



CAMBRIDGE SHORELINE RESILIENCE PLAN STAKEHOLDER MEETING NOTES

March 8, 2022

1:30- 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	Former City Council Representative for Ward 1
Daryl Butcher	CWDI Board Member
Deborah Herr Cornwell	Maryland Department of Planning
James Windsor	Dorchester County Dept. of Emergency Services
Adam Cox	Maryland Department of Emergency Management
George Hyde	City of Cambridge Engineer
Kevin Wagner	Maryland Department of the Environment
Sasha Land	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Matt Pluta	Shore Rivers- Choptank River Keeper
Mark James	Michael Baker International
Virginia Smith	SP&D

Project Update

Larry White, Project Manager discussed the 2022 grant portfolio including:

- FEMA BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRATURE & COMMUNITIES (BRIC)
 - o Submitted to MDEM on January 6th, and then to FEMA on January 28th
 - o Multiple project components along shoreline included within project designated high risk areas
 - o Funding Available for Design Oct 2022 and Construction Oct 2023
- MDE COMPREHENSIVE FLOOD MITIGATION GRANT (CFMG)
 - o Submitted to MDE January 31st
 - o BRIC SOW (Potential to fund half of the City's required as match for BRIC)
 - o Award may take up to 18 Months
- MD DNR CHESAPEAKE AND COASTAL GATEWAY GRANT
 - o Submitted Dec 15th
 - o "Living Shoreline at Great Marsh "
 - o Funding available July 2022 for Design & Construction
- NFWF W/NOAA-EMERGENCY COASTAL RESILIENCE FUND
 - o Proposal Submitted Feb 3rd
 - o "Living Shore Component - Design and Construction"
 - o Funding Available Design Oct 2022 and Construction Oct 2023

Project updates were provided to the City Council, Planning Commission, Cambridge Waterfront Inc. (CWDI) and to several media outlets.

- January 24, 2022- Project Update to City Council
- February 8, 2022- Project Update to Planning Commission
- February 9, 2022- Meeting with Matt Leonard, CWDI to discuss Design Standards

- Combating Sea Levels in Cambridge: A Chat with Larry White on the City’s Flood Migration Project February 9, 2022, by [Spy & WHCP Community Radio](#)
Video posted on project website- *This video is approximately 18 minutes in length.*

Public Outreach Event- Flood Risk Reduction Community Workshop

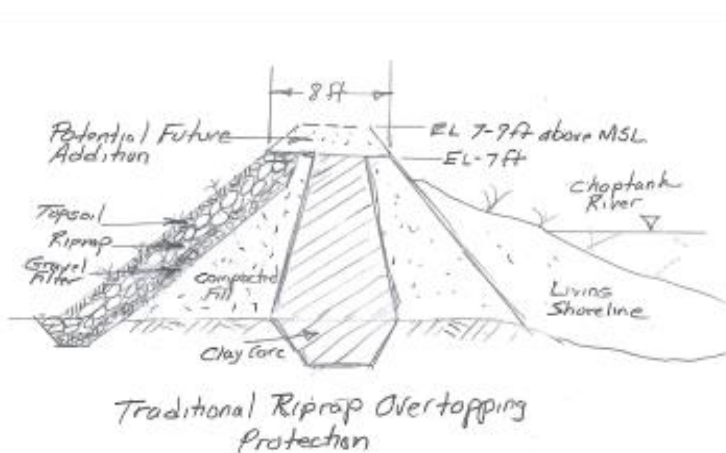
The purpose of the workshop is to provide an opportunity for property owners to obtain information on various flood risk reduction options, grant, and technical assistance opportunities.

- March 22, 2022, from 5:30-8:30 PM at the Dorchester Center for the Arts
- Workshop will include both display stations and presentations (Agenda Attached.)
- Media Outreach include newspapers, radio, civic groups, website(s), social media, project email group listing

An additional public outreach event is planned for May 2022. This outreach event will focus on the Cambridge Shoreline Resilience Project by providing participants with updated information including the Cambridge Creek Watershed Analysis and an opportunity to comment on elements of the draft plan document.

Plan Going Forward

- To date, planning focus has been on Risk Mitigation, i.e., building infrastructure to mitigate risk to our population and built environment (Make Cambridge Resilient Flood Mitigation project)
- In Progress (1) Enhancing Project concept Design in preparation of Funding for project design and construction, and (2) working with residents in Identifying and Developing Risk Mitigation Strategies and plans for at Risk properties along Cambridge Creek
- Going forward focus WILL BE on implementing multiple “Action Plans” that will collectively and systematically reduce our risk to sea level rise and storm surge over time.
- In consideration of reducing risk of sea level rise and storm surge the following applies:
 - o **Reducing risk of impact of storm surge-** Design for overtopping and ability to increase level of protection



Use of High-Performance Turf Reinforcement Mat



- o **Improving Concept Design - Make Cambridge Resilient Project** in anticipation of funding available in Oct 22 design and construct
 - Optimize living shore design to reduce wave propagation and impacts of storm surge
 - Implement DUTCH STRATEGY “LIVING WITH WATER” in project design
 - Maintain the Defend urban areas

- Prefer easy to adapt flood risk reduction measures versus those that are difficult to change
- Use natural systems and avoid obstructing natural pathways.
- Strengthen natural processes for restoration and flood protection.
- **Forward Planning** to institutionalize flood risk reduction in future planning and development efforts
 - **Integrate our flood mitigation strategy into the City’s Comprehensive Plan** and Working Waterfront Implementation Plan.
 - **Participate in the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS)** which provides guidance for planning and executing flood mitigation measures and a means for interacting with neighboring communities in the process.
 - **Recruit a Flood Management Administrator** and SME to lead this effort. A position description is under development.
- **Risk Avoidance** by limiting future development in high-risk areas based of long-term projections of sea level rise
 - **Strengthen Design Guidelines** for all new construction in our floodplain. The city currently requires first-floor elevations be 2ft above BFE or 7 ft. Consideration should be given to increasing the minimum first floor elevation to 3ft above BFE, which would be the same requirement as Dorchester County.
 - **Plan and Design future City infrastructure improvements to reduces risk.** e.g., higher elevation, further removed from THE SHORE, flood-proofing.
- **Public Outreach** to educate the public on how they can reduce their risk and potential grant funding to support it.
 - **Maintain public involvement** in all flood mitigation project planning, design, construction, and maintenance going forward
 - **Develop and implement a public education program** on what residents can do to reduce their personal risk to flooding and what source of grant funding may be available.
 - **All residents on how they can reduce their risk** to damages due to flooding and storm surge, e.g., elevating their homes, rain gardens, rain barrels, installation of bio retention.
 - **Residents Along Shore of Choptank River that may be impacted** by our Make Cambridge Resilient Project on what to expect during the design and construction process
 - **Cambridge Creek Businesses and Residents that have properties at risk** on opportunities and resources/ grant funding available to reduce their flood risk, e.g., dry and wet flood proofing.

Next Steps:

- Media Campaign Advertising Workshop
- Website Content Update
- Flood Risk Reduction Community Workshop- March 2022
- Development of Plan Elements for Draft Plan
- Public Outreach Event- May 2022