

# VIRGINIA COASTAL RESILIENCE MASTER PLAN

## Task 9: Public Stakeholder Survey Summary

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## FINAL REPORT

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

In November 2018, Governor Northam issued Executive Order 24, directing the Commonwealth’s Chief Resilience Officer (Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources), with the assistance of the Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection, to develop a comprehensive Coastal Resilience Master Plan (CRMP), in cooperation with residents, stakeholders, and localities in the coastal regions of Virginia. This effort, as outlined in the Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Planning Framework, released October 2020, will identify and address unique and shared flooding challenges that residents within the 8 coastal PDCs experience along Virginia’s diverse coastline.

**1,306**  
**Respondents as of**  
**October 29, 2021**

The first Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan will be completed in November 2021. Additional iterations will evolve as research progresses, community planning continues, and projects are implemented. The Commonwealth is committed to an enduring planning process that ensures continuity in long-term coastal adaptation and protection.

The goals of the CRMP project are to:

1. Identify priority projects to increase the resilience of coastal communities, including both built and natural assets at risk due to sea level rise and flooding
2. Establish a financing strategy, informed by regional differences and equity considerations, to support execution of the plan
3. Effectively incorporate climate change projections into all of the Commonwealth’s programs addressing coastal region built and natural infrastructure at risk due to sea level rise and flooding
4. Coordinate all state, federal, regional, and local coastal region adaptation and protection efforts in accordance with the guiding principles of this Framework and Master Plan.

## 1.1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Public Stakeholder Survey (also known as the Decentralized Stakeholder Survey) was designed to capture input from residents and business owners to inform the Commonwealth’s efforts and ensure the CRMP addresses the needs of coastal stakeholders. Questions were developed to glean information on the following: residents “lived” experiences regarding flooding, damages experienced, mitigation actions in place, impacts to daily life, and awareness of planning efforts. The responses painted a broad

picture of resident's experiences on "living with the water." Additionally, questions were posed on ideas or suggestions for resilience/mitigation projects for the communities to provide an opportunity for public input on project identification and potential rankings.

It is noted that this effort was not conducted as a scientific survey. The survey, conducted within the accelerated timeframe of the CRMP, was open to the general public and thus was not intended to be representative of the specific population and demographics of the study area. Through additional targeted outreach another public survey should be developed to gather a more diverse and complete representative demographic, especially those in marginalized and underserved areas. These future efforts can be informed by the analysis of flood-exposed demographics produced through the Master Plan Technical Study.

Responses to this public survey are intended to be representative of an individual from the general public and are not intended to capture the views/positions of local government staff or representatives of localities, tribes, or organizations. A separate, centralized survey targeted toward PDCs, localities, tribes, and other organizations was developed separately, that captured more organizational level information. Please see the Virginia Coastal Resilience Plan - Centralized Stakeholder Survey Summary for further details.

## **1.2. SURVEY DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY**

The Public Stakeholder Survey was developed in close coordination with, and input from, the Secretary of Natural Resources (SNR), the Project Impact Assessment Team, and the Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Community Outreach Subcommittee. A comprehensive set of questions was developed to capture the information needs for each Team's unique goals.

The Secretariat provided valuable guidance on the nature of feedback the Secretary, and the Commonwealth in general, were seeking from the public. Questions included the perceived community-level impacts due to sea level rise in the next 20-40 years; flood-related impacts or lack of safe access to public services, utilities, or infrastructure; and framing equity-based questions.

Questions developed to support the Impact Assessment Team's tasks included: the types of flood hazards residents experienced (tidal, riverine, stormwater, etc.), the kinds of damages faced; residents' experience with flood events in the Study Area; and projects that would be most effective (beach/dune restoration, property elevation/acquisitions, stormwater drainage, etc.) in their communities.

The Community Outreach Subcommittee provided input on questions such as: anticipated benefits to the local communities as a result of the CRMP; perceived challenges

or negative impacts to the community as a result of the CRMP; relocation; and the preferred outreach avenues for future correspondence. Additionally, the Outreach Subcommittee provided guidance on phrasing all questions in a concise, user-friendly manner for residents and business owners.

The Survey contained 28 questions; the first eight (8) included questions on demographics, to support tracking and documentation efforts. Not all questions were mandatory. Short form questions such as multiple choice or “select all that apply” were made mandatory, where long form or open-ended questions were made optional, to encourage participation. Issues related to completing responses to open-ended questions on a cellular or small screen device, were taken into consideration. The Survey was designed to take approximately 10 minutes to complete and is compatible with laptop, tablet, and cellular devices. A copy of the Survey is included as an Appendix to this document.

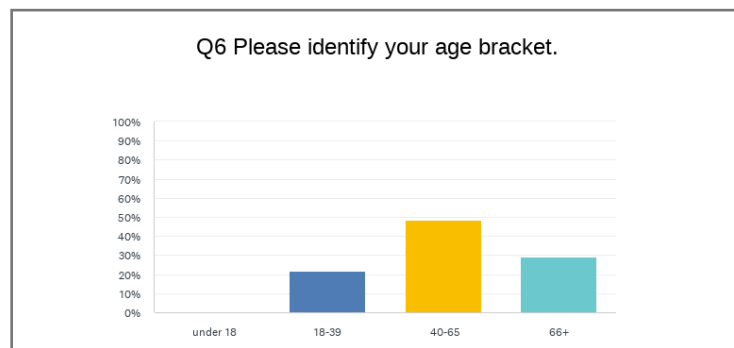
## 2. SURVEY PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

The first section of questions was designed to capture simple demographics on survey respondents. These demographics can help guide future outreach efforts. Targeted campaigns can be developed to focus on particular communities that were not well represented in these preliminary survey results. Users should have caution in generalizing the results of the survey to all the encompass geographics, especially where the survey does not capture feedback from a proportionally diverse set of residents,

Over 1,300 responses were received as of October 29, 2021. This represents approximately .02% of the total population living in the study area. In comparing the survey participant demographics against the people currently living in the study area, there is an underrepresentation of African American communities by fifteen percent (15%) and Asian communities by seven percent (7%). Future survey efforts should seek to capture these demographic groups through targeted survey distribution and outreach efforts.

### 2.1. AGE

For analysis purposes, respondents were asked to identify their age bracket. Approximately twenty-two percent (22%) indicated being between 18-39 years, forty-nine percent (49%) listed age 40-65, and thirty percent (30%) stated they were aged 66 or over. Two (2) respondents identified under the age of 18. For comparative purposes, the age breakdown in the study area is: persons 17 years of age or younger – twenty-three percent (23%); persons between: 17-65 – sixty-four percent (64%); and persons 65 years of age or older – thirteen percent (13%).

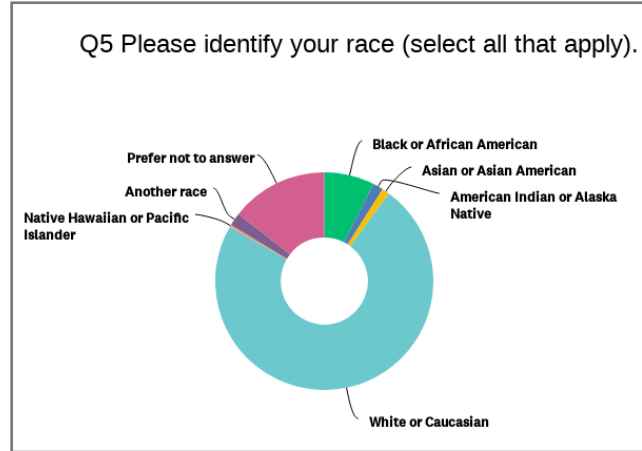


### 2.2. SEX

Fifty-three percent (53%) of respondents identified as Female, thirty-nine percent (39%) identified as Male, and eight percent (8%) preferred not to answer. Two (2) respondents identified as Intersex. As there is no data on the sex of individuals living in the study area, a comparison cannot be made.

### 2.3. RACE

The Commonwealth’s focus on Social Equity is centered on minority, traditionally underserved, and sovereign communities such as Native Tribal Lands. Of the over 1,300 respondents, an overwhelming seventy-three percent (73%) of respondents identified as Caucasian. Black or African American respondents made up seven percent (7%) of the sample. Only two percent (2%) of individuals identified as Native American/Alaska Native, and Asian and Pacific Islander respondents made up a combined 1.4%. Two percent (2%) of respondents identified as “Another Race” and fourteen percent (14%) preferred not to answer. For comparison, the racial demographics in the study area are as follows: Black or African American – twenty-two percent (22%); Caucasian – sixty-one percent (61%); Asian – eight percent (8%); Native American/Alaska Native – three percent (3%); Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander – less than one percent (.08 %), and three percent (3%) identify as Other.



