

## **APPENDIX J – MEETING MINUTES, PUBLIC NOTICES, SURVEY RESULTS**

This section includes minutes and copies of public notices from the following public meetings/workshops held during the update of this Plan:

- May 4, 2021 – Project kick-off meeting
- September 2, 2021 – Strategy Meeting with VDEM, FEMA staff
- Public Survey Results (including survey form and documentation of media coverage)
- January 18, 2022 – HIRA meeting between consultant and stakeholders, agenda and presentation materials
- May 9, 2022 – Virtual HIRA Meeting (open to the public)
- October 2022 – Media coverage (including social media) for availability of draft Plan for public review and comment
- October 19, 2022 – Public Input Session at monthly CRC Council Meeting

NOTE: Public notices generated by the CRC for public meetings/workshops were distributed to local radio stations, as well as local newspapers, throughout the region.

**May 4, 2021 – Project Kickoff Meeting**

**HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – 2023 UPDATE  
KICK-OFF MEETING  
MAY 4, 2021  
VIRTUAL MEETING**

**PRESENT**

Mr. Kent Emerson, Amelia County Emergency Services\*  
Ms. Holly Stelle, Amelia County Director of Community Development  
Mr. Cody Davis, Buckingham County Emergency Management Coordinator\*  
Ms. Nicci Edmonston, Buckingham County Planning and Zoning Administrator  
Ms. Monica Elder, Charlotte County Planning and Zoning Administrator\*  
Mr. Chris Russell, Charlotte County E-911 Coordinator  
Mr. Rodney Newton, Victoria Town Manager (Lunenburg County)\*  
Mr. Brian Thrower, Crewe Town Manager (Nottoway County)\*  
Mr. Trey Pyle, Prince Edward County Community Development Specialist\*  
Mr. Robert “Reggie” Love, Prince Edward County Planning and Zoning Administrator  
Ms. Ashley Adkins-Austin, Town of Farmville GIS Analyst/Grants Specialist\*  
Mr. Will Nash, Farmville Town Surveyor  
Mr. Tony Matthews, Kenbridge Town Manager  
Ms. Mary Kay, Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC)  
Mr. Todd Fortune, CRC

\* Denotes Project Management Team Member

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

The meeting was convened at 10:00 a.m. After a brief introduction and welcome, Mr. Fortune began an overview of the project and the process involved.

**OVERVIEW OF HAZARD MITIGATION AND EXPLANATION OF PLANNING EFFORT**

Mr. Fortune went over a PowerPoint presentation outlining the project and the process (see ATTACHMENT #1). This project is being funded by a Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant from FEMA. A non-federal match is required on the grant. The match is being covered by localities actively participating in the Plan through in-kind donations (staff time). All seven counties plus the Towns of Farmville and Crewe are actively participating.

The other towns will be covered on the Project Management Team through their respective counties during the process. They will still be expected to participate, but at a lower level. Their participation, at a minimum, will need to include having at least one mitigation strategy in the Plan and adopting the Plan (when it is ready) as it pertains to them.

The update will cover all of the localities within Planning District 14. Cumberland County did not participate in the most recent update, but will be participating in this one.

As per federal requirements, the plan needs to be updated every five (5) years for the covered localities to remain eligible for certain types of FEMA funding. They include:

- The PDM Program – now known as Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC);
- The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP); and
- The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program

The handout included a tentative project schedule. Mr. Fortune said that the CRC hopes to have this project completed in 24 months.

#### DISCUSSION OF WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED OF THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM, AND OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Mr. Fortune went over what is expected of the Project Management Team. Members are being asked to assist with data collection and reviews. Additionally, Management Team members will also be asked to review materials and provide feedback. Members will also be expected to serve as liaisons for the respective localities. Mr. Fortune said the Project Management Team could expect to meet at least 4-5 times during the process.

To get full public participation, CRC staff will make the draft Plan available for public review and comment (when it is ready) and may make a public presentation at a monthly Council meeting during the process. In addition, CRC staff may make presentations at other public meetings as deemed necessary or appropriate.

#### OTHER ISSUES, ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fortune asked the group for their preference on how to present draft materials for the Plan to the group for review. The consensus was to present the sections of the draft Plan as they are ready to review.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

## Commonwealth Regional Council



### Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Kick-off Meeting

May 4, 2021

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### Housekeeping Notes

- This meeting is being recorded
- Please keep your line muted unless engaged in the conversation.
- This meeting will last approximately 45 minutes to an hour.

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### Agenda

- Welcome, introductions
- General overview of project, federal requirements
- Overview of planning effort and what will be expected/requested of participants (project management team, stakeholders, etc.)
- Public participation, town participation
- *TENTATIVE* schedule for project completion
- Next meeting

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW OF PROJECT, FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

- All localities in Planning District 14, with the exception of Cumberland County, are currently covered by a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (CRC Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, completed in 2018).
  - Cumberland County opted not to participate in the 2018 Plan update, but is participating in the current update.
- Plan identifies strategies and actions localities can implement before a disaster strikes, to mitigate (lessen) the impact of a disaster when it occurs.

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW, cont.

- All localities in Virginia, as well as across the United States, are required to be covered by a FEMA-approved plan as per the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2K).
- Being covered under a FEMA-approved Plan allows localities to remain eligible for certain types of FEMA grant funding — specifically:
  - Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC) Grant Program
  - Formerly known as the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
  - Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program

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## GENERAL OVERVIEW, cont.

- To stay in compliance with DMA2K, the Plan needs to be reviewed and updated every five (5) years.
  - Last Update completed in April 2018.
  - Next Update due by April 2023.

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## OVERVIEW OF PLANNING EFFORT

- Normally, the process would take 18-24 months. Since we are starting in April 2021, we are hopeful of staying within that timeframe – which would have this update completed by April 2023.
- The update of the CRC Regional Plan will include the following components:
  - Update Regional Profile
  - Update Capability Assessment
  - Update Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
  - Update Project Data and Maps
  - Review/Update Mitigation Strategies and Actions
  - Update Plan Maintenance Strategy

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## PLANNING EFFORT, cont.

- The Project Management Team is comprised of one representative from each of the participating localities – the Counties of Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward; and the Town of Farmville.
- Towns (other than Farmville) are represented by their respective county on the Project Management Team (PMT).
  - Crewe has opted to participate in the PMT.
- The Project Management Team will meet with CRC staff approximately four (4) or five (5) times during the process. In addition, team members will be asked to attend local government meetings in their respective jurisdiction if/when CRC staff makes presentations to those governing bodies.

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## PLANNING EFFORT, cont.

- Team members will be asked to review documents and provide feedback. These include, but are not limited to, drafts of the plan, results of the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA), and other documents.
- Team members will serve as a liaison between the CRC and their respective localities. This includes coordination with their respective localities to update mitigation strategies and collecting data for inclusion in the Plan.
- The Team may be asked to endorse the final draft of the plan before it is reviewed by VDEM and FEMA.

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### PLANNING EFFORT, cont.

- The Project Management Team will meet an estimated four or five times during the process (subject to change). The group will review materials and provide feedback, and help CRC staff address any issues that may arise during the project.
  - For some of these meetings, regional stakeholders and the public may be invited.

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### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

#### Public Participation/Comment

- The DRAFT Plan, when it is ready, will be made available for public review and comment.
- CRC staff may make public presentations to local governing bodies at regular monthly meetings, and local civic groups (Chambers of Commerce, etc.) as requested, to solicit input from governing bodies and the public.

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### TOWN PARTICIPATION

#### Participation by Towns

- Towns, even though they are covered by their respective counties during the process, will need to show some level of participation in the project. First and foremost, each Town will need to have at least one mitigation strategy in the Plan. Also, each Town will need to adopt the Plan as it pertains to them. Other forms of participation may include:
  - Reviewing draft materials presented
  - Having CRC staff make public presentations at Town Council meetings, if needed or requested, and participating in those presentations

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### TENTATIVE PROJECT SCHEDULE

Kickoff meeting	April 2021
Draft HIRA ready for review by PMT, stakeholders	September 2021
Update HIRA based on feedback	Oct/Nov, 2021
Update Capability Assessment, mitigation strategies	Jan/Feb, 2022
Draft Plan ready for review by PMT, VDEM	June/July 2022
Plan available for public review, receive by covered localities	Aug/Sept, 2022
Preliminary re-endorsement of Plan by VDEM/CMA	Nov./Dec, 2022
Adoption by covered localities	Jan/Feb, 2023
Final approval by FEMA	April 2023
<i>This schedule is subject to change.</i>	

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### QUESTIONS?

Next meeting: April/May 2016 (tentative)

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## **AGENDA**

### **CRC REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE**

#### **KICK-OFF MEETING**

#### **VIRTUAL (ZOOM) MEETING**

**MAY 4, 2021**

<https://zoom.us/j/98114016064?pwd=WHJYV01MemtZTU8wb2xMUVpCVmhWUT09>

**Meeting ID: 981 1401 6064**

**Passcode: 597755**

- Welcome, introductions
- General overview of project, federal requirements
- Overview of planning effort and what will be expected/requested of participants (Project Management Team, stakeholders, etc.)
- Public participation, town participation
- *TENTATIVE* schedule for project completion
- Next Meeting

**September 2, 2021 – Strategy Meeting with VDEM, FEMA staff**

**HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – 2023 UPDATE  
STRATEGY MEETING WITH VDEM, FEMA STAFF  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2021  
IN-PERSON MEETING  
FARMVILLE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER**

**PRESENT**

Kristen Tillman, Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC)  
Kent Emerson, Amelia County Director of Emergency Management  
Taylor Harvie, Amelia County Administrator  
Cody Davis, Buckingham County Director of Emergency Services  
Ryenne Holland, Buckingham County Emergency Management Coordinator  
Rodney Newton, Victoria Town Manager  
Tony Matthews, Kenbridge Town Manager  
Reggie Love, Prince Edward County Director of Planning and Community Development  
Amanda Weaver, Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) Region 1  
Chris Bruce, VDEM Region 3  
Mari Radford, FEMA Region 3  
Todd Fortune, CRC

**ISSUES DISCUSSED**

Mari Radford discussed some of the things FEMA staff would like to see in the Plan when it is updated. Requested changes/additions include:

- Address pandemics and their potential effects
- Bring the National Weather Service back in, take a deeper look at the effect of heat wave events
- Look at cascading effects of hazards across PDC boundaries
- Include invasive species
  - Effects on agriculture
  - Related diseases
- Include radon
  - Naturally occurring
  - Look at how building codes address radon
  - Education programs for homebuyers on radon
  - Testing soils before buying a home
- Take another look at Census data
  - Age comparisons
  - People who speak other languages
  - Owner versus rental housing, manufactured homes
- Explain the data (tables, maps) in more detail
- Take another look at state data (dams)
- Roll climate change into future expectations
- Look for more data on man-made hazards
- Link hazards to FEMA lifelines
- Look at elevation/acquisition data

- Demo/reconstruction
- Look at including BCA data
  - Closures
  - Pump outs
  - Manhours
- Include stormwater flooding in the flood assessment
- Bring in stakeholders earlier in the process
  - Large employers in the region
  - VDOT
  - Local Chambers of Commerce
  - Utilities
  - Railroads
  - Local Dept. of Forestry Offices
  - Schools
  - Local Extension Offices
  - Prisons
  - Hospitals
- Reach out to the public three (3) times
  - Public Surveys
  - During the HIRA
  - When the Draft Plan is ready
- More photos
- Be sure the FIRMs in the Plan are up-to-date
- Be sure community capability assessments are through
- Be sure local NFIP worksheets are up-to-date

VDEM and FEMA staff asked that the draft Plan be submitted for review by September 1, 2022. They advised that the Plan may be submitted electronically.

