
Highlands, NJ Vulnerability to Sea-Level-Rise and Coastal Storm Damage

October 7, 2024



Agenda

- Introductions
- Highlands' Vulnerability to:
 - Sea-level-rise
 - Coastal storms
 - Stormwater flooding (precipitation)
- Potential Projects to Address Vulnerability:
 - Highlands & Monmouth Hills Flood Mitigation & Green Infrastructure Project
 - US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Coastal Storm Risk Management Project
- Recap
- Q&A



Introductions



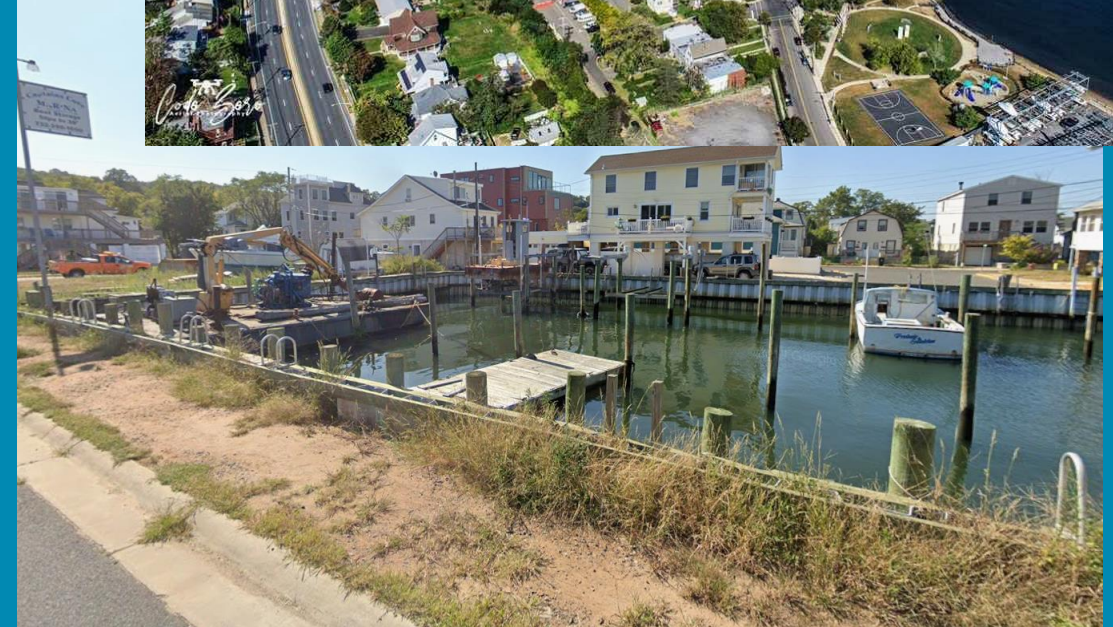
- Carolyn Broullon
 - Mayor, Borough of Highlands

- Shawn LaTourette
 - Commissioner, NJDEP
- Jenn Moriarty
 - Assistant Commissioner, NJDEP Watershed & Land Management
- Vince Mazzei
 - State Floodplain Administrator, NJDEP

- Colonel Alexander Young
 - Commander, USACE NY District
- Bethany McClanahan
 - Project Manager, USACE NY District

Why is Highlands vulnerable to flooding?

- The land is naturally low-lying
- Inadequate/inconsistent bulkhead heights
- Backup of stormwater drains



What types of flooding is Highlands vulnerable to?



Date: Oct. 29, 2012 (Hurricane Sandy)

Location: Gravelly Point Road



Date: Oct. 29, 2012 (Hurricane Sandy)

Location: Sea Drift Ave



SHOREGRAFX

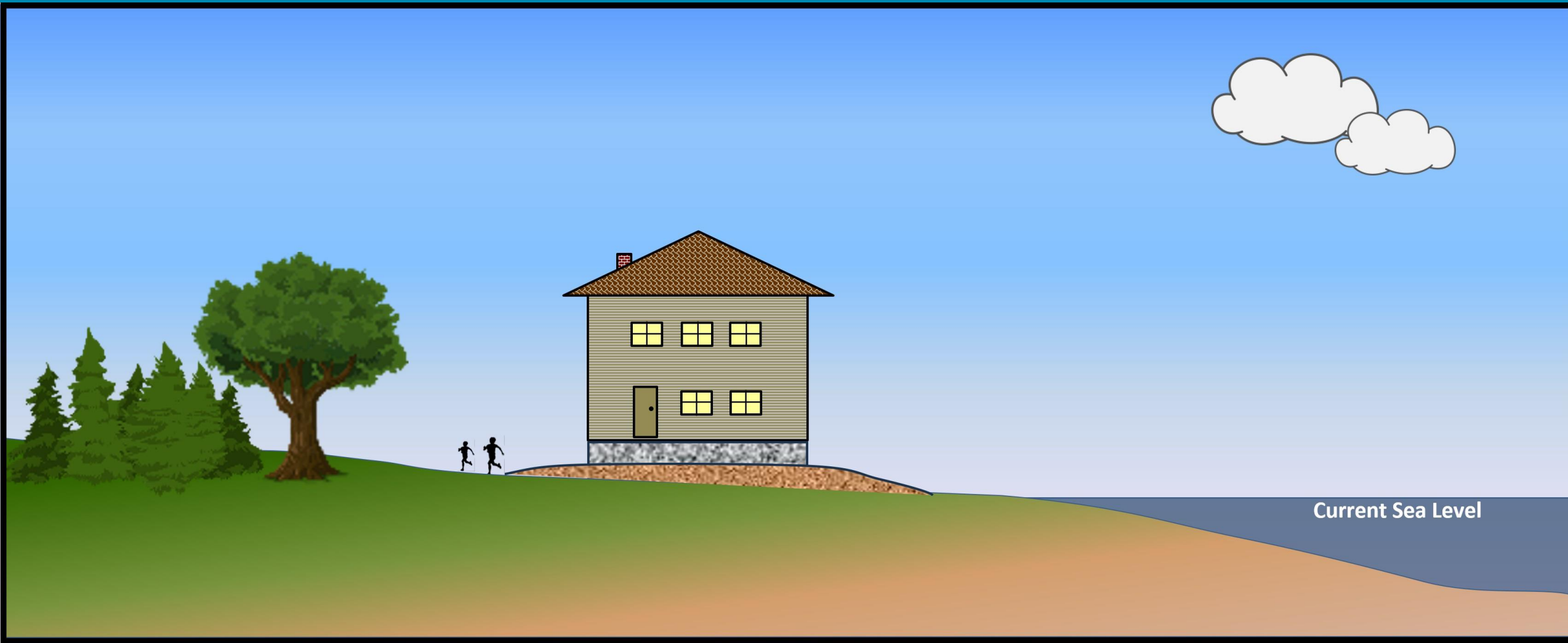
Flooding from Backed-Up Stormwater Drains



