

Joint Subcommittee on Recurrent Flooding and Resilience Activity Update

July 18, 2022

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Previous Agency Activity

- Executive Order 24 (2018)
 - “Increasing Virginia’s Resilience to Sea Level Rise and Natural Hazards”
- Executive Order 45 (2019)
 - “Floodplain Management Requirements and Planning Standards for State Agencies, Institutions, and Property. Coastal Resilience Master Plan Framework”
- Coastal Resilience Master Planning Framework (2020)
- Coastal Resilience Master Plan Phase 1 (Dec 2021)

Previous Agency Activity

- **Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) - § 10.1-603.25**
 - Continuation of Virginia Shoreline Resiliency Fund
 - Per statute, moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for the purposes of enhancing flood prevention or protection and coastal resilience as required by this article.”
 - Moneys in the Fund may be used to mitigate future flood damage and to assist inland and coastal communities across the Commonwealth that are subject to recurrent or repetitive flooding.
 - No less than 25 percent of the moneys disbursed from the Fund each year shall be used for projects in low-income geographic areas.
 - Priority shall be given to projects that implement community-scale hazard mitigation activities that use nature-based solutions to reduce flood risk.

Previous Agency Activity

		Round 1	Round 2	Totals
- Two CFPF Grant Rounds Completed	Funds Available	18,000,000.00	17,000,000.00	35,000,000
	Number of Applications	32	37	69
- Total of \$32.3M distributed to grantees	CFPF Funds Requested	14,532,740.00	29,725,495.00	44,258,235
- Grantees have three years to draw down funds	Funds Awarded	7,796,040.00	24,551,923.30	32,347,963
	Low Income Awarded	3,766,515.00	19,759,944.30	23,526,459
	Non-Low Income Awarded	4,029,525.00	4,791,979.00	8,821,504

Note: the balance of round one not awarded was used to fund applications in round 2.

Current Activity

CFPF Round 3

- Grant round opened in January 2022
- \$40 million advertised in current grant round
- 64 applications for \$91 million
- More requests than funds advertised
- Review of applications near completion
- Transparency efforts: all applications posted online (<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/dam-safety-and-floodplains/dsfpm-cfpf>), final scoring will be posted as well
- Award announcements anticipated CY2022 Q3

Current Activity

State Floodplain Standards

- Implementation of flood protections for state-owned property per EO45
- Designed to ensure National Flood Insurance Program compliance
- Requires adoption of floodplain standards for state projects
- Would apply to all state construction projects in floodplains
- Currently in draft form - working with impacted agencies to finalize before review by FEMA
- Continued option to comply with local floodplain ordinances

Upcoming Activity

CFPF Round 4

- Amount TBD (Currently approximately \$50 million in unobligated balances for additional grants)
- Will be a new revised grant manual
- Transparency: Post draft grant manual for public comment, establish grant application review panel

Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund - § 10.1-603.28 et seq.

- Established 2022 by HB1309 (Bulova) / SB 756 (Lewis)
- Fund is capitalized with \$25 million from moneys previously allocated to the CFPF
- Will make loans and grants to local governments for resilience projects via Virginia Resources Authority (VRA)
- DCR will administer and will develop guidelines with VRA
- Anticipate accepting first round of applications early CY2023
- Transparency: Fund guidelines/manuals will be put out for public comment; review committee will be established to review applications

Upcoming Activity

Virginia Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee

- Established by HB516 (Bulova) / SB551 (Marsden) to assist with developing, updating, and implementing the Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan.
- Required to meet quarterly, beginning July 1, 2022. First meeting anticipated in September. The Committee shall be comprised of
 - representatives of state agencies
 - coastal planning district commissions,
 - regional commissions,
 - academic advisors,
 - and any other representatives as needed.

