Virginia Coastal Resilience Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Outreach and Coordination Subcommittee

Subject	TAC Outreach and Coordination Subcommittee Meeting 2023-Q3	Date	08/24/23
Chair	Martin Brown, Office of Diversity Opportunity and Inclusion (ODOI)	Time – START/ADJOURN	2:30pm/4:10pm
Location	Patrick Henry Building East Reading Room 1111 E Broad St, Richmond, VA 23219	Scribe	Sarah Jackson, VCU CPP

TAC Subcommittee Members		
Name [Alternate Name]	Title Organization	Attended? V = Virtual
Charles Boyles [Meredith Keppel]	Executive Director [Environmental Planner II] George Washington Regional Commission	[V]
Martin Brown [Michael Perez]	Chief Officer (Chair) [Deputy Chief Diversity Officer] (Co-Chair) Office of Diversity, Opportunity, and Inclusion (ODOI)	[Y]
Cameron Bruce	Environmental Program Coordinator Nansemond Indian Nation	Y
Mary Carson-Stiff [John Bateman]	Executive Director [Planning Program Director] Wetlands Watch	V
Bill Curtis	Assistant Director Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development	Y
Joseph Howell	Regional Community Plans & Liaison Officer Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (Advisor)	V

Martha Moore [Katelyn Jordan]	Senior Vice President Government Relations [Legislative Specialist, Governmental Relations] Virginia Farm Bureau	[Y]
Jill Bieri	Associate State Director, Virginia The Nature Conservancy	V
Reggie Tupponce	Tribal Administrator Upper Mattaponi Tribe	N
Brett Vassey	President & CEO Virginia Manufacturers Association	V
Brian Hallberg [Gregory Williams]	Commander [Deputy Chief] U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District (USACE)	Y

TAC Staff		
Name	Title (Organization Abbreviation)	Attended? V = Virtual
Matt Dalon	Resilience Program Manager, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)	Y
Carolyn Heaps-Pecaro	Resilience Program Coordination, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)	Y
Darryl Glover	Deputy Agency Director of Dam Safety, Flood Preparedness, and Soil and Water Conservation, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)	V
Andrew Smith	Chief Deputy Director, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)	V
Addie Alexander	Center for Public Policy at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU CPP)	V
Sarah Jackson	Center for Public Policy at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU CPP)	Y
Wheeler Wood	Center for Public Policy at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU CPP)	Y

Scheduled Speakers	
Name	**Title, Organization**
Carolyn Heaps-Pecaro	Resilience Planning Program Coordinator, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

Reference Links	
Item	**Link**
Meeting Agenda	https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/GetFile.cfm?File=meeting\49\38419\Agenda_DCR_new_v1.pdf
Meeting Handouts/Presentation Slides	
Video Recording of the Meeting	https://youtu.be/utcQa7cO1j0

Agenda Item	Minutes
1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Introductions	Michael Perez (ODOI), Chair Alternate, called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM. He welcomed the attendees to the meeting on behalf of Chair Martin Brown (ODOI) who could not attend the meeting. Mr. Perez asked the attendees to introduce themselves and note the organization that they represent.
2. Adoption of Agenda	Michael Perez (ODOI) said that the first order of business is to adopt the meeting agenda. After the agenda was presented a second motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting agenda.
3. New Business	Carolyn Heaps-Pecaro (DCR) clarified DCR's roles as staff support to the TAC Subcommittee. She noted that all FOIA requests regarding either TAC or the TAC Outreach and Coordination Subcommittee can be directed to Michael Fletcher, FOIA Officer for DCR. Direct requests should be emailed to Mr. Fletcher (Michael.Fletcher@dcr.virginia.gov) and include DCR Support Staff, Carolyn Heaps-Pecaro and Matt Dalon.
	Ms. Heaps-Pecaro presented an overview of the Coastal Resilience Master Plan Phase II that included the plan timeline, deliverables, and key components. She stated that, in alignment with code requirements, Phase II will focus on updating the coastal hazard exposure model, impact assessment, and building an inventory of projects. Phase II will not include project prioritization. The Flood Protection Master Plan (FRMP) update will happen concurrently in 2024, continuing to the end of 2025. Outreach and engagement will occur throughout the plan's development to help guide content and direction of the deliverables. The following items were noted during the presentation:

- Virginia Coastal Master Plan (CRMP) Phase II is due no later than December 2024.

- Phase II will result in an updated Coastal Resilience Web Explorer with updated flood hazards, impacts, projects, as well as a pdf document that will include an updated impact assessment coming from the Flood Hazard Exposure Model. Other key components include Flood Hazard Risk Assessment, Planned Resilience Actions, quantification of financial need for flood resilience, and any recommendations put forth by the TAC Subcommittees.

Ms. Heaps-Pecaro then reviewed Phase II timeline and noted future TAC committee and subcommittee meeting timeframes and their alignment with the delivery of CRMP Phase II.

The following items were brought before the group:

a) Subcommittee Role and Objectives

All objectives can be revisited as needed and are open to discussion among this subcommittee. The TAC Outreach and Coordination Subcommittee has been tasked with the following:

1) Inform and support outreach and engagement for the CRMP Phase II.

