



NORTH CAROLINA RESILIENT COASTAL COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

FY 2020-2021 Application

**TO REQUEST DIRECT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES FOR COMPLETION
OF PROGRAM PHASES 1 & 2**

Released: November 2, 2020

A. Overview and Objectives:

Making informed decisions to work towards more resilient communities requires careful, thorough planning efforts using sound, locally relevant data. The new Resilient Coastal Communities Program (RCCP) aims to address this need through technical and financial assistance to advance coastal resilience efforts throughout the 20 coastal counties in North Carolina. The Program is a state-local partnership designed to help overcome barriers in coastal resilience and adaptation planning, boost local government capacity, and support a proactive, sustainable, and equitable approach to coastal resilience planning and project implementation.

The Resilient Coastal Communities Program is a component of the North Carolina Resilient Communities Program, called for in the 2020 North Carolina Climate Risk Assessment and Resilience Plan. The North Carolina Division of Coastal Management (DCM) has received funding from the State Legislature and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to develop and begin implementing the Resilient Coastal Communities Program in coordination with the NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency (NCORR), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and NC Sea Grant (NCSG).

Program Objectives:

1. Address barriers to coastal resilience in North Carolina at the local level, such as limited capacity, economic constraints, and social inequities;
2. Assist communities with risk and vulnerability assessments and developing a portfolio of planned and prioritized projects;
3. Advance coastal resilience projects to “shovel-ready” status; and
4. Link communities to funding streams for project implementation.

Program Phases:

Phase 1: Community Engagement and Risk/Vulnerability Assessment

Phase 2: Planning, Project Identification, and Prioritization

Phase 3: Engineering and Design

Phase 4: Project Implementation

Phase 1 & 2 Objectives:

- Perform a data- and community-driven risk and vulnerability assessment
- Develop a portfolio of well-planned and prioritized solutions to address risks

Phases 1 and 2 of the Resilient Coastal Communities Program walk communities through a series of steps to qualitatively and quantitatively assess risks and vulnerabilities specific to their location, engage representative stakeholders, and complete a community-involved process to prioritize projects and action items to improve the resiliency of their community and critical assets. Once communities complete Phases 1 & 2, they become eligible for Phase 3 funding for project engineering and design, and Phase 4 implementation funding.

B. Applications Sought for:

DCM is seeking applications from eligible localities to receive no-cost direct technical assistance services for completion of Phases 1 and 2 of the Resilient Coastal Communities Program. DCM will be contracting with qualified contractors to work directly with communities to complete the phases detailed above.

C. Eligible Applicants:

- a. All municipal governments within the 20 coastal counties of the state, including Beaufort, Bertie, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington Counties; and
- b. County governments listed above.

D. Available Funding:

A total of \$600,000 will be made available for completion of Phases 1 and 2 of the RCCP. DCM will contract directly with selected contractors to provide direct technical assistance services to localities. It is anticipated that a total of 20 communities will be served in this round, leaving an average budget of \$30,000 per community. However, funding per community may vary according to need and geographic scope.

E. Application Deadline:

Proposals must be submitted no later than midnight on **January 15, 2021**.

F. Total Anticipated Duration of Contract(s):

Contracts are anticipated to begin April 2021 and run through December 2021. Extension requests will be approved on a case-by-case basis but may impact the community's ability to participate in Phases 3 and 4 of the program.

G. Match Requirement

A cash or in-kind match is not required from applicants for this program.

H. Deliverables

The main deliverable of this effort will include a Resilience Strategy, including two major components:

1. *Risk & Vulnerability Assessment Report*

A key component of this framework includes a quantitative risk and vulnerability assessment, which will evaluate the vulnerability of the community's population with special attention to socially vulnerable, and critical community assets to a number of coastal and climate risks, including tidal flooding, sea level rise, storm surge, and high-intensity rain events.

2. *Project Portfolio*

Participants will develop a project portfolio of options aimed at reducing exposure, reducing sensitivity, or increasing adaptive capacity to flooding and other hazards. A combination of policy, nonstructural, hybrid, and structural approaches should be considered.

I. Ownership and Credit Due

Products generated by this effort will be made publicly available and owned by the N.C. Division of Coastal Management and will need to be credited as such.

J. Reporting

Contractors will be required to submit progress reports to DCM in June and September 2021. The September progress report should indicate whether an extension to the contract will be necessary. A final report, due upon the end of the contract period in December 2021, will detail the program deliverables.