Members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and shall include the following individuals or their designees:

- Executive directors of coastal planning district commissions and regional commissions
- Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection;
- Director of DCR
- Director of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management;
- Director of the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development;
- Executive Director of the Virginia Resources Authority;
- Director of the Department of Environmental Quality;
- Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Transportation;
- Director of the Virginia Transportation Research Council;
- Commissioner of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission;
- Director of the Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience;
- Associate Dean for Research and Advisory Services at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science;
- The Director of the William and Mary School of Law Coastal Policy Center;
- Director of the Virginia Tech Center for Coastal Studies;
- Director of the Environmental Resilience Institute at the University of Virginia;
- Director of Virginia Sea Grant; the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion;
- Chief Data Officer of the Commonwealth.
- Chief Resilience Officer shall serve as chairman of the Committee.

The Chief Resilience Officer shall invite participation by

- Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District;
- Commander of the Navy Region Mid-Atlantic;
- Representatives of the seven federally recognized Tribal Nations indigenous to the Commonwealth of Virginia



Upcoming Activity

Working Group on Resilience Entity

- Administration supported legislation (HB 847 (Bloxom) / SB569 (Kiggins)) to create a Coastal Virginia Resiliency Authority to serve as a single entity to coordinate resilience efforts and federal funding.
- Legislation was unsuccessful, but significant interest in continuing discussion.
- A working group to discuss a resilience entity will be convened administratively late summer/early fall to discuss.

Community Outreach and Engagement Plan

- Established by HB516 (Bulova) / SB551 (Marsden)
- DCR Director, jointly with the DE&I Director, and in coordination with CRO and SACAP shall prepare a Community Outreach and Engagement Plan for updates to the Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan and for development and updates to the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan (the Plans)
- Must be prepared no later than Dec 31, 2022

Upcoming Activity

Annual Flood Resilience and Preparedness Coordination Meetings

- Existing requirement, modified and required to meet annually by HB516 (Bulova) / SB551 (Marsden)
- The Director and either, in coordination with the Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection or and the Chief Resilience Officer, shall jointly hold meetings of representatives of the programs, entities, and localities described in subsection A at least annually in order to determine, coordinate, and prioritize the Commonwealth's efforts and expenditures to increase flooding resilience and flood preparedness and to implement the Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan and the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan.
- The Department shall review any revisions to the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan and provide an update on the progress of the implementation of the Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan at any such meetings.
- The Department shall cooperate with other public and private agencies having flood plain management programs and shall coordinate its responsibilities under this article and any other law.

Upcoming Activity

Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) Biennial Update

- Established by HB517 (Bulova)
- July 1, 2023 and every two years thereafter, CRO must report to Governor and General Assembly on the status of flood resilience in the Commonwealth.
- The report shall serve as an evaluation of flood protection for critical infrastructure, including human and natural infrastructure. The report shall identify risks to critical transportation, energy, communication, water and food supply, waste management, health, and emergency services infrastructure. The report shall also include the status of flood resilience planning. In preparing the report, the Chief Resilience Officer shall also coordinate with the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and shall be assisted by all relevant Secretariats and agencies.

Upcoming Activity

Coastal Resilience Master Plan (CRMP) Revision

- Codified by HB516 (Bulova) / SB551 (Marsden)
- Special Advisor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection, in coordination with DCR Director, shall update CRMP to incorporate all major flood hazards, including precipitation-driven flooding;
- A list of all projects considered and an update of the status of all projects previously implemented;
- A comprehensive risk assessment of critical human and natural infrastructure.
- DCR is the lead administrator and required to implement
- Due no later than December 31, 2024 and updated at least every 5 years

Upcoming Activity

Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan Update

- Existing plan w/ requirement for update every 5 years
- Must use a watershed-based approach
- Immediate challenge is availability of types of data needed - data are more available for coastal region and CRMP
- Must integrate Coastal Resilience Master Plan
- Other requirements contained in 10.1-658
- DCR is the lead administrator and required to implement
- Due no later than Dec 31, 2026

Questions?