RGGI GRANTS COMMUNITY FLOOD PREPAREDNESS FUND



Rounds 1-4 (10/05/2021 - 03/20/2024)

Virginia's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) from 2021-2023 generated \$827.7 million in revenue while also reducing power plant carbon pollution in the state by 22%. Half of RGGI proceeds from quarterly auctions funded low-income energy efficiency programs and 45% funded the Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF). Without RGGI, there is no mechanism to maintain long-term revenue for the CFPF.

The CFPF provides grants and loans 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 actionoriented flood mitigation approaches.

CITY OF HAMPTON

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.







QUESTIONS? Reach out to: cfpf@vcnva.org



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1 HONOR PARK RESILIENCE

Hampton's Honor Park commemorates and memorializes the sacrifices made by Hampton's police officers, firefighters, and service members. The City will use this \$147,994 CFPF award to make the park a multifunctional public space that can serve as a stormwater retention and redirection site during intense weather events. The proposed park will include constructed wetlands and a grassy amphitheater that is designed to store water during heavy rain events.

2 MILL POINT LIVING SHORELINE

The City of Hampton will use this \$126,498 CFPF award to create 2,100 feet of living shoreline along the Hampton River. The improved Mill Point Living Shoreline will increase water quality in the Hampton River, James River, and Chesapeake Bay, while also serving as a protective barrier from increasingly intense riparian weather events and continued riverbank erosion. This naturebased solution will improve both water quality and flood resiliency for the surrounding community.

3 RESILIENCY PLANS: DOWNTOWN HAMPTON, PHOEBUS, BUCKROE BEACH

Downtown Hampton, Phoebus, and Buckroe Beach are three economically, culturally, and historically significant areas of the City. Hampton will use a \$154,635 CFPF award to complete resiliency concept development and designs for the neighborhoods. These plans are part of the City's "Resilient Hampton" initiative.

BIG BETHEL BLUEWAY - STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT

The City of Hampton will use this \$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.



5 ROADWAY FLOOD PROTECTION - STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT

Hampton's 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 this 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.

5 SUNSET CREEK NATURALIZATION - STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT

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 this 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.

D BILLY WOODS CANAL - STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT

Newmarket Creek flows into the Back River and 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 this CFPF award to support the design of the Billy Woods Canal, a revitalized drainage system intended to mitigate the impacts of flooding by improving the canal's ability to store and slow water before it reaches the River. The project will also create a system of trails along the canal, increasing public access to green and blue spaces.

B HAMPTON CITY-WIDE STORMWATER MODEL

With this CFPF award, the City of Hampton will pursue a phased city-wide hydraulic and hydrologic stormwater model involving a data review, identification of gaps, and an expansion of a pre-existing flood sensor network in collaboration with the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. Once complete, the model will help the City establish existing conditions of local flood impacts and identify stormwater mitigation projects.



9 RESILIENT HAMPTON: FOX HILL, GRANDVIEW, & HARRIS CREEK WATER PLANS

Building off of the City's "Resilient Hampton" initiative to identify, plan, and implement watershed-scale climate resilience projects throughout the community, Hampton will use this CFPF award to begin strategizing naturebased solutions in the low-lying residential neighborhoods of Grandview, Fox Hill, and Harris Creek. This region of the city is the most geographically at-risk from the impacts of climate change due to its elevation and coastal proximity, and experiences compound impacts of flooding.

10 ADAPT - LONG CREEK BLUEWAY

Long Creek is a tidal waterway with a wide floodplain in Buckroe that flows into the Salt Ponds, and then empties into the Chesapeake Bay. Roads leading to surrounding neighborhoods are frequently inundated, and often impassible, by minor tidal flood events, impacting accessibility during emergencies. Responding to this issue, the City of Hampton will use this CFPF award to elevate 1st and 5th streets and create a surge barrier for additional flood protection.



WHY IT MATTERS

"Downtown is one of Hampton's most urban areas...and more than 60% of households in this part of the city earn less than its overall median income. Both of the design projects awarded to Hampton, the Mill Point Living Shoreline and the Honor Park Resilience Park, will invest in downtown's local community by creating community-scale projects to address the current challenges of local flooding and future climate change conditions."

- Carolyn Heaps, Chief Resilience Officer

