Flood Resilience Advisory Committee

November 12th, 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. Sesha 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
Chris Swanson	Director, Environmental Division	Office on Intermodal Planning and Investment

[Alternate Member]

Meeting Agenda

1) Call to Order & Roll Call
2) Adoption of the Agenda
3) Public Comment
4) Chief Resilience Officer Updates
5) Department of Conservation and Recreation Updates
6) Update on Coastal Resilience Master Plan, Phase II
7) Updates on the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan
8) Stakeholder Feedback Session
9) Committee Member Updates
10) Adjourn

Public Comment

Chief Resilience Officer Updates

Greg Steele - Chief Resilience Officer

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Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

Flood Resilience Advisory Committee - November 12, 2026

Department of Conservation and Recreation Updates

Nikki Rovner– DCR Director

CFPF History Rounds 1-6

All Categories			Capacity Building and Planning		Study		Project	
Round	Number of Awards	Dollar Amounts	Number of Awards	Dollar Amounts	Number of Awards	Dollar Amounts	Number of Awards	Dollar Amounts
1	19	$7,743,101.00	7	$1,429,242.00	5	$1,697,261.00	7	$4,616,598.00
2	30	$24,551,923.00	16	$6,588,328.00	5	$2,710,938.00	9	$15,252,657.00
3	27	$13,631,238.87	12	$1,448,933.37	8	$1,123,106.00	7	$11,059,199.50
3S	22	$51,477,398.22	5	$593,616.00	3	$519,912.50	14	$50,363,869.72
4	50	$53,877,651.43	18	$6,605,083.37	16	$9,203,340.22	16	$38,069,227.84
5	60	$49,562,112.92	26	$7,112,238.96	20	$5,488,005.20	14	$36,961,868.76
6	55	$73,900,856.92	25	$11,168,034.26	16	$8,458,846.43	14	$54,273,976.23
Totals	**263**	**$274,744,282.36**	**109**	**$34,945,475.96**	**73**	**$29,201,409.35**	**81**	**$210,597,397.05**

263 total awards have been made in Rounds 1-6, providing $274,744,282.36 in awarded funds to grant recipients

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CFPF History Round 7

November 15th – Public Comments End

Proposed improvements:

- Emphasis on nature-based solutions.
- Updated Resilience plan requirements.
- Community Rating System (CRS) considerations.
- Project scoring and prioritization.
- Various technical and administrative revisions.

Funding Available: *$200 Million*

- Capacity Building and Planning
- Studies
- Projects

Mark your calendars!

- December 1st – Applications Open
- March 1, 2027 – Applications Close
- Spring 2027 – Award Announcement

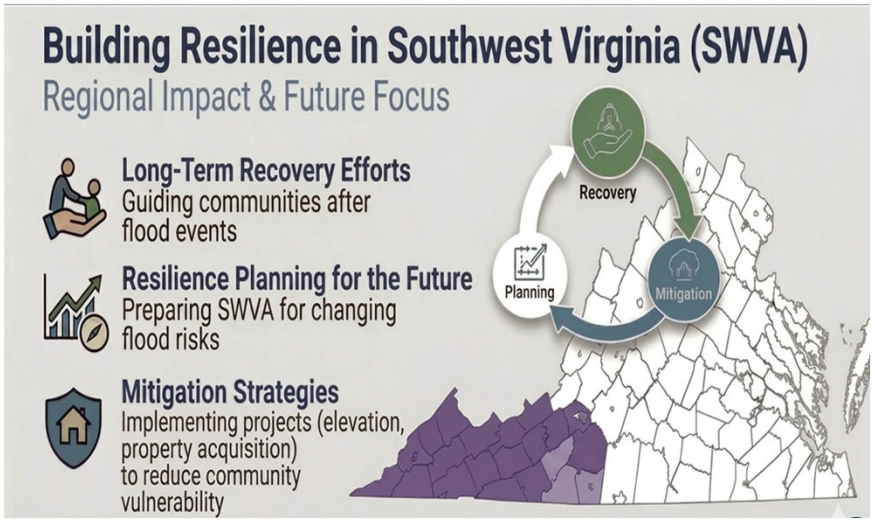
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The Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund

The 2026 Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund (RVRF) funding opportunity has availed $30 million to provide recovery support to localities impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Primary fund requests:

- Resilient bridge replacement
- Slop stabilization
- Mitigation reconstruction



Eligible Recipients: Mt. Rogers, New River Valley Regional Commission, LENOWISCO, Cumberland Plateau PDCs, and Tazewell IDA.

