

**Virginia Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
 Outreach and Coordination Q4 Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

Subject	TAC O&C Subcommittee Meeting 2023-Q4	Date	11/8/23
Chair	Martin Brown, Chief Diversity Officer	Time – START/ADJOURN	10:00am/11:16am
Location	Zoom	Scribe	Addie Alexander VCU CPP

Subcommittee Members

TAC SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS		
Name [Alternate Name]	Title Organization	Virtual Attendance
Martin Brown [Michael Perez]	Chief Diversity Officer (Chair) [Deputy Chief Diversity Officer] (Co-Chair) Office of Diversity, Opportunity, and Inclusion (ODOI)	√
Charles Boyles [Meredith Keppel]	Executive Director [Environmental Planner II] George Washington Regional Commission	[√]
Cameron Bruce	Environmental Program Coordinator Nansemond Indian Nation	√
Joseph Howell	Regional Community Plans & Liaison Officer Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (Advisor)	
Jill Bieri	Program Director, Volgenau Virginia Coastal Reserve The Nature Conservancy	√
Reggie Tupponce	Tribal Administrator Upper Mattaponi Tribe	√
Brian Hallberg [Greggory Williams]	Commander [Deputy Chief] U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District (USACE)	[√]
Bill Curtis	Assistant Director Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development	√
Martha Moore [Katelyn Jordan]	Senior Vice President Government Relations [Legislative Specialist, Governmental Relations] Virginia Farm Bureau	[√]
Brett Vassey	President & CEO Virginia Manufacturers Association	
Mary Carson-Stiff [John Bateman]	Executive Director Planning Program Director Wetlands Watch	√

Invited Guests

Last Name	First Name	Organization	Attended
Denckla Cobb	Tanya	IEN / UVA	√
Gonzalez	Cirse	CBNERR (VIMS)	√

Committee Staff Support / Presenters

Organization	Attended		
Smith	Andrew	DCR	√
Glover	Darryl	DCR	√
Dalon	Matt	DCR	√
Heaps-Pecaro	Carolyn	DCR	√
Wood	Wheeler	VCU-CPP	√

Reference Links	
Item	Link
Meeting Agenda	https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/GetFile.cfm?File=meeting\49\38766\Agenda_DCR_new_v1.pdf
Meeting Handouts/Presentation Slides	https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/crmp/meeting/document/outreach-and-coordination-handouts-20231108.pdf
Video Recording of the Meeting	

