

# St. Augustine, Florida Back Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) Feasibility Study

## MONTHLY PROGRESS MEETING AUGUST 2024

**PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE AND COMPUTER  
TO AVOID BACKGROUND DISRUPTIONS.**

**WE WILL START PROMPTLY AT 1:05**

### Presented by:

Jason Harrah, Senior Project Manager (Jacksonville District, USACE)

Marty Durkin, Planning Technical Lead (Jacksonville District, USACE)

Jessica Beach, Chief Resiliency Officer (City of St. Augustine)





# AGENDA



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- Opening Remarks
- Study Overview
- Overall Study Schedule & Budget
- OSE, EQ, & RED Benefit Metrix
- Schedule Updates (90-Day Window)
- Discipline Specific Study Updates
- Upcoming Public Engagements
- Sponsor Remarks
- Agency Questions/Comments
- Public Comments
- Closing Remarks



## Study Authority: House Resolution 2646 (June 21, 2000): St. Johns County, Florida

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, That in accordance with Section 110 of the River and Harbor Act of 1962, the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, is **requested to survey the shores of St. Johns County, Florida**, with particular reference to the advisability of providing beach erosion control works in the area north of St. Augustine Inlet, the shoreline in the vicinity of Matanzas Inlet, and adjacent shorelines, as may be necessary in the interest of **hurricane protection, storm damage reduction, beach erosion control, and other related purposes**.

## Non-Federal Sponsor: City of St. Augustine (COSA)

POC: Jessica Beach, P.E., Chief Resilience Officer, [jbeach@citystaug.com](mailto:jbeach@citystaug.com)

## Study Area

- Entire COSA Municipal Boundary
- 17 Distinct Neighborhoods
- 3 Separate Land Masses
- Interconnected Water Bodies

**Objectives** to be achieved within the City of St. Augustine over a 50-year period of analysis from 2035-2085 are to...

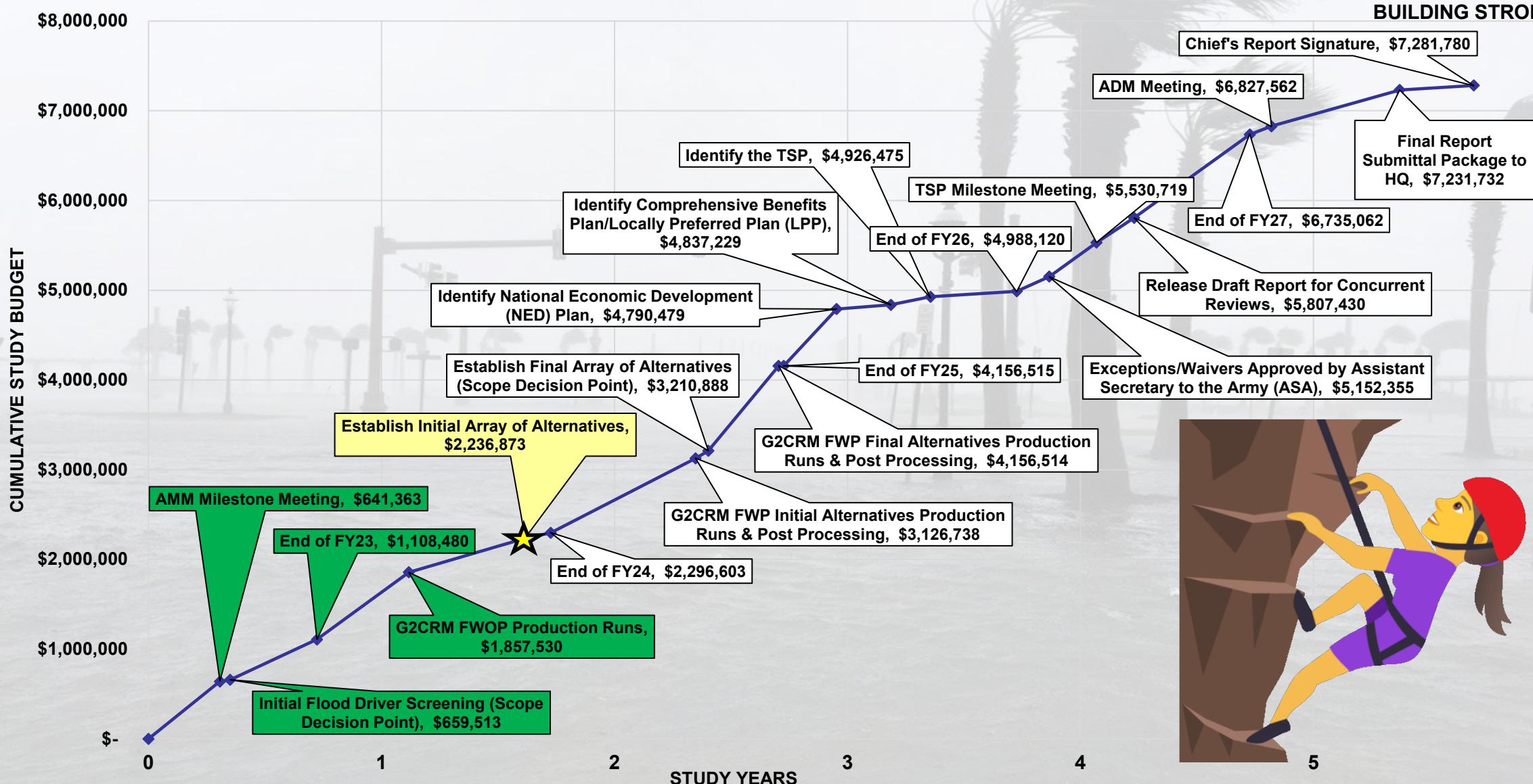
1. Manage risk of coastal flood damages.
2. Manage risk to health and life-safety.
3. Manage risk to cultural and natural resources.
4. Manage flooding impacts to the local economy.



# STUDY SCHEDULE & BUDGET



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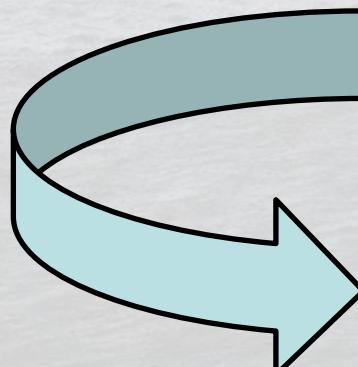
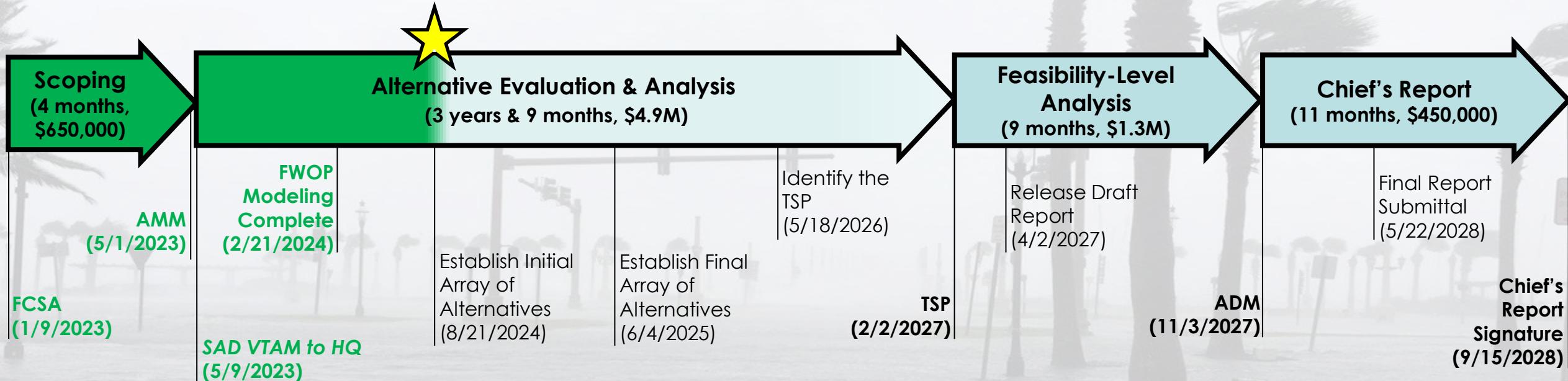
# STUDY OVERVIEW

★ We Are Here



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Schedule & Budget Overview: 5 years & 9 months, \$7.3M, Cost Share ~50% Fed, 50% Sponsor



## **Key Components of the Study Scope:**

- Entire City of St. Augustine (COSA)
- Compound Flooding
- Full Array of Alternatives & Comprehensive Benefits
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Likely
- Robust Community Outreach

Acronyms:

FCSA = Feasibility Cost Share Agreement  
 AMM = Alternatives Milestone Meeting  
 FWOP = Future Without Project  
 SAD = South Atlantic Division  
 VTAM = Vertical Team Alignment Memo  
 HQ = Headquarters  
 TSP = Tentatively Selected Plan  
 ADM = Agency Decision Milestone



# INITIAL AMM ALTERNATIVES



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## Measure Function

## Initial Array of Alternatives

Wall/Levee/Dune features stop flooding at the back bay shoreline.

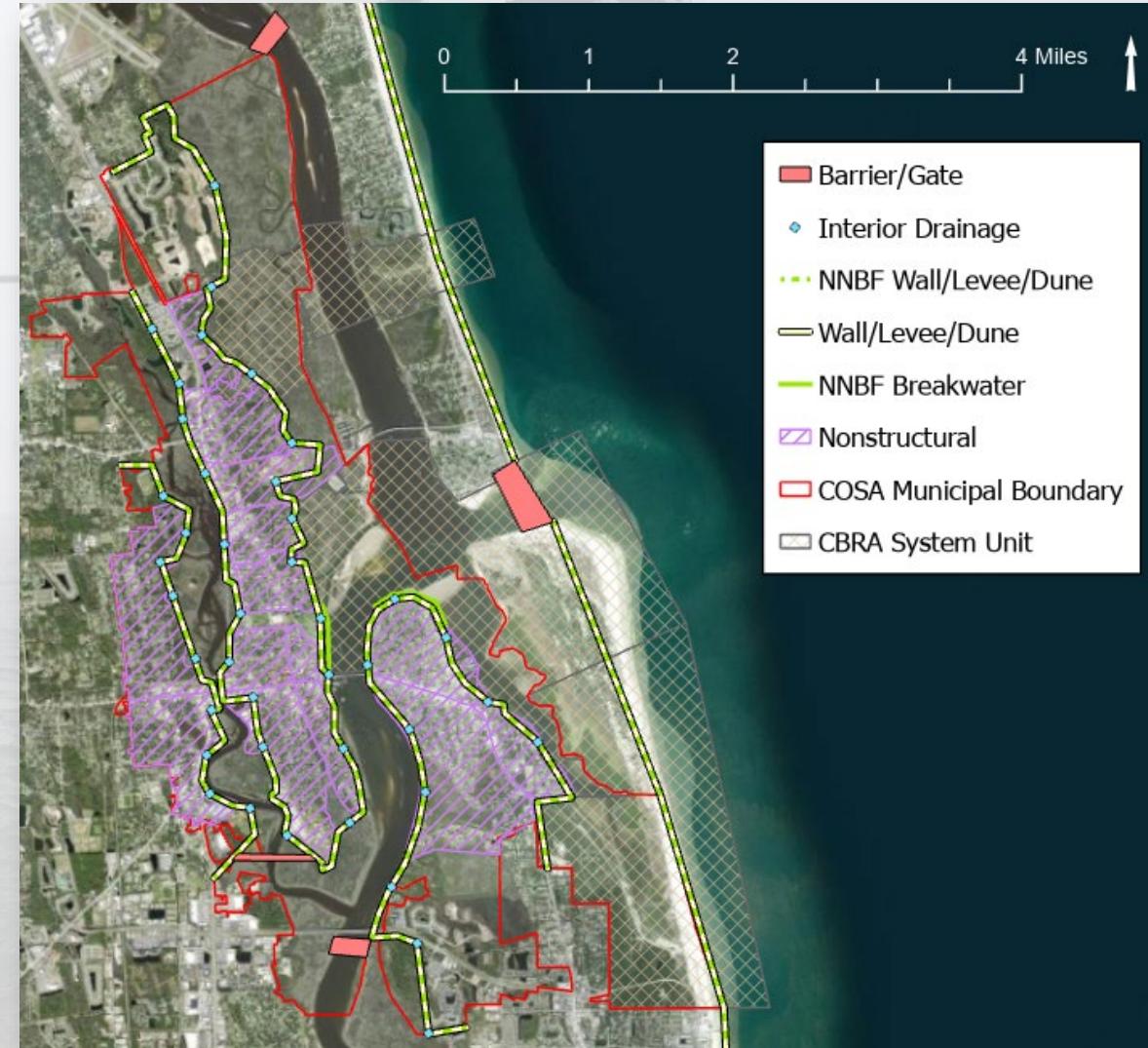
Surge Barrier/Gate features stop flooding before it gets into the back bay waters.

Interior Drainage features get flooding out of upland areas.

Nonstructural features reduce flood risk without directly effecting flooding processes.

Breakwaters/NNBFS can reduce wave energy before it gets to the back bay shoreline.

0. No Action
1. Wall/Levee with Interior Drainage Features & Breakwaters/NNBFs
2. Storm Surge Barrier at Inlet(s)/IWW with Wall/Levee/Dune tiebacks
3. San Sebastian River Flood Gate with Wall/Levee & Interior Drainage Features & Breakwaters/NNBFs
4. All Nonstructural
5. Wall/Levee with Interior Drainage Features & Breakwaters/NNBFs & Nonstructural
6. Storm Surge Barrier at Inlet(s)/IWW with Wall/Levee/Dune tiebacks & Nonstructural

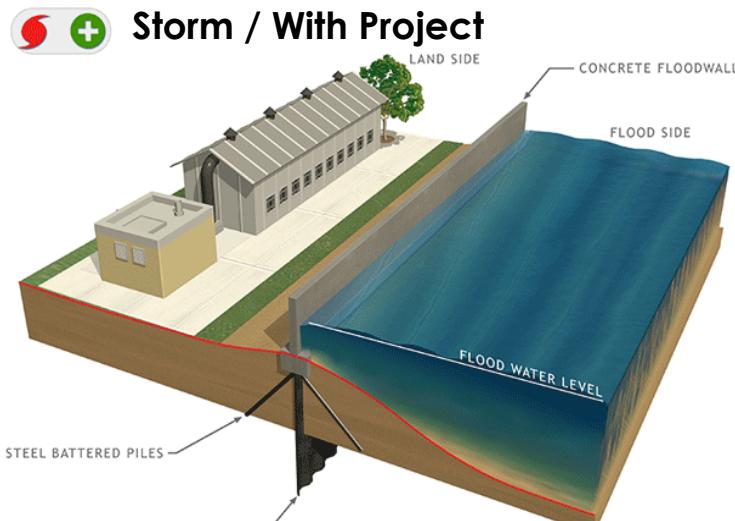
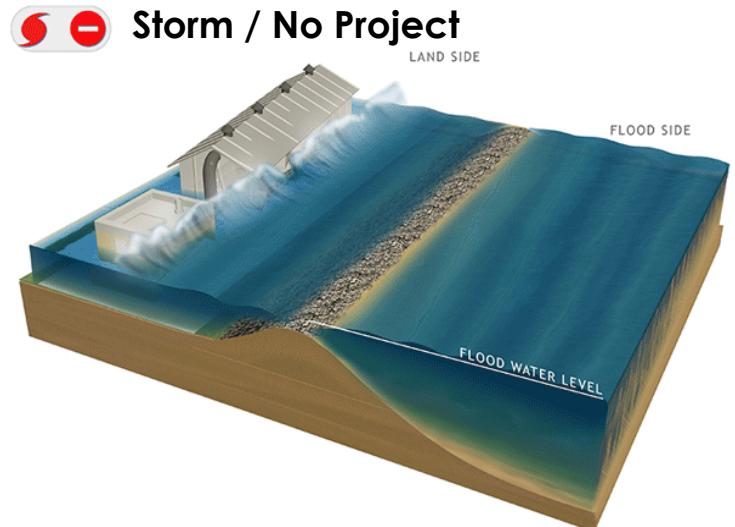
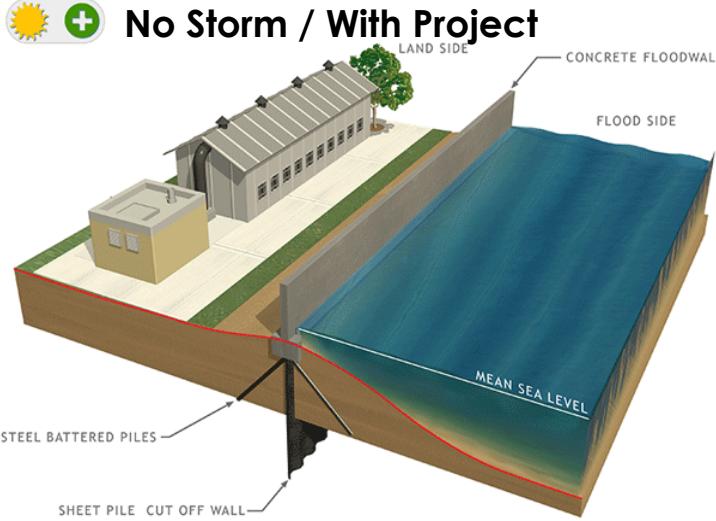
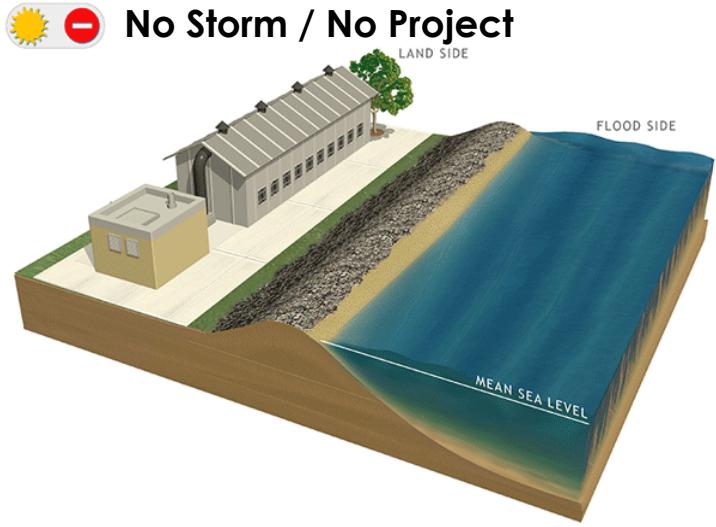




# WALL/LEVEE FEATURES



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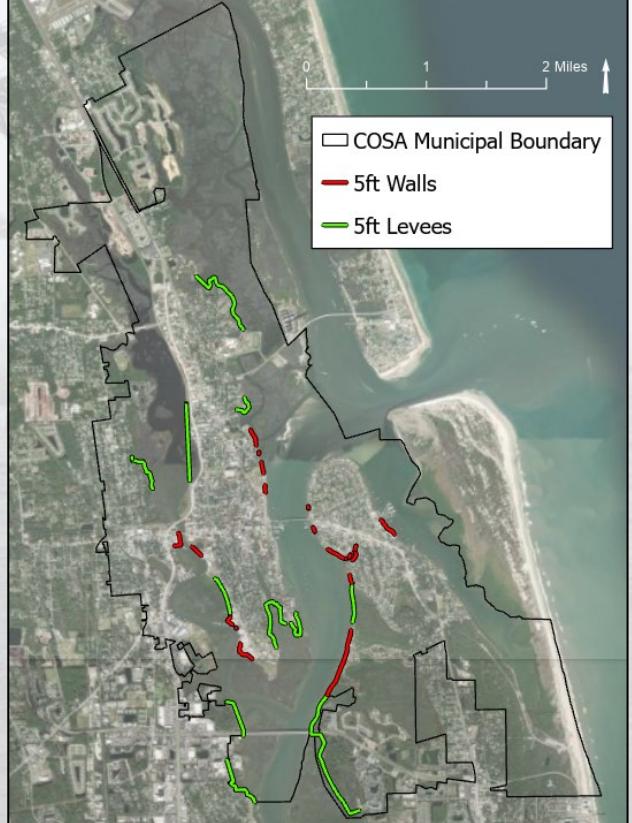
# WALL/LEVEE FEATURES



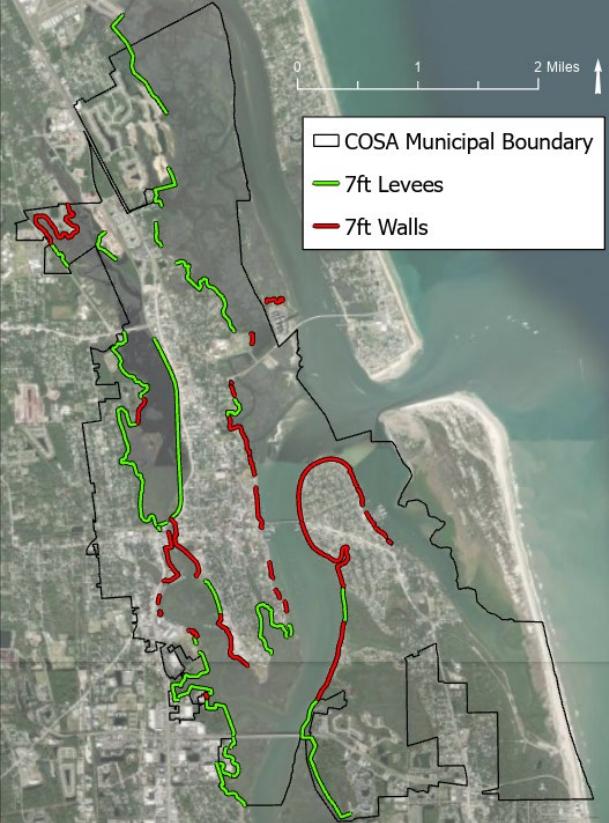
\*Design elevations in reference to NAVD 88

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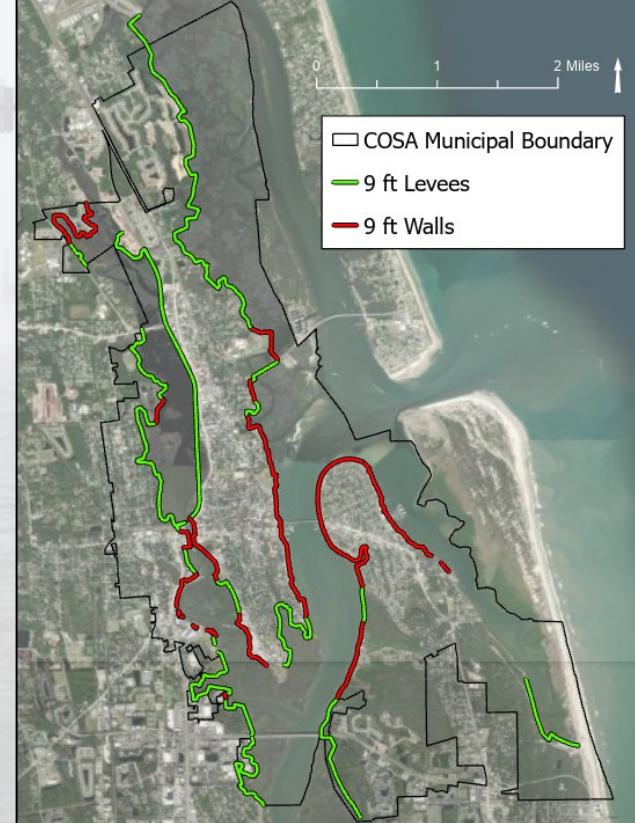
**5' Design Elevation**  
~2 miles of wall  
~6 miles of levee



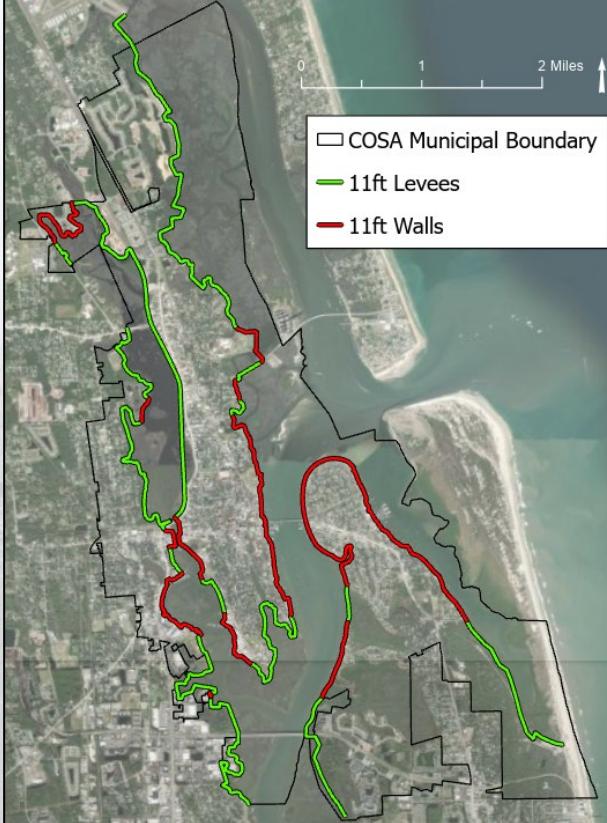
**7' Design Elevation**  
~13 miles of wall  
~8 miles of levee



**9' Design Elevation**  
~18 miles of wall  
~10 miles of levee



**11/13' Design Elevation**  
~19 miles of wall  
~11 miles of levee

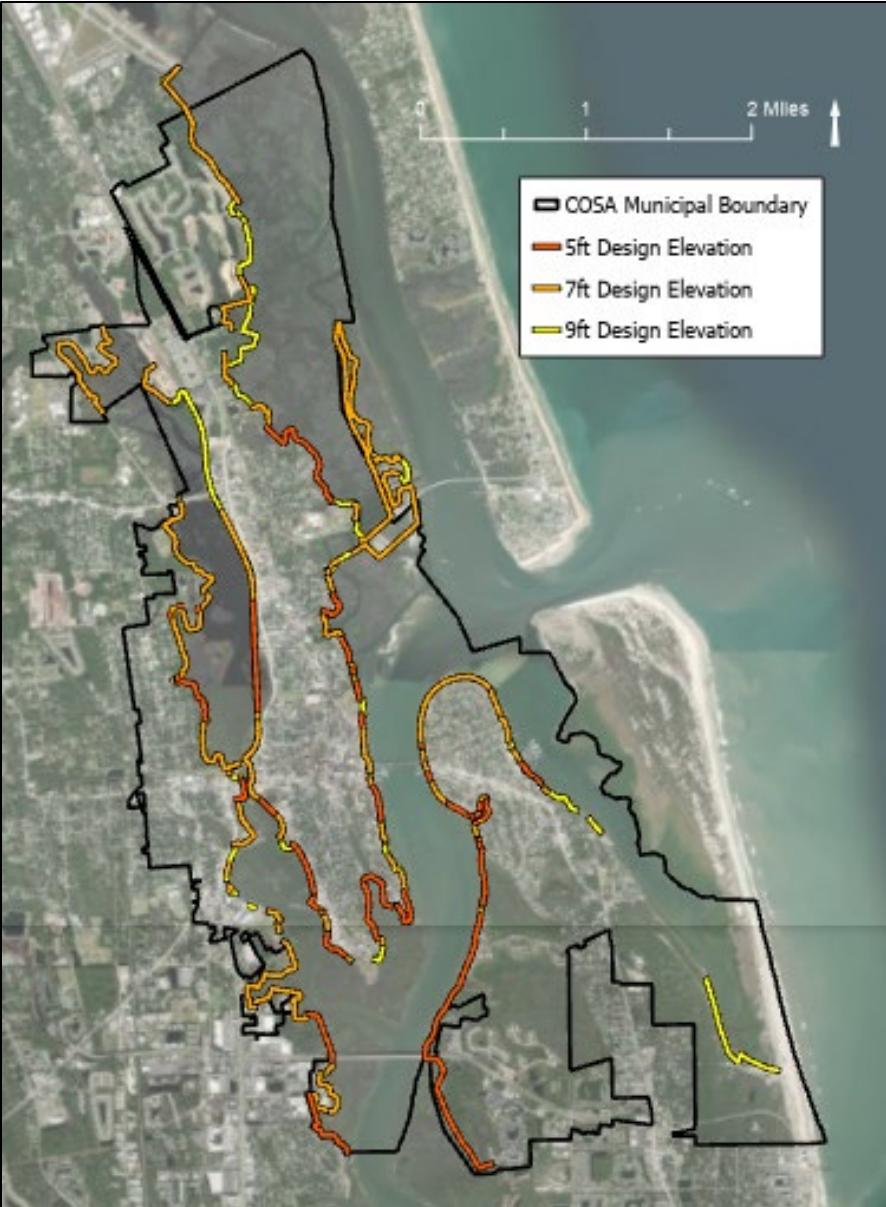




# WALL/LEVEE FEATURES



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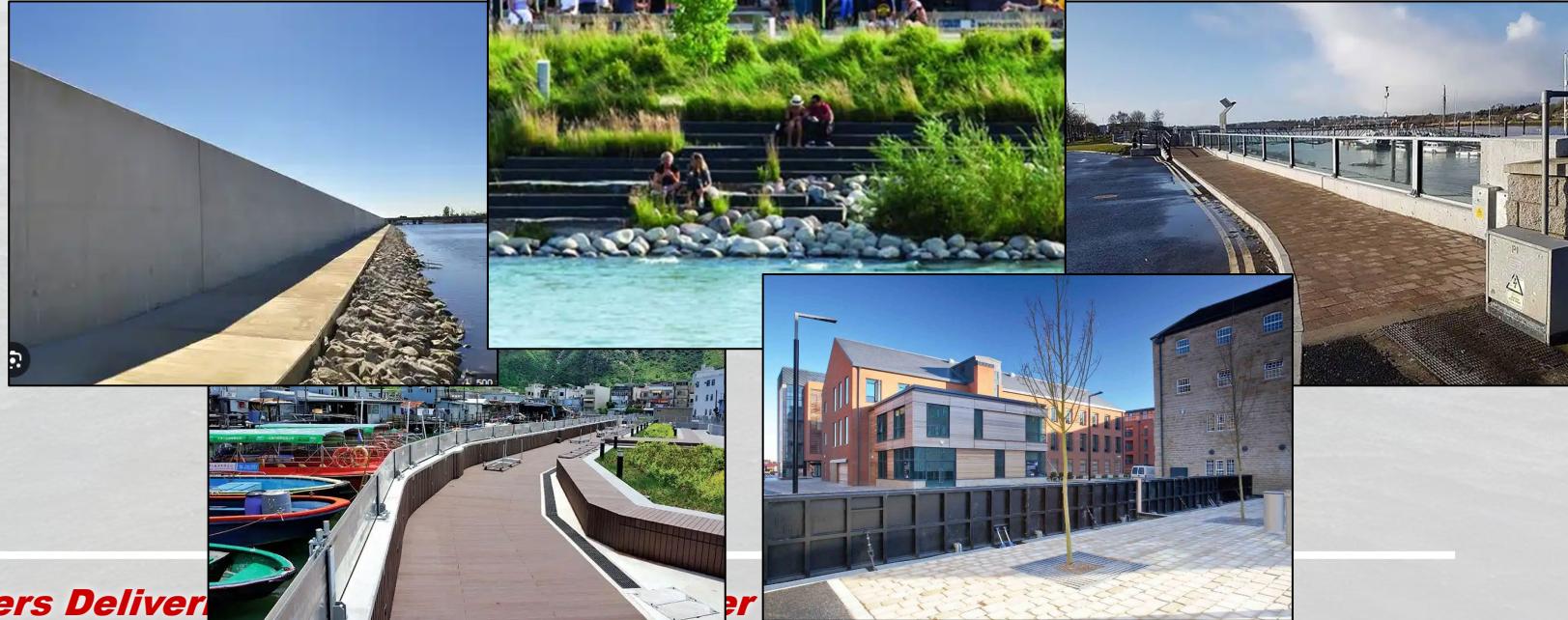