Application period closes December 1

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Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan Phase II Update

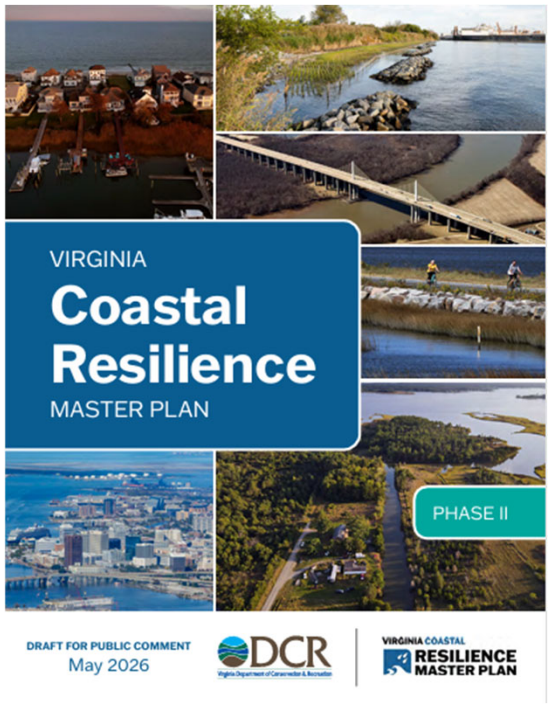
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Flood Resilience Advisory Committee – November 12, 2026

Summary of Public Comments

The Coastal Resilience Master Plan, Phase II

- The 30-day public comment period May 4 – June 3, 2026.
- 7 Comment Letters Submitted to Virginia Regulatory Town Hall
  - Regional/Local Gov (2)
    - HRPDC
    - NVRC
  - NGOs (2)
    - Wetlands Watch, York River Steward, Lynnhaven River NOW, Environmental Defense Fund, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Southern Environmental Law Center;
    - Friends of Indian River
  - Individuals (3)
- 250+ Unique Comments



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Summary of Public Comments

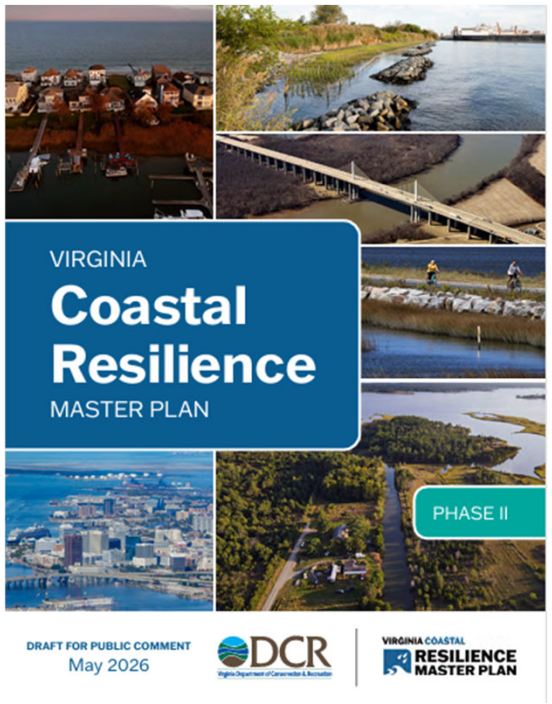
Comment Themes and Recommended Actions

Comment Themes

- Strengthen Flood Risk Analysis
- Improve Data Transparency and Visualization
- Make the Plan More Accessible and Usable
- Close the Implementation Gap
- Strengthen Funding and Local Capacity
- Enhance Equity & Engagement
- Elevate Nature-Based Solutions

Recommend Actions

- **Immediate:** Plan Document Revisions
- **Near-term:** Plan Implementation
- **Long-term:** Next Plan