Agenda Item	Minutes
<p>Call to Order, Roll Call, Introductions</p>	<p>Martin Brown, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10am. A roll call was conducted and the meeting agenda and previous quarter meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.</p> <p>Ms. Heaps-Pecaro (DCR) introduced invited guest: Tanya Denckla Cobb, director of the Institute for Engagement and Negotiation at UVA and leader of Resilience Adaptation Feasibility tool.</p> <p>Ms. Heaps-Pecaro shared a few updates, including that the Coastal Resilience Web Explorer User Portal is now live and able to receive information from stakeholders across the state. DCR has received 143 submissions so far, most of which are uploaded. Additionally, DCR has received and is reviewing responses to RFP for the coastal resilience plan phase II, as well as other efforts of the team.</p> <p>In the coming meetings DCR is looking to the subcommittee for feedback, support, and recommendations for future plans.</p>
<p>Old Business</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outreach and Engagement Strategy <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro reviewed what happened at the last meeting, including a review of the draft community outreach and engagement plan, which is the framework for engagement on DCR’s resilience master plans, and is currently going through internal revisions. There are no updates to report. b. The CRMP Phase I results were shared at the last meeting, as well as the draft outreach and engagement strategy for Phase II, which is what will be discussed today c. Summary of subcommittee feedback: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. DCR needs clear goals for outreach and engagement ii. DCR should look at gaps from Phase I to inform priority stakeholders for Phase II iii. The subcommittee also identified additional stakeholders to include in Phase II. d. Summary of updates and request for feedback on: 1) whether the subcommittee agrees with strategy, 2) has suggestions for connecting with target audiences, 3) has feedback on the end user stakeholder survey, and 4) feedback on planned metrics. Updates include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. DCR has defined end users <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning district commissions, localities, state agencies/ programs, and tribal governments 2. Ideas for how they might use plan: using models to assess local assets; using models in long-range community resilience plans, comp plans, etc.; leveraging models to prioritize and apply for funding for resilience actions; informing collaboration; justify budgetary requests.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ii. Established goals<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Goals 1-3 are about engagement, collaborative feedback gathering:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Understand how the plan could be usedb. Contextualize the plan with qualitative datac. Contextualize the plan with information on risk interventions2. Goal 4 focuses on outreach<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. DCR plans to inform stakeholders of the following in service of this goal:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Existence, purpose, and contents of the CRMPii. Opportunities to participate in developing the planiii. Specifically for underserved communities, information that will help them advocate for solutions that will build flood resilience in their communities3. DCR is thinking about goal 4 as operating in the “inform” or “outreach” level of public participation, and other actions as falling into the “engagement/ involve/ collaborate” level.iii. Organized stakeholders into two groups<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Tier 1: involve and collaborate<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Planned end users and other involved entities2. Tier 2: consult and inform<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Interested parties who are not directly involved in conducting resilience action; not target end users3. Katelyn Jordan (Virginia Farm Bureau) asked if it would be possible to add the Virginia Agribusiness Council to the tier 2 list. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro responded that they would add that organization and that there is a much more detailed (longer) list than the one included on the slide.4. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro further shared that the subcommittee’s feedback on the need for prioritizing stakeholders based on those who were not involved in Phase I was taken into account. DCR reviewed Phase I engagement and used that in part to help prioritize: rural and lower-vulnerability localities, state agencies, critical infrastructure owners, and state and federally recognized tribes.iv. Developed detailed engagement methods were shared in the slides and include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Resilience user portal and data call2. Critical Infrastructure Working Group, led by VDEM
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3. Engagement meetings: Local Government and Tribal Government<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. DCR is considering which factors to use when deciding which localities to meet with and would like feedback.v. End user stakeholder surveyvi. Underserved community meetings (meeting with community-based organizations serving/representing underserved communities)<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. What DCR is working on now:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Sourcing data that will identify underserved communities at risk of floodingb. Identifying CBOs that serve those communities and have an interest in flood resiliencec. DCR plans to leverage existing meetings that are already happening instead of creating standalone meetingsvii. Web explorer participatory mapping and feedback toolviii. Public Commentix. Monthly NGO meetingsx. Virtual Public Meetings (x2)xi. Public Outreach Campaign<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Quarterly newsletter2. Social media3. Emails to info sharing networks4. Presentations5. Distributing materials at DCR events and to partners6. Webpage and press releasexii. Information-sharing networks: updated based on subcommittee feedback<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Looking for additional networks, such as social services providers, private sector actors, churches, and more2. The subcommittee is invited to share additional ideasxiii. Schedule - An overview of the engagement strategy is included on the slide from Fall 2023 through the end of next year.xiv. Plan for monitoring progress – presented a series of metrics to help reach goals outlined in COEP. <ul style="list-style-type: none">2. Feedback from the subcommittee:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. One of the invited guests, Cirse Gonzales (VIMS), asked why the Middle Peninsula PDC was not on the list of priority localities.<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro responded that DCR is prioritizing localities based on the factors listed on the “Localities to contact for meetings” slide. It was asked if the subcommittee has feedback on those factors.ii. Ms. Gonzales shared that she is engaged in flood resilience work in this area, and feels there is potential for continued conversation.