CAMBRIDGE SHORELINE RESILIENCE PLAN
STAKEHOLDER MEETING NOTES
September 15, 2021
1- 3:30 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
Kevin Wagner	MDE-Community Assistance Program Manager
Patricia Escher	Manager, Cambridge Planning and Zoning
George Hyde	Cambridge City Engineer
Herve Hamon	Dorchester County Director of Planning & Zoning
Steve Rideout	Resident
Sasha Land	MD DNR- Flood Mitigation Planner

Welcome & Project Updates

City of Cambridge Project Manager, Larry White opened the meeting with a review of the meeting agenda topics. Mr. White then reviewed project updates:

- City of Cambridge Projects Underway

  Oakley Street Seawall Replacement

  Work has begun on the demolition and removal of the existing concrete seawall and construction of a new concrete wall. The new concrete wall will be similar in appearance but will be elevated to 5ft BFE, an additional 15". The total project cost is approximately $342,000 with 75% being funded by a grant from Maryland Department of the Environment and 25% with local funds.

  Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation

  The City has included funding in the current budget to begin addressing sanitary sewer problems. This includes funding for planning and design services, as well as maintenance of existing sewer lines to improve conveyance. The budget Includes $500,000 for planning and design services for improvements to the sewage collection system and Trenton Street pumping station which services the area. Another $100,000 has been budgeted to remove excessive grit and sediment from the sewer lines to improve capacity and performance. The City is planning to resubmit the sanitary sewer remediation project under the 2021 BRIC Grant Program as part of a comprehensive shoreline resiliency project.

- Modifications to Phase I & New Phase 2 Scope of Work (SOW) Refinement

  Refinements were made to the initial scope of work based upon information learned and feedback gathered since the initiation of this planning project. While these changes are within the overall grant project scope of work, the detailed task specific (SOW's) for the project phases have been refined. A storm water analysis will be completed to assess existing flood conditions and suggest stormwater management improvements that mitigate area flooding during rain events and periods of high tides. In addition, work related to benefit cost analysis was incorporated.

  - The goal is to develop a system that will complement the existing storm water system. The new systems will be designed to collect and discharge storm water

to the river after the current storm water discharge lines are shut-off to prevent river water from backing up into the streets due to high tides, .

- The system design in open areas such as great marsh will include a drainage system designed to channel and collect storm water, and a pumping system to discharge storm water and any water that may overtop the flood protection barrier during a major storm back to the river.
- The system design in densely populated areas such as the west end will also provide for the channeling and collection of storm water at low points, such as the ends of streets on the shore, and include submersible pumps to discharge the water to the river.

- Conceptual Design Matrix Updates
  The Stakeholder (steering committee) meeting held on August 10th primarily focused on various potential design options for each of the high-risk areas. Feedback provided by meeting participants was integrated into the deign matrix project scoring tool. In addition, webinars were held August 25th and 26th to allow participants to walk through the design matrix scoring tool and discuss various aspects of each option.

Finally, Mr. White discussed the overall strategic goal of contiguous level of flood protection along the entire alignment of the Choptank River because there is no way to hydraulically separate areas.

Design Matrix Results

Mark James, Michael Baker International, provided results from the concept design matrix tool. He reviewed general comments that were gathered from various meetings held in August, including the public meeting held on August 10th.

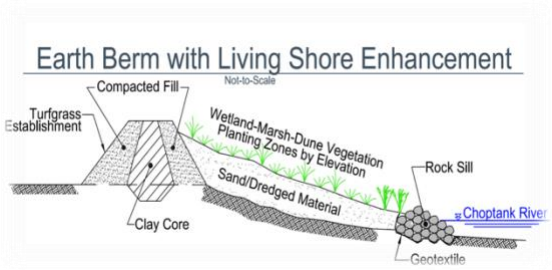
- Future public meeting presentations will include stormwater management flood mitigation.
- Select flood protection barrier options that preserve access to the water for fishing and crabbing.
- Flood protection level –if at FEMA BFE or higher, we may be required to add 2 ft of freeboard.
- Earth embankment will require more land to build than a floodwall.
- Need to address how living shore would work where there are existing piers.
- Use of dredge material for living shore may be complex and require implementation over several years.
- Difficult for any of Steering Committee members to evaluate Benefit Cost Ratio.

Mr. James proceeded to review project site specific slides with the members. Comments on these slides included:

- Sasha Land, DNR, suggested that existing and past projects be reviewed for any relevant data and findings that may be used in this planning effort. She also suggested site visit(s) to recent projects that may offer insight into design concepts developed for Cambridge, (i.e., Anne Arundel County living shoreline projects).
- Pat Escher, Cambridge Planning and Zoning, suggested reviewing past park planning documents for integration into this planning effort. She will forward documents to Larry White, Project Manager. Ms. Escher also suggested that a presentation be made to the Planning Commission, considering integration with the City Comprehensive Plan and Master Park Plan.
- Herve Hamon, Dorchester County Planning and Zoning, requested further consideration of the flood protection at Gerry Boyle Park due to park usage, large events, and economic benefit of the park to the City.
- Many members expressed the need to preserve and promote public access to the water in the flood risk reduction strategies development.

