# **Frequently Asked Questions**

# **Community Application**

## How will this program benefit my community?

This program will allow communities to develop an in-depth understanding of their risk to coastal hazards. As a result, communities will be better prepared to take advantage of various future implementation funding opportunities.

# Who is eligible to apply?

All municipal and county governments within the 20 coastal counties (Beaufort, Bertie, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington).

# How much funding is available?

A total of \$600,000 will be made available for completion of Phases I 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. DCM will provide additional grants in Phases 3 & 4 to complete engineering, design, and implementation of resilience projects.

#### Is a match required?

Cash or in-kind match is not required from applicants for this program, but may be considered in making award determinations.

#### How are applications reviewed?

Community applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria: impacts & risk, economic need, capacity, and existing partnerships.

#### When is the deadline?

Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on January 15, 2021.

# How does this program overlap with the 160D requirement to update Comprehensive and/or CAMA Land Use Plans?

These efforts complement one another. If you plan to or are in the process of updating your Comprehensive and/or CAMA Lan Use Plan, the Resilient Coastal Communities Program can be leveraged to get the most out of the process for your community. At a minimum, the RCCP can provide a risk assessment, enhance community engagement around resilience, and equip communities with a portfolio of prioritized projects to integrate within a Comprehensive/CAMA Land Use Plan update or other planning initiatives.

#### Who do we contact with questions?

Email program coordinators at <a href="RCCP@ncdenr.gov">RCCP@ncdenr.gov</a> for assistance with your application.

#### What level of time commitment should we expect in this process?

The level of participation from local government staff and elected officials will depend on local capability and capacity. There will, however, be an expectation from participating local governments that some staff and elected officials (as appropriate) will be actively involved in the process by participating on Community Action Teams. The level of capacity for each community to participate in this program is assessed in the "Internal Capacity & Partnerships" section of the application.

#### How long should my application submission be?

Applications submissions should be no longer than fifteen pages in length, not including the cover page or supplemental documentation.

## Can my locality partner with other eligible localities on the application?

Absolutely! It is up to each locality as to whether or not they would like to partner with other localities on this application.

# Can my locality work with the contractor of our choice?

Possibly. DCM will take into consideration any preferences related to working with a particular contractor. Please indicate these preferences and consider providing a Letter of Intent for the contractor to submit with their application.

## What if my locality has already completed similar work or some components of this program?

Great! We want to meet your community where it is in the process. Previous and ongoing work which overlaps with program requirements may be counted as credit towards these requirements. Your application should identify any previous and ongoing work that may satisfy the requirements of the program (see Program Planning Handbook).

#### What is the Program Planning Handbook?

The North Carolina Resilient Coastal Communities Program Planning Handbook provides guidance to contractors and local governments in completing Phases I and 2 of the N.C. Resilient Coastal Communities Program. The handbook identifies the specific program requirements, as well as existing data, tools, and resources to help communities meet these requirements.

#### How does my locality become eligible for Phases 3 and 4?

Communities who successfully complete the requirements of Phases I and 2, either with RCCP technical assistance or independently, are eligible to apply for Phase 3, Engineering and Design, and Phase 4, Implementation funding.

#### If we don't apply in this round, will there be another opportunity in the future?

Potentially, funding has not yet been secured for a second round of funding for the North Carolina Resilient Coastal Communities Program but is currently being pursued.

#### What is the timeline for Phases I and 2 of this program?

Contracts are anticipated to begin in 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.

# **Contractor Application**

# Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible applicants include private planning and engineering firms, Councils of Government, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and academic institutions (private and public). Multiple organizations may partner on one application.

#### How much funding is available?

A total of \$600,000 will be made available for completion of Phases I 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.

#### How are applications reviewed?

Contractor applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria: qualifications, capacity, existing partnerships, and cost-effectiveness.

#### When is the deadline?

Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on January 29, 2021.

#### How long should our application submission be?

Applications submissions should be no longer than ten pages in length, not including the cover page or supplemental documentation.

#### Can I partner with other contractors on the application?

Absolutely! It is up to each contractor as to whether or not they would like to partner with other contractors on this application.

# Can I work with communities of my choice?

Possibly. DCM will take into consideration any preferences related to working with a particular community or multiple communities. Please indicate these preferences and consider requesting a Letter of Intent from these communities.

# May we work with more than one community?

The number of communities you may work with is dependent upon your organization's qualifications and capacity. Please indicate on your application if your team would like to work with multiple communities.

#### If we don't apply in this round, will there be another opportunity in the future?

Potentially, but funding has not yet been secured for a second round of funding for Phases I and 2 of the North Carolina Resilient Coastal Communities Program but is currently being pursued.

#### What is the timeline for Phases I and 2 of this program?

Contracts are anticipated to begin in April 2021 and run through December 2021.