House Testimony of

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"The Water Resources Development Act of 2020: Status of Essential Provisions"

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Chairman Napolitano, Ranking Member Rouzer and Members of the Subcommittee, thank you for inviting me to testify today.

My name is Matt Strickler, and I serve as Secretary of Natural Resources to Virginia Governor Ralph Northam. In that capacity I oversee five state agencies, each of which partners with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in various capacities to protect and preserve natural and cultural resources.

I also serve as the Commonwealth's designated Chief Resilience Officer (CRO), the primary coordinator of resilience and adaptation initiatives in Virginia, with a focus on addressing the consequences of climate change – including recurrent flooding.

In both roles, I advance Governor Northam's agenda, which includes fighting climate change and related impacts, ensuring that no community is left behind in our adaptation and protection efforts because of socioeconomic disparities, and letting sound science drive decision making.

As Virginia continues its proactive approach to these issues, the provisions of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 (WRDA 2020) and increased federal engagement can provide significant assistance. I am glad to testify before you today on that topic.

Please accept this testimony on the challenges Virginia faces with regard to climate adaptation, recurrent flooding, potential impacts of extreme weather and protection of lives, private property, and public infrastructure – including critically important green infrastructure.

Virginia's Climate Risk- *Coastal*

Virginia's coastal region covers 8,950 square miles, or approximately one quarter of the state and has more than 10,000 miles of tidally influenced shoreline.[1,2] The coastal plain extends from the

[1] MR Berman et al., "Virginia - Shoreline Inventory Report: Methods and Guidelines, SRAMSOE No. 450." (Comprehensive Coastal Inventory Program, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, 2016).
[2] "State of the Coast: A Report for the Governor's Coastal Climate Resiliency Plan" (Center for Coastal Resources Management, June 2019).

Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay to the fall line, which runs approximately along Interstate 95 and marks the beginning of the Piedmont and the end of tidal influence in Virginia rivers.

Recent estimates show that 250,000 acres of land, 1,469 miles of roads, and property valued at $17.4 billion lie less than five feet above the high tide line in Virginia. Within nine feet of high tide, these figures jump to 490,000 acres, 4,500 road miles, and $54.8 billion.[3] A changing climate puts all of this at tremendous risk.

Coastal Virginia has some of the highest relative sea level rise rates in the United States due to the combined effects of sea level rising and land subsiding.[4] Using the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Sewell's Point tide gauge in Norfolk as the primary tidal data reference, Virginia has experienced more than 18 inches of relative sea level rise in the past 100 years.[5]

Multiple studies, including those from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the National Climate Assessment, and NOAA Technical Report: Global and Regional Sea Level Rise Scenarios for the United States, report that sea level will continue to rise at an accelerating rate. The NOAA 2017 Relative Sea Level Change Scenarios for Sewell's Point (Fig. 1) predict as much as 6.69 feet of relative sea level rise by 2100 based on the Intermediate High Scenario.

Recurrent flooding in the Hampton Roads region of Virginia increased from 1.7 days of flooding per year in 1960 to 7.3 days per year in 2014.[6] Estimates project the influences of wind and coastal storms could increase this number to 200 per year by 2049.[7] Coastal Virginia is also vulnerable to flooding due to higher water tables as the sea level rises.

The impacts of sea level rise and flooding are magnified by population density: Virginia's coastal region is home to more than 70 percent of our population.[8] Coastal regions across the United States are seeing population increases, with the U.S. Department of Commerce estimating

[3] Ben Strauss, Claudia Tebaldi, and Scott Kulp, "Virginia and the Surging Sea: A Vulnerability Assessment with Projections for Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flood Risk" (Princeton, NJ: Climate Central, September 2014), https://sealevel.climatecentral.org/uploads/ssrf/VA-Report.pdf.
[4] Christopher G. Piecuch, "Origin of Spatial Variation in US East Coast Sea-Level Trends during 1900–2017," *Nature*, 2018.
[5] "Sea Level Trends - NOAA Tides & Currents. Sewell's Point VA Station.," 2019, https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/sltrends/sltrends_station.shtml?id=8638610.
[6] W.V. Sweet and J Park, "From the Extreme to the Mean: Acceleration and Tipping Points of Coastal Inundation from Sea Level Rise.," *Earth's Future* 2, no. 12 (2014): 579–600, https://doi.org/10.1002/2014EF000272.
[7] A. G. Burgos et al., "Future Nuisance Flooding in Norfolk, VA, From Astronomical Tides and Annual to Decadal Internal Climate Variability," *Geophysical Research Letters* 45, no. 22 (November 28, 2018): 12,432-12,439, https://doi.org/10.1029/2018GL079572.
[8] Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties in Virginia: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2019 (CO-EST2019-ANNRES-51) Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Release Date: March 2020

