



City of Petersburg

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January 13, 2025

Mr. Matthew Wells
Director of Dam Safety and Floodplain Management
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

RE: Authorization of City of Petersburg CFPF Capacity Building and Planning Application ID 2677
Citywide Drainage Study: Phase 2 Preliminary Engineering Reports, Round 1


Dear Mr. Wells and Members of the CFPF Review Team:

The City of Petersburg has assembled the attached Capacity Building and Planning grant application to request Community Flood Preparedness Fund assistance to initiate the second phase (2) of the Citywide Drainage Study. The first phase of the study work was focused on extensively on a "first pass" of cataloging the City's stormwater infrastructure and hydraulically modeling existing conditions of priority neighborhoods. This next phase is critical to utilizing the established information to build capacity and plan for identification of strategic improvement projects. The Phase 2 PER capacity building and planning will focus on using a 3rd party contractor to assist the City in completing structure recovery of inaccessible structures identified in the highest priority neighborhoods identified in the first phase of the Citywide Drainage Study. Once sediment and debris has been removed from the inaccessible structures, inventory data will be collected to update the City's database appropriately.

The PER portion of the capacity building and planning grant will focus on planning for implementation by using the updated database to revisit the existing conditions models and create alternative analyses to identify specific projects that will have the most impact on improving hydraulic function and capacity of the City's storm sewer infrastructure. This project, utilizing an informed, scientific approach to identifying and implementing improvement projects with maximum effectiveness will provide long term benefits to all residents of Petersburg, allowing the City to efficiently manage its fiscal resources and improve the level of service of the Stormwater Utility. Round 1 will focus on the City's top prioritized neighborhood, and the process will be replicated throughout the City as additional funding becomes available.

As Petersburg is a documented low-income geographic area, and the project site is also within a designated Qualified Opportunity Zone with a high social vulnerability index score, the City respectfully requests full funding and a waiver to match funds for this project. Please accept this letter as my authorization of the request for CFPF assistance to enable Petersburg to make significant progress toward Resilience.

Sincerely,



J. March Altman, Jr.
Petersburg City Manager