

Overview

Select Board consensus request for input from Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee on developing guidance for Coastal Resilience Districts (CRD's).

CRD's are mapped districts in coastal areas where projects that aid in the retreat, protection or adaptation of the mapped area to be developed. This is a way of apportioning costs.

Timeline

Feedback to Select Board by September 1.

Suggest the introduction to the topic on 7/25, and collect initial reactions. Discuss and collect CRAC feedback on 8/8. Draft document on 8/22

Background

Review supplied background documents and legal opinion on Coastal Resilience Districts.

See legal opinion on using Home Rule Petition to create Coastal Resilience District(s).

Request

Bullet point guidance and / or succinct recommendations on Coastal Resilience District. This will be used to guide and draft the Home Rule Petition. Staff, consultants, and legal council will undertake the drafting.

Possible guidance on;

- How are districts defined and mapped?
- Is the whole island the district and specific benefit sub-districts are mapped on a needs basis?
- Is inclusion based on direct benefits? Should this include people who may benefit in the future?
- Guidance on benefits. 100% on beneficiaries or percentage on the Town
- Problems with Operation & Maintenance of projects.
- Easements for utilities.
 - Town – Water and Sewer
 - Private – Electric and telecommunications (phone, internet, cable)
- Hold harmless clause.
- Define coastal area; or risk area; or who may not benefit.
- Different or same benefits in flood zones or erosion zones
- Include sea level rise so that the districts can migrate as waters rise? Done by periodic review or is line with set parameters?

An aerial photograph showing a coastal bluff. At the top of the bluff, several houses are visible, along with a dirt road that runs along the edge. The bluff itself is a steep, eroded slope of light-colored sand and soil. In the foreground, a wide, sandy beach stretches along the water's edge. Numerous small, dark birds are scattered across the beach. The ocean is visible on the left side of the image, with white surf breaking onto the shore. The sky is overcast and grey.

Baxter Road & Sconset Bluff Joint Workshop Recap and Action Plan

Nantucket, Massachusetts

July 12, 2023

Joint Workshops Summary



Conservation Commission and Select Board met on March 21st and April 11th



Conducted **Scenario Planning** during first meeting.

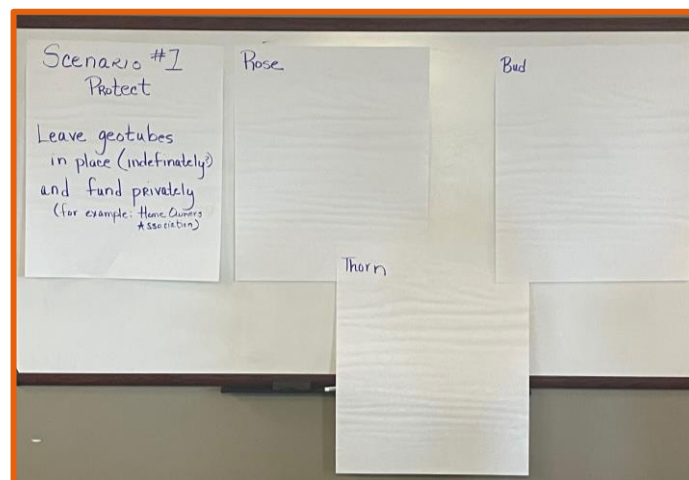


Outlined **Implementation Roadmap** during second meeting

Scenarios Considered

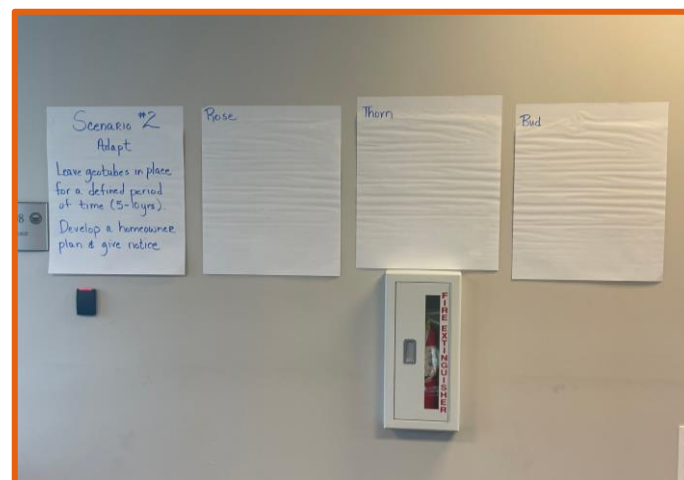
1 – Protect

- Leave geotubes in place (indefinitely?)
- Fund privately (for example: Homeowners Association)