that 47 percent of the U.S. population lives along coastlines, putting a significant portion of the public at risk.[9]

Virginia's Climate Risk- *Riverine*

Virginia also has tremendous riverine flooding risk outside of the coastal zone, home to an estimated 3.4 million Virginians. Inland flooding in the Commonwealth is characterized slightly differently than coastal flooding, although the hazard and threat to safety is equal in comparison. There are 52,232 miles of free-flowing streams and rivers within the Commonwealth. Riverine flooding occurs when rain events or rapid snowmelt add more water into a waterway than it can hold. Subsequently the water rises, overtopping the river bank, and flooding agricultural fields, roads, or populated areas.

Unchecked development, expanded impervious surfaces, poorly maintained run of river or agricultural dams and flood control infrastructure coupled with more intense rainfall events has contributed to increase inland flooding risk in Virginia, just as it has along our coast.

Virginia's non-coastal localities include 66 counties and 21 independent cities, all at risk from riverine flooding. Approximately 599,460 properties are at risk of flooding within 30 years, which is 27.3% of the total number of properties across the Commonwealth[10]. This part of the state also needs immediate attention to ensure long-term climate resilience.

In February 2020, southwest Virginia communities had severe flooding after experiencing heavy rain, requiring some residents to be rescued from their homes and resulting in damaged buildings and road closures.

Tides can also impact flood risk, and they're not only found along the coast. Tidal waters extend inland to places like Richmond and Fredericksburg, as well as north, like Alexandria and Arlington, just five miles from the US Capitol.

Hurricanes don't strike just coastal Virginia. In recent years, they hit much more of the state. In 2018, Hurricanes Florence and Michael tore through central and western areas of the state. During Hurricane Michael, the Dan River region alone suffered roughly $12.9 million in damages. Floods aren't limited to mapped flood risk areas either. In fact, many of the 2,000 homes that were flooded in 2016 during Hurricane Matthew were outside the mapped floodplain. In 2018, Hurricanes Florence and Michael tore through central and western areas of the state. During Hurricane Michael, the Dan River region alone suffered roughly $12.9 million in damages.

Flooding is a statewide issue that will require a variety of solutions as climate impacts become more severe. This is why Virginia has implemented the Virginia Flood Risk management Standard (The VFRMS). The VFRMS is the strongest flooding elevation standard in the nation, setting a minimum first floor elevation, or freeboard, above the projected base-flood height. In addition to the VFRMS, Governor Northam issued Executive Order 45 which says that, State-

[9] "National Coastal Population Report: Population Trends from 1970 to 2020." (U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA's Office of Coastal Management, 2018).

[10]*(https://floodfactor.com/state/Virginia/51_fsid)*

owned buildings are not allowed to be constructed within flood-prone areas without a variance. While the VFRMS sets a freeboard standard for these areas, the Commonwealth will avoid building in natural floodplains and flood-prone areas whenever possible.

Virginia faces a serious threat to public safety and economic viability from the various impacts of climate change. Storm surge from tropical storms and hurricanes, sea level rise, nuisance flooding, riverine flooding, altered hydrology, and their impacts on poorly planned development are just some of the issues we must address to ensure a resilient, thriving Virginia for generations to come. Virginia is taking immediate action to solve this problem. We are counting on the federal government and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to assist us.

