

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Howard Tipton, Town Manager
From: Charles Mopps, Assistant Public Works Director
Report date: March 7, 2023
Meeting date: March 20, 2023
Subject: Sea Level Rise & Resiliency Comprehensive Adaptation Plan – Phase 4 Update

Recommended Action

None, informational only.

Background

The Town initially engaged APTIM Environmental and Infrastructure (APTIM) in 2018 to provide a practical, high-level overview of impacts from sea level rise and recurrent flooding, and then to develop recommendations for adaptation. The APTIM team developed a four-step approach to accomplish this effort:

1. Initial Assessment
2. Define Impacts
3. Adaptation Strategies
4. Implementation Plan

The Initial Assessment to establish a practical baseline and projection period was completed in the Fall of 2018. Subsequently, the Town authorized APTIM to work on the Phase 2 data collection and analysis. That effort was completed in 2021 and an update provided to the Town Commission on at their November 15, 2021 Regular Workshop Meeting.

The Town authorized APTIM to complete Phase 3 and Phase 4 earlier this year. APTIM has provided the results of their Phase 3 efforts at the June 20, 2022 Town Commission Regular Workshop Meeting. Phase 3 included re-baselining to the State-required scenario years of 2040 and 2070, and also using the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Intermediate Low and Intermediate High predicted curves.

The Phase 4 Comprehensive Adaptation Plan will function as a road map for future CIP and operations planning, pursuit of grant funding, as well as a guidance document for future development of Town Code amendments as needed.

APTIM will provide a final presentation, highlighting aspects of the Plan, to the Commission on March 20, 2023. The following topics will be discussed:

- The Sea Level Rise and Recurring Flooding Resilience Plan will be reviewed. The plan includes a collection of best practices, administrative actions and projects intended to prepare the Town of Longboat Key for changes in asset management and operational needs likely to manifest as sea level rises. The plan consists of six overarching objectives and twenty-five actions to be implemented in the next 5, 10 and 20 years. No major immediate actions need to be taken. The schedule is flexible. Some of the actions are new, while some overlap with existing programs and projects. The objectives include the following strategies:
 - Mitigate tidal flooding
 - Prepare for active stormwater management
 - Protect public assets and natural areas
 - Leverage redevelopment to implement adaptation
 - Engage community to build resilience
 - Continue to integrate resilience into the capital program
- Capital Plan Recommendations. Although the Town has worked to protect critical assets to date, changes in future conditions will require effort for some stormwater, recreation and community assets to remain operational. Estimates of the project costs by time horizon are provided. The cost of the program should be viewed as an investment in the Town's future. The Town's cost would be manageable and grant funding is available. Private investment is required to protect private assets. Actions will require leadership to appropriately plan, (fund) and implement in a comprehensive way. With this plan, the Town is now eligible for State funding for resilience projects and prepared with a list of priorities to address.

Next Steps

Use the completed four-phase Comprehensive Adaptation Plan to pursue grant funding opportunities, plan Capital Improvement Program projects with available project and matching grant funding, and adopt modifications to Town Code over time as needed.

Staff Recommendation

None, informational only.

Attachments

- A. Summary of the March 20, 2023 presentation (Available in Town Clerk's Office)
- B. PowerPoint Presentation (Available in Town Clerk's Office)
- C. Sea Level Rise and Recurring Flooding Resilience (Available in Town Clerk's Office)

End of Agenda Item