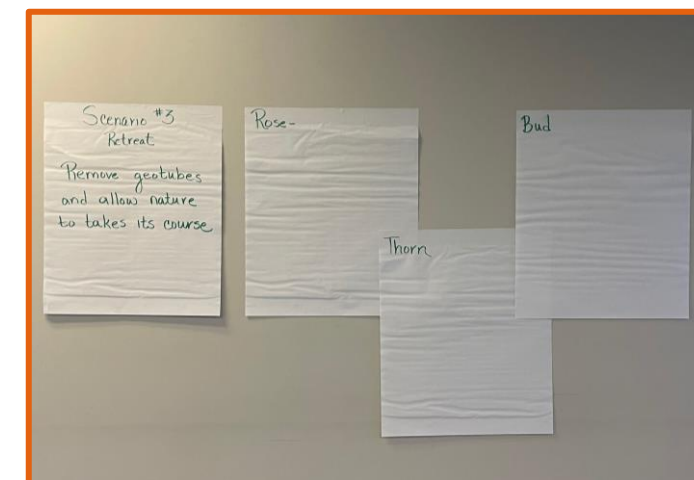
2 - Adapt

- Leave geotubes in place for a defined period of time (5-10 years?)
- Develop a homeowner plan and give notice



3 - Retreat

- Remove geotubes and allow nature to take its course



Scenario Planning



Timeline of Tasks (Roadmapping)



Participants created pre-planning lists in buckets under **Funding, Planning, and Agreements to seek.**



They then placed items from each list into a **timeline of tasks**

Next 30 days (short-term plan)
Next 60 days
60 days to 6 months
6 months to 1 yr
1 yr to 2 yrs

Sconset Bluff Near Term Action Plan

Near Term Actions summarized based on results of the Joint Select Board and Conservation Commission Workshops held in March and April 2023



Engage with Conservation Commission

- Review and Refine short-term plan
- Extend geotubes removal date - October 2023
- Define geographic extent:
 - Anything north of Bayberry.
 - Consider phased approach for implementation. Current geotubes then potential expansion based on Coastal Resilience District stakeholders.
- Establish acceptable removal date that facilitates planning
- File new NOI to bring existing system into compliance
 - Including makeup sand deficit and adaptive management sand maintenance proposal.



Review Current Reality

- MOU on North end revised
- NOI expired, removal order in place
- Makeup sand still needed / future sand maintenance requirements
- Funding and organizational structure needs (Consider Coastal Resilience District)



Engage and Begin District Discussions

- Identify potential Coastal Resilience District partners, stakeholders, legal documents and votes required
- Identify roles stakeholders could play in planning and execution
- Prepare draft of Coastal Resilience District - Identify milestone dates and votes needed



Makeup Sand Deficit

- SBPF to make up current sand deficit
- Agree to amount and resubmit/seek approval of Compliance Plan



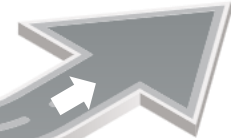
Begin to Engage Entire Town

- Webpage
- Public Meeting



Implementation Plan

- Determine town staff needed and current capacity, including whether additional consultants may be needed.
- Establish District or setup other funding sources



What is a Coastal Resilience District?

What is it?

- A Coastal Resilience District may be established in order to follow the principals adopted within the Town of Nantucket Coastal Resilience Plan and to provide organizational structure and funding for the purposes of protecting, adapting or retreating the area from the threats of climate change, coastal flooding, sea level rise, and coastal erosion.

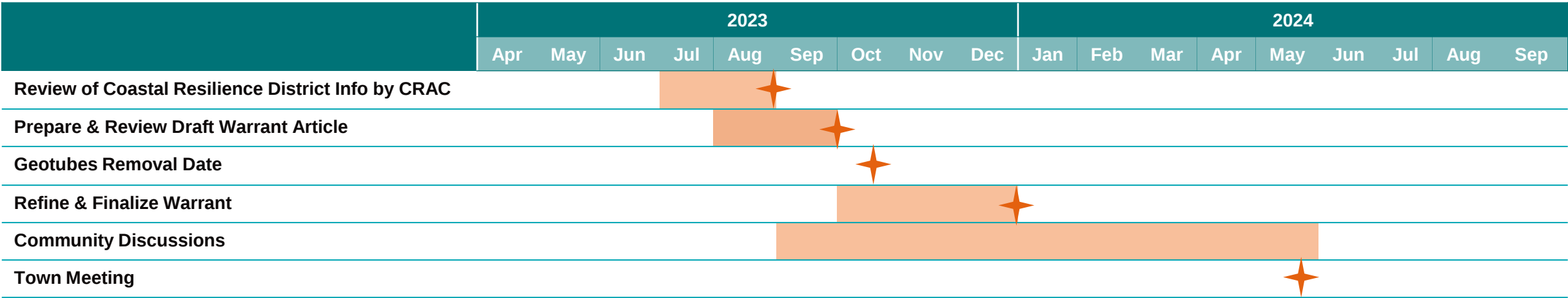
Why does it make sense? What are the benefits?

- Enables Town to fund projects such as constructing infrastructure improvements and providing erosion and coastal resilience services.
- Betterments, assessments, fees may be established under a District structure.

