

Bayside Resiliency & Flood Mitigation Forum

21 Aug 2026



Welcome!



Bayside Resiliency

21 Aug 2026

Introduction	1:00 - 1:10
Respond to May questions	1:10 - 1:30
Recap Master Plan	1:30 - 1:50
Break	1:50 - 2:00
Public Projects (if grants awarded)	2:00 - 2:15
Options for your property	2:15 - 2:30
Discussion	2:30 - 2:50
Next steps	2:50 - 3:00



Current Bayside Focus

- Flooding on the bayside is potential public safety risk - emergency and evacuation response
- It's getting worse – trend shows more days of flooding each year
- Both tidal flooding and stormwater are issues
- DelDOT recognizes the threat; the plans for Coastal Highway are published



Goal and Solution

Safely passable roads during most high tides and intense rainfall events and protection of property

Recommended Solution - Prevent tidal flooding with a managed program of barrier construction such as bulkheads and berms. Address rainwater flooding with newly engineered drainage and on site water retention.

Build the defenses incrementally based on a 2050 design year

News since May

- Flood mitigation project progressed
 - Two highest priority projects identified and recommended based on technical criteria and benefit analysis (i.e # of households impacted)
 - Conceptual designs completed for two projects
- Town council approved funding
- Grants were submitted to FEMA to fund construction of two initial projects
- Final design for the new projects is underway
- Coordination with local towns is ongoing

