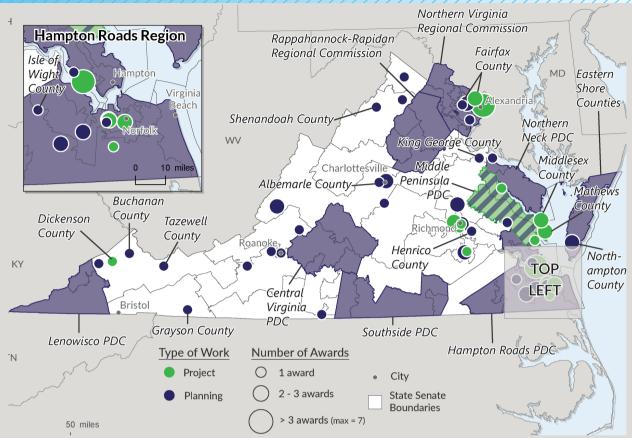
RGGI GRANTS COMMUNITY FLOOD PREPAREDNESS FUND



Virginia passed the Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act of 2020, allowing the Commonwealth to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and establishing 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 need additional resources to develop comprehensive flood vulnerability assessments and action-oriented flood mitigation approaches.

HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission is one of 21 Planning District Commissions in the Commonwealth which represents a diverse group of 17 local governments in the Hampton Roads area. With varying levels of resources and socioeconomic vulnerability, HRPDC provides an essential role by convening local and elected officials, conducting work of regional significance, and offering services to localities to improve the region's quality of life.









POINT OF CONTACT

Emily Steinhilber, Environmental Defense Fund esteinhilber@edf.org

Virginia Conservation Network 701 E Franklin Street, Suite #800 | Richmond, VA 23219 804-644-0283 | vcn@vcnva.org | www.vcnva.org

RESILIENCE PLANNING AND ASSESSMENTS

The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) will utilize this CFPF award to expand the efficacy of resources and programs which aid localities in the region to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP's) Community Rating System (CRS). CRS participation can provide localities with discounts on NFIP flood insurance policies. With this funding, HRPDC will conduct research on how to use regional products that provide CRS credits to localities and expand CRS program support for participating localities.

2 STUDIES TO SUPPORT RESILIENCE PLANS, POLICIES, AND PROJECTS

Local governments in Hampton Roads individually maintain stormwater infrastructure systems and have unique local codes and ordinances, leading to variability across the region. With this CFPF award, HRPDC will identify all existing models and data and conduct a needs assessment for the creation of a regional or sub-regional hydraulic and hydrologic model. HRPDC will also conduct a case study analysis of potential costs and benefits of implementation of regional resilient stormwater management design guidelines. Finally, HRPDC will assess policies regarding hazardous materials and sea level rise, create policy recommendations, and assess the performance of stormwater management BMPs in the region.



WHY IT MATTERS

These CFPF awards will allow HRPDC to provide updated guidance to localities about the CRS program and how to use regional products to gain CRS credits. Additionally, the information resulting from these studies is necessary to set updated guidelines and standards, as well as to inform upon specific concerns about increasing flood risk in Hampton Roads. In addition to the local and regional benefits, these studies will be directly exportable to other regions in the Commonwealth.