



# MAKE CAMBRIDGE RESILIENT STAKEHOLDER MEETING NOTES

**April 23, 2023**

**10:00- 11:00 AM**

Virtual Meeting conducted. Stakeholders in attendance included:

Name	Organization/Department
Larry White	Strategic Programs Development, LLC
Bucky Jackson	City of Cambridge DPW- City Engineer
Andrew Koslow	City of Cambridge DPW- Environmental Program Manager
Dave Guignet	Maryland Department of the Environment
Eileen Gladd	Maryland Department of the Environment
Sasha Land	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Megan Spindler	USACE Baltimore District
Stacey M. Underwood	USACE Silver Jackets Coordinator
Matt Pluta	ShoreRivers
Megan Barnica	BayLand Consultants
Anna Johnson	BayLand Consultants
Virginia Smith	SP&D

## Welcome and Overview

- Larry White, Project Manager, welcomed attendees to the meeting.
- In review, the \$18M *Shoreline Flood Risk Reduction and Stormwater Project* will be made available in two phases, with \$1.7 allocated for **design** and the remaining balance for the construction portion of the project.
- The Scope of Work (SOW) to achieve 30 percent design has been developed. With the detailed SOW already developed, the design team will be able to hit the ground running as soon as FEMA grant funding is officially made available. During this waiting period, the team has not been idle. New items since our last stakeholder meeting include the integration of green stormwater infrastructure into design SOW, as well as a refinement of our flood protection alignment based on the acquisition of the WBOC Radio Station, and the identification of potential local dredge material have occurred.
- While we continue to wait on the project design grant funding from FEMA for the *Shoreline Flood Risk Reduction and Stormwater Project*, we have continued working on other aspects of the Make Cambridge Resilient Initiative using funding obtained from FEMA under the Community Development Grant.
- Additional grant applications have been submitted for habitat restoration and water quality enhancements.
  - o Enhancing ecological benefits of Make Cambridge Resilient Initiative
  - o NOAA Transformational Habitat Restoration Grant
  - o NFWF National Coastal Resilience Fund Grant

## Collaboration with UMCES Horn Point - Shoreline Flood Risk Reduction and Stormwater Project

- The BayLand Design Team along with City staff met with University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES) key staff at their campus on April 22, 2024, to discuss details of UMCES modeling and analysis in support of the City’s design process and preparation of the final BCA and how their schedule aligns with the City and BayLand’s design schedule. UMCES will be providing the following contributions to ensure that the final design is well conceived, beneficial to both the community and the environment, as well as cost effective.
  - o Optimizing living shoreline design

- Assessing flood risk reduction
- Monitoring living shoreline performance
- Evaluating ecological co-benefits

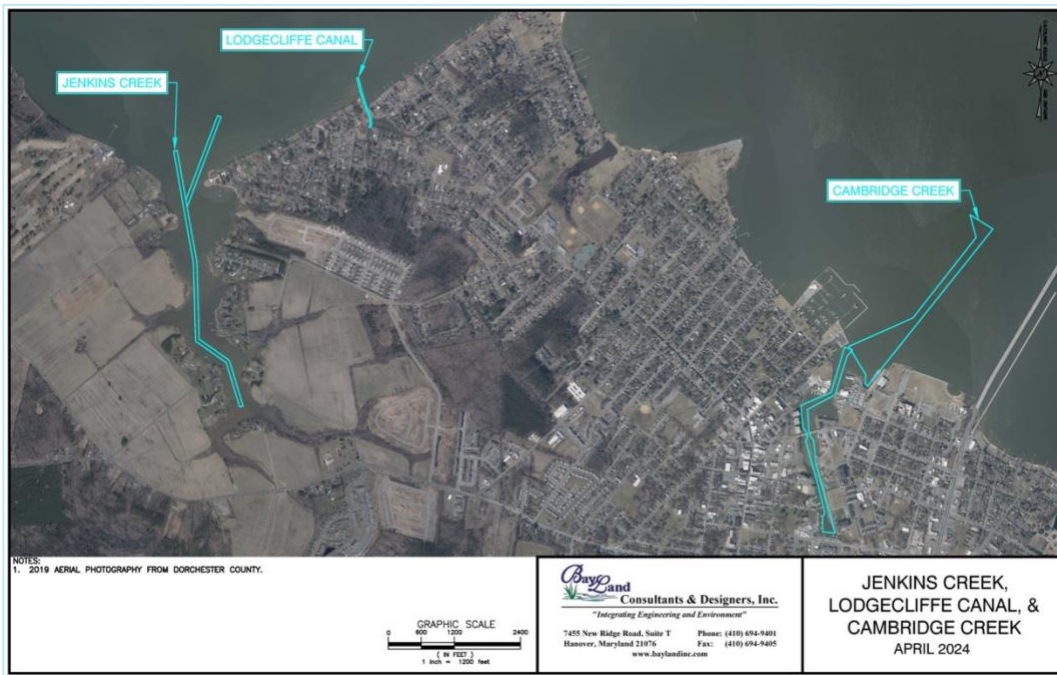
## Gerry Boyle Park & Radio Station Property Updates

- Negotiations with the owners of the radio station property have progressed over the past several months. Our expectation is that the City will acquire and demolish the radio station during the design phase of this project. Thereafter the property will become part of Gerry Boyle Park in perpetuity.
- The current design SOW includes the WBOC property. Megan Barniea and Anna Johnson, Bayland Consultants and Designers, Inc., discussed the concept design for developing Gerry Boyle Park and the Radio Station so that, in addition to recreation, the park can be used to store stormwater during major storms and how the design is consistent with the Great Marsh Park Working Waterfront Concept Plan.