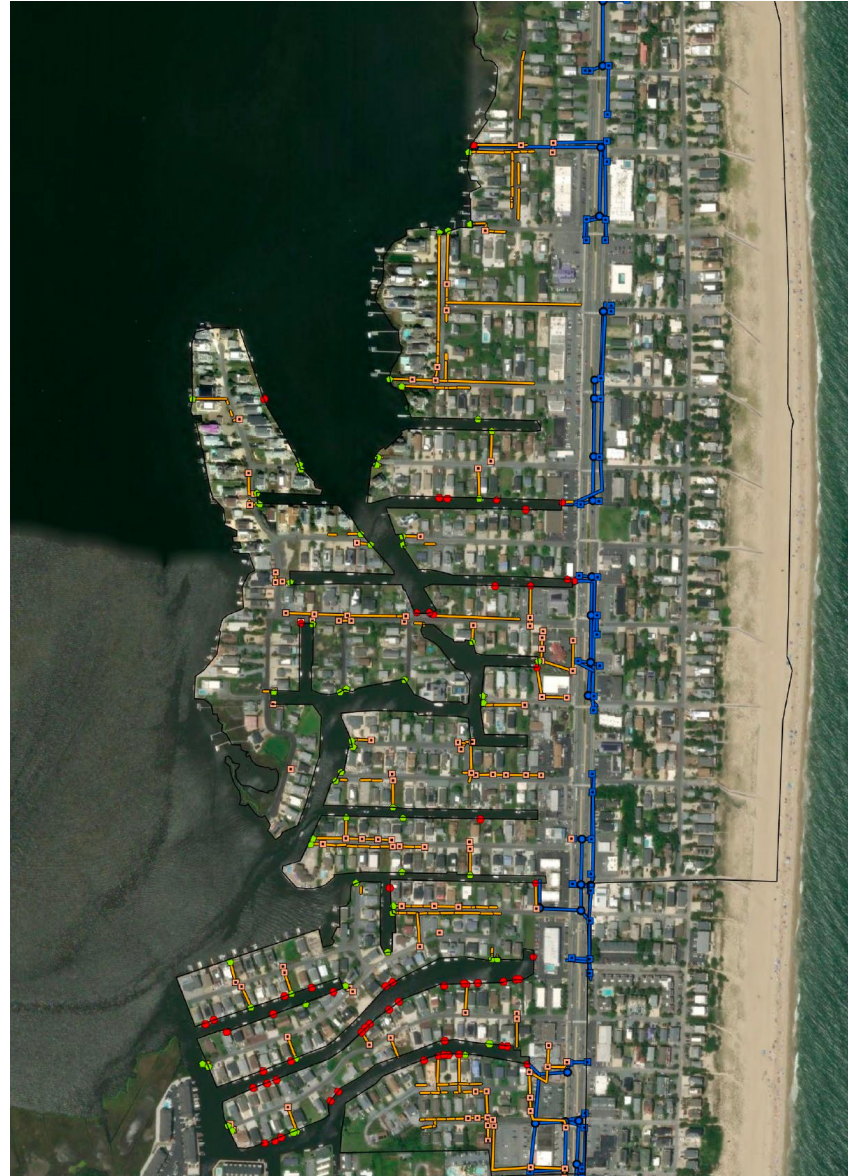


Questions from May Meeting

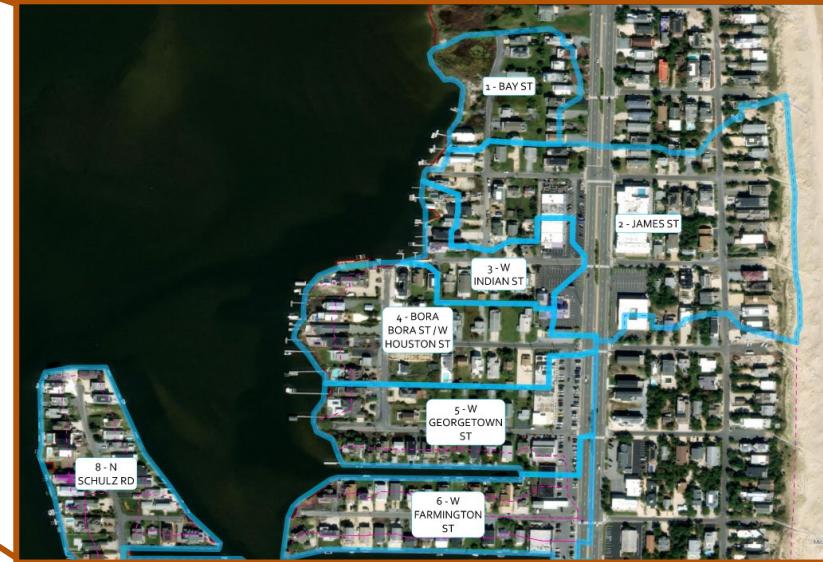
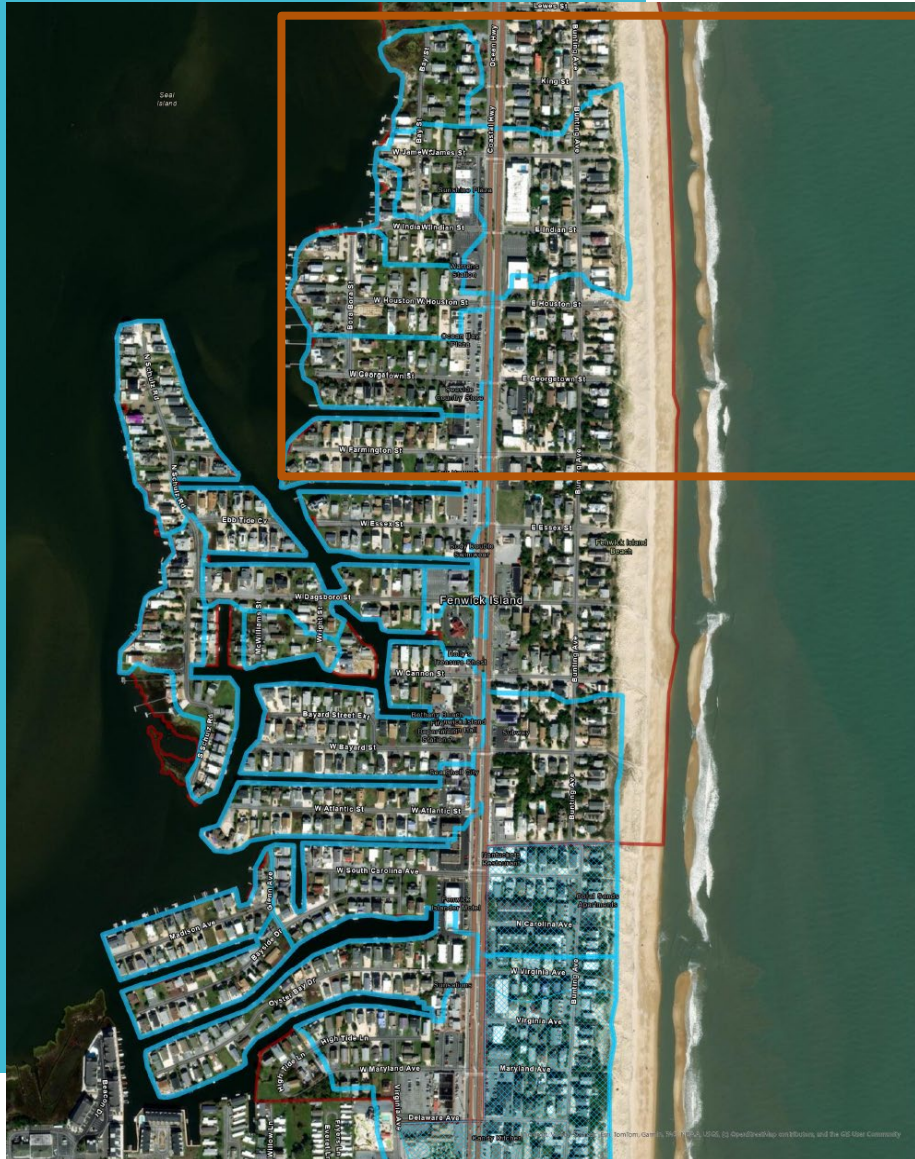
- Existing conditions
- Roads
- Bulkheads
- Other toolkit items
- Ordinance changes
- Coordination with town
- Costs for private projects