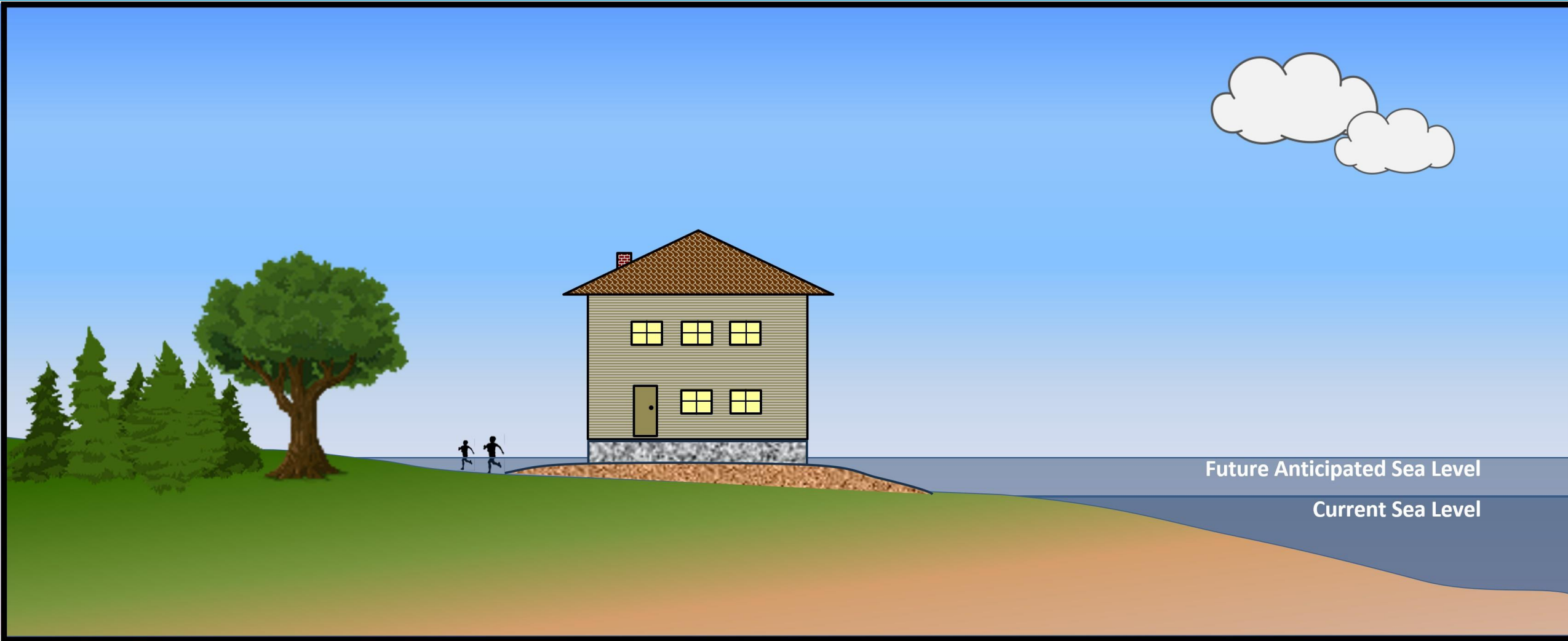
Flooding from Rainfall Runoff



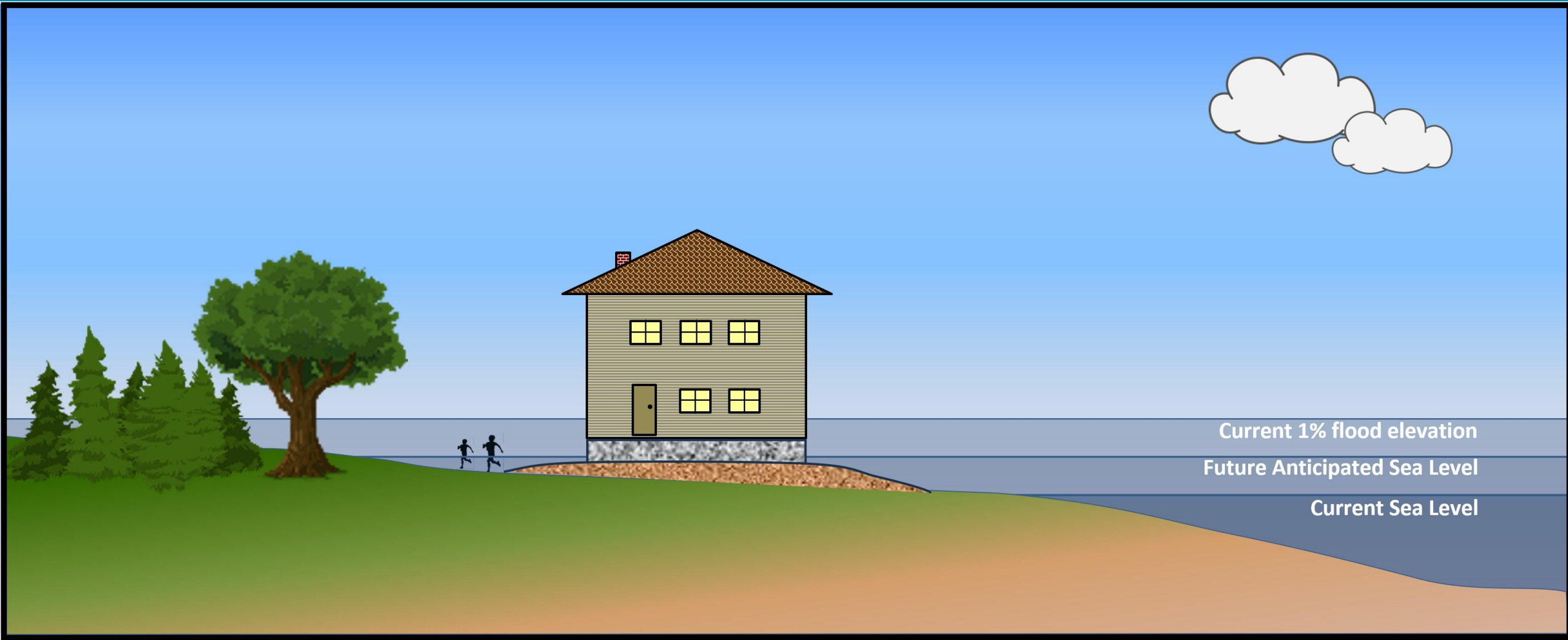
Vulnerability to Sea-Level-Rise



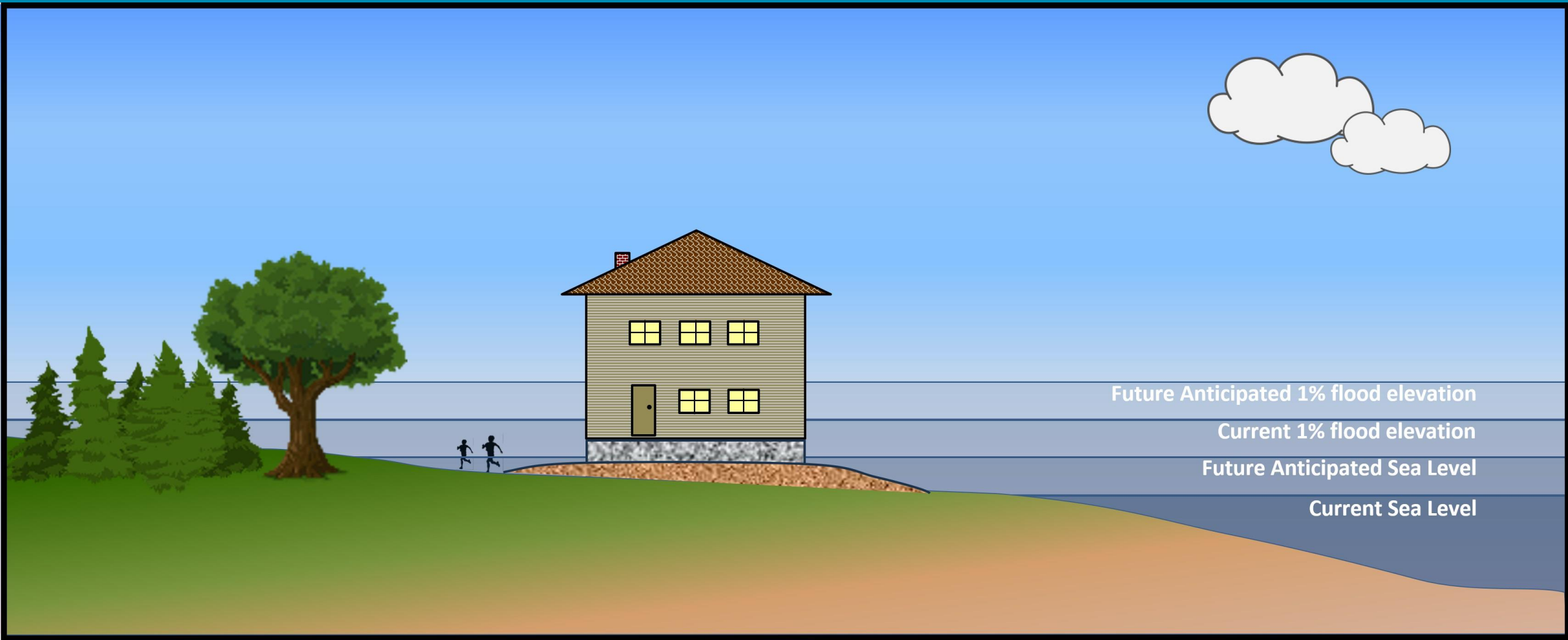
Vulnerability to Sea-Level-Rise



Vulnerability to Sea-Level-Rise



Vulnerability to Sea-Level-Rise

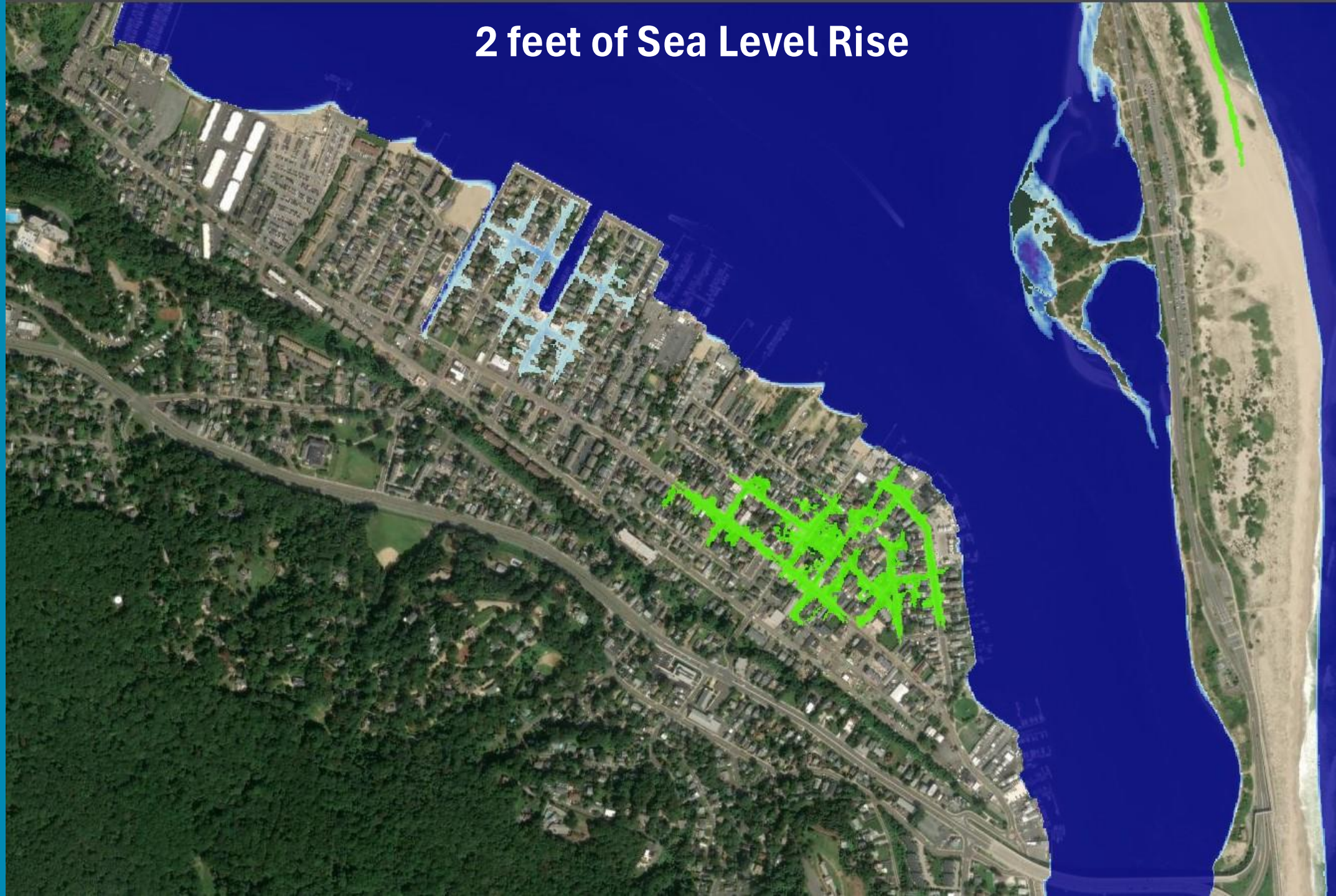




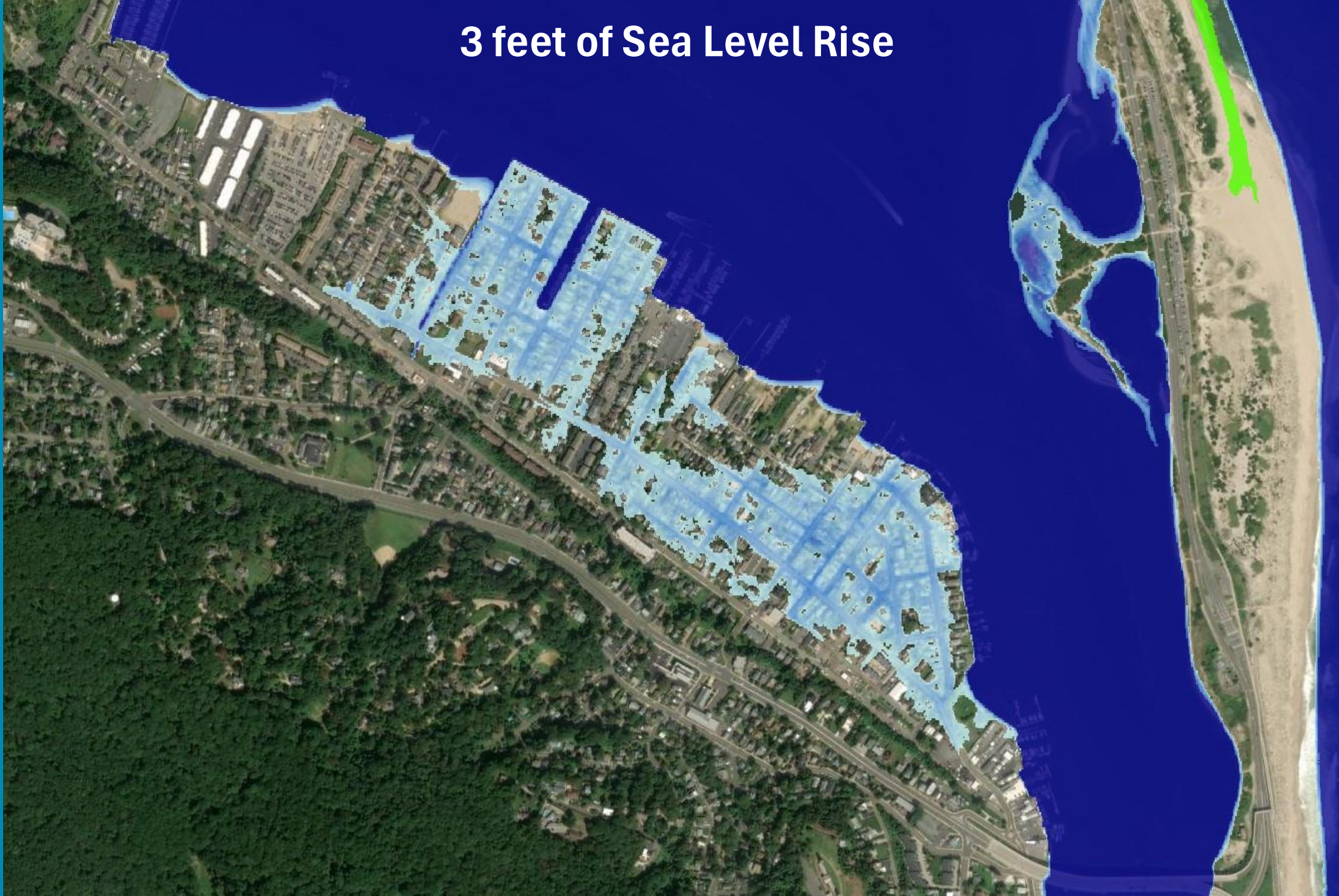
1 foot of Sea Level Rise



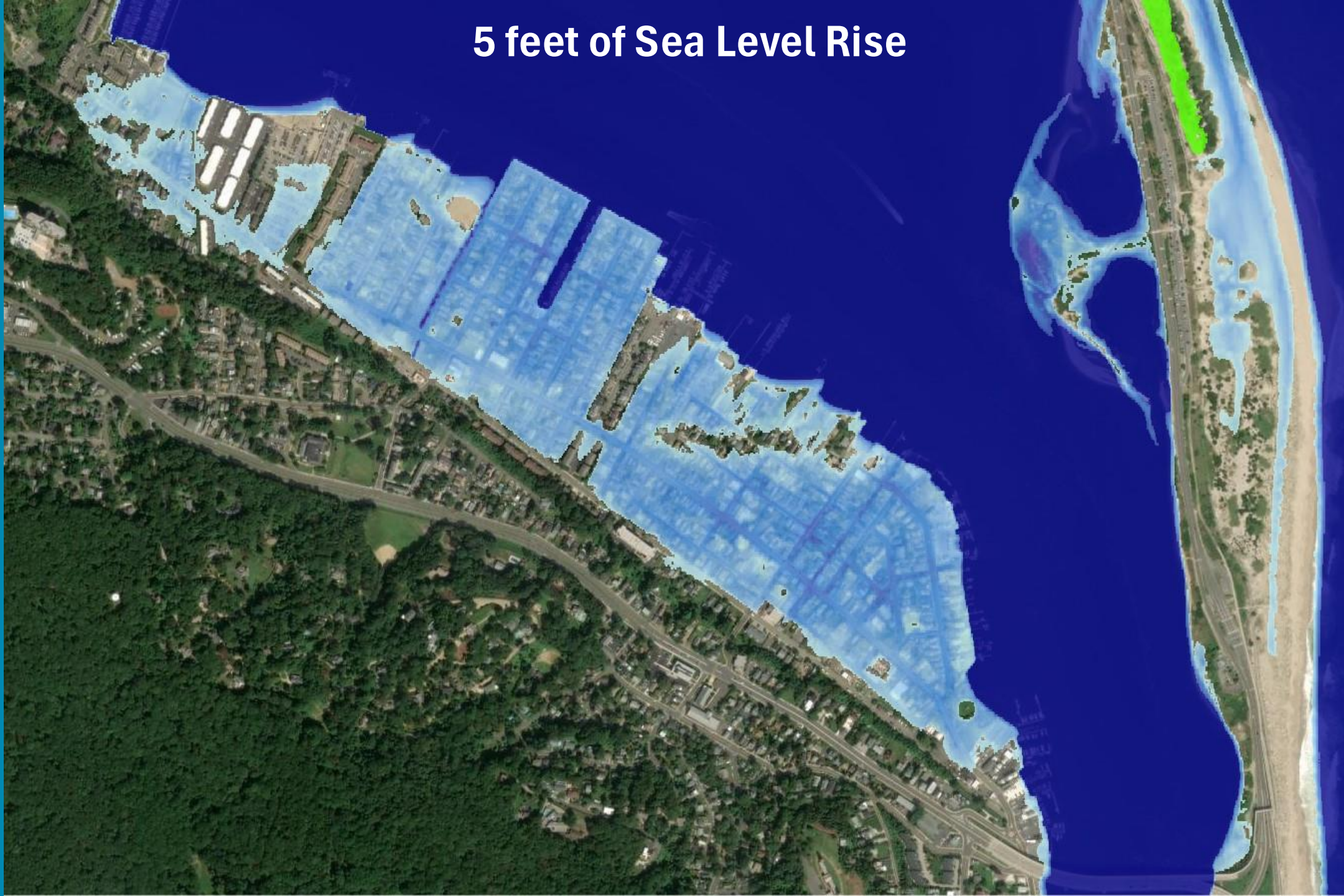
2 feet of Sea Level Rise



