A blue and white banner with white text

Description automatically generated

Source: https://abcnews.go.com/US/parts-south-carolina-brace-historic-rainfall/story?id=34219621

[Atlantic Avenue](https://abcnews.go.com/US/parts-south-carolina-brace-historic-rainfall/story?id=34219621)

Scope of Work Narrative

Community Flood Preparedness Fund Round 5

Town of Wachapreague Resilience Plan Application

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Town of Wachapreague

Community Flood Preparedness Fund & Resilient Virginia Revolving Loan Fund

Scope of Work

Period of Performance: May 2025 through November 2025

Submission Date: January X, 2025

**Introduction**

*An aerial view of a small town

Description automatically generated*The Town of Wachapreague is located on Virginia’s eastern shore, which is expected to have approximately 96,500 additional acres of land exposed to flooding during an extreme coastal flood.[[1]](#footnote-1) Wachapreague is susceptible to coastal and pluvial flooding that impacts municipal services, businesses, residences, transportation, and public safety.[[2]](#footnote-2) Although the Town of Wachapreague participated in the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan, there is a need to have a resilience plan that is targeted towards the Town and explores projects that will increase the Town’s resilience to flooding and other natural hazards.

Photo . The Town of Wachapreague (Source: https://wachapreague.org/get-involved)

The Town will seek a consultant to support the creation of a town-wide resilience plan focused on flooding and natural resource protection. The Resilience Plan will result in a guiding document for community flood resilience through vision and goals setting, creation of a risk matrix using best available data, collection of community data through meaningful public participation, and prioritization of actions and mitigation strategies. Although the Resilience Plan will have a strong focus on flooding, as the Town’s location in a floodplain makes it a critical hazard, the plan will also address other hazards the Town faces. Impacts from multiple hazards, including those that may cause, influence, or result from flooding events, as well as those that can impact the transportation network will be assessed.



Figure . Wachapreague Town Boundary

**Review of Needs & Problems**

Water has been central to the history and development of the Town of Wachapreague. It is known as the “Little City by the Sea”. Historically, Wachapreague’s economy depended on its prime location for shipping and abundance of natural resources such as fish. The Town’s working waterfront remains the hub of the local economy. The local economy is threatened by flooding, as most of the Town of Wachapreague is in a 100-year floodplain. The rest of the Town is in a 500-year floodplain. Atlantic Avenue, the Town’s waterfront commercial street, is expected to be partially inundated with 2 feet of sea level rise.[[3]](#footnote-3) Atlantic Avenue has historically flooded during storm events such as Hurricane Ian[[4]](#footnote-4), which has damaged homes and businesses. The Town’s docks have also been inundated during storm events, impacting local businesses centered on fishing, crabbing, and tourism. The Town’s Fire Department and the Town Hall are also located in the 100-year floodplain, but do not require a 1% storm to experience flooding.[[5]](#footnote-5) This can impact the Fire Department’s ability to respond to emergencies, which impacts the health and safety of the community.

The Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan identified coastal flooding to be the greatest threat to Wachapreague.[[6]](#footnote-6) More specifically, the Flood Insurance Study for the Town states that nor’easters and hurricanes are the greatest threats of inundation for the community.[[7]](#footnote-7) The Town also has some areas of concern around stormwater flooding, which can be exacerbated with high tides.[[8]](#footnote-8) Rainfall is the town’s main ground water source, and town residents rely on private wells for their water supply, which is threatened by saltwater intrusion.[[9]](#footnote-9) The Town also relies completely on septic tanks, as public utilities are not available.[[10]](#footnote-10) Flooding has historically caused the failure of septic tanks, creating public health issues.[[11]](#footnote-11)

The creation of a town-wide resilience plan will consolidate and reflect upon the Town’s resiliency goals. The following narrative responds to the prompts in the 2024 Funding Manual for the Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund Round 5.[[12]](#footnote-12)

**Need**

1. **Specific problem being solved (not just that flooding exists or may occur in the future)**

This financial support will enable the town to develop and adopt a comprehensive resilience plan. The plan will outline a multi-faceted strategy to enhance the community's ability to withstand and recover from various hazards, with a particular emphasis on flood mitigation and shoreline protection. By securing this funding, the town will be able to craft a robust plan that addresses all nine essential components of an effective resilience strategy, ensuring a more secure and adaptable future for its residents.

