# Strategic Principles for a Resilient Virginia OCEANS 2022 Conference

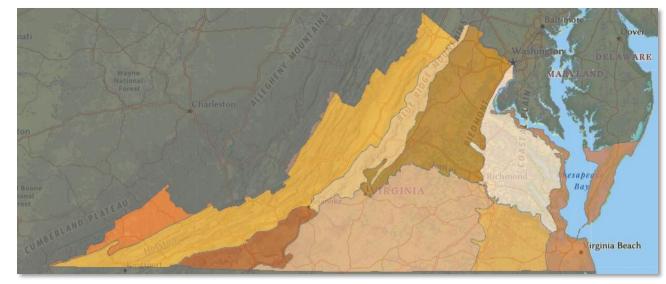
October 19, 2022

Matthew Wells - Director, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation



#### About the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

- The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is the state's lead natural resource conservation agency. DCR protects what Virginians care about - natural habitat, parks, clean water, dams, open space and access to the outdoors.
  - Parks and Natural Area Preserves
  - Land Conservation
  - Soil and Water Conservation
  - Dam Regulation
  - Floodplain and Resilience

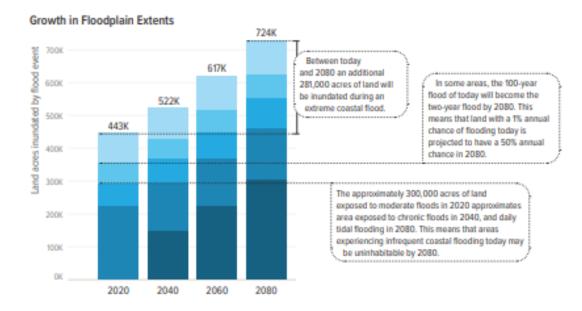


Virginia Physiographic Provinces – DCR Natural Heritage Data Explorer



### Principle 1: We are committed to addressing challenges relating to flooding and resiliency

"The impacts of flooding are felt across the commonwealth, and Governor Youngkin has ensured that resiliency and flood mitigation efforts are a priority for this administration." — Travis Voyles, Chief Resilience Officer and Acting Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources



Reference Flood Event			Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)	Average Return Interval (Frequency)	Example Storm/Event Type
		Tidal	Mean High Water	Inundated Daily	Daily High Tide
		Chronic	20% AEP	5 years	Gale, Smaller Coastal Storm
		Moderate	4% AEP	25 years	Tropical Storm, Nor'easter
		Major	1% AEP	100 years	Strong Nor'easter, Category 2 hurricane
		Extreme	0.2% AEP	500 years	Category 3+ hurricane

Between 2020 and 2080...



the number of **residents** living in homes exposed to major coastal flooding is projected to grow from approximately 360,000 to 943,000, an increase of **160%**.



the number of residential, public, and commercial **buildings** exposed to an extreme coastal flood is projected to increase by almost **150%**, from 140,000 to 340,000, while annualized flood damages increase by over **930%** from \$550 million to \$5.7 billion.



the number of miles of roadways exposed to chronic coastal flooding is projected to increase from approximately 500 to nearly 2,800 miles, an increase of 460%.

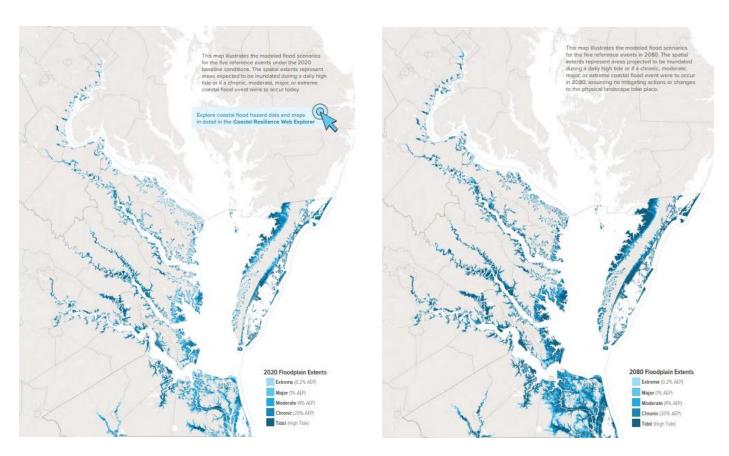


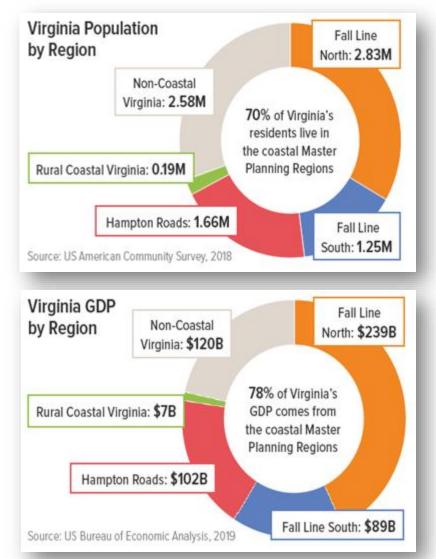
an estimated 170,000 acres, or 89%, of existing tidal wetlands and 3,800 acres, or 38%, of existing dunes and beaches may be permanently inundated, effectively lost to open water.