Stormwater Upgrades

Stormwater Master Plan



Core of the Plan – Phasing



20 focus areas (FAs) are derived from 67 drainage features. The FAs are basis for sub-projects.

See the poster in the rear of the room to locate your focus area

Master plan for the Town



Town projects will be sequenced over many years (depending on priority and budgets)

Each will be a combination of toolkit mitigation methods

- Raising streets
- Bulkheads/berms where properties border canals
- Swales/bioretention in town right of way (ROW)

Code and permitting processes will be updated

Private property efforts may work in coordination with Town projects.

Barrier Height Code Implementation Timeline (5+ years)

2026	2027	2028-2029	2030 – 2031(?)	2032+
TOWN STREETS AND PROPERTIES				
Design public projects (Roads and rights of way)	Build Dagsboro and South Carolina projects			
	Select and design additional public projects	>>>>>	>>>>>	>>>>>
PRIVATE PROPERTIES				
	Enact new barrier height codes			
		Enforce barrier height for new barriers ("Grandfathering " continues)		
			Phase-in period for existing bulkheads and ramps	
				Enforce barrier height code

Break

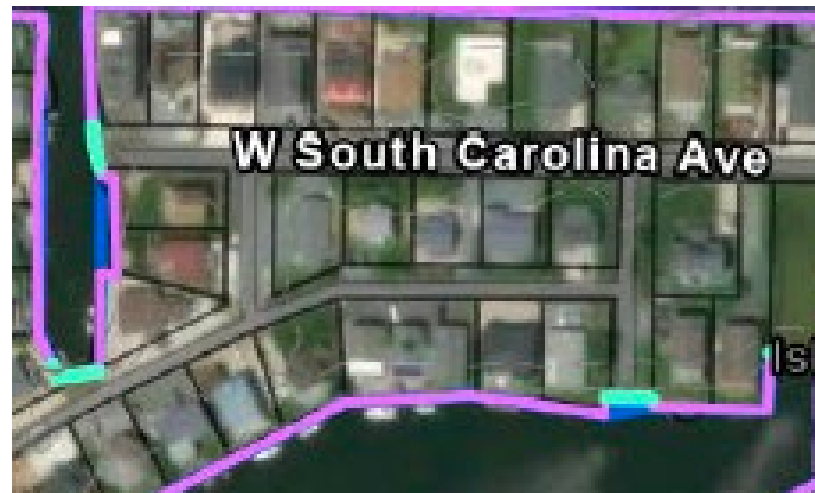