* 1. *It is project based with a focus on flood control & resilience*
     + The Resilience Plan will focus on the creation and prioritization of projects that mitigate flooding and enhance community resilience to flooding.
  2. *It incorporates nature-based infrastructure to the maximum extent possible*
     + Consideration of resiliency actions that impact the town’s environmental assets will be included in the discussions of priority and mitigation actions.
  3. *It includes all parts of a community regardless of socioeconomics or race, and addresses flood resilience needs of underserved populations*
     + All residents, regardless of location, socioeconomics, or race will be included in the risk and vulnerability assessment, engagement process, and overall resilience plan for the Town of Wachapreague. Underserved populations will be included and emphasized in the prioritization criteria for resilience activities.
  4. *It identifies flooding issues in all areas of the community, not just SFHAs, and addresses repetitive loss properties*
     + The resilience plan will assess flooding impacts from all types of flooding in all areas of the Town, not just within the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs).
  5. *If property acquisitions are included, must also include equitable relocation strategies (if applicable)*
     + Property acquisitions will be determined thorough the resilience plan process. In the event that they are discussed, equitable relocation strategies will be included.
  6. *It includes a strategy for debris management in water channels and floodplains*
     + The Town will include a strategy for debris management in water channels and floodplains in the plan. The HAZUS model for the 2021 Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan estimated a total of 121 tons of debris would be generated during a 100-year storm, which would create a great burden for residents.[[13]](#footnote-13)
  7. *It includes administrative procedures for substantial damage / improvement of structures within the SFHA*
     + The Town’s existing administrative procedures for substantial damage/improvement of structures within the SFHA will be included in the plan.
  8. *It includes coordination with other local and inter-jurisdictional plans and projects and has a timeline for implementation*
     + The Resilience Plan will incorporate findings from the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Toolkit (RAFT), and the Town’s Comprehensive Plan. Along with goals and objectives identified in these plans and from additional strategies identified from this proposed process, a timeline for implementation will be included with the plan.
  9. *It is based on the best available science and incorporates climate change, sea level rise, storm surge (where appropriate) and current flood maps*
     + The Resilience Plan will be based on the best available science as required. It will incorporate future extreme precipitation using NOAA Atlas 14 or the newest available data at the time of writing the plan.

1. **Factors which contribute to the identified problem.**

The Town of Wachapreague is located in a 100-year floodplain, with the rest of the Town residing in a 500-year floodplain. However, areas of the town have not needed to experience a 1% storm to experience damaging flooding. There are three drainage sheds into which the Town is divided. The second basin, which is the majority of the town, sans the waterfront, experiences flooding in the Town Park, south of the baseball field. The Town is also located in rural coastal Virginia, which is vulnerable to sea level rise, that has an expected 157,200 additional acres that are projected to be inundated daily during high tide.[[14]](#footnote-14)

The Town has been protected from wave energies coming from the Atlantic Oceans by the constantly shifting barrier islands and extensive marshes. Most notably, the Town has been protected by Cedar Island. Cedar Island also protects a salt marsh that creates community and environmental benefits. Over the past several years, Cedar Island has been eroding, causing the entire southern end of the island to be submerged at all stages of the tide since 2016.[[15]](#footnote-15) This is of major concern to residents, as the erosion of the island will mean less protection from Hurricanes and Nor’easters for the Town.[[16]](#footnote-16)

A map of a city

Description automatically generated

Figure 1: Wachapreague Transportation Infrastructure Inundation Vulnerability Assessment Source: <https://www.esvaplan.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/TIIVA-Summary-Jan2015.pdf>

1. **Why the project is needed either locally or regionally.**

The Town of Wachapreague has a long history of flooding and its unique location on the Eastern Shore means the town will continue to experience more flooding and extreme weather events. The Town does not have a dedicated plan aimed towards flooding and flood resilience. This will enhance the town’s ability to make informed and equitable decisions to increase community resilience.