Principle 2: We must address these challenges with programs that work for all impacted parts of Virginia

#### Coastal Virginia Sea Level Rise Risk Projections

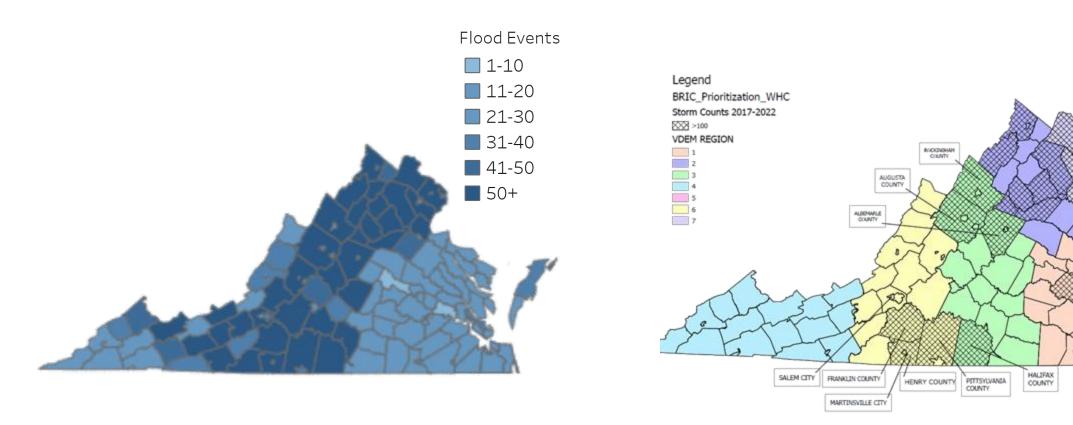






### Principle 2: We must address these challenges with programs that work for all impacted parts of Virginia

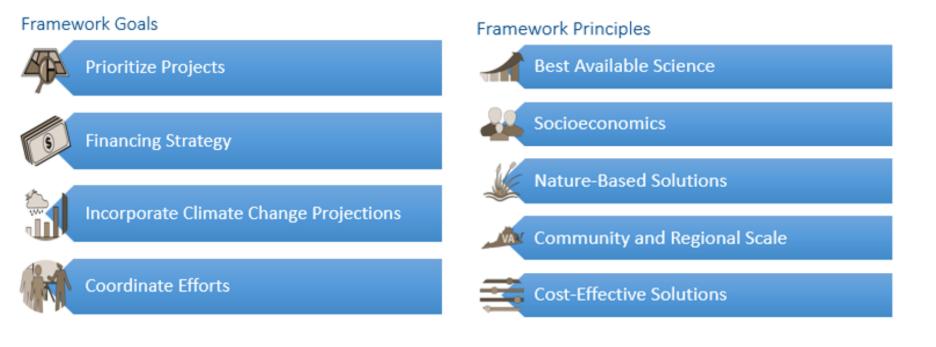
<u>Statewide Historic Flood Risk Data (1996-2019)</u> <u>Statewide Storm Risk Data (2017 – 2022)</u>