2) Strengthen relationships with key stakeholders identified as critical to engaging in the CRMP Phase I.

3) Develop recommendations for future planning.

Subcommittee members raised the following:

- It was suggested that for Objective 2, add some reference to prioritizing and engaging all critical infrastructure sector facilities. Brett Vassey provided the following link for guidance https://www.cisa.gov/topics/critical-infrastructure-security-and-resilience/critical-infrastructure-sectors.
  - Staff noted that VDEM plans to re-establish a critical infrastructure working group that will include critical facility owners and state agency regulators. DCR intends to coordinate with those parties via this working group to support development of the CRMP Phase II.
- A member inquired about the purpose of identifying stakeholders as part of the subcommittee's objective. Will identifying additional stakeholders result in the formulation of another work group, or are these stakeholders the recipients of info pushes? The subcommittee could benefit on what the role of these additional stakeholders will be.
  - All subcommittees are asked to consider whether additional advisors to the TAC would be helpful to advancing their charge – the stakeholder identification could help to answer this question;

we can also identify presenters to the subcommittees; we are also looking for more information on who should be our focus for invitations to public meetings, general info pushes. It will inform O&E in a variety of ways. Identifying stakeholders should be one of the first steps in the process to inform the rest of the process.

- Objective 1: advise on roles goals and strategies for stakeholder engagement consistent with DCR's COEP – does that include figuring out what it is we want stakeholders to provide feedback about? Or does it include how we want stakeholder engagement to look and to feel? It is important to define what it is we want to hear from people and how those people will be heard, and how their voices will change/impact the process.
  - o Staff: vision is that it would include both "why?" or what questions do we have that we want people to help answer; and "how?" or how we are meeting people and reaching people. Slide 16 includes these questions.
  - o Staff will make sure online participants receive a PDF copy of the slides for future meetings.

b) Coastal Resilience Master Plan Outreach and Engagement

Outreach and Engagement Plan

- Required by code; draft of plan released in December 2022, responding to public comments; doc intended to be framework for outreach and community, not plan or strategy. Has to apply to multiple efforts and a variety of stakeholders relevant to those efforts.

- Working to incorporate goals and expected outcomes. Goals 1 – 4 (slide 14); opportunity to better coordinate with localities; outreach and engagement should be appropriately scaled to the level of plan being developed.

Subcommittee members raised the following:

It was requested that tribal hazard mitigation plans be added to the graphic for flood resilience plan integration. It was noted that Tribal Service Areas reach across multiple localities and don't necessarily fit into regional PDC vs. localities.

- Staff agreed that this would be possible and would appreciate guidance on where they would best fit.

c) A review of the Outreach and Engagement Methods and Results from the CRMP Phase I were shared and there were no questions or comments from the subcommittee.

d) Coastal Resilience Master Plan, Phase II – Draft Outreach and Engagement Strategy

DCR presented its draft strategy which follows the draft updated outline for the COEP. The presentation covered:

    a. Constraints to planning: timeline, resources, concurrent plan element development, value proposition as a result of fewer decisions being made in the plan, and the fact that this is an update to an existing plan.

    b. Stakeholder identification and analysis: application of the IAP2 Spectrum for Public Participation and stakeholder mapping (influence/interest) and draft stakeholder analysis map. State and regional entities rise to the top for collaborate methods, while locality/community level entities may fit better as involve/consult. DCR is committed to providing opportunities for engagement to all stakeholders that appear on this map, regardless of where they fall.

    c. Opportunities to Influence Decision Making: five intended engagement approaches at different points of the plan development process. Combined engagement strategy – the "who," "why," "how," and "what" and the proposed schedule for engagement.

d) Subcommittee Members Discussion – Feedback on CRMP Phase II draft outreach and engagement strategy

DCR Staff asked the subcommittee to consider whether any immediate adjustments to the proposed CRMP Phase II outreach and engagement strategy seemed necessary; and for any thoughts on the deployment of an end-user survey to get feedback on Phase I.

a survey of localities and other stakeholders would be helpful in collecting input from stakeholders on how they are conducting risk assessments.

Wetlands Watch offered to share data collected through their flood mapping tool if it is helpful to support a participatory mapping of flood impacts product from DCR.

- Staff shared that such information would be helpful and would also appreciate feedback on how a participatory mapping tool from the state, if it were created, would best work together with the Wetlands Watch existing tool.

A discussion focused on the opportunity to influence decision making in the plan. It was noted that the work can be framed in such a way that there wouldn't be lower feedback, particularly if the second round is intended to address/fill gaps left behind from Phase I effort. A lot of community voices weren't heard during first process, and there is a way to revisit and ensure that their voices are heard. It is important to understand the goals of the outreach. Goals might include (1) to hear from local governments, residents about their challenges and compile their reflections, catalogue them, share them via Phase II; (2) help create the planning recommendations for the future for each subcommittee; (3) Get feedback from stakeholders for the purpose of better aligning stakeholders together and promote

collective action in concert with the state (ex., a civic group working together with a local government, or an NGO working with a local government, etc.). It would be helpful to discuss what's possible and expected for goals.