1. **How the project decreases the risk to public safety through flood risk reduction.**

The creation of a resilience plan reduces the risk to public safety by creating a plan to reduce flood impacts and increasing community awareness about flooding during the process. The Resilience Plan will include evaluating relocation opportunities for the Fire Department and Town Hall out of the floodplain, which will increase public safety in the event of an emergency.

1. **How the project protects or conserves natural resources.**

The Town of Wachapreague takes great pride in its natural resources. Its natural resources are the foundation of its economy and attract tourists from all over. Therefore, the Resilience Plan will assess the Town’s natural resources and prioritize actions that preserve and protect the Town’s existing natural resources.

1. **Who is protected.**

This plan will cover the residents, workers, and tourists who visit the Town of Wachapreague.

1. **The safety threats, or environmental concerns related to flood risk.**

The safety of Wachapreague residents is threatened by flooding in several ways. Some of the Town’s roadways are threatened with inundation with only 2 feet of sea level rise.[[17]](#footnote-17) The Town’s Fire Department is also located in the floodplain, which can impair its response during an emergency event.[[18]](#footnote-18)

Even though the community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Community Rating System (CRS), the majority of the houses were built before the floodplain ordinance, leaving many homes vulnerable to damage during the occurrence of an 100-year flood.[[19]](#footnote-19)

There are also environmental concerns to flood risk in Wachapreague. Since residents of the Town depend on septic tanks, flooding that causes septic failure can pose a significant risk to public health.[[20]](#footnote-20)

A sign in water with a dock in the background

Description automatically generated

Photo 2: “High tide in Wachapreague during October 29, 2011 nor’easter”

Source: <https://www.co.accomack.va.us/departments/emergency-management/citizens-visitors/preparedness/flooding-preparedness>

1. **Groups to be targeted who might directly benefit from this flood risk reduction effort.**

Even though Resilience Plan will cover the entire town, areas that are at the highest risk for flooding will be prioritized as well as areas with underserved populations.

1. **What would happen (or not happen) if the applicant does not receive funding.**

If the Town does not receive funding for this plan, it is likely that development of a town-wide resilience plan will not be undertaken. Resilience planning is an expensive process and with very few staff, there will not be an opportunity to pursue a plan at this scale. As a result, high risk areas will continue to experience flooding and damage. The funding provided for this resilience plan will allow the community to pursue funding for flood resilience projects generated through this plan in later rounds of CFPF.

**Goals and Objectives**

Wachapreague has established the following Goals and Objectives for the planning process.

Table 1: Goals and Objectives

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 1: Goals and Objectives** | | |
| **Goal** | **Objective** | **Objective Measure of Success** |
| **Goal 1:** Develop and Adopt a Resilience Plan for the Town of Haysi | **Objective 1.1:** Develop a Resilience Plan that Meets DCR Requirements  **Objective 1.2:** Collaborate with local, state, and regional entities to ensure plan alignment with existing initiatives | **Objective Measure of Success 1.1.1:** Town Council approval and formal adoption of the Flood Resilience Plan  **Objective Measure of Success 1.2.1:** Documentation of meetings and partnerships with relevant stakeholders, including the Department of Conservation and Recreation |
| **Goal 2:** Enhance Community Preparedness for Flooding | **Objective 2.1:** Identify repetitive loss or potential repetitive loss properties to assist property owners in making informed mitigation decisions | **Objective Measure of Success 2.1.1:** Documentation of repetitive loss risks and actions provided with mitigation options and resources to reduce future losses. |
| **Goal 3:** Identify Future Potential Resilience Projects | **Objective 3.1:** Develop risk matrix to identify current and future potential vulnerabilities  **Objective 3.2**: Identify grant funding opportunities to support future resilience projects. | **Objective Measure of Success 3.1.1:**  Prioritized list of vulnerabilities and actions  **Objective Measure of Success 3.2.1:** At least one funding source identified for high priority projects |