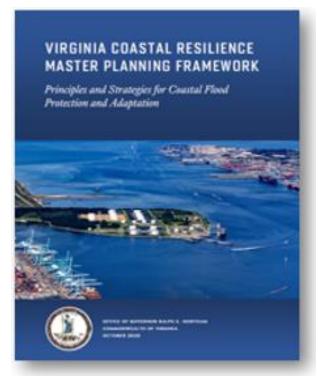




### Principle 3: The programs we implement must work together as parts of comprehensive, cohesive plans

#### Coastal Resilience Master Planning Framework



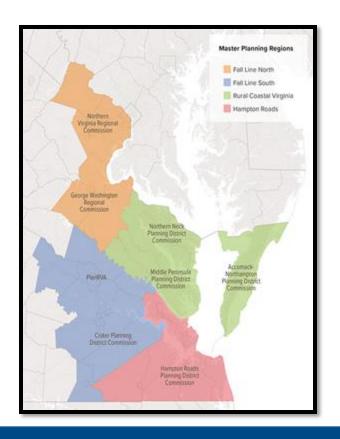


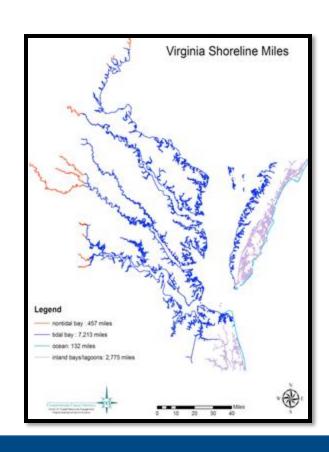


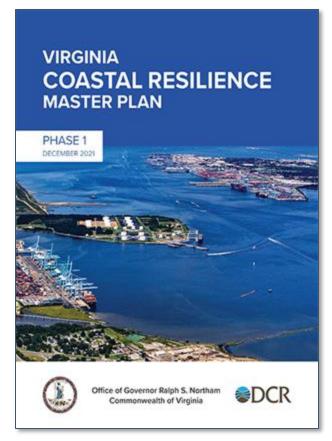
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#### Coastal Resilience Master Plan





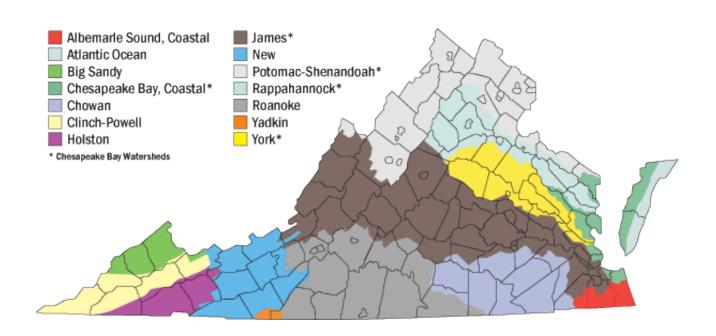






### Principle 3: The programs we implement must work together as parts of comprehensive, cohesive plans

#### Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan

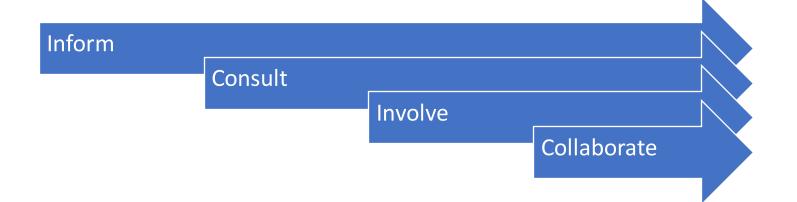






## Principle 4: These programs and plans must be developed and implemented with transparency and input from the public

- Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee
- Resilience Coordination Working Group
- Community Outreach and Engagement Plan
- Annual Resilience Stakeholder Meetings
- Public Comment Periods for Coastal & Statewide Plans



Travis A. Voyles
Secretary of Natural and Historic Resource

Matthew S. Wells



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

April 26, 2022

Deputy Director for Operations

Darryl Glover
Deputy Director for
Dam Safety,
Floodplate Management and
Sall and Water Conservation

Laura Ellis Interim Deputy Director for

Via Electronic Mail

The Honorable Lynwood W. Lewis, Jr. Virginia State Senate P.O. Box 760 Accomac, Virginia 23301

The Honorable David L. Bulova Virginia House of Delegates P. O. Box 106 Fairfax Station, Virginia 22039

Dear Senator Lewis and Delegate Bulova:

Addressing challenges related to flooding and resiliency is a top priority for Governor Youngkin and his administration. The Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) and the proposed Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund (RVRF) are two important means of addressing these challenges. Given the serious nature of this issue and the fact that public funds are involved, it is imperative that the process of awarding these grants and loans be as transparent as possible.

To that end, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will take the following steps:

- DCR will make all grant and loan applications for the CFPF and RVRF available online in a location that
  the public can access. These applications will be posted within 15 calendar days of the grant or loan
  round application deadline. Applications for CFPF Grant Round 3 will be posted and available on
  DCR's website by the end of the week.
- DCR will make final scoring and approval decisions for CFPF grants and RVRF loans available online in
  a location that the public can access.
- Beginning with CFPF Grant Round 4, DCR will hold a 30-day public comment period prior to each new grant offering to solicit feedback on proposed revisions to the CFPF Grant Manual. A similar process will be followed for RVRF Loan Manuals

600 East Main Street, 24th Floor | Richmond, Virginia 23219 | 804-786-6124

State Parks - Soil and Water Conservation - Outdoor Recreation Planning Natural Heritage - Dam Safety and Floodplain Management - Land Conservation



### **Summing It Up**

<u>Principle 1</u>: We are committed to addressing challenges relating to flooding and resiliency

<u>Principle 2</u>: We must address these challenges with programs that work for all impacted parts of Virginia

<u>Principle 3</u>: The programs we implement must work together as parts of comprehensive, cohesive plans

<u>Principle 4</u>: These programs and plans must be developed and implemented with transparency and input from the public



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