- Staff shared that slide 32 is the closest thing that they have to what she is asking for at this point. This speaks to points 1 and 2 that were shared, but doesn't specifically set as an intention encouraging state action outside of the planning effort. Staff asked the subcommittee: are these the right goals? Should we consider supporting stakeholders to find each other and work together?

USACE identified that it would be helpful for them to be able to use what comes out of outreach and engagement (particularly gaps identification #4) to identify opportunities for their support to localities.

Subcommittee members agreed that a gaps analysis on the reach of outreach/engagement should inform which stakeholders should be prioritized for outreach during Phase II. Staff indicated that they would bring this to the subcommittee in Q4 2023.

A member indicated that they could be most supportive in advancing opportunities #4 and #5 (slide 32) directly, and that they could help by sharing information to their respective contacts to advance objectives #1-#3.

It was highlighted that tribes were not listed on the stakeholder slide (slide 33) and DCR confirmed that was an oversight and will be addressed as will plans to engage with either state or federally recognized tribes or both. DCR has received feedback that it would be advantageous to meet with the tribes separately, but would welcome the subcommittee's feedback on this approach.

e) Subcommittee Advisors

The TAC Chair, Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources Travis Voyles and Alternate Chair Director Matt Wells of DCR can appoint advisors to subcommittees based on recommendations of the subcommittee chairs. Members are encouraged to make recommendations to the TAC Chair on subject matter experts who could participate in discussions and meetings as a member of the public body but not serve as a voting member. While DCR is not precluded from consulting individuals informally outside of the TAC Membership, this subcommittee must decide whether an appointed advisor on resilience data is needed.

When asked about technical qualifications for advisors, it was stated that the desired skills are specific to each subcommittee.
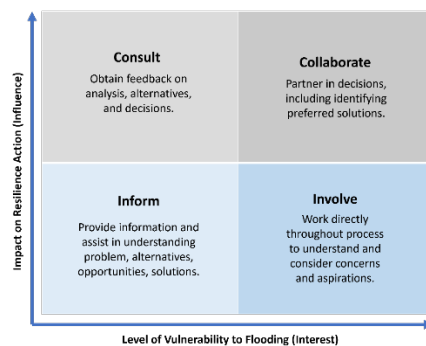
Subcommittee member noted that it would be helpful to know what financial tools the Virginia Resources Authority can offer to local governments. Staff noted that VRA is the chair for the funding subcommittee.

No recommendations for subcommittee advisors nor presenters were made. Staff encouraged members to email the Chair and Staff with any suggestions after the meeting.

f) Subcommittee discussion

Members were asked to identify the most important stakeholders that they felt exist in the coastal region that should be engaged, considering organizations that are not already included on the TAC.

The members of the subcommittee identified the following potential stakeholders: (in no particular order)

- VDOT
- Local government on storm and wastewater
- DHCD
- Port of Virginia
- First responders
- Utility providers
- Virginia Department of Health (particularly for septic risks)
- Insurance agencies
- National Weather Service and NOAA
- NASA Wallops
- Virginia Emergency Management Association
- Chesapeake's Natural Event Mitigation Advisory Committee
- Gloucester County's Floodplain Management Committee
- City of Norfolk Public Information Flood Risk Committee
- City of Virginia Beach
- Federal Installations, e.g., U.S. Navy, Air Force, etc.
- Agriculture-focused organizations

	- National Park Service - Virginia Cooperative Extension - Virginia United Land Trust (VAULT) - Soil and Water Conservation Districts - HUD - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) - Virginia American Planning Association - Virginia Floodplain Management Association (and other professional associations) - VACo - VML - Wineries - Service Clubs – e.g., Rotary, Elks, Shriners - Goodwill, Salvation Army - Commercial Fisheries - Tribes Staff asked if the subcommittee had any feedback on where the entities were placed on DCR's draft stakeholder map. No comments were provided. The stakeholder analysis will be updated and presented at the next meeting for discussion.

	DCR noted that the plan will should focus on the future needs for resilience and adaptation to flooding, and that emergency response is not within the planning scope.
	The subcommittee discussed that it makes sense to DCR to focus efforts on the scale of the PDC/Locality and not try to meet with individual communities given the available resources and scope of the plan.
	Not every at-risk locality is at the same interest/influence level on the map. It was noted that at-risk localities may be highly vulnerable but lower on the interest scale because they just do not have the resources to engage. On the other hand, some at-risk localities are farther right on the spectrum because they do have the resources and established programs to pursue flood resilience. Should figure out which localities are highly vulnerable but don't have the means to take action. The needs and resources of the communities such as the Eastern Shore are different from Norfolk.
	When asked about inundation modeling to understand areas of concern, DCR indicated that is currently ongoing and will determine geographically which areas to target.
4. Action Items, Scheduling	At the Q3 Meeting, DCR Staff will present an updated stakeholder map, gaps analysis from Phase I outreach and engagement, and updated outreach and engagement strategy.
	Members will receive a survey where they can indicate their preferred meeting days and times.
5. Public Comment	No public comment was given.
6. Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm.

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