Taking Action

From its first cities to its fishing and farming communities, coastal Virginia faces massive challenges in adapting to the new reality created by climate change and sea level rise. We know this because of decades of observation and scientific research, and from modeling that shows what we can expect in the future. We also know the following:

- These challenges differ by region, locality, neighborhood, and individual, as does capacity to address them.
- Current federal, state, regional, and local efforts are insufficient to achieve a resilient coast, and are not aligned.
- In most cases, more work is necessary to identify the suite of possible solutions to specific problems posed by coastal hazards.
- There is not, nor will there ever be, enough funding to protect all homes, businesses, infrastructure, and other coastal assets where they currently exist.
- Low-income and minority communities are particularly vulnerable due to a number of factors.

Recognizing the adaptation challenges coastal Virginia faces, Governor Northam signed Executive Order Number Twenty-Four (EO-24), Increasing Virginia's Resilience to Sea Level Rise and Natural Hazards, on November 2, 2018. Section 2A of EO-24 states that "The Commonwealth of Virginia has a responsibility to assist local governments in reducing flood risk through planning and implementing large scale flood protection and adaptation initiatives." It also requires that "The Chief Resilience Officer, with the assistance of the Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection, shall create and implement a Coastal Resilience Master Plan for coastal Virginia to reduce the impacts of tidal and storm surge flooding."

In October 2020, Governor Northam released the Virginia Coastal Master Planning Framework. This Framework is the result of a nearly two-year process initiated by the Governor in EO-24, involving state agencies, key stakeholders, and local and regional partners to develop mitigation strategies that will reduce the near-term and long-term impacts of natural hazards and extreme weather. This document is a roadmap that puts the full strength of the Commonwealth into creating a comprehensive Coastal Resilience Master Plan that will protect communities,

commerce, and the coastal environment. The approach recognizes the scientific and fiscal realities—and challenges—that underserved communities in both urban and rural areas are facing, and emphasizes local and regional efforts to combat flooding and protect people and assets. The goal of the Master Planning exercise is to have a completed, project oriented Coastal Master Plan by the end of 2021.

To reduce climate pollution, the Commonwealth of Virginia became the first southern state to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a market-based collaborative effort among Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states to combat climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the power sector, while driving economic growth.

Legislation passed during the 2020 General Assembly session will permit Virginia to use 45 percent of the proceeds generated from the auction for community flood preparedness and coastal resilience, while the remainder of funds will be directed towards energy efficiency programs[11].

The RGGI proceeds directed towards resilience will fund project implementation, planning, research, and monitoring via the Community Flood Preparedness Fund Administered by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). DCR is also responsible for dam safety and floodplain management in Virginia.

Resilience Planning, Federal Assistance and the Army Corps

Virginia provides an interesting case study with regard to the state-federal partnership on disaster planning. Virginia has tremendous risk and is already being impacted by the effects of climate change and sea level rise, yet Virginia is far behind other states in disaster planning and federal aid to do so. This is due to several factors:

- Virginia has no designated federal funding source for flood preparedness or climate adaptation.
- Virginia has not had a major disaster in recent years, and therefore does not have significant post—disaster funding with which to prepare for future conditions.
- Virginia does not have a set of Army Corps flood control projects to provide the tentpoles for a coastal master plan.
- It is unclear how ongoing Army Corps feasibility studies for flood control projects in Virginia will inform our master planning effort or provide direction for proactive adaptation consonant with Virginia's goals of using natural and nature-based solutions at a community scale to benefit all communities regardless of socioeconomic standing.

As such, Virginia's experience is likely to be similar to many coastal states that are moving quickly to enhance their resilience efforts. Unlike states like Louisiana, Texas or New Jersey, Virginia has been given little support or direction from the federal government with regard to long term climate adaptation planning. In part due to lack of federal leadership under the prior

administration, and in part because of the relative newness of the threat, Virginia is charting its own course and starting from scratch.

This has meant that in Virginia, localities and regions often are left to create their own plans. Some communities fare well, while others are left behind, and plans that do not take a broad view of impacts to neighboring jurisdictions and state and federal trust resources can have unintended negative consequences. This is why this type of planning must be done at the state and federal level, and the Corps must play a major role in helping to coordinate efforts and initiate feasibility studies and projects that protect our communities from flood hazards.

Nonetheless, we are hopeful those dynamics are changing. President Biden has taken bold and decisive action to reduce U.S. carbon emissions, and to reposition the United States as a global leader in the fight against climate change. These steps are welcome, necessary, and long overdue, and the impressive climate team the President is assembling inspires confidence that there is much more to come.

