



Flood Mitigation Pilot Grant Program General Overview



August 2021



Agenda



- Pilot Grant Program
- Overview
- Background
- Funding
- Eligibility
- How to Apply
- Q&A

Flood Action Alexandria: Public-Private Partnership to Address Flooding

City Leadership

- ✓ Guidance
- ✓ Funding
- ✓ Prioritizing

City Staff

- ✓ Maintenance and Operation of the Stormwater and Sanitary Systems
- ✓ Public Works – Boots on the Ground
- ✓ Dept. of Project Implementation – Capital Improvement Program

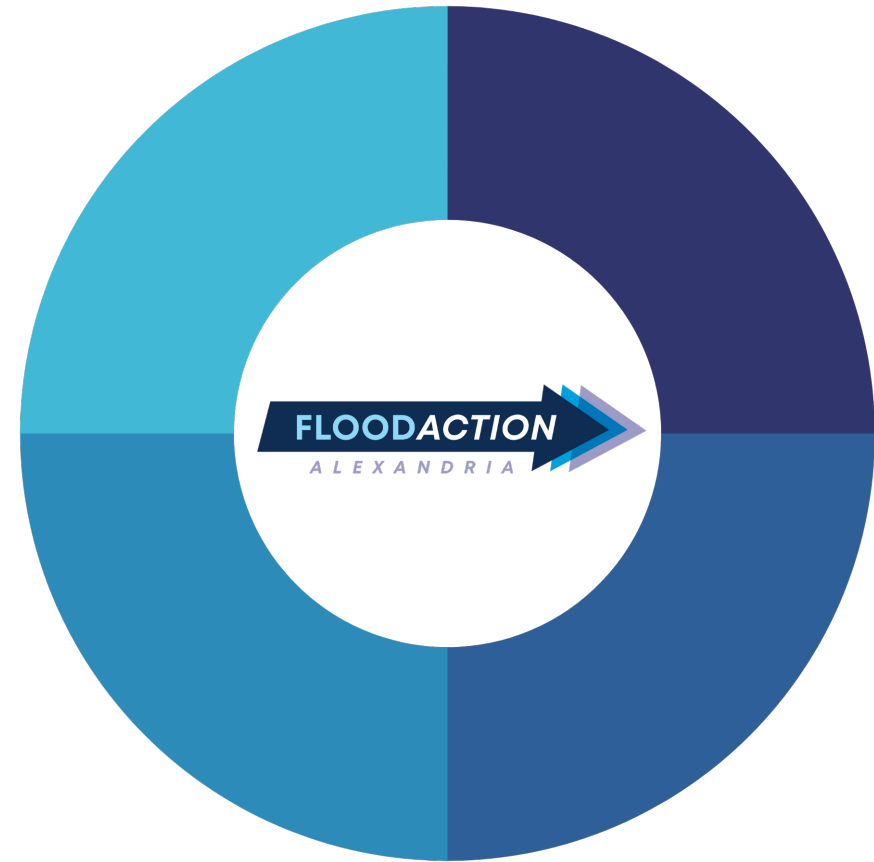
Residents

- ✓ Help staff to understand the issues; report to Alex311
- ✓ ***Work on floodproofing their property***
- ✓ Become involved



Flood Action Alexandria — What the City is Doing

- Large capacity projects (stormwater and sanitary)
- Smaller neighborhood "spot" projects (stormwater)
- Ongoing maintenance of sewer system
- Early warning
- **Flood Mitigation Pilot Grant Program**
- Neighborhood communications and outreach
- Flood Action Alexandria eNewsletter, webpage
- Alex311 reporting
- Ad Hoc Stormwater Utility Task Force Group



PILOT FLOOD MITIGATION PILOT GRANT PROGRAM

Overview

Program is part of the City's Flood Action Alexandria program.

It will provide financial assistance through matching reimbursement grants.