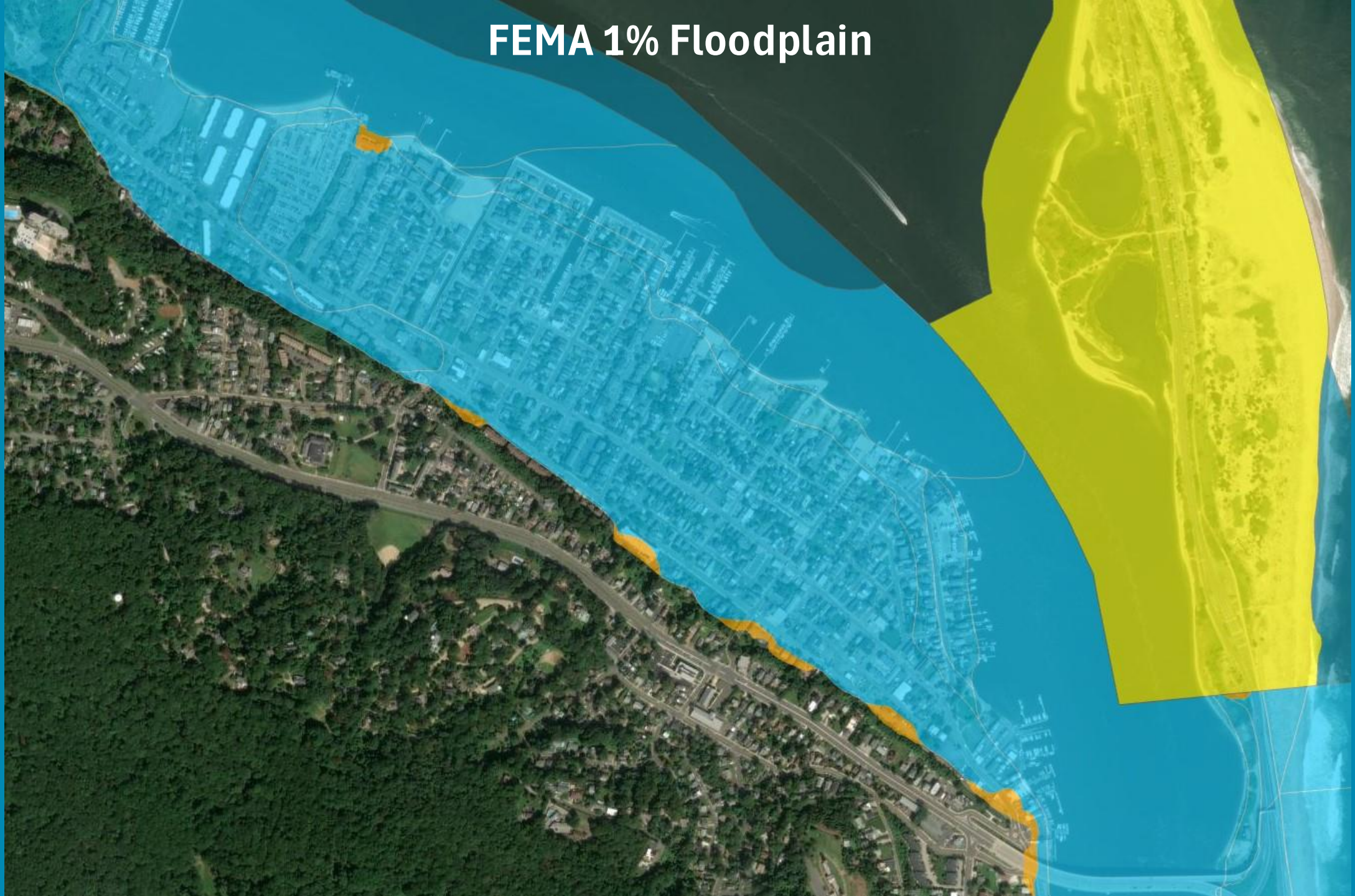
3 feet of Sea Level Rise



5 feet of Sea Level Rise



FEMA 1% Floodplain



Bay Ave & North St

Hurricane Sandy High Water Mark +
Sea-Level-Rise

Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

Hurricane Sandy
High Water Mark
(~10.5 NAVD88)



October 29, 2012

Bay Ave & North St

Present Day Storm Levels



Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)



FEMA 100-Yr Storm

50-Yr Storm

10-Yr Storm

2-Yr Storm



Bay Ave & North St

2-Yr Storm + Sea-Level-Rise

