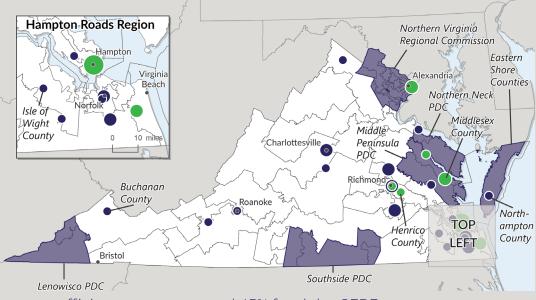
RGGI GRANTS COMMUNITY FLOOD PREPAREDNESS FUND

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 marketbased 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.

SOUTHSIDE PDC: FLOOD RESILIENCE CAPACITY

Working with the University of Virginia, Southside PDC is leading a whole community approach to flood resilience planning for the City of Martinsville, Town of South Boston, and Town of Halifax. The PDC and partners will assess flood risk, current data and resources, evaluate soft capacities and current community engagement, and develop a roadmap for future planning and project development in partnership with community leaders. The communities involved in this proposal qualify as low-income geographies, include at least one federally-designated Opportunity Zone, and have high levels of socioeconomic vulnerability.











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WHY IT MATTERS:

Like many communities and regions across Virginia, the effects of climate change and increasing flooding events are having devastating impacts on communities in the southern region of Virginia. The repercussions and cascading effects of flooding events in this region impact local public safety and roads, community livability, and economic viability as well as vital regional and statewide economic and transportation corridors.