**Assessment of Capacity & Planning Financial, Human, Technical Assistance, and Training**

Wachapreague recognizes the essential steps in the Resilience Plan development process and is committed to conducting a thorough assessment to support implementable and fundable resilience projects, as such the Town requests assistance from the Community Flood Preparedness Fund to fund consultant services to support development of the new Resilience Plan.

As part of our Resilience Plan development approach, the Town has included the following considerations to support grant management:

1. **Resource Development Strategies:** Other funding opportunities, such as available State grant programs, will be explored by the Town.
2. **Staff Capabilities and Training:** To improve the capabilities and resourcefulness of this plan, the Town plans on contracting consultants to lead the process and develop the plan document. Existing staff in the Town Council will be included in this process and those located in specific roles and/or departments will be informed on their roles in implementing strategies.
3. **Policy Management and Development:** Plan alignment is essential to building and amplifying resilience efforts across the Town, Region, and Commonwealth. The Resilience Plan development is expected to support coordination across existing activities, plans, and policies while leading to resilience project recommendations. These recommendations, developed through the planning process, may include structural and nonstructural solutions, including local policies to support resilience. To promote alignment with the Resilience Plan and existing policies, plans, and activities, the Town will provide opportunities to engage with the localities within Accomack County and the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, engage with relevant regional and state agencies, and review existing efforts in the planning effort.
4. **Stakeholder Identification and Outreach:** Stakeholder identification and outreach is a vital part of this approach. The team will host a guided workshop with stakeholders to identify key inputs for plan development. The process for this content development includes following the Community Resilience Building (CRB) process, which is a comprehensive, community-driven approach to enhancing resilience against various hazards and challenges. This process facilitates rich dialogue and information sharing among participants, enabling them to collaboratively develop strategies that address both immediate and long-term resilience needs. By engaging community members from the outset, the CRB process ensures that resilience goals and priorities are feasible, realistic, and tailored to the specific context of each community. The resulting plan will be publicly available in an accessible format to share with stakeholders.

**Work Plan**

1. **What are the major activities and tasks.**
   1. Please see Tasks 1-7 below
2. **Who is responsible for completing the activities and tasks.**
   1. The Town Council will lead the plan development with consultant support.
3. **What is the timeframe for accomplishing activities and tasks.**
   1. The planning process is seven months. Please see the schedule section for a breakdown of tasks.
4. **Identify the required partners to ensure success and where they are represented in the workplan.**
   1. Partners are vital to ensure the success of this resilience plan. There is a summary of the partners and their roles at the end of the work plan.
5. **Deliverables**
   1. A Resilience Plan
   2. Scope of work for priority project for future CFPF funding
   3. Resident Flooding Preparedness Toolkit
6. **Maintenance plan tied to the identified viability of the project. Plan for sustaining the *project after the agreement period (if applicable).***
   1. Please see Task 5

***PROJECT TASKS***

**TASK 1: PROJECT INITIATION & MANAGEMENT**

Wachapreague will develop a Resilience Plan to reflect current priorities and goals of DCR and the Town. The project will be led by the Town Council. The project is expected to take 7 months, which is outlined in the Schedule. Below represents the major tasks and activities.

*Task 1.1 Form the Core Team and Project Team*

The Core Team will include the Town’s Mayor, consultant, and other key members as determined necessary to guide and progress the plan.