### 2.4. LOCATION

To focus the survey on residents in Coastal Virginia, respondents were first asked if they lived or worked in the Study Area, so that only those who did, would proceed through the questions. Over 1,150 respondents live and/or work in a coastal community, as identified in the study area map. Approximately 135 respondents stated they lived outside of the study area, which indicates that the survey’s distribution reached far inland.

Once responses were sorted to only include those in the study area, respondents were asked to identify the county/locality in which they reside. Over 47 counties/localities were represented, with predictable spikes in



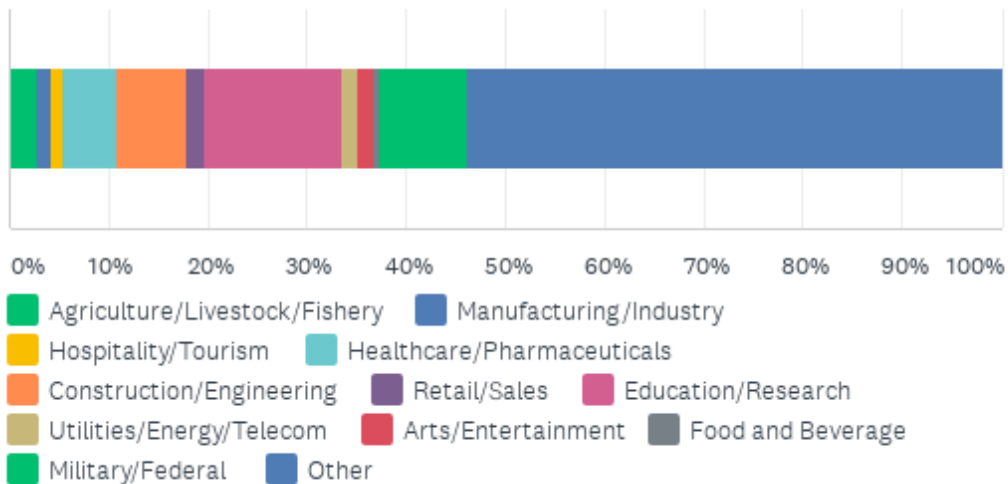
participation in Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Hampton, and Chesapeake. No participation was observed from Manassas Park City; at least one (1) response was received from the other localities.

## 2.5. OCCUPATION/INDUSTRY

In order to identify which businesses, industries, and economic sectors are represented by the public survey results, respondents were asked to identify their occupation by sector. The sector selections are the same as those used in the Centralized Survey to estimate potential impacts from coastal hazards. They include:

- Agriculture/Livestock/Fishery
- Manufacturing/Industry
- Hospitality/Tourism
- Healthcare/Pharmaceuticals
- Construction/Engineering
- Retail/Sales
- Education/Research
- Utilities/Energy/Telecom
- Arts/Entertainment
- Food and Beverage
- Military/Federal
- Other

### Q8 Please identify your occupation.



Fourteen percent (14%) of respondents identified as Education/Research, nine percent (9%) as Military or Federal, five percent (5%) as Healthcare/Pharmaceuticals, and eight percent (8%) as Construction/Engineering professionals. An overwhelming fifty-three (53%) of



respondents identified as “Other,” in that they did not identify themselves with the options provided. By including additional options, a more accurate picture of the respondents’ background may be captured. The occupational sectors used in this survey are based on general Industry Sectors; future surveys may include the following additional sectors:

- Banking/Finance
- Transportation (Air, Rail, Shipping, etc.)
- Advertising/Marketing
- Consulting (Strategy, Management, Planning, etc.)
- Data/Information Technology/Computer Science
- Retired
- Student

## 3. FINDINGS/KEY THEMES

### 3.1. PERCEPTIONS ON FLOOD RISK

Respondents were asked how much of a risk they felt flooding posed to their community currently and , in the next 20-40 years, given climate change and rising sea levels.

Over thirty-five percent (35%) of respondents stated flooding is currently a “serious challenge,” and over nineteen percent (19%) stated that it is an “extreme challenge.” Looking forward to the next 20-40 years, twenty-nine percent (29%) foresee that flooding will be a “serious challenge,” and fifty-one percent (51%) of respondents believe that it will be an “extreme challenge.”

Additionally, individuals were asked if they had seen a change in flood activity throughout their time living in coastal Virginia. An overwhelming seventy-seven percent (77%) stated they had witnessed an increase in flooding issues. Sixteen percent (16%) stated they had not witnessed any change in flood conditions.

This effort is only representative of those individuals who completed the survey, and not representative of the actual demographics in the study area. The findings here must be viewed as providing a general pulse on the study area, and not a comprehensive survey of the affected populations. The results may have been different if a targeted survey was completed specifically in underrepresented or marginalized communities. It is recommended that a survey tailored specifically for underserved communities be developed for future outreach efforts. This will allow the Commonwealth to have a better perspective of the challenges faced by at-risk residents in those communities.

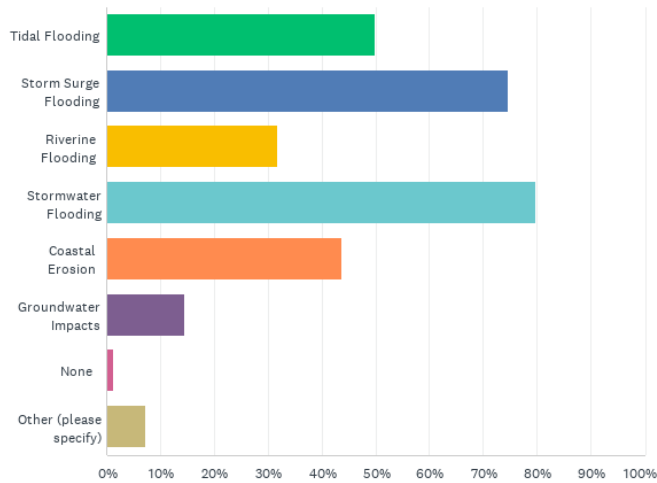
### 3.2. EXPERIENCES WITH FLOODING

Residents and business owners were asked questions regarding the kind of hazards witnessed in their community. More than one flood type could be selected.

Eighty percent (80%) of responses included stormwater flooding, and seventy-five percent (75%) reported storm surge flooding. Fifty percent (50%) of the responses included tidal flooding, and forty-three percent (43%) included coastal erosion. Riverine flooding was included in thirty-two percent (32%) of responses, and groundwater impacts were included in fifteen percent (15%) of responses. One percent (1%) of responses indicated they had not witnessed any flooding hazards in their communities.

Additionally, respondents were provided an open text box to provide additional examples of flooding hazards. These comments reflected similar themes throughout the 76 responses, which are captured in the table below. The full responses are included in the Appendix.

Q12 What type of flooding hazards have you witnessed in your community?

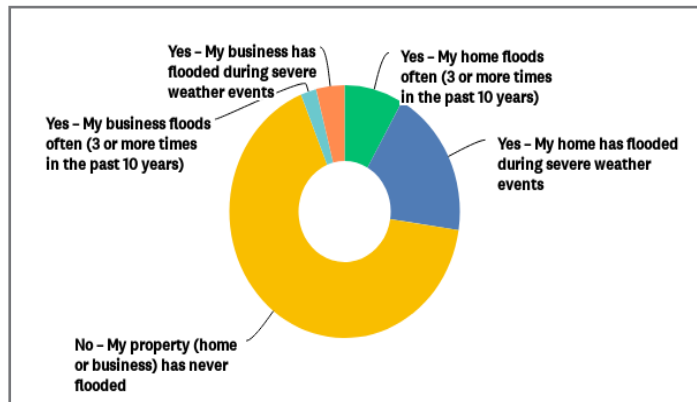


Key Theme	Frequency
All of the above	1
Extreme storms	3
Construction Caused	8
Flash Floods	2
Rainfall	5

Key Theme	Frequency
Land Subsidence	3
Wind Driven	5
Farmland/Marsh/Tree Loss	13
Drainage	14
Shoreline Erosion	1

Respondents were then asked if their home and/or business had ever flooded from major storm events or nuisance flooding.

Over sixty-six percent (66%) of respondents stated their home/business had never flooded, nineteen percent (19%) of homeowners and four (4%) of business owners stated they had experienced a flood 1-2 times in the past ten years, and eight percent (8%) of homeowners and 2 percent (2%) of business owners indicated they had experienced more than three (3) floods in the past ten years.

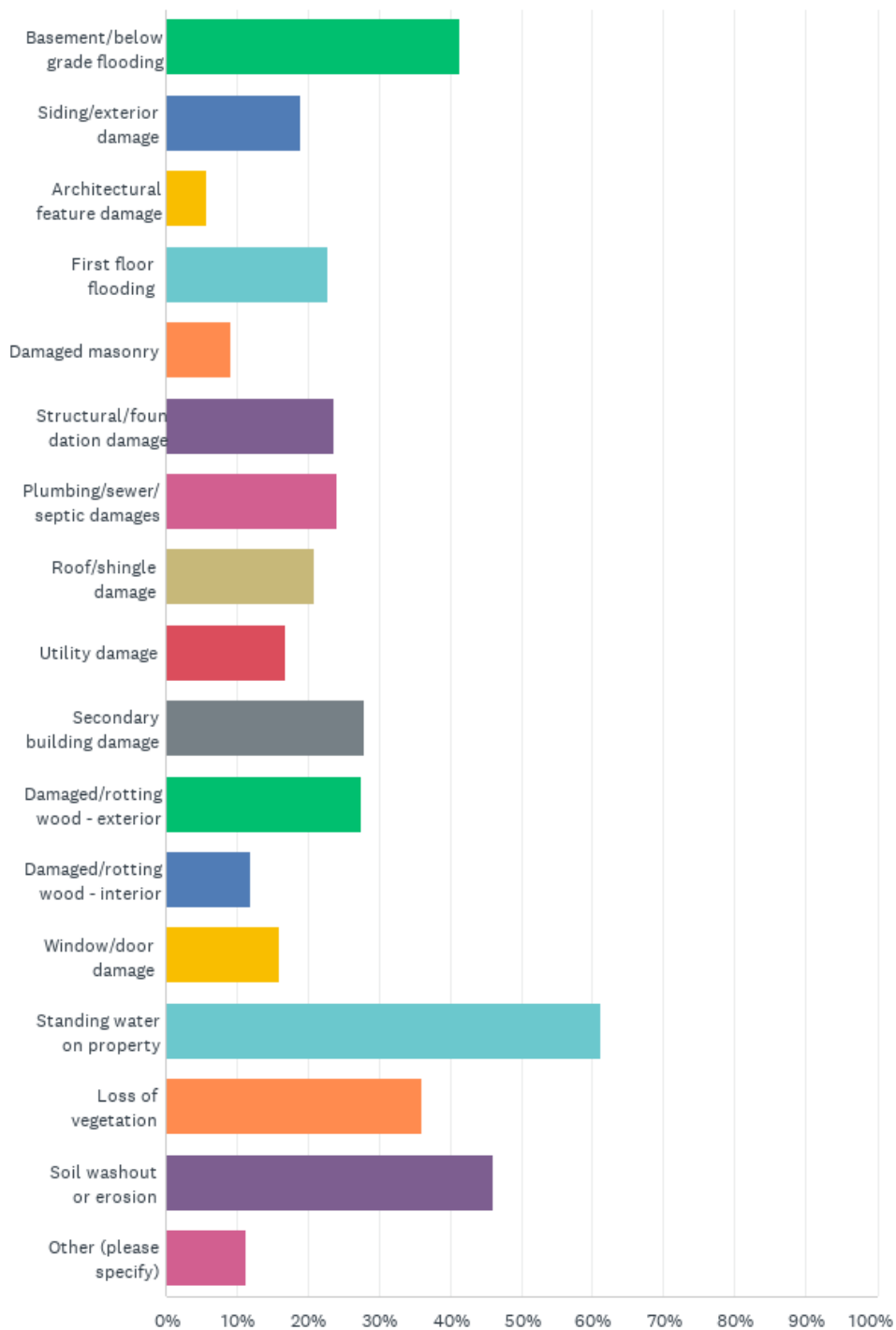


Respondents were then asked to identify the kind of damages they had most frequently experienced from a flood event. Respondents were invited to select all damage types that apply. Selections included:

- Basement/below grade flooding
- Siding/exterior damage
- Architectural feature damage (spires, lintels, cornices, railings)
- Finished (or first) floor flooding
- Damaged Masonry (fireplace, stairs)
- Structural or Foundation Damage
- Plumbing, sewer, or septic damages, issues, or challenges
- Roof/shingle damage
- Utility damage (hvac, electrical, natural gas)
- Damage to secondary buildings (shed, garage, boat house)
- Damaged/rotting wood features (exterior)
- Damaged/rotting wood features (interior)
- Window/Door damage
- Standing water on property (around buildings)
- Loss of vegetation (trees, shrubs, gardens)
- Soil washout or erosion

Over sixty-one percent (61%) of residents have experienced standing water on their properties, forty-six percent (46%) reported seeing soil washout or erosion, and thirty-six percent (36%) reporting the loss of vegetation. Forty-one percent (41%) of responses included basement flooding, twenty-four percent (24%) percent reported structural or foundation damages, twenty-three percent (23%) of responses indicated first floor flooding, and twenty-four percent (24%) of responses show plumbing, sewer, or septic damages, issues, or challenges. Additionally, over twenty-seven percent (27%) percent of responses indicate damaged/rotting wood features on buildings (exterior) and damage to secondary buildings such as sheds and boat houses, and twenty percent (20%) of responses indicated roof and shingle damage.

# Q14 What type of property damage have you experienced after a flood event?



Additionally, Respondents were provided an open text box to provide other, or additional examples of flooding damages they had experienced not represented in the categories above. These comments reflected similar themes to those listed above throughout the 39 responses. However, some new or uncategorized damages are captured and listed in the table below. Full responses are included in the Appendix.

Key Theme	Frequency
Bulkhead Damage	1
Dune Loss	1
Mold/Mildew	1
Debris/Trash Deposits	1
Street Flooding	5
Fence Damage	1
Vehicle Damage	3

Respondents were provided an opportunity to report any other negative impacts as a result of flooding events. Sample categories were provided, as well as an open text box for other impacts. Respondents were invited to select all damage types that apply. Sample impacts included:

Damage to transportation networks (e.g., flooded roadways, closure of public transportation systems, transportation delays)

- Loss of electricity
- Lack of access to clean drinking water
- Injury, illness, and/or concerns for personal safety
- Limited access to services (e.g., closure of hospitals, schools, government offices)
- Damage to personal possessions (including vehicles)
- Sewer overflows
- Inability to perform work duties
- I have not experienced any negative impacts as a result of flooding or a coastal hazard event.

Seventy-three percent (73%) of responses reported impacts to transportation networks, fifty-four percent (54%) reported loss of electric utilities, and over twenty-six percent (26%) reported limited access to services (e.g., closure of hospitals, schools, and government offices). Twenty-two percent (22%) of responses reported damage to personal possessions, and eighteen percent (18%) of responses indicated experiencing sewer overflow. Eleven percent (11%) of responses indicated that no negative impacts were encountered.

Additionally, respondents were provided an open text box to provide other, or additional examples of flooding impacts they had experienced, not represented in the categories above. These comments reflected similar themes to those listed above and in previous questions throughout the 71 responses. However, some new or uncategorized impacts are captured and listed in the table below. Full responses are included in the Appendix.

Key Theme	Frequency
Phone/Landlines Loss	2
Cove/Water Feature Impacts	3
Pier/Bulkhead/Riprap Damage	3
Salt/Brine Intrusion	2
Vibrio/E.Coli/Water Borne Illness	1
Mental Health/Anxiety	2
Debris/Trash Deposits	2
Evacuation	2
Agricultural/Crop Damage	2
Swimming Pool Damage	1

Respondents were asked if they currently had any prevention or mitigation measures in place on their properties. Sample categories were provided, as well as an open text box for other impacts. Respondents were invited to select all mitigation measures that apply. Sample measures included:

- Elevation of property and utilities
- Use of flood-resistant materials (e.g., using tile in place of carpet)
- Floodproofing of property, including basements
- Installation of flood vents
- Installation of a sump pump
- Use of flood-resistant insulation
- Installation of a sewer-backflow valve
- Use of reinforced caulking of windows and doors
- My property does not have measures in place to prevent or reduce flooding and/or future damage.

Fifty percent (50%) of respondents indicated that they did not have any preventive or mitigating measures in place on their properties. Nineteen percent (19%) of responses indicated elevation of property and utilities, sixteen percent (16%) of responses indicated

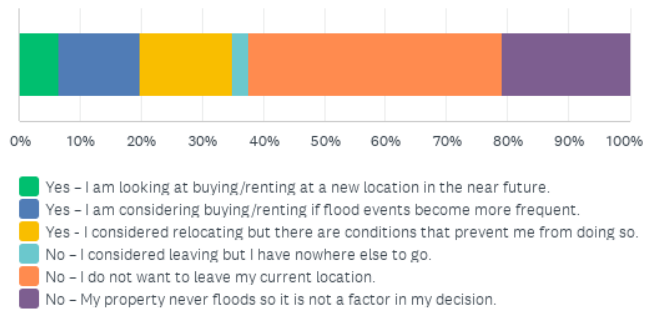
the installation of a sump pump, and thirteen percent (13%) of responses reported the use of flood-resistant materials (e.g., using tile in place of carpet) in the building.

Additionally, respondents were provided an open text box to provide other, or additional examples of flood prevention or mitigation measures they have in place, not represented in the categories above. These comments reflected similar themes to those listed above and in previous questions throughout the 145 responses. However, some new or uncategorized considerations are captured and listed in the table below. Full responses are included in the Appendix.

Key Theme	Frequency
Lack of Financial Resources	4
Green Solutions (rain garden, planting trees, naturalization, etc.)	23
French Drains	11
Berms/Ditches/Swales	5
Sandbagging	7
Generator Usage (for sump pumps)	4
Permeable pavers	3
Seawall/Riprap	2
Water Collection (rain barrels/cisterns)	3
Flood Insurance	4
Public Education	2
Lawn Grading/Drainage	5
Soil Replenishment/Fill	2

Finally, respondents were asked if they had ever considered moving to another location (inside or outside of Coastal Virginia) to avoid future flood losses, impacts, or damage. Forty-two percent (42%) indicated they did not want to leave their

current area, twenty-one percent (21%) stated their property does not flood, so it is not a factor. Thirteen (13%) percent stated they are considering buying/renting at a new location in the future if flood events become more frequent, and over six (6%) percent stated they are looking to relocate to a new location due to flooding. Fifteen percent (15%) of the respondents indicated that they have considered relocating but have conditions that are preventing them from doing so, and three percent (3%) of respondents indicated that they considered leaving but have nowhere else to go.





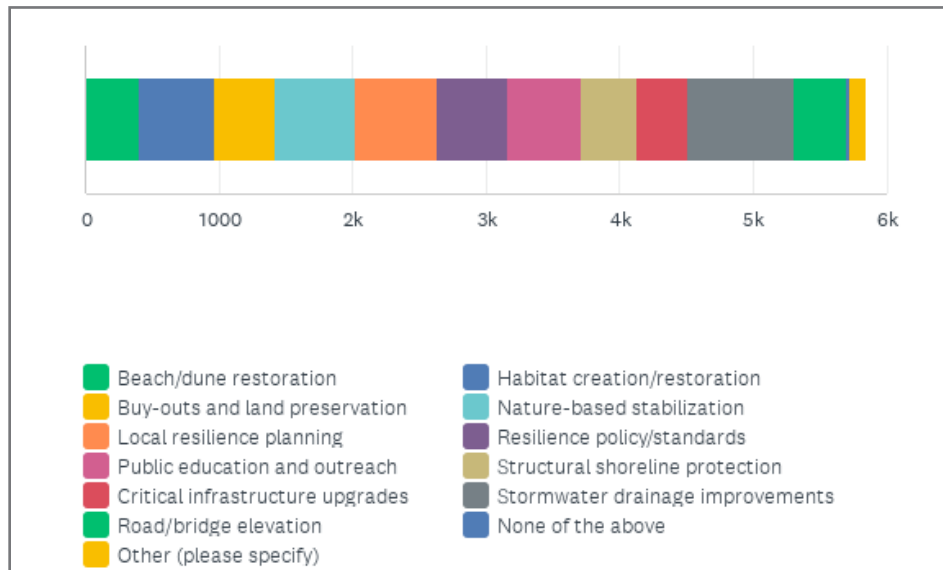
### **3.3. RESILIENCE AND MITIGATION PROJECT SUGGESTIONS**

Respondents were provided a selection of project types and asked if they believed any would provide benefits to their community. Respondents were invited to select all project types that apply. Selections included:

- Beach and dune restoration
- Habitat creation and restoration
- Property buy-outs and land preservation
- Nature-based shoreline stabilization
- Local resilience planning (including climate change plans, sea-level change restrictions, etc.)
- Resilience policy and development standards
- Public education and outreach
- Structural shoreline protection (including floodwalls, levees, tide gates, etc.)
- Critical infrastructure upgrades (including hospitals, police and fire stations, nursing homes, etc.)
- Stormwater drainage improvements
- Road/bridge elevation
- None of the above

Eighty-one percent (81%) of the responses included stormwater drainage improvements as recommended projects. Sixty-one percent (61%) indicated that local resilience planning (including climate change plans and sea-level change restrictions) and fifty-three percent (53%) suggested that resilience policy and development standards would be effective projects. Sixty-one percent (61%) of responses included nature-based shoreline stabilization, forty-two percent (42%) included structural shoreline protection (including floodwalls, levees, tide gates, etc.), and forty-five percent (45%) included property buy-outs and land preservation. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of the responses included habitat creation

and restoration, fifty-six percent (56%) included public education and outreach, and forty-one percent (41%) included beach and dune restoration as beneficial projects.



Additionally, respondents were provided an open text box to provide other, or additional examples of Projects, not represented in the categories above. These comments reflected similar themes to those listed above and in previous questions throughout the 124 responses. However, some new or uncategorized considerations are captured and listed in the table below. Full responses are included in the Appendix.

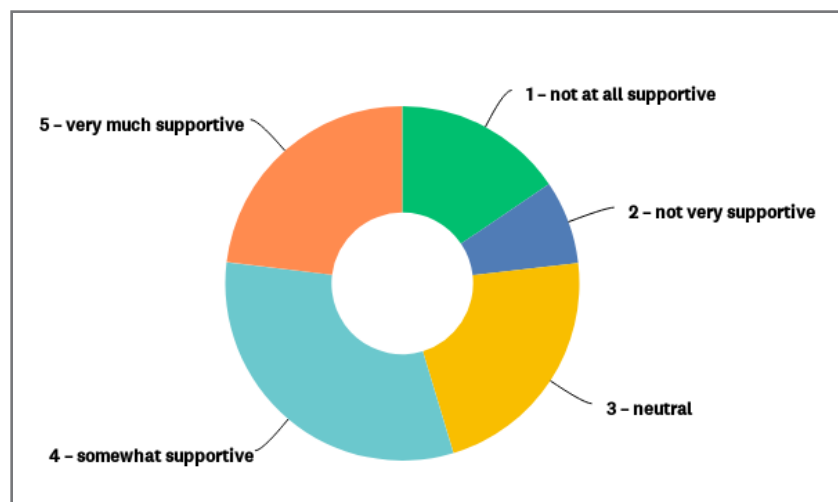
Key Theme	Frequency
All of the Above	2
Development/Building Moratorium	17
Installation/Use of Permeable Hard Surfaces	4
Building Code Changes	5
Funding Assistance to Property Owners	2
Dredging	6
Community-Wide Pump Stations	3
Real Estate Sale Disclosures	2

Finally, respondents were asked for any final ideas for projects that may help reduce flooding in their community not represented in the categories or questions above. Respondents were provided an open text box to provide additional examples of flood prevention or mitigation projects. These comments reflected similar themes to those listed above and in previous questions throughout the 506 responses. However, some new or uncategorized considerations are captured and listed in the table below. Full responses are included in the Appendix.

Key Theme	Frequency
Windmills	1
Managed Retreat	2
Non-Repayable Grants To Homeowners For Mitigation/Prevention Measures	8
Water Retention Incentives For Homeowners	6
Developer Liability Laws/Fines	7
Above-Ground Storm Runoff Infrastructure (Aqueducts/Reservoirs)	5
Harsh Penalties For Dune Damages From Tourists	1
Fines to Business/Property Owners for Not Keeping Storm Drains Clear of Debris/Trash/Litter	3
Detailed Flood Mapping Products	2
Off-Shore Artificial Reefs and/or Breakwaters	5
Model Actions After Netherlands Efforts	3
Beaver Population Monitoring/Trapping	4
Greater Military/Federal Cooperation	1
Floodwalls and Tide Gates	2
Mandatory School Science Curricula that Include Weather, Climate Change, and Earth Science	1
Carbon Sequestration	3
Decreased dependence on fossil fuels	1

Respondents were asked if they would support a special benefit assessment charge to fund flooding and sea level rise projects in their community. A “special benefit assessment” is a charge or fee introduced by localities/municipalities and imposed on owners of properties that particularly benefit from a public improvement project.

Twenty-three percent (23%) of respondents were “not at all” or “not very” supportive of the charge. Twenty-two percent (22%) identified as “neutral,” and fifty-five percent (55%) were “somewhat supportive” or “very much supportive” of the fee.