Design Flood Stage (feet NAVD88)	Approximate length of wall/levee (miles)
5	8
7	21
9	27
11/13	30

Ohio Creek Levee, Virginia



Various Wall Examples



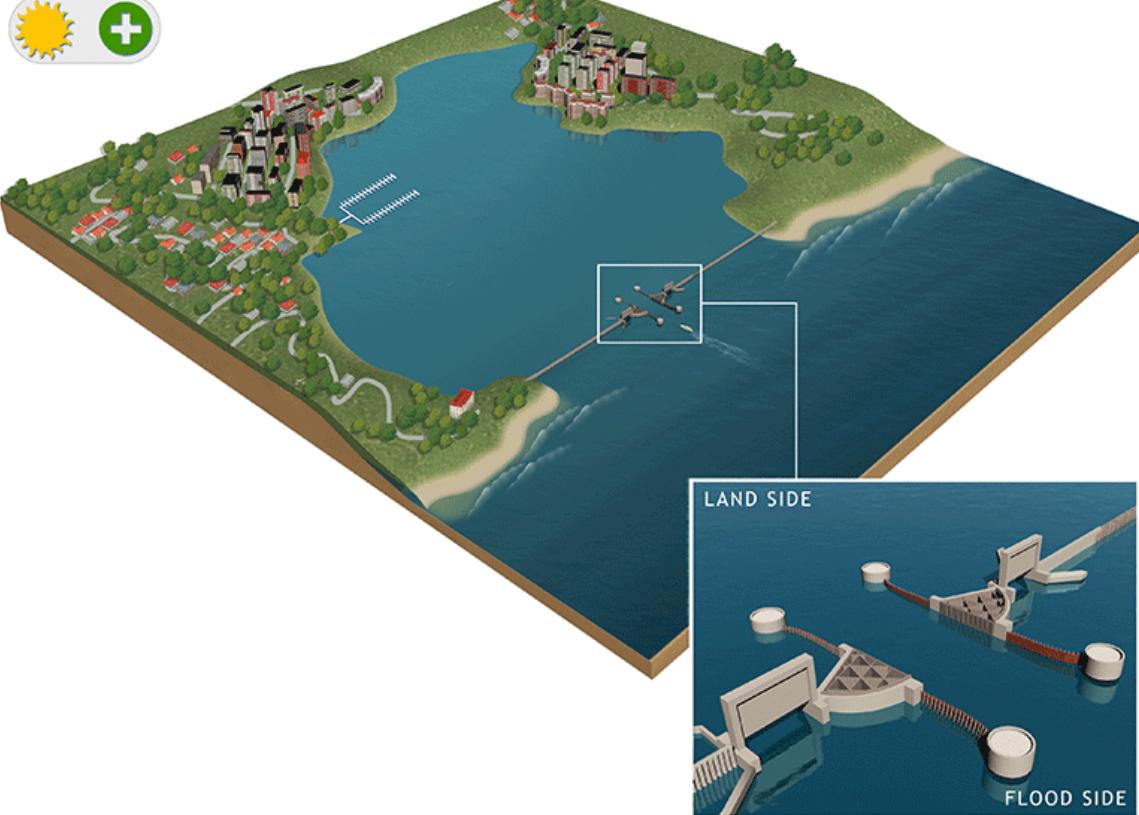


# SURGE BARRIER/FLOOD GATE FEATURES

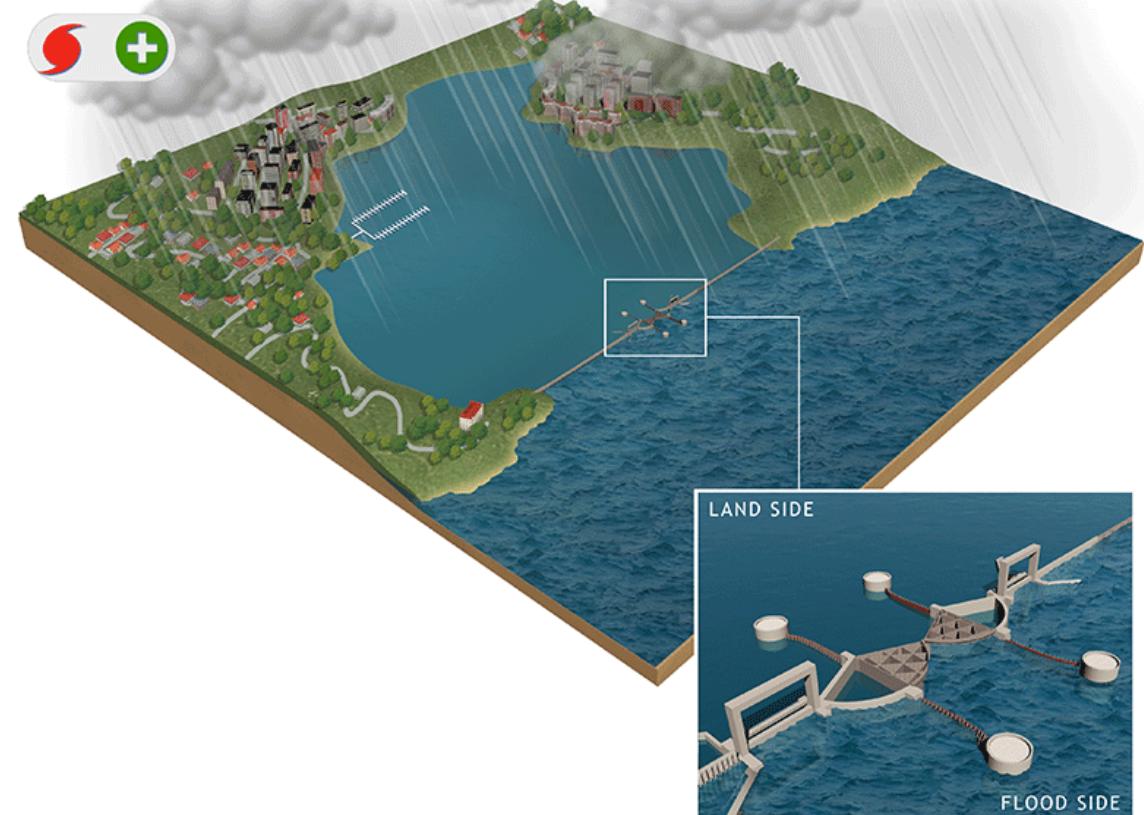


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No Storm / With Project



Storm / With Project

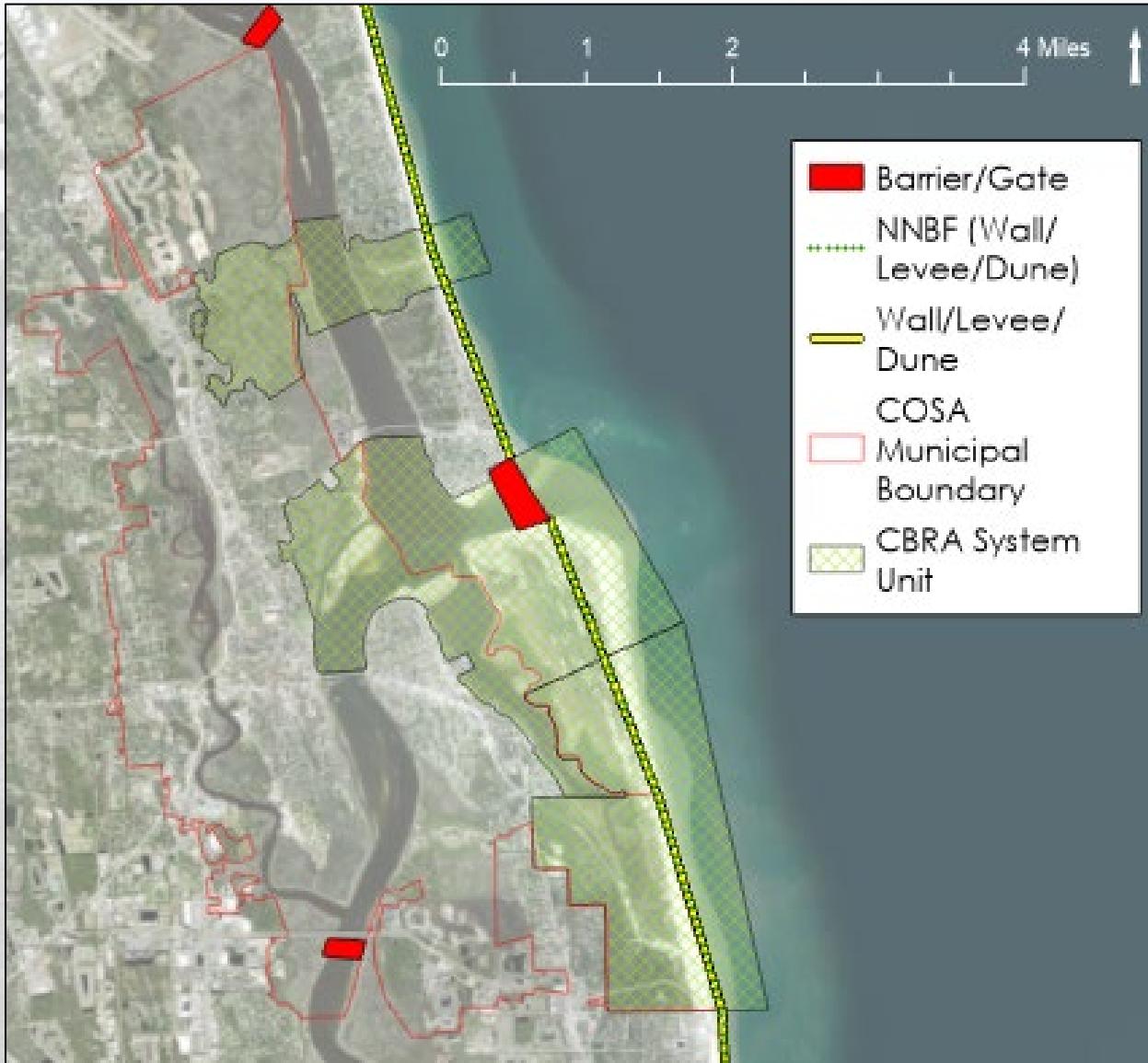




# CONCEPTUAL SURGE BARRIER ALTERNATIVE



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Galveston Surge Barrier Design Rendering, Texas



