



# Ad Hoc Stormwater Utility and Flood Mitigation Advisory Group

April 19, 2022 Meeting

# Tonight's Agenda

1. Electronic meeting notice (7:00)
2. February 16, 2022, meeting minutes (7:05)
3. Chair's Comments (7:10)
4. Status and Outstanding Questions (7:20)
5. Public comment (8:30)
6. Adjourn (8:40)

# Meeting Notice

AGENDA ITEM #1

# Electronic Meeting Notice

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency, this meeting is being held electronically pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2- 3708.2(A)(3), the Continuity of Government ordinance adopted by the City Council on June 20, 2020 or Section 4-0.01(g) in HB29 and HB30, enacted by the 2020 Virginia General Assembly (Virginia Acts of Assembly Ch. 1283 and 1289), to undertake essential business. All of the members of the Advisory Group and staff are participating from remote locations through Zoom.

Note: this meeting is being recorded.

# Minutes of the February 16, 2022, Meeting

AGENDA ITEM #2

# Chair's Comments

AGENDA ITEM #3

- a. Meeting Time
- b. Meeting Type
- c. Meeting Format
- d. Budget Q&A's
- e. Annual Report
- f. Stormwater & Flooding Solutions  
Workshop (Dino Drudi)

# Status and Outstanding Questions

AGENDA ITEM #4



- Provide a brief status report of the Flood Action Alexandria program.
- Explain how the funding proposed in the FY23 budget is accelerating the program.
- What is the status of the “grant program?” What modifications are being considered to: encourage more citizens to participate; quickly process applications; and provide sufficient funds to citizens who make improvements? How can multi-family properties be appropriately included in the grant program?
- What is the value of properties that have been flooded over the last few years? What is the cost-risk of damage to private properties and public infrastructure?
- Describe how messaging will continue to be expanded to better and accurately communicate the stormwater program and manage expectations of citizens?

# Flood Action Alexandria Progress Report

- Master baseline schedule **published**
- Large capacity projects
  - Commonwealth/ E. Glebe & Commonwealth & Ashby (\$50M) **under procurement**
  - Hooff's Run Culvert Bypass (\$60M) **under procurement**
- Sanitary sewer projects
  - Pitt & Gibbon (\$11.5M) **under procurement**
  - Nethergate (\$5M) **under procurement**

# Flood Action Alexandria Progress Report

- Neighborhood spot improvements **on schedule**
  - 32 Projects Identified (\$10.95M)
  - 14 Projects In Motion (\$4.72M)
    - 10 under planning (\$2.98M)
    - 3 under design (\$1.67M)
    - 1 under construction (\$77K)
  - 2 Projects Complete (\$198K)

# Flood Action Alexandria Progress Report

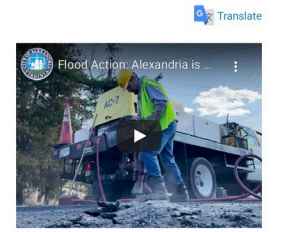
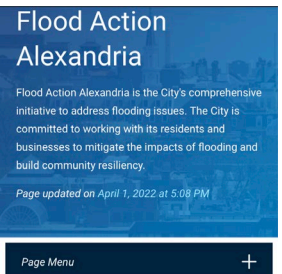
- State and federal grant funding
  - State CFPF Awards for Stormwater\* to Date: \$3.87M
  - Federal Funding for Stormwater to Date (ARPA+HUD): \$2.32M
  - April 8, 2022: NEW CFPF Application totals: \$2M
- \*Including \$3.2M awarded for the Waterfront
- Current Status of the City's Flood Mitigation Pilot Grant Program
  - 181 applications submitted
  - 136 have been paid out via check
  - Total of \$428,329.80 reimbursed to date
  - TES-SWM, TES-SMS and Finance are refining the process and expectations based on lessons learned
  - Grant manual and online resources are being updated, communications and possible scheduling webinar for the application process and clarifications
  - Multifamily participation is under investigation with our consulting experts

