

# JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON COASTAL FLOODING AND ADAPTATION



*SJ27 (2020, Sen Lewis); HJ102(2020, Del Hodges)  
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# ***LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW AND UPDATE:***

- ***SB1027/HB981 - Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act (DCR)***
- ***SB 776 - Virginia Natural Coastal Protection Act (VMRC)***
- ***HB504 - Chesapeake Bay Preservation Areas (DEQ)***

# **SB1027/HB981 RGGI TIMELINE AND REVENUE DISTRIBUTION**

- ▶ **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) timeline:**
  - ▶ DEQ implementing regulations promulgated July 2020
  - ▶ Virginia becomes full RGGI participating state January 1, 2021
  - ▶ First RGGI quarterly auction for 2021 to be held late March/early April (precise date TBD)
  - ▶ Commonwealth receives revenue approximately 2 days following auction
- ▶ **Virginia Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act H981/S1027 requires:**
  - ▶ **50% of revenues go to low income energy efficiency programs**
    - ▶ Administered by DHCD and DMME
  - ▶ **45% of revenues go into Virginia Community Flood Preparedness Fund**
    - ▶ Administered by DCR and VRA
    - ▶ 25% to projects in low income geographic areas
  - ▶ **5% for administrative costs to carry out statewide climate change planning and mitigation activities**
    - ▶ 3% to DEQ – reasonable expenses and statewide climate change planning and mitigation activities
    - ▶ 2% to DHCD and DMME – administer and implement programs as defined

# SB776 IMPLEMENTATION (VMRC)

## ➤ Status:

- Memorandum to Wetlands Boards
- Workshops for Wetlands Guidelines Update
  - Two complete, third scheduled

## ➤ Commission Public Hearing for Wetland Guidelines will be required

## ➤ Challenges: Determination of best science – based evidence

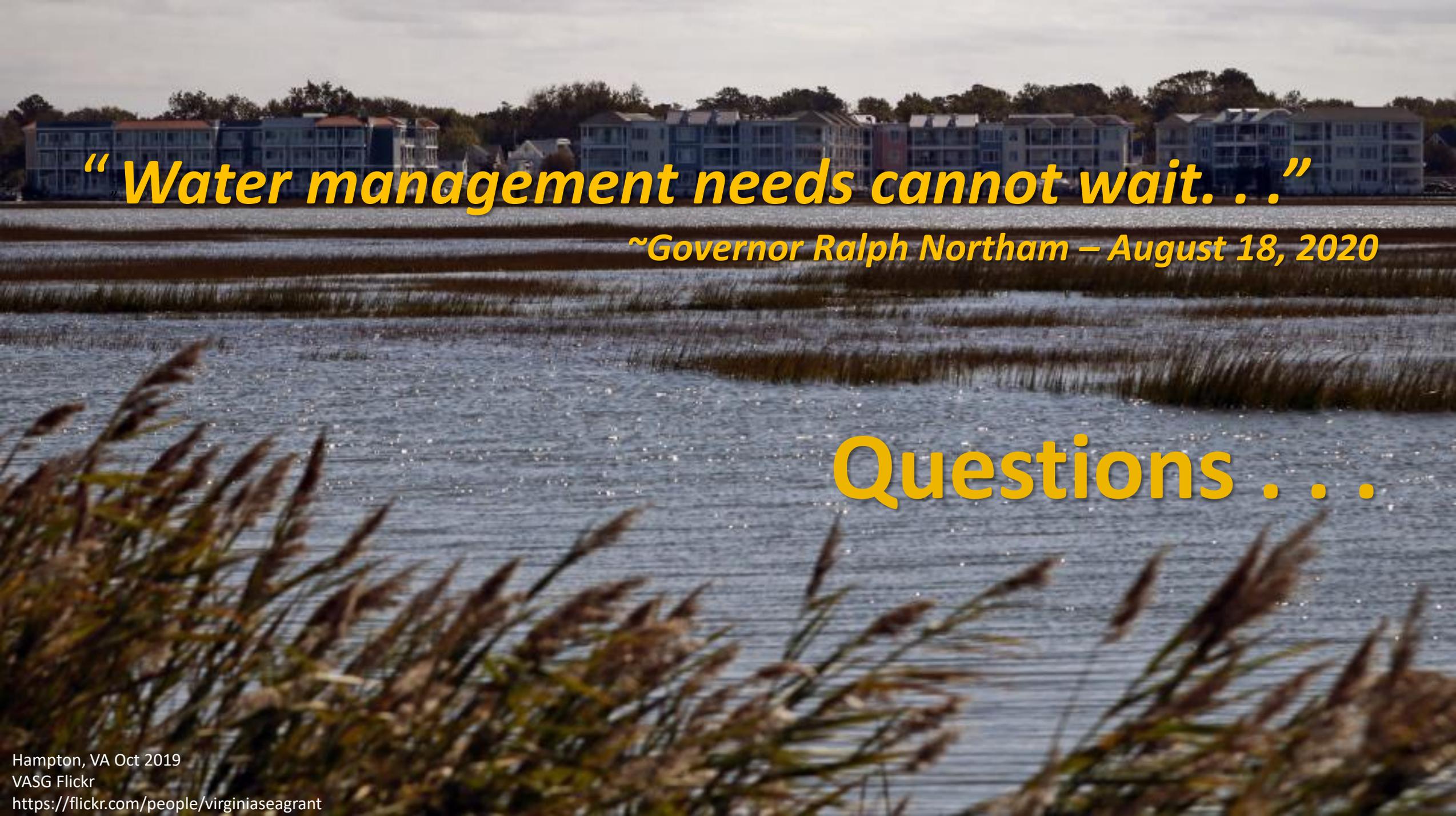
## ➤ Additional Considerations:

- Any final standards set by the Commonwealth to ensure protection of shorelines and sensitive coastal habitats from sea level rise and coast hazards are expected to align with the Virginia Coastal Resiliency Master Plan.



# **HB504 - CHESAPEAKE BAY PRESERVATION ACT (CBPA) AMENDMENTS**

- ▶ **Added criteria for local government programs to encourage and promote:**
  - ▶ **“Preservation of mature trees or planting of trees as a water quality protection tool and as a means of providing other natural resource benefits”**
  - ▶ **“Coastal resilience and adaptation to sea-level rise and climate change”**
- ▶ **Provides for expedited regulatory process**
  - ▶ **First formal action will be presenting proposed regulation to State Water Control Board (SWCB) with public comment prior to presentation of final proposed regulation**
- ▶ **Proposed regulations expected for SWCB consideration at Winter or Spring Meeting**
- ▶ **DEQ evaluating additional opportunities for stakeholder engagement**
  - ▶ **DEQ received comment and information through initial engagement in one-on-one discussions with state agencies and stakeholders**
- ▶ **DEQ received a separate federal grant (through VCZM) to engage VIMS and Virginia Coastal Policy Center to assist in developing technical guidance on climate adaptation under CBPA framework**
  - ▶ **Will assist with follow-up guidance to regulation developed**



***“Water management needs cannot wait. . .”***

***~Governor Ralph Northam – August 18, 2020***

**Questions . . .**