Recent actions by the U.S. Congress will continue to bolster our efforts. In the case of this committee, the reforms of WRDA 2020 align with our priorities for resilience planning and we are confident that full implementation of these reforms will help states like Virginia catch up in the race to adapt to a warming climate and rising seas.

Virginia's Coastal Resilience Master Plan and WRDA 2020

The purpose of the Coastal Resilience Master Plan (Master Plan) will be to reduce risk to people and property by anticipating and preparing for sea level rise and coastal flooding, while ensuring equitable treatment for all communities, and protecting the coastal environment.

Understanding that significant changes are inevitable, the Master Plan will identify coastal adaptation and protection strategies and projects that keep coastal Virginia's communities, economy, and environment vibrant. Achieving this will require strengthening relevant laws and policies, leveraging funding opportunities, and coordinating resilience activities across local, state and federal programs.

WRDA 2020 took steps to expand the ability of the Corps to provide local governments with direct resilience planning assistance (at no cost to the local government through the Corps' Flood Plain Management Services) to avoid repetitive flooding impacts, to prepare and adapt to climate change and extreme weather events, and to quickly recover from flooding events. Virginia hopes that this new program will help communities across the state create local resilience plans, as communities will be required to create plans before receiving project grants for the aforementioned Community Flood Preparedness Fund.

The Norfolk Division of the Corps is an active and valuable participant in the Master Plan Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and through that venue we hope to connect them with communities in need of planning assistance.

Additional reforms from WRDA 2020 and ways their implementation will be of benefit are best understood through the lens of the five goals of Virginia's Coastal Master Plan:

Master Plan Goal 1: Acknowledge climate change and its consequences and base decision-making on the best available science.

Before Governor Northam took office, Virginia slowly advanced efforts to study and mitigate coastal flooding without stating unequivocally that climate change is the root cause of the problem. This approach, born of political necessity, hampered honest dialogue and broader understanding of the challenges we face.

Developing resilience in Virginia's coastal localities requires understanding that the challenges are long-term, continually evolving, and varied. In order to be comprehensive and effective, our coastal adaptation and protection efforts must incorporate climate science. Decision making with regard to state and regional approaches, as well as specific projects, must be based on the best available information and relevant science. Through the Master Plan, the Commonwealth will adopt this approach, and will require the same of localities.

Steps in WRDA 2020 to ensure the Corps will accurately assess and quantify efforts to address potential sea level rise or inland flooding when doing costs & benefit analyses for future water resources projects will provide helpful as Virginia weighs which projects it should prioritize for federal funding requests and in the Master Plan prioritization. It will also help elected officials better understand the true costs and risks associated with climate change adaptation.This includes understanding the potential negative impacts of traditional grey infrastructure and the additional benefits of nature-based infrastucture,

Master Plan Goal 2: Identify and address socioeconomic inequities and work to enhance equity through coastal adaptation and protection efforts.

Across the globe and throughout history, racial and ethnic minorities and economically disadvantaged groups have been forced to inhabit the most marginal lands. In coastal areas, this often means lands most susceptible to flooding. The United States saw the acute consequences of this inequity clearly during and after major coastal disasters like Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Superstorm Sandy in 2012, and Hurricane Harvey in 2017. Chronic flooding is also an increasing problem for Alaska Native villages and communities like Louisiana's Isle de Jean Charles Tribe, that are becoming some of the world's first climate refugees.[12,13]

Similar issues exist in Virginia. We have coastal cities with significant African American populations, economically stressed rural coastal areas, and Native American communities with

[12] "Our Land and Water: A Regional Approach to Adaptation" (LA Safe: Louisiana's Strategic Adaptation for Future Environments, April 2019), https://s3.amazonaws.com/lasafe/Final+Adaptation+Strategies/Regional+Adaptation+Strategy.pdf.
[13] Josh Haner, "Carbon's Casualties: Resettling the First American 'Climate Refugees,'" *The New York Times*, October 26, 2016, sec. World, https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/admin/100000004731523.embedded.html?

at-risk reservations and ancestral tribal lands. While discrete initiatives like the Ohio Creek Watershed Project in Norfolk are making headway in addressing inequity in coastal resilience, we must do more as we consider adaptation and protection strategies across the entire coastal zone. Governor Northam has created the Virginia Council on Environmental Justice, hired the nation's first state level Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer and taken additional steps to ensure that no Community is left behind when planning for rising waters and environmental protection.

