

**Bayside Flooding and Stormwater Management Working Group**  
**Meeting minutes**  
**5 Feb 2025**

The meeting was called to order on ZOOM at 11:05 after a flag salute with Tim Leahy, Tim Bergin, Jay Ryan and Jon Miller in attendance.

Tim Leahy discussed the fact that notice of the BRIC grant award has not come from FEMA/DEMA, and that recent announcements about FEMA funds freeze from Washington are not welcome news. It was noted that the BRIC grants were not singled out for further review, but funding schedules are not clear at all. Group members discussed that alternate funds will be needed in all cases and that town should begin process of setting up a resiliency fund, as has been recommended in studies commissioned over the last year. Tim Leahy mentioned that Susan Brennan plans to start a conversation on this topic at the IC meeting on 11 Feb.

The working group members discussed the demonstration flood protection project at the end of Farmington St, and pricing for the HESCO barriers was reviewed. Though not expensive, the HESCO product seems to be a larger scale that is needed at this site. The group discussed the idea that our team could design the small project consisting of paving changes, a low sea wall along the street and a retention basin. the feasibility of construction using town staff was raised since it is a simple design. It was agreed that Tim L would run the idea by Mike Locke before t IC meeting on 11 Feb to see if he thought on town staff doing the work.

The current BRIC grant request for proposal draft was further reviewed and changes were discussed. The primary change is to add the concept of taking several demonstration projects through 100% design so the town can move sooner on taking real action. On flood mitigation. The most flood-prone area such as Georgetown/BoraBora and Mermaid/South Carolina would be targeted. Also, alternate cost proposals methodologies were discussed. One alternat to a fixed price contract was discussed. It involved defining a fixed budget (roughly the grant amount) and asking engineering firms to respond with the extent of the scope which could be perform in than defined budget. This approach was deemed feasible by the group. Tim Leahy will create a new draft for comment.

Another source of flooding problems, properties without bulkheads or failing bulkheads was raised by Tim Bergin. The notion of the town taking action to require property owners to correct failing bulkheads was raised. Code is in place to address these issues. It was agreed it could be raised to the Infrastructure Committee for further action.

During the Public Participation part of the meeting, Janice Bortner shared that she was in attendance to learn about the group efforts and possibly coordinate with some Residential Concerns training sessions for property owners.

The working group members moved to close the meeting at 11:55