

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY
RESILIENT VIRGINIA REVOLVING FUND
TBD Month 2026

Overview

In accordance with §10.1-603.29 of the Code of Virginia, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (the “Department”) and the Virginia Resources Authority (the “Authority”) is providing this Notice of Funding Opportunity (“Notice”) for the Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund (Fund) to solicit public feedback and to provide general guidance regarding the policies, criteria, conditions, and procedures for determining project eligibility and awarding grants and loans from the Fund. The Department anticipates that it will provide additional and/or revised guidance at the opening of each funding round.

The Fund was established in 2022 by the General Assembly of Virginia: §§62.1-199 and 62.1-203 of the Code of Virginia were amended and reenacted and Chapter 6 of Title §§10.1-603.28 through 10.1-603.40 of the Code of Virginia was amended.

Per the Code of Virginia, the Fund is authorized to provide grants and loans to local governments for the following flood resilience activities:

- (i) home upgrades for resilience purposes, home buyouts and demolition necessary for the construction of mitigation or resilience projects, relocations, and buyout assistance for homes, all including multifamily units;
- (ii) gap funding related to buyouts in order to move residents out of floodplain hazard areas and restore or enhance the natural flood mitigation capacity of functioning floodplains;
- (iii) assistance to low-income and moderate-income homeowners to help lower flood risk through structural and nonstructural mitigation projects, or other means;
- (iv) hazard mitigation and infrastructure improvement projects for resilience purposes;
- (v) projects identified in the Virginia Flood Protection Master Plan or the Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan; and
- (vi) to a local government that has developed a funding program to provide low-interest loans or grants to any persons of the Commonwealth eligible for projects for resilience purposes.

The purpose of this round is exclusively to provide funds for the resilient rebuilding of communities that have been impacted by Disaster Events, as those are defined below.

Definitions

“Activity” means one stage of a project, plan, or study. Each activity consists of one or more actions that, upon completion, will lead to the next project stage. Taken together as a series, the activities will result in the final deliverable. Each activity has a defined start and end, as well as a deadline or period in which it must be completed.

“Code” means the Code of Virginia.

“Cost,” as applied to any activity financed under the provisions of this article, **means** the total of all costs incurred by the local government in carrying out all works and undertakings necessary or incidental to the accomplishment of any proposed activity.

“Critical facilities (and critical infrastructure)” means assets, systems, and networks, whether physical or cyber, which are so vital to the United States, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or its local jurisdictions that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on physical security, economic vitality, public health or safety, or any combination of thereof at a national, state, or local level.

“Department” means the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation.

“Eligible Applicants” for all categories are Planning District Commissions, and Industrial Development Authorities, that encompass one or more locality that meets the definition detailed below.

“Fund or RVRF” means the Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund created pursuant to §10.1-603.29 of the Code of Virginia.

“Local government” means any county, city, town, municipal corporation, authority, district, commission, or political subdivision created by the General Assembly or pursuant to the Constitution of Virginia or laws of the Commonwealth.

“Locality” means the area under the jurisdiction of a local government.

“National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)” means the Program as established by the United States Congress through the passage of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended.

“Project” means any activity or group of activities with a common goal to reduce coastal, riverine or inland flooding. Design and specification development is considered a project.

“Pre-Award Costs” means costs incurred prior to the effective date of the award where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the scope of work. Such costs are allowable only to the extent that they would have been allowable if incurred after the date of the award and only with the written approval of the Department. If charged to the award, these costs must be identified in the application budget narrative.

“Resilient Purpose” means an activity conducted with the specific goal of improving the ability to withstand, recover, or adapt to a flood event.

“VRA” means the Virginia Resources Authority.

Eligible Applicants

Pursuant to §10.1-603.29 of the Code of Virginia, the Department is required to give “additional weight to those projects that are located in a locality designated as having a very low community resilience rating under a standard adopted by the Department.” For the purposes of this funding round, the Department considers eligible any locality that lies within the boundaries identified in the respective declarations for one or both Disaster Events, as defined in this Notice, to be a locality with very low community resilience. A list of these eligible local governments is available at *TBD WEBSITE*.