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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–December 2026 – Comments considered, plan revisions made, leadership review.
- 2027 Q1– Office of the Secretary and Gold Letter Review
- 2027 Q2 - Anticipated Plan Release

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Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan

Overview

Stakeholder Feedback

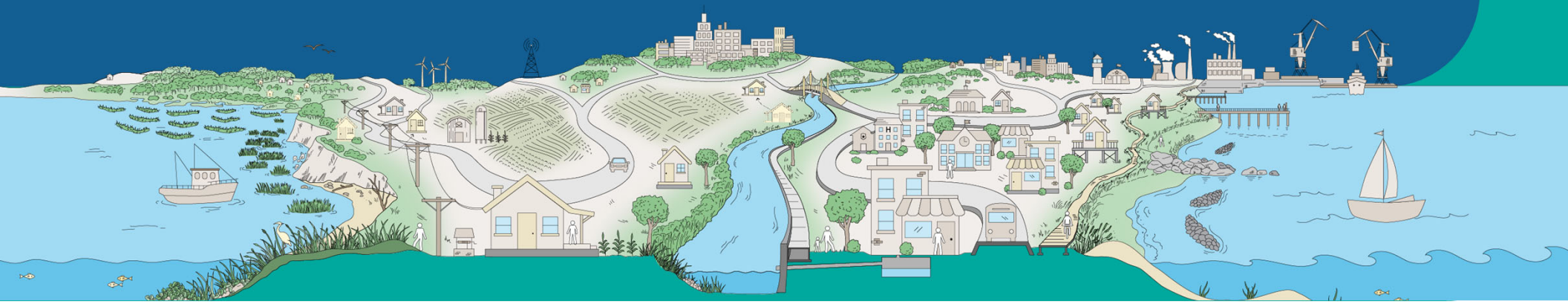
Next Steps

VIRGINIA FLOOD PROTECTION MASTER PLAN

Menti Exercise

Join at Menti.com

Code: 1714 6502



VIRGINIA FLOOD PROTECTION MASTER PLAN



How familiar are you with the VFPMP?

0	0	0	0	0
Very Little	Somewhat Familiar	General Understanding	Very Familiar	Expert!

Join at menti.com 1714 6502

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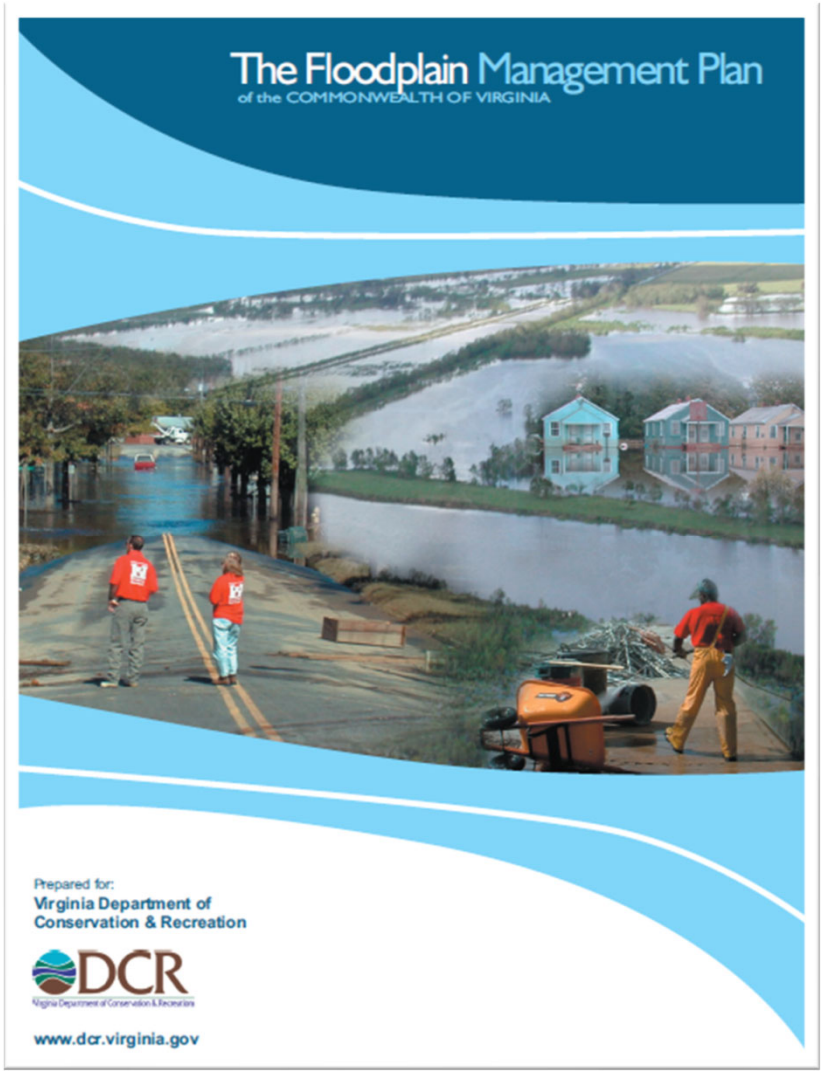
Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan

