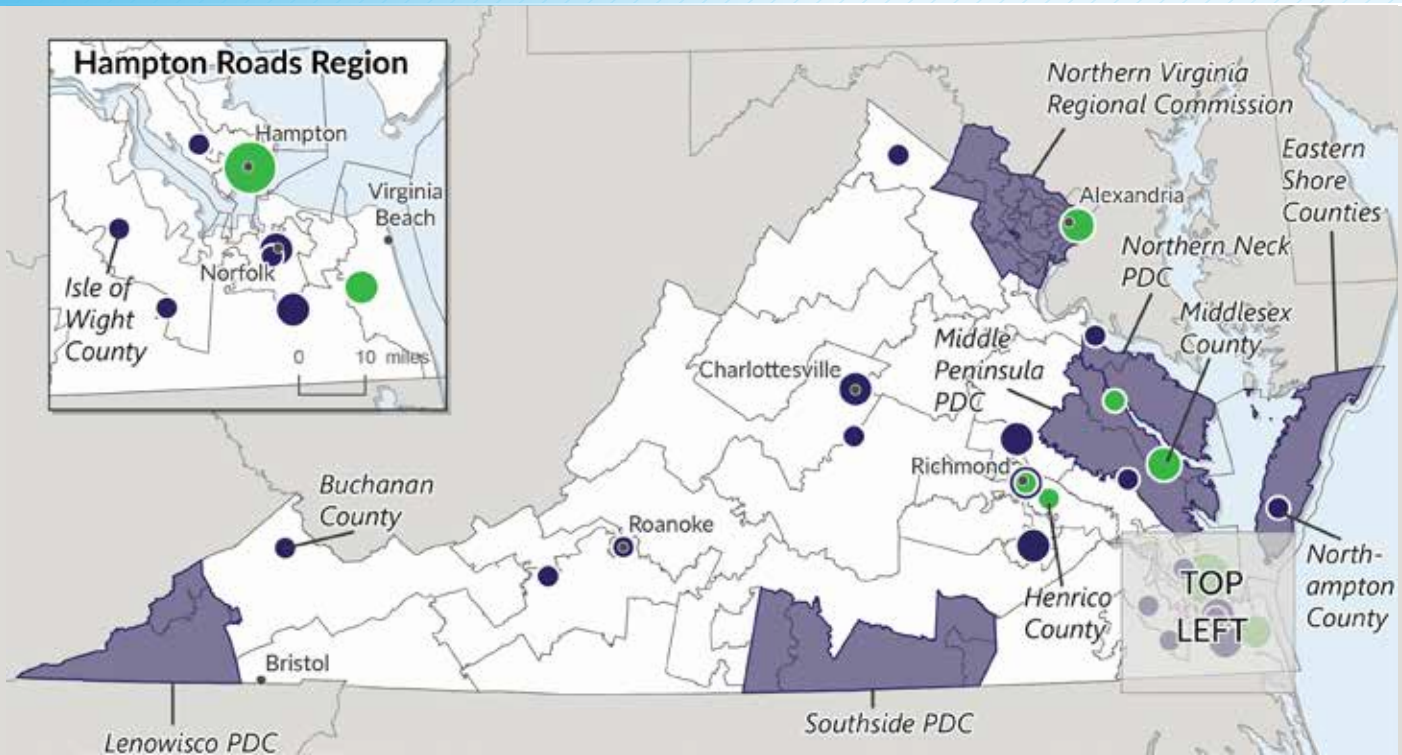# RGGI GRANTS
COMMUNITY FLOOD PREPAREDNESS FUND

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.

NORFOLK

The City of Norfolk is a highly urbanized, relatively flat community that serves as a commercial center for Hampton Roads. Norfolk is a low-income community classified as moderately socially vulnerable in Virginia, with 20% of residents living below the federal poverty standard. The city is increasingly at risk from flooding, damage from coastal storms, and facing future flood impacts on its urban stormwater systems due to rainfall-drive flooding.

