

# Progress Report

**Safety, quality of life, and economic consequences of weather and  
climate-related events on coastal areas in Virginia**

Jon Goodall, co-chair  
Antonio Elias, co-chair

Presentation to JCOTS, May 4, 2021

# Study Board Goal

- House Joint Resolution No. 47
- “RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Joint Commission on Technology and Science (the Commission) be directed to study the safety, quality of life, and economic consequences of weather and climate-related events on coastal areas in Virginia.”

# Summary of Progress to Date

## *At Last Update in November:*

- Formed study board (Spring and Summer 2020)
- Five full board meetings to date (Fall 2020)
- Report outline drafted (Fall 2020)

## *Since Last Update in November:*

- *First draft of report (Winter 2020/2021)*
- *Four additional full board meetings (Spring 2021)*
- *Board conducted multiple rounds of edits to report (Spring 2021)*

# Board Members



**Elizabeth Andrews**  
Professor and Director  
Virginia Coastal Policy Center  
William and Mary



**Jonathan Goodall (co-chair)**  
Professor  
University of Virginia



**Mark W. Luckenbach**  
Associate Dean  
Professor  
VIMS



**Christopher "Kit" Chope**  
Vice President, Sustainability  
Virginia Port Authority



**Jennifer L. Irish**  
Professor  
Virginia Tech



**Elise Miller-Hooks**  
Hazel Professor  
George Mason University



**The Honorable John A. Cosgrove, Jr.**  
Senate of Virginia



**Lewis L. Lawrence**  
Executive Director  
Middle Peninsula  
Planning District  
Commission



**Ann C. Phillips**  
Special Assistant to the  
Governor for Coastal  
Adaptation and Protection



**Jason El Koubi**  
Executive Vice President  
VEDP



**Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.**  
Executive Director  
Northern Virginia Regional  
Commission



**Henry R. ("Speaker") Pollard**  
Attorney  
Williams Mullen



**Antonio Elias (co-chair)**  
VASEM Secretary/Treasurer  
Member, National Academy of  
Engineering



**Bill Leighty**  
Managing Partner  
Decide Smart



**Emily Steinhilber**  
Research Assistant Professor  
CCRFR

# Report Outline

- Executive Summary
- Chapter 1. The Elements of Climate Change
- Chapter 2. Current Impacts on Virginia
- Chapter 3. Future Impacts on Coastal Urban Areas
- Chapter 4. Future Impacts on Coastal Rural Areas
- Chapter 5. Perspectives for Decision-Makers
- Chapter 6. Recommendations

# Chapter 5. Perspectives for Decision-Makers

- Goal is to provide perspective and context for important aspects of coastal flooding and resilience
- Sections include the following topics ...
  - Taking a Statewide View
  - Responding in a Coordinated Proactive Way
  - Engaging a Multiplicity of Funding Sources
  - Embracing Innovation

# Chapter 6. Recommendations

- Exact recommendations are being finalized.
- General categories for recommendations are ...
  - Coordination and Collaboration
  - Policy and Procedure
  - Research and Development
  - Economic Innovation and Incentives
- Goal is to recognize efforts already underway, while identifying a roadmap for building on and strengthening these efforts

# Next Steps and Timeline

- Wrap up report editing (goal is May 17)
- Report then goes to designer
- Digital (PDF) version of report to JCOTS (goal is May 31)
- Hard copies to JCOTS once printing is completed (in June)