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">b. Tanya Denckla Cobb shared that she’s also curious about the lack of inclusion of the Middle Peninsula. She shared concerns about the criteria of not participating in the RAFT because she believes that those who participated in the RAFT are prepared to engage further. She also asked about why Lancaster was called out, as opposed to any other counties in the Northern Neck who might be interested. She also suggested that some towns might need to be involved, like Cape Charles or Colonial Beach, that are part of the counties but also have separate governments and issues.c. Tanya Denckla Cobb further shared a significant 5-year project happening on the Eastern Shore funded by the NSF COPE being led by the Environmental Institute at UVA with an active community advisory committee. She suggested a partnership with the NSF COPE project; there is a workshop on February 7th that could be a good opportunity for DCR to talk with the team. The group needs to ensure that DCR does not duplicate efforts.d. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro noted the comment posted in the chat from Mary Carson-Stiff (Wetlands Watch) that echoed the idea that localities who have received support in the past should not be excluded, and responded that DCR will incorporate this feedback.e. Katelyn Jordan raised a couple questions:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. She asked about the web explorer, and specifically about VA projects last being updated in 2021 and if there is a plan to update that and who is responsible.<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro shared that that is a challenge, and is falling on DCR staff, who have limited capacity to do a comprehensive update. They spoke with DEQ last week about coordinating efforts to track funding opportunities. They are also working to collaborate with other organizations that have tracking tools, and will delegate this to consultants once they come on.ii. She also asked if the web explorer has the capacity to send out alerts to users about funding opportunities, hazards, etc. This could be a way to engage stakeholders.<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro said they could think about that for future updatesf. Jill Bieri (The Nature Conservancy) shared that there are ongoing efforts for all regions, and that should be a consideration for who is reached out to. This should be a criteria for who to focus on.<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro asked subcommittee members to share what efforts they know about or are involved in, and what processes members want to use to decide who to engage.g. It was shared that, in terms of identifying priority localities, models coming, including the pluvial flooding model, might change what communities are at risk because tidal flooding is currently used.<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro agreed and reiterated that Phase I hasn’t had great participation from non-coastal localities, but other communities are affected by flooding of other kinds.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="565 199 1453 367">h. Cameron Bruce (Nansemond Indian Nation) asked about the plan to consult with tribes. They raised a concern about doing group meetings because recognized tribes are all in vastly different places when it comes to resilience planning. Grouping should be done with care so each tribe can provide input depending on their situations.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="646 378 1453 514">i. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro agreed and asked for support from Cameron Bruce and Reggie Tupponce regarding how to group. Options could be geographically based, tribes that already work together on other projects, etc.<li data-bbox="646 525 1453 787">ii. Reggie Tupponce (Upper Mattaponi Tribe) added that an initial meeting with all tribes would be beneficial before splitting into smaller working groups, and suggested asking Leigh Mitchell, environmental director, for input. He said the tribes work with the EPA RTOC monthly, which has been an important space to discuss environmental issues, and could be a good forum for this conversation. Limitation is that it only includes federally recognized tribes.<li data-bbox="646 798 1453 861">iii. Cameron reiterated that the monthly EPA RTOC meeting could be a useful space.<li data-bbox="565 871 1453 934">i. Tanya Denckla Cobb shared challenges with the participatory mapping approach in terms of engaging vulnerable communities<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="646 945 1453 1113">i. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro shared that she agrees and the plan to address that is to engage vulnerable communities in in-person mapping sessions, which can then be transferred into the tool, but requested feedback on how to best reach vulnerable communities from the subcommittee members.<li data-bbox="565 1123 1453 1260">j. Tanya Denckla Cobb shared that this is a massive issue, and the idea of piggybacking on existing efforts or meetings is going to be very important. Asking people to do things is not going to work because people do not have time.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="646 1270 1453 1438">i. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro expressed a focus on Tier 1 stakeholders rather than individual community members, because of the amount of effort and the amount of planning involved. The goal is to support others to do this engagement in their planning efforts.<li data-bbox="646 1449 1453 1543">ii. Tanya Denckla Cobb responded that often smaller localities don't have the resources, and suggested a conversation offline. Tier 1 has this issue as well as Tier 2.<li data-bbox="467 1554 1453 1711">3. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro reviewed and asked for additional feedback on the questions and distribution of the end user survey. The plan for distribution is to distribute via email to all local governments and PDCs, with a request to PDCs for help with distributing to their localities. DCR will also distribute this to tribal governments.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="565 1722 1185 1753">a. Ms. Jordan shared recommendations in the chat<li data-bbox="565 1764 1453 1827">b. Ms. Gonzales offered to support with York River and shared a comment about DEQ roundtables in the chat
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New Business	No new business was suggested.
Public Comment	No public comment was offered.
Action Items	<p>Identified action items are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incorporate feedback on strategy from this meeting 2. Subcommittee members are requested to share information on ongoing efforts that involve stakeholder engagement in the coastal region related to flood resilience, especially upcoming meetings. 3. Any additional feedback on stakeholders and end user feedback should be shared via email with Ms. Heaps-Pecaro and Chief Brown 4. Ms. Heaps-Pecaro will connect with Tanya Denckla Cobb, Reggie Tupponce, and Cameron Bruce, and Mary-Carson Stiff for follow-up conversations 5. The next full TAC meeting is on December 15th virtually 6. The next O&C subcommittee meeting will be scheduled according to subcommittee members' preferences in 2024 Q1 to discuss outreach and engagement, as well as recommendations for future plans. members can email Ms. Heaps-Pecaro and Chief Brown with additional agenda items. <p>Ms. Jordan asked for the contact for the VDEM political infrastructure working group and Ms. Heaps-Pecaro agreed to send the contact info for Amber Laughlin.</p>
Adjourn	Chief Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:16a.m.

The purpose of these minutes is to record and preserve, to the best of our ability, the major contributors and general topics covered during this meeting. Verbatim transcription is not the intent of this document. If you have any questions, please contact flood.resilience@dcr.virginia.gov
