



CAMBRIDGE SHORELINE RESILIENCE PLAN STAKEHOLDER MEETING NOTES

November 9, 2021

1- 3:00 PM

Virtual Meeting conducted. Stakeholders in attendance included:

Name	Organization/Department
Larry White	Project Manager, Strategic Programs Development, LLC
Stacey Underwood	USACE Silver Jackets Coordinator
Steve Rideout	Resident
Pat Escher	Cambridge Planning and Zoning Division Manager
Deborah Herr Cornwell	Maryland Department of Planning
James Windsor	Dorchester County Dept. of Emergency Services
Dozia Rahilly	Director Dorchester County Dept. of Emergency Services
Christa Lash	Michael Baker International
Mark James	Michael Baker International
Virginia Smith	SP&D

Project Updates

City of Cambridge Project Manager, Larry White opened the meeting with a review of the FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant application components and highlights.

Proposed project will be completed in two phases: phase 1 design & phase II construction. The project includes an innovative hybrid design that combines engineered structures with nature-based systems. The project will provide flood protection, living shoreline creation, and adaptive flood risk management in consideration of accelerating sea level rise and stronger storms in a changing climate.

There are five components to our proposed flood mitigation project.

1. Design and construction of a flood barrier consisting of an earth embankment in open areas and a floodwall where space is limited along the shoreline of the Choptank River extending from higher ground in Dorchester County to the mouth of Cambridge Creek.
2. Design and construction of a nature-based living shoreline on the river side of the flood barrier with marsh wetlands vegetation and a rock sill/breakwater at the toe to increase natural storm water infiltration, dissipate wave energy and reduces storm surges, prevents erosion, and enhance ecological development and improve water quality.
3. Design and construction of a stormwater management system that includes the installation of controls on storm drains that discharge to the river to prevent high tides from backing up into the streets and a new supplemental system to collect and discharge stormwater that may accumulate on the landside of the flood barrier during major rain events when storms occur during high tides.
4. Purchase & demolition of high-risk property immediately adjacent to Gerry Boyle Park. Our goal is to purchase this property through a FEMA Grant. We would then restore this property's wetland as part of our nature based living shore project. We are including this acquisition in this project because we see the acquisition of at-risk properties and part of a broader long-term strategy for the City.

5. Support to residents in area on potential flood mitigation measures they can do themselves and sources of grant funding. The project team will continue with our public outreach efforts through the design and construction process. This will include providing guidance and support to residents on how they obtain grants to reduce their personal risk by elevating and flood proofing their homes, working with the city to improve storm water drainage on roads, or the construction of other water management activities such as rain gardens etc.

Project Partnerships

The project team will maintain the public outreach effort and the technical support available through our Steering Committee and engineering consultants. We will add the UMCES at Horn Point to support the design and construction of our Living Shore.

- Stakeholder Participation – Through our Project Steering Committee, the city is working with Maryland State agencies such as DNR, MDE, MEMA, MDP, and non-profit organizations that offer relevant grants within our project SOW.
- Living Shore – The University of Maryland CES at Horn Point are experts in the design of living shorelines and will provide much support and credibility to our project. The University believes, and we agree, that the City of Cambridge Project could be a model for the incorporation of natural systems in flood mitigation projects for the entire eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia.
- Public Participation -Local businesses and residents may be willing to contribute to this important project, particularly those that would benefit directly.
- City of Cambridge- The City may be willing to offer additional support, as needed, based on grant opportunities.

Next Steps:

- BRIC Grant Application Submittal to Maryland Department of Emergency Management (MDEM), formerly known as MEMA, by November 13, 2021.
- FEMA BRIC Submittal- January 2022
- City Council Briefing
- Public Outreach Event- MD Silver Jackets Flood Mitigation for Property Owners Workshop in February 2022 (Potential for collaborative outreach event benefitting all of DC, specifically the Cambridge Shoreline Resilience Plan, Hoopersville Flood Resilience and Twin Point Cove Flood Resilience Planning Projects.