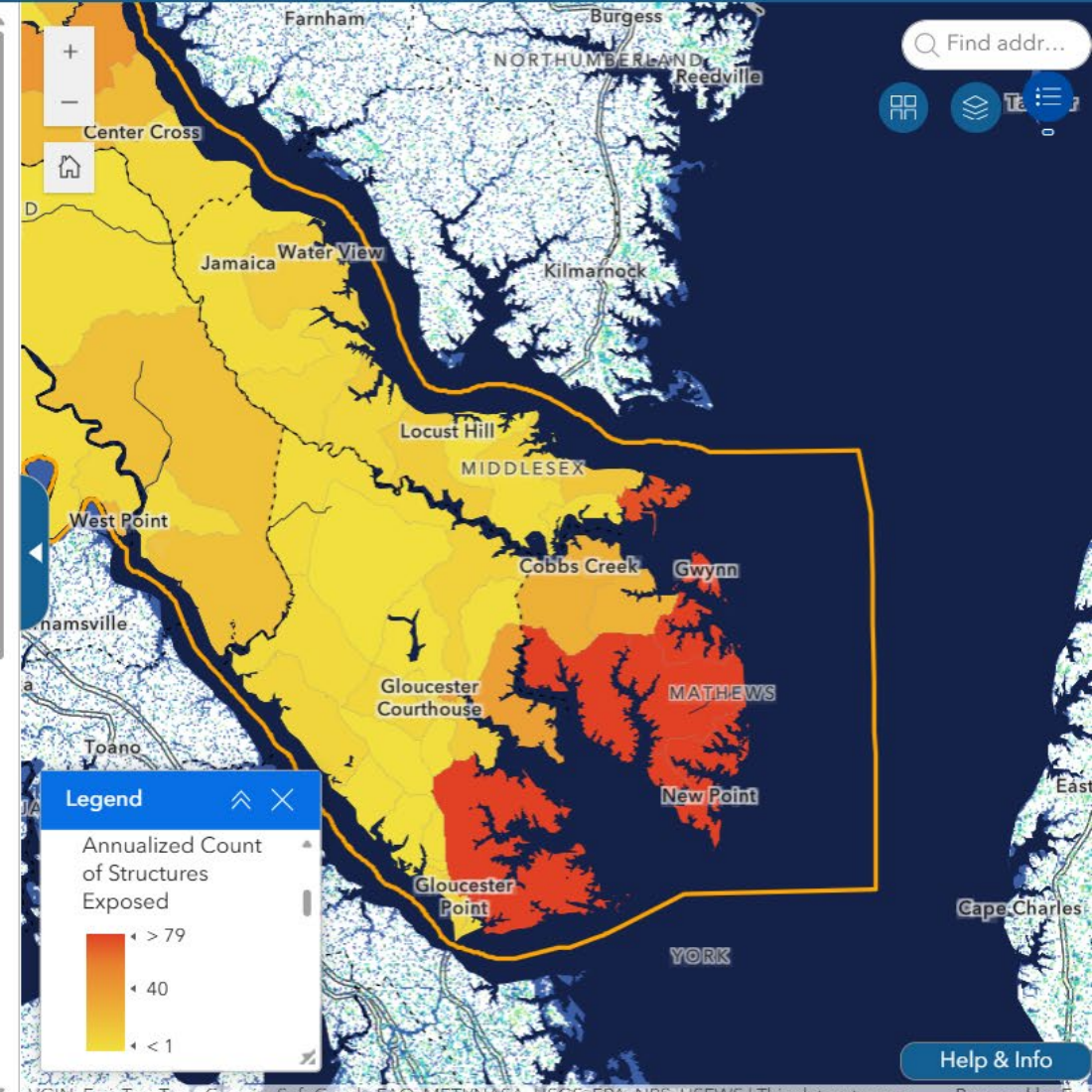
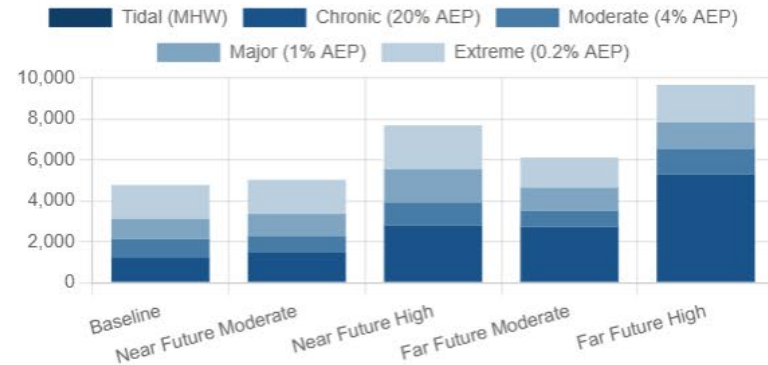
Acres of Land Inundated - Rainfall Events



The estimated acres of normally dry land exposed to each modeled reference rainfall flood event.

Download as CSV

All Buildings Exposure - Rainfall Events (Count)



CHAPTER 3

ADVANCING FLOOD RESILIENCE

Projects and Initiatives Inventory

What is the state of the data?

- Initial data call occurred 2021
- Last data call and update occurred 2024

What does the data look like?