The Master Plan will promote coastal resilience strategies and projects that specifically address racial and economic inequities. We have the information necessary to identify the location of affected communities and the risks they face. We will work with these communities to plan, implement, and support successful and lasting adaptation and protection strategies. We must begin now to develop these strategies, which in some cases will include relocation from places that are or will become uninhabitable.

There are several provisions or WRDA 2020 that could provide useful in this effort. Directing the Corps to prioritize planning assistance to economically disadvantaged communities and communities subject to repetitive flooding events will help those communizes that have thus far lacked the resources to plan for this emerging threat. Virginia's Community Flood Preparedness Fund will also seek to assist these communities by ensuring that 25% of funds are directed to low income communities.

Requiring the Corps update its environmental justice policies, regulations, and guidance to ensure that future water resources development projects promote the meaningful involvement of minority communities, low-income communities, and federally-recognized Indian Tribes is also in concert with state initiatives.

Master Plan Goal 3: Recognize the importance of protecting and enhancing green infrastructure like natural coastal barriers and fish and wildlife habitat by prioritizing nature-based solutions.

The bounty and beauty of coastal Virginia's lands and waters have made the area an economic hub and a desirable place to live for thousands of years. While commerce has diversified from exclusively resource-based and agrarian pursuits, fishing, farming, forestry, and shellfish propagation still support many livelihoods and are a significant component of coastal Virginia's cultural identity. These occupations are also heavily dependent on environmental conditions and the integrity of coastal landscapes and ecosystems.

Further, science shows us that protecting and enhancing natural coastal areas is critical not only to support continued production of renewable resources, but also to protect other key components of our economy and communities. Barrier islands, beaches, dunes, wetlands, coastal forests, and even oyster reefs and seagrass beds offer significant and quantifiable resilience benefits at a significantly lower cost than shoreline hardening. These natural features also provide the additional benefits of protecting water quality and habitat for fish and wildlife. The Master Plan will support the mutually reinforcing goals of coastal resilience and environmental

protection by prioritizing the protection and enhancement of green infrastructure and the use of natural and nature-based solutions where effective.

This too aligns with the provision of WRDA 2020. Reaffirming the commitment to greater use of natural and nature-based projects by ensuring natural and nature-based alternatives are fully evaluated in any flood or storm risk-reduction feasibility study carried out by Corps is important and will provide helpful when Virginia seeks Corps projects to further the Master Plan.

We are also pleased that WRDA 2020 directed the Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to issue final agency procedures for its Principles, Requirements, and Guidelines (PR&G). The PR&G will ensure that future water resources development projects maximize sustainable development, protect and restore the functions of natural systems, and fully-evaluate environmental, economic, and societal goals, in addition to addressing environmental justice concerns and ensuring meaningful participation of locally-affected communities.

Master Plan Goal 4: Utilize community and regional scale planning to the maximum extent possible, seeking region-specific approaches tailored to the needs of individual communities.

The Master Plan will recognize that while each region, locality, and community in coastal Virginia has unique characteristics, they face many similar challenges from sea level rise and other coastal hazards. A piecemeal approach to coastal resilience creates duplication of effort, zero-sum competition for limited resources, unintended negative consequences, and loss of opportunities to accomplish at scale what cannot be done by individual localities. Effective resilience planning requires collaboration, coordination, and communication at all levels of government, and across physical and administrative boundaries.

The Commonwealth has a responsibility through the Master Plan to enhance resilience efficiently by prioritizing and coordinating activities among local, regional, state, and federal partners, and by seeking and leveraging funding opportunities to implement strategic coastal adaptation and protection solutions. In order to accomplish this, we will develop the Master Plan at regional scales, building on local and regional planning efforts. We will encourage creativity and collaboration to find solutions to local problems that fit the Commonwealth's broader view of resilience, while discouraging activities that have unintended negative consequences locally, for other communities, or for the environment.