History

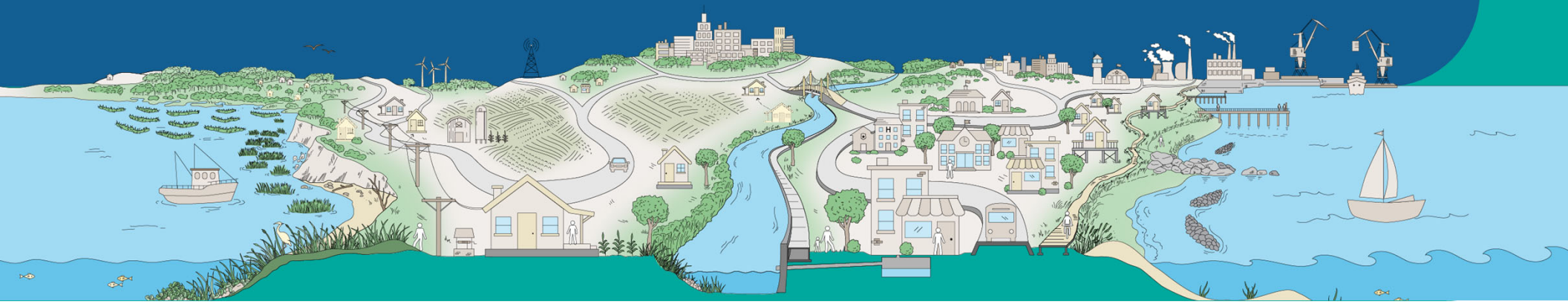
- Established via Virginia House Document 64 in 1989
- Codified in §10.1-602 with updates in 2022 GA (HB 516 / SB 551)
- Published in 1989, 1991, and 2005
  (2005 included a Guide for Citizens and Localities)

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



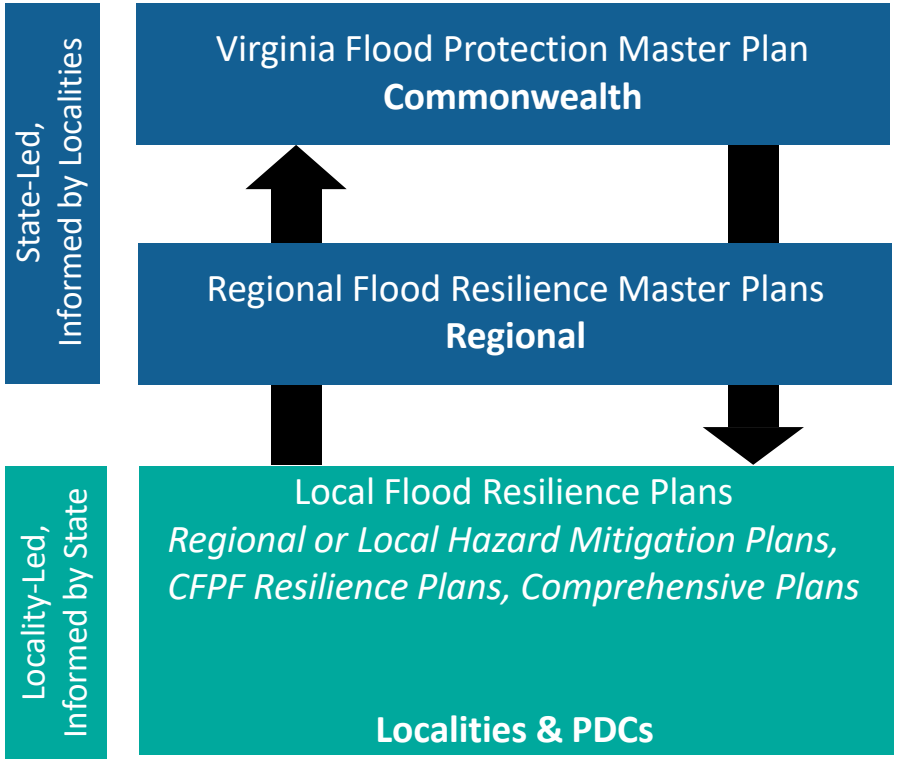
The Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan (VFPMP) will be an actionable plan for the Commonwealth to use in crafting policies and programs to mitigate the impacts of flooding on people, the economy, and the environment.



