



WORKING TOGETHER FOR A STRONGER VIRGINIA

## CRS Workgroup Meeting Summary

May 29, 2019

700 Town Center Drive, Newport News, VA

### 1. Updates from Mary-Carson Stiff

- Two CEC's were awarded for the March 20, 2019 CRS workgroup meeting. The presentations and supporting materials have been posted on the website.
- At the July 31, 2019 meeting a software company will be presenting CRS management tools. To learn more visit <https://www.forerunnerflood.com>
- VFMA will hold the fall Hampton Roads workshop on October 10<sup>th</sup> at the ODU Darden College of Education building from 9:00 – 3:30. Topics to be covered are:
  - DCR updates
  - Public Access Authorities in Coastal VA
  - VA Constitutional Amendment for real estate tax abatement
  - Governors EO 24 and VA Coastal Master Plan
  - Coast Guard Station, Portsmouth SLR Plan
  - The workgroup suggested the topic of clarifying the requirement for permits for all development.
- DCR Virginia Natural Heritage Data Explorer
  - Identifies land areas that may be affected by SLR that have a high conservation value.
  - Communities can use this tool to prioritize conservation areas / land acquisitions.
  - Visit <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/nhdeinfo> for more information.
- Resilient VA would like to have someone present at the July conference in Charlottesville to present information on CRS. The workgroup voted to not send a representative to the conference.
- NFIP / CRS Newsletter Updates
  - There will be a new CRS Coordinator's manual effective 1/1/21. All future updates to the manual will occur every five years.
  - Recertification schedule – all VA communities must send recertification documentation by 8/1/19.

## 2. Whitney McNamara with the City of Virginia Beach presented a summary of the process for joining the CRS Program

- History of events for joining CRS
  - City started discussing CRS in 2014.
  - In 2015 a policy report for joining CRS was created.
  - In 2016 there was hurricane Mathew, other flood events, rising flood insurance costs and SLR was becoming a big issue.
  - In June 2017 a letter of intent to join CRS was sent out.
  - The City contacted ISO in August 2018 requesting a quick turnaround to join CRS.
  - The City had a verification phone call with ISO on September 12, 2018.
  - Final application was sent on December 1, 2018.
- Keys to success
  - Organization
  - Keep mapping consistent
  - Be prepared
  - Understand the documents and materials you are submitting
  - Throw anything that might be worth points at ISO
  - Keep Repetitive Loss list updated
- The City entered CRS at a class 7
- Future points; stormwater, flood protection, low density zoning, watershed master plan and SLR plan
- There is over one million dollars in policy savings to policy holders in Virginia Beach.

## 3. Locality Reports

- DCR
  - For COBRA zone information use the Fish & Wildlife website not the FEMA website
  - Staffing – DCR Floodplain Management is now fully staffed.
  - Current EC expired but can still be used. A new EC will be out in one or two months.
- City of Newport News – CAV visit; issues with accessory structures and fences.
- James City-County – waiting for results from cycle visit.
- Gloucester County – working on open space mapping.
- City of Portsmouth – flood zone sensors are being installed.
- HRPDC
  - Hampton Roads Geospatial Exchange Online - HRGEO.ORG has been launched
  - Getfloodfluent.org is online and can be used for public outreach information.

#### 4. Future CRS Workgroup Meetings

- 2019 meetings:
  - Wednesday, July 31, James Room, 10AM-Noon
  - Wednesday, September 25, James Room, 10AM-Noon
  - Wednesday, November 20, James Room, 10AM-Noon