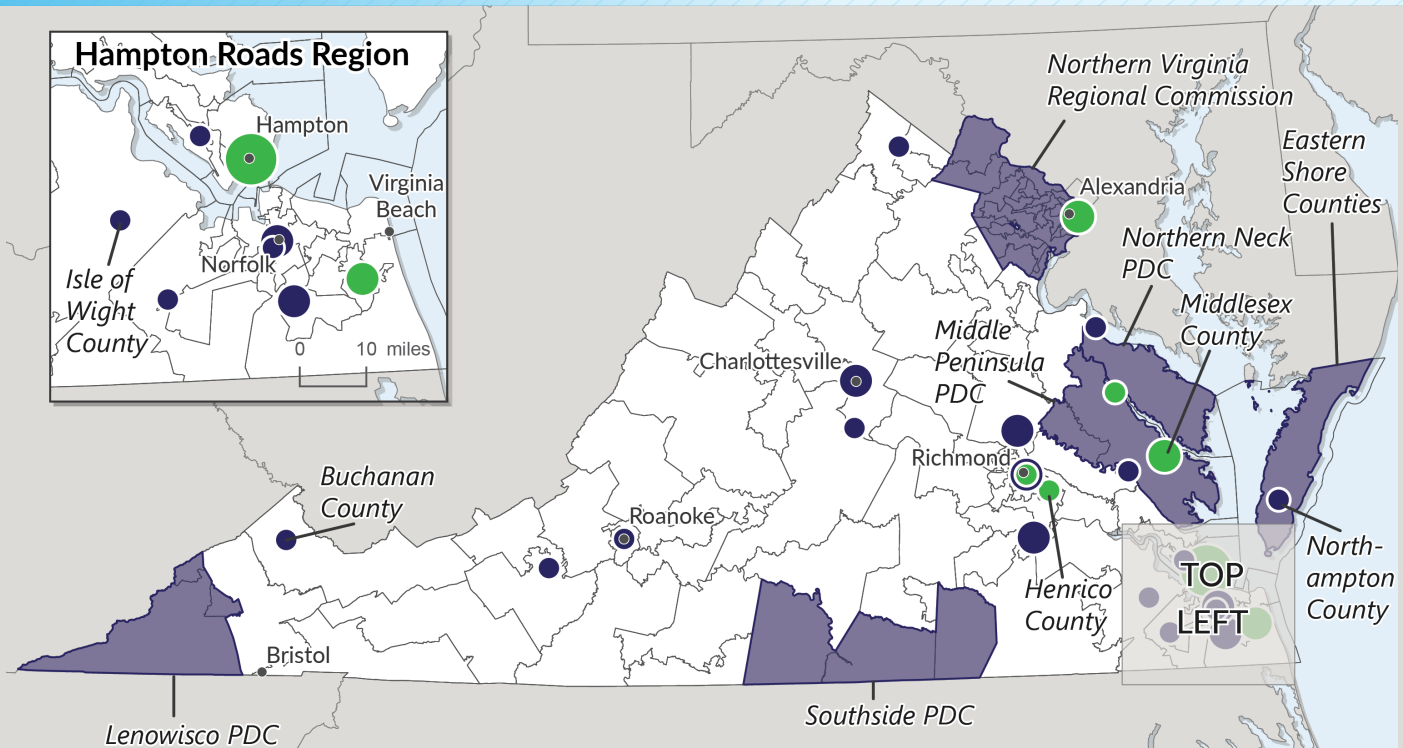


RGGI GRANTS

COMMUNITY FLOOD PREPAREDNESS FUND



In 2020, Virginia passed the Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act to protect Virginians from growing flood risk from more frequent and intense storms and sea level rise. This allowed the Commonwealth to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and established the Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF). RGGI is a market-based program of 11 states that generates funds while reducing electricity sector emissions. Half of its proceeds fund low-income energy efficiency programs and 45% fund the CFPF.

The CFPF provides loans and grants for projects, studies, and planning throughout the Commonwealth to identify and address flood vulnerability for communities. CFPF funds can build capacity in localities that otherwise would not have the resources to develop comprehensive flood vulnerability assessments and action-oriented flood mitigation approaches.

CITY OF HAMPTON: STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT

With 124 miles of navigable waterfront, Hampton, Virginia is defined by its relationship to water. With thriving fishing, boating, tourism, and military industries, Hampton's cultural and physical connection to the Chesapeake Bay, Hampton Roads Harbor, and Back River are critical to the City's wellbeing.



**CITY OF
HAMPTON**



\$9.16 MIL



Emily Steinhilber
Environmental Defense Fund
esteinhilber@edf.org

WHY IT MATTERS:

“Climate change is rapidly fueling an increase in extreme heat days, rising seas, and storms that are more powerful and more frequent than we have known in the past. These changes mean that Hampton’s residents, businesses, and government must adapt to more successfully live with the water that is intrinsic to our economy, culture and identity.”

1 ROADWAY FLOOD PROTECTION

Newmarket Creek passes under and adjacent to several critical roadways as it flows towards the Chesapeake Bay. Low-lying streets along the creek experience regular flooding, preventing access to residential communities, economic centers, and evacuation routes. The city will use a \$3.8 million CFPF award to implement a road raising and green infrastructure project along Lake Hampton and North Armistead Avenue to protect transportation infrastructure and increase stormwater runoff storage capacity.

2 BIG BETHEL BLUEWAY

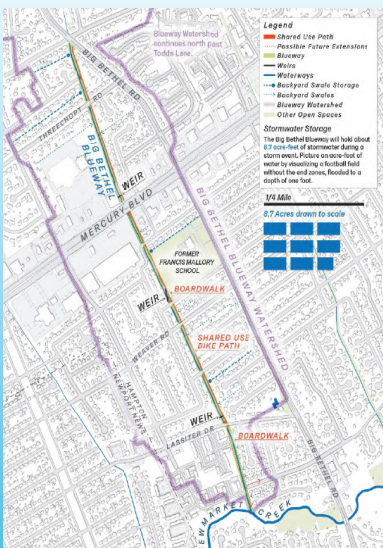
The City of Hampton will use a \$3 million CFPF award to fund to create the Big Bethel Blueway, a channel system that will help mitigate recurrent flooding in the Newmarket Creek watershed. This project will dramatically improve the area’s stormwater management capacities during increasingly intense storm events, while also creating public access to green and blue spaces and improving native ecosystems.

3 SUNSET CREEK NATURALIZATION

Sunset Creek was fully channelized in the 1950s, running through Hampton’s urban center and into the Hampton River. The City of Hampton will use a \$2 million CFPF grant to naturalize a section of Sunset Creek in order to improve water quality, bolster riparian buffers, restore the natural connectivity and floodway of the tidal channel, and provide additional stormwater capacity within the watershed.

4 BILLY WOODS CANAL

Newmarket Creek, which flows into the Back River, collects high volumes of runoff as it passes through Hampton’s urban residential areas. Completely channelized in the 1950s, the creek’s infrastructure is unable to handle the city’s increasingly severe flooding events. Hampton will use a \$291,850 CFPF award to support the design of the Billy Woods Canal, a revitalized drainage system that improves the canal’s ability to store and slow water.



BIG BETHEL BLUEWAY & ARMISTEAD AVENUE DESIGNS

Hampton, VA



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