Year	Likely Sea Level Rise
2030	0.5 – 1.1 feet
2050	0.9 – 2.1 feet
2070	1.4 – 3.1 feet



Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

2070
2050
2030

2-Yr Storm
(6.1 NAVD88)

October 29, 2012

Bay Ave & North St

10-Yr Storm + Sea-Level-Rise

Year	Likely Sea Level Rise
2030	0.5 – 1.1 feet
2050	0.9 – 2.1 feet
2070	1.4 – 3.1 feet



Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

2070

2050

2030

10-Yr Storm
(8.0 NAVD88)

October 29, 2012

Bay Ave & North St

50-Yr Storm + Sea-Level-Rise

Year	Likely Sea Level Rise
2030	0.5 – 1.1 feet
2050	0.9 – 2.1 feet
2070	1.4 – 3.1 feet



Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall

(14.0 NAVD88)

2070

2050

2030

50-Yr Storm

(10.2 NAVD88)

October 29, 2012

Bay Ave & North St

FEMA 100-Yr Storm + Sea-Level-Rise

Year	Likely Sea Level Rise
2030	0.5 – 1.1 feet
2050	0.9 – 2.1 feet
2070	1.4 – 3.1 feet



October 29, 2012

Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall

(14.0 NAVD88)

2070

2050

2030

FEMA 100-Yr Storm

Base Flood Elevation

Zone AE (11.0 NAVD88)

Marine Pl (West)

Present Day Storm Levels

Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

= FEMA 100-Yr Storm

50-Yr Storm

10-Yr Storm

2-Yr Storm



Marine Pl (West)

2-Yr Storm + Sea-Level-Rise

Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

2070
2050
2030
2-Yr Storm
(6.1 NAVD88)

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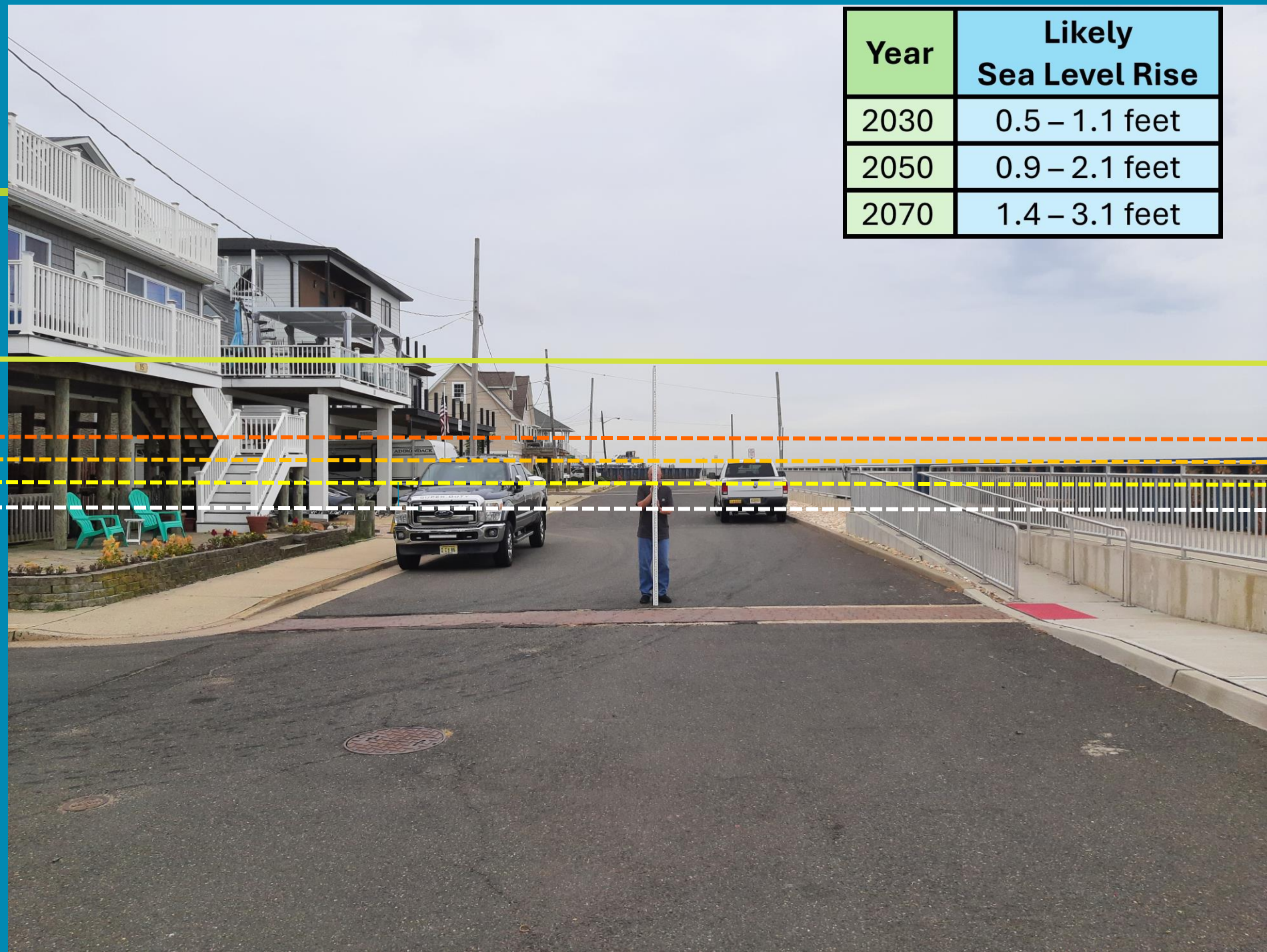
Marine Pl (West)