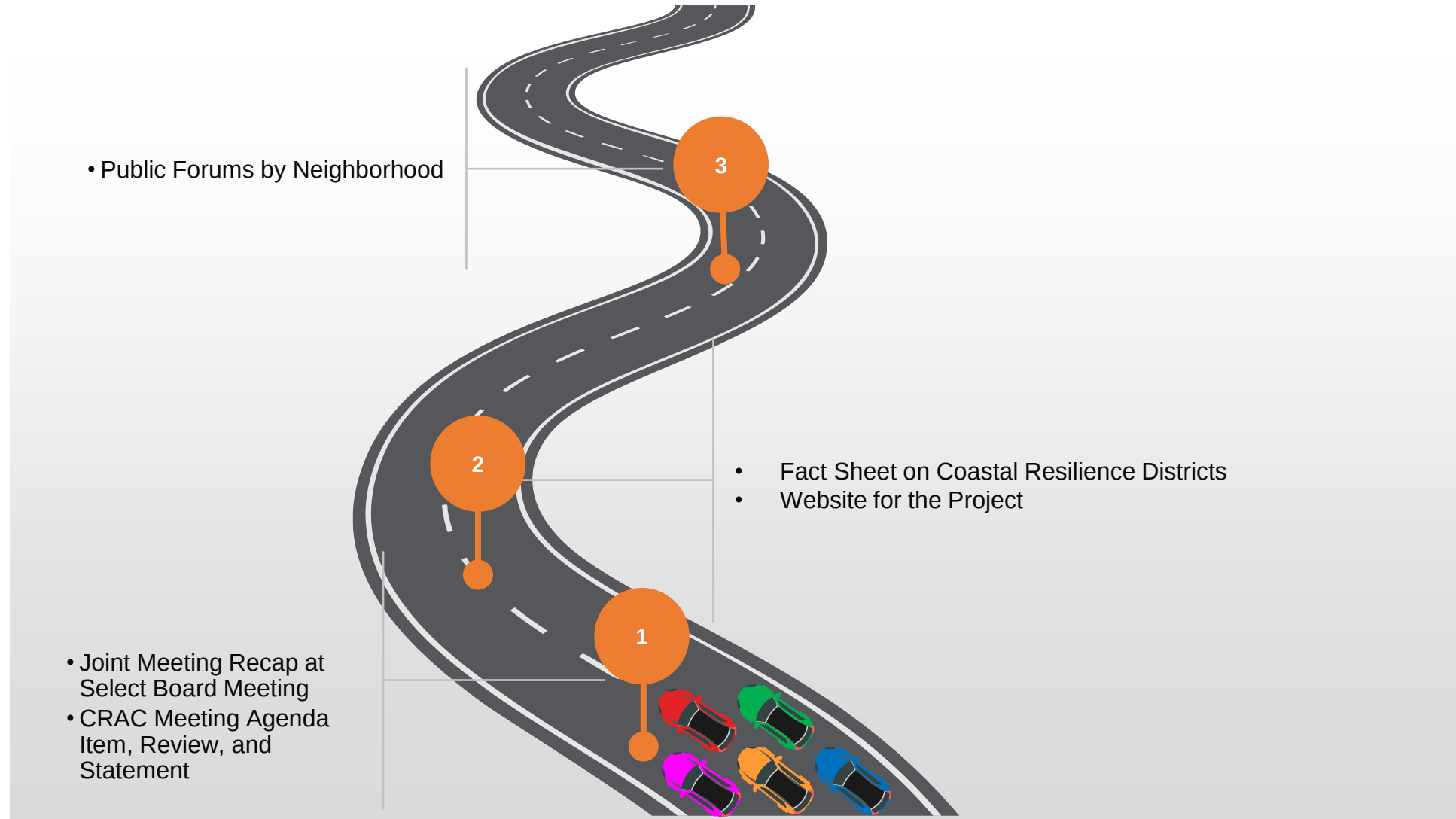
What are the District boundaries?

- Town would like to establish the legal authority to set up districts island wide, similar to geographic areas in the Coastal Resilience Plan.
- The first district would be located in Sconset to address the scenario planning based on the joint meetings.

Schedule



Begin District Discussions



Resources

Joint Meeting Packets

March 21 <https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/03212023-12491>

April 11 <https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/04112023-12492>

Joint Meeting Recordings

March 21 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4df5f52Oe7s&t=8s>

April 11 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EogzDhvXigs>

Baxter Road webpage

<https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/2653/Baxter-Road>

MEMORANDUM

TO: C. Elizabeth Gibson, Town Manager

**CC: William D. Arcadis, P.E. Project, Manager, Arcadis, Jennifer Lachmayr
Vincent Murphy and John W. Giorgio**

FROM: Vicki S. Marsh, Esq.

RE: Establishment of Coastal Resiliency Districts

DATE: June 19, 2023

You have requested I research the legal procedures available to the Town to establish a coastal resiliency district and the funding of the projects to be undertaken in a coastal resiliency district to address erosion and flooding, as contemplated for the Baxter Road Relocation Plan (the "Project"). The Town has considered the creation of a coastal resiliency district as a means which will enable it to fund the relocation of Baxter Road and its utilities as well as establish other districts in the Town which may similarly need to be created as circumstances may require similar coastal resiliency projects. The creation of a coastal resiliency district with geographical boundaries will enable the Town to fund the projects by means of assessment of betterments or the application for federal or state grants for the benefit of a defined coastal resiliency district.