K. Application Checklist

- Applicant cover sheet (See Appendix A)
- Question Responses (See Appendix B)
- Supplemental documentation, if applicable

L. Submission

Please send application materials in pdf format to rccp@ncdenr.gov by midnight on **January 15, 2021**. The applicant cover page (Appendix A) and responses to the application questions should be submitted as one document. If applicable, create and submit a separate document with the compiled supplemental documentation. If files are too large to attach, use a file transfer link or zipped folder.

M. Program Contacts

Please direct questions related to the Resilient Coastal Communities Program and this application to RCCCP@ncdenr.gov. If your locality has capacity concerns and needs further assistance on this application, please reach out to this email also or any of the following DCM representatives and program partners:

DCM Program Contacts:

Samantha Burdick, Coastal Resilience Coordinator: Samantha.Burdick@ncdenr.gov

Mackenzie Todd, Coastal Resilience Specialist: Mackenzie.Todd@ncdenr.gov

DCM District Planners:

Charlan Owens, Northern District Planner: Charlan.Owens@ncdenr.gov

Rachel Love-Adrick, Central District Planner: Rachel.Love-Adrick@ncdenr.gov

Mike Christenbury, Southern District Planner: Mike.Christenbury@ncdenr.gov

Program Partners:

Amanda Martin, Deputy Resilience Officer, NCORR: Amanda.Martin@ncps.gov

Lora Eddy, Community Resilience Specialist, TNC: Lora.Eddy@tnc.org

Sarah Spiegler, Coastal Resilience Specialist, NCSG: sespiegl@ncsu.edu

Appendix A: Cover Sheet



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Lead Applicant: <i>Locality</i>	
Partner Applicant(s): <i>If Applicable</i>	
Point of Contact:	
Name:	
Title:	
Email:	
Phone:	
Mailing Address:	

Appendix B: Application Questions

Please provide answers to the following questions in your application. Each question should be answered separately, and the applicant should indicate which question their answer corresponds to. If multiple localities are partnering on this application, provide an answer for each participant separately. Applications must be limited to no more than 15 pages, not including supplemental documentation.

Risk and Vulnerability

1. Of the following risks, which are most applicable and impactful to your community and why? Storm surge, heavy precipitation events, sea level rise, tidal flooding, erosion, and riverine flooding.
2. What efforts has your community undertaken to understand its level of flooding risk? If none, what are the barriers?
3. Has your community conducted a risk and vulnerability assessment (other than your regional Hazard Mitigation Plan), or components of an assessment, within the last 10 years? (If yes, please attach an electronic copy, if available).
4. Describe the economic impact of flooding or other coastal hazards to your community. If available, provide the economic analysis upon which the description is based.

Critical Assets

5. What utilities are owned and managed by your jurisdiction?
6. What critical facilities are in your jurisdiction (facilities critical to the health and safety of the public)?

Critical Facility	Brief Description
City/Town Hall	
Police station or other law enforcement building(s)	
Fire stations(s)	
Communications main office or substations	
Emergency Operations Center	
Evacuation shelter(s)	
Hospital(s)	
Critical record storage	
Other facilities	

Appendix B: Application Questions

Community Engagement

7. Describe the impact of flooding or other coastal hazards on socially vulnerable groups in your community.
8. Please describe any efforts your locality has undergone to engage with or educate the public regarding coastal resilience, storm preparedness, and/or hazard mitigation.

Planning and Policy

9. Which of the following plans and ordinances related to land use and development has your locality adopted? Please check and denote adoption date(s).
 - Resilience Plan (Adopted ___ / ___ / ___)
 - Watershed Restoration or Stormwater Plan (Adopted ___ / ___ / ___)
 - Comprehensive or Land Use Plan (Adopted ___ / ___ / ___)
 - Unified Development Ordinance (Adopted ___ / ___ / ___)
 - Hazard Mitigation Plan (Adopted ___ / ___ / ___)
 - Capital Improvement Plan (Adopted ___ / ___ / ___)
 - Other Plan: _____ (Adopted ___ / ___ / ___)

Internal Capacity & Partnerships

10. Does your community have a certified floodplain manager?
Yes No Name: _____
11. List your community planning staff members, their position titles, and their professional certifications (AICP, CFM, etc.). If you rely on the county, a Council of Government/Regional Commission, or a contractor for planning support services, provide their information.
12. Identify staff and officials that would be willing and able to participate in the program.
13. Briefly describe any partnerships your community has built with any agencies or organizations to help address flooding hazards.
14. Based on existing community efforts, describe any locally approved/prioritized community resilience projects that need a more detailed design and engineered drawings. Classify these projects as nature-based/non-nature-based or hybrid solutions.
15. If this application is being submitted by multiple localities, describe why the localities chose to partner on this application.
16. List any contractors or universities that you would prefer to work with on the project.