

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

MONTHLY PLANNING MEETING

Date:	September 21, 2023
Time:	1:00PM - 2:30PM
Meeting Location:	WebEx Virtual Meeting https://usace1.webex.com/meet/jason.s.harrah

IN ATTENDANCE: 35 ATTENDEES IN TOTAL

USACE: Jason Harrah, Amanda Bredesen, Darren Pecora, Martin Durkin, Christopher Bukolt, Vongmony Var, Zuzana Chovanec, Michelle Vieira, Glorimar Torres, Joel Belsterling, Katie Lebow, Katie Bailey, David Ruderman, Del Cabeche, Jackson Hooten, Katie Gwin, Patrick Snyder, Sheila Arias-Roman, Hunter Bredesen

City of St. Augustine: Caitlyn Sargent, Jessica Beach

Agencies and Public: 9046****36, Amy Skinner, Brendan Myers, C Jacoby, Doug White, Ian Pawn, Janet Zimmerman, Katie Heffernan, Kristen, Kurt Foote, Pete Winkler, Roxane Dow, Ruby Raley, Sandy Flowers

OPENING REMARKS

- Presentations and notes from past month's webinars at <https://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Shore-Protection/St-Johns-County/City-of-St-Augustine-Florida-Back-Bay-Feasibility-Study/>

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
- 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

- Where are we now?
 - G2CRM is the main task ongoing right now.
 - Environmental and Cultural Resources teams are continuing to gather data and coordinating sub-team meetings.
- Public Input Workshop Discussion Meeting – October 4th in St. Augustine, FL
 - Start at 6:30PM in the Lightner Museum

SCHEDULE REVIEW:

Key Schedule Activities: Look Ahead (Green – Complete, Yellow – Ongoing)

Key Activities	Finish Date
FCSA Executed	1/9/2023
AMM Milestone Meeting	5/1/2023
Initial Flood Driver Screening (Scope Decision Point)	5/17/2023
End of FY23	9/30/2023
G2CRM FWOP Production Runs	2/21/2024
Establish Initial Array of Alternatives	8/21/2024
End of FY24	9/30/2024
G2CRM FWP Initial Alternatives Production Runs & Post Processing	5/15/2025
Establish Final Array of Alternatives (Scope Decision Point)	6/4/2025
G2CRM FWP Final Alternatives Production Runs & Post Processing	9/22/2025
End of FY25	9/30/2025
Identify National Economic Development (NED) Plan	12/22/2025
Identify Comprehensive Benefits Plan/Locally Preferred Plan (LPP)	3/17/2026
Identify the TSP	5/18/2026
End of FY26	9/30/2026
Exceptions/Waivers Approved by Assistant Secretary to the Army (ASA)	11/20/2026
TSP Milestone Meeting	2/2/2027
Release Draft Report for Concurrent Reviews	4/2/2027
End of FY27	9/30/2027
ADM Meeting	11/3/2027
Final Report Submittal Package to HQ	5/22/2028
Chief's Report Signature	9/15/2028

Upcoming Key Dates

Dates	Events
October 4 th , 2023	Public Workshop (6:30 pm, 75 King Street- Alcazar Room)
October 19 th , 2023	Monthly Planning Webinar
November 16 th , 2023	Monthly Planning Webinar
December 21 st , 2023	Monthly Planning Webinar
January 18 th , 2024	Monthly Planning Webinar
February 15 th , 2024	Monthly Planning Webinar

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- Kurt Foote (NPS): Contractors came for a scoping visit to look at the seawall to get some eyes on the project that they will be working on.
 - Jason: If there are any future meetings that we (USACE) can attend to let us know.

- Brendan Myers (USFWS): On slide 5, the timeline, is there going to be a FWCA report, if so where would that fall in the timeline?
 - Darren: We will likely need one for this, I will coordinate with you all in the future. We will have more information in the spring after we have formulated alternatives.
 - Brendan: I am very unfamiliar with this act, but speaking with colleagues the USACE usually funds the creation of that report, is that the same for this?
 - Darren: Yes
 - Jason: It is likely that the Charleston study and Texas studies also likely had to do one, so check with your counterparts on those.
- Sandy Flowers (Resident): My understanding is that the USACE will not touch anything with imminent domain issues, will we lose Federal participation if we run into any of those issues?
 - We are looking at a lot of alternatives and still very early in the study. If we run into any alternatives that require the imminent domain we will have that discussion.
 - Sandy: If we are going to build or do anything in an area with riparian rights, would we need to get permission from every single person to go through with the project, what if we have one person hold out?
 - We had another project get into that discussion, typically the non-Federal sponsor is responsible to get the easement and have those discussions. It is still very preliminary at this point.