

Flood Prevention Bond Referendum Oversight Board Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2025, 2:00 pm- 3:30 pm

Economic Development, Boardroom B
4525 Main Street, Suite 700
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Board Members Present

Scott Miller, Usha Eleswarapu, Emily Steinhilber, Allison Hammer, Jeffrey Waller, PE

Board Members Absent

Jimmy Mccune, Ryan Radspinner, PE

Student Members Present

Pahan Jayarathna

Student Members Absent

John L'Heureux

City Council Liaison Present

Robert W. "Worth" Remick

City Staff Present

Diamond Royster – Assistant City Attorney

Mike Tippin, PE – Public Works, Stormwater Engineering Center Administrator

Kyle Coolbaugh – Public Works, Stormwater Extension Program Manager

Jacobs Engineering Group

Shelly Frie, PE – Local Project Manager

Public Attendees

Uday Khambhammettu



The October 9, 2025, Public Hearing Meeting for the Virginia Beach Flood Prevention Bond Referendum Oversight Board was called to order by board chair Jeff Waller at 2:00 PM. Mike Tippin then took roll call.

Minutes of September 11, 2025

Upon motion by Usha Eleswarapu, seconded by Scott Miller, September 11, 2025, Minutes were approved.

Vote: 2-0

Members voting Aye:

Usha Eleswarapu, Scott Miller

Members Absent:

Jimmy McCune, Ryan Radspinner, Emily Steinhilber (Absent for Vote)

Members Abstain:

Jeff Waller, Allison Hammer



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VIRGINIA BEACH FLOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM

Status Report

- The Eastern Shore Drive Drainage Improvements BRIC Project was advertised for construction.
- This project includes two pump stations and elevating West Great Neck to prevent flooding.
- This project will occur simultaneously with Shore Drive Phase III roadway project.
- Over 400,000 Wetland plants are being planted at Pleasure House Point. There is an age limit of 18 for volunteers due to liability concerns, which may affect student participation.
- On Tuesday September 9, Mike Tippin sat on a panel discussion at the WaterJam Conference that had approximately 3,000 attendees.
- Videos posted to the City's channels in September received a total of 56,523 views.

PW Stormwater Extension Program

- On September 16th, the area received six to nine inches of rain in a short period, overwhelming the drainage system.
- The temporary pumps at Windsor Woods Tide Gate were insufficient for the intense storm event.
- The Temporary Pumps are pumping at about 10% of what the pumps will pump at once the permanent pump station is constructed.
- Construction of the new permanent pump station will begin soon but will take several years to complete.
- The Stormwater Extension Program was part of the sea level rise adaptation strategy.
- It highlighted a need for parcel level flood mitigation information and being able to work one on one with residents.
- The program has received 39 cases of interest since the last update.
- The sensor program is part of the Stormwater Extension Program.
- Sensors are used to collect rainfall, water level, wind, and all types of data parameters throughout the city.
- Sensors are used before, during and after events.
- During September 16th, sensors were being looked at in real time to determine if adjustments need to be made, which ended up happening with Windsor Woods tide gate.
- Cameras are being added to the sensor network to expand spatial and situational awareness.
- The USGS network is funded from the city's stormwater engineering budget and provides reliable data during adverse conditions.
- Storm Sense was created after Hurricane Matthew to extend the coverage of the sensor network.
- The National Flood Insurance Program is paused due to government shutdown, affecting flood insurance policies.
- A suggestion was made to pursue utilizing residential cameras for monitoring flood events and collecting data after storms.

Board Member and City Council Liaison Comments

- Concerns were raised about public perception of project delays and the need for communication regarding project statuses.



- Concerns were raised about public perception regarding flooding issues in Virginia Beach.
- A need for visual aids like GIS pictures was suggested to show improvements with FPP projects.
- A suggestion was made to create a video tutorial on how to report flooding issues effectively through the city's website and 311.

Board Chair Jeff Waller adjourned the meeting at 3:30 PM.



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VIRGINIA BEACH FLOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM