



A Flood Mitigation Assistance Program to Increase Community Resilience

Recommendation

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Appendix O

Section 7 establishes the
Local Stormwater
Management Fund Effective
Sept 13, 2023

Stormwater
Facility
Assistance

Program first
presented at the
October 4, 2022,
BOSEC.

Flood Mitigation
Assistance

Our discussion
today.

Future Programs

Any future grant
programs will be
brought to the
Board for approval.

Why a cost-share program?

Flooding is not a linear straightforward risk

- Drainage is a shared obligation
 - Surface water is a "common enemy"
- Drainage is a function of a changing natural environment
 - Emerging chaotic weather patterns continue to cause unprecedented flooding
 - Land cover and slopes change naturally and with development, affecting properties downstream

Cost-share program helps reduce risk to life and property on private lots

- Studies show that the most successful comprehensive flood risk reduction programs include cost-share programs
- Empowers property owners to take proactive preventative measures
- Reduces capital project costs
- Prevents property damage

Seeking Board recommendation to develop a Flood Mitigation Assistance Program that will be mutually beneficial to the County and its residents:

County

Deliver assistance to residents who take proactive efforts to increase overall community resiliency

Residents

Reimbursed for products and/or services that will reduce the risk of flood damage to their property

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



50/50 cost-share reimbursement program



Maximum award of \$5,000



Open to residential or multi-family properties, common interest communities, and places of worship



Funded through the County's Stormwater Service District



Initial funding of \$250,000 for Fiscal Year 2025



Grant administered by Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District

Approved
flood
mitigation
practices
include:



Window wells



Flood gates



Modified basement
areaways



Sump pump backup
batteries



Utility protection



Exterior grading or
drains

INLAND FLOODING

Given the projected increase in heavy precipitation days, inland flooding is also expected to increase. There are two major types of inland flooding:

Riverine flooding occurs when heavy or prolonged rains cause rivers and streams to overflow into floodplains. Figure 6 shows FEMA — and county — recorded floodplains in Fairfax County.

Urban flooding which is more common in Fairfax County, occurs when rainwater overwhelms the county's stormwater drainage systems, particularly in areas that are low-lying, lack sufficient stormwater infrastructure, or have too much impervious cover. Figure 7 is a map of a property-by-property analysis to find areas that may be flood prone. The properties were scored for 10 factors. These factors include:

Figure 6. Fairfax

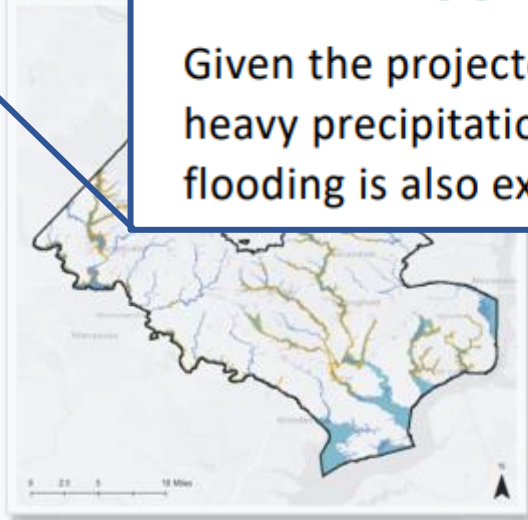


Figure 7. Flood Exposure: 10-factor flood score. (Source: DPWES/GIS).

INLAND FLOODING

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SNAPSHOT OF RESILIENT FAIRFAX STRATEGIES

CRC.3a. Pursue and Implement a Flood-Risk Reduction Plan for the Fairfax County Community

Climate Ready Communities			R
CRC.1. Safe and	CRC.2. Build Community Capacity	CRC.3. Pursue Climate Ready Development	RIB.1. Incorporate Resilient Infrastructure Decisions
a. Develop Resilient Areas	CRC.2a. Provide Community Aid and Services to Alleviate Resilience Needs	CRC.3a. Pursue and Implement a Flood-Risk Reduction Plan for the Fairfax County Community	RIB.1. Capital Program: Include Resilient Considerations
b. Pursue Development of Resilience Hubs in Climate-Vulnerable Areas of the County	CRC.2b. Launch a Climate Resilience Education and Guidance Program	CRC.3b. Encourage Heat-Resilient Design, Development, Upgrades, and Practices	RIB.1. Resilient Government Buildings
CRC.1c. Expand Targeted Tree	CRC.2c. Support Resilience	CRC.3c. Pursue	RIB.1c. Energy

The County cannot achieve a meaningful level of flood mitigation without resident participation.

The program empowers residents to make quick repairs to reduce their flood risk.

Next Steps

Today	Public Hearing	Incorporate	Start
<p>Seek Board recommendation to move forward with the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program</p>	<p>DPWES will come before the Board for a Public Hearing on the formal MOU with Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District</p>	<p>Incorporate the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program into the FY25 budget</p>	<p>Start the program on July 1, 2024</p>

Questions?