Rotterdam Surge Barrier, Netherlands



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# CONCEPTUAL FLOOD GATE ALTERNATIVE



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U.S.ARMY



New Orleans Sector Gate



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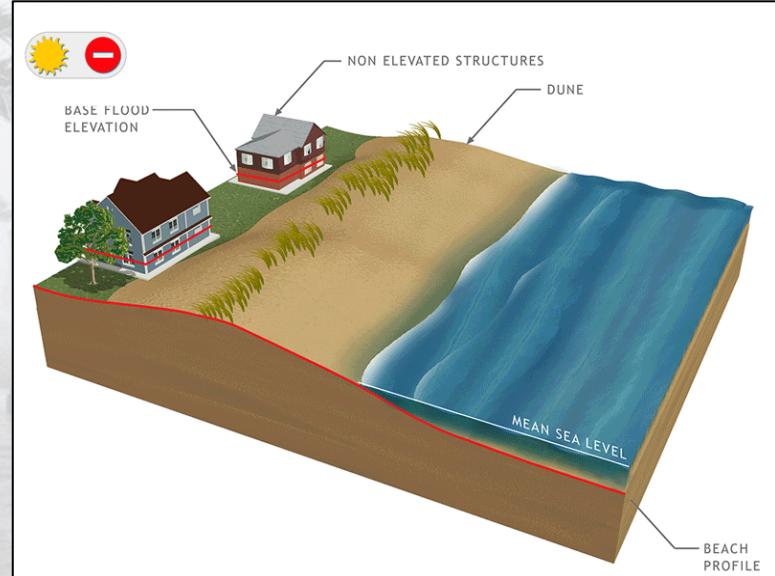


# NONSTRUCTURAL FEATURES

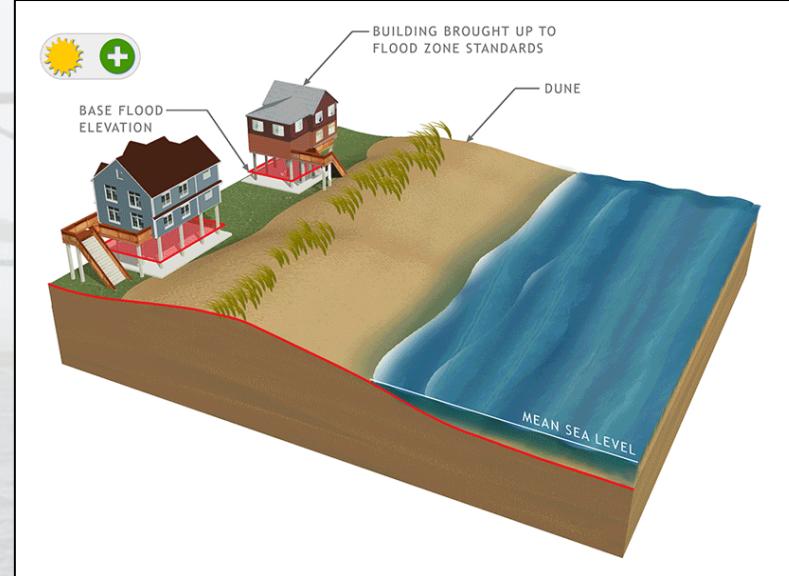


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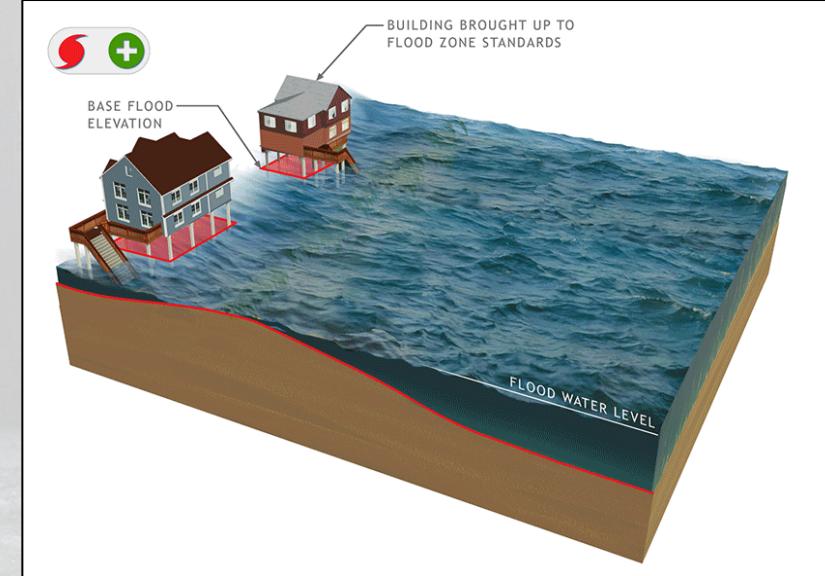
No Storm / No Project