Initial Two Projects

- West West Dagsboro



- West South Carolina



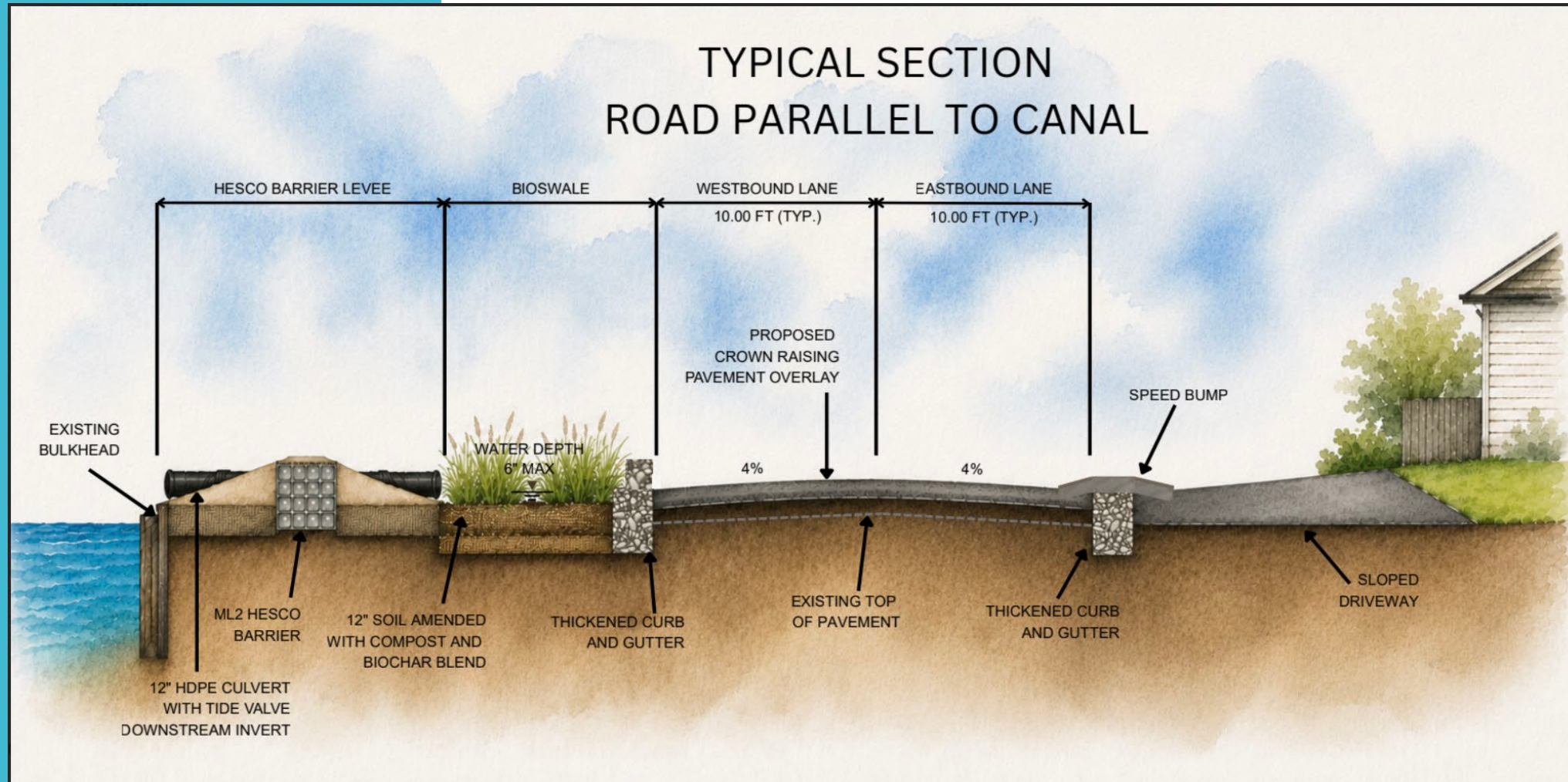
West Dagsboro St Conceptual Design



Infiltration Trench

Bioswale and Berm

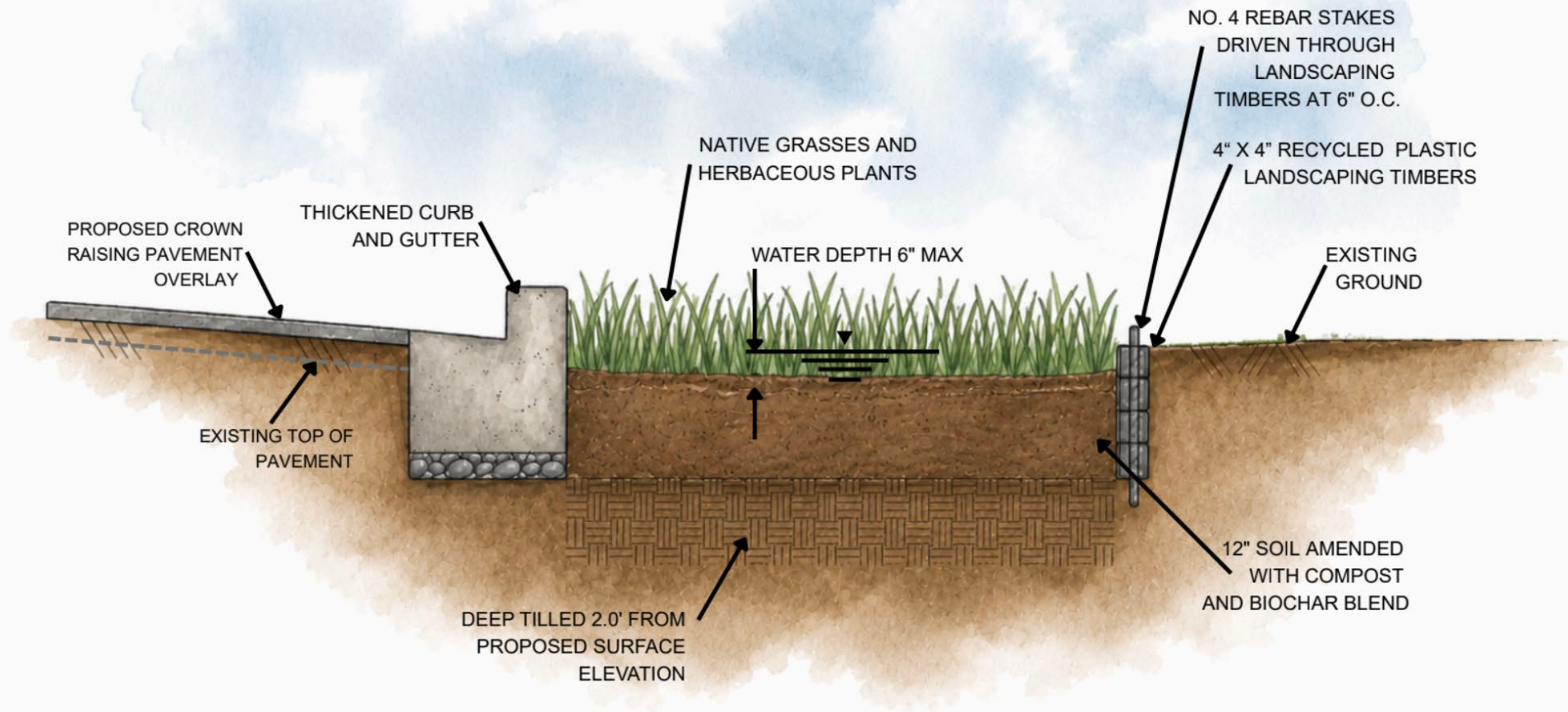
West Dagsboro St Conceptual Design



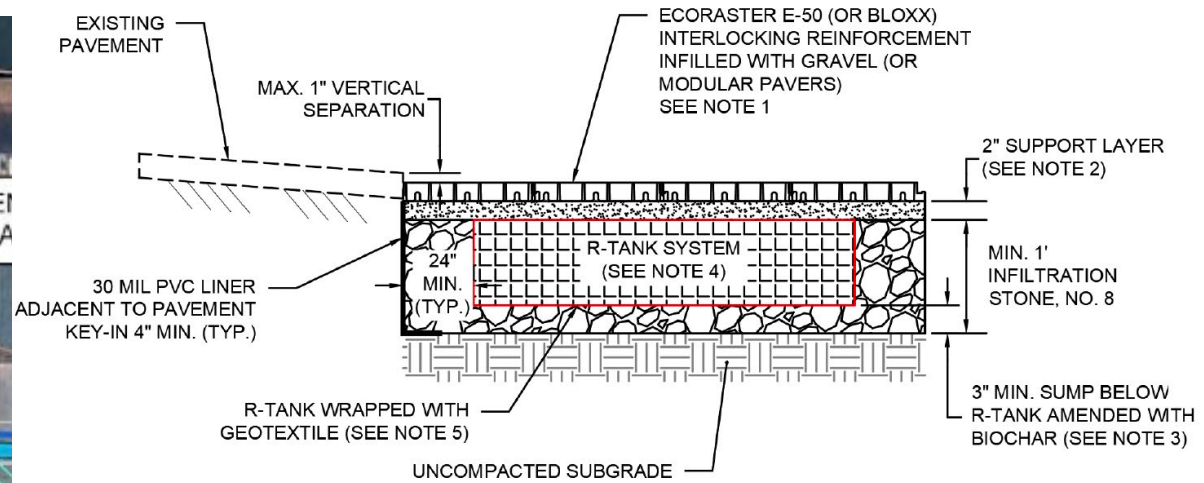
West South Carolina Conceptual Design



BIOSWALE

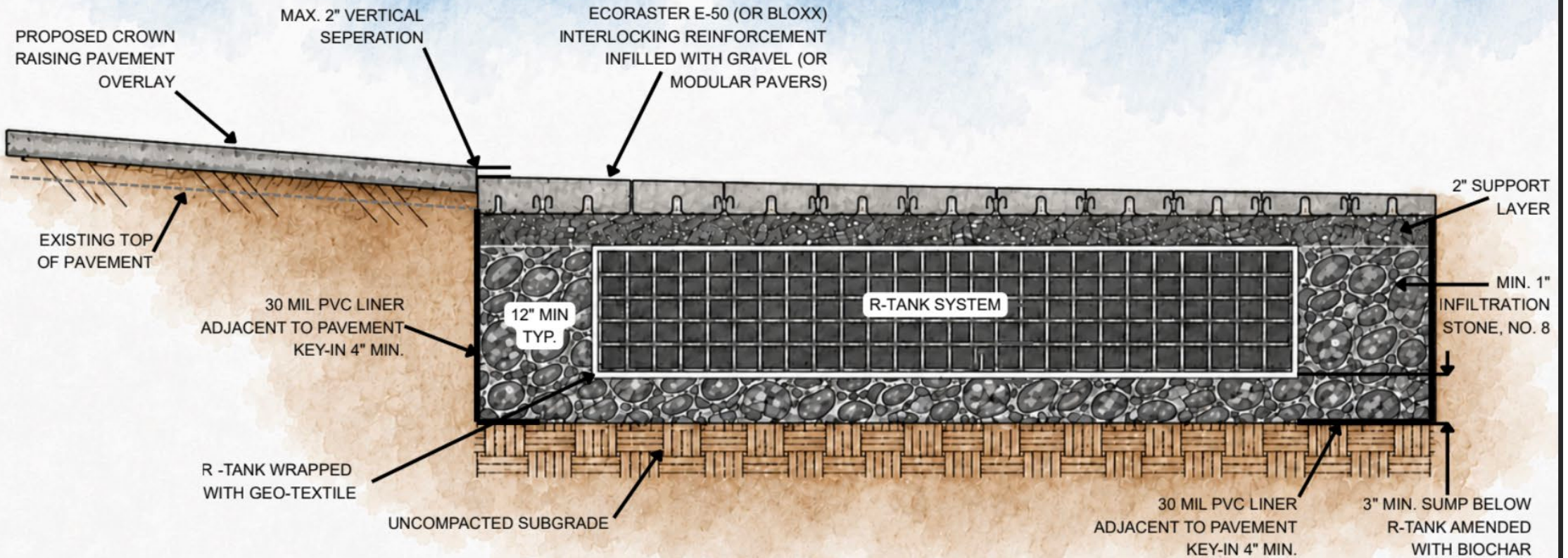


West South Carolina conceptual design



Stabilized Infiltration Trench

STABILIZED INFILTRATION TRENCH



Private Property Owners