The Project Team will be primarily comprised of representatives from the Town Council. Additional participants, such as the regional PDC (Accomack-Northampton PDC) or the Economic Development Authority, will also be considered for the Project Team, as determined by the Core Team.

Project Team members will meet regularly and will be responsible for providing input throughout the planning process such as understanding of existing and planned projects, issues, plans, data, as well as review of draft materials.

*Task 1.2 Project Management*

The project will begin with a Core Team Project Initiation Meeting to review scope, schedule, goals, and kickoff coordination. Throughout the project, the Core Team will meet regularly (approximately bi-weekly). The planning lead will also be responsible for quarterly reporting.

**TASK 2: RESILIENCE ACTIVITY REVIEW**

*Task 2.1 Existing Conditions Documentation*

The project team will review local regulations and planning tools that pertain to climate resilience, including but not limited to, the Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan, Floodplain Ordinance, Comprehensive Plan, and Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Toolkit. Throughout the review and development of a crosswalk, the consultant project team will document success stories, areas of growth/opportunities for action, data needs, and actions that have already been identified as priorities that coincide with climate resilience. The project team will also work with municipal leaders to collect and analyze data on infrastructure, population, and natural resources vulnerabilities to flooding, as well as additional natural hazards. Key assets and community features such as schools, bridges, and natural resources will also be mapped for the use in community workshops. The project team will also develop other maps using publicly available data to geospatially reference assets for conversations with stakeholders.

As part of the baseline assessment, the project team will interview selected members of the Core Team and other key stakeholders to collect various perspectives and detailed information on critical areas of the plan. Interviews will be conducted as necessary to prepare for the workshop or to further develop the results of the workshop.

*Task 2.2 Vision and Goals Setting*

The consultant project team will work with the Town and Core Team to develop a vision, set goals for the CFPF program and a set of core principles. The core principles will drive decisions throughout the plan and will be incorporated into the Action Prioritization Matrix. The goals will draw upon the planning and policy crosswalk in addition to leading best practices through Virginia and the nation. The Core Team will have an opportunity to react, amend, and add goals during a bi-weekly meeting.

**TASK 3: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING WORKSHOP**

During this task, the project team will host a guided workshop with stakeholders to identify key inputs for plan development. The process for this content development includes following the Community Resilience Building (CRB) process, which is a comprehensive, community-driven approach to enhancing resilience against various hazards and challenges. This "anywhere at any scale" methodology brings together diverse stakeholders to identify top hazards, assess current strengths and vulnerabilities, and prioritize actions to improve community resilience and has been used in many communities throughout the county to facilitate the development of a resilience plan. The CRB Workshop, a key component of this process, facilitates rich dialogue and information sharing among participants, enabling them to collaboratively develop strategies that address both immediate and long-term resilience needs. By engaging community members from the outset, the CRB process ensures that resilience goals and priorities are feasible, realistic, and tailored to the specific context of each community. This approach not only builds and strengthens social capital but also fosters a sense of ownership and commitment to implementing resilience measures, ultimately leading to more sustainable and effective outcomes.

*Task 3.1 Create Workshop Material*

The project team will prepare for the Town’s one full-day or two half-day CRB workshop(s), using the Community Resilience Building workshop guide developed by The Nature Conservancy. They will:

* Develop the agenda and materials for the workshop(s), including maps of key assets and community features such as schools, bridges, and natural resources for use by the workshop participants.
* Incorporate the best available natural hazard data and other relevant information into the workshop materials to enhance participants’ understanding of flooding.
* Work with the Core Team to facilitate workshop groupings (such as sector, geography, roles and responsibilities, and experience), dividing the 20 to 40 participants among five to six groups for smaller table discussions.
* Risk matrices, as described within the CRB Building webpage (www. communityresiliencebuilding.com).

They will also support the Core Team in identifying and inviting stakeholders to participate in the workshop(s); these people will include local leaders representing municipal, state and federal government; businesses; institutions; and not-for-profit organizations.