- Nearly **950 projects and initiatives** submitted
- 74% are projects; 26% initiatives
- Of the projects: 46% proposed; 42% taking action; 12% complete
- Over 80% are owned by **local governments**.

Implementation Costs of Projects

Proposed \$5.1 B

Complete \$241 M

**Site Assessment/
Preliminary
Design**

102 Projects
\$1.7B

**Construction/
Implementation**

50 Projects
\$379M

**Taking
Action
\$3.6B**

Programmed

69 Projects
\$808M

**Final
Design/
Permitting**

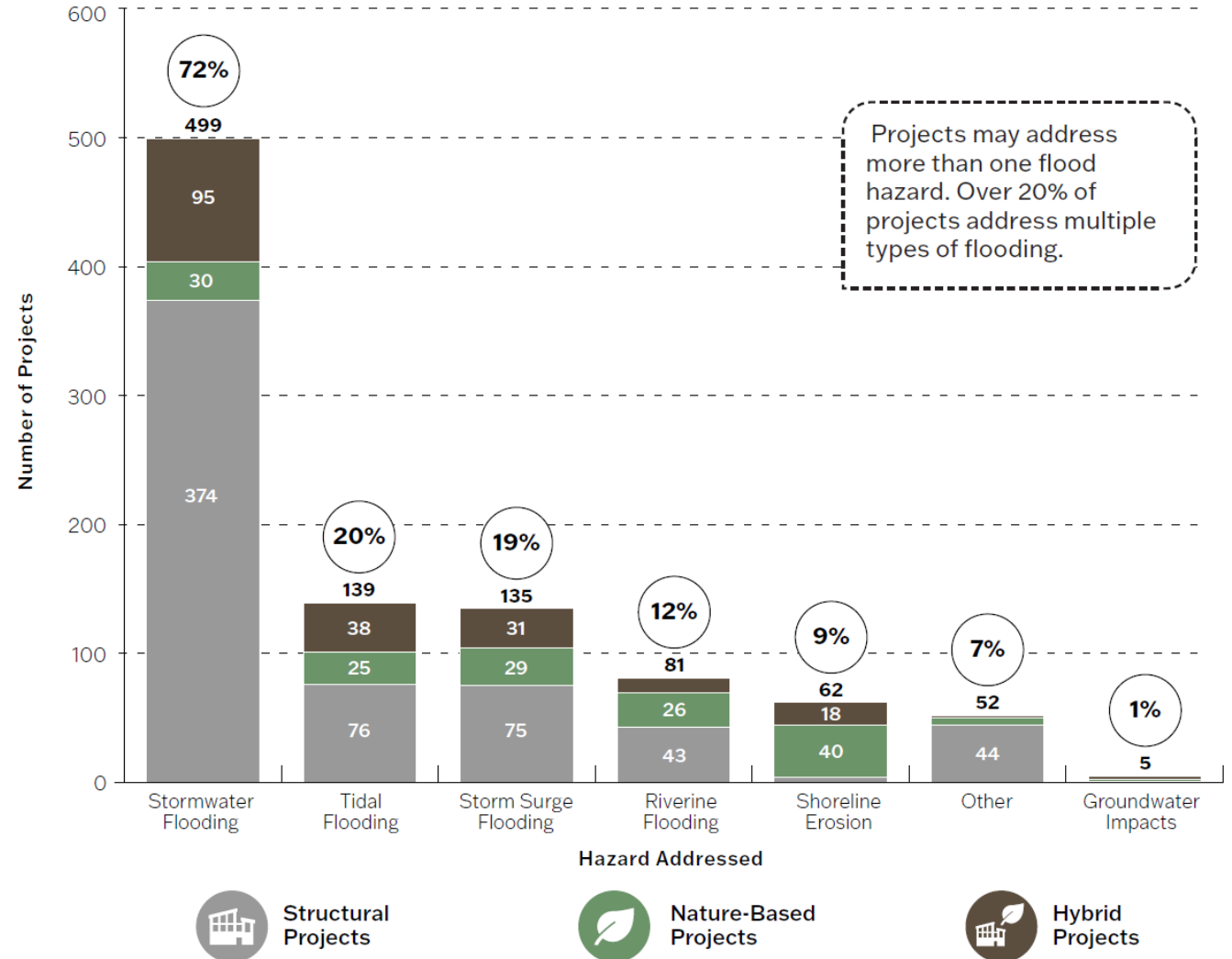
73 Projects
\$724M

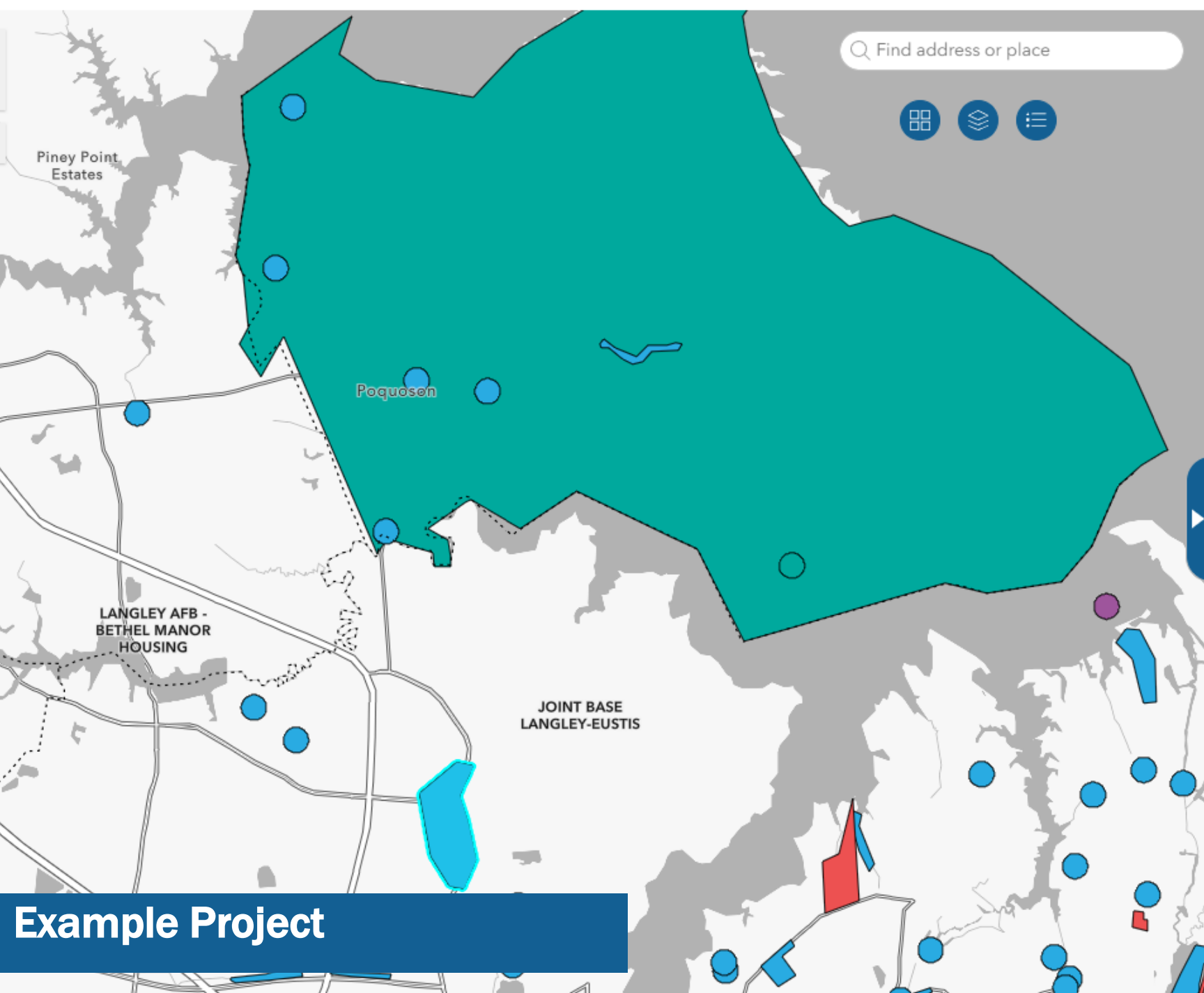
The data shown reflect inventory status as of July 2024. DCR did not review submissions to the Inventory for accuracy or efficacy.

Project-Specific Analysis

- Over 65% of projects address **stormwater flooding**. 75% of these are structural improvements to **drainage infrastructure**.
- About 40% of projects address **coastal flooding**, most are designed to address both tidal and storm surge flooding.
- Less than 10% of projects address **shoreline erosion**, most use nature-based or hybrid solutions.









Flood Resilience Projects by Hazard Addressed





Summary: JBLE Gate Relocation (N. Armistead)
Watershed Study

The purpose of the Joint Base Langley-Eustis (JBLE-Langley) Entry Control Facility is to develop a new route that is not only intended to provide a new means of access to/from the installation but also designed to be flood-secure, and thus enhancing the installation's resiliency to the potential impact of significant rainfall and/or flooding events.

-  **Location**
Hampton
-  **Owner**
Hampton
-  **Type**
Structural Project
-  **Climate Standards**
CRMP Scenarios,Rainfall Scenarios
-  **Hazard Addressed**
Stormwater Flooding
-  **Implementation Cost**
\$250,000
-  **Phase**
Site Assessment/Prelim Design
-  **Funding Opportunities**