In Massachusetts, there are generally three lawful procedures available for a municipality to establish a district; (1) Massachusetts General Laws, the applicability of which is dependent upon the purpose to be addressed by the establishment of a district, (2) special legislation filed pursuant to a home rule petition and (3) municipal Zoning and General Bylaws. In order to create a district the Town should consider the purpose of the district, the geographical boundaries of the district, the means to fund the improvements and relocation projects as needed, and consideration of implementing any restrictions or regulations with respect to the construction, repair and use of properties within the district.

Purpose of a District

The creation of a district within a municipality enables the municipality to manage environmental, wastewater or roadway matters for funding and constructing infrastructure improvements, managing the infrastructure projects or providing further erosion and coastal resiliency services. The districts are defined by geographical boundaries to limit the area to benefit from the project or protection contemplated. Similarly, as circumstances dictate, the Town could also create other coastal resiliency districts to address flooding or erosion effects and undertake certain coastal resiliency

projects for a particular district, to be paid by betterments assessed to the property owners benefitted.

In considering a purpose for the establishment of a coastal resiliency district, the Town's purpose for the creation of a Flood Overlay District as set forth in the Town's Zoning Bylaw, §139-12 H could provide the framework for describing the purpose of a coastal resiliency district as follows: "... to ensure public safety by reducing the threats to life and personal injury; prevent the occurrence of public emergencies resulting from water quality contamination and pollution due to flooding; avoid the loss of utility services which if damaged by erosion would disrupt or shut down the utility network and impact the community beyond the site of flooding; reduce costs associated with the response and cleanup of flooding conditions; reduce damage to public and private property resulting from flooding waters." This purpose is similar to the purposes the proposed coastal resiliency districts would serve, but not just limited to flooding, but also include the effects of erosion of the Town's beaches and bluffs.

Establishment of Coastal Resiliency District

In Massachusetts a municipality may establish districts by (1) Massachusetts General Laws, (2) special legislation and (3) municipal Bylaws and Regulations.

1. General Laws- In Massachusetts there is no specific General Law which authorizes the establishment of a district for the purpose of protecting a specific geographical area for the construction and funding of a coastal resiliency district or assessment of betterments to the property owners in that specific district. Although there is a Coastal Management Zone Office created pursuant to G. L. c. 21A, § 4, this statute does not provide the authority for the municipalities to create districts to oversee construction and funding for a coastal resiliency projects. Rather this Office creates policies and guidelines for the Massachusetts coastal zone management program. The purpose of the program is to provide for the same objectives and benefits of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act. The Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Office also oversees certain Grant Programs; however, those grants will not be sufficient to fund this project. Therefore, there is no state law currently enacted which give municipalities the authority to create a coastal resiliency district for the purposes of assessing betterments for coastal resiliency projects in a particular geographical area.
2. Special Act of the Legislature- The Massachusetts Constitution authorizes municipalities to file home rule petitions with the State Legislature requesting enactment of a special law. Special legislation has been filed by towns to establish a region-wide district or a district within its boundaries to manage a service within its boundaries that goes beyond or is inconsistent with applicable general or special laws. A town's legislative body must approve of a home rule petition before it can be filed with the Legislature. In Nantucket, the Town Meeting is the

Town's legislative body which must vote to approve of the filing of home rule petitions.

3. Municipal Bylaws and Regulations- Municipalities in Massachusetts may adopt zoning or general bylaws to regulate a wide range of uses and activities within all or a portion of their boundaries. Bylaws must be reviewed and approved by the Commonwealth's Attorney General. In considering whether to adopt a Zoning Bylaw or a General Bylaw to establish a district, the municipality must determine the purpose for which the district will be serving.
 - A. Zoning Bylaws: A zoning bylaw usually imposes restrictions on different districts or different land uses in a defined geographical area in a municipality. For example in Nantucket in the Zoning Bylaws, §139-12 H the Town has established a Flood Hazard Overlay District. This Zoning Bylaw imposes use regulations on activities in this Flood Hazard Overlay District for new construction, subdivision proposals and development in the district including structural and nonstructural activities must comply with certain regulations among other restrictions. The Town may wish to consider whether, at this time, an imposition of use regulations or restrictions in a coastal resiliency district is one of the intended purposes. If the Town is not seeking to impose restrictions on the use and development of the properties in a district, then it may conclude not to establish a coastal resiliency district by means of a zoning bylaw. Alternatively, the Town may wish to review the creation of a coastal resiliency district by a general bylaw.
 - B. General Bylaws: In comparison to zoning bylaws, general bylaws typically apply uniformly to all existing or new uses or activities subject to the bylaw, and requires only a majority vote of town meeting. An example of a bylaw is a wetlands protection bylaw that implements a local permit program with more stringent requirements than the state Wetlands Protection Act. However, the Town, by creating a district through a general bylaw, may not have the ability to fund the projects contemplated in a coastal resiliency district without additional legislation.