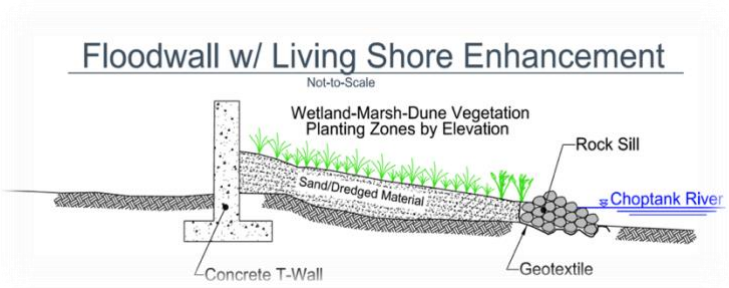
<u>Great Marsh</u>

- It is currently proposed that an earth embankment be constructed where there is sufficient room such as in the Great Marsh area. An Earthen Berm on south side of the park would cost less because of reduced length and height of embankment requirements.
- Storm water management is a major issue in the Great Marsh area that needs to be addressed.



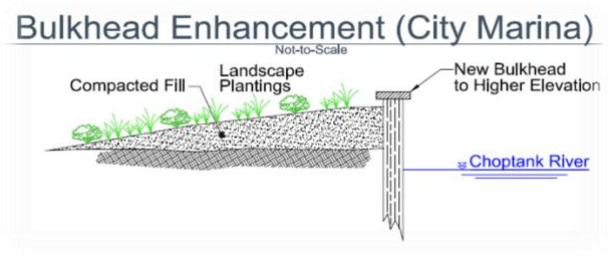
West End

- A flood wall would best be suited to the West End where there is limited space and where homes are close to the water.
- Suggest the floodwall be pulled back further away from the shore to allow fishing and crabbing from shore.
- Flood protection may be increased by placing glazed panel on top of the floodwall at a future date.



City Marina

- Integrated Bulkhead Enhancement floodwall would work in vicinity of the Yacht Club and be fairly low maintenance.
- Earth embankment with vegetation could be constructed along alignment of Marina, leaving sufficient room for access to boats, fishing, and crabbing.



Cambridge Creek

- Residential structures within the floodplain should be evaluated for potential elevation and/or acquisition based on flood vulnerability.
- Residential condo and commercial structures will need to be floodproofed to at least the Flood Protection Elevation (BFE + 2 feet of freeboard).
- City needs to participate in the Community Rating System to earn credit for any flood mitigation enhancement resulting in dry and wet flood proofing.

Sailwinds

- CWDI Plan is to design promenade to elevation 7.5 ft and flood proof everything else elevation 9 ft.
- This is a good option, but it is dependent on human intervention. If buildings are designed to be dry floodproofed, emergency plans should be developed, and tested annually, so that owners and staff know what to do in the event of an emergency.

Note: The team will evaluate additional flood mitigation measures during Phase II of our project. This includes the design and construction of a breakwater and/or a barrier island. Both rockfill and living breakwaters reduce the effects of storm surge and coastal erosion by absorbing wave energy during storm events. As waves break on the structure, their energy is reduced, calming waters on the shoreward side of the breakwater, and reducing the direct impacts to the shoreline.

Public Outreach Initiatives

Ginny Smith, SP&D, discussed the upcoming public meeting series scheduled for the end of September. This series of public meetingd will be held to provide information and obtain feedback from the public on site specific concept designs.

September 29, 2021	• Great Marsh Area Public Meeting @ Gerry Boyle Park 5-6:30PM
	  ○ Pavilion A reserved from 3:30-8PM
	• Cambridge Creek Public Meeting 7-8:30PM
	  ○ Radio Station- Race Street

September 30, 2021	• City Marina Meeting 4:30-6PM
	  ○ Yacht Club- Indoor Meeting Room Confirmed
	• West End 6:30-8PM
	  ○ Yacht Club- Indoor Meeting Room Confirmed

Note: City Marina Project Area: In and around Yacht Club and City Marina running parallel to Water Street and extending to Cambridge Creek. West End Project Area: Running along the shoreline extending from Belvedere Avenue to Choptank Avenue.

The project website has been updated as new information becomes available. Meeting notes from the Cambridge Shoreline Resilience Plan - Open House & Listening Session held on August 10th are available on the website.

Stakeholder Group meeting notes are uploaded to the website following each meeting. If you would like to review past meeting notes, please visit www.makecambridgeresilient.org

Next Steps

- Stakeholder Group Monthly Meeting- October 12, 2021
- Meeting(s) With Targeted Property Owners- Great Marsh Area
- Various Public Outreach Events
- Meeting With City Council
- Initiate Cambridge Shoreline Stormwater Improvement Project
- BRIC Project Applications