**tfortune@virginiasheartland.org**

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**From:** tfortune@virginiasheartland.org  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2021 10:51 AM  
**To:** Brian Thrower; Cody Davis; Lee Leeds (lleeds@cumberlandcounty.virginia.gov); Monica Elder; Rodney Newton; Steve Bowen; Taylor Harvie; Trey Pyle; Chris Russell; nedmondston@buckinghamcounty.virginia.gov; Reggie Love; Steven Morris; Tony Matthews; Tracy Gee; 'Kent.Emerson@ameliacova.com'; 'stucker@nottoway.org'  
**Cc:** 'Jackie Gilbert'; 'Christopher Bruce'; 'Radford, Mari'; Amanda Weaver  
**Subject:** Next Week's TA Meeting on Hazard Mitigation

Good morning,

Quick follow-up: For those of you planning to attend the Hazard Mitigation TA meeting next Thursday (September 2), the meeting will be held in the Farmville Emergency Operations Center Training Room. The room is in the top floor of the Farmville Municipal Building, 116 North Main Street (I believe some of you have been there). There is a municipal lot behind the building, between South and Virginia Streets. Jackie Gilbert will speak with the Farmville PD Sargent working that day to let him know you will be using the lot.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Todd Fortune  
Deputy Director  
Commonwealth Regional Council  
Farmville, Virginia  
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(434) 392-5933 (fax)  
(434) 607-5219 (cell)  
[TFortune@virginiasheartland.org](mailto:TFortune@virginiasheartland.org)

**tfortune@virginiasheartland.org**

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**From:** tfortune@virginiasheartland.org  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 17, 2021 1:24 PM  
**To:** Ashley Austin; Brian Thrower; Cody Davis; Lee Leeds  
(lleeds@cumberlandcounty.virginia.gov); Monica Elder; Rodney Newton; Steve Bowen;  
Taylor Harvie; Trey Pyle  
**Cc:** Chris Russell; nedmondston@buckinghamcounty.virginia.gov; Reggie Love; Steven  
Morris; Tony Matthews; Tracy Gee; 'Kent.Emerson@ameliacova.com';  
'stucker@nottoway.org'; 'Christopher Bruce'; 'Radford, Mari'; Amanda Weaver  
**Subject:** RE: Hazard Mitigation Plan Update - Kickoff Meeting

All,

A quick heads up for the group: We are setting up a technical assistance meeting on the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for Thursday, September 2 at 10:00 a.m. with staff from VDEM and FEMA Region III. The location is TBD – we're looking at either the Farmville EOC training room or the downstairs meeting space in the Mill Building (where the CRC office is located), depending on how many people attend.

I will send out a calendar invite shortly. Please respond as soon as you can to let us know whether you plan to attend. Once we have a headcount, we'll finalize the location.

Thanks in advance!

Todd Fortune  
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## Public Survey Results



## 2021 Commonwealth Regional Council Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Survey

As part of the process to update its Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) conducted a citizen survey to gauge public opinion on hazards that affect the community. The surveys were created on Survey Monkey, with the online link made available through the CRC web site and participating local government sites. Some local papers also ran articles about the surveys. The survey went live on November 17, with a deadline of December 15 to complete the surveys. A total of 32 surveys were completed. The results are summarized below.

### 1. Have you or someone in your household experienced any of the natural disasters below? (Please check ALL that apply)

- 25 Winter Storm/Blizzard
- 17 Tornado/Windstorm/Derecho
- 14 Hurricane/Tropical Storm
- 13 Drought
- 10 Earthquake
- 9 Flood
- 2 Household Fire
- 1 Wildfire
- 0 Dust Storm
- 0 Landslide/Debris Flow
- 0 Dam/Levee Failure

### 2. How concerned are you about the following natural hazards affecting our area? (Please check only ONE box for each hazard)

	Extremely Concerned	Very Concerned	Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not Concerned
Drought	4	6	14	5	3
Earthquake	1	3	5	11	10
Flood	4	5	4	9	9
Household Fire	4	9	6	11	1
Hurricane	3	7	14	5	2
Ice Storm	12	9	8	2	1
Landslide/Debris Flow	1	0	3	6	19
Wildfire	3	4	9	6	8
Tornado/Wind Storm/Derecho	8	8	8	7	1
Winter Storm/Blizzard	8	6	13	3	2
Other	0	2	0	0	5

Please specify:  
 Hazardous materials coming through our region  
 Active shooter/terrorism

3. For each activity below please select: what you have done, plan to do in the near future, have not done, or are unable to do, in your household. *(Please check ONE answer per activity)*

	Have Done	Plan to Do	Not Done	Unable to Do
Attend meetings or received written information on natural disasters or emergency preparedness?	20	3	9	0
Developed a plan for what everyone would do in the event of a household emergency?	20	5	7	0
Prepared a "Disaster Supply Kit" (Stored extra food, etc.)?	20	7	6	0
Purchased Flood Insurance?	3	1	26	1
Implemented fire- resistance or floodproofing techniques on your home or business?	6	4	20	1
Installed smoke detectors and fire extinguishers in your home or business?	29	2	1	0

4. How concerned are you of an occurrence of a natural hazard on your property? *(Please check only one)*

- 6 Extremely Concerned  
7 Very Concerned  
17 Somewhat Concerned  
2 Not Concerned

5. What modifications have you made or would you consider making to protect your home or business from natural disasters? *(Please check ALL that apply)*

- 30 Keep culverts, ditches, and gutters free of debris  
27 Keep gutters clean  
18 Dispose of stove, grill and fireplace ashes properly  
14 Find out if you live in a floodplain  
11 Avoid building in a floodplain  
11 Stack firewood at least 30 feet away and uphill from your home and clear combustible materials around it  
9 Seal basement walls and windows with waterproofing compounds  
9 landscape your yard with fire-resistant vegetation  
8 Place metal screens over structure openings  
7 Select fire-resistant materials to build your home such as flame-retardant roof shingles

- 5       Anchor bookcases, cabinets to wall
- 5       Secure water heater to wall
- 5       Secure home to its foundation
- 4       Fit gas appliances with flexible connections
- 4       Purchase flood insurance
- 4       Install check valves to keep sewer lines from backing up
- 4       Elevate your house at least 100 feet above the 100-year flood elevation
- 4       Relocate your home outside the floodplain
- 3       Install latches on drawers/cabinets
- 3       Elevate utilities and move appliances out of basements
- 3       Brace un-reinforced masonry and concrete walls and foundations

6. Which of the following incentives, if any, would motivate you to take additional steps to better protect your family and home from a natural disaster? *(Please check ALL that apply)*

- 29     Tax break or incentives
- 23     Insurance discount
- 18     Federal or state grant
- 15     Mortgage discount
- 11     Free (brief) training on preparation and prevention of property disaster
- 9       Free wildfire mitigation home assessment
- 8       Low interest rate loan
- 8       Lower new home construction costs
- 0       None
- 1       Other

Upgrade utilities to current code

7. How likely is your community to follow recommendations or requirements that attempt to mitigate risk in ongoing and future pandemics? *(Please check only one)*

- 14     Likely
- 10     Not likely
- 5       Very likely
- 2       Extremely unlikely
- 1       Extremely likely

8. What manmade hazards are of the greatest concern to you and your community? *(Please check ALL that apply)*

- 21 Hazardous material/chemical spills
- 15 Solar farming/unsafe battery storage
- 12 Biohazard
- 11 Accidents at fertilizer/chemical factories
- 6 Pipeline explosion

9. In what county, city, or town do you live?

Charlotte (7)  
Charlotte County (5)  
Crewe (4)  
Drakes Branch (4)  
Amelia (2)  
Nottoway (2)  
Amelia County  
Amelia, Virginia  
Buckingham County  
Charlotte County, Saxe  
Charlotte Court House  
Lunenburg  
Lunenburg County  
Nottoway County

10. Do you own or rent your dwelling?

- 28 Own
- 3 Rent
- 1 No answer

11. Additional Comments:

Some of the questions are poorly written or purposely misleading. For instance, you can be FOR solar farming, but AGAINST unsafe battery storage, that's not the question that's presented, you are either ok with solar farming and unsafe battery storage or against solar farming and unsafe battery storage. Also, on the planning to go to emergency prep meetings (page 3) you either have gone or don't plan to, there's no option for you'd like to be presented with the option to go.

None

I believe that Nottoway is grossly unprepared for even a moderate emergency.

None

N/A

NA

Do you need citizen participation on formulating the Hazard Mitigation plan?

None.

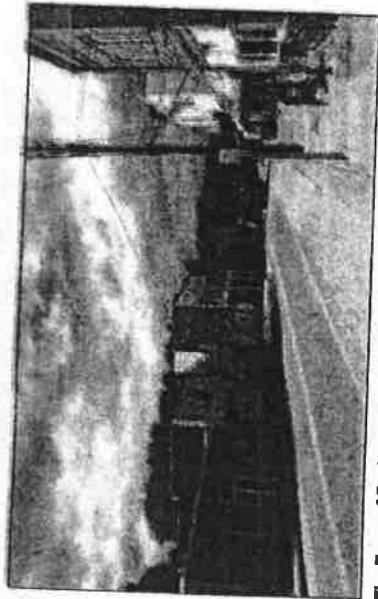
There are major concerns regarding the hundreds of trains that pass through this area every week. They

are carrying any and everything and there are no warning sirens or procedures in place to warn of, prepare for, or mitigate a train-related disaster. Some sort of community training and alert system would be beneficial if covered under this project.

None

None

None



The Town of Drakes Branch received extensive damage after flash flooding from Hurricane Michael left many buildings in disrepair.

## Input sought for mitigation plan

By Crystal Vandegrift  
*The Charlotte Gazette*

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is in the process of updating its Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, and it wants to hear from citizens about their concerns as they relate to hazards in the community.

According to FEMA, hazard mitigation is any sustainable action that reduces or eliminates long-term risk to people and property from future disasters.

After identifying these risks, the CRC will develop long-term strategies for protecting people and property from similar events.

Mitigation plans are key to breaking the cycle of disaster, damage and reconstruction.

According to CRC Deputy Director Todd Fortune, per

(See PLAN, Page 2)

## PLAN: Must be updated every five years

### FROM PAGE ONE

federal requirements, the plan must be updated every five years for covered localities to remain eligible to certain funding amounts.

The Town of Drakes Branch is one locality that is awaiting approval of a \$785,310 grant through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGPP), specifically related to damages from Tropical Storm Michael.

It has been over a year since the town applied for the HMGPP.

The FEMA application submitted by the Town of Drakes Branch states the funds would be used to acquire/demolish the Town Hall/Fire Department and seven other commercial buildings in the downtown area.

According to Fortune, the buildings in question are all located close to Twittys Creek and/or the tributary that runs behind the

Town Hall/Fire Department.

"Due to their location in the flood plain, they are subject to periodic flooding and damage from that flooding," Fortune said. "Any buildings that are demolished would be converted to open space, with the intent being to reduce the potential of property damage in the downtown area from future flood events."

"Mitigation planning breaks the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage," FEMA officials said. "Hazard mitigation includes

long-term solutions that reduce the impact of disasters in the future."

A survey has been created for citizens to express their concerns and opinions related to the update of the Plan, which will cover all seven counties in Planning District 14: Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway and Prince Edward.

A link to the survey is available on the CRC web site home page, [www.virginiasheartland.org](http://www.virginiasheartland.org), under "Announcements." Surveys should be completed no later than Dec. 15.

## **PRE-DISASTER PLANNING**

### **Is your community fully prepared?**

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is seeking input on its Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

"Hazard mitigation" refers to efforts to reduce loss of life and property -- or damage to structures and infrastructure -- by lessening the impact of disasters before they happen.

A survey has been created for citizens to express their concerns and opinions related to the update of the Plan, which will cover all seven counties in Planning District 14: Nottoway, Lunenburg, Amelia, Prince Edward, Buckingham, Charlotte, and Cumberland. A link to the survey is available on the CRC web site home page, [www.virginiashheartland.org](http://www.virginiashheartland.org), under "Announcements."

**Surveys should be completed NO LATER THAN December 15th.**

For more information, call Todd Fortune at (434) 392-6104 or email: [TFortune@virginiashheartland.org](mailto:TFortune@virginiashheartland.org).

