Virginia Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Funding Q4 Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Subject	TAC Funding Subcommittee Meeting 2024-Q3	**Date**	10/10/2024
Chair	Shawn Crumlish, VRA	**Time – START/ADJOURN**	9:30am / 12:16pm
Location	Hybrid. In person in Conference Room 1, Patrick Henry Building, 1111 E Broad St, Richmond, VA 23219	**Scribe**	Grady Hart, CPP

Subcommittee Members		
Title **[Alternate Title]** **Organization (Abbreviation)**	**Name** **[Alternate Name]**	**Attended?** **Y = In Person /** **V = Virtual**
Executive Director [Director of Program Management] **Virginia Resources Authority (VRA)**	Shawn Crumlish, Chair [Peter D'Alema], Co-Chair	Y [Y]
Chief Resilience Officer [Principal Water Resources Engineer] **Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC)**	Ben McFarlane [Whitney Katchmark]	Y
Executive Director [Deputy Director] **Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission (MPPDC)**	Lewis L. Lawrence, III [Curtis Smith]	Y
Director, Grant Management and Recovery Division [State Hazard Mitigation Officer] **Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)**	Robert Coates [Debra Messmer]	
Executive Vice President, Public Policy and Government Relations [Vice President for Public Policy and Legislative Affairs, Virginia Chamber of Commerce] [Director of Public Policy] **Virginia Chamber of Commerce (VA Chamber of Commerce)**	Keith Martin [Kristin Burhop] [Ethan Betterton]	[V]
Assistant Director **Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (VDHCD)**	William Curtis	Y
Environmental Division Director [Assistant Division Director] **Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)**	Chris Swanson [Christopher Berg]	Y
Environmental Specialist **Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VRMC)**	Claire Gorman	V
Director **Virginia Sea Grant (Sea Grant)**	Troy Hartley	

Members of the Public Speaking During Public Comment		
Name	**Attended? Y = In Person / V = Virtual**	**Notes**
None		

TAC Staff/Consulting		
Name	**Title (Organization Abbreviation)**	**Attended? Y = In Person / V = Virtual**
Matt Dalon	Resilience Planning Program Manager, DCR	Y
Wheeler Wood	Consultant, VCU Center for Public Policy (CPP)	Y
Jeff Flood	Coastal Planner, DEQ	V
Ellie Plisko	DCR/VCU Wilder Fellow	Y
Linda Warren	Launch! Consulting	Y
Sidney Huffman	Launch! Consulting	Y
Sarah Girard	Launch! Consulting	Y

Reference Links	
Item	**Link**
Meeting Agenda	https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/crmp/meeting/document/2024q4-tac-funding-subcommittee-agenda-rev1.pdf
Meeting Handouts/Presentation Slides	https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/crmp/meeting/document/2024q4-funding-meeting-materials-(1).pdf
Video Recording of the Meeting	Link to video will be provided with final meeting minutes.

Agenda Item	Minutes
1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda and Minutes	Shawn Crumlish (Chair, VRA) called the meeting to order at 9:30am. Wheeler Wood (CPP) called the roll. The Chair requested a motion to vote on the meeting agenda and minutes from the Q3 meeting. Both motions were passed and the vote in favor was unanimous.

2. Old Business	A discussion on the following recommendations was initiated:
	
	● **Recommendation F-a:** State agencies to provide financial tools and reports to local governments, state legislators, and other official entities that clearly demonstrate the immediate and mid-term costs of inaction to address flood resilience.
	
	Discussion:
	   ○ The importance of this recommendation was emphasized as it provides clarity on the financial implications of not addressing flood resilience, stating that it would help local governments make informed decisions (and the need for consistency with local government partners).
	   ○ Members were encouraged to share their thoughts on how this recommendation could be effectively implemented.
	   ○ A member raised a concern about the timing of these reports, suggesting that they should be made available before budget development to ensure that local governments can incorporate the information into their planning processes (need for consistency with local government partners!).
	   ○ A member highlighted the need for these reports to be user-friendly and accessible, ensuring that all stakeholders, including non-technical audiences, can understand the financial implications.
	   ○ It was noted the recommendation should also consider the varying capacities of local governments to utilize these financial tools effectively (need for consistency with local government partners!).
	