Success depends on town and property owners working together to increase the flood barrier and manage stormwater through collection, retention, and discharge

Owner's role in a successful plan

Raise bulkheads and berms to 2050 target elevation level (4' above NAVD88)

Elevate lots when major improvements occur

Install wave attenuation for properties facing the bay

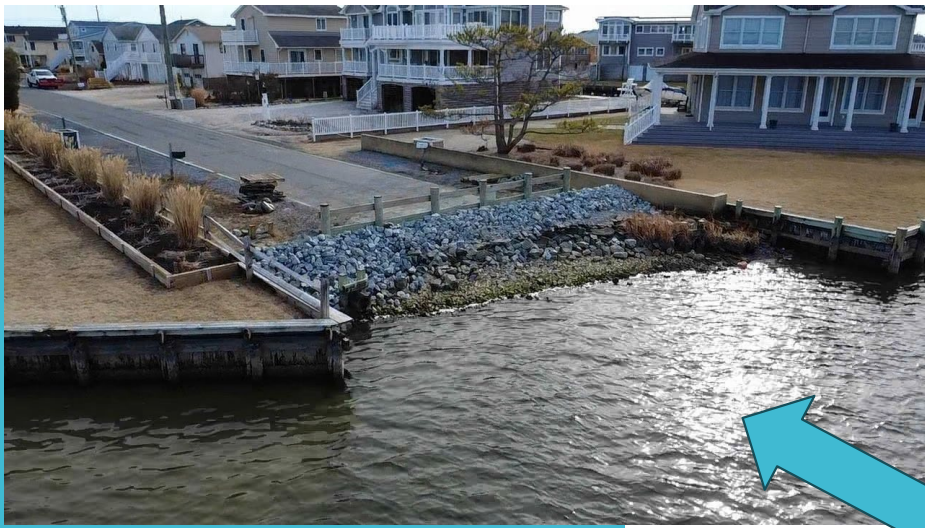
Upgrade boat ramps to link to bulkhead height

Install and maintain stormwater swales/rain gardens

Each property is unique conditions which need to be considered

Coordinate with neighbors and town esp in ROW

Near Term Town Projects