**75c****LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED****COVERING CHARLOTTE, LUNENBURG & PRINCE EDWARD COUNTIES**020\*003\*\*\*\*\*6-DIGIT 23901  
COMMONWEALTH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
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FARMVILLE, VA 23901-0279 99

674

# THE Southside Messenger

P.O. Box 849, Keysville Va. 23947

November 18-24, 2021

Vol. 18, No 2

## Citizen Input Sought for CRC Mitigation Plan

**SOUTHSIDE** - The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is in the process of updating its Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, and it wants to hear from citizens about their concerns as they relate to hazards in the community. Hazard mitigation refers to efforts to reduce loss of life and property or damage to structures and infrastructure by lessening the impact of disasters before they happen. Hazard Mitigation Planning enables informed preparation for natural and other hazardous events likely to affect a community, school district, county, or region. Organized preparedness provides a means to minimize risk to persons and property, and essentially improve resiliency.

In order to get information from area citizens, the CRC has created a survey so that people can express their concerns and opinions related to the update of the Plan, which will cover all seven counties in Planning District 14: Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway and Prince Edward.

A link to the survey is available on the CRC web site home page, [www.virginiashheartland.org](http://www.virginiashheartland.org), under "Announcements." Surveys should be completed no later than December 15.

Anyone needing more information can contact Todd Fortune at (434) 392-6104 or [TFortune@virginiashheartland.org](mailto:TFortune@virginiashheartland.org).





## Input sought for mitigation plan

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is in the process of updating its Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, and it wants to hear from citizens about their concerns as they relate to hazards in the community.

According to CRC Deputy Director Todd Fortune, per federal requirements, the plan has to be updated every five years for covered localities to remain eligible to certain funding amounts.

Hazard mitigation planning reduces loss of life and property by minimizing the impact of disasters.

After identifying these risks, the CRC will develop long-term strategies for protecting people and property from similar events.

Mitigation plans are key to breaking the cycle of disaster damage and reconstruction.

A survey has been



**Todd  
Fortune**

created for citizens to express their concerns and opinions related to the update of the Plan, which will cover all seven counties in Planning District 14: Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway and Prince Edward.

A link to the survey is available on the CRC web site home page, [www.virginiasheartland.org](http://www.virginiasheartland.org), under "Announcements." Surveys should be completed no later than Dec. 15.

## 2021 Commonwealth Regional Council Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Survey

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is in the process of updating its Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Hazard mitigation refers to efforts to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters before they happen. A mitigation plan allows a community to assess its risks, vulnerabilities and create strategies to reduce damage to structures, infrastructure, and properties. These plans help communities to become more resilient. By completing this survey, you will help the hazard mitigation planning team gain a better understanding of the public's perceptions and opinions regarding hazards.

Please return completed surveys to the CRC: P.O. Box P, Farmville, VA 23901. Completed surveys can also be faxed to the CRC at (434) 392-5933 or electronic copies e-mailed to [ktillman@virginiasheartland.org](mailto:ktillman@virginiasheartland.org). Thank you for your help!

**1. Have you or someone in your household experienced any of the natural disasters below? (Please check ALL that apply)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drought                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide/Debris Flow     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dust Storm               | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Earthquake               | <input type="checkbox"/> Tornado/Windstorm/Derecho |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flood                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Storm/Blizzard     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household Fire           | <input type="checkbox"/> Dam/Levee Failure         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hurricane/Tropical Storm |  |

**2. How concerned are you about the following natural hazards affecting our area? (Please check only ONE box for each hazard)**

	Extremely Concerned	Very Concerned	Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not Concerned
Drought	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Earthquake	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Flood	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Household Fire	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hurricane	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ice Storm	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Landslide/Debris Flow	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildfire	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tornado/ Wind Storm/Derecho	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Winter Storm/Blizzard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<div></div>					

3. For each activity below please select: what you have done, plan to do in the near future, have not done, or are unable to do, in your household. *(Please check ONE answer per activity)*

	Have Done	Plan to Do	Not Done	Unable to Do
Attend meetings or received written information on natural disasters or emergency preparedness?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Developed a plan for what everyone would do in the event of a household emergency?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Prepared a "Disaster Supply Kit" (Stored extra food, etc.)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Purchased Flood Insurance?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Implemented fire-resistance or floodproofing techniques on your home or business?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Installed smoke detectors and fire extinguishers in your home or business?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. How concerned are you of an occurrence of a natural hazard on your property? *(Please check only one)*

- ☐ Extremely Concerned
- ☐ Very Concerned
- ☐ Somewhat Concerned
- ☐ Not Concerned

5. What modifications have you made or would you consider making to protect your home or business from natural disasters? *(Please check ALL that apply)*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anchor bookcases, cabinets to wall                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Find out if you live in a floodplain   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secure water heater to wall                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Avoid building in a floodplain   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Install latches on drawers/cabinets                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Elevate your house at least one foot above the 100-year flood elevation                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fit gas appliances with flexible connections                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Relocate your home outside of the floodplain   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase flood insurance                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Select fire-resistant materials to build your home such as flame-retardant roof shingles                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keep culverts, ditches, and gutters free of debris             | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape your yard with fire-resistant vegetation   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elevate utilities and move appliances out of basements         | <input type="checkbox"/> Keep gutters clean   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seal basement walls and windows with waterproofing compounds   | <input type="checkbox"/> Dispose of stove, grill and fireplace ashes properly   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Install check valves to keep sewer lines from backing up       | <input type="checkbox"/> Stack firewood at least 30 feet away and uphill from your home and clear combustible materials around it |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secure home to its foundation                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Place metal screens over structure openings  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brace un-reinforced masonry and concrete walls and foundations | <input type="checkbox"/> None   |

6. Which of the following incentives, if any, would motivate you to take additional steps to better protect your family and home from a natural disaster? *(Please check ALL that apply)*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance discount   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mortgage discount      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free (brief) training on preparation and prevention of property disaster | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal or state grant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low interest rate loan   | <input type="checkbox"/> Tax break or incentive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lower new home construction costs  | <input type="checkbox"/> None                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free wildfire mitigation home assessment                                 |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)   |   |

7. How likely is your community to follow recommendations or requirements that attempt to mitigate risk in ongoing and future pandemics? *(Please check only one)*

☐ Extremely likely

☐ Likely

☐ Very likely

☐ Not likely

☐ Extremely Unlikely

8. What manmade hazards are of the greatest concern to you and your community? *(Please check ALL that apply)*

☐ Hazardous material/chemical spills ☐ Biohazard ☐ Accidents at fertilizer/chemical factories

☐ Pipeline explosion ☐ Solar Farming/unsafe battery storage

9. In what county, city, or town do you live?

10. Do you own or rent your dwelling?

Own ☐

Rent ☐

11. Additional Comments:

12. Thank you for your participation!

*This survey may be submitted anonymously; however, if you would like to receive information regarding upcoming public meetings for the hazard mitigation plan update, please provide your name and contact information:*

**Name**

**Address**

**Address 2**

**City/Town**

**State/Province**

**ZIP/Postal Code**

**Email Address**

Thank you for your time and providing this information!

## **January 18, 2022 – HIRA Meeting between consultant and stakeholders**

**HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – 2023 UPDATE**  
**HIRA MEETING – CONSULTANT, PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM, AND LOCAL**  
**STAKEHOLDERS**  
**JANUARY 18, 2022**

**PRESENT**

Kristen Tillman, Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC)  
Kent Emerson, Amelia County Director of Emergency Management  
Taylor Harvie, Amelia County Administrator  
Holly Steele, Amelia County Director of Community Development  
Ryenne Holland, Buckingham County Emergency Management Coordinator  
Tracy Gee, Lunenburg County Administrator  
Tony Matthews, Kenbridge Town Manager  
Lee Pambid, Farmville Community Development Coordinator  
Ashley Atkins-Austin, Farmville GIS Analyst  
Brian Thrower, Crewe Town Manager  
Todd Fortune, CRC  
Berkley Group Environmental Group:  
    Michael Zehner  
    Lindsey Edwards  
    Luke Peters

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS, PRESENTATION BY CONSULTANT**

Staff from Berkley Group gave a slide presentation on their planned methods to collect and update data for this plan update. Some of the items that were discussed include:

- Data-Based Approaches
  - GIS and mapping, utilizing public-available data
    - Combining with other data (e.g., Forestland Conservation Value)
    - Blank spots – public owned land
  - Historical and Anecdotal Data
    - News sources, local input, pictures
- Cascading Threats
  - invasive species – loss of biodiversity
  - drought and heat events - wildfires
- Risk Assessment Matrix:
  - Extent of hazard (distance)
  - Property damage
    - Quantifying damage to agricultural products (e.g., timber and pulp)
  - Loss of life
    - Can be extended into different groups, including vulnerable populations (e.g., children, elderly, people who do not own cars)
- Climate Change
  - Incorporating elements of climate change within each hazard
- Larger timeline threats? (i.e., less acute)
  - Climate migrants – moving into Central VA
  - Loss of biodiversity

- Focus more on acute hazards
- Current HMP – list of critical assets/infrastructure
  - Other assets that might be considered significant
    - Logistics – delivery centers, hubs for grocery stores
    - Environmental – parks, forests
    - Telecommunications – to add broadband and other data hubs, warning systems

#### INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS

The consultant conducted a virtual poll to assess the most and least concerning hazards in the various communities. Participants were asked to consider which hazards would impact the community with greater frequency and cause the most damage. The results:

- MOST: Thunderstorm, Winter storm/Ice Events
  - Power outages
  - Limited response from medical and emergency services (e.g., length of time)
  - Property damage, loss of food
  - Cleanup efforts
  - Utility company time and costs
- LEAST: Erosion, Radon, Dam/Levee Failure

Specific community-based concerns cited by attendees included:

- **Farmville** – due to staff shortages, limited ability to sufficiently record data and assess hazards (particularly for emergency management sector)
  - In addition, some areas have flooding issues near the Appomattox River
- **Buckingham County** – near Georgia Creek, erosion protection to avoid flooding properties; man-made flooding?
- **Dillwyn** – stormwater runoff
- **Kenbridge** – runoff water flooding culvert, due to poor construction 40s and 50s
  - Removing buildings from floodplain
    - E.g., old fire station where land subsidence occurs; also located near a creek behind the structure
- **Amelia County**; random power outages due to weather issues:
  - SEC and Dominion
  - Central VA Electric – **Buckingham County**





**Commonwealth Regional Council  
Hazard Mitigation Plan Update  
Project Management Team/Stakeholder Coordination  
January 18, 2022**

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**AGENDA**

10:00a-11:30a

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82949209928?pwd=S1pVWGRkUG1lc2JleGVrRiswRDJ2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 829 4920 9928

Passcode: 894582

Dial in: +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

- **Welcome & Introductions (10:00)**
- **HMP Update – Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (10:05)**
  - Overview
  - Discussion of existing hazards, new hazards, and possible alternatives
  - Example of updated maps and data - Wildfires
  - Revisions to risk assessment matrix
  - Considering vulnerable demographics
  - State and federal vs. local data
  - Open discussion – expectations, collaboration, wants, needs, opportunities
- **Poll(s) – Current and Future Hazards, What's Useful (11:00)**
- **Data Call (11:15)**
  - Share data localities rely upon
  - Gather anecdotal data and news articles related to less-frequent hazards
  - Critical infrastructure
  - Other assets? Environmental?
- **Adjourn (11:30)**

## 2. Assess Existing and Future Vulnerabilities



Note: Adapted from U.S. Geological Survey and Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience Models.



**FEMA**

# Risk Assessment

## Step 1: Describe Hazard



- Location
- Extent
- Past events
- Future probability

How would you go about collecting this information for hazards that impact your community? What sources would you use?