# Flood Action Alexandria Communications

## Have you seen the website?

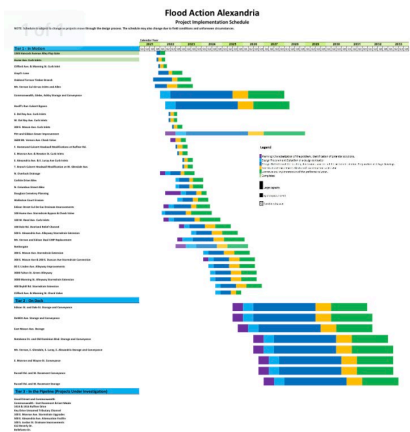
We're making changes to make it easier to navigate to find what you're looking for. We're adding photos and videos to show you projects in motion.

Coming soon: Interactive Map



## Spot Improvement Project Tracker

- + Master Schedule Project Tracker
- + Under Construction Spot Improvement Projects
- + In Design Spot Improvement Projects
- + Under Investigation Spot Improvement Projects
- + Completed Spot Improvement Projects



## Resident Success Story

*How residents found success with flood mitigation.*

Each time John Periman and his family waded through floodwaters on the first floor of their home on East Maple Street, they had the same conversation about moving.

The sandbags they often put out couldn't save their cars from being totaled or the walls in their living room from being ripped out. Yet, when their house was restored and insurance claims were filed, the Periman family recognized they didn't want to leave their home in Alexandria.

"We were talking after a flood and said if the city can't do anything about 100-year rainfalls, wouldn't it be nice if we could just protect our homes?," Periman said, recalling the August 2021 storm.



That's when he learned about the City's [Flood Mitigation Pilot Grant Program](#) which would reimburse him 50% – up to \$5,000 – if he installed flood mitigation devices on his property. Alexandria is the first municipality in the state to successfully work with lawmakers to change the state code allowing public funding to be spent on private property to launch the grant program.

Periman installed a flood door, flood gate and sump pump. He also had a three-foot brick wall constructed just outside the flood gate for an extra layer of protection.

"We haven't had any problems," Periman said, noting his property is near the Hooffs Run culvert, a serial flooding nuisance during severe storms. "You guys helped us stay where we are."

At least six of Periman's neighbors have also installed flood mitigation devices and applied for the grant. The devices augment the City's maintenance work and infrastructure plan to construct the Hooffs Run culvert bypass, which should significantly reduce flooding.

"We encourage people to apply for the grant," Periman said. "We're really pleased. Hopefully, the City will continue to offer the grant."

## Flood Action newsletter

✓ Continues to publish bi-monthly with project updates and pertinent project information.

✓ Subscribers increased: April was up by 9% from March.

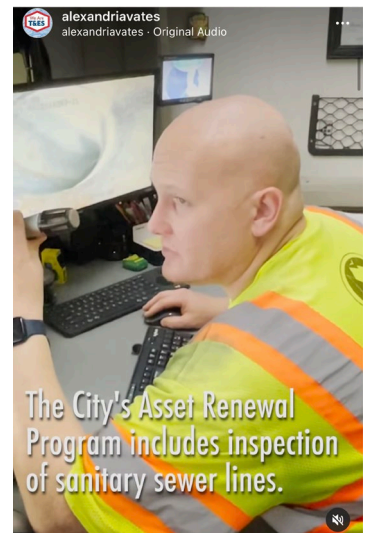
✓ New section was added that will be a space to foster flood mitigation discussion among residents.

## Social media messaging

✓ Impressions, engagements and post link clicks were up across all T&ES platforms.

✓ T&ES audience continues to grow.

✓ The Sanitary Sewer inspection video was the most popular social media post for Flood Action messaging.







# STORMWATER DAY AT THE PARK

**Saturday, April 30 | 9:00 am to noon**

**Ben Brenman Park**

DIY rain gauge workshop  Mobile Art Lab Truck for screen prints of Storm Covers  Games for kids

 Facetime with experts for tips & grant info  Rain barrel giveaway  Tours of Ben Brenman Pond

# Public Comments

AGENDA ITEM #5

# Adjourn

AGENDA ITEM #6