

EVERY ACRE DRAINS TO THE BAY

New Kent's land-use choices sit inside federal and state water-quality restoration commitments.

1

WATER WITHDRAWAL

Cooling demand can reduce groundwater and surface-water contributions to streams.

2

RUNOFF

Large roofs, pavement, grading, and utility corridors increase stormwater and sediment risk.

3

AIR DEPOSITION

Generator and power-sector nitrogen oxides can deposit back into the watershed.

4

CUMULATIVE LOAD

Water, air, wastewater, and new infrastructure add effects beyond one parcel.

The paper argues that Bay consistency should be a threshold land-use test, not an afterthought.

WHAT HAPPENS HERE FLOWS DOWNSTREAM.

TURN IMPACTS INTO TESTS

Each project pathway should have a measurable public-interest requirement.

PROJECT IMPACT

- Impervious cover
- Generators and power
- Cooling and wastewater
- New infrastructure



PUBLIC TEST

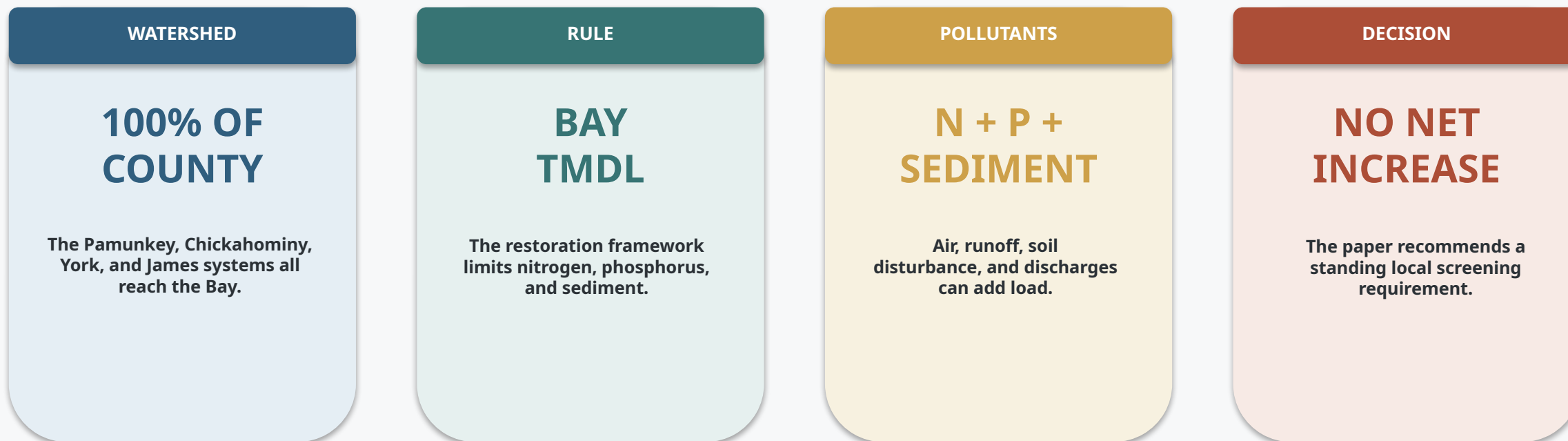
- No net pollutant increase
- Count nitrogen deposition
- Verify every discharge
- Assess cumulative load

Offsets may manage accounting, but the physical effects and long-term monitoring still require scrutiny.

COUNT THE WHOLE PROJECT.

FOUR WATERSHED FACTS

New Kent's location links local approvals to regional restoration duties.



Local growth choices should support existing restoration commitments rather than make them harder and more expensive.

THE BAY STARTS IN LOCAL DECISIONS.

THE CITIZEN 4x4

Four review questions connect a data-center application to watershed accountability.

- 01

MODEL THE WHOLE SITE

Include buildings, roads, substations, lines, cooling, and construction phases.
- 02

COUNT AIR AND WATER

Assess runoff, sediment, discharges, withdrawals, and atmospheric nitrogen.
- 03

VERIFY OFFSETS

Require enforceable, traceable mitigation for any remaining load.
- 04

COORDINATE REGIONALLY

Evaluate shared watershed effects with state agencies and nearby counties.

A site plan may be local, but the water-quality consequences cross property and county lines.

LOCAL APPROVAL. REGIONAL CONSEQUENCE.