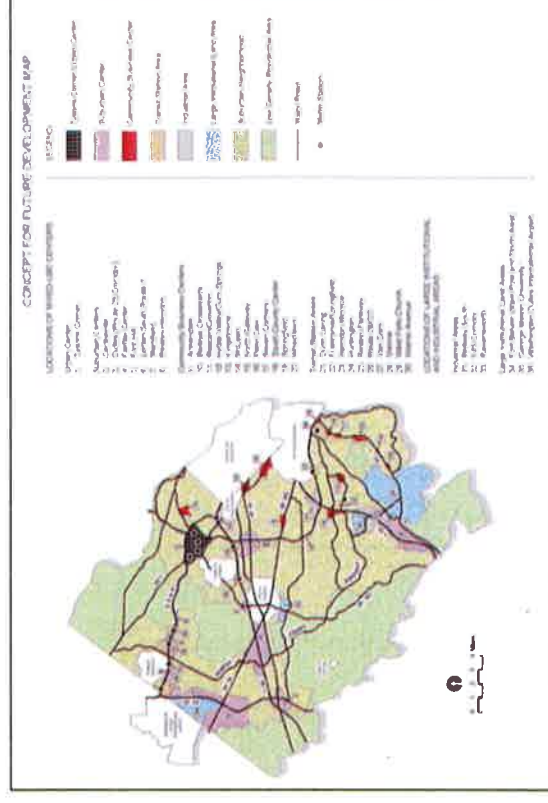


## Risk Assessment

## Step 2: Identify Community Assets

- **People**
- **Economy**
- **Structures and infrastructure**
  - ▶ **Existing**
  - ▶ **Future**
- **Natural systems**

## What information can planners contribute to the identification of community assets?





# Risk Assessment

## Step 3: Analyze Risk

Exposure analysis

Historical analysis

Scenario analysis

# Risk Assessment

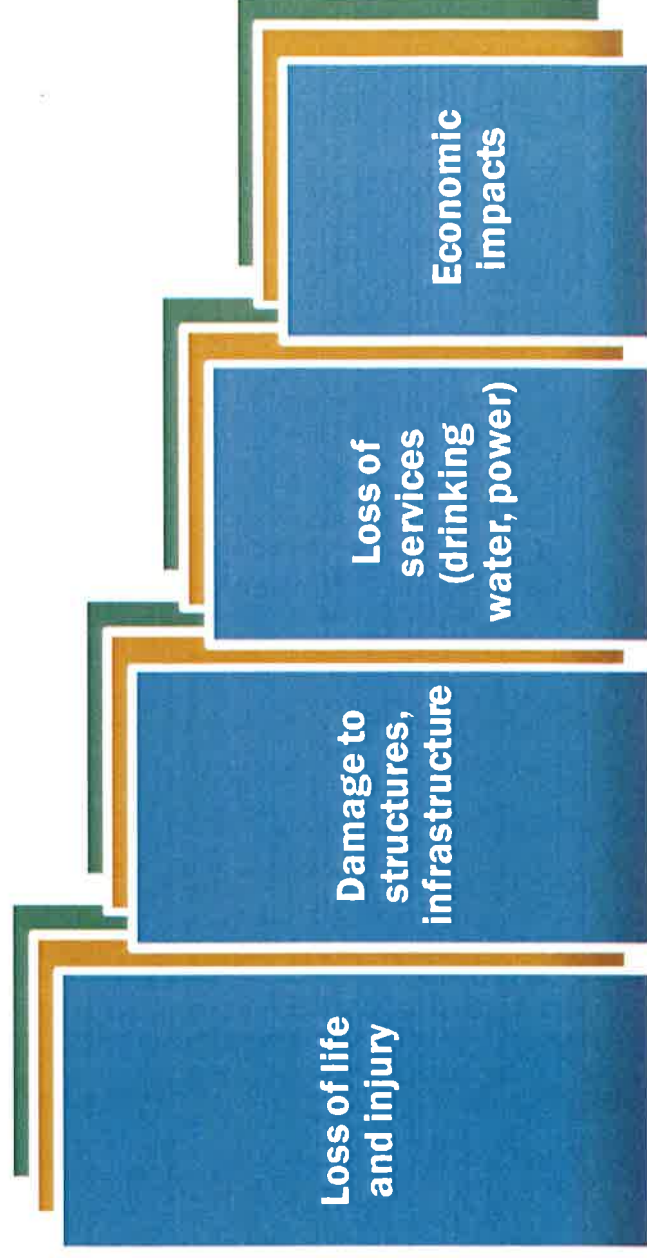
## Step 4: Summarize Vulnerability



Compare estimated losses across hazards.

Determine:

- Most significant problems
- Information that will be useful for decision-makers



**May 9, 2022 – Virtual HIRA meeting**

**HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – 2023 UPDATE  
HIRA REVIEW MEETING  
MAY 9, 2022  
VIRTUAL MEETING**

**PRESENT**

Mr. Kent Emerson, Amelia County Emergency Services\*  
Ms. Holly Stelle, Amelia County Director of Community Development  
Mr. Taylor Harvie, Amelia County Administrator  
Ms. Rynne Holland, E-911 Coordinator/Emergency Manager  
Mr. Chris Russell, Charlotte County E-911 Coordinator  
Ms. Tracy Gee, Lunenburg County Administrator  
Ms. Taylor Newton, Lunenburg County Director of Planning and Economic Development  
Mr. Buddy Hyde, Nottoway County Emergency Services Coordinator\*  
Mr. Brian Thrower, Crewe Town Manager (Nottoway County)  
Mr. Trey Pyle, Prince Edward County Community Development Specialist\*  
Mr. Robert “Reggie” Love, Prince Edward County Planning and Zoning Administrator  
Ms. Ashley Adkins-Austin, Town of Farmville GIS Analyst/Grants Specialist\*  
Mr. Tony Matthews, Kenbridge Town Manager  
Ms. Amanda Weaver, VDEM Region 1  
Mr. Peter Homan, VDEM Region 3  
Mr. Michael Zehner, The Berkley Group (Consultant)  
Ms. Lindsey Edwards, The Berkley Group  
Mr. Luke Peters, The Berkley Group  
Ms. Nadya Syazza, The Berkley Group  
Ms. Kristen Tillman, Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC)  
Mr. Todd Fortune, CRC

\* Denotes Project Management Team Member

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

The meeting was convened at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Fortune noted that the meeting was being recorded, and was open to the public. After a brief introduction and welcome, Mr. Fortune turned the meeting over to Mr. Zehner and his team from The Berkley Group for an overview of the HIRA revision process and the changes made from the prior updated of the hazard Mitigation Plan.

**OVERVIEW OF HIRA REVISION PROCESS**

Mr. Zehner and Mr. Luke Peters provided a PowerPoint presentation and discussed the process for reviewing the HIRA and the changes made from the prior (2018) Plan Update. The draft HIRA had been made available to the group a few days prior for them to review. The HIRA consisted of three sections: Hazard Identification (Section 4), Hazard Analysis (Section 5), and Vulnerability Assessment (Section 6). As part of the update process, the consultant assessed additional hazards that were not included in the previous plan update: Radon, Invasive Species, Infectious Diseases/Pandemics, and Climate Change.



Another change for this update was that instead of using HAZUS, the consultant used FEMA's National Risk Index (NRI). By using the NRI, hazards were broken into different categories than through HAZUS. For instance: Thunderstorms are broken out into Lightning and Strong Wind; and Extreme Heat is separated from Drought. Additionally, the risk rating for each hazard is calculated using parameters including a Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) – which takes 25 different vulnerability measures and compares them with social benefit factors.

The NRI uses FEMA's Value of Sustainable Life in calculating loss estimates. Hazards that do more damage to life as opposed to structural damage could have inflated values; however, Mr. Peters stated that the difference was not as large as they had anticipated. Another change is that hazards are broken out by Census Tract as opposed to by County. The data will still follow county boundaries, but will be broken out by Census Tracts within each county. For the new hazards – Radon, Invasive Species, Pandemic, Climate Change – the consultant had to rely on feedback from localities to some degree for assessing risk due to lack of available data.

Questions from the group included:

- What is the time period for the tornado analysis?
  - The time period was 1986-2019.
- Is there a way to show trends?
  - The consultant will look into it.
- Why didn't hurricanes make the final list of hazards that were assessed?
  - In the final hazard ratings, hurricanes/tropical storms and strong winds/thunderstorms were rated as a moderate risk. Winter weather and drought received the highest ratings. In many instances, hurricanes weaken to tropical storms once they reach our region. The terminology may need to be tweaked in the assessment.
- Are there any detractors to using the SVI to assess/rate risk from each hazard, given that Census Tracts in rural areas are larger than in more urban areas?
  - The SVI is based on rates (per 100,000). The hope is that even with some Census Tracts more densely populated, this will provide more of an "apples-to-apples" comparison.
- Is there a way to look at the risk geographically as well?
  - The final risk index score should take all of those factors into account.

#### DISCUSSION OF NEXT STEPS, ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fortune went over what the next steps will be. He asked that everybody look over the materials presented and let him or the team from The Berkley Group know by May 16 of anything that needs to be changed.

Mr. Fortune stated that CRC staff are working to update Sections 1 (Introduction), 2 (Planning Process), 3 (Regional Profile) and 7 (Capability Assessment). He advised that those sections will be sent out to the Project Management Team for review once those are ready.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH The Counties of Amelia | Buckingham | Charlotte | Cumberland  
Lunenburg | Nottoway | Prince Edward

## **CRC REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

### **DRAFT HIRA AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW; MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MAY 9 TO PRESENT FINDINGS**

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is working on the DRAFT of its update of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Planning District 14, and is ready to present a portion of the Update for review. This Plan Update covers the Counties of Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward, and the Town of Farmville.

A virtual meeting will be held on Monday, May 9, at 1:30 p.m. for the Project Management Team and local/regional stakeholders to review the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment portion of the Plan update. The public is invited to attend this meeting, which will be held virtually.

The meeting can be accessed virtually by going to

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83659212518?pwd=VnFZSnFQK0xlbE54S29QZTNWcUxBdz09>

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Todd Fortune at (434) 392-6104 or [TFortune@virginiashheartland.org](mailto:TFortune@virginiashheartland.org).

## **CRC Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Draft Hira Available for Review, Meeting Scheduled for May 9 to Present Findings**

**SOUTHSIDE** - The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is working on the DRAFT of its update of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Planning District 14, and is ready to present a portion of the Update for review. This Plan Update covers the Counties of Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward, and the Town of Farmville.

A virtual meeting will be held on Monday, May 9, at 1:30 p.m. for the Project Management Team and lo-

cal/regional stakeholders to review the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment portion of the Plan update. The public is invited to attend this meeting, which will be held virtually.

The meeting can be accessed virtually by going to <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83659212518?pwd=Vn-FZSnFQKox1bE54S29QZTN-WcUxBdz09>

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Todd Fortune at (434) 392-6104 or [TFor-tune@virginiasheartland.org](mailto:TFor-tune@virginiasheartland.org).

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**I CHURCH AND COMMUNITY EVENTS I**

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**MAY 9**

**CRC VIRTUAL MEETING** — The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is working on the draft of its update of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. A virtual meeting will be held on Monday, May 9, at 1:30 p.m. to review the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment portion of the plan update. The public is invited to attend. The meeting can be accessed virtually by going to <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83659212518?pwd=VnFZSnFQK0x1bE54S29QZTlNWcUxBdz09>. For more information contact Todd Fortune at (434) 392-6104 or [TFortune@virginiasheartland.org](mailto:TFortune@virginiasheartland.org).

# Commonwealth Regional Council Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

May 9th Stakeholders Meeting  
HIRA Update



## Recap - Introduction

- Tasked with three sections: 4, 5, and 6
- Identification, Analysis, Vulnerability Assessment
- New Hazards:
  - Invasive Species
  - Radon
  - Infectious Disease (Pandemic)
  - Climate Change

## Recap - Purpose:

Overarching goal of the identification, analysis, and risk process is to provide working, actionable data through which localities can formulate a response against the threat and **prioritize** the hazards affecting the region.

