

ST. AUGUSTINE, FL BACK BAY COASTAL STORM RISK MANAGEMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY

MONTHLY PLANNING MEETING

Date:	June 15, 2023
Time:	1:00PM - 2:30PM
Meeting Location:	WebEx Virtual Meeting https://usace1.webex.com/meet/jason.s.harrah

IN ATTENDANCE: 60 ATTENDEES IN TOTAL

USACE

- Jason Harrah, Joel Belsterling, Katie Lebow, Katie Bailey, Katie Gwin, Amanda Bredesen, Lindsay Brantley, Luan Esteban, Martin Durkin, Brennan Banks, Christopher Bukolt, Patrick Snyder, Darin Moore, Vongmony Var, Zuzana Chovanec, Seila Arias-Roman, David Ruderman, Glorimar Torres, Jackson Hooten

City of St. Augustine

- Caitlyn Sargent, Jessica Beach

Agencies and Public:

- Aladdin Salama, Lia Sansom, Andy Gottlieb, Betsy Priem, Bonnie Hayflick, Kurt Foote, Chris Farrell, Mark Nelson, Doug Dycus, Doug White, Eric Seckinger, Janet Zimmerman, Jen Lomberk, Kevin Priester, Leslee Keys, Lisa Sterling, Mary Ann Rosenthal, Melissa Burns, Nikki Dix, Ntale Kajumba, Peggy Bebb, Rachel Honderd, Ron Brockmeyer, Roxane Dow, Terry Adelsbach, Tom Conboy, Bob Carey, Brendan Myers, Terri Newman, Pete Winkler, Gordie Wilson, Allison, C Jacoby, David, Glenn Landers, 5616****74, 9043****93, 9046****36, 9046****91

OPENING REMARKS

- The month of July and August will have a new webinar address that will be released on the USACE social media site. To join these webinars on July 20, 2023 and August 17, 2023 please use the below address...

<https://usace1.webex.com/meet/martin.t.durkin>

Join by phone

+1-844-800-2712 US Toll Free

+1-669-234-1177 US Toll

Access code: 199 614 3322

STUDY OVERVIEW

- Large study area – covers the entire city
 - 17 distinct neighborhoods (2 of which are environmental justice communities (i.e., socially, or demographically disadvantaged))
 - Upcoming modeling effort will cover entire area within red geographic boundary
- Very comprehensive and complex study which has led us to a longer and more expensive study
- Objectives are based on a 50-year period of analysis
 - Manage risk of coastal flood damages
 - Manage risk to health and life safety
 - Preserve cultural and natural resources and maintain aesthetic quality
 - Manage flooding impacts to the local economy
- The non-federal sponsor is the City of St. Augustine
- Local Considerations
 - Avoid or minimize adverse effects to cultural resources.
 - Consideration of local affordability.
 - Consider local responsibilities for technical operations and maintenance.
 - Avoid or minimize designs that do not conform to the city's historic character.
 - Avoid or minimize encroaching on navigational or recreational features.
 - Avoid environmental impacts.
 - Avoid or minimize impacts to community cohesion.
- Initial Alternatives
 - Walls, levees, or dune features would physically stop flooding at the back bay shoreline.
 - Surge barrier or gate feature would physically stop flooding before it gets into the back bay water bodies in the study area.
 - In BLUE: Interior drainage features would get flooding out of upland areas. Interior drainage features would be implemented in conjunction with wall, levee, or dune features to ensure that flood waters would not get trapped behind those structures.
 - Nonstructural features would get structure out of the way of flooding without physically altering the flooding processes or extent.
 - Breakwaters or Natural and Nature Based Features (NNBFs) would function to reduce wave energy and wave contribution to total water levels before it reaches the back bay shorelines. These features would likely be implemented in conjunction with a wall, levee, or dune feature. It should also be noted that levees or dune could be considered an NNBF themselves depending on their design.

KEY ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- Generation II Coastal Risk Model (G2CRM)
 - Captures that there is a lot of uncertainties with regards to how the city will flood in the future

- As flooding occurs in the model, it will link how that flooding impacts structures in the city
- Account for storms, sea level rise, high/low tide, within a storm database called "Storm Suite"
- First – "Future Without-Project Condition" will be run with as-is conditions to establish baseline flood expectations over the next 50-years
- Second – run the model with various alternatives to compare to future without-project condition to evaluate alternative performance
- Discipline Specific Updates and Actions:
 - Planning Technical Lead (Marty Durkin)
 - Working with the team to get the G2CRM model set up
 - Review Plan has been approved – lays out what models will be used in the study
 - Setting up additional outreach meetings with the sponsor in the next few months
 - Engineering Technical Lead (Patrick Snyder)
 - Additional modeling setup
 - HECRAS – riverine contributions to flooding
 - Elevation information
 - GIS Database and public mapping webpage – Galveston district developed a "Story Map" independent webpage that provides a lot of additional information in an interactive format that Jacksonville District is looking to develop for this study
 - Environmental Lead (Darren Pecora)
 - Katie Lebow - Tracking set-up of environmental sub-group and initial meeting anticipated for July
 - If there are any environmental organizations that would like to be included, email Jason Harrah
 - Economics Lead (Vongmony Var)
 - Working on the economic portion of the model set-up, specifically the Structure Inventory
 - The team has downloaded very good, consistent data from the St. Johns County property appraiser website
 - Cultural Resources Lead (Zuzana Chovanec)
 - Cultural resources sub-team has been formed and kickoff meeting was held last week
 - Next steps are to continue information related to CR and set up an agenda for the next meeting
 - Email Jason Harrah for any cultural resources organizations that would like to be involved in the sub-team meeting
 - Real Estate Lead (Chris Bukolt)
 - No updates – we are early in the study for Real Estate updates
 - Office of Counsel (Katie Gwin)
 - No updates

