



AMERICAN FLOOD COALITION

A nonpartisan coalition advocating for solutions to flooding and sea level rise

Oct. 1st, 2018



We are the American Flood Coalition

A nonpartisan coalition advocating for national solutions to flooding and sea level rise



Federal
Champions



Cities



Elected
Officials



Businesses



Military
Leaders



Civic
Groups

Our 4 pillars for solutions to flooding and sea level rise



Economy

Invest in infrastructure and natural solutions that boost the economy and protect property values



Communities

Use smart planning to keep communities safe and save taxpayer dollars



Rebuilding

Build back stronger to protect communities from future flooding



Military

Ensure our military installations are ready to deploy 365 days a year

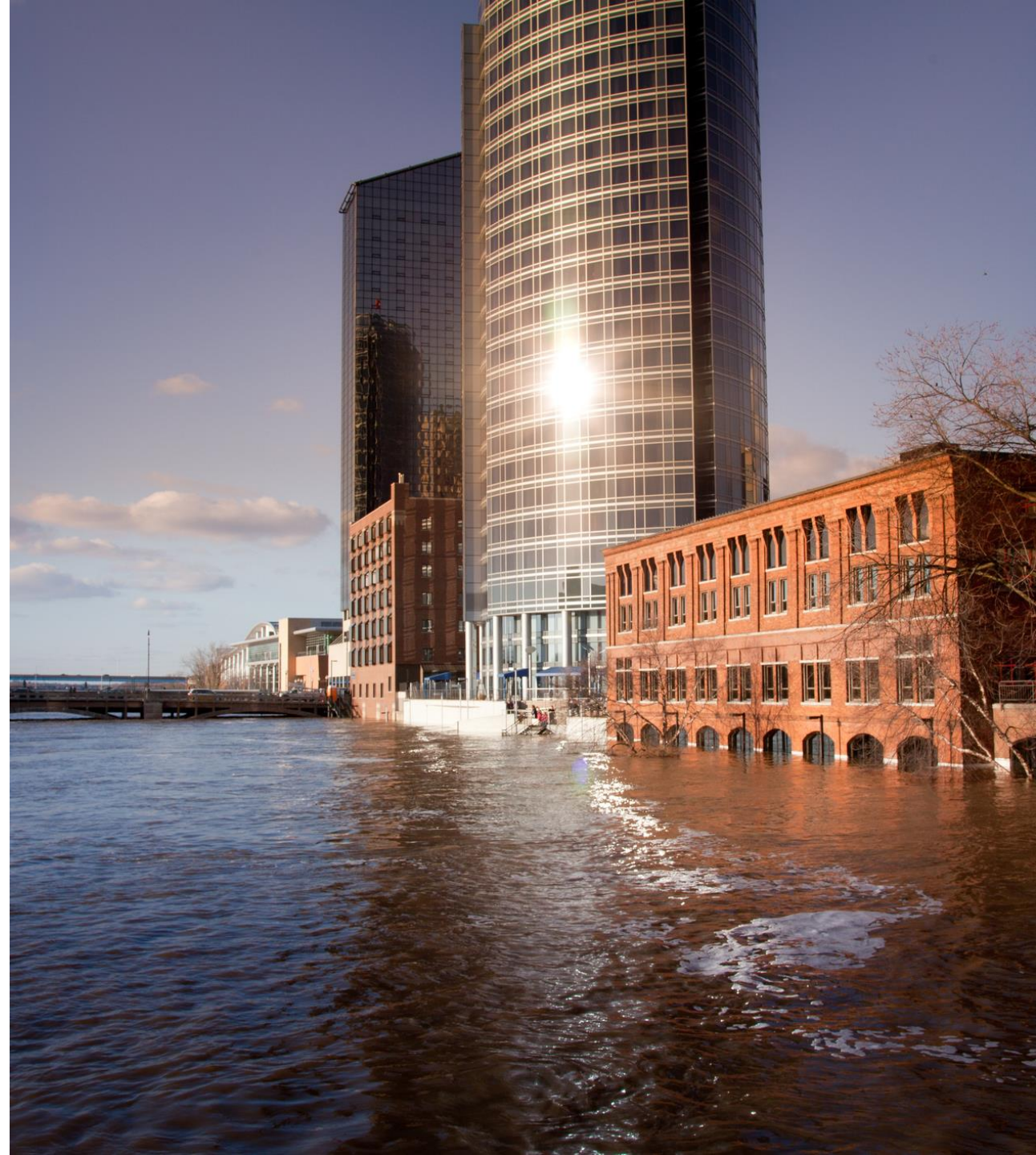


Our mission

Protecting communities that are vulnerable to flooding and sea level rise is a national issue that must be met with national solutions—it is vitally important to our country's citizen well-being, economic strength, and security.