*Task 3.2 Conduct the Workshop*

The consultant team will conduct the CRB Workshop(s) to characterize the Town’s hazards, vulnerabilities, and strengths related to the infrastructure, societal, and environmental assets. They will:

* Understand connections between ongoing community issues, hazards, and local planning and actions in the municipalities.
* Identify and map vulnerabilities and strengths to develop infrastructure, societal, and natural resource risk profiles for the municipalities.
* Develop and prioritize actions and clearly delineate next steps for the municipalities, local organizations, businesses, private citizens, neighborhoods, and community groups.
* Identify areas for debris management
* Identify opportunities to advance actions that further reduce the impact of hazards and increase resilience across and within municipalities.

**TASK 4: DEVELOP ACTIONS FOR FLOOD PREPAREDNESS**

*Task 4.1 Develop a Risk Matrix*

The consultant team will work with the Core Team to synthesize the workshop(s) participants’ input and prepare a master Risk Matrix summarizing the Risk Matrices prepared at each workshop table. This will be the foundation for the development of actions to reduce risks to flooding in the community.

*Task 4.2 Develop Priority Actions and Mitigation Strategies*

As an outcome of developing the Risk Matrix, the project team will work with the Core Team and local officials to identify resilience-building actions that address potential risks to community’s assets of infrastructure, society, and environment. These actions will include the several highest Priority Actions that would mitigate the flooding vulnerabilities. They will assist in conceptualizing projects that are ready for implementation, will most significantly improve resiliency and flooding preparedness, and support the improvement of capabilities and capacity. They will help to shape the project actions to address potential be received favorably by DCR during the next round of CFPF funding. In a strategic planning meeting, the project team will work to further develop potential projects and to develop a strategy for obtaining funding source(s) for those projects.

*Task 4.3 Action Prioritization*

Using the Action Prioritization Matrix, the project team will work with the Core Team to identify high priority resilience-building actions that address principal vulnerabilities within the community’s infrastructure, societal, and environmental assets and that will help meet the goals established at the beginning of the planning process. Actions that are identified as high priorities will undergo further analysis to identify items such as cost and feasibility. They will further assist in refining actions to develop specific implementation strategies, which may include identifying next steps and funding sources.

**TASK 5: DEVELOP THE PLAN**

*Task 5.1 Summarize Findings*

Characterizing current and projected hazard impacts within the Town provides a critical foundation for developing hazard mitigation strategies. The resilience plan will assess flooding impacts in all areas of the Town, not just within the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs). Impacts from multiple hazards, including those that may cause, influence, or result from flooding events, as well as those that can impact the transportation network will be assessed.

Results of the CRB process will serve as an exposure, risk, and vulnerability assessment and will be summarized using maps, figures, and narrative for presentation in the resilience plan. This will include the following key summaries:

* High flood risk areas with supporting maps
* Critical facilities with high flood exposure
* Underserved communities with high flood exposure
* Strategy for debris management
* Natural infrastructure with high flood exposure

A GIS database that compiles data used in the analysis will also be developed.

*Task 5.2 Implementation Plan*

The implementation plan will be crafted to foster accountability and track progress on high-priority actions. Each action will be comprehensively detailed with specific attributes, including a clear description, implementation timeline (with phasing if required), lead department and staff, supporting departments and partners, estimated costs, anticipated benefits, flood hazards mitigated, potential funding sources, and any additional hazards addressed. Furthermore, the highest priority projects will be feasibility assessments and actionable steps towards completion. This enhanced focus on the most critical projects aims to equip the Town with a targeted, actionable strategy, ensuring efficient resource allocation and maximizing impact on flood mitigation and overall hazard reduction.

*Task 5.3 Plan Maintenance Procedure*

The implementation of the plan will be further supported by carefully designed maintenance procedures. These procedures will encompass a systematic approach to reviewing project progress and will establish protocols for keeping both the Project Team and stakeholders regularly informed about the plan's advancement, potentially on a semi-annual basis. The Project Team will be responsible for developing and approving these procedures, ensuring a cohesive and well-structured approach to plan maintenance.

