

An aerial photograph of a river with turbulent, brownish water flowing over a rocky section. The water is churning, creating white foam and rapids. The rocks are dark and jagged, with some smaller rocks scattered in the shallower areas. The overall scene is dynamic and powerful.

Working Group Observations for Drafting Recommendations

Resilience Coordination Working Group
April 28th, 2023



VCU

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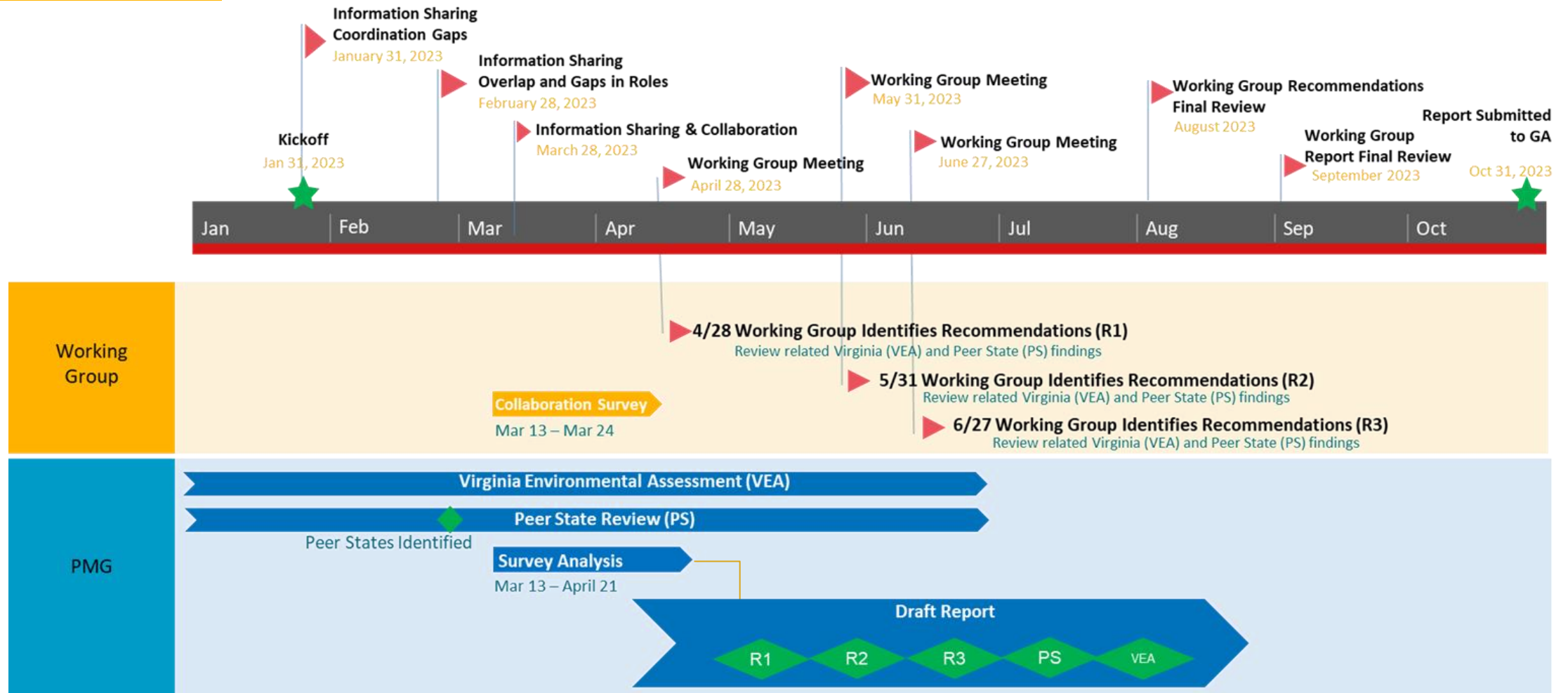
Working Group Charge

This Working Group, established by the Chief Resilience Officer, has the following goals:

- To consider and assess strategies and policies for the Commonwealth to improve **intergovernmental and interagency coordination**; and
- To maximize the procurement of **federal and private funding opportunities** in planning for and implementing flood resilience throughout the Commonwealth.