VIRGINIA FLOOD PROTECTION MASTER PLAN

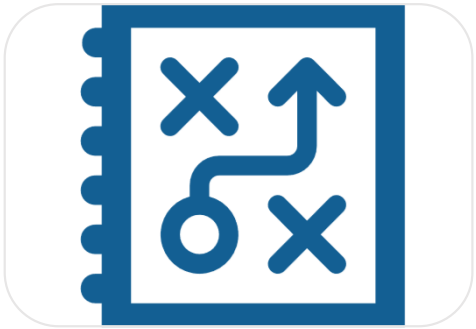
Understanding VFPMP's Role in Virginia's Flood Resilience Planning Efforts

- The Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan is intended to inform smaller scale plans and vice-versa
- The primary end users of the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan will be Virginia state agencies
- Focus on state agencies will allow for flood resilience planning to spread throughout state initiatives and flow down into regional & local programs



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VFPMP Products



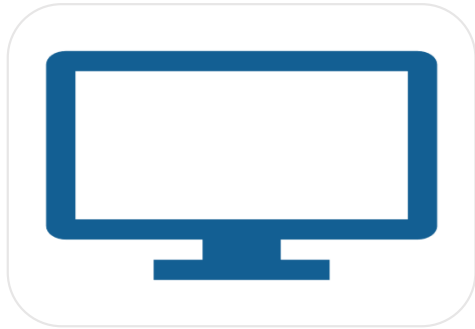
The Plan



Report in Brief



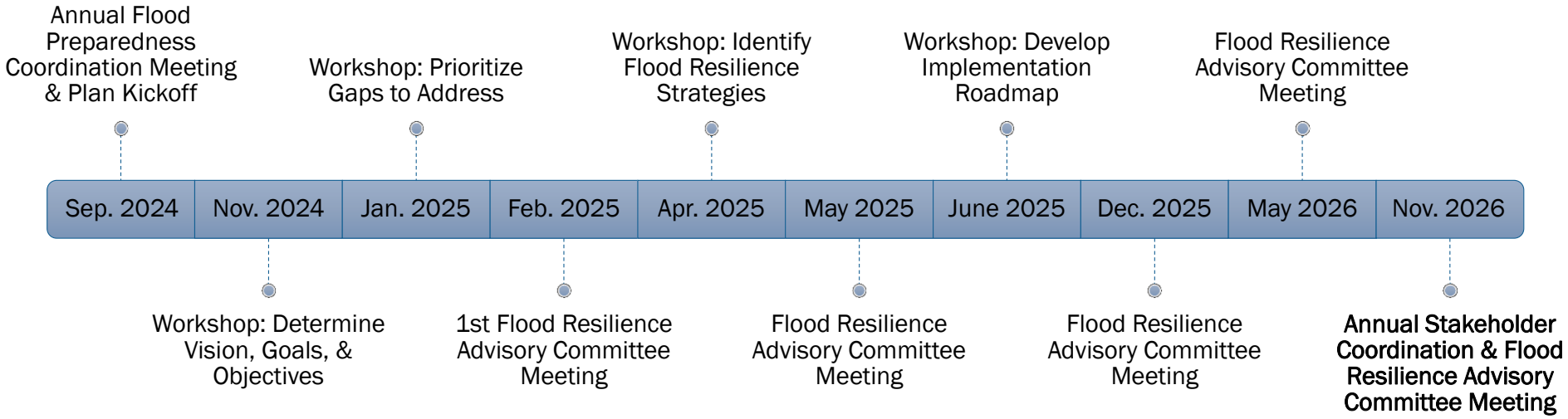
Data Viewer



Status Tracker

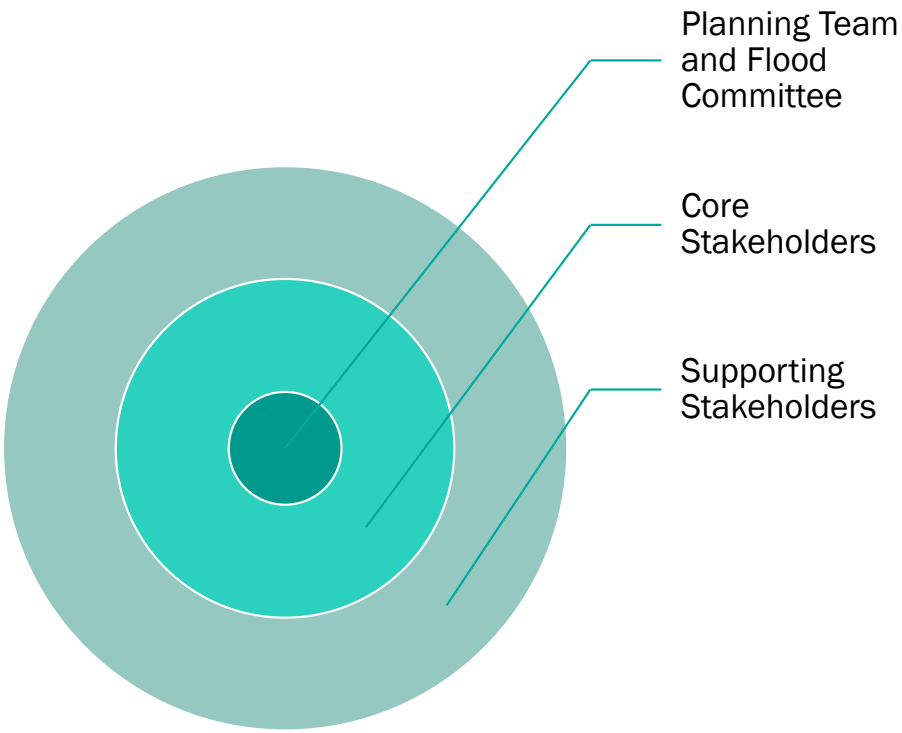
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VFPMP Development Timeline



VIRGINIA FLOOD PROTECTION MASTER PLAN

Stakeholders



Core Stakeholders

State agencies that play a critical role in developing and implementing the VFPMP. Leadership from many of the core stakeholder organizations also sit on the Flood Committee.

Supporting Stakeholders

Other state agencies, PDCs, universities, localities, and other organizations who possess a vested interest in the plan and can provide expertise to guide the plan's development.

VIRGINIA FLOOD PROTECTION MASTER PLAN

Key Points in Collaborative Development of the Draft VFPMP



For every collaboration point:

- Virtual and in-person meeting options
- Additional feedback collected through online surveys
- Summaries of feedback received presented at following meeting

VIRGINIA FLOOD PROTECTION MASTER PLAN

DRAFT VFPMP Core Components



VIRGINIA FLOOD PROTECTION MASTER PLAN

DRAFT VFPMP STRATEGIES & EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES



STRATEGY	EMERGING OPPORTUNITY
Invest in effective and innovative flood resilience solutions	Facilitate innovative flood resilience policy and projects through pilot efforts
	Demonstrate effective risk mitigation strategies for state-owned infrastructure
Support the deployment and maintenance of Nature-Based Solutions, where appropriate	Research the performance and co-benefits of existing and emerging Nature-Based solutions for water quality and water quantity
	Establish a policy for evaluating Nature-Based Solutions as a flood resilience strategy
	Expand funding programs for Nature-Based Solutions
	Launch a Nature-Based Solutions awareness and education campaign
Encourage the incorporation of flood resilience best practices during revisions of plans, policies, regulations, codes, and standards	Update building codes and infrastructure standards to be more flood resilient
	Incorporate flood resilience into agency-specific plans and policies



STRATEGY	EMERGING OPPORTUNITY
Provide assistance and expand engagement for local, regional, and Tribal governments on flood resilience.	Continue to support local government compliance with floodplain management requirements to mitigate risk and maintain eligibility in the NFIP program
	Support local governments to modernize land use policies by incorporating flood resilience considerations
	Increase the adoption of CRS activities and No Adverse Impact approaches in local floodplain management
	Continue State-wide Flood Resilience Outreach & Engagement Initiative
	Enhance coordination among agencies to provide flood resilience assistance
	Create a centralized way to communicate opportunities and coordinate assistance
Explore state agency pathways for supporting locally drive adaptation solutions	Further support local governments to mitigate severe and repetitive loss properties
	Enhance flood disaster response training and develop recovery plans to reduce flood disaster recovery durations
	Leverage state contract cooperative agreements to facilitate local contracting efforts
	Explore a state-supported approach to managed retreat
Support coordination between local governments and state and federal facility and landowners	Increase state and federal participation in local planning efforts
	Support and implement compatible use studies to address flooding threats that may adversely impact federal facility missions and the livability of the local government

DRAFT VFPMP STRATEGIES & EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES



STRATEGY	EMERGING OPPORTUNITY
Optimize existing flood resilience funding resources to accomplish flood resilience goals	Maintain a comprehensive understanding of current funding resources for flood resilience in Virginia
	Monitor and evaluate existing funding resources' ability to achieve flood resilience goals
Explore new financial mechanisms to advance implementation	Explore potential funding mechanisms for flood resilience efforts
	Support the expansion of public-private partnerships to progress flood resilience
Identify the financial needs to manage flood risk and drive action at the state level	Conduct a flood resilience needs assessment across state agency and local government
	Leverage the needs assessment to prioritize and inform decisions

DRAFT VFPMP STRATEGIES & EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES



STRATEGY	EMERGING OPPORTUNITY
Establish a statewide comprehensive flood data management program	Define the roles and responsible entities who oversee the flood data management program
	Incorporate a comprehensive suite of flood datasets into a centralized hub to streamline data development, access, sharing, and coordination
Establish data-informed decision-making frameworks for prioritizing flood resilience actions	Develop methodologies for agency-specific flood data-informed decision making
	Establish an interagency framework for flood data usage

DRAFT VFPMP STRATEGIES & EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES



STRATEGY	EMERGING OPPORTUNITY
Expand the flood resilience knowledge of state agencies	Enhance accessibility of Virginia-specific flood resilience tools
	Leverage conferences, trainings, and knowledge exchange opportunities to expand flood resilience knowledge
	Encourage agency staff to receive relevant flood resilience training
Routinely assess and adapt state agency roles, responsibilities, and authorities in flood resilience	Regularly maintain a comprehensive list of agency roles, responsibilities, and authorities for flood resilience
	Support the monitoring and reporting of capacity needs for increasing flood resilience across Virginia

DRAFT VFPMP STRATEGIES & EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES



STRATEGY	EMERGING OPPORTUNITY
Coordination among applicable personnel across state agencies to increase their awareness and responsiveness to flood resilience	Strengthen interagency collaboration on flood resilience programs, policies, tools, and projects
	Deliver consistent messaging that reinforces state policy on flood resilience
Leverage coordination networks and relationships with nongovernmental entities, federal partners, and the private sector to advance flood resilience	Expand partnerships with non-governmental organizations including private industry to progress flood resilience efforts
	Enhance coordination with federal stakeholders through Virginia Silver Jackets and other formal or informal means
	Evaluate and adapt DCR's flood resilience coordination networks to drive towards flood resilience outcomes