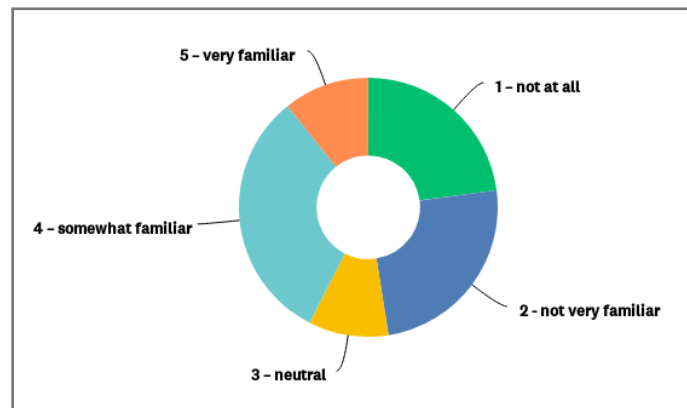


## 4. PLANNING AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION

In order to have a “pulse” on the Commonwealth and SNR’s outreach efforts regarding the CRMP, respondents were asked about their familiarity with both the CRMP and other local flood planning efforts.

### 4.1. COMMONWEALTH PLANNING EFFORTS

Of the 960 responses to this question, forty-eight percent (48%) stated they were “not at all” or “not very” familiar with the CRMP project prior to taking the survey. Only eleven percent (11%) stated that they were “very familiar” with the project, with remaining forty-one percent (41%) or respondents falling into the “neutral” or “somewhat familiar” categories.



### 4.2. LOCAL PLANNING EFFORTS

In order to provide a comparison for the CRMP awareness efforts, respondents were asked to identify if they were familiar with any county or local planning efforts to address flooding issues. Forty-nine percent (49%) of respondents stated that they were not aware of any planning efforts underway to address coastal hazards and flooding in their area. Sixteen percent (16%) of the respondents stated they were actively involved in the planning process at the local level, and thirty-five percent (35%) of the respondents indicated that they are aware of local planning efforts but not actively participating.

### 4.3. CRMP PROJECT PERCEPTIONS

Respondents were asked if they foresaw the CRMP project providing benefits to their communities. Thirty-seven percent (37%) of respondents saw the project as being “very beneficial,” and thirty-one percent (31%) saw it as being somewhat beneficial. Eleven percent (11%) of respondents reported either “not at all” or “not very” beneficial, and twenty-one percent (21%) were neutral.

### 4.3.1. BENEFITS – PERCEIVED POSITIVE IMPACTS

Respondents were then asked about the type of benefits they hoped to see to their community as a result of the CRMP. The table below highlights key themes encountered throughout public responses. Full responses are included in the Appendix.

Key Theme
Awareness/Education
Protect Life/Property
Resilience/Sustainability
Protected Infrastructure
Better Planning/Zoning
Prevention/Mitigation
Economic Growth/Resilience
Global Warming/Climate Change/Sea Level Rise
Better Community/City/State Cooperation

Key Theme
Environmental Benefits/Stewardship
Historic Preservation
Reduced New Building/Development
Nature Based Solutions
Additional Funding
Quality of Life
Equity/Environmental Justice
Managed Retreat/Relocation
Reduced Inconvenience from Street Closures

### 4.3.2. CONCERNS – PERCEIVED NEGATIVE IMPACTS

Respondents were asked about potentially negative impacts to their community as a result of the Project. The table below highlights key themes encountered throughout public responses. Full responses are included in the Appendix.

Key Theme
Lack of funding, or money would be spent elsewhere, instead of where it is needed most.
If solutions are not implemented soon after recommendations are made, no actions will be taken or the implementation of projects will move too slowly and the situation will get worse and require more resources.
Increased taxes on residents who already pay high taxes due to their location without seeing the benefits of projects in the community.
Actions may not be implemented in a timely manner.
Structural solutions can be destructive or may not be in the best interest of the community
Any actions will be outdated in a few years and it would be more cost effective to retreat from flood prone areas instead of trying to remain.
Negative impacts the projects might have on wildlife and the natural environment.

Key Theme
Governments could begin over-regulating private property.
Distrust of local governments to take the proper follow through steps, to use the funds for the projects appropriately, and to implement the projects where they will be of most benefit.
Social and political divides in the communities where these projects will be implemented might impact the progression of these projects.
Lack of focus on implementation over constant Planning.
Inadequate funding sources to implement suggested mitigation solutions.
Only affluent communities will see the benefits of these projects, and that low- or fixed-income communities would be treated unequally.
Traffic-related disruptions created due to project development.

Key Theme	Key Theme
Lack of updated flood maps and data that accurately measure increased rainfall and flooding to create meaningful solutions.	Underserved populations and equity concerns will not be appropriately addressed and cause the inequitable implementation of mitigation solutions
Risk of socializing the costs while privatizing the benefits.	Over-development is the root cause of flooding issues.
Critical improvements to stormwater drainage and sewer systems that might not be addressed in the CRMP.	Uncertainty involving whether the costs associated with the projects will outweigh the benefits.
Too much on engineering solutions and not enough on adaptation.	Costs will be shifted to the homeowners or actions cause low resale values.

#### 4.4. POTENTIAL STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Respondents were asked if they knew of any local or community groups or organizations, that they feel the Commonwealth should coordinate with, to promote the CRMP Project, or similar flooding and resilience projects in the future. Respondents were given an open-ended text box and asked to provide the group/organizations name, website, and a contact person/email, if possible. Suggestions spanned the gamut from federal and state agencies, to local HOAs and even individuals requesting to stay updated on the project. The table below provides a listing of these recommendations, including contact information where provided, and the number of times the group/organization was suggested, and have been sorted by type. The complete listing, including notes and comments, can be found in the Appendix.

- Federal Agencies
- State Agencies/Organizations
- County/Local Agencies
- Businesses
- University/Academic
- NGOs and Community Associations/Organizations
- Individuals
- General

Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency	Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency
<b>Federal/Tribal Agencies</b>			<b>State Agencies/Organizations</b>		
FBI			VDOT		2
Langley AFB	Matthew Weldon, matthew.weldon@us.af.mil		Virginia Department of Forestry - Coastal Forest Resilience		
US Navy			Virginia Aquarium		
USACE			Virginia Sea Grant	<a href="https://vaseagrant.org">https://vaseagrant.org</a>	3
USCG					
NOAA		2	Virginia Environmental Justice Collaborative		
Chickahominy Indian Tribe - Eastern Division EPA Officer		9	VA DWR Waterfowl Biologist		
Warren Taylor, Pamunkey Indian Tribe	Natural Resources. Email - <a href="mailto:warren.taylor@pamunkey.org">warren.taylor@pamunkey.org</a> - <a href="https://pamunkey.org">https://pamunkey.org</a>				
<b>County/Local Agencies</b>			<b>County/Local Agencies</b>		
City Governments		10	Virginia Living Museum		
Police/Fire/Ems Agencies		2	Reston Association		
Local Emergency Management Mitigation Offices			City of Fairfax		
Public Services			Citizens For A Better Eastern Shore		2
Kyle Spencer, City of Norfolk's Deputy Resilience Officer	<a href="mailto:kyle.spencer@norfolk.gov">kyle.spencer@norfolk.gov</a>		ECO District Hampton Roads Center for Sustainable Communities		
Parksley Town Council	Town of Parksley, Mayor Frank Russell, <a href="mailto:frussell@parksley.org">frussell@parksley.org</a>	2	Department of Defective Housing and Environmental Policy		
Alexandria Environmental policy commission	Kathie Hoekstra, chair @ <a href="mailto:391deltacharlie@gmail.com">391deltacharlie@gmail.com</a>		York County Planning Dept & Commission		
Newport News Waterworks			Resort Advisory Commission		
Lancaster County			Pughsville Civic League		
Environmental Council Of Alexandria			Chesapeake Environmental Improvement Council		
Norfolk Office of Resiliency			Clean City Commissions		
Public Works			Northumberland Association Of Progressive Stewardship,		

Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency	Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency
<b>County/Local Agencies</b>			<b>County/Local Agencies</b>		
Fairfax County Office Of Environmental And Energy Coordination	Allison Homer allison.homer@fairfaxcounty.gov		City of Hampton Clean City Commission	C'Faison Harris, 757-727-1130, 1296 Thomas Street, Hampton 23669, hampton.gov/hccc	
Downtown Hampton			King George Service Authority		
Water Board			RVAgreen2050	Virginia Commonwealth University	
Planning And Zoning		3	LWVSHR		
Boards Of Supervisors		2	Protect Hanover		
Back Bay Federal & with NE Coastal NC/Currituck County/Knotts Island			Departments of Human Services		
Local Mathews County government officials			King George Community Development		
Mathews Land Conservatory			Virginia Beach City Council		
Gloucester county supervisors			Norfolk City Government		
City of Petersburg			York County Board of Supervisors		
Town Councils; -Kilmarnock -White Stone -Irvington			Lancaster County; -Board of Supervisors -Planning Commission -Wetlands Board		
County Board Of Supervisors		3	GFACA Board Of Directors		
City of Virginia Beach Public Works Department		2	The Environmental Quality Advisory Council, Fairfax County		
School Division - Brock Center Environmental Studies Program			The Town of Chincoteague. Mayor and Town Council	6150 Community Drive Chincoteague Island, VA 23336	
New Kent County			Virginia Chesapeake Conservation		
City of Hampton Resiliency Officer	Carolyn Heaps, 757-728-5221, carolyn.heaps@hampton.gov		The Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee (ESRNWC)		
DHCD			TCC		
<b>University/Academic</b>			<b>Businesses</b>		
VWU			Dominion Electric		
University of Mary Washington			Atlantic Coast Pipeline		
George Mason University			Mountain Valley Pipeline		
NSU			Silver Beach Va. LLC		



Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency	Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency
<b>University/Academic</b>			<b>Businesses</b>		
Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve		2	Omega Protein (Largest Employer In The County)		
ODU			Hanover magazine		
VIMS	Labs at VIMS - <a href="https://www.vims.edu/ccrm/">https://www.vims.edu/ccrm/</a>	6	VAMercantile.Com	vamercantile@gmail.com, Owner: Robin Moser	
Norfolk State			Building Resilient Solutions	www.brs.llc	
			Oyster/Seafood House Owners		
<b>NGOs and Community Associations/Organizations</b>			<b>NGOs and Community Associations/Organizations</b>		
Audubon			The Willoughby Civic League		
Conservation International			Chesapeake Citizens Coalition	Facebook	
Nature Conservancy		2	NRHA		
ERP			Del Ray Citizens Association	<a href="https://delraycitizens.org/">https://delraycitizens.org/</a>	
EDF		3	The Spirit Of Newport News	Facebook	
HRSD			Back Bay Wildlife Society		
Chesapeake Bay Foundation		27	Arbor Day Foundation		
RISE			Newport News Green Foundation		
Hanover NAACP		2	Friends Of The Rappahannock		9
Nansemond River Preservation Alliance			Friends of the Lower Appomattox River		
NAACP Energy and Climate Leader			Friends Of Indian River	info@friendsofindianriver.org	2
Norfolk Master Gardener Association			VBCCO Virginia Beach Civic League Coalition		
Virginia Master Naturalists - Central Rappahannock Chapter	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/177327920476">https://www.facebook.com/groups/177327920476</a> - or <a href="http://masternaturalistcrc.blogspot.com/">http://masternaturalistcrc.blogspot.com/</a> ; Harry Puffenberger		Ghent Neighborhood League	Jeremy McGee, President. <a href="https://www.ghentneighborhoodleague.org/">https://www.ghentneighborhoodleague.org/</a>	
Virginia League Of Conservation Voters.	<a href="https://valcv.org/">https://valcv.org/</a> Carl Smith - csmithlcv@gmail.com		Norfolk Botanical Gardens,	Azalea Garden Road, Norfolk, VA 23518.	
Pungo Homeowners			Brigadoon Civic League.		
CNI Citizens Advisory Committee			NMG agent	Chris Eppes	
Grass Roots Community Group At Silver Beach (Exmore, VA)			Elizabeth River Project	<a href="https://elizabethriver.org">https://elizabethriver.org</a> <a href="mailto:cshaw@elizabethriver.org">cshaw@elizabethriver.org</a>	27

Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency	Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency
NGOs and Community Associations/Organizations			NGOs and Community Associations/Organizations		
Union Mission			Elizabeth River Trail Foundation		
Salvation Army			VCE Extension Agent		
The Mariners Museum in Newport News			Sandbridge Home Owners Association		3
Portsmouth Civic Leagues			Hilton Village		
Sharon Baptist Association			UU Church in Newport News		
Suffolk Interdenominational Ministers Alliance			Buckroe Improvement League	info@buckroimprovementleague.org	
Conserve York County Foundation.	Ron Struble - <a href="https://conserveyorkcounty.org/">https://conserveyorkcounty.org/</a>		Phoebus Community Enhancement Committee	Joe Griffith, Phoebus Neighborhood Commissioner <a href="http://www.phoebuslife.org">www.phoebuslife.org</a> info@phoebuslife.org	2
Norfolk Master Gardeners	nmgv.org		Save our Live Oaks		
Wetland Watch	Skip Stiles, Executive Director <a href="https://wetlandswatch.org/">https://wetlandswatch.org/</a> 2601 Granby Street Norfolk, VA 23517 757.621.1185	7	Virginia Beach Clean Community Commission:	Walter wtlegal-VBCCC@yahoo.com Camp or Kristy Rines (VB waste management) or possibly sdshinabarger@gmail.com	
Stop Flooding Now	<a href="http://www.stopthefloodingnow.com/">http://www.stopthefloodingnow.com/</a> stopthefloodingnow@outlook.com	5	Lafayette Wetlands Partnership		
LRNow			Lafayette River Now		
Coastal Virginia Unitarian Universalist	c-vuu.org - Bob Williams		Northampton Civic League	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Northampton-Civic-League-305899192241">https://www.facebook.com/Northampton-Civic-League-305899192241</a>	
City of Hampton Water Resource Engineer	Brian Lewis at blewis@hampton.gov.		York River Group of Sierra Club	<a href="https://www.sierraclub.org/virginia/york-river">https://www.sierraclub.org/virginia/york-river</a> , Tyla Matteson, Chair -- tmatteson1@mindspring.com, Robin van Tine, Environmental Justice Committee Chair - 8greatblue@gmail.com	
Citizens for a Better Eastern Shore	<a href="https://www.cbcs.org/index.html">https://www.cbcs.org/index.html</a> P.O. Box 882, 16388 Courthouse Road, Eastville, VA 23347 757-678-7157 info@cbcs.org		Lynnhaven River Now	Karen Forget, karen@lrnow.org <a href="http://www.lrnow.org">www.lrnow.org</a> or Jim Deppe (jim@lrnow.org)	21

Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency	Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency
<b>NGOs and Community Associations/Organizations</b>			<b>NGOs and Community Associations/Organizations</b>		
NAPS -- Northumberland Ass'n for Progressive Stewardship	<a href="https://www.napsva.org/">https://www.napsva.org/</a>		Ducks Unlimited		
Delta Waterfowl			Lynnhaven Citizens Association	in Alexandria	
Surfrider Foundation	<a href="https://www.surfrider.org/">https://www.surfrider.org/</a>	2	NSWC Dahlgren on the Potomac		
Norfolk Council Of Civic Leagues			James River Association	<a href="http://thejamesriver.org">thejamesriver.org</a>	
Virginia Beach Vision			Virginia Beach Tea Party		
West Park View Community League			Kiwanis Club Of Poquoson		
Croatan Civic Association (mike Kelly)			Larchmont-Edgewater Civic League	<a href="http://larchmontedgewater.org">http://larchmontedgewater.org</a>	4
Lynnhaven Colony Civic League	Dave Kromkowski - <a href="mailto:djkrom12@gmail.com">djkrom12@gmail.com</a>		Churchland Civic League	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/23703.Cchurchland/">https://www.facebook.com/23703.Cchurchland/</a>	
Tidewater Master Naturalists			Princess Anne Hills	<a href="mailto:President@pahills.org">President@pahills.org</a>	
Virginia Master Naturalists		2	Churchland Civic League	<a href="mailto:jclarke113@hotmail.com">jclarke113@hotmail.com</a>	
Middle Plantation Civic League	<a href="http://middleplantation.org">middleplantation.org</a>		Church Hill Association	<a href="http://Churchill.org">Churchill.org</a>	
ESVMG Master Gardeners Master Naturalists Museum of Chincoteague Island			Pughsville Civic League	Wayne White (President): <a href="mailto:wayneqwhite@charter.net">wayneqwhite@charter.net</a> and Pamela Brandy (Vice-President): <a href="mailto:pb5016@yahoo.com">pb5016@yahoo.com</a>	
Virginia Beach Vision	Martha McClees (Exec Dir)		Grandview Islanders LLC.	Mr. Richard Boncal, <a href="mailto:Rboncal2@gmail.com">Rboncal2@gmail.com</a>	
Civic Leadership Institute	Amasa Smith		Grandview Beach Partners		
Virginia Organizing,			Windsor Woods		
The Siesta Club			Broad Bay Colony civic league		
The New Majority			Bay Island Colony civic league		
Keep Virginia Beach Above water			Alexandria City Civic Associations		
Fairfax County Federation Of Citizens Associations	Flint Webb, PE, Environment Committee Co-chair ( <a href="mailto:Environment@fairfaxfederation.org">Environment@fairfaxfederation.org</a> )		Williamsburg JCC Indivisible	Heather Meaney-Allen, <a href="mailto:WilliamsburgJCCIndivisible@gmail.com">WilliamsburgJCCIndivisible@gmail.com</a>	2
GFCACA Member Association.	Vice president - <a href="mailto:Mayfield.meghan@gmail.com">Mayfield.meghan@gmail.com</a>		Shore Drive Community Coalition	<a href="mailto:Todd@SDCC.info">Todd@SDCC.info</a>	
CE&H Heritage Civic League	<a href="mailto:ceh.civicleague@gmail.com">ceh.civicleague@gmail.com</a>		Falls of the James Sierra Club group - Falls of the James Group Advocacy Committee	Lee Williams at James River Association- Main telephone: (804) 788-8811 <a href="mailto:info@thejamesriver.org">info@thejamesriver.org</a>	