Resilience Coordination Working Group Plan

Project Workplan



Resiliency Coordination & Funding

Selected Peer States

Colorado

- Innovative governance
- Non-coastal resilience example

Louisiana

- Recipient of large federal grants
- Innovative programs

Maryland, North Carolina

- Proximity
- Similar climate threats
- Lessons learned



Observation #1

Resiliency Data and Resources

Observation 1: Resiliency Data and Resources

- What we heard
 - One-stop source for resilience information, including an authoritative source for resiliency data, is critical for effective planning and decision making
- When we heard it
 - Mentioned in the January, February, and March meetings

Observation 1: Resiliency Data and Resources

- What we found - **Virginia**
 - Unclear authoritative sources of resiliency data can affect the value of analysis based on obsolete or incomplete data
 - No centralized access to, or coordination of, locality resiliency plans, resources, and strategies
 - Existing resiliency data does not measure social vulnerability by locality

Observation 1: Resiliency Data and Resources

■ What we found - **Virginia**

- Open Data Portal – *Coastal Resilience Database & Web Explorer* used in the Coastal Resiliency Master Plan (CRMP); focused on projected coastal flood impacts and public and private funding sources (Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program)
- ADAPTVA - integrates data, policy, and planning strategies but long-term funding and locality-specific information is still needed
- Examples of authoritative sources of data in Virginia include:
 - “Workforce Data Trust” managed by the Secretary of Labor’s office (§ 2.2-435.8)
 - “Commonwealth Data Trust” managed by the Office of Data Governance and Analytics

Observation 1: Resiliency Data and Resources

- **What we found - Peer States**
 - **Colorado:** Colorado's Resiliency Dashboard
 - Managed by Colorado Resiliency Office, 2020 Data
 - **Louisiana:** Coastal Master Plan Data Viewer
 - Managed by Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, 2017 Data
 - **Maryland:** Maryland Resiliency Partnership Portal
 - Managed by public-private partnership
 - **North Carolina:** Coastal Adaptation and Resiliency Data
 - Compiled by North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Coastal Management Division

Observation 1: Resiliency Data and Resources

- Considerations
 - Who should be the decision maker on the authoritative sources of data?
 - What information is needed for resiliency planning?
 - Sea level rise, flood, and coastal risk, etc.
 - Demographics
 - Social vulnerability
 - Available public and private funding
 - Flood preparedness tips, resources
 - Who can access these data?
 - Any limitations on public access, e.g., registration required?
 - What information will users need to best integrate these data elements into decision making and planning?

Observation 1: Resiliency Data and Resources

- Idea for Discussion:
 - Establish a Resiliency Data Trust or Portal with authoritative, centralized, and comprehensive information on statewide risks, vulnerabilities, and resources that can be used to inform planning and decision making for state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and community members.
- Considerations for Discussion:
 - What legislative action is required?
 - What administrative action is required?
 - What entity can/should manage the data trust or portal?



Observation #2

Locality Readiness

Observation 2: Locality Readiness

- What we heard
 - The ability of localities to support resiliency planning varies widely across Virginia
- When we heard it
 - Mentioned in the January, February, and March meetings

Observation 2: Locality Readiness

- What we found - **Virginia**
 - Some **Planning Districts** work regionally to solve resiliency challenges of homeowners, businesses, and communities to varying degrees
 - **Academic Institutions** form collaboratives to conduct resiliency research and design innovative tools that support communities threatened by coastal and inland flooding
 - **VDCR** administers Community Flood Preparedness Funding and Resilient Virginia Revolving Loan Fund; Coastal Resilience Master Plan (CRMP) and Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan (FPMP) development and implementation

Observation 2: Locality Readiness

- What we found - **Virginia**
 - **VDEM** administers FEMA funding to localities; coordinates emergency preparedness response; Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - **VDEQ** administers Clean Water Financing and Assistance Program; leads CZM network
 - **VDHCD** administers Community Development Block Grants
 - **VDE** sponsored C-PACE financing programs for disaster resiliency improvements

Observation 2: Locality Readiness

- What we found - **Peer States**

- **Colorado**: Colorado Water and Soil Board collects and analyzes data, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management coordinates and distributes grant funds
- **Louisiana**: All federal and non-federal resilience funding and grant programs administered by Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
- **Maryland**: Maryland Energy Administration administers resiliency grants to localities through the Resilience Maryland Program
- **North Carolina**: North Carolina Office of Recovery & Resiliency manages CDBG Mitigation and Disaster Recovery; Flood Resiliency Blueprint initiative in development by Department of Environmental Quality

Observation 2: Locality Readiness

- Considerations for supporting locality readiness
 - Education is needed on resiliency concepts/terms
 - Cost and benefits need to be clearly defined
 - Information sharing is critical
 - Planning help is often needed
 - Support is needed for localities for the acquisition of funding
 - Social vulnerability data is needed identify and target communities with the most need
 - Need to engage low-income communities, and local businesses and industries

Observation 2: Locality Readiness

- Ideas for Discussion:
 - Develop resiliency planning best practices for localities to use to meet floodplain and coastal flooding risks and incentivize creation and adoption of resilience plans
 - Implement a “sister city” model between localities needing guidance and those with resilience skills
 - Create a “Grants Management” position at the state level that supports grants administration for both the State and the localities
- Questions to consider:
 - What legislative action is required?
 - What administrative action is required?