Authorizing the Corps to study, design, and construct water resources projects for communities that have been subjected to repetitive flooding events and have received emergency flood assistance will be helpful in directing resources to areas of need and to providing community scale planning. This, combined with the previously mentioned reforms from WRDA 2020 will help ensure that authorized projects use natural features and protect entire communities, rather than just individual structures.

This authority will also help repetitive loss communities, especially those in economically disadvantaged areas, obtain critical flood protection, tailored to benefit their community and reduce relative risk.

Master Plan Goal 5: Understand fiscal realities and focus on the most cost-effective solutions for protection and adaptation of our communities, businesses, and critical infrastructure.

We must recognize that protecting every component of the built environment exactly where it stands today is not realistic. Science shows clearly that, even if aggressive reduction targets for greenhouse gas emissions are met, response times in the natural system will result in rising global temperatures and sea levels for many decades to come.[14] In time, some homes, businesses, roads, and communities will become uninhabitable as sea level rises. This includes not only the underserved communities mentioned above, but wealthier communities as well. The nature of Virginia's coastal zone means structural solutions will not be practical for much of the area. Fiscal reality means we will never have adequate resources to armor and/or elevate large sections of our coastline. Further, doing so is undesirable because it would fundamentally alter and degrade the Chesapeake Bay and the ecosystems that support coastal Virginia's economy and define its culture.

Acknowledging these realities, the Master Plan will prioritize use of natural and nature-based features to protect infrastructure that is critical for national security, public health and safety, and the economy. Using the best scientific and economic information available, the Master Plan will promote structural protective measures only when the science shows that green infrastructure will not offer sufficient protection, and that relocation is not possible.

We have the knowledge and tools to identify which areas are most vulnerable, and which adaptation and protection approaches are most appropriate. We will use this information to engage and align as many existing local, state, and federal programs as possible to support development of a detailed Master Plan that is consistent with these guiding principles.

There are many facets to this goal. To understand fiscal realities of the Army Corps, one must look at the backlog of unfunded projects and recognize that many of those projects no longer support the resilience goals of state and federal governments. Provision of WRDA 2020 that require the Corps to assess and update the economic and environmental impacts of antiquated projects before they may be carried out is important and will put a state like Virginia on a more level playing field with other states as we all grapple with emerging climate risks.

In addition, these increasing risks will require the need for more projects and feasibility studies. A rising tide waits for no one, and certainly our cities and counties cannot wait while the Corps limits the number of studies to 10 per year, and limits spending on studies to $3 million. This subcommittee should consider allowing for changes in these limits with regard to state-level flood control and master planning efforts.

[14] K Hayhoe et al., "Climate Models, Scenarios and Projections," In: *Climate Science Special Report: Fourth National Climate Assessment, Volume I*, 2017 [Wuebbles, D.J., D.W. Fahey, K.A. Hibbard, D.J. Dokken, B.C. Stewart, and T.K. Maycock (eds.)]. U.S. Global Change Research Program, Washington, DC, USA, pp. 133-160, https://doi.org/10.7930/J0WH2N54.

Additional Recommendations

The various policy changes from WRDA 2020 previously mentioned are all important insofar as they represent directional shifts in the Army Corps' approach, and how the federal government evaluates and implements water resource projects. These changes are in the nascent stages of rollout and implementation, and we hope that they will be of great benefit to Virginia and other states as we begin the daunting task of adapting to a rapidly changing climate and increasing risk from natural disasters and extreme weather.

Going forward, Congress must continue to push the Army Corps to modernize and to expand. States and local governments need more assistance for adaptation and mitigation planning generally. Specifically, we need the Corps to do more. We need more studies, more engagement, more solutions. Many states, like Virginia, will seek to implement programs that rely on natural and nature-based infrastructure, are community-wide and protect all types of communities, leaving none behind.

There is still much work to be done. States like Virginia are stepping up to do their part, and we appreciate and value the assistance we receive from the U.S. Congress and the Army Corps. We appreciate the subcommittee's interest in continuing to pursue policies and reforms like these, which will be critical if states are able to meet the flooding and resilience challenges that we face.