Considerations for Appropriate Legal Mechanism

Sine there is currently no Massachusetts General Law currently enacted which will authorize a municipality to create coastal resiliency districts within its boundaries and to undertake the necessary projects to protect the property within the district and provide for funding sources for such projects, the Town still may draft and file special legislation with the Legislature to meet the purposes of the district. Special legislation filed with the Legislature as a home rule petition allows the Town to create a district that meets its particular needs, by defining the geographical boundaries of the district, the types of projects to be implemented in the event of erosion and flooding in the coastal resiliency district and the funding for these projects.

An example of a municipality which filed special legislation to create a specific district within its boundaries in a manner that is inconsistent with applicable or general laws is Provincetown's passage of Chapter 157 of the Acts of 2000 . This Act provides the authority notwithstanding G.L. c. 83 that governs a municipality's authority to establish and manage a sewer system, that it may create a sewer district that limits the properties that may connect to the sewer to ones where an on-site septic system cannot be constructed on the property in compliance with Title V. As a result of this provision, Provincetown was exempted from the state law to give it the right to give property owners the right to connect to an abutting municipal sewer line with available capacity. This Act also was contrary to the requirements of G.L. c. 80 governing the assessment of betterments, by allowing the Town to defer imposing a betterment assessment on the properties adjoining the sewer system unless and until the property is actually connected to the sewer lines, rather than upon the completion of the sewer lines.

Although the Town is able to create a coastal resiliency district by approval of a General Bylaw at Town Meeting, the General Bylaw is unable to give the Town the authority to assess betterments for the coastal resiliency projects and costs incurred by the Town in preserving the coastal resiliency district. Chapter 99 of the Town Bylaws created the Nantucket and Madaket Harbor Watershed Districts and defined their locations. In addition it defines the purposes and activities permitted in the Watershed Districts. But it does not impose restrictions similar to those in the Zoning Bylaws and does not authorize any funding sources for the Town's management of the district.

In my opinion, the Town's filing of special legislation provides the best means to establish the coastal resiliency district, to define the geographical boundaries of the district, to authorize the Town to undertake the necessary projects to protect the property and residents in the district and the utilities and public roadways serving the district and to fund the Project by the assessment of betterments on the properties benefitted by the Project. Although the creation of a coastal resiliency district as a General Bylaw could define the geographical boundaries of the district, it will not provide the specific authority to fund the projects and authorize the assessment of betterments for the contemplated Project on Baxter Road.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please see attached List of reviewed Legal and Regulatory Statutes and Regulatory References.

Legal and Regulatory Citations

Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 80 and Chapter 83.

Section 6 of the Home Rule Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution and
Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 43B

Authority and Procedures for Adopting and Enforcing Municipal General Bylaws;
Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Sections 21, 31 and 21D

Authority and Procedures for Adopting Zoning Bylaws, Massachusetts General Laws
Chapter 40A

Town of Provincetown Special Legislation, Chapter 157 of the Acts of 2000

Town of Nantucket Code- Bylaws

Coastal Protection Districts

Introductory Fact Sheet (DRAFT)

What is a Coastal Protection District?

- Purpose of a District

The purpose of a district generally is to enable a municipality to be able to manage a particular issue in a particular geographical part of the municipality with defined boundaries. The district can address different issues such as environmental questions, stormwater management, wastewater, or roadway matters as a few examples. In this case the district is being established to address the effects of erosion and to a certain degree flooding which result in damage to homes, personal property, roadways and utilities.

- Benefits to the Town

The benefits to the Town are dependent upon the types of prevention and protection the Town may wish to undertake to protect the residents, the homes, the roadways and utilities. With the creation of a district, the Town can determine how best to target a specific geographical area to better prevent the erosion and to prepare for it by implementing certain protection projects. The creation of a district furthermore will enable the Town to be able to respond to a particular area of Town with certain response measures and reduce the potential damage from erosion by implementing certain projects such as the Baxter Road relocation of roadway access and utilities. Lastly, the creation of a district may enable the Town to either reduce the costs for these projects or at least help to fund these measures by the use of betterments of the residents in the district who will receive the benefit of these projects. Since the project will benefit a particular group of residents that other citizens of the Town are not benefitting from, the Town in my opinion, will be able to assess betterments to those residents in the district.

- Benefits to those in the District

The benefits to those in the district is to provide clarity to the residents that they are located in the geographical boundaries of the district, rather than wondering who will receive any services by the Town from the effects of erosion. Furthermore, they may have some input as to the type of protection they may require from the Town. But most importantly it will enable them to benefit from the Town's planning of prevention projects to protect their properties from the effects of erosion and planning of any projects such as the Baxter Road plan to provide them with access to their homes and to preserve the utility services.

