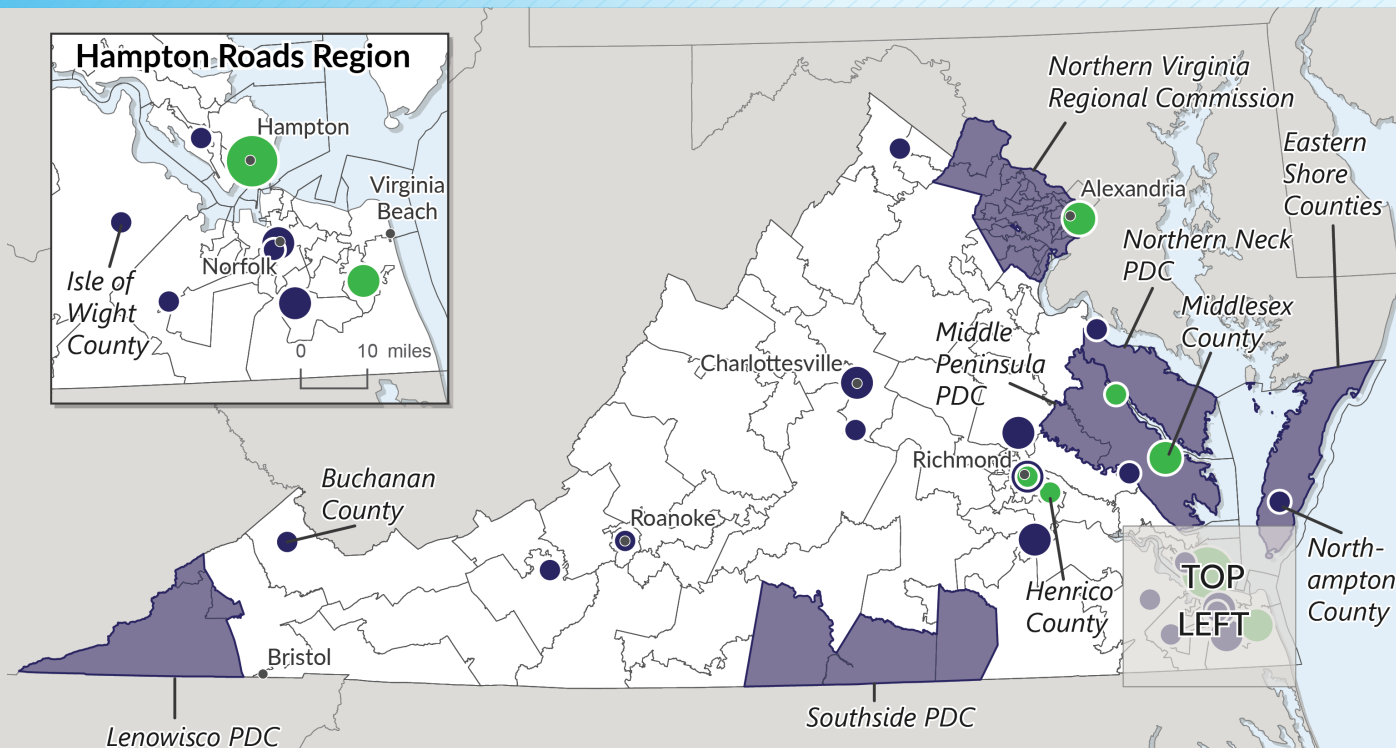


RGGI GRANTS

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 VIRGINIA BEACH

Situated where the Chesapeake Bay meets the Atlantic Ocean, Virginia Beach is defined by its sprawling coastline. With thriving tourism, fishing, boating, and military industries, Virginia Beach's physical and cultural connection to the water is central to the City's identity and well-being.



**CITY OF
VIRGINIA BEACH**



\$4.9 MIL



Emily Steinhilber
Environmental Defense Fund
esteinhilber@edf.org

WHY IT MATTERS:

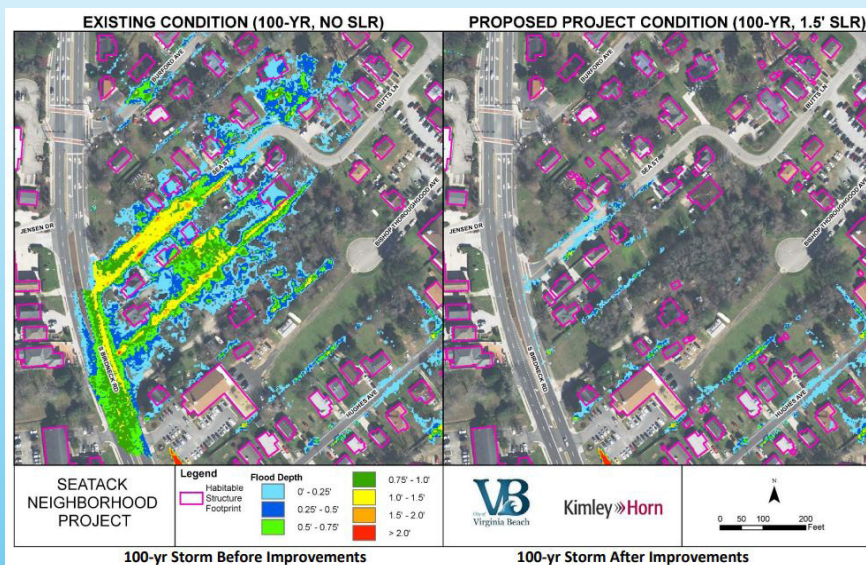
Both residents and visitors value Virginia Beach's coastal location for its abundance of natural water resources. But with this bounty comes a need for active stewardship. Though the City has already begun to take steps towards coastal resiliency, its citizens consistently express a continued desire for local governments to address flooding, the effects of sea level rise, and stormwater management needs.

1 EASTERN ELIZABETH RIVER WETLAND & FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION

The Eastern Branch of the Elizabeth River is the most important flood entry point into the Elizabeth River watershed, which is a dense residential, commercial, and industrial waterfront. This \$3 million CFPF award will implement a combination of natural infrastructure solutions to restore wetlands, improve water quality, and provide additional water storage capacity during flood events along the Elizabeth River. This project site includes two parcels of land already owned by the City and was chosen to reduce flood risk while meeting habitat restoration objectives.

2 STORMWATER PROJECT - SEATAACK NEIGHBORHOOD

This \$1,925,000 CFPF award will replace undersized stormwater pipes in the Seataack neighborhood to provide additional capacity in the stormwater conveyance system. Larger pipes will be able to collect runoff and reduce flooding of habitable structures in an economically disadvantaged area. This project will also reduce street flooding on South Birdneck Road, which serves as a secondary evacuation route and provides access to 11 critical facilities in the region, including Naval Air Station Oceana, multiple schools, and the Virginia Beach Convention Center.



SEATAACK STORMWATER & ELIZABETH RIVER WETLAND DESIGNS | City of VA Beach