September 2026 Interagency Resilience Management Team Meeting

Members of the IRMT discussed VFPMP Strategy implementation

Members identified the following Strategies to prioritize for implementation in the next 1-2 years:

- Encourage the incorporation of flood resilience best practices during revisions of plans, policies, regulations, codes, and standards (Proactive Adaptation)
- Coordinate among applicable personnel across state agencies to increase their awareness and responsiveness to flood resilience (Meaningful Coordination)
- Optimize existing flood resilience funding resources to accomplish flood resilience goals (Resilience Funding)
- Routinely assess and adapt state agency roles, responsibilities, and authorities in flood resilience (Enhanced Capacity)
- Explore state agency pathways for supporting locally drive adaptation solutions (Supported Local Governments)
- Establish a statewide comprehensive flood data management program (Reliable Data Systems)

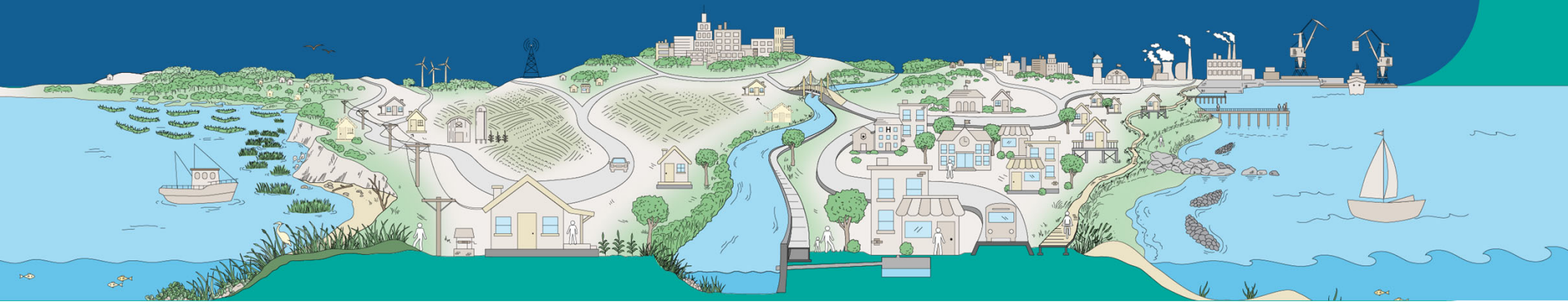
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Questions?

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Progressing VFPMP Implementation

IRMT Meeting Output Summary & Menti Survey Exercise



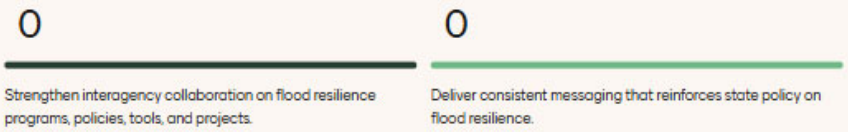
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Which of the following Emerging Opportunities should be prioritized for implementation in the near future (1-2 years)?



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Which of the following Emerging Opportunities should be prioritized for implementation in the near future (1-2 years)?



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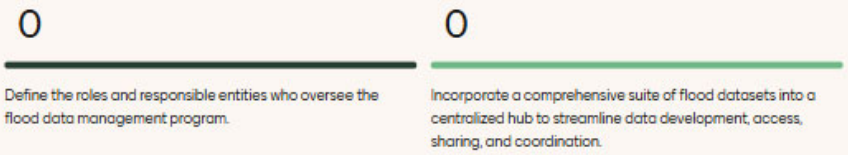
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What other opportunities not discussed today should potentially be prioritized over the next 1-2 years?

Responses can be up to 200 characters and will appear here.

You can group responses if you get more than 10.

Turn on voting so people can flag their favorite responses.



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Waiting for participants

Thank you!

Next Steps for the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan

- 2027 – FRAC and public comment period.
- 2028 – Anticipated release of the final VFPMP

VIRGINIA FLOOD PROTECTION MASTER PLAN

Member Updates

Contact and Additional Information

DCR
Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

Office of Resilience Planning Team:
flood.resilience@dcr.virginia.gov

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