During the pilot phase, grants will be available to City residents who:

- ✓ Own a single family, duplex or townhouse within the City that experienced flooding dating back to July 8, 2019
- ✓ Purchased and/or installed approved flood mitigation and floodproofing measures
- ✓ Received the proper permits/approvals
- ✓ Have receipts/documents to prove purchases

PROGRAM

Objective and Goals

- Financially reimburse homeowners for flood mitigation efforts
- Designed so both the City and homeowners achieve beneficial outcomes:
 - City delivers grant funds to homeowners who made efforts to help mitigate flooding
 - Homeowners are reimbursed for products and/or services that provide a return on their own investments



BACKGROUND

Neighborhood Engagement Meetings



Topics discussed:

- Types and extent of flooding issues facing city homeowners
- Short-term / cost-effective solutions to protect residents and structures from the effects of flash flooding and sewer backups
- Pilot Grant Program to provide homeowners payments for products and/or services purchased to increase flood resilience

BACKGROUND

Legislative Process

- Previously not authorized to disperse city funds for floodproofing
- Required Virginia Code legislative changes
- City worked to secure legislative action that:
 - Enables municipalities to provide grant funding for floodproofing
 - Allowed Alexandria to initiate the Pilot Flood Mitigation Grant Program
 - Funding became available July 2021



Funding and Administration

TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE:

Up to \$750,000
(pilot year allocation)

FUNDING MAXIMUM PER APPLICANT:

Up to \$5,000

FUNDING COST SHARE:

50% City / 50% Homeowner

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

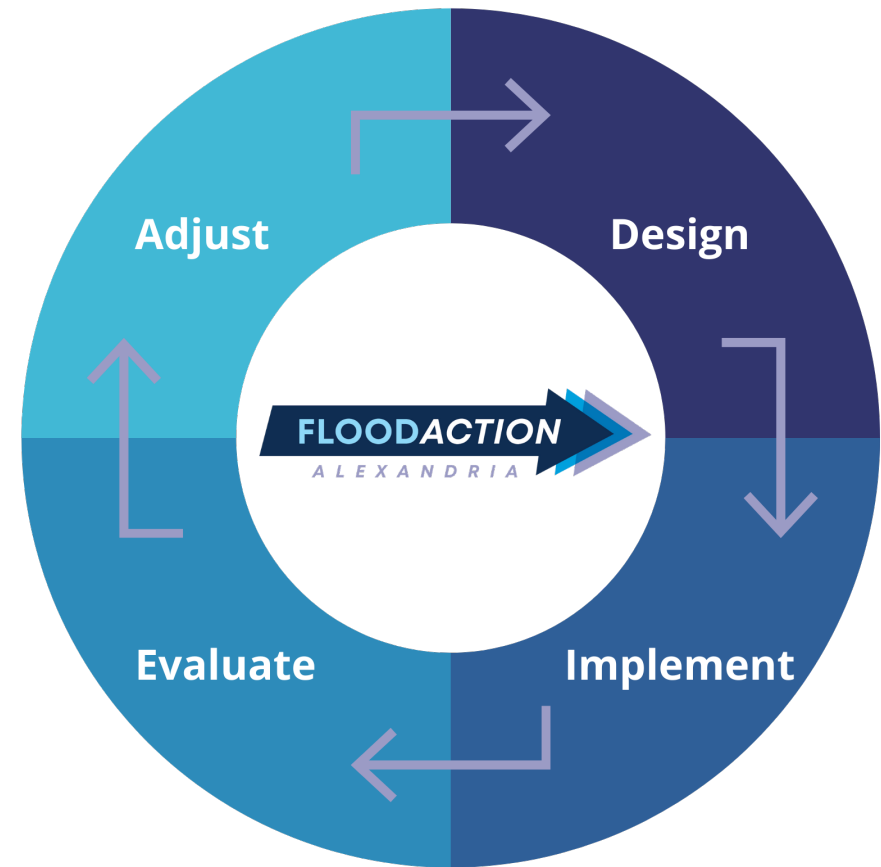
City Stormwater Utility Fee

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION:

City of Alexandria
Transportation & Environmental
Services (T&ES), Stormwater
Management Division