SCHEDULE REVIEW:

- First 90 Days Schedule Window:

TASK	IFAD SECTION(S)	START	END
FCSA Executed		1/9/2023	1/9/2023
Coordination for Collecting and Compiling Data for Inventory	ECON/PDT	3/10/2023	10/27/2023
Refined Existing Data Inventory & Analysis / New Data Collection & Analysis	ECON/PDT	3/10/2023	10/27/2023
GIS & Inventory of Baseline Structure Elevations & Properties Built Prior to 1978 (Cultural, Real Estate, GIS)	CR/GIS/RE	3/13/2023	11/20/2023
Identify Potential Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste (HTRW) Issues associated with Initial Array of Alternatives	HTRW	3/22/2023	8/8/2025
AMM Milestone Meeting		5/1/2023	5/1/2023
Neighborhood Outreach Meetings	Sponsor /PM/PDT	5/9/2023	2/2/2027
Ongoing Draft Report Writing and Preparation to have complete draft report and appendices by the TSP.	PDT	5/9/2023	2/2/2027
Environmental Surveys	EN	5/9/2023	2/2/2027
GIS Support (Web Mapper, Figures, Story Map, etc) through Future Without-Project (FWOP) Hydrologic Engineering Center's River Analysis System (HEC RAS) Modeling for Generation 2 Coastal Risk Model (G2CRM) Hydrographs	EN	5/17/2023	10/5/2023
Characterize Systems Protective System Elements (PSEs)	EN/ECON	5/17/2023	10/19/2023
Coordinate with H&H as needed to characterize storms and any other H&H data	EN/ECON	5/17/2023	10/27/2023
Delineate Study Area into Model Areas	EN/ECON/PF	5/17/2023	10/27/2023
Develop Modeling Strategy for Comprehensive Benefits	PF/PDT	5/17/2023	10/27/2023
Engineering Inputs for G2CRM (including Coastal Hazards System (CHS) based storm suite from Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC))	EN	5/17/2023	12/5/2023
Characterize Assets	ECON	8/1/2023	11/17/2023
Develop First Floor Elevations	ECON/EN	8/14/2023	11/17/2023

- Delineate Study Area into Model Areas – these are areas that will go into G2CRM, there will be three that coordinate with the three main land masses within City Limits: (Downtown Peninsula, Davis Shores and Anastasia Area, West of San Sebastian River). Each area is going to be impacted differently from the flooding, so will need to be modeled independently.
- Develop modeling strategy for comprehensive benefits: we will be looking at benefits in other social effects, life safety, environmental quality, and regional economic development

Upcoming Key Dates

Dates	Events
July 20 th , 2023	Monthly Planning Webinar
August 17 th , 2023	Monthly Planning Webinar
September 21 st , 2023	Monthly Planning Webinar
September 27 th , 2023	Public Workshop (Location TBD)
October 19 th , 2023	COSA Old City South (Fall Neighborhood Meeting)
	Monthly Planning Webinar
November 16 th , 2023	Monthly Planning Webinar
December 21 st , 2023	Monthly Planning Webinar

Note: Monthly Planning Webinar for July and August will be at a different webinar address

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- Jessica Beach: We appreciate all of the hard work the Army Corps is putting into this study. Resilience Review newsletter was sent out today (hardcopies available at city hall) that provide content and updates regarding all things resiliency, not just this back bay study. The next issue will be released in the fall
- Gordie Wilson (NPS): We are going to be receiving some funding for the seawall by the Castillo, looking to start scoping in the next couple of weeks.
- Brendan Myers (USFWS): Good information, no further comments at the time
- Bob Carey (FWS): Appreciate the info, hopefully will have additional capacity in the future to participate more fully in projects like this
- Chris Farrell (Autobahn Florida): It would be great if, as we move forward, could post some of the data on how the storms are generated for the model. Looking back at the past several decades we've had many storms labeled as one in ???. Curious on how these are generated and wondering if these are outdated?
 - Once environmental sub-team meeting kicks off, we could have a sidebar that focuses more on modeling
 - Once we have everything developed, we could definitely have that information posted, potentially on the story map once that is set up
- Rachel Honderd: Hi, this is my first meeting, so thank you for the detailed overview. What is the authorized duration for this study? Is this one planned for 4 or 5 years vs. 3? Thank you
 - WRDA 2014 gave all feasibility studies a 3-year timeline, however for this study we have requested 5-years and 9-months to complete. We are waiting on approval from our headquarters and the Assistant Secretary to the Army for Civil Works.