

## **Background – Community Flood Preparedness Fund**

The Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF) was established through legislation passed during the 2020 session of the General Assembly.

Its purpose is to provide support for regions and localities across Virginia to reduce the impacts of flooding.

The Fund is operated by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) with implementation and management assistance from the Virginia Resources Authority.

The CFPF provides loans and grants for projects, studies, capacity building, and planning anywhere in the Commonwealth. These projects identify and address vulnerability for communities from sea level rise, stormwater, tidal flooding, and other flood risks.



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## Background – CFPF and RGGI

The CFPF is funded by proceeds of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) – a market-based cap-and-invest program designed to reduce carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ) emissions from the power sector in the northeastern and mid-Atlantic United States. The program requires power plant owners to purchase an allowance for every ton of carbon dioxide their plant emits. This occurs through a quarterly auction process.

- 50% of RGGI proceeds fund low-income energy efficiency programs
- 45% of RGGI proceeds fund the Community Flood Preparedness Fund (CFPF)
- 5% of RGGI funds for administration

The 2020 Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act requires Virginia's participation in RGGI.

Virginia participated in RGGI for three years (2021-2023). During that time, carbon pollution from power plants dropped 22% and Virginia received \$827 million for statewide programs.

The Virginia Air Pollution Control Board removed Virginia from the cooperative effort through a regulatory action at the behest of the Youngkin administration. This administrative action is the subject of an ongoing lawsuit. As of January 1, 2024, Virginia is no longer participating in RGGI.

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative an initiative of Eastern States of the US

## Background

**2021 Comprehensive Plan** includes a strategy to "Preserve and enhance wetlands, floodplains, and other features that provide natural resiliency against climate change."

2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan includes floodplain management-related actions.

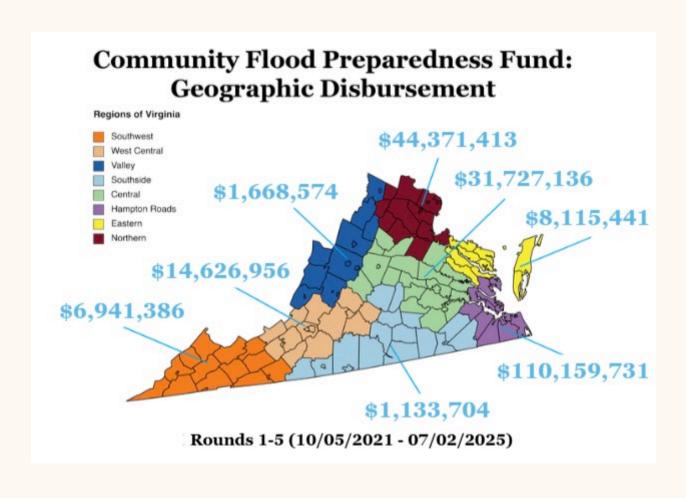
**2023 Charlottesville Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment** identified increasingly intense precipitation and flooding as one of the top risks.

Resilient Together project is developing a Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan that will incorporate this risk and present implementation strategies.

2023 Flood Resilience Plan needs to be activated and operationalized.

Upcoming Environmental Regulations and Policy Review project contemplates floodplain management within the context of water resources (stormwater, stream protection, etc.) and as part of the suite of environmental topics.

## **Background – Charlottesville CFPF Projects**



# Charlottesville Projects Previously Awarded = \$522,776

- Round 1: Moores Creek Watershed model (Sept 2021)
- Round 2: Flood Resilience Plan (Dec 2021)
- Round 3: Meadow Creek and Rivanna River
   Watersheds model (Sept 2022)

#### Charlottesville Project Recently Awarded = \$360,000

Round 5: Floodplain Management Program
 Capacity Building & Flood Resilience Plan Update

### **Recent Award**

Project: Floodplain Management Program Review and Flood Resilience Plan Update

**Application Category:** Capacity Building and Planning



Award Amount: \$360,000

Local Match: \$40,000

**Term:** Aiming to complete project in 3 years (Funded activity must be completed within 60 months)

Opportunity to review floodplain program baseline, conduct gap analysis, review roles and responsibilities, identify applicable best practices, integrate updated stormwater models, update plans and policies, review and prioritize identified mitigation projects, establish project funding and execution plan, focus on preparedness and communication, and develop proactive initiatives in consideration of flooding challenges resulting from a changing climate.

## **Next Steps**

- Appropriate Grant Funding
- Execute the Grant Agreement
- Develop Scope of Work
- Secure Consultant Services
- Engage internal interdisciplinary team of stakeholders (including Neighborhood Development Services, Utilities,
   Public Works, Parks & Recreation, Emergency Management, Office of Sustainability)