	● **Recommendation F-b**: The economic development community should ensure that businesses, government officials, citizens, and other stakeholders are aware of the economic benefits of local development with water, as well as support for developing and exporting Virginia-based flood resilience solutions to an emerging global market.
	
	Discussion:
	
	   ○ Members discussed the importance of raising awareness about the economic benefits of flood resilience initiatives.
	   ○ Discussion Points:
	   ○ A member suggested that outreach efforts should include workshops and informational sessions to educate stakeholders about the economic advantages of flood resilience.

- Another member emphasized the potential for Virginia to become a leader in flood resilience solutions, advocating for the development of a marketing strategy to promote Virginia-based solutions to a broader audience.
- It was noted that collaboration with local businesses and educational institutions could enhance the effectiveness of these outreach efforts.

- **Recommendation F-c**: The Interagency Resilience Management team should monitor and share existing and available flood resilience financial funding and financing resources to support local, regional, and statewide initiatives.

  Discussion:

  - Members discussed the need for a centralized database of funding resources.
  - Discussion Points:
  - A member pointed out that many local governments are unaware of the funding opportunities available to them, and a centralized resource could help bridge this gap (need for consistency with local government partners!)
  - Another member suggested that the Interagency Resilience Management team could host regular webinars to update stakeholders on new funding opportunities and best practices for applying for these funds.
  - It was noted that ongoing communication and updates would be crucial for keeping stakeholders informed.

- **Recommendation F-d:** The DCR Office of Resilience Planning should identify the different financial needs specific to the private sector and to the public sector.

  Discussion:

  - Members discussed the importance of understanding the unique financial challenges faced by both sectors.
  - Discussion Points:
  - A member highlighted that the private sector often has different funding mechanisms and incentives compared to public entities, and these differences should be acknowledged in the planning process.
  - Another member suggested conducting surveys or focus groups with private sector stakeholders to gather insights on their specific financial needs and challenges.
  - It was noted that this recommendation could lead to more tailored financial solutions that address the distinct needs of each sector.

- **Recommendation F-e**: State agencies should monitor and evaluate the success of the state funding, including appropriations and grants and loan programs to address short-term and long-term challenges.

  Discussion:

  - Members discussed the importance of accountability and transparency in the use of state funding.
  - Discussion Points:
  - A member raised the question of how success would be measured and suggested that clear metrics should be established to evaluate the effectiveness of funding programs.
  - Another member emphasized the need for regular reporting on the outcomes of funded projects to ensure that lessons learned can inform future funding decisions.
  - It was noted that ongoing evaluation would be essential for improving funding strategies and ensuring that resources are allocated effectively.

- **Comments on Recommendations**
  - The floor was opened for comments on the recommendations, specifically highlighting that Troy Hartley had submitted comments on Recommendation F-b.
  - Troy's comments were read and emphasized the need for clear communication strategies to ensure that the economic benefits of flood resilience are effectively conveyed to all stakeholders.
  - Members discussed the importance of incorporating these comments into the recommendation, agreeing that a strong communication strategy would enhance the overall impact of the initiative.
  - A member suggested that the recommendations should also include a focus on equity, ensuring that all communities, particularly underserved ones, have access to the benefits of flood resilience initiatives.
  - It was noted that this perspective is crucial and should be integrated into the discussions moving forward.
  - Additional comments included the need for collaboration with community organizations to ensure that the voices of all stakeholders are heard in the planning process.
  - The discussion was concluded with the comment supporting the importance of refining the recommendations based on the feedback received, ensuring that they are actionable and impactful.

- **Voting Process**
  - The voting process using Mentimeter was explained and members were provided instructions to connect to Mentimeter either via phone or computer with participation confirmed by pushing the thumbs-up button once they were ready to vote.