“Disaster Event” means one or both of the following:

- i. Tropical Storm Helene, a disaster occurring on or after September 25, 2024, but before October 3, 2024, and subject to a Major Disaster Declaration (FEMA-4831-DR) on October 1, 2024, and
- ii. The storms occurring during the State of Emergency declared on February 10, 2025, including, without limitation, the heavy rains occurring on or around February 15 and 16, 2025.

Only eligible applicants may apply for and receive awards directly from the Fund.

Funding

Pursuant to §§10.1-603.28 through 10.1-603.40 and §§62.1-199 and 62.1-203 of the Code of Virginia, the Department has reallocated \$30,000,000 under this Notice to provide grant funding for the resilient rebuilding of privately owned property.

Final awards are subject to availability of funds, demonstrated demand, and approval by the Department and the Virginia Resources Authority (“VRA”), as applicable.

Technical Assistance

Eligible applicants who have entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department are eligible for up to \$150,000 in technical assistance funding to support the implementation of flood resilience projects.

Category: Grants to support the resilient rebuilding of privately-owned property.

Available Funding: \$30,000,000

The funds awarded in this round are authorized pursuant to §10.1-603.29 and §10.1-603.30 of the Code and shall be limited to projects that serve a “Resilient Purpose,” as defined in §10.1-603.28.

Eligible activities include the following:

A. Floodproofing, elevation, slope stabilization, or mitigation reconstruction of location-dependent access structures within the floodplains—including bridges, culverts, retaining walls, and other water control structures—in a manner that increases flood resilience.

B. Buyouts and demolition of structures in order to move residents out of floodplain and flood hazard areas and to restore or enhance the natural flood mitigation capacity of functioning floodplains;

Relocation assistance for occupants following the buyout or destruction of primary residences, including multifamily units;

Costs related to projects that provide flood hazard mitigation benefits or lower flood risk to buildings, including costs related to home or business upgrades for flood resilience purposes, mitigation reconstruction, accessory structure resilience measures, increased costs of compliance with regulatory requirements, or increased costs associated with the reconstruction of damaged structures in a more flood resilient manner;

Post-flood debris removal and management measures; and

C. Other projects and activities consistent with the statutory scope of the Fund.

Application Period, Reapportionment, and Distribution of Funds

The Department began accepting and considering applications on December 1, 2025, and will continue until **September 1, 2026**.

The Department will evaluate applications in a manner prescribed by statute based on need, impact, cost-effectiveness, and other relevant criteria.

Funds will be provided to applicants on a **reimbursement** basis according to a schedule established by the Department.

Reapportionment

As determined by the Department, unobligated funds from any category may be reapportioned among PDCs based on demonstrated demand.

Award Maximums

Unless otherwise approved by the Department:

- Bridge and culvert projects be capped at \$175,000 per project;
- Slope stabilization projects be capped at \$75,000 per project;
- Buyout awards shall be determined based on fair market value and eligible costs, subject to funding availability and program guidelines.

Distribution of Funds

At the Department's discretion, activities conducted **prior** to submission of an application may be eligible for reimbursement. Proof of payment is required.

All disbursements shall be made through VRA. Recipients must provide contracts, invoices, proof of payment, and such other documentation as required by the Department or VRA prior to drawdown.

Limitations

Funds provided should not supplant federal funds and shall not result in duplication of benefits. All awards are subject to availability of funds and final approval by the Department and VRA.

Design Standards

Design and construction must be permitted by the local government and designed to maintain structural integrity during a 500-year flood, *where feasible*. In the event a 500-year flood design cannot be attained, then the applicant must implement increased flood resilience measures (see Appendix B). A properly licensed engineer or a Certified Floodplain Manager must attest that the project design meets either the 500-year standard or implements increased resilience measures to the greatest extent feasible.

CATEGORY 1 PRIVATE PROPERTY

1.A. Bridges, Culverts, Slope Stabilization

Access bridges, culverts and slope stabilization are critical components of a property's flood resilience. DCR has prioritized funds for the design and construction of resilient access bridges to minimize flood damage, ensure access, and facilitate efficient emergency response and long-term recovery.