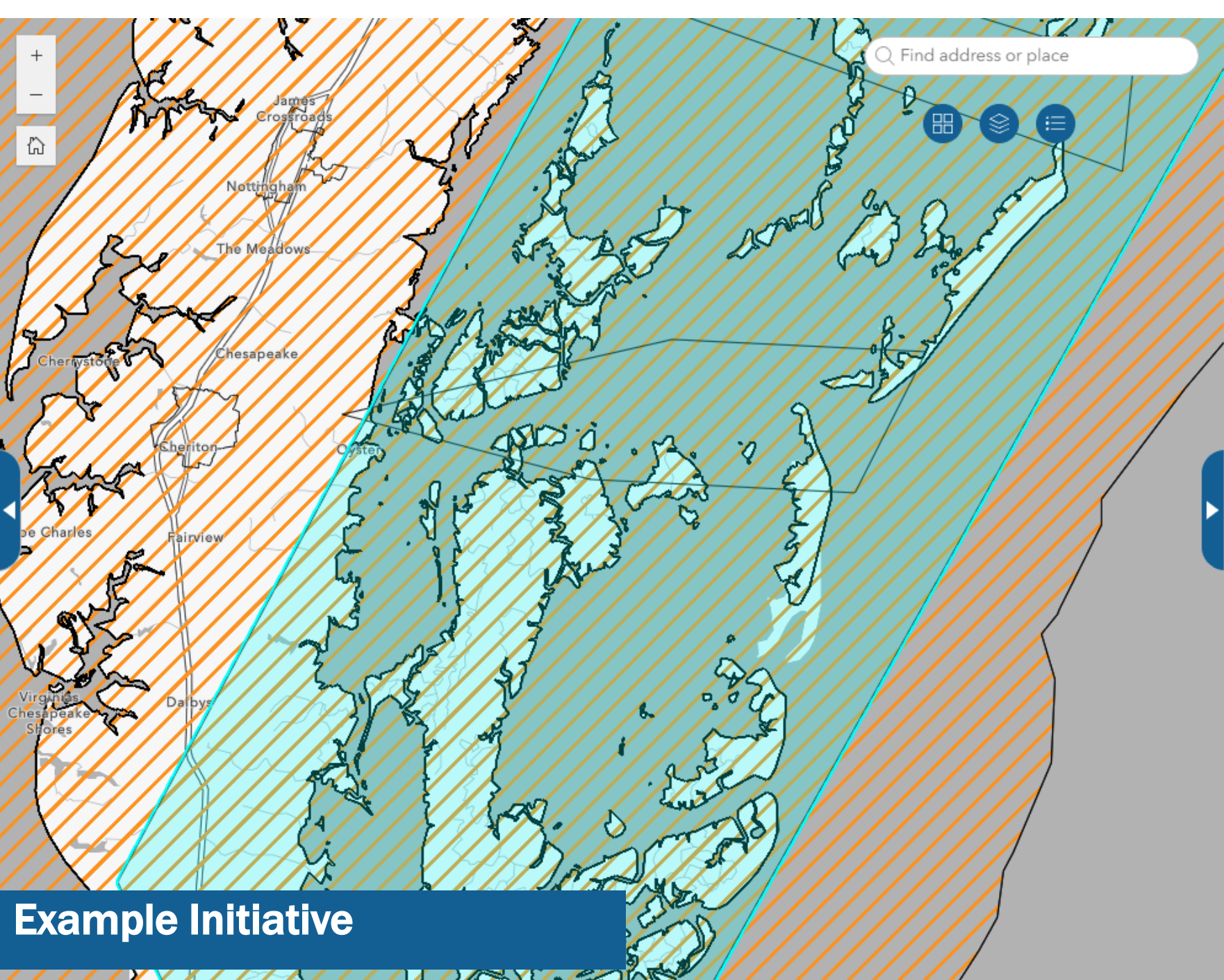
- 2026 National Coastal Resilience Fund (NCRF) - Coastal

Example Project

[Help & Info](#)

[Submit a Project](#)

[Submit an Initiative](#)



Find address or place

Summary: WCV Connecting Waters ESVA Seaside Bays

Analysis of the needs of the connecting waters of the WCV on the ESVA Seaside needed for 12 waterway segments totaling approximately 13 miles. An assessment will be conducted, including a beneficial use of dredged material.



Location

Accomack-Northampton PDC



Hazard Addressed

Adaptation
Options,Community Resilience,Ecosystem Resilience,Planning Capacity



Owner

Accomack-Northampton PDC



Implementation Cost

\$500,000



Type

Capacity Initiative

Example Initiative

Help & Info

Submit a Project

Submit an Initiative

Recommendations of the Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee

The plan includes **20 recommendations** for state action, grouped into four categories.



Recommendations of the Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee



Research, Data and Innovation

	Subcommittee Recommendation	Lead
R.a	Regularly inventory existing data and to collect and share quantitative and qualitative flood resilience data, data production efforts, and assessments of data usage in decision-making applications across the Commonwealth.	Chief Resilience Officer (CRO)
R.b	Identify priority data needs to support ongoing planning and recommend implementation strategies for fulfilling those needs.	DCR ORP
R.c	Support DCR in establishing clear and measurable resilience goals aimed at enhancing the Commonwealth’s capacity to withstand and recover from flood events.	Flood Committee
R.d	Engage with key stakeholders to understand local obstacles and gaps in state-level programs and develop a statewide strategy that leverages co-production of innovative state-level solutions to meet local needs.	DCR ORP
R.e	Evaluate the performance and co-benefits of existing and emerging nature-based and hybrid solutions for water quantity and water quality protections through collaborations with public and private stakeholders.	Research Universities