## Changes from Last Update:

- Using the FEMA National Risk Index instead of HAZUS –
  - Breaks hazards into different categories:
    - Thunderstorms -> Lightning + Strong Wind
    - Extreme Heat
    - Winter Weather + Ice Storms, Nor'easters included
  - Includes Social Vulnerability into ultimate risk determination
  - Uses Value of a Statistical Life in damage estimates
  - Different data sources & methodologies



# Changes from Last Update:

- Breaking down data by Census tract
  - Mapped frequency, population equivalence, agricultural damage, property damage, total loss, and hazard risk score
- Ability to do heat maps for certain hazards

## Map Example - Heatmap

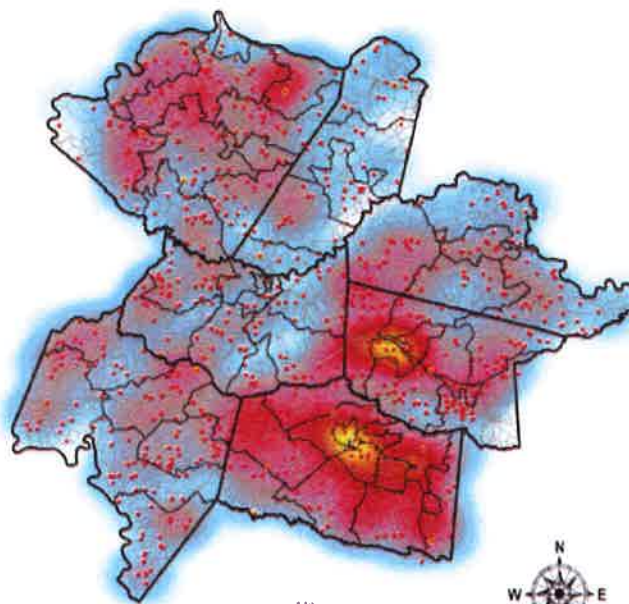
Map - Wildfire Risk

Wildfire Risk

- Fire Incidents 2020 to 2021
- Fire Incidents 2002 to 2008

Fire Incidents 2008 to 2019

Low  
High



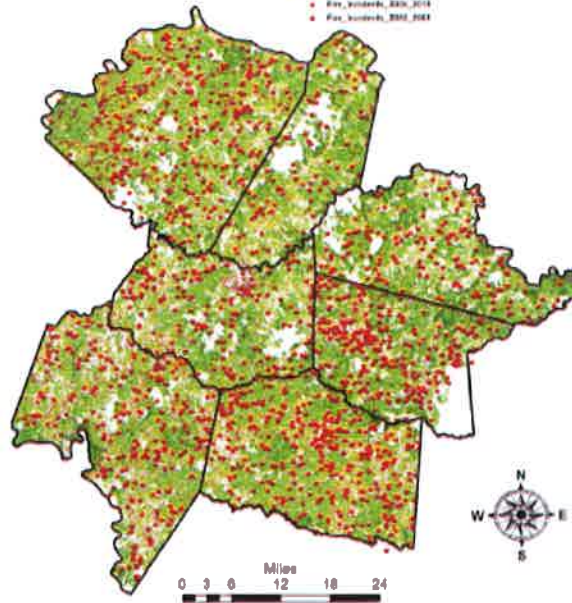
Map Created by CRC - January 2022  
Source: VDOF

## Map Example - Overlay

Map - Forestland Conservation

Forestland Conservation Value

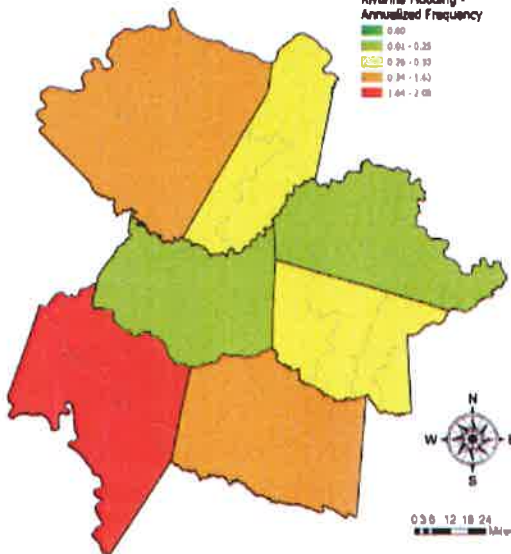
- Value
- 1 Average
  - 2 Moderate
  - 3 High
  - 4 Very High
  - 5 Outstanding
  - For, Incidents, 2001, 2011
  - For, Incidents, 2001, 2018
  - For, Incidents, 2001, 2024



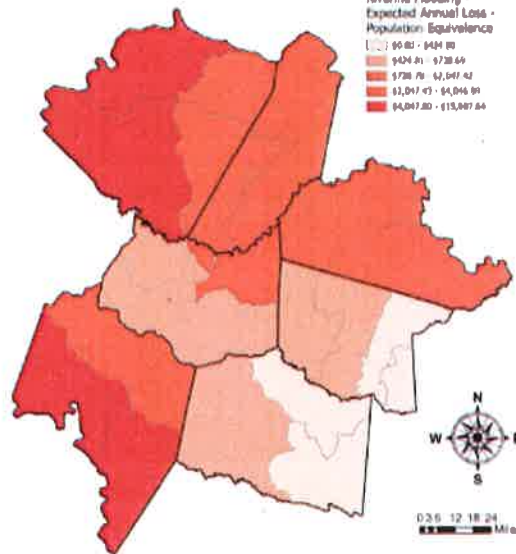
Map Created by GRC - January 2022  
Source: VDOF

## Map Examples – NRI Data for Each Hazard (Flood)

Riverine Flooding - Annualized Frequency

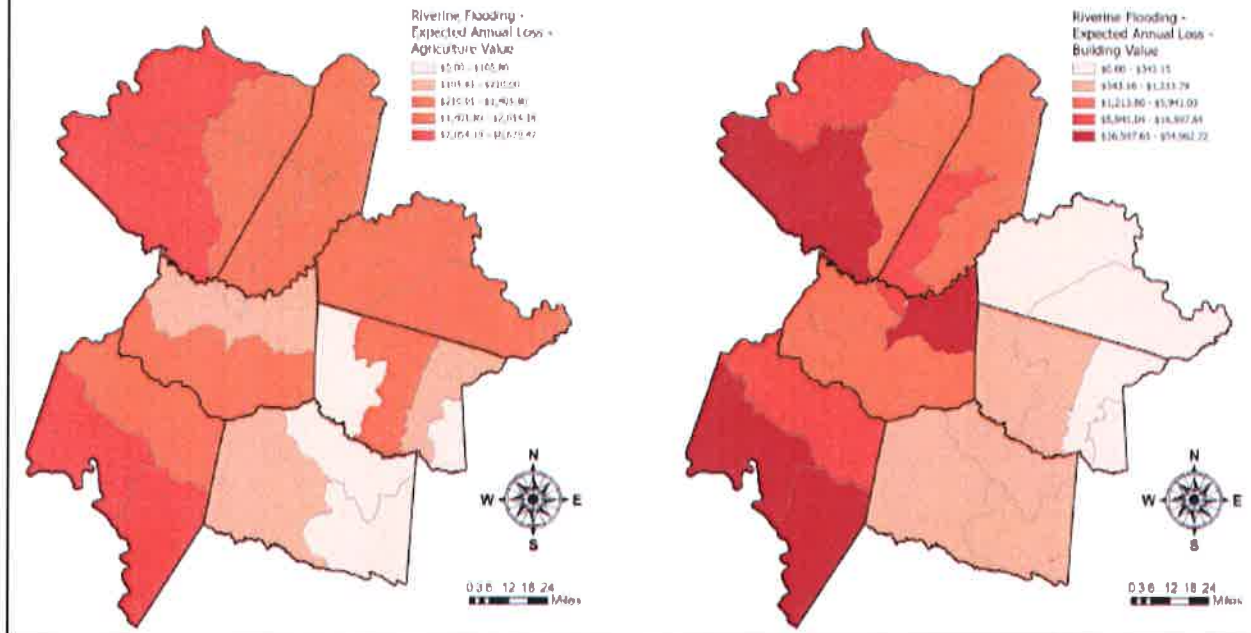


Riverine Flooding - Expected Annual Loss - Population Equivalence

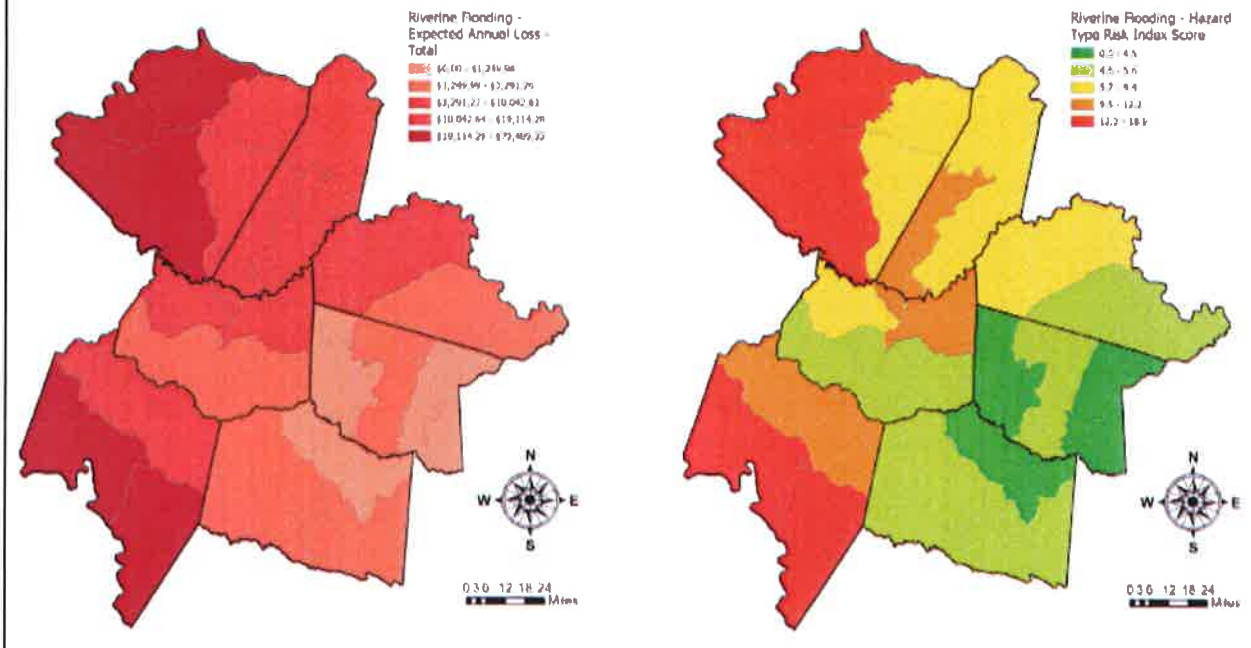




## Map Examples – NRI Data for Each Hazard (Flood)



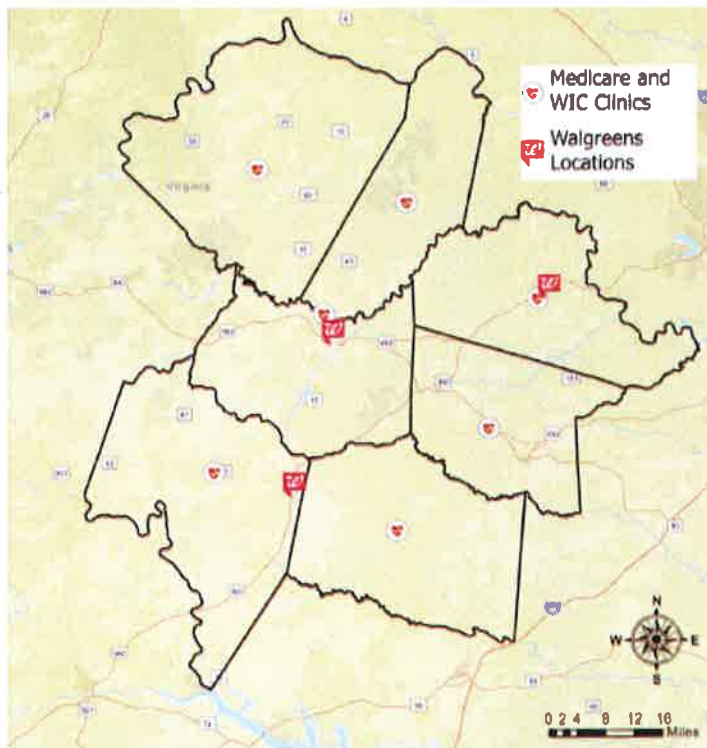
## Map Examples – NRI Data for Each Hazard (Flood)