10-Yr Storm + Sea-Level-Rise

Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

2070
2050
2030
10-Yr Storm
(8.0 NAVD88)

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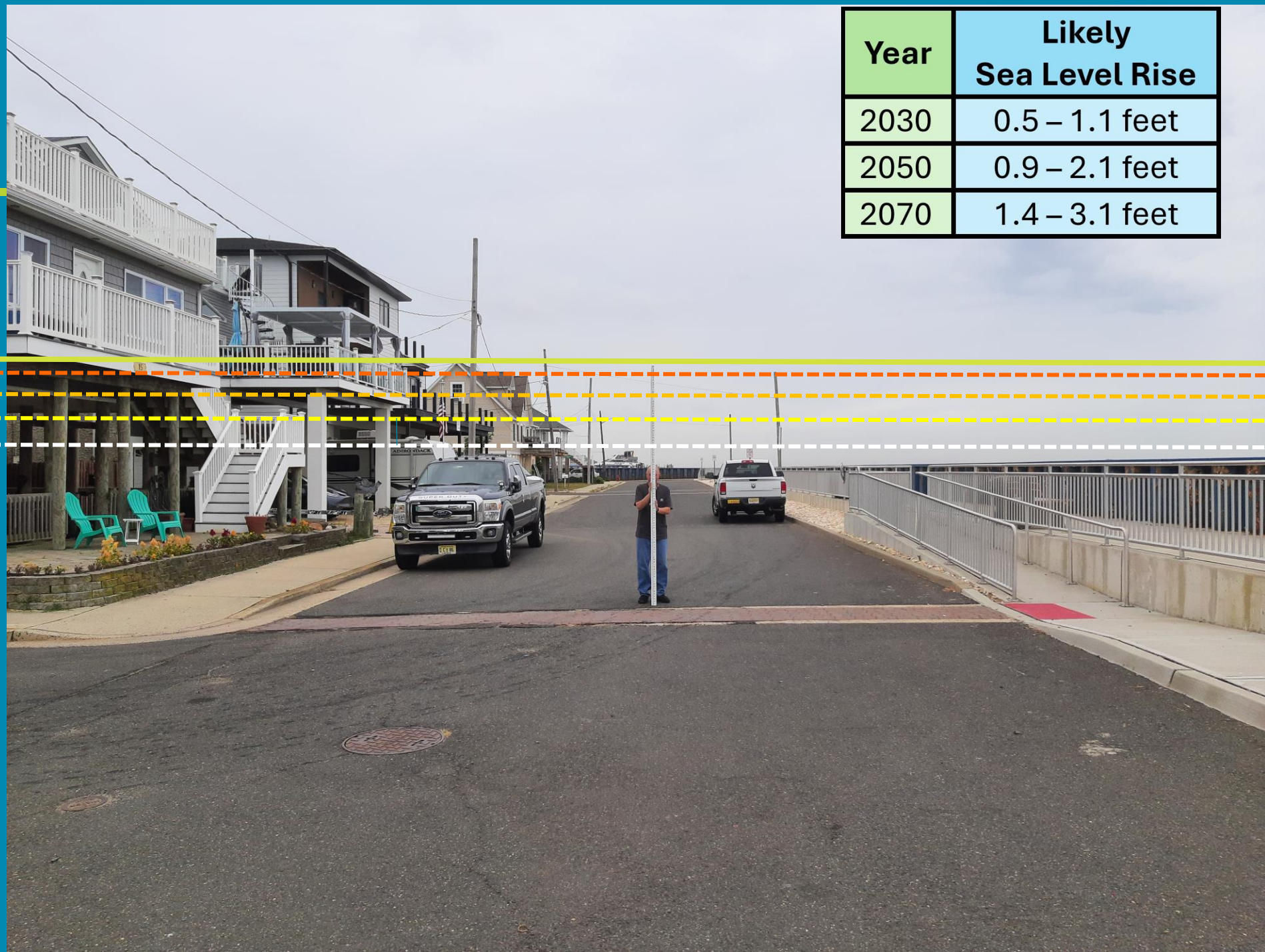
Marine Pt (West)

50-Yr Storm + Sea-Level-Rise

Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

2070
2050
2030
50-Yr Storm
(10.2 NAVD88)

Year	Likely Sea Level Rise
2030	0.5 – 1.1 feet
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Washington Ave (Captains Cove)

Present Day Storm Levels

Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

FEMA 100-Yr Storm

50-Yr Storm

10-Yr Storm

2-Yr Storm

Year	Likely Sea Level Rise
2030	0.5 – 1.1 feet
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10.1'

Washington Ave (Captains Cove)

2-Yr Storm + Sea-Level-Rise

Year	Likely Sea Level Rise
2030	0.5 – 1.1 feet
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Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

2070
2050
2030
2-Yr Storm
(6.1 NAVD88)



10.1'

Washington Ave (Captains Cove)

10-Yr Storm + Sea-Level-Rise

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Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

2070
2050
2030
10-Yr Storm
(8.0 NAVD88)



10.1'

Washington Ave (Captains Cove)

50-Yr Storm + Sea-Level-Rise

Proposed Height of
USACE Floodwall
(14.0 NAVD88)

2070
2050
2030

50-Yr Storm
(10.2 NAVD88)

Year	Likely Sea Level Rise
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10.1'