- Can this be created for use island wide? Does it have to just cover Baxter Rd at this time? Can Home Rule Petition be generic to allow for creation of districts throughout the island for this need?

Briefly, the establishment process of a district could be applied to other areas on the island. However, you would need to determine the boundaries for each district established and provided each district does not have individual needs that need to be addressed. However, the authority that is granted to the Town could be more generic so that it can provide prevention

and protection from the effects of erosion as well as the payment for these projects and services. So it does not need to be created to apply to just Baxter Road. We would also need to create a process to establish the districts and the geographical boundaries of a district.

Steps to Create a District

The following items listed are issues that need to be addressed in establishing the district and also in drafting the Home Rule Petition.

- Define geographical boundaries, types of projects to be implemented, funding needed, etc.
- Town Meeting on Home Rule Petition
- Special legislation
- Set fee / betterments structure

Timeline Range (provide minimum, maximum, typical)

- Must go to Town Meeting (May 2024) to approve Home Rule Petition?

In order to file a Home Rule Petition with the Legislature, Town Meeting must first authorize the Select Board to file the Petition with the Legislature. Once it is filed with the Legislature it will need to move through hearings and vote so f Legislative committees before being voted on by the Legislature. Before the Petition is drafted the Select Board must decide the purposes to be accomplished by the special legislation. Then if the Select Board is requesting the authority to assess betterments to residents of the established district, the Select Board will want to review the assessments and the municipal financing questions to make sure they will be permissible under Massachusetts law. In addition, there will need to be an assessment of the coastal resiliency committee with the Arcadis consultants as to the geographical locations of the district. These are just a few of the considerations. Therefore, this will take some time to address these issues and draft the Home Rule Petition. It is my opinion that we should have enough time to have a Home Rule Petition drafted by January for review for the Articles on the Warrant.

- Is it possible to go to a Special Fall Town Meeting?

In my opinion, I do not think there is enough time to draft this Article thoughtfully with the necessary input and have it ready to be approved for the Special Town Meeting in November.

Estimate of Resources to Create the District

- Town Resources and time
- Legal / Engineering Fees
- Other

Fee / Charge Structure

- What is charged - Fees, Betterments, etc.?

Fees are often charged or assessed to residents for wastewater projects and water pollution projects as there is generally a finite amount that can be assessed yearly or a one-time assessment. However, in this case, betterments may be beneficial as each owner if the district will pay their proportionate share for the costs for the project to be constructed or service provided in the district. The Town may also wish to review how other states handle their coastal resiliency projects. Some states have established a coastal resiliency fund that is a state fund to address erosion and flooding prevention and protection.

Also in reviewing the assessment of betterments the Town will need to consider the term of the payment for the assessment of the betterments and the interest to be assessed.

- Funds must cover design, permitting, construction, operation and maintenance of any projects.

In order to assess a betterment pursuant to G.L. c. 80 the Town will need to have a cost of the contract for the project to be constructed and the owners then will be assessed their proportionate cost of the contract.

- Allow for other funding sources (grants, donations, etc.)

There are state grants and possibly federal grants available but they will need to be reviewed to see if the Town will qualify, the amounts of the grants, when the funds will be available and then the Town will need to complete the grant application. The question is the amount of grant funds that are available.

COASTAL RESILIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

COASTAL RESILIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CRAC)

**QUARTERLY REPORT TO
THE SELECT BOARD
FOR APRIL TO JUNE
2023.**

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE QUARTER

- Mary Longacre stepped down after 4 years of being Chair
 - Developed RFP for the CRP
 - Developed Coastal Resilience library on the Town website
 - Created a brochure “Improving Coastal Resilience At Home: A Nantucket guide for minimizing water damage to your property” for homeowners.
 - Developed the Coastal Resilience Plan and accompanying “Existing Conditions and Coastal Risk Assessment”
 - Several recommendations are complete and more underway and in development
 - 2020 recommendation adopted by Select Board to use NOAA’s high sea level rise in decisions, deliberation and planning
- Peter Brace and Leah Hill facilitated the coastal resilience table at the Harbor Plan’s public forum
- CRAC wrote a support letter for the “Feasibility Study and Design for Flood Barrier in Nantucket’s Historic Downtown Gateway” for CZM’s coastal resilience grant

Site Visit to Sconset

- Jeff Carlson, TON Director of Natural Resources Dept. led the visit
- Members saw the current physical conditions from ground level view from Codfish Park to Sankaty Lighthouse and learned about:
 - The landscape
 - Different coastal engineering structures being used for erosion control
 - Which forces are of significant threat at each location
 - If the beach at each location is accreting or eroding
 - Video can be seen here: [Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee | Nantucket, MA - Official Website \(nantucket-ma.gov\)](https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/coastal-resilience-advisory-committee)



Best Next Steps for Sconset Bluff Coastal Resilience

- Select Board asked CRAC to provide an opinion on what the committee's advice would be for the best way to move forward
- The site visit helped members do so
- A letter to the Select Board was finalized with CRAC's advice for Sconset Bluff