# Changes from Last Update:

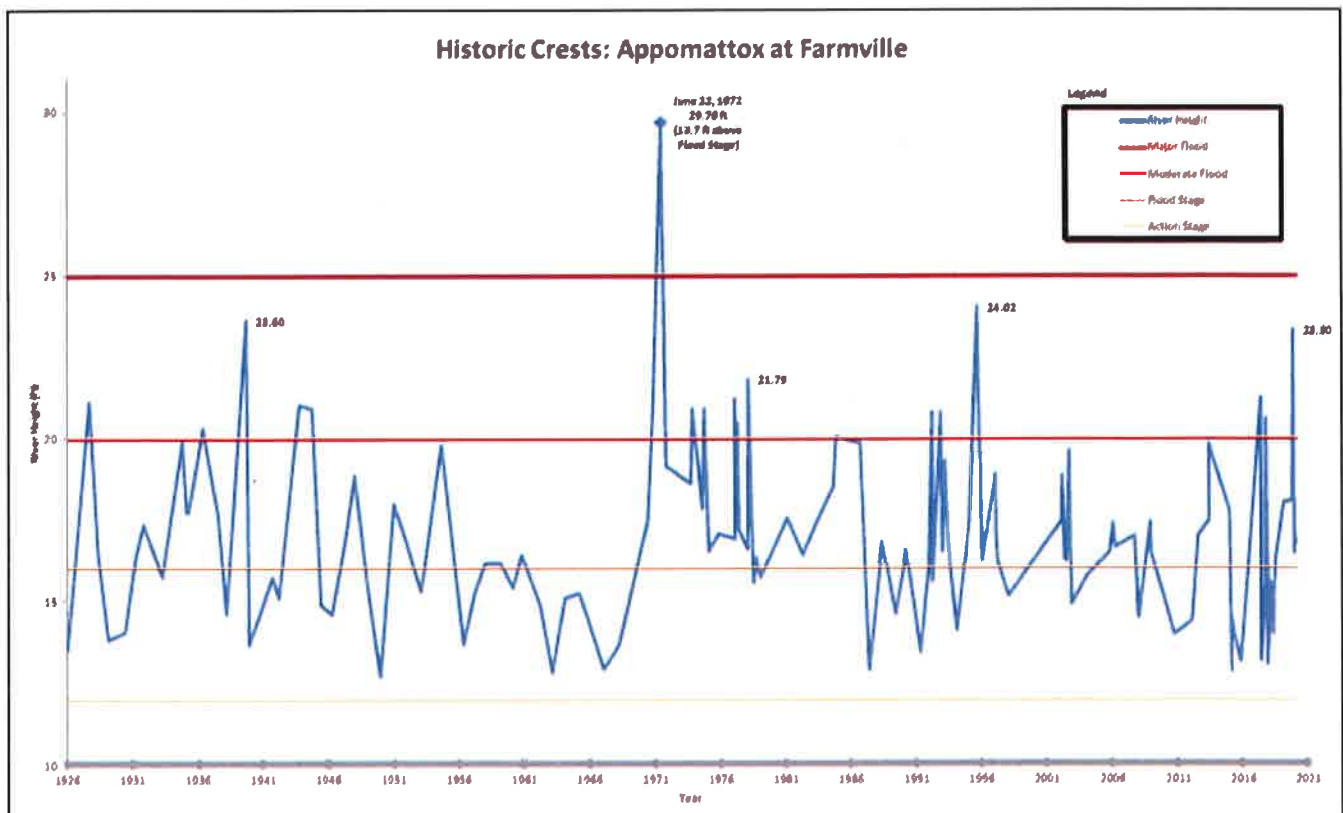
- **Additional Hazards:**
  - Invasive Species
    - No immediate hazards – long-term planning
  - Radon
    - No immediate hazards – long-term planning
  - Pandemic
    - Difficult to quantify because of changing conditions
    - No historical data quite like Covid-19 data
  - Climate Change
    - Included to degree possible – mainly identification

## Pandemic Map – Clinics and Testing Sites



# Changes from Last Update:

- Updated hazard events
- New photos
- Updated graphics







# Questions and Discussion

Thank you!



## **October 2022 – Media coverage**

# CRC Regional Hazard Plan Available for Public Review

**SOUTHSIDE** - The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is working on the DRAFT of its update of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Planning District 14, and has the DRAFT Plan ready for public review. This plan will cover all seven (7) counties in Planning District 14 - Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway, Prince Edward, and the Town of Farmville. As part of the planning process, FEMA requests that the draft Plan be made available for public review and comment.

To review the draft section of the plan, please go to: <https://www.virginiasheartland.org/our-services/review>

gional-emergency-planning/draft-of-the-crcs-regional-hazard-mitigation-plan/ A copy of the DRAFT Plan will also be made available at the following public libraries throughout the region:

James L. Hamner Public Library, Amelia C.H. Buckingham Branch Library, Dillwyn

Charlotte County Public Library, Main Branch, Charlotte Court House

Charlotte County Public Library, Keysville Branch Cumberland County Public Library

Ripberger Public Library, Kenbridge

Victoria Public Library  
Burkeville Library  
Crewe Library

Louis Spencer Eppes Library, Blackstone

Barbara Rose Johns Farmville-Prince Edward Community Library, Farmville

Please submit comments by email to [tfortune@virginiasheartland.org](mailto:tfortune@virginiasheartland.org) no later than close of business on Wednesday, October 26.

Additionally, the CRC will hold a public input session on the Plan during its October council meeting. The meeting will be held Wednesday, October 19, at 9:30 a.m. at the Kenbridge Town Hall Training/Conference Room, which is located on the bottom floor of the Kenbridge Town Hall building.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH The Counties of Amelia | Buckingham | Charlotte | Cumberland  
Lunenburg | Nottoway | Prince Edward

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**For more information, please call (434) 392-6104**

**CRC REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

**DRAFT PLAN AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT**

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is working on the DRAFT of its update of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Planning District 14, and has the DRAFT Plan ready for public review. This plan will cover all seven (7) counties in Planning District 14 – Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward – and the Town of Farmville. As part of the planning process, FEMA requests that the draft Plan be made available for public review and comment.

To review the draft section of the plan, please go to: <https://www.virginiasheartland.org/our-services/regional-emergency-planning/draft-of-the-crcs-regional-hazard-mitigation-plan/>

A copy of the DRAFT Plan will also be made available at the following public libraries throughout the region:

- James L. Hamner Public Library, Amelia C.H.
- Buckingham Branch Library, Dillwyn
- Charlotte County Public Library, Main Branch, Charlotte Court House
- Charlotte County Public Library, Keysville Branch
- Cumberland County Public Library
- Ripberger Public Library, Kenbridge
- Victoria Public Library
- Burkeville Library
- Crewe Library
- Louis Spencer Eppes Library, Blackstone
- Barbara Rose Johns Farmville-Prince Edward Community Library, Farmville

Please submit comments by email to Todd Fortune at [tfortune@virginiasheartland.org](mailto:tfortune@virginiasheartland.org) no later than COB on Wednesday, October 26.

Additionally, the CRC will hold a public input session on the Plan during its October Council meeting. The meeting will be held Wednesday, October 19, at 9:30 a.m. at the Kenbridge Town Hall Training/Conference Room (which is located on the bottom floor of the Kenbridge Town Hall building).





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**For more information, please call (434) 392-6104**

**CRC REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN  
DRAFT PLAN AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT**

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is working on the DRAFT of its update of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Planning District 14, and has the DRAFT Plan ready for public review. This plan will cover all seven (7) counties in Planning District 14 – Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Nottoway, and Prince Edward – and the Town of Farmville. As part of the planning process, FEMA requests that the draft Plan be made available for public review and comment.

The draft sections of the plan are available online by going to the CRC website home page – <https://www.virginiashheartland.org> – and choosing “Our Services” from the menu bar at the top of the page then clicking on “Regional Emergency Services.”

A copy of the DRAFT Plan will also be made available at the following public libraries throughout the region:

- James L. Hamner Public Library, Amelia C.H.
- Buckingham Branch Library, Dillwyn
- Charlotte County Public Library, Main Branch, Charlotte Court House
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# Commonwealth Regional Council

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## Intro

The Commonwealth Regional Council is one of 21 Regional Planning Agencies in Virginia serving the co

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Public Input Needed !

The CRC's Regional Hazard Mitigation Draft Plan is available for public review and comment. To review the Hazard Mitigation Plan, please click on the link below to our website.

<https://www.virginiasheartland.org/.../draft-of-the-crcs.../>

Please submit comments by email to Todd Fortune at [tfortune@virginiasheartland.org](mailto:tfortune@virginiasheartland.org) by Wednesday, October 26, 2022.



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**Draft of the CRC's Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan**  
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(<https://www.virginiasheartland.org/our-services/regional-council/>)  
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## Regional Emergency Planning

### CRC's Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) is working on an update of the CRC's Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan will cover all seven (7) counties in Planning District 14. The project is being funded by a FEMA grant through the Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (formerly known as Pre-Disaster Mitigation) program, with all seven counties and the Town of Farmville providing in-kind (staff hours) as a match for the grant. As part of the process, FEMA requests that the draft section for the plan is available for public review and comment. Please submit comments by email to Todd Fortune at [tfortune@virginiasheartland.org](mailto:tfortune@virginiasheartland.org) by Monday, October 26, 2022. To review the draft section of the plan, please click on the link below.

**DRAFT CRC's Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan** (<https://www.virginiasheartland.org/our-services/regional-emergency-planning/draft-of-the-crcs-regional-hazard-mitigation-plan/>)

### Regional Emergency Planning for Election Security

The Commonwealth Regional Council (CRC) was awarded two SHSP grants in 2020 to fund emergency planning activities. The first grant funded multiple planning activities: development of a Regional Resource Inventory, GIS mapping assistance for localities, coordinating and facilitating a training class for managing volunteers, development of a Regional Continuity of Operations Plan, and creation of a Regional PPE Stockpile Plan. This grant has been completed. The second grant is to assist local registrars with election security improvements as identified in Virginia House Bill (HB) 2178.

#### FOLLOW

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Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Officer: **Melody Foster** (<mailto:mfoster@virginiasheartland.org>)

*The Commonwealth Regional Council ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, EOE, contact the CRC's Title VI Coordinator, Todd Fortune at (434) 392-6104 or [tfortune@virginiasheartland.org](mailto:tfortune@virginiasheartland.org) (<mailto:tfortune@virginiasheartland.org>).*

## **October 19, 2022 – Public Input Session**

**Commonwealth Regional Council  
Kenbridge Town Hall  
Kenbridge, Virginia  
October 19, 2022**

**Welcome & Call to Order**

The Chairman, Mr. Emert, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Invocation and Introductions**

Mr. Emert gave the invocation and led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

**ROLL CALL****MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES****PRESENT****ABSENT**

Amelia:

Mr. Dexter Jones

\*Mr. David Felts

Mr. Dexter Jones

\*Mr. David Felts

Buckingham:

Mr. Thomas Jordan Miles, III

\*Mr. Karl Carter

Mr. Thomas Jordan Miles, III (V)  
(Treasurer)

\*Mr. Karl Carter

Charlotte:

Mr. Gary Walker

\*Mr. Walt Bailey

Mr. Gary Walker  
(Vice Chairman)

\*Mr. Walt Bailey

Cumberland:

Mr. Brian Stanley

\*Ms. Stephany Johnson

Mr. Brian Stanley

\*Ms. Stephany Johnson

Lunenburg:

Mr. Mike Hankins

\*Ms. Taylor Newton

Mr. Mike Hankins

\*Ms. Taylor Newton

Nottoway:

Mr. Steve Bowen

\*Mr. Sherman Vaughn

Mr. Steve Bowen  
(Secretary)

\*Mr. Sherman Vaughn

Prince Edward:

Mr. David Emert

\*Dr. Odessa Pride

Mr. David Emert  
(Chairman)

\*Dr. Odessa Pride

**Non-Member Representatives:**

SVCC:

\*\*Mr. Keith Harkins

\*\*Mr. Keith Harkins

Longwood University:

\*\*Ms. Sheri McGuire

\*\*Ms. Sheri McGuire

Hampden-Sydney College:

\*\*VACANT

\*\*VACANT

NOTE: \*Denotes Alternates

\*\*Denotes Non-Voting Member Attending

**Member County Administrators Present**

Ms. Tracy Gee, Lunenburg County

Mr. Dan Witt, Charlotte County

**STAFF**

Ms. Melody Foster, Executive Director

Mr. Todd Fortune, Deputy Director

Ms. Kristen Tillman, Regional Planner

Ms. Lauren Jones, Regional Planner

**GUESTS:**

Tony Matthews, Kenbridge Town Manager

(V) Denotes attendees who participated virtually.