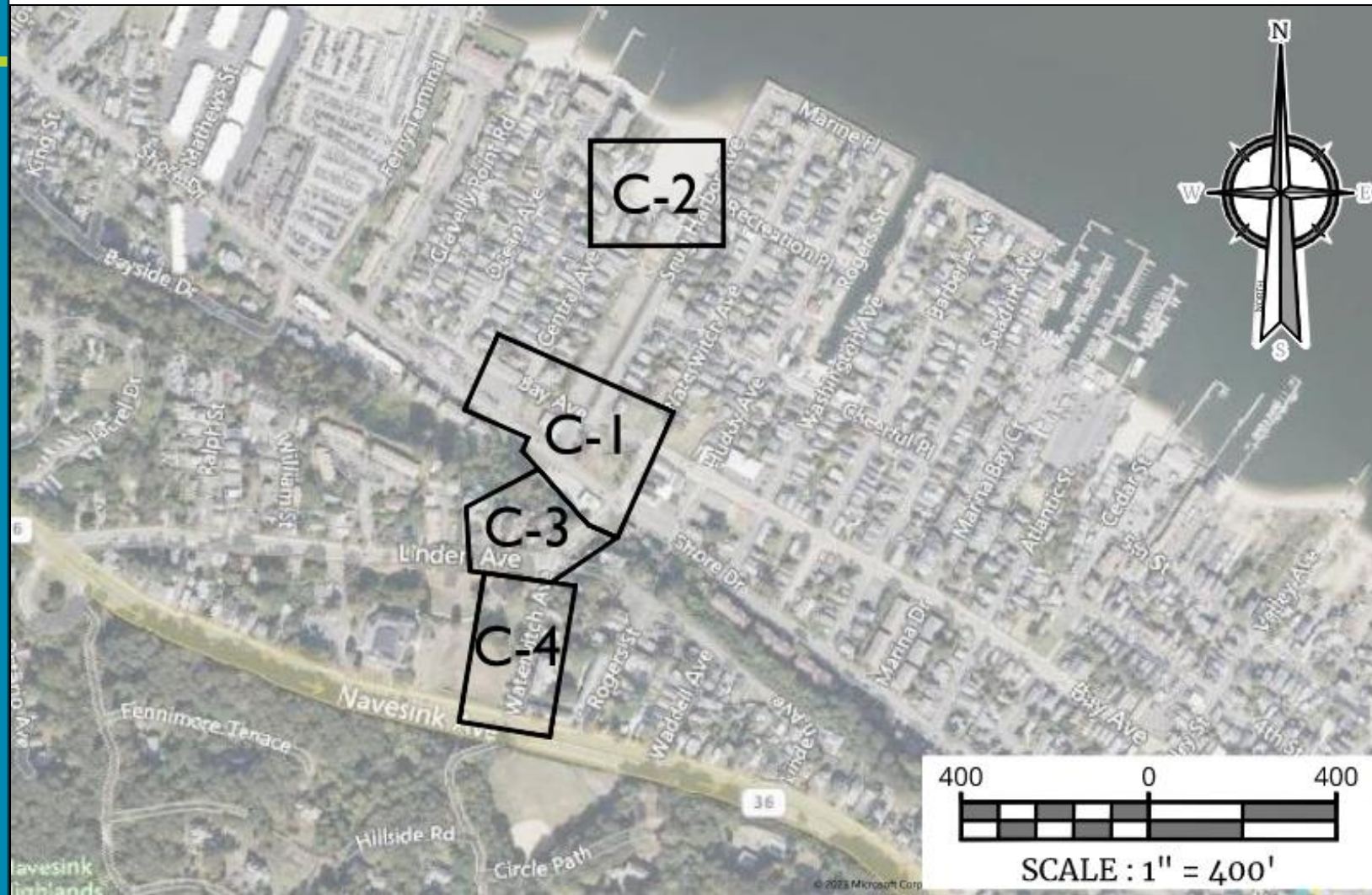
Highlands & Monmouth Hills Flood Mitigation and Green Infrastructure Project

**Zone 1 - Borough of
Highlands Pump
Station
Improvements –
consisting of Snug
Harbor Pump Station,
Valley Street Pump
Station, and North
Street Pump Station**



Highlands & Monmouth Hills Flood Mitigation and Green Infrastructure Project

Zone 2 – Waterwitch Avenue Drainage Improvements



Highlands & Monmouth Hills Flood Mitigation and Green Infrastructure Project

Zone 3 – Monmouth Hills Drainage Improvements



USACE Coastal Storm Risk Management Project

- Project Description
 - Reinforced Concrete Floodwall
 - Road Closure Gate (Phase 1)
 - Detention Pond
 - Pump Station
 - Pressurized Pipes
- Status
 - Design of Phase 1 ongoing.
 - Design and construction of all project components to be complete by 2030 at the earliest.
- Funding
 - Total Estimated Construction Cost = \$148M
 - 65% Federal Share = \$96M
 - 35% Non-Federal Share = 96M
 - 75% State Share = \$39M
 - 25% Local Share = \$13M



USACE Project: Features



USACE Project: Veterans Park

Phase 1: Road Closure Gate across Bay Ave



USACE Project: Floodwall Examples



USACE Project: Flexibility

- Aspects of the project that can still be modified:
 - Specific alignment and offset of the wall at each property
 - Crossover and access configuration
 - Aesthetic finish of the wall
- Aspects of the project that cannot be modified:
 - Top of wall elevation 14.0 NAVD88
 - Reinforced concrete-type floodwall



USACE Project: Next Steps

1. Finish Design
2. USACE and NJDEP sign Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) for construction
3. NJDEP and Borough sign State Aid Agreement (SAA)
4. Obtain Easements
 - a) Perpetual easements will be needed on both public and private property
 - b) Property owners will have the following options:
 - Donate easement/voluntary
 - Request appraisal for compensation
 - Eminent domain (if amount of compensation cannot be agreed upon)
5. Construction
6. Operation & Maintenance



Recap

- Highlands is highly vulnerable to flooding
- Flooding will continue to get worse and more frequent
- USACE, NJDEP, and the Borough are proposing several projects that will help reduce flooding and flood damage
- The Highlands Coastal Storm Risk Management Project will help keep the water out and greatly reduce vulnerability from bay flooding

Thank you!

Please take the opportunity to fill out the Highlands Flood Vulnerability Survey if you haven't already:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FloodingVulnerability>

Questions & Answers