Market to Metacom Climate Resilience and Economic Development Plan in Warren, RI



- Presentation by Arnold Robinson, Associate Regional Planning Director at Fuss & O'Neil
- "The Town of Warren is working on an overall neighborhood plan that holistically addresses water quality and climate change challenges while promoting economic redevelopment. This plan will serve as an example of how to combine green infrastructure and climate change actions, such as retreat, in a manner that attracts a shift in private investment while improving the overall resilience of the neighborhood."
- Assessed 2 alternatives and put \$\$ amounts on them: No action or phased relocation and restoration
- <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/6243398bbb804cc794fbdfbf2e5a71co/page/Home/>

Zoning Bylaw Review Tool

- Published by EPA Southeast New England Program (SNEP) and Mass Audubon
- Goal:
 - Build community resilience through local regulations
 - Compare local land use regulations with best practices
 - Assist communities in applying cost-effective low impact development (LID) techniques
- Carl Borchert, CRAC and Planning Board member, introduced this tool
- Recommends PLUS explores the tool

Factors	Conventional	Better	Best	Community's Zoning	Community's Subdivision Rules & Regulations	Community's Site Plan Review	Community's Stormwater/LID Bylaw/Regulations
GOAL 1: PROTECT NATURAL RESOURCES AND OPEN SPACE							
Soils managed for revegetation	Not addressed	Limitations on removal from site, and/or requirements for stabilization and revegetation	Prohibit removal of topsoil from site. Require prep of soils compacted during construction	(Not applicable)			
Limit clearing, lawn size, require retention or planting of native vegetation/naturalized areas	Not addressed or general qualitative statement not tied to other design standards	Encourage minimization of clearing/ grubbing	Require minimization of clearing/grubbing with specific standards	Can be accessed here: https://snepnetwork.org/bylaw-review/ Webinars and how-to-trainings			
Require native vegetation and trees	Require or recommend invasives	Not addressed, or mixture of required plantings of native and nonnative	Require at least 75% native plantings				

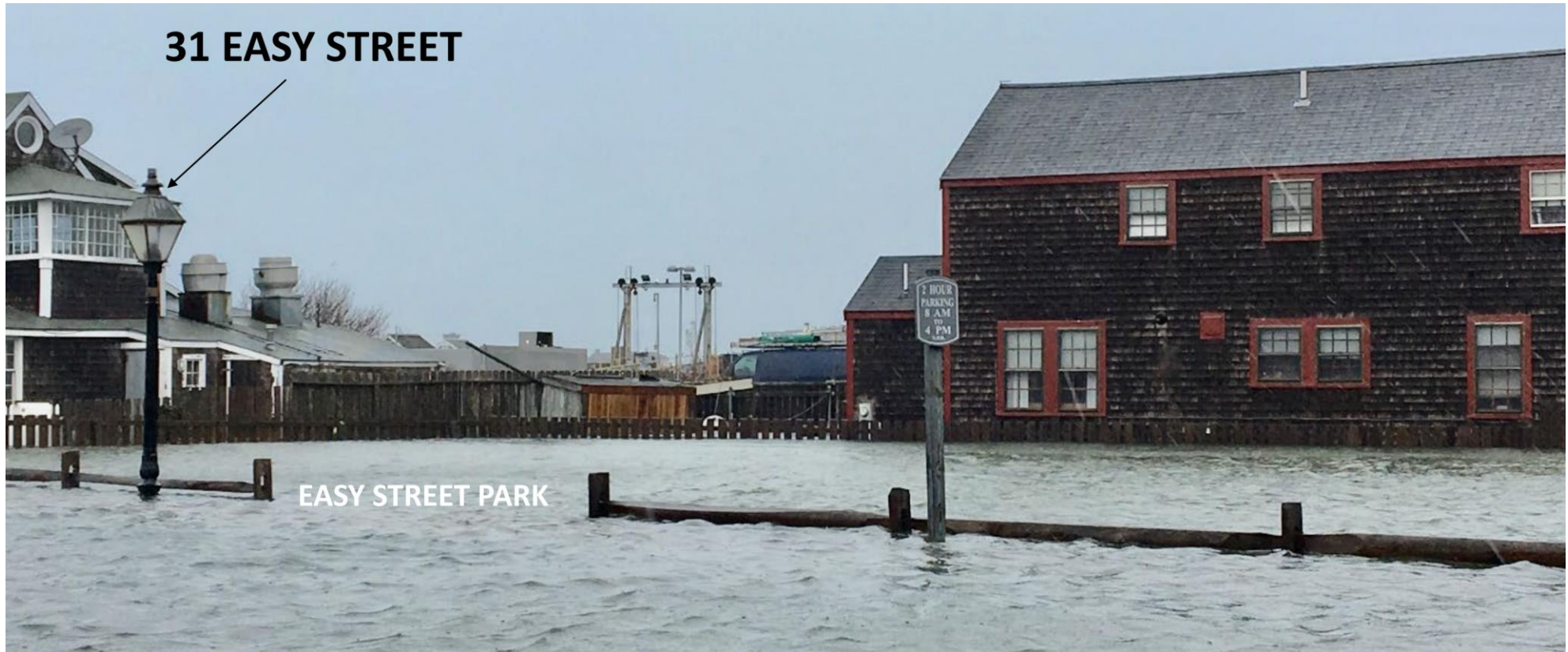
Discussion on Finance and Policy Topics

- CRAC is going to explore how to develop and implement funding opportunities for coastal resilience projects
 - To implement all 40 projects it is estimated to cost upwards of \$900 million
 - Projects recommended to be implemented in the next 10-15 years
- Within the CRP there are many policy recommendations so CRAC will determine which ones to focus on for implementation within the next year