	○ Linda confirmed that there were six member organizations present, with five in the room and one online.
	● **Voting on Recommendations**
	○ Linda indicated that they would vote on each recommendation one at a time.
	○ A motion was needed to put forward each recommendation, followed by a second and a recorded vote.
	○ Linda emphasized that any amendments or modifications would require a verbal vote.
	● **Review of Recommendations**
	○ Linda read through the proposed recommendations for clarity:
	○ Recommendation F-a: State agencies to provide financial tools and reports to local governments, state legislators, and other official entities that clearly demonstrate the immediate and mid-term costs of inaction to address flood resilience.
	○ Recommendation F-b: The economic development community should ensure that businesses, government officials, citizens, and other stakeholders are aware of the economic benefits of local development with water, as well as support for developing and exporting Virginia-based flood resilience solutions to an emerging global market.
	○ Recommendation F-c: The Interagency Resilience Management team should monitor and share existing and available flood resilience financial funding and financing resources to support local, regional, and statewide initiatives.
	○ Recommendation F-d: The DCR Office of Resilience Planning should identify the different financial needs specific to the private sector and to the public sector.
	○ Recommendation F-e: State agencies should monitor and evaluate the success of the state funding, including appropriations and grants and loan programs to address short-term and long-term challenges.
3. Public Comment	None
4. New Business	The following recommendations were presented to members for vote. A motion to vote on each recommendation was received and seconded. There was no discussion on the recommendations. All recommendations were supported unanimously by the voting members. **[F-a]** The Chief Resilience Officer should request that the Interagency Resilience Management Team provide timely financial tools and reports to local governments, state legislators, and other official entities. These tools and reports should clearly demonstrate the immediate and mid-term costs of inactions to address flood resilience and inform appropriations. **Purpose:** Explain the flood consequences of doing nothing at the local, regional, and state levels.

	[F-b] The Commonwealth's economic development enterprise, public and private, should ensure that businesses, government officials, citizens, and other stakeholders are aware of the economic benefits of developing and implementing Virginia-based flood resilience products and services and exporting them to an emerging global market. **Purpose:** Ensure stakeholders understand the positive financial potential of investing in resilience solutions. **[F-c]** The Chief Resilience Officer should request that the Interagency Resilience Management Team provide information to local governments, state legislators, and other official entities about existing, available, and emerging sources of funding and financial strategies that can support local, regional, and state-wide flood resilience initiatives. **Purpose:** Establish an understanding of the financial resources to develop a financial strategy for implementation. **[F-d]** The Chief Resilience Officer should request that the Interagency Resilience Management Team identify the challenges in the flood-related grant and loan processes specific to private projects and public projects, then recommend opportunities to improve implementation. **Purpose:** Understand the financial needs and limitations to implementing resilience on public and private property. **[F-e]** The Chief Resilience Officer should request that the Interagency Resilience Management Team report on the effectiveness of state funding and financing programs to address short-term and long-term flood-related challenges for local governments and the Commonwealth and consider additional financial mechanisms as appropriate. **Purpose:** Utilize adaptive management for state-directed funding programs to address the immediate and long-term challenges of flooding.
5. Action items and Next Steps	Matt Dalon noted the final recommendations would be presented to the full Technical Advisory Committee for their consideration. The next (and last) TAC meeting is scheduled for November 13. Gratitude was expressed for everyone's input during the meeting and acknowledged the assistance in organizing the meeting.
6. Adjourn	Sean Crumlish adjourned the meeting at 12:16

Voting Record:

Item	First	Second	Committee Vote
Agenda	Lewis Lawrence	Bill Curtis	Unanimous Approval
Minutes	Lewis Lawrence	Chris Swanson	Unanimous Approval

Voting Member Organizations Present	Recommendation				
	F-a:	F-b:	F-c:	F-d:	F-e:
Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support
Hampton Roads Planning District Commission	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support
Virginia Department of Transportation	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support
Virginia Marine Resources Commission	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support
Virginia Resources Authority	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support
Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development	Support	Support	Support	Support	Support

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