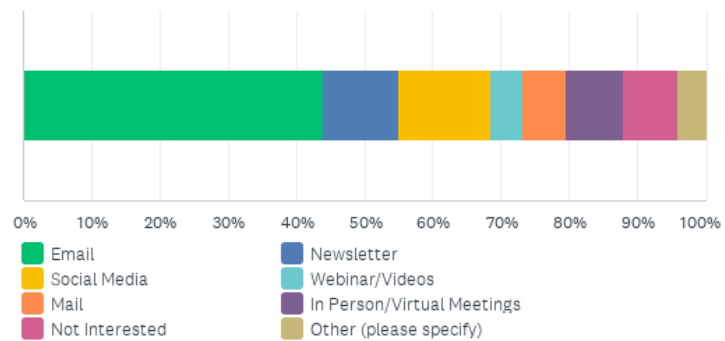
Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency	Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency
<b>NGOs and Community Associations/Organizations</b>			<b>NGOs and Community Associations/Organizations</b>		
Greater Chuckatuck Civic League	President: Roosevelt Jones RooseveltJones1941@gmail.com		<a href="https://www.smarter safer.org/aboutus/coalition/">https://www.smarter safer.org/aboutus/coalition/</a>		
VOICE			Bellamy Woods Civic League		
Mothers Out Front		4	Master Gardeners		
Sierra Club	<a href="https://www.sierraclub.org/virginia/ork-river">https://www.sierraclub.org/virginia/ork-river</a>	12	Virginia Environmental Justice Collaborative		
SAVE Coalition	stophip.org		Guinea Heritage Association	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/GuineaHeritage">https://www.facebook.com/GuineaHeritage</a>	
League of Women Voters of South Hampton Roads		2	Sandbridge Civic League		3
CCAN - Chesapeake Climate Action Network		4	Master Naturalists	<a href="http://www.virginiamasternaturalist.org">http://www.virginiamasternaturalist.org</a> - Michelle Prysby	5
Hoffler Creek Wildlife Preserve	Ashley Morgan, Executive Director ashley.morgan@hofflercreek.org		tHRive - Young Professional Organization	info@ypthrive.org	3
Trail Club			Island Community House	Cindy Faith cndy_fth@yahoo.com	
Sunrise Movement			Beta Clubs		
Brandermill Community Association	bca@brandermill.com		Redville Fisherman's Museum		
Native Plant Society			FOLAR		2
Ocean Park Civic League			Brown Grove community		
Coalition for Hanover's Future	hanoversfuture.org		Virginia Green New Deal		
Cameron Foundation			Virginia Waterfowlers Association		
Buckroe Improvement League			<a href="https://coastalcare.org/">https://coastalcare.org/</a>		
Greater First Baptist Church - Orlando	Located in Suffolk		President of the sustainability team at HRSD	Jon Nelson jnelson@hrsdc.com	
JRA			NAPS		
<b>General</b>			<b>Individuals</b>		
Local Civic Leagues		9	wileenlord2@verizon.net		
Local Eco-Clubs Or Organizations			babacon46@gmail.com		
Local League Of Women Voters			Dustin Cox	Dustin.l.cox1986@gmail.com	
Local Commercial Fishermen Groups			Tyla Matteson, Chair York River Group	tmatteson1@mindspring.com (H) 804-275-6476	
Local Gardening Clubs			Angela Buckner	AngelaBuckner@mjsynergy.net	

Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency	Group/Organization	Contact Information	Frequency
<b>General</b>			<b>Individuals</b>		
Wildlife and Bird Enthusiasts			Wayne White	wayneqwhite@charter.net	
Development Groups that Just Want to Build Everywhere			Garry Harris - Center for Sustainable Communities	404-936-0620 Garry Harris - CSC HR	
Local Churches		12	Guss K.	Guss_k@hotmail.com	
Local Libraries			Paul Fransisco	Email: Rrfarmyard@Aol.Com	
Local Schools/Universities		13	<a href="https://drainalx.wixsite.com/website">https://drainalx.wixsite.com/website</a>	Twitter - @DrainALX	
Local Radio/News Papers			Mayor Denise Drewer		
Farmers (Small & Large)		2	Valerie Butler, Town Council Member	757-651-7521	2
Local Public Housing Residents Associations			Dr. Hans-Peter Plag	The Mitigation And Adaptation Research Institute (MARI)	
HOAs		7	Markiella A. Moore - Council appointed Stormwater Committee Member	markiella@verizon.net and Council appointed NEMAC member	2
Scout packs and troops		2	Greta Thunberg Or Leo		
Masons and Shriners		2			
Kayak clubs					
Running Clubs					
Aquia Supervisors					
Recreational Boaters					
Extension Agencies					
Nextdoor		3			
Soil and water districts		2			
Tourism Groups					
Legal Aid Organizations					
Insurance Agencies					

## 4.5. FUTURE OUTREACH PREFERENCES

In order to tailor future outreach efforts, and to target those avenues or platforms residents most wish to use, respondents were asked how they would like the Commonwealth to communicate with them or to reach out to their communities regarding this project or on similar projects in the future. Forty-four (44%) of respondents indicated they preferred email for receiving information. Thirteen (13%) preferred social media, while eleven (11%) percent chose a newsletter format.

Additionally, respondents were provided an “other” option, to include their own suggestions. Twenty-two of the 40 comments left indicated either “all of the above” or a combination of three or more outlets. Additional suggestions are included in the table below.



Website information. Any "newsletter" information can be posted to an actual website.	Through local town councils and churches ....schools... etc. really grassroots information.
Newspaper articles and local TV coverage.	The Newspaper: The Virginian-Pilot, The Daily Press, etc.
Inexpensive virtual messages that lead to structured in-person workgroups with community input.	Email is OK, but avoid social media; it has effectively trained most users to believe what they see on social media if they agree with it, and to otherwise ignore it.
Virtual meetings, not in person meetings.	Post bulletins at local post offices and libraries. They are the social centers of our rural community.
Webinars through Virginia APA.	

## 4.6. CLOSING REMARKS

Respondents were provided a final opportunity to provide open, candid comments on the CRMP project, the survey, flooding issues, outreach, or other related topics before closing the survey. Over 360 individual responses were received. While the majority of feedback was positive, some respondents were critical of the Commonwealth, Local governments, the Plan, and mitigation or Resilience efforts. These closing comments reflected very similar themes throughout, with a selection of responses captured in the table below. The full responses are included in the Appendix.

Supportive/Positive Comments
Thank you for organizing this survey! I hope it helps people to think about our plight and I hope the answers help YOU.
Thank you for allowing me to participate in this excellent, inclusive survey.
Find the resources, implement the legislation, and put solutions in place as soon as possible
Thanks for doing this – sometimes it seems like no one else notices or cares that climate change is here.
I think this is very necessary work. Climate change is upon us and we should do all we can to mitigate its impacts
I greatly appreciate the projects currently underway by the city of VA Beach to address storm water and tidal surge flooding in and near my neighborhood
It would be great if past flooding issues had to be disclosed when purchasing property in VA. not including the county flood zone maps, there should be a better resource.
Thank you for your efforts. Please continue this valuable job that you are doing!
This should be the area's #1 priority. A comprehensive plan and the large scale projects that must be completed
Your efforts to minimize flooding impacts will be critical to residents of the Eastern Shore.
Think about the residents first, then non-tourist business. Driving more tourists to the beach should be the last concern of this project.
It is critical that this initiative be extended to all junior and senior high schools, as well as community colleges, to be offered for students as an option for career choices.
We are encouraged with the establishment of this project and look forward to working together to improve our communities and shorelines.
If there is a way to bring this critical issue into local classrooms, I hope that can be done -- whether by speakers, field trips, or other means!