CITY OF NORFOLK

$1,715,000

POINT OF CONTACT
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1 NORFOLK COASTAL STORM RISK MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

This CFPF award will support a study on coastal storm processes that is necessary for the continued design of the city's coastal resiliency infrastructure. The new models and calculations will increase understanding of storm surge and wave mitigation, as well as the hydrological impacts of flood protection measures.
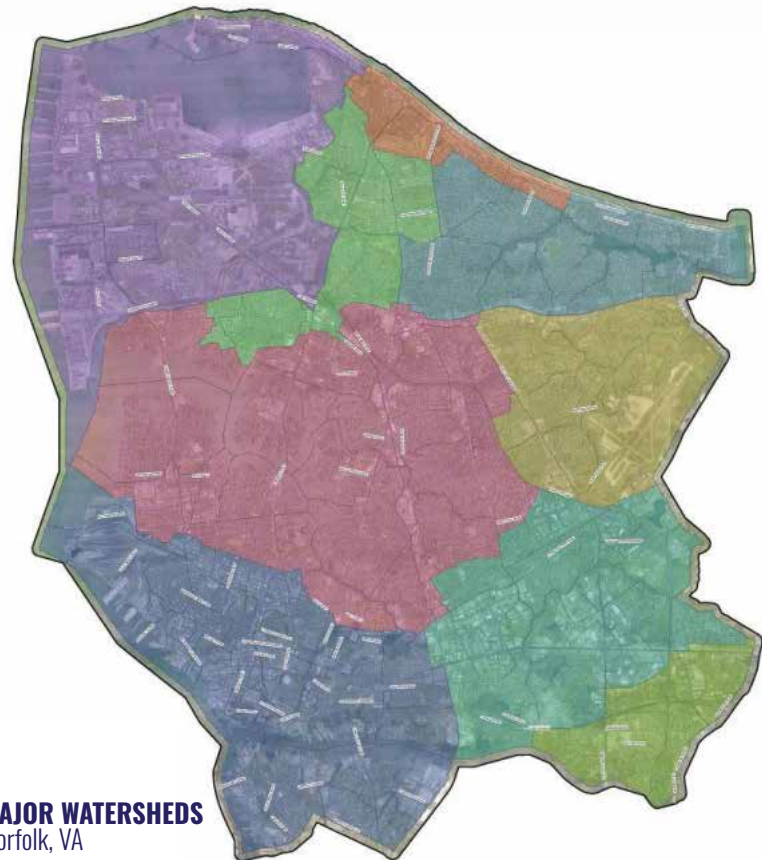
2 LAKE WHITEHURST WATERSHED STUDY

Norfolk's Lake Whitehurst is a managed drinking water reservoir with a nearly 3000 acre watershed. As a result of its expansive watershed, the lake manages a large amount of stormwater runoff, which in recent years has begun to exceed the managed level of the lake and result in flooding. Using this CFPF award, Norfolk will conduct a hydrology and hydraulics analysis of Lake Whitehurst's drainage in an effort to determine present and future impacts of tidal and major storm events on the watershed.

3 WATERSHED MASTERPLAN STUDY & PURCHASE OF FLOOD SENSORS

Norfolk needs to revise its Coastal and Precipitation Flooding Master Plan to incorporate best available science on sea level rise projections and future conditions. This CFPF award will enable the City to update the plan's drainage system and ordinance recommendations given the expected increased precipitation and sea-level benchmarks. Norfolk will conduct a system-wide inventory of stormwater infrastructure as well as future conditions assessments to develop realistic metrics and timeframes for flood risk reduction. Additionally, the City will use an Equitable Resilience Rubric Tool to prioritize project recommendations that incorporate social equity, and will also incorporate nature-based solutions.

STORM RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY AREAS |
Norfolk, VA

| MAJOR WATERSHEDS
Norfolk, VA

WHY IT MATTERS

The City of Norfolk is experiencing the fastest rate of relative sea level rise along the Atlantic seaboard, in addition to increasing precipitation and other nuisance flooding. These CFPF awards will enable the City to advance strategic approaches that address identified stresses, potential shocks, and incorporate nature-based solutions to reduce flood risk and build resilience.