**TASK 6: FINAL PLAN**

*Task 6.1 Draft Plan*

The project team will compile a draft plan, integrating the findings from the CRB process and the proposed resilience strategies. This draft report will serve as a foundation for further review and refinement before finalizing the plan. The plan will also include map products and a summary of future strategies and projects along with an implementation timeline, responsible agencies and potential partnerships, and anticipated funding sources. The draft plan will first be reviewed by the project team. This includes review by a Certified Floodplain Manager. The plan will be edited based on project team and the CFM comments, allowing for CFM endorsement of the plan.

*Task 6.2 Final Plan and Presentation Materials*

Following any necessary edits, the plan will be posted digitally and advertised for public and stakeholder review for approximately 3 weeks. Once all comments have been addressed from the project team, the team will work with the Town to post a draft plan on the Town website or provide a link to it. The Town will create a digitally accessible Final Plan for posting to the Town’s website. The plan will also be summarized into digestible, plain language materials such as a digital placemat and/or GIS Story Map.

*Task 6.3 Plan Review and Adoption*

Once the project team and public input has been received and incorporated, the plan will be submitted for DCR Review and approval.

**TASK 7: COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTATION**

*Task 7.1 Priority Project Scope*

The project team will develop a detailed scope and collect necessary information for a priority project to apply for future funding through the CFPF program. This could include a scope for an additional study needed to inform decision-making or funding for the design of a nature-based or infrastructure project.

*Task 7.2 Resident Flooding Preparedness Toolkit*

The project team will develop a resident flooding preparedness toolkit to encompass a wide range of essential information and resources to help community members effectively prepare for, respond to, and recover from flood events. The toolkit will include sections on understanding flood risks, creating emergency plans, assembling disaster supply kits, and implementing home mitigation strategies. The toolkit will also incorporate communication templates, including social media strategies and public meeting guides, to facilitate effective information dissemination. Additionally, it will offer practical checklists, contact information for local authorities, and resources for post-flood recovery. By addressing these key areas, the toolkit will empower residents to take proactive steps in safeguarding their families, homes, and communities against flood-related hazards.

*PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS*

Key partners for success include the Town Council who will be updated regularly and are responsible for adopting the plan. Additional partners include regional entities such as the Accomack-Northampton Regional Planning District Commission. State-level partners such as the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) would provide valuable expertise and resources.

Community organizations, local businesses, and educational institutions in Wachapreague should be involved to ensure the plan addresses local needs and concerns. Engaging the public through town hall meetings, online surveys, and volunteer opportunities would be essential for building support and gathering input from residents. Additionally, partnering with regional resilience initiatives, such as those coordinated by Resilient Virginia, could provide access to broader resources and expertise in addressing climate and economic challenges faced by small towns on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

*SCHEDULE*

The plan will be completed over a 7-month planning process. The Town proposes to commence the planning process in May 2025.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 3: Schedule** | | | | | | | | |
| **Task #** | **Task Name** | **May-25** | **Jun-25** | **Jul-25** | **Aug-25** | **Sept-25** | **Oct-25** | **Nov-25** |
| **Task 1** | **Project Initiation & Management** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Task 2** | **Resilience Activity Review** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Task 3** | **Community Resilience Building Workshop** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Task 4** | **Develop Actions For Flood Preparedness** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Task 5** | **Develop The Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Task 6** | **Final Plan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Evaluation**

1. ***Indicators of success.***

The following table indicates the measures of success for the Wachapreague Resilience Plan.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Table 3. Measures of Success** | |
| **Performance Output** | **Measurement** |
| Actionable Plan | DCR-approved and Town-adopted. |
| Coordinated Resilience Activities | Defined mechanisms to promote multi-department coordination to increase efficiencies and risk reduction. |
| Prioritized Projects | Wide range of flood reduction project types identified (e.g., planning, policy, structural and natural and nature-based) and connected to funding sources. |
| Plan Maintenance Procedures | Procedures agreed upon by the Project Team to support regular meetings of the Project Team, project status reviews, public updates, and a plan update process. |

1. ***Data that will be collected and how the data will be used to measure success.***

Action progress will be captured in an Excel tracker by the responsible parties. Success will be measured via activity completion, which will begin with plan development, approval, and adoption.