No Storm / With Project



Storm / With Project

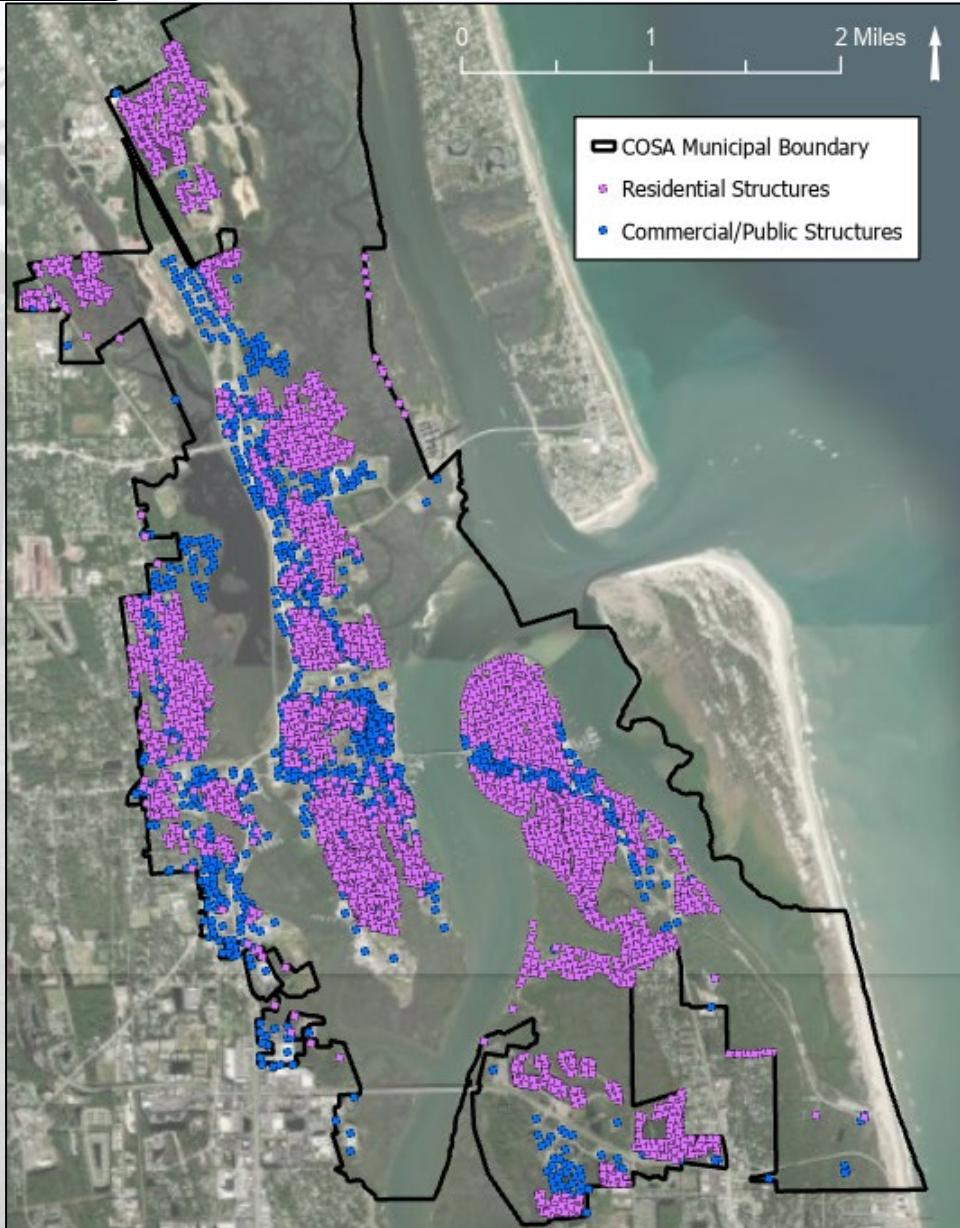




# NONSTRUCTURAL FEATURES



U.S.ARMY



~4,700 residential structures that could be elevated.



~3,300 commercial & public structures that could be floodproofed.

