

Hampton Roads Resiliency Action Plan

Draft Proposal

What is the Hampton Roads Resiliency Action Plan?

The Hampton Roads Resiliency Action Plan is a proposal for a consensus, collaboratively-developed planning document that will contain policy proposals for local governments and regional organizations on resiliency. It will also contain a summary of why resiliency is of importance to Hampton Roads and the individual communities in the region.

What would the Hampton Roads Resiliency Action Plan include?

- A succinct policy statement that emphasizes the importance of these issues to the Hampton Roads region and the commitment of local governments to working on them individually and as a region.
- A summary of the current impacts of recurrent flooding on the region and the potential future impacts of sea level rise, including maps and data.
- Descriptions of policy recommendations and other best practices that localities, the HRPDC, the HRTPO, and others can consider adopting to address sea level rise and flooding.
- Guidance for localities and other organizations to help them implement the various policy recommendations.
- Metrics for tracking progress by participating localities and other organizations.

Why should Hampton Roads adopt a Resiliency Action Plan?

- **Communication.** Resiliency, sea level rise, and flooding are major topics of public interest and discussion at the local, regional, state, and federal levels. A regional resiliency action plan would be a major message for the area's localities to use in working with state and federal partners and elected officials to bring assistance to Hampton Roads.
- **Planning assistance to local governments.** State law (Code of Virginia § 15.2-2223.3) requires Hampton roads communities to incorporate planning for sea level rise and recurrent flooding into their comprehensive plans. A resiliency action plan would contain ready-made material that has been approved by the committee that localities could important into their plans. It would also provide specific recommendations for other plans, policies, or ordinances for localities to consider adopting.
- **Coordination.** § 15.2-2223.3 also requires Hampton Roads localities to coordinate with each other in planning for sea level rise. A regional resiliency action plan would satisfy that requirement and provide a structure through which the coastal resiliency committee and the HRPDC board could continue to coordinate in the future on plan implementation and updates.
- **Implementation.** The plan would include guidance and other information to encourage and assist local implementation efforts, such as identification of funding opportunities. The plan could also include an agreed upon process for tracking progress in local planning and project completion.