Pilot Program Evaluation & Tracking

- Adaptive Management Process
- Pilot program will be evaluated and tracked over time
- Welcome comments and feedback from community



Eligibility

- Residential properties are eligible during the pilot phase of the program.
- Applicant is the property owner of the property that experienced flooding.
- Applicant can provide documented damage from flooding from any of the recent severe storm events dating back to July 8, 2019.
- Applicant can provide itemized receipts for purchase and/or installation for eligible expenses incurred on or after July 2019.
- All applicable permits and/or application reviews have been completed through Department of Code Administration, Department of Planning & Zoning, or Transportation & Environmental Services, as applicable.
- Photographic evidence that measures have already been installed and can be confirmed by the City or its contractor(s) if requested.

ELIGIBILITY Mitigation Practices

Categories include:

- ✓ Windows
- ✓ Doorways
- ✓ General flood stoppage equipment
- ✓ Basement
- ✓ Utility protection
- ✓ General preventative / protective equipment
- ✓ Exterior

www.alexandriava.gov/121974



Eligible Flood Mitigation Practices: Flood Mitigation Pilot Grant Program



The purpose of this document is to provide a list of eligible flood mitigation practices, their description, and a quick snapshot of the City's permit review/application requirements for each practice. These practices are supported through the [Flood Mitigation Pilot Grant Program](#). Several types of practices are considered through this Program to help mitigate flooding on private property and reduce the overall damage to property from flooding through flood protection. Other types of practices may be considered on a case-by-case basis and may be incorporated into the Program if warranted. For the purposes of understanding which practice might be required to undergo the City's permit review/application requirements, please review the information in the table below. Approvals and/or permits are required prior to applying for the Flood Mitigation Pilot Grant Program at this time.

City Review Considerations

- 1) Department of Code Administration (Code) review may be required to ensure mitigation projects maintain compliance with Virginia's Uniform Statewide Building and Maintenance Codes (USBC) and the City Code nuisance and development provisions. Learn more at alexandriava.gov/Code.
- 2) Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Planning & Zoning, which supports the Board of Architectural Review (BAR), review may be required if you make a permanent change to your property, visible from the public right-of-way ONLY for properties which are located within the local historic district and/or is a City Council-designated 100 year-old building. If you are unsure if this applies to your property, you may check the property's status using the [Historic Preservation Viewer](#). Learn more at alexandriava.gov/Preservation.
- 3) Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES) requires a Grading Plan for exterior private land disturbance greater than 2,500 square feet and/or changes to grade of one (1) foot or greater. Any disturbance within the public right-of-way requires a T&ES permit. Learn more at alexandriava.gov/engineering.

Eligible Practices

Property Area	Practice	Description	City Review Considerations
Windows	Permanent glass protection materials	Permanent glass protection materials can prevent flood damage from extreme rain and other weather events.	Code; BAR
	Basement window protection	Fixed, translucent, water-tight covers installed on near grade or below grade basement windows.	Code; BAR

Floodproofing Ideas in Alexandria



How to Apply?



www.alexandriava.gov/121974

stormwater@alexandriava.gov

A wide river with turbulent, brown water flowing through a dense forest. The water is churning with white foam, indicating rapids or a strong current. The banks are lined with lush green trees and bushes. The sky is overcast and grey.

Questions?

Waiver Language

- I (we) certify under penalty of law that I (we) have paid in full for the installation of floodproofing measures at the above-named property. As a condition of accepting the reimbursement allowance, I (we), if requested by the City, will permit the City to verify said installation without delay, prior to receiving the reimbursement allowance. Further, as a condition of accepting the reimbursement allowance, I (we) agree to accept full responsibility for operation and maintenance of floodproofing measures, funded in part by this grant program. I (we) agree to hold the City and its agents and employees harmless for and waive any and all damages, accidents, casualties, occurrences or claims which might arise or be asserted against the City for the construction, installation, operation, presence, existence, or maintenance of the floodproofing measures. Such waiver is applicable only to claims related to the floodproofing measures and any services provided in association with the flood mitigation grant program.*