2-4	Washington Street Extension and Consue Springs Walkway Raising	Road raising to prolong service life of Washington Street Extension and public access in Consue Springs	Structural	High: \$65M Low: \$58M O&M: \$720K	Not quantified; qualitative benefits include prolonging public access to Consue Springs natural area	2050
2-5	Building Scale Resilience at 37 Washington Street	Pilot project to showcase building-scale resilience best practices on a Town-owned facility, including potentially elevation of critical systems, protection of sensitive equipment and documents, and deployable flood risk reduction measures. The first step in this recommendation is a site-specific study to determine the appropriate risk mitigation approaches for this structure.	Structuvral	High: \$150K Low: \$50K O&M: NA	Not quantified; benefits are dependent on risk mitigation strategy developed through recommended site-specific study.	2024
2-6	Downtown Neighborhood Flood Barrier - Phase 1 Project	Phase 1 project to advance through feasibility and design a near-term project focused on the most vulnerable location along the planned extent of the Downtown Neighborhood Flood Barrier. The Phase 1 project should focus on the coastal segment located along Easy Street from Straight Wharf to Steamboat Wharf and may include raised bulkheads, sidewalks, and roadways.	Structural	High: \$13M Low: \$12M O&M: \$150K Note that these cost estimates are included in the costs for Project 2-2	\$120,000,000	2025

Town Meeting Articles 102 & 103

- Rachael Freeman from the Nantucket Islands Land Bank presented on Real Estate Acquisition: 31 Easy Street and Real Estate Conveyance: 31 Easy Street- eminent domain
- Critical piece of land for the Town and Steamship Authority for coastal resilience planning
- Potential to expand Easy Street Park



Requests & Recommendations

- CRAC recommends the Town hire a dedicated grant writer.
 - CRAC recommends including coastal resilience in the Select Board's Strategic Plan.
-
- Are there current or upcoming issues for which the Select Board would like the CRAC's advice?

"The CRAC recommends all Town Departments, Boards, Commissions and Committees and any service providers, contracted engineers and consultants need to be aware of and need to use the NOAA "High" scenario to accommodate current storm surge as well as Sea Level Rise in their decisions, deliberations and planning. These data are periodically updated by NOAA and will be posted on the CRAC page on the Town's website."

The Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee generally meets on the **second** and **fourth Tuesday** of each month at 10 am via Zoom. Meeting notices and agendas are posted on the Town's website at:

<https://nantucket-ma.gov/1391/Coastal-Resiliency-Advisory-Committee>

Contact Leah Hill, Coastal Resilience Coordinator, lhill@nantucket-ma.gov



Reflections on four years as Chair of the Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee.

I am extremely proud of the work the Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee has done since being established in 2019. We started by reviewing the current conditions as reported in the “2020 Risk Assessment and Resiliency Strategies” report and various government resources, then worked, in an unprecedented manner, hand in hand with the Coastal Resilience Coordinator to draft the Request for Proposals for the Coastal Resilience Plan. We developed a library of resources on the Town’s website for local reports, state and federal information, and understanding what other communities are doing about coastal resilience. We created a brochure “Improving Coastal Resilience At Home: A Nantucket guide for minimizing water damage to your property” for homeowners. Working with a team of consultants lead by Arcadis, we developed the Coastal Resilience Plan and accompanying “Existing Conditions and Coastal Risk Assessment” report through a process featuring significant public engagement. Several recommendations from the CRP are already completed, and more are underway or in development.

In 2020, the Select Board adopted our recommendation that “all Town Departments, Boards, Commissions and Committees and any service providers, contracted engineers and consultants need to be aware of and need to use the NOAA “High” scenario to accommodate current storm surge as well as Sea Level Rise in their decisions, deliberations and planning” and we have seen this recommendation implemented throughout Town departments and incorporated in updated plans.

My thanks to the Select Board for their commitment to safeguarding Nantucket’s future by establishing the Committee and to Town Administration for creating the Coastal Resilience Coordinator position and designating funds for both the Coastal Resilience Plan and implementation of its recommendations. It has been a joy to work with Vince Murphy, and with his successor Leah Hill. My thanks also to the CRAC members, especially those who have served all four years with me, for their support, dedication, and contributions.

Mary Longacre, Chair, Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee, 2019-2023