The Department will provide funding for the reconstruction of privately owned bridges and culverts that serve as the only legal access to primary residential properties damaged or made unsafe by disaster events. Funding will also support slope stabilization related to these events. Bridges do not have to be damaged to qualify, but priority will be given to those destroyed or deemed unsafe due to the disaster.

Slope stabilization helps to protect properties from erosion and damage during flood events. The Department supports funding for slope stabilization projects designed to maintain structural integrity and minimize flood impacts.

Eligible Expenses:

- Engineering assessments for bridges, culverts, slope stabilization, and retaining walls
- Design and construction of bridges, culverts, slope stabilization, and retaining walls

- Reinforcement materials (geotextiles, riprap, flood-resistant infrastructure)
- Labor costs for bridges, culverts, slope stabilization, and retaining walls
- Permits

1.B. Residential and Commercial Buildings

Mitigation reconstruction and strategic property acquisition are foundational components of long-term flood resilience. Following a disaster event, communities are faced with a critical decision: whether to rebuild as before, or to rebuild stronger and safer. The Department has prioritized funding under this Category to ensure that damaged structures are either permanently removed from harm's way or reconstructed in a manner that materially reduces future flood risk.

This Category supports both voluntary buyouts and mitigation reconstruction of eligible structures, with an emphasis on reducing repetitive losses, protecting life and safety, and minimizing future disaster recovery expenditures.

Eligible Expenses:

- Demolition of substantially damaged residential structures;
- Construction or reconstruction of primary residences, including multifamily units, to meet or exceed current floodplain management and building code standards;
- Elevation of reconstructed structures above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE), including incorporation of freeboard where feasible;
- Foundation modifications necessary to support compliant elevation;
- Use of flood-resistant materials below the design flood elevation;
- Elevation or relocation of utilities, including HVAC systems, electrical panels, and fuel tanks;
- Increased costs of compliance required by local floodplain ordinances or the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code;
- Site work necessary to ensure long-term structural stability and flood resilience.
- Voluntary acquisition of primary residential structures located within Special Flood Hazard Areas or other high-risk flood areas; and administrative costs necessary to complete acquisition.

All acquisitions must be voluntary. No property shall be acquired through the use of eminent domain under this Category.

Properties acquired using Fund resources must be deed-restricted in perpetuity to ensure compatibility with open space or other flood-compatible uses consistent with applicable floodplain management regulations.

For both mitigation reconstruction and voluntary acquisition projects, reasonable relocation assistance may be provided to displaced occupants of primary residences,

including moving expenses and temporary housing support, where consistent with applicable state and federal law.

1.C. Targeted Flood Resilience Actions

Category 1C supports targeted structural and nonstructural mitigation measures that reduce flood risk and are not explicitly outlined in categories 1A and 1B.

These activities are intended to strengthen structures that remain viable and safely located, and to reduce future disaster damage through cost-effective improvements.

Eligible Expenses:

- Installation of flood-resistant materials below the Base Flood Elevation;
- Accessory structure resilience improvements;
- Drainage improvements or site modifications that reduce localized flood risk;
- Stabilization measures not otherwise covered under Category 1A;

All projects must comply with applicable building codes and local floodplain ordinances and must demonstrate measurable flood risk reduction.

General Provisions

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a Grant Agreement or Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department, the Authority, and other parties as may be appropriate. This MOA will include the amount of funding to be provided, the anticipated funded activities, the duration of the period of performance, and other relevant agreements, requirements, and restrictions.

The Department and the Authority reserve the right to provide funding at a level less than requested by the applicant, or to refuse to fund an applicant's request.

The Department reserves the right to release additional funding for any of the subcategories in this Notice based on need and demand, and to extend the date through which applications for this round will be accepted.

General Application Inquiries: For any questions regarding the application process, please contact the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Floodplain Management at: (804) 371-6095 or via email at cfpf@dcr.virginia.gov