**Approval of Minutes of September 23, 2022 Council Meeting:**

Mr. Walker moved and Mr. Hankins seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

**September/October:** Mr. Miles gave the report and stated that he reviewed the financial report and found everything to be in order. Mr. Miles moved and Mr. Hankins seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

**Report of Officers, Committees & Executive Director:**

**Chairman's Report:** There was none.

**Executive Director Monthly Activities Report:** Ms. Foster stated that a report was included in the Council packet. She stated that she attended the virtual EDA Longwood SEED Innovation Grant Kick-off meeting with the EDA representative and Longwood University Representatives. She also attended the Regional Managers meeting in Appomattox with County Administrators from around the region. She gave a presentation at this meeting providing information about the GO Virginia grant funding for the creation of the REDO. She attended virtual meetings with the Tobacco Commission staff to review potential project ideas including tourism funded activities. The CRC staff is currently working on one application to fund a connector trail in Cumberland. The CRC is also partnering with the SPDC and WPPDC to submit a regional application to the Tobacco Commission to fund a Tourism Marketing Study to create branding to market the region. Ms. Foster also attended the 2022 Governor's Summit on Rural Prosperity. She stated this Summit was very informative on providing information about issues in rural communities. Ms. Foster stated that she plans to drop off documents to the Auditor today and she is expecting to be able to report on the Audit at the next Council meeting. Mr. Hankins commended the

staff for their efforts regarding the current cash balance. Ms. Foster stated that the Council will need to review the cash balance return to localities considering the amount of the current cash balance.

**Scoping the Future - Discussion of Innovative/Regional Ideas:** There was no discussion on this.

### **Old Business:**

### **Staff Monthly Project Reports:**

**Update on Regional Emergency Planning Activities:** Mr. Fortune stated that a report was included in the Council packet. The consultant procured by the CRC is working with local registrars on deliverables per the election security grant, and their work is expected to be completed by January 2023. The grant will be closed out by June 2023.

**Update on Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) Phase III:** Ms. Tillman stated that a report was included in the Council packet. She stated that the CRC partnered with the Amelia's Virginia Extension office to host a Rain Barrel workshop at the James L. Hamner Public Library in Amelia Court House. In this event, participants were able to decorate rain barrels and participate in other educational activities. The CRC is planning on continuing rain barrel workshops in the future. Mr. Jones asked Ms. Tillman about the number of participants. Ms. Tillman stated that seven kids attended the workshop. Ms. Foster added that registration was limited to only ten families. Ms. Jones added that more families registered for the event that did not attend.

**Update on Prince Edward County Access Road Project:** Ms. Foster stated that a report was included in the Council packet. J.R. Caskey, Inc. of Oilville, Virginia has executed a contract for construction. Work is expected to start in the Spring of 2023 due to the anticipated winter season. The construction is expected to be completed by August 2023.

**Update on Nottoway County Comprehensive Plan Update:** Mr. Fortune stated that a report was included in the Council packet. The Planning Commission has cancelled the October work session and full Planning Commission meeting. Instead, the CRC staff will meet with Nottoway County staff on October 28<sup>th</sup> to finalize the DRAFT plan and to discuss the next steps. Mr. Fortune is expecting to meet with the Planning Commission in November to finalize the Plan. By December, the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors are expected to have a joint work meeting with the hopes of holding a joint public hearing in January.

**Update on Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan Update:** Mr. Fortune stated that a report was included in the Council packet. The Planning Commission had a Work Session on September 25<sup>th</sup> during which it reviewed draft Section II (Community Profile), and draft Section III (Inventory and Analysis: Community Resources) of the Plan. The group asked for some changes, which CRC staff are working on making. The next Work Session on the Plan is set for October 25, where the committee will review the changes to draft Section II and draft Section III.

**Update on CRC Affordable Workforce Housing Development Program:** Ms. Jones stated that a report was included in the Council packet. The three housing partners selected by the CRC are in various stages of development for their projects. Piedmont Habitat for Humanity finished clearing the lots and installing sediment and erosion control for the four homes on Andrew Street in Farmville. The estimated completion date is January 31, 2023. Smyth Properties awarded the bid for demolition to Special Renovations and is estimated to begin work on October 17<sup>th</sup>. The Town of Blackstone and

Southside Outreach are currently working with housing applicants and HUD certified housing counselors to prequalify applicants for mortgages.

**Update on GO Virginia Region 3 Entrepreneurship and Innovation Implementation:** Ms. Foster stated that a report was included in the Council packet. She stated that the CRC continues to track the expenses versus match for the applicant. Over the past month, the CRC has been in meetings with SPDC to review the reimbursement requirements moving forward. The grant is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

**Update on Kenbridge and Charlotte County Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation (EHSP) Fund Projects:** Ms. Jones stated that a report was included in the Council packet. The CRC is assisting the Town of Kenbridge and Charlotte County with grant-funded projects through the Department of Historic Resources to make repairs to historic structures that were damaged by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Michael. She stated that this meeting is a rare because it is within one of our project areas. The contractors are currently power washing the Town Hall with hopes to begin painting later this week. The Town of Kenbridge is paying out of pocket to power wash the building per the contractor's request. The contractor stated the paint would stick better to the exterior surface if it was clean. Mr. Matthews offered a tour of the building after the meeting. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Matthews if this building was damaged by a storm. Mr. Matthews explained to Mr. Jones the hurricane event that transpired and the resulting damage that occurred. Ms. Foster reminded everyone that this funding was exclusive to Hurricane Michael because of the extensive damage the hurricane caused. Mr. Jones asked if the grant covered one hundred percent of the repair costs. Mr. Matthews stated that the grant did cover all costs with the defined scope of work. There are additional costs that have resulted due to the damage that the Town would have to incur if the costs exceed the allocated funds. Charlotte County is undertaking mitigation measures to address moisture issues at the County Courthouse Complex. Ms. Jones stated that the contractors have completed the gutter work and are expected to begin the excavating work at the end of October. The CRC has filed for a one-year extension with DHR due to the addition of plaster repairs added to the project and the backlog of HVAC parts to complete the HVAC work.

**Update on VATI Grant for Cumberland, Lunenburg and Prince Edward:** Mr. Fortune stated that a report was included in the Council packet. The CRC was awarded a grant by DHCD through the Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI) program to provide funding to Kinex Telecom to complete a fiber buildout in part of Cumberland County, all of Prince Edward County, and part of Lunenburg County. Kinex has started work in Prince Edward County and is working with VDOT to work around the guardrail on US 460. Kinex and their contractor has been having issues with the firm that was contracted to locate existing utility lines. Kinex is still working to address this issue. Mr. Emert stated that he is surprised that Kinex was not aware that they would have to work with VDOT to address any issues with guardrails.

**Update on Regional Reassessment RFP:** Ms. Jones stated that a report was included in the Council packet. The CRC assisted eight counties, all of the counties in the CRC Region plus Appomattox County, with the preparation and advertisement of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for real estate reassessment services. She stated that the eight counties have interviewed and selected two firms – Wampler Eanes and Pearson Appraisal, to be on a 'on call' list for reassessment services. Each county will be able to contact their firm of choice at their time of reassessment. The CRC contacted these firms to inform them of this.

**Update on Drakes Branch SLFRF Projects:** Ms. Foster stated that the CRC assisted the Town of Drakes Branch in developing a request for cost estimates that was submitted to one of the listed firms in the CRC On-Call Consultant Program to provide estimated costs in replacing water lines and water



meters throughout the town. Due to the high cost estimate the Town received, the Town and CRC representatives have selected to set up a meeting with the firm to discuss next steps in reducing the scope of the project to meet the goals of the Town without exceeding the Town's budget for this project.

**Update on CRC Enhanced Capacity Building Grant:** Ms. Foster stated that the CRC participated in a Contract Negotiation Meeting with DHCD for the awarded CRC GO Virginia Grant. Work on this study will begin in November with completion date of November 2023.

**Update on Extension of CRC Lease thru June 2023:** Ms. Foster stated that she has been in touch the landlord and the contract to extend the CRC's lease thru June 2023 has been signed by both parties.

**Council Member Comments:** Mr. Hankins stated that in the city of Los Angeles, California there were some heated arguments centered around redistricting. Mr. Hankins commended Ms. Foster and CRC staff on their redistricting efforts emphasizing on how simple they made the process.

### **New Business:**

### **Staff Reports**

**CRC Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – Public Input Session:** Mr. Fortune provided a media presentation informing attendees of the Plan's requirements and objectives. This Public Input Session is intended to help satisfy FEMA's public participation requests. Mr. Fortune opened the floor for questions. There were no questions.

**Update on Grant Writing:** Mr. Fortune stated a copy of the grant writing report was included in the Council packet. Mr. Fortune congratulated the Town of Kenbridge on being awarded \$49,800 in Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) Virginia Brownfield Assistance Fund (VBAF) grant funding for lead/asbestos remediation and removal of an underground storage tank at vacant commercial property. The Town also received funding from the Virginia Outdoor Foundation (VOF) Preservation Trust Fund (PTF) to fund the construction of a connector trail in the town park. The Town also awarded \$1,997.50 from Virginia Department of Forestry's (VDOF) Trees for Clean Water Grant to purchase trees as a buffer between the Town's soccer field and waste water treatment plant. Mr. Fortune congratulated Piedmont Regional Jail on being awarded \$50,000 in grant funds from the USDA Rural Development fund to assist with the purchase of vehicles.

The CRC assisted Lunenburg County with an application to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership for a Virginia Brownfields Assistance Fund (VBAF) grant for lead/asbestos remediation and removal at a commercial property in Victoria that is slated for redevelopment. Mr. Fortune stated that CRC staff assisted and submitted three grant applications through the Department of Housing and Community Development's Industrial Revitalization Fund program: The Town of Blackstone, for funding to rehab/renovate the Harris Memorial Armory Center for use as a multi-use facility including job training programs by Virginia State University and Transition Solutions Enterprises, a local non-profit; the Town of Kenbridge, for funding to rehab/renovate a former tobacco warehouse/ manufacturing facility for re-use as a manufacturing facility for recyclable food containers; and the Town of Farmville, for funding to rehab/renovate the Mary E. Branch Community Center for use as a multi-use facility. The applications were due by August 19.

The CRC assisted the Nottoway County Emergency Squad with submitting an application for RSAF funds to purchase training equipment to train its members. The application was due on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

The CRC is assisting the Town of Blackstone in submitting an application to the Tobacco Commission's Southern Virginia Program for construction on the Armory. The CRC is also assisting Cumberland County with an application for the Cumberland Court House Village Connector Trail. The CRC is partnering with West Piedmont Planning District Commission and Southside Planning District Commission on a regional application for funds to develop a Regional Tourism Study.

The CRC submitted and is awaiting word on two State Homeland Security grant applications. The CRC assisted the Town of Farmville on submitting an application to purchase portable barricades. The CRC also submitted an application to undertake community outreach activities related to emergency preparedness.

**Council Member Comments:** Mr. Emert lead a discussion regarding the current cash balance policy. Ms. Foster recommended the board review the cash balance policy after the audit is presented.

Mr. Jones asked Ms. Foster what funds are supporting the current operating budget. Ms. Foster stated that the operating budget comes from annual contracts through the state of Virginia, DEQ & VDOT, membership dues, and grant administration contracts.

**Commonwealth Intergovernmental Review Process (CIRP):** There were none.

**Other Business:** There were none.

**Adjournment, Next Meeting:** The meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m. The next meeting was set for Wednesday, November 16th, at the Prince Edward Court House in Farmville, Virginia.

