

Bayside Flooding and Stormwater Management (BFSM) Working Group

Meeting minutes 19 Dec 2024

The meeting was called to order on ZOOM at 10:30 after a flag salute with Tim Leahy, Tim Bergin, Jay Ryan and Jon Miller in attendance.

The group discussed their progress since August, particularly in relation to stormwater and flood protection database being developed after the Straughn project earlier in the fall. Tim Leahy discussed the fact that notice of the BRIC grant award has not come from FEMA/DEMA. But In order to be ready for the grant, the workgroup is preparing a draft Statement of Work (SOW) for the RFP.

The workgroup discussed the scope of work for a project funded by the FEMA BRIC grant. They considered alternate procurement rules such as task orders and lump sum proposal . The team discussed the various design phases and considered the possibility of advancing a demonstration project through more phases. The group agreed to limit their scope to the west of SR1 , issues with beach replenishment are a separate project. The group agreed to seek feedback from different contractors separately to ensure their expectations align with industry best practices.

The group discussed the role of modeling in their project, with Tim L explaining that they use industry standard software and that the numerous scenarios are generated. They also agreed to identify the biggest problem areas to focus their design efforts. They also discussed the need for coordination with other stakeholders, such as DNREC and Del Dot, to ensure that the proposed solutions are practical and can be implemented. The team agreed to focus on the most critical aspects of the project and to prioritize the design and implementation efforts.

The team also discussed the need for a study to various design solutions like raising lots, a topic that had previously been halted due to lack of evidence. The studies will be needed to develop new ordinances. They agreed to continue refining the project scope and terminology, with a focus on practical solutions rather than aesthetic considerations.

Next steps were defined:

- Tim L to with Straughn Engineering the appropriate terminology for project phases (concept, feasibility, definition) in the context of stormwater management projects. And ask about the specific material to use for sandbags and smaller Hesco boxes with more aesthetic designs for the Farmington Street project.
- Tim L to add a section in the RFP about coordination with other stakeholders (e.g., DeIDOT, DNREC, FEMA, DEMA).
- Tim L to circulate a new draft of the RFP

The team also planned to meet again in the New Year to continue their work.

The working group members moved to close the meeting at 11:49