## Beneficial Use of Dredge Material

- Sourcing local dredge material is the most cost-effective approach considering the large amount of material needed for the *Shoreline Flood Risk Reduction and Stormwater Project*, which is approximately 50,000 cubic yards. Three potential locations have been identified, to date.
  - Jenkins Creek at ~15,500 yd<sup>3</sup>
  - Lodgecliff Canal at ~2,000 yd<sup>3</sup>
  - Cambridge Creek Channel ~40,000 yd<sup>3</sup>



*The team will continue to look for potential dredge material. All potential dredge material will need to be tested and evaluated.*

## Review of Existing Data in Preparation for Project Design

- Environmental data
  - o Publicly available data for:
    - Living Resources
    - Finfish/shellfish (oysters)
    - Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)
  - o Trilogy letter submission for Rare, Threatened or Endangered (RTE):
    - USFWS
    - DNR – Wildlife and Heritage Service
    - DNR – Environmental Review Unit
- Cultural resources
- National Register of Historic Places
  - o The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP)
- Coastal data
  - o Water levels and wind data from NOAA tide station 8571892 in Cambridge, MD
  - o Wave data from the Chesapeake Bay interactive buoy system
  - o DNR littoral drift maps
- 2022 Orthoimagery
- Digital Elevation Models (DEM)
  - o 2013 – 16.2 cm vertical accuracy
  - o 2022 – updated to meet orthorectification standards
- City provided data from resilient plan development
  - o Buildings, roads, property lines, flood zone, utilities, etc.
  - o Layers updated 2021-2024

*Please review existing data listing. If you should have any additional data sources or know of updated data that should be considered, please advise.*

## Green Infrastructure Plan

- Andrew Koslow, Environmental Program Manager for the City of Cambridge discussed the draft Green Infrastructure (GI) Plan. The GI Plan focuses on the identification of best practices for implementation.
  - o Bioretention Cells
  - o Pervious Pavers
  - o Dry Detention Basins

- Bioswales
- As with previous planning documents, this Stakeholder Group will be asked to review and comment on the draft plan.
- Grant applications have been submitted for GI projects throughout the City.
  - Maryland DNR for Mill Street Nature Way
  - Chesapeake Bay Trust for Demonstration GI Projects around City Properties
  - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for Implementation of GI projects on Poplar and 400 and 500 Blocks of Race Streets, Pervious Paver Parking Lot, and Walkway at Mill St. School

## Public Outreach & Community Development

- A new public outreach event co-hosted by the Make Cambridge Resilient Initiative & ShoreRivers has been scheduled. This event is focused on ways property owners can assist in **Soaking Up The Rain**.
- The event is being advertised via social media, project website, and various media outlets.
- Speakers include Larry White and Matt Pluta who will provide a brief overview of the event, while City Engineer, Bucky Jackson, will provide an update on the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) project. Thereafter, Jennifer Klug Vaccaro, Community Restoration Coordinator with ShoreRivers will present rain garden and rain barrel usage, benefits, and installation.



- Rain Barrels will be provided at no cost, while quantities last, to interested attendees.
- Participants will complete a form that includes a check box indicating that they would like assistance with installation. Rain barrels will be delivered directly to property owner residence. Andrew Koslow along with intern(s) will assist with rain barrel installation for those homeowners who sign-up for assistance.
- Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet for community greening activities will be provided at the event. Volunteers who sign-up will receive notification of upcoming community volunteer opportunities. Registration link will be provided for each volunteer event as they are planned.
- Sign-Up Sheet for those who would like to participate in cost-share projects on their property such as the installation of rain gardens or other community greening type project. This will allow both the Make Cambridge Resilient Core Team & ShoreRivers to include in future grant applications, demonstrating both need and community buy-in.
- Sasha Land suggested that we continue to include information on the sign-up, use, and benefits of MyCoast. This will be added to the May 7<sup>th</sup> event.

## **Next Steps**

- Stakeholder Meeting #2 Meeting Notes
- May 7<sup>th</sup> Soak Up The Rain
- Stakeholder Meeting #3 - TBD
- Shoreline Flood Risk Reduction Project - Field Work
- Mill Street Nature Way Concept Design – Pending Grant Funding
- Coordination with Radio Station
- Grant Management
- Grant Application(s)

## **Additional comments provided by Stakeholder Group members included:**

- Sasha Land suggested that we contact the Waterways Group at DNR to discuss Gerry Boyle Park concept design for their input, specifically pertaining to the parking lot and boat ramp.
- Sasha Land also suggested reviewing the MyCoast tidal event data collected.
- Matt Pluta indicated that the City has a high rate of rental properties. Development of a strategy to address rentals should be developed.