

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

## MONTHLY PLANNING MEETING

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Date:	November 21, 2024
Time:	1:00PM - 2:30PM
Meeting Location:	WebEx Virtual Meeting <a href="https://usace1.webex.com/meet/jason.s.harrah">https://usace1.webex.com/meet/jason.s.harrah</a>

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### IN ATTENDANCE: 33 ATTENDEES IN TOTAL

USACE: Jason Harrah, Martin Durkin, Amanda Bredesen, Brooke Warlitner, Zuzana Chovanec, Del Cabeche, Glorimar Torres, Katie Bailey, Katie Gwin, Michelle Vieira, Patrick Snyder, Samantha Borer, Stacey Roth, Tony Ledford, Joel Belsterling, Elizabeth Godsey, John Paul Rebello

City of St Augustine: Caitlyn Sargent, Jessica Beach

Agencies and Public: Kurt Foote (NPS), Cori Hermle, Kaitlyn Dietz GTMNERR, Lia Sansom GTMNERR, Roxane Dow, Serigne Ndiaye, Tom Frick, Amy Skinner, Delaney Hempling, Lindsay Brantley, Sloane Stephens, Stephen, Giuliano De Portu

### OPENING REMARKS

- Jason Harrah welcomed everyone to the webinar and thanked everyone for joining.
- Monthly webinar will be canceled in December for the holidays and resume in January.
- The PDT will be monitoring the chat function and responding to questions there throughout the presentation.

### PRESENTATION

- Jason Harrah presented several slides discussing the study background, study area, study scope, study schedule, and study budget.
- Martin Durkin presented slides describing the study analysis leading into the Initial Alternative Features being considered by the team to get to a tentatively selected plan (TSP).
- Brooke Warlitner and Martin Durkin presented on the following features:
  - Wall/Levee/Dune features

- Wall and levee features to help protect from surge are being considered throughout the study area shoreline.
  - Map displaying locations of walls/levees are being considered at different design flood elevation.
  - Example of viewshed impacts around the city with levees/walls from 7 – 13 feet NAVD88.
  - Examples of constructed wall/levee features.
  - Overview of implementation and cultural resource considerations.
- Patrick Snyder and Darren Pecora presented on the following features:
  - Surge barrier systems
    - Multiple configurations of various gates along with walls, levees, and dunes being considered at multiple inlets and throughout the study area.
    - Map displaying locations of different surge barrier system configurations.
    - Examples of constructed surge barrier systems.
    - Overview of implementation and cultural resource considerations.
- Brennan Banks and Zuzana Chovanec presented on the following features:
  - Nonstructural features
    - Primarily considering floodproofing for public/commercial structures and elevation for residential structures.
    - Map displaying locations of different nonstructural features.
    - Examples displaying nonstructural features.
    - Overview of implementation and cultural resource considerations.
- Michelle Vieira and Darren Pecora: presented on the following features:
  - Nature Based Solutions
    - Nature Based Solutions would consist of maintaining existing areas of saltmarsh into the future. They may be tied into wall/levee/dune features and are also being considered independently in locations where applicable.
    - Constructed examples of Nature Based Solution features.
    - Map displaying existing marsh footprint in the city to potentially implement nature based solutions.
    - Overview of implementation and cultural resource considerations.

Presentations and notes from past webinars available at:

<https://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Shore-Protection/St-Johns-County/City-of-St-Augustine-Florida-Back-Bay-Feasibility-Study/>

Official Study Experience Site:

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

Non-Federal Sponsor Pages: <https://www.citystaug.com/1046/Back-Bay-Feasibility-Study-with-the-Army>

## **KEY ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

- All ongoing activities for the Project Delivery Team were provided during the main portion of the presentation and there were no additional.
- NFS (Jessica Beach): No new remarks.
- National Park Service (Kurt Foote) – Castillo de San Marcos National Monument Seawall Project preliminary surveys are complete and specific alternatives have been chosen for the different segments of the project for construction of a seawall between 10.5 – 11 feet. The Environmental Assessment is currently in progress.
- No remarks from other state, or local agencies.

## 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
<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

### Upcoming Key Dates

Dates	Events
November 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2024 @ 1:00pm	Monthly Webinar
January 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 @ 1:00pm	Monthly Webinar
February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2025 @ 1:00pm	Monthly Webinar

## QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- Question – Giuliano De Portu: I'm guessing these alternatives will be studied and I'm wondering what's the timeline for evaluation and start to implement solutions?
  - Answer – Jason Harrah: Hey great question. These include our initial array of alternatives that will be considered around the city. We have a lot of work to do figuring out which alternative works best for each specific location. By June 2025 we will have a better idea of which alternatives seem to reduce overall flooding risk and those final alternatives will be presented and coordinated with the public and agencies. Regarding the start of implementation, that's a difficult question for sure. The study will be completed in September 2028, we then have a few years of design, permitting, real estate acquisition and then we await congressional authorization and appropriations for construction. The construction will be sequenced with an appropriate funding plan.
  - Answer – Martin Durkin: Yes. For study purposes we are assuming that 2035 would be the earliest that anything could be implemented, but that could vary depending on what the recommended plan ends up being.