Recommendations of the Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee



Project Prioritization

	Subcommittee Recommendation	Lead
P-a	Incorporate best available science into future iterations of the Coastal Resilience Master Plan for all components of flood risk to support appropriate project prioritization.	DCR ORP
P-b	Establish sufficient implementation funding for the Coastal Resilience Master Plan and a dedicated, sustainable source for this funding.	Commonwealth
P-c	Develop, maintain, and enhance appropriate datasets needed to assess flood impacts. The Chief Resilience Officer should invite broad participation from key stakeholders in coordination efforts.	CRO
P-d	Establish programs to engage with and support local governments and planning district commissions, with an emphasis on communities with high flood risk and without flood resilience projects or initiatives.	State Agencies
P-e	Establish a coordinated framework to operationalize the Coastal Resilience Master Plan at local, regional, and state scales.	DCR ORP

Recommendations of the Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee



Funding

	Subcommittee Recommendation	Lead
F.a	Provide timely financial tools and reports to local governments, planning district commissions, state legislators, and other official entities.	Chief Resilience Officer (CRO)
F.b	Ensure that businesses, government officials, citizens, and other key stakeholders are aware of the economic benefits of developing and implementing Virginia-based flood resilience products and services and exporting them to an emerging global market.	Commonwealth Economic Development Enterprise
F.c	Provide information to local governments, planning district commissions, state legislators, and other official entities about existing, available, and emerging sources of funding and financial strategies that can support local, regional, and state-wide flood resilience initiatives.	CRO
F.d	Identify the challenges in the flood-related grant and loan processes specific to private projects and public projects, then recommend opportunities to improve implementation.	CRO
F.e	Report on the effectiveness of state funding and financing programs to address short-term and long-term flood-related challenges for local governments, planning district commissions, and the Commonwealth and consider additional financial mechanisms as appropriate.	CRO

Recommendations of the Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee

Outreach & Coordination

	Subcommittee Recommendation	Lead
O-a	Develop and maintain a comprehensive list of available funding resources which can be leveraged to sustainably support uptake and implementation of the Coastal Resilience Master Plan.	DCR ORP
O-b	Provide resources and supporting information on the necessity of increased flood resilience funding utilizing project prioritization and evidence of project readiness.	DCR ORP
O-c	Collaborate with potential end-users of the Coastal Resilience Master Plan, such as local governments and planning district commissions, to improve usability of the Coastal Resilience Master Plan.	DCR ORP
O-d	Develop a strategy to increase use of the Coastal Resilience Master Plan by its end-users, including local governments and planning district commissions.	DCR ORP
O-e	Collaborate with key stakeholders, including local governments and planning district commissions, to identify the populations and communities at greatest flood risk and offer clear, consistent messaging that can be tailored to a community.	DCR ORP

CHAPTER 4

LOOKING AHEAD

Implementing the Plan

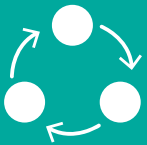
DCR is responsible for administering and implementing the plan. We are currently implementing these next steps:



Sharing regional findings



Encourage and support the use of flood resilience data



Develop and implement an adaptive management plan



Collect and monitor feedback on the plan

Adaptive Management Process for ORP

Implementing

- Prioritize ORP actions to advance annually
- Communicate actions and adaptive management plan to other parties

Monitoring

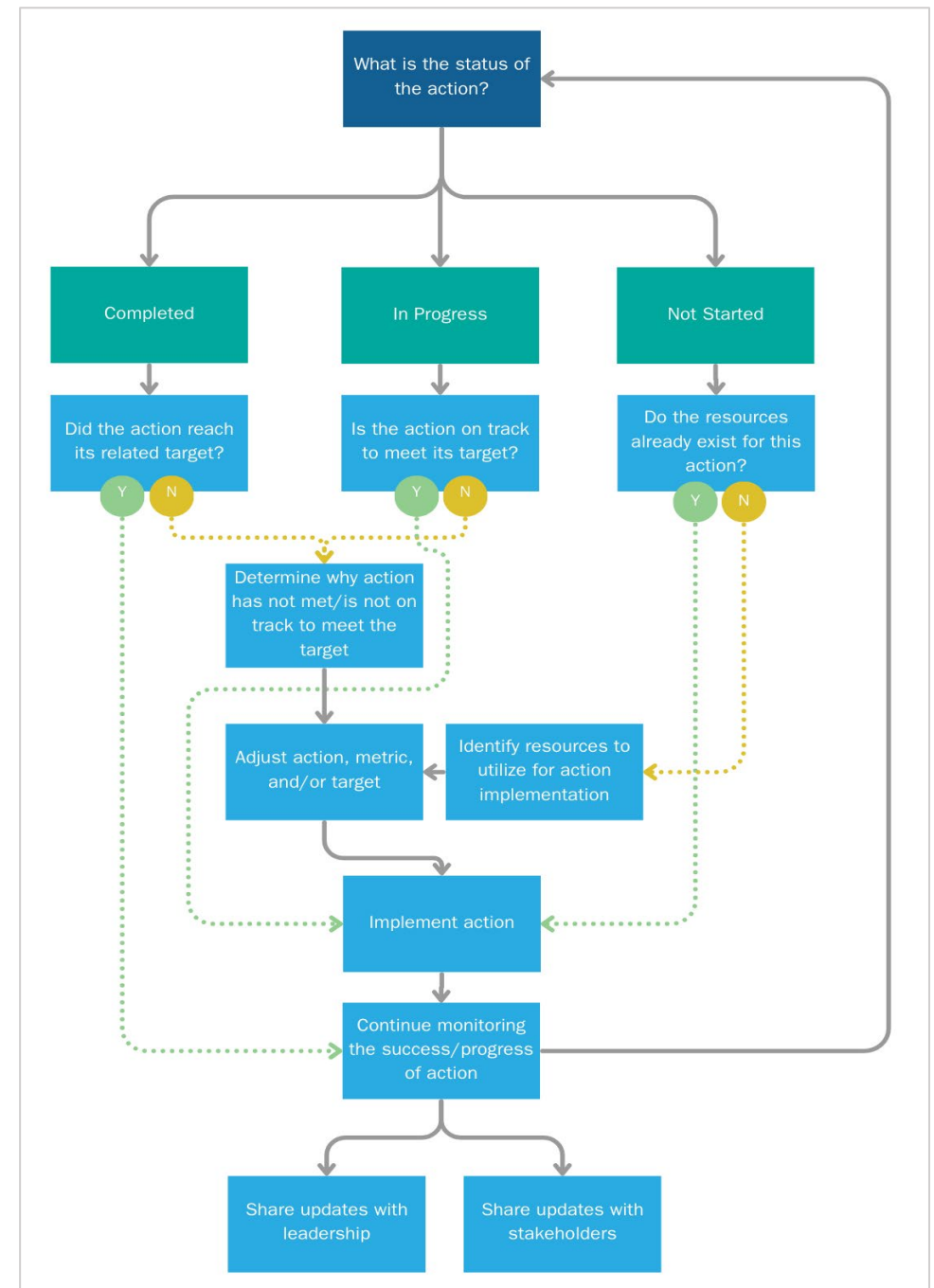
- Review and update status of actions annually
- Monitor ORP-led actions for success and progress semi-annually