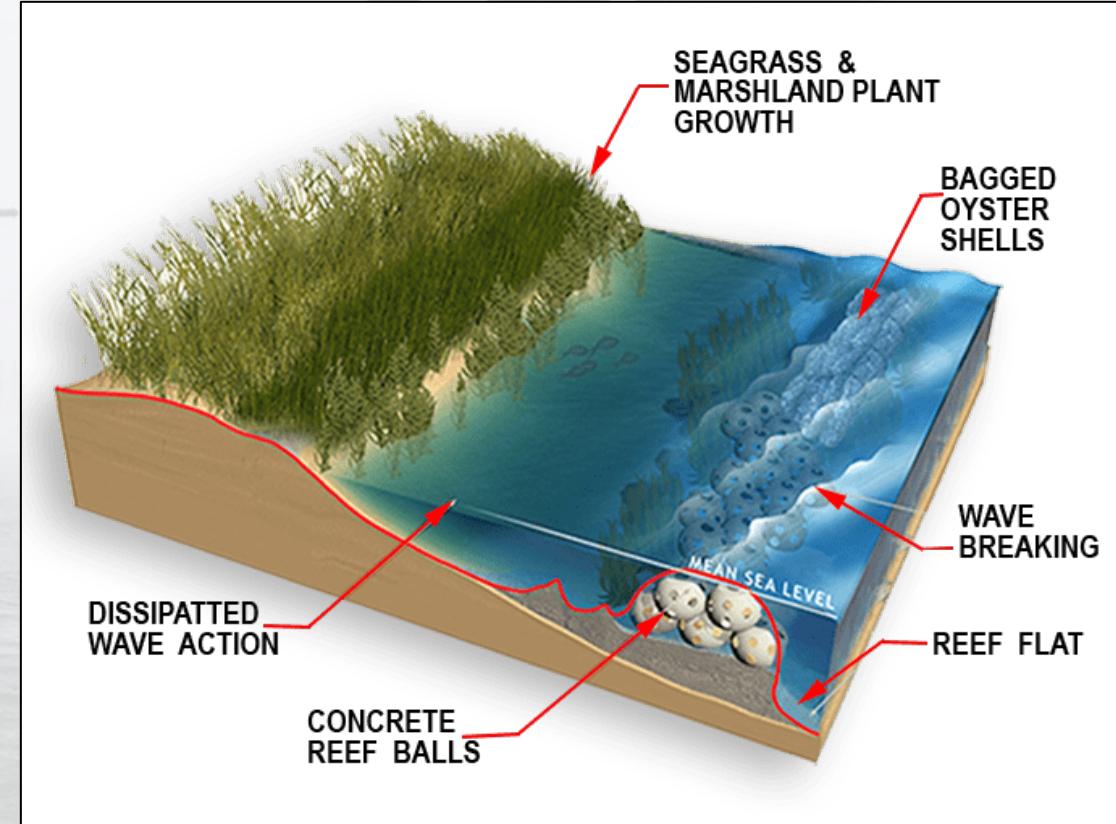




# NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS



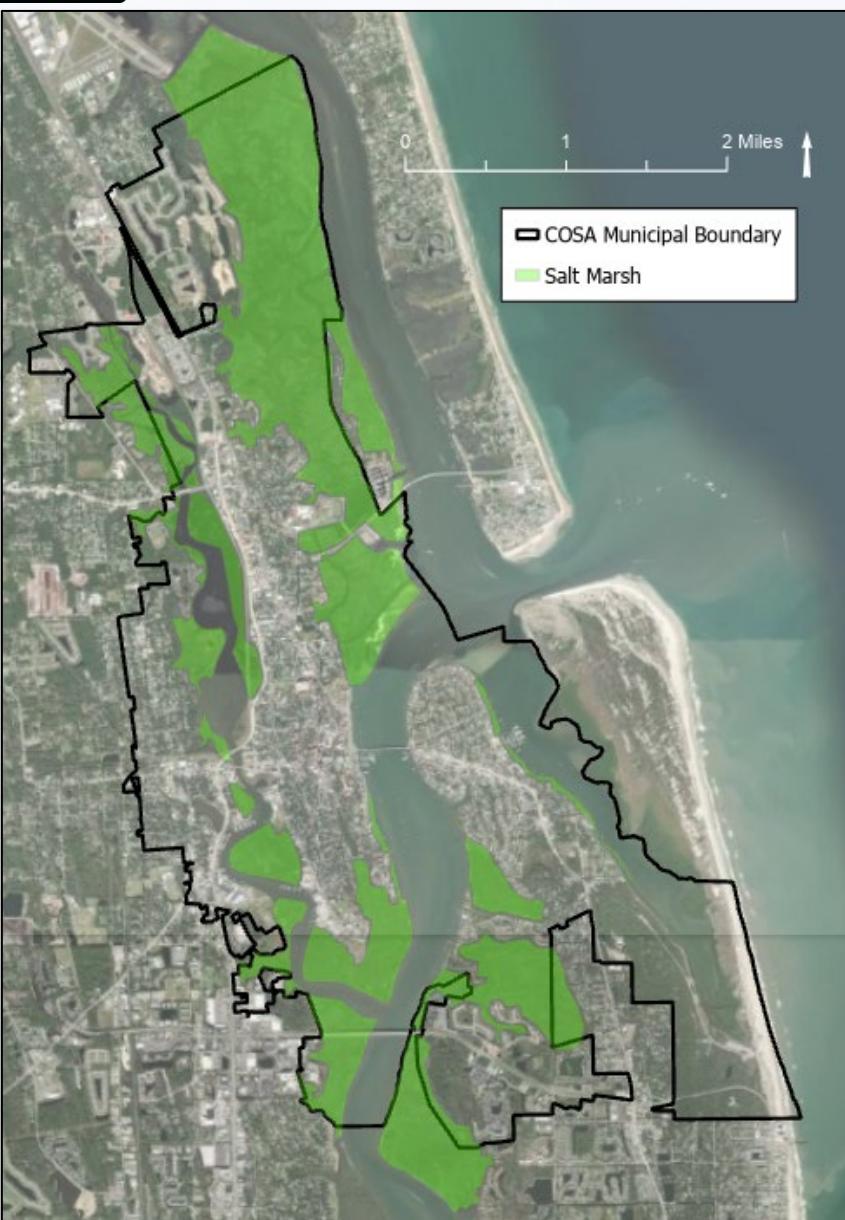
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# NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS



~3,000 acres where salt marsh could be maintained or enhanced.

## Potential Features:

- Spartina Marsh
- Juncus Marsh
- Mangroves
- Oyster Reef
- Oyster Shells
- Seagrass Planting
- Living Shoreline
- Sand Placement (such as dunes or berms)
- Breakwaters
- Seawalls
- Etc.



Above & Below: Renderings showing NBSs used in combination with wall/levee features.





# PATH FORWARD

## KEY SCHEDULE ACTIVITIES - LOOK AHEAD



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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
<b>End of FY23</b>	9/30/2023
G2CRM FWOP Production Runs	2/21/2024
Establish Initial Array of Alternatives	8/21/2024
<b>End of FY24</b>	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
<b>End of FY25</b>	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
<b>End of FY26</b>	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
<b>End of FY27</b>	9/30/2027
ADM Meeting	11/3/2027
Final Report Submittal Package to HQ	5/22/2028
Chief's Report Signature	9/15/2028

Complete

Ongoing



# UPCOMING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT



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Dates	Events
August 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 @ 1:00pm	Monthly Webinar
August 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	Environmental and Cultural Subteam In-Person Meeting
September 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 @ 1:00pm	Monthly Webinar
October 2024	<b>In Person Public Workshop Location TBD</b>
November 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2024 @ 1:00pm	Monthly Webinar



# DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC UPDATES/ACTIONS



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- **Planning Technical Lead:** Marty Durkin
- **Engineering Technical Lead:** Patrick Snyder
- **Economics Lead:** Vongmony Var
- **Environmental Lead:** Katie Lebow
- **Cultural Resources Lead:** Zuzana Chovanec
- **Real Estate Lead:** Chris Bukolt
- **Office of Counsel:** Katie Gwin
- **Landscape Architecture Lead:** Sabrina Collins

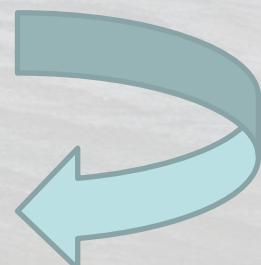


# PUBLIC OUTREACH (STUDY WEBSITE)



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<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/06bb9c98d9184bd9a374a244f6d27474/>



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# PUBLIC OUTREACH (SPONSOR SITES)



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[Submit Public Comment](#)

US Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District: St. Augustine Florida Back Bay Feasibility Study

Scoping Meeting and Comment Period Notice Letter for USACE St. Augustine Back Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) Feasibility Study (PDF)

The objectives of the study include (1) reduce flooding caused by coastal storms, extreme high tides, and future projected sea level rise in the study area; (2) explore opportunities to increase community resiliency from future coastal storms. Issues that are anticipated include concern for aesthetics, cultural resources, recreation, socioeconomics, environmental justice, wetlands, fish and wildlife resources, threatened and endangered species, and water quality. CSRM measures to be evaluated may include a combination of structural (i.e., tidal gates, seawalls, revetments, levees, drainage improvements, building elevation, etc.), non-structural (i.e., relocation, buyouts, etc.), and natural and nature-based features (i.e., living shorelines, vegetated features, oyster reefs, and maritime forests). Public Comments will be accepted throughout the life of the study.

Back Bay Signing Ceremony January 9th, 2023

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## Back Bay Feasibility Study with the Army Corps of Engineers

Submit Public Comment

[Submit Public Comment](#)

Email: [BackBay@citystaug.com](mailto:BackBay@citystaug.com)

  
US Army Corps of Engineers®  
Jacksonville District  
[Jacksonville District Website](#)

[Monthly Project Delivery Team \(PDT\) Meetings](#)

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# PUBLIC OUTREACH



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## St. Augustine, Florida, Back Bay CSRM Feasibility Study Monthly Planning Webinar Aug. 15, 2024, 1-2:30 p.m.

Presented by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
and the City of St. Augustine

[Join online](#)

<https://usace1.webex.com/meet/jason.s.harrah>

[Call in](#)

Dial **1-844-800-2712**

Enter access code **199 927 9909**





# CLOSING REMARKS/QUESTIONS



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## ■ **Sponsor Remarks**

- FMA Public Meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup> at 6PM at City Hall to talk about the FEMA Flood Elevation grant program residents can apply for.
- September 17<sup>th</sup> at 5PM at City Hall Public Meeting for the Vulnerability Assessment to discuss results of the VA.

## ■ **Federal Agency Questions/Comments**

## ■ **State Agency Questions/Comments**

## ■ **Local Agency Questions/Comments**

## ■ **Public Comments**