With proactive planning and smart policy, flood-affected communities can adapt and thrive.

But we must act now.





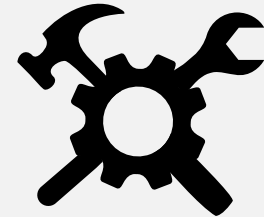
What we provide



A strong platform to advocate as part of a nonpartisan group for national solutions to sea level rise and flooding that invest in and protect our coastal communities



A forum for best practices and support in developing local and state-level responses to sea level rise flooding



Opportunities and tools to communicate with residents on sea level rise challenges and solutions, including media opportunities if you're interested



Rebrand

Seawall Coalition becomes the American Flood Coalition



- We launched our rebrand on **9/5**
- Reasons behind this change were to
 - **Reduce confusion** around the word “Seawall”
 - **Be more inclusive** of communities and solutions



Legislative update

Defense Access Roads amendment was signed into law

17 SEC. 2865. DEFENSE ACCESS ROADS RELATING TO CLO-
18 SURES DUE TO SEA LEVEL FLUCTUATION
19 AND FLOODING.

20 (a) AUTHORITY.—Section 210(a)(1) of title 23,
21 United States Code, is amended by striking “closures or
22 restrictions” and inserting “closures, closures due to mean
23 sea level fluctuation and flooding, or restrictions”.

1 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—Section 210 of title 23, United
2 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
3 lowing:

4 “(i) Beginning in fiscal year 2019, funds appro-
5 priated for the purposes of this section shall be available
6 to pay the cost of repairing damage caused to, and for
7 any infrastructure to mitigate the risks posed to, highways
8 by recurrent flooding and sea level fluctuation, if the Sec-
9 retary^{of Defense} shall determine that continued access to a military
10 installation has been impacted by past flooding and mean
11 sea level fluctuation.”.

- The NDAA, including Rep. Taylor’s DAR amendment, was **signed into law on August 13, 2018**
- This victory was notable for several reasons:
 - The amendment **passed the House en bloc**
 - This happened in spite of the **historically difficult environment** for legislating
 - We did this **extremely quickly**, in just 4 months
- Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Transportation must **report back in 30 and 90 days** on DAR projects
- **The next step is to increase funding** through a dedicated funding line for DAR projects



Legislative update

After Hurricane Florence, we are advocating for smart policy in disaster-related legislation

FAA Reauthorization



Disaster Recovery Reform Act

- Establishes new Pre-disaster Mitigation Fund for Public Infrastructure
- Authorizes new funding line for mitigation at level of 6% total annual disaster relief
- Allows President to contribute max. 75% of cost for hazard mitigation measures

Supplemental Disaster Bill

- Provides additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief
- Funds to go to HUD for assisting states impacted by Hurricane Florence

- *We will work to make sure that DRRRA authorities are fully implemented and that the language is strengthened*

- *We will seek enhancements within the Supplemental, such as local cost-share waivers for critical infrastructure projects*



Virginia update

State policy ideas

Opportunities we see

Resilience Revolving Fund

- State-wide revolving fund that would help coastal and inland communities address recurrent flooding
- Funding may be available through \$500m additional tax revenue Virginia is getting from tax reform

Expansion of Land Preservation tax credit

- Open to allow areas prone to flooding or in high-risk zones to be used for mitigation efforts

We're supportive of

HB.229 and S.985 from '18 Session

- Great start in putting forth an innovative way to fund necessary projects in Virginia
- Attention to economic impacts to the state due to flooding is critical

Ballot initiative on partial tax exemption

- Strong effort to give autonomy back to the municipalities in a way that will benefit Virginia's communities



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Thank you!