Evaluating

- Evaluate progress and success of ORP-led actions (based on established baseline metrics and targets) biennially
- Non-ORP actions will not be evaluated for success

Adapting

- Adjust actions, metrics, and/or targets utilizing a decision-making tree and evaluation results biennially
- (Considers success of related actions, changing factors, resources, capacity, and information)



We Want to Hear From You!

Planning for a flood-resilient future.



The Draft Coastal Resilience Master Plan is posted to Virginia Town Hall for a 30-day public comment period (May 4 – June 3, 2026).

<https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewNotice.cfm?GNid=3362>



Questions & Comments

Steps for Finalizing the Coastal Resilience Master Plan

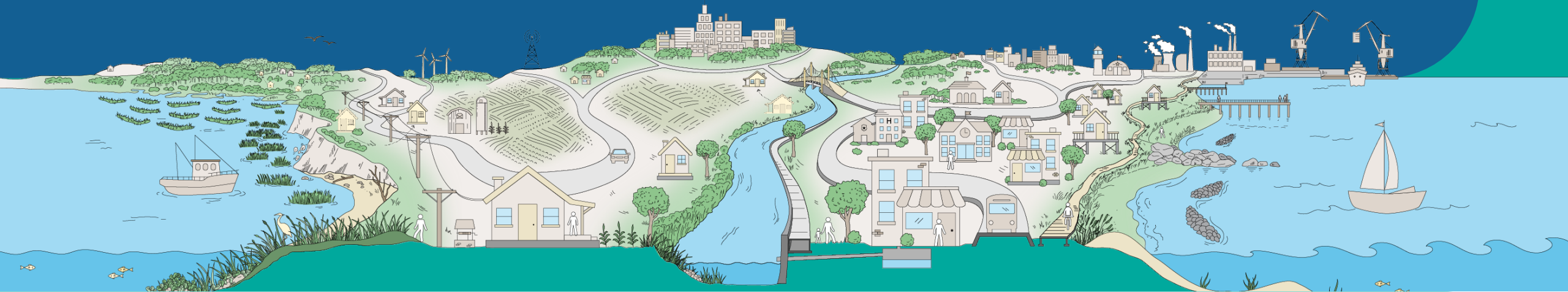
- ~~May 4, 2026~~ – Public comment period opens.
- ~~May 14, 2026~~ – Public webinar
- June 3, 2026 – Public comment period ends.
- June–Aug 2026 – Comments considered, plan revisions made, final review.
- Sept 2026 - Anticipated public release of the final CRMP Phase II.

Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan

Overview

Next Steps

The Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan (VFPMP) will be a comprehensive plan to align and enhance the Commonwealth's policies and programs to mitigate the impacts of flooding on people, the economy, and the environment.