Observation #3

Coordinating Entity



Observation 3: Coordinating Structure

- What we heard
 - There is currently no single coordinating entity to support resilience efforts across state agencies, academia, localities, nonprofit organizations, private sector, and community members.
- When we heard it
 - Mentioned in the January, February, and March meetings

Observation 3: Coordinating Structure

- What we found - **Virginia**

- [2018 Executive Order #24](#) established 1) Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) as dual-hatted position for Secretary of Natural Resources and 2) creation of the CRMP
- CRO position codified into law in 2020 ([§ 2.2-220.5](#))
- 2018 VA General Assembly passed SB 265 creating the *Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection* ([§ 2.2-435.11](#))
- **Virginia Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee** meets quarterly to support the development of the CRMP
- **Annual Flood Resilience and Preparedness Coordination** meetings discuss funding and implementation of CRMP and FPMP
- **Virginia Coastal Policy Team** identifies coastal policy issues outside agency jurisdictions and develops recommendations.

Observation 3: Coordinating Structure

▪ What we found - Peer States

- **Colorado:** [Colorado Resiliency Office](#)
 - Created in 2018 under Department of Local Affairs
 - ***Flood Technical Assistance Partnership Committee*** supports state agency coordination yet presents challenges as a non-governmental entity
- **Louisiana:** [Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority \(CPRA\)](#)
 - Created in 2005 passing of [SB71](#) in 2005 with goal of coordinating across federal, state, and local governments
 - [Executive Order JBE 2020-19](#) required CRO position and agency “Resilience Coordinators”
 - Head of CPRA implements state coastal master plan and CRO advances resilience priorities across state government agencies
 - ***Adaptive Governance Initiative*** created to support agencies in assessing vulnerabilities, identifying actions, and institutionalizing adaptation

Observation 3: Coordinating Structure

- What we found - **Peer States**
 - **Maryland:** *No coordinating entity or resiliency-dedicated positions*
 - 2021 Legislation to require agency CRO position failed
 - (Information below updated based on working group feedback provided during meeting)*
 - Maryland Chesapeake & Coastal Program - a network approach to coastal management between local, regional, and state agencies
 - Responsible for clarifying, documenting, and making publicly accessible enforceable coastal policies
 - Coastal Zone Management Program provides federal consistency to foster cooperation and coordination between States and Federal agencies.
 - **Federal Consistency Coordinator** position housed within the Maryland Department of the Environment. (Section 307 of [Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972](#))

Observation 3: Coordinating Structure

North Carolina: North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR)

- Created by 2018 Hurricane Flood Disaster Act under Department of Public Safety
- CRO appointed in 2019
- ***State Disaster Recovery Task Force*** supports and advises state agencies in addressing long-term recovery and building resiliency; consists of state and local agencies, nonprofits, and community organizations

Local Authority Across Peer States

Supplemental information requested by working group

| State | Local Authority | Legislation |
|----------------|--|--|
| Colorado | Dillon Rule with optional Home-Rule - <i>78 out of 273 municipalities have adopted Home Rule charter</i> | Title 31, Art. I, §2020 of the Colorado Revised Statutes |
| Louisiana | Dillon Rule - <i>with the exception of 5 post-1974 charter municipalities</i> | La Const. Art. VI §5 |
| Maryland | Dillon Rule with optional Home-Rule – <i>6 out of 24 municipalities have adopted Home Rule charter</i> | Md. Local Government Code Ann. § 5-204 |
| North Carolina | Dillon Rule with limited Home Rule- <i>operate under authority granted by individual statutes</i> | G.S. 160A-4 ; 153A-4 |
| Virginia | Dillon Rule | Va Const. art. VII. § 2 |

Observation 3: Coordinating Structure

- Idea for Discussion:
 - Establish a structure within state government that can support the coordination of resiliency planning, strategies, programs, and funding.
- Questions to Consider:
 - If a structure were to be established, what would the goal of this governance be?
 - What purpose would it serve?
 - How would it function?



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**See you May 31st
in Virginia Beach**



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