Critical/Negative Comments
It seems counterintuitive to cut significantly treed land to build stormwater retention ponds. Why not install retention system under streets?
This is all about destruction of the environment, which we need to restore. We can't floodwall our way out of this.
Yes, stop wasting tax payer dollars.
Stop "planning" and implement what we know mitigates flooding.
Stop wasting tax money on trying to convince Virginians to support this foolish scheme.
I feel the DOD does not contribute as it should for base access roads such as Hampton Blvd.
Our city may be lost, even though we are a tourist destination. That said, the city cares more about tourists than the tax paying citizens.
Over development is part of the problem, maybe the cities should look at development issues like drainage issues! ... loss of tree cover, etc.
Stop trying to save the homes in coastal areas. It's a waste of time and money. Buy them out and let mother nature take them back.
It's probably too late, the best solution is probably to move people out of these areas as quickly as possible. Give Hampton Roads back to the sea.
Please stop building. There is more than enough real estate already in place to support community needs. If only it was actually utilized in an efficient, supportive way.
This plan/study is being rushed for political motivations resulting in lack of meaningful input and limited data analysis.
The land is sinking and the ocean is rising. If you are concern, you should move because no matter how much money is spent on flooding, it is just going to get worst.
We cannot adapt our way out of climate change driven flooding. We must stop emitting greenhouse gasses if we hope to hold sea level at a manageable height.

Supportive/Positive Comments	Critical/Negative Comments
The state should ban development in flood zones, including accounting for future sea level rise of up to 6 feet this century.	Encourage transparency by local governments. They can't deny or hide the problems, especially when a tropical storm exposes weaknesses in infrastructure, poor management, and planning.
Storm Drain labeling with visible letting will help too. Key West has 2-inch letters on their drains that says No Waste; Drains to Ocean with a fish stenciled. Billboards and TV commercials should help too.	Continuing development in flood prone areas has placed Virginia residents in danger, and has created vast liabilities for all taxpayers, property owners, and residents.
I'd like to hear discussion of strategies to manage retreat while still protecting vulnerable communities and cultural identity from some areas where significant investments to protect limited resources and people would be required.	The Wetlands Permit process is counterproductive. It is backwards in how it drives decisions to permits. Yea or Nay decisions are left to the last moment, when the proper education and oversight should be at the planning stage before time and money is spent on a bad plan.
Providing for public input virtually, and notifying public of such options on a broad scale (e.g., by TV news channels and radio minimally) in good time to allow for community input.	Honestly, I have very little faith that any improvements will be made. I do however have faith he will charge us more taxes for whatever this failure of a plan will be. I've lived here too long not to be jaded.
I do not live near the coast or a river but I strongly support land use planning to recover significant healthy ecosystems, not development or agriculture, to restore abundant air/water/plants/wildlife and less people.	Move or build a dike and become an island.....The oceans once extended well-inland and will again. To think that man can tamper with, or avert these cycles is the ultimate in human hubris and small thinking.
Understanding that time/data was limited this round, rainfall, stormwater, inland flooding should be included in the next plan with additional resident/municipal engagement!	After the tunnel expansion debacle and Portsmouth Terminals tax-avoidance strategies, I have zero confidence in central or local government to do anything more than feather the nests of its old and new friends.
Please promote more public awareness and education especially to those who cannot afford to learn about these waterway litter items at the Aquarium. Please put out Billboards and PSA's - please let people know that litter clogs storm drains and causes flooding. And that trees absorb water.	Each and every effort needs to revolve around the same idea that we are a coastal city. Flooding, environmental concerns, neighborhood improvement, job creation, education – everything ties back to our identity and that needs to become a laser-sharp focus of city officials.
I wish that the newest information and processes for conservation and flood mitigation in wetlands would be broadcast widely so that these will trickle down into my local community. Not cutting down trees, leaving room near tidal streams and finding a way to better encourage land conservation are all needed in my vulnerable community.	I live in a "high rent" district and don't mind higher taxes and higher rent in expensive neighborhoods but don't want to distribute greater improvements to expensive neighborhoods than to low-income neighborhoods. Don't know how that's managed but I always see more public funds going into the wealthiest neighborhoods instead of those which need them most.
Make dredging and cleaning out waterways a priority on a more frequent basis. Areas near us still have drainage problems created by storm debris (downed trees, etc.)	I would say... listen to the Navy in Norfolk.. they have been ahead of this and acting for years....but they need to publicize their efforts more.. They will leave this area



Supportive/Positive Comments	Critical/Negative Comments
<p>not being removed from previous hurricanes and bad storm events that impact our drainage ways. The debris and lack of maintenance of ditches causes flooding with even the smaller rain events now which is concerning.</p>	<p>if the problem gets too big to control....that in itself would be a disaster ...and people should realize that... and follow their lead.</p>
<p>We are a coastal community and residents are taking it upon themselves to create positive impact for the community's flood resiliency. We find value in working together and accomplishing what we can without outside help, but sometimes it isn't feasible to do it all ourselves, so please reach out if you'd like to coordinate.</p>	<p>Planning is the operative word. If land is too low and subject to flooding, it should not be approved for building. If, like Norfolk, the flooding has increased due to global warming, help should be given but with an emphasis on relocation. You can't fight Mother Nature.</p>
<p>Planning needs to go out 50 years considering the latest Global Warming, Sea level rise predictions and special efforts should be made to preserve and protect wetlands and provide a way for wetlands to move upland as sea level rises. Also, traditionally environmental injustice communities must be protected and treated fairly due to the history of red-lining and abuse.</p>	<p>This happening now, not in 100 years. My ancestors fished and hunted here thousands of years ago. Rich people are ruining everything. You only need a small place to live and a good job. Take back the land and the water and give it back to the first nation who will take better care of it.</p>
<p>The king tide brings with it the worst of our coastal floods (besides natural events such as hurricanes). There is a "catch the king" group that monitored the king tide a few years back, this information may be valuable to predicting and planning for future events similar in extremities.</p>	<p>In typical government fashion, you are working to create a problem that doesn't already exist. I'm 65 years old and flooding now is no worse than when I was a young child. I have lived directly on the Chesapeake Bay for 40 years. We live in a sea level community. Some flooding is inevitable. We prepare and build for it. It's not a big deal. Climate Change and Rising Sea Level is bunk.</p>
<p>Many people do not believe in it or say that it is government over-reach. I have seen its effects. It is real and if one thing is certain it will rain and it will storm. Increased strength, duration, and frequency of such events, in combination with sea level rise, land subsidence, groundwater depletion and aging existing infrastructure (roads, bridges, dams, storm drain systems, etc.) is a nasty combination that we will have to pay the price for - one way or another.</p>	<p>Engineers and scientists know many ways that climate change could go, but cannot know when they will occur. There are so many possible ways the future of this problem could go that there is a very great risk of spending money to mitigate something that turns out to not be part of the future, or that discourages people from getting out of high-risk areas. The rapidly increasing tendency in the past 40 years of replacing knowledge, education and thinking with pseudo-science, faith and denial is likely to lead to some painful lessons from nature.</p>
<p>Honestly, if you don't understand the benefits, I have neither the time nor the crayons to explain them to you.</p>	

# 5. CONCLUSION

The public survey was open for 20 weeks, from July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 through October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, to capture feedback from residents, commuters, and business-owners. The survey was accessible at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VACRMP-Public> and could be taken on computer, tablet, and cellular devices. For future survey and outreach efforts, a list of recommendations has been developed based on these survey results, general observations, and suggestions from the Community Outreach Subcommittee.

## 5.1. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Conduct a root cause analysis of the perceived ‘negative impacts’ identified by respondents in open-ended Question #25, and create strategies on how such issues can be addressed by the Commonwealth going forward.
- Develop a survey specifically tailored for underserved/marginalized residents and communities. For increased participation, the survey should contain no more than 10 questions and/or take less than three minutes to complete.
- Provide paper surveys in community centers, libraries, and other central gathering places to encourage residents without access to technology or the internet to participate.
- Translate future underserved community surveys into community-appropriate languages, for individuals who may not speak English as their first language.
- Include additional “Occupation” options in Question #8 of future surveys, as more than 50 percent of respondents answered “Other” to this question. This will provide a better understanding of respondents’ occupations.
  - Banking/Finance
  - Transportation (Air, Rail, Shipping, etc.)
  - Advertising/Marketing
  - Consulting (Strategy, Management, Planning, etc.)
  - Data/Information Technology/Computer Science
  - Retired
  - Student

**“We are encouraged with the establishment of this project and look forward to working together to improve our communities and shorelines.”**