



**VIRGINIA COASTAL
RESILIENCE
MASTER PLAN**
2021



**Gloucester Underserved Community Meeting
Summary Report**

Meeting Date: October 14, 2021
Meeting Time: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Location: VIMS
Attendance: 8 in person; 8 via Zoom
Commonwealth Staff: Ellen Bolen

Overview: Ellen Bolen conducted a power point presentation. She addressed participants' questions. Participants made notes about flooding challenges on the maps and circled where they lived. There were questions and comments posted in the Zoom chat.

Participant Comments and Questions

- Will coastal erosion be considered in the plan?
- How can we balance subaqueous vegetation vs. breakwaters needed for the shoreline?
- Most data comes from combine ODU, OSGS and NASA
 - Land is rising in Norfolk
 - Fund can be used to implement resilience plan or mitigation – not research
 - No high resolution data in Middle Peninsula
- Gloucester Point resident has flood insurance and in high elevation area
 - Inadequate stormwater management is the cause of flooding
 - Septic system problems
 - Failing system impacts development
 - There's no sewer system plan
- Nor'easters cause more damage than hurricanes
- Some communities replace individual septic systems and pump to higher community system

- King Tide was gathering data
 - App does not work any more
- First responders watch tides and have a lot of local knowledge – were they engaged for this project?
 - Any private initiatives to reach volunteer emergency workers?
- Ash Wednesday Storm of 1962
 - Building codes modified to have higher elevation due to the damage caused by that storm
- State buildings are under certain codes to be built to a standard to minimize flood damage
- Building elevation is just one piece of the problem
 - Roads and septic system still affected no matter how high the buildings are
 - Road network affects everybody including during evacuations