1. ***How was cost effectiveness evaluated and measured against the expected outcomes?***

The Town considered the cost of developing a plan compared to the potential issues of continuing on without one. Without a plan in place, the Town loses efficiencies by:

* Not having a mechanism for coordination and tracking resilience projects;
* Potential for implementing projects that may result in a reactive, “band-aid” approach;
* Undertaking multiple risk assessments that serve a similar purpose; and
* Not having an understanding of resilience needs and priorities to pursue in a strategic manner.

While specific dollars were not quantified, these examples demonstrate that resources would be lost to quickly exceed the value of the plan. As such, the plan was determined to be cost effective.

1. ***What products, services, meetings, outreach efforts etc. will be conducted and how will success be measured?***

The following table represents the efforts that will be conducted and performance measures.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 4. Efforts Conducted and Performance Measures** | | | |
|  | **Activity** | **#** | **Performance Measure** |
| **Planning Products** | Visual and accessible planning document | 1 | Increase in county coordination and resilience strategy implementation |
| Risk Matrix development | 1 | Identification of vulnerable assets to a variety of hazards with actions identified to address vulnerability |
| Resilience Strategy  Action Tracker | 1 | Increase in resilience strategy  coordination |
| **Outreach and** | Surveys | 2 | Insights into county and community |
| **Communication** |  |  | resilience needs and opportunities and input on action implementation |
| **Efforts** | County/community workshop | Up to 2 half day or 1 full day | Insights into vulnerabilities and resilience capabilities |

1. ***Project progress monitoring plan to ensure project meets the requirements of the agreement and is delivered on time. Outline how delays or other findings may be used to modify or improve outcomes/deliverables.***

Throughout the period of performance, the Town Council and consultant will track progress of the plan development and ensure the plan is completed and deliverables submitted on time. The planning process for this project is 7 months. If delays occur, they will be explained in the quarterly report(s), as appropriate.

**Supporting Documentation**

* FEMA Flood Hazard Maps
* Social Vulnerability Index Map
* Wachapreague Floodplain Ordinance
* 2021 Eastern Shore of Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan

1. Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. *Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan*. 2021. <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/crmp/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Town of Wachapreague. *Comprehensive Plan*. Wachapreague, VA: Town of Wachapreague, 2016. <https://www.esvaplan.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Chapter-23-Town-of-Wachapreague.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. <https://www.esvaplan.org/planesva/coastal-resources/hazard-mitigation-planning/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Minzola, Olivia, and Lauren Roberts. “Hurricane Ian’s Impact Lingers into Monday on Wet Day in Ocean City, Va. Shore: PHOTOS.” The Daily Times. Accessed November 12, 2024. https://www.delmarvanow.com/picture-gallery/news/2022/10/03/hurricane-ians-impact-lingers-into-wet-monday-ocean-city-photos/8168404001/. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Town of Wachapreague. *Comprehensive Plan*. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
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11. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. *Community Flood Preparedness Fund Round 5 Manual*. Richmond, VA: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, 2024. <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/dam-safety-and-floodplains/document/Round-5-CFPF-Manual.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. *Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan*. 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. <https://www.esvaplan.org/planesva/coastal-resources/hazard-mitigation-planning/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. Town of Wachapreague. *Comprehensive Plan*. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Town of Wachapreague. *Comprehensive Plan*. 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission. *Eastern Shore Hazard Mitigation Plan*. 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-20)