Where we are going

Timeframe: Next 20 years

Vision



Long-term aspirations and desired outcomes for flood risk reduction across Virginia

Goals



Succinct statements of what needs to be accomplished to move towards the Vision

Objectives

Provide the basis for evaluating alternatives and measuring progress towards goals

How we get there

Timeframe: Next 5 years

Strategies



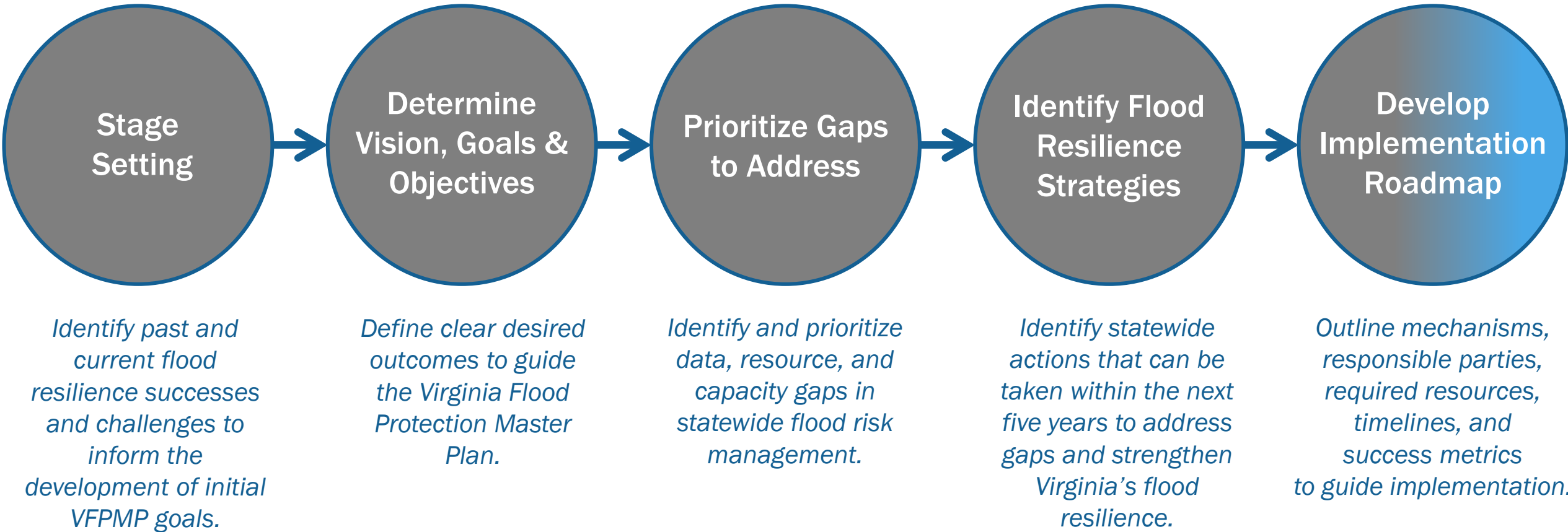
Actionable approaches to address gaps in the current state of practice and advance the plan's goals

Implementation Roadmap

Living document that outlines the specific steps and mechanisms to implement the strategies and actions identified

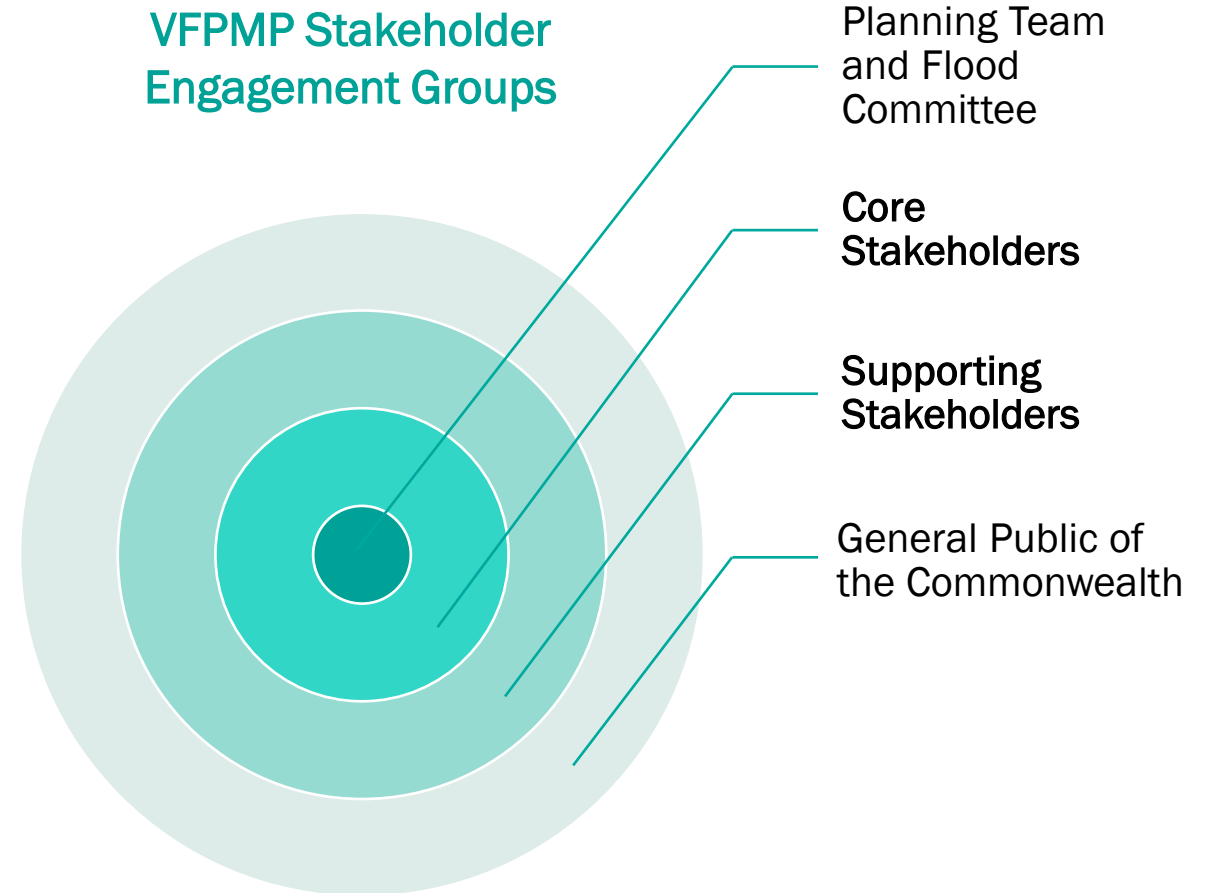


Key Points in Collaboratively Developing the VFPMP

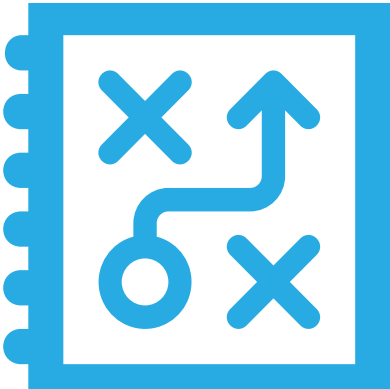


Stakeholder Engagement Summary

- Core and Supporting Stakeholders
 - 34 engagement activities
 - 18 core stakeholder organizations
 - 93 supporting stakeholder organizations
 - 373 engagements
- Public Outreach and Engagement
 - 7 outreach and engagement activities
 - 12,000+ people reached via social media
 - 21 of 22 PDCs represented in the public survey
 - 6 website updates
 - Additional activities planned for release



VFPMP Final Products



The Plan



Data Viewer



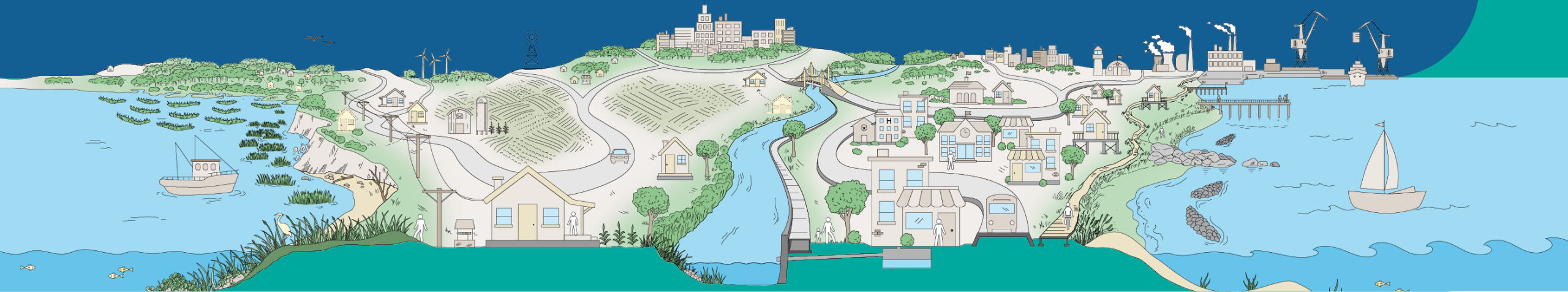
Report in Brief



Status Tracker

THE VISION

A thriving Commonwealth proactively addressing flood risks to further strengthen the resilience of communities, the economy, and the environment now and into the future.



THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



Mitigate current and future flood risks statewide.

- Reduce negative effects on human health from flooding.
- Reduce negative impacts to vulnerable populations from flooding.
- Reduce flood damage to buildings and infrastructure.
- Reduce economic disruptions and losses from flooding.
- Reduce negative effects to natural and cultural resources from flooding.



Advance lasting and unified strategies to address flood risk.

- Increase understanding of current and potential future flood risks.
- Strengthen the ability to prepare for and manage flood risks.
- Increase the adaptability and effectiveness of flood resilience strategies to potential future conditions and regional interests.
- Increase the return on public investments in flood resilience.
- Increase the accessibility of flood resilience resources, opportunities, and information for all Virginians.



Capture additional benefits through flood resilience.

- Improve health and quality of life through flood resilience.
- Boost the economy through flood resilience.
- Enhance the natural environment through flood resilience.

STRATEGIES AND GAPS ARE ORGANIZED BY THEMES



Next Steps for the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan

- **Jun-Oct 2026** – Update emerging opportunities with recent activities.
- **Nov 2026** – Public comment period opens, public webinar, and FRAC meeting.
- **Dec 2026** – Public comment period closes.
- **Jan – Mar 2027** – Comments considered, plan revisions made, final review.
- **Apr 2027** – Anticipated release of the final VFPMMP

Member Updates

Contact and Additional Information



Flood Committee FOIA Officer – Breanne Lindsey:
flood.resilience@dcr.virginia.gov

Flood Committee Website:
<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/dam-safety-and-floodplains/flood-resilience-advisory-committee>