---

Mr. Gary Walker, Secretary

## CRC Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update



Public Input Session  
CRC Monthly Council Meeting  
October 19, 2022

## Project

- Review and Update of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for PD 14
- Funded by a Planning Grant from FEMA, plus in-kind from participating localities.
- Required under federal regulations.
  - Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000: requires that localities develop and adopt a Hazard
  - Mitigation Plan to be eligible for certain types of FEMA funding. Plan must be reviewed and updated every five years, per regulations.

**Hazard** — Act or phenomenon that can potentially result in harm or other unwanted consequences to people or objects

Source: VDEM

**Hazard Mitigation** – Steps taken to lessen or reduce the impact of hazards/disasters on people and property by reducing hazard risk and vulnerability

Source: FEMA

## Locality Participation

- All Seven Counties in PD 14 and the Town of Farmville are represented on the Project Management Team
  - PMT working directly with CRC, Berkley Group (consultant), VDEM staff on updating Plan
- Participation by other towns includes assistance in updating mitigation strategies, reviewing Plan, and adopting Plan.
  - Due to their size, most of these towns are represented by their respective County on the PMT

## Plan Update Process

- Every section of the Plan is being reviewed and updated.
- Particular emphasis on certain sections of the Plan:
  - Regional Profile
  - Hazard Analysis
  - Vulnerability Assessment
  - Mitigation Strategy

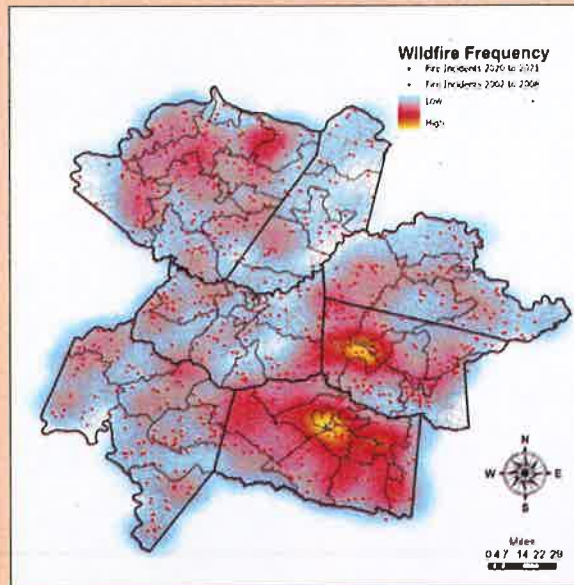
## Process (continued)

What has changed since the last Plan Update was completed:

- Different data for Vulnerability Assessment
  - Consultant using FEMA National Risk Index
- Some localities added/deleted mitigation strategies
- Public more engaged
- New hazards added

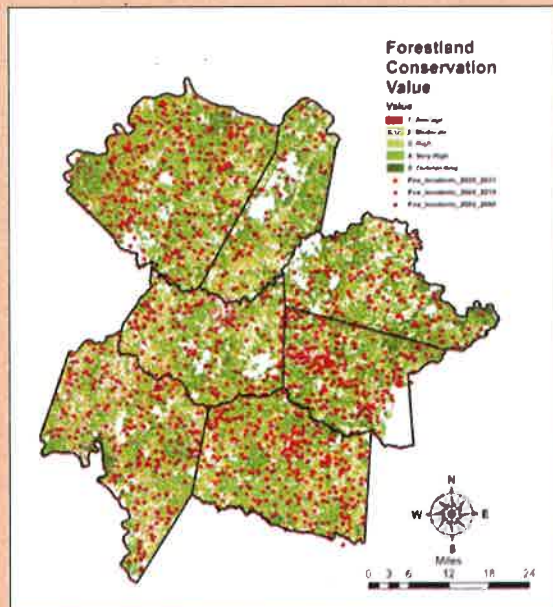


## Revised mapping



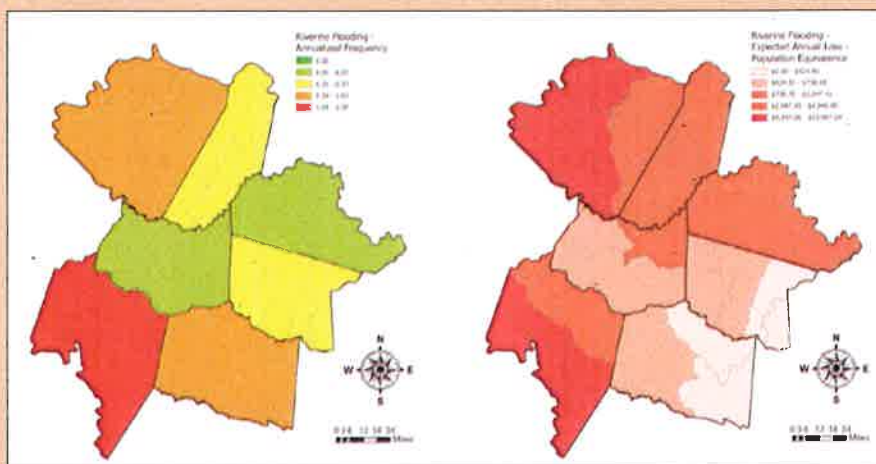
This map shows wildfire frequency in the area, along with known wildfire incidents, based on VDOF data.

## Revised mapping (cont.)



The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) developed the Forestland Conservation Value model to identify the highest priority forestland for conservation in Virginia. Per VDOF, the intent of this model is to “maximize the efficiency of limited resources by focusing conservation efforts on the highest quality, most productive, and most vulnerable forestland statewide.” The model has been updated multiple times, most recently in 2020, and uses six components/data input layers to prioritize the highest value forestlands for conservation.

## Revised mapping (cont.)

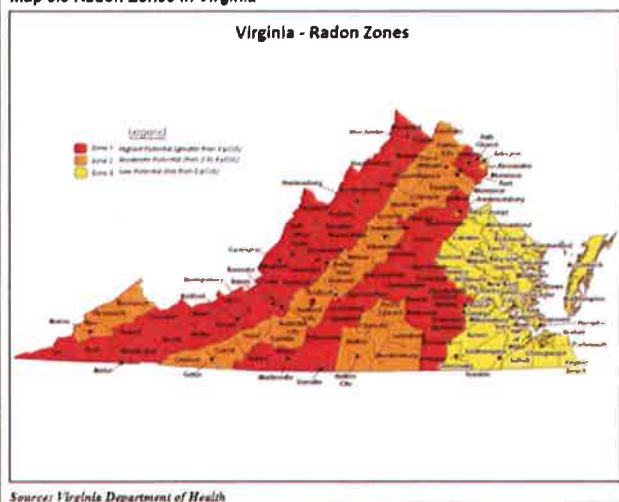


Riverine flooding, per FEMA - when streams and rivers exceed the capacity of their natural or constructed channels to accommodate water flow and water overflows the banks, spilling out into adjacent low-lying, dry land.

The National Risk Index (NRI) is an online dataset used to determine risk from hazards by County and by Census Tract. The NRI calculates Expected Annual Loss using an equation that includes exposure, annualized frequency, and historic loss ratio. The NRI assesses risk from 18 different hazards; HAZUS focused on 4.

## Revised Mapping – cont.

Map 5.8 Radon Zones in Virginia



One of the hazards that was added for this plan update is Radon. This map shows potential exposures to radon by County. This map, courtesy of the Virginia Department of Health, identifies radon zones based on EPA data including radon test results, existing knowledge of surface geological features/layers and measurements of background radiation.

## Hazard Risk Rankings

**Table 6.17 Hazard Risk Ratings – Average for all localities (From Qualitative Assessment and Local Input)**

Hazard	Relative Risk Rating
Winter Weather and Ice Storms	High
Drought	High
Hurricanes and Tropical Storms	Moderate
Thunderstorms (Strong Wind, Lightning, and Hail)	Moderate
Riverine Flooding	Moderate
Tornadoes	Low
Wildfire	Low
Dam/Levee Failure	Low
Earthquakes	Low
Landslides	Low
Pandemic/Infectious Agent	Low
Extreme Heat	Low
Technological Hazards	Negligible
Erosion	Negligible
Sinkholes	Negligible
Invasive Species	Negligible
Radon	Negligible

Table 6.17 in Section 6 of the Plan shows the risk ratings for the region based on quantitative and qualitative analysis per the National Risk Index as well as anecdotal input from the Project Management Team.

## Capability Assessment

**Table 7.8  
Self-Assessment of Local Capability**

Jurisdiction	Planning and Regulatory Capability	Administrative and Technical Capability	Fiscal Capability	Political Capability	Overall Capability
Anneville County	M	L	L	L	L
Berkeley County	L	M	L	L	L
Town of Dillwyn	M	L	L	L	L
Charlotte County	M	L	L	L	L
Town of Charlotte Court House	M	M	M	M	M
Town of Dedos Branch	L	L	L	L	L
Town of Keyville	L	L	L	L	L
Town of Phenix	L	L	M	L	M
Cumberland County					
Lancaster County	M	M	M	M	M
Town of Kenbridge	H	H	M	H	H
Town of Victoria	M	L	L	L	M
Northway County	M	M	M	M	M
Town of Blackstone	M	M	L	M	M
Town of Burksville	L	L	L	L	L
Town of Crane	L	M	L	M	M
Prince Edward County	M	M	L	M	L
Town of Farnville	H	M	M	M	M

Each locality was asked to self-assess their own capabilities to implement mitigation activities. Each locality conducted this assessment based on their Planning and Regulatory Capability, Administrative and Technical Capability, Fiscal Capability, and Political Capability to get an overall capability score. Capabilities were scored Low, Medium, or High.



### **Samples of Mitigation Actions in the Plan**

- Amelia County – Construct waterproof barriers at the wastewater treatment plant to prevent future flood damages if the future relocation plan does not eliminate the hazard soon enough
- Buckingham County – Purchase generators for critical facilities and shelters (for emergency power)
- Charlotte County – Implement community early warning systems on school campuses, designed to notify school staff, students, and others on school grounds during weather related emergencies
- Cumberland County – Review all permits for new development and substantial improvements for compliance with the County's ordinances as they relate to flood areas
- Lunenburg County – Designate and prepare safety shelter in several locations in the county
- Nottoway County – Prohibit or limit floodplain development through regulatory and/or incentive-based measures
- Prince Edward County – Acquisition and removal of remaining homes in floodplain areas of the County
- Farmville – Construction of salt bin for storing salt for winter storms

### **Highlights of Mitigation Actions from Other Towns:**

- Drakes Branch – Acquisition and demolition/removal of buildings in the floodplain (current project using HMGP funds from FEMA)
- Victoria – Purchase and installation of an emergency generator for sewer pump station (recently completed project using PDM/BRIC funds from FEMA)

## Process (cont.)

- Meetings/Workshops:
  - May 4, 2021 (kick-off meeting with Project Management Team and regional stakeholders)
  - January 18, 2022 (HIRA consultation meeting between consultant, Project Management Team, and regional stakeholders)
  - May 9, 2022 (HIRA workshop – open to the public)
  - October 19, 2022 (public input session)
- Project Management Team also consulted with CRC staff via phone, e-mail.

## Public input

- Public input is being solicited throughout using the following methods:
  - This public input meeting.
  - A citizen survey was made available for public input.
  - The public was invited to the May 9, 2022 virtual HIRA meeting.
  - The DRAFT Plan will be made available in October at public libraries throughout the region for review and comment.
  - The DRAFT Plan will also be available on the CRC web site:

<https://www.winnipegshantland.org/our-services/regional-emergency-planning/draft-of-the-crc-regional-hazard-mitigation-plan/>

## Timeline

- October 19, 2022– Public Input Meeting
- October 2022– DRAFT Plan available for public review and comment
- October 2022– surrounding PDCs, local agencies invited to comment on DRAFT Plan
- October 2022 Plan sent to VDEM for review
- November 2022 – Plan sent to FEMA for review
- February 2023– FEMA gives preliminary approval; Plan sent to localities for adoption
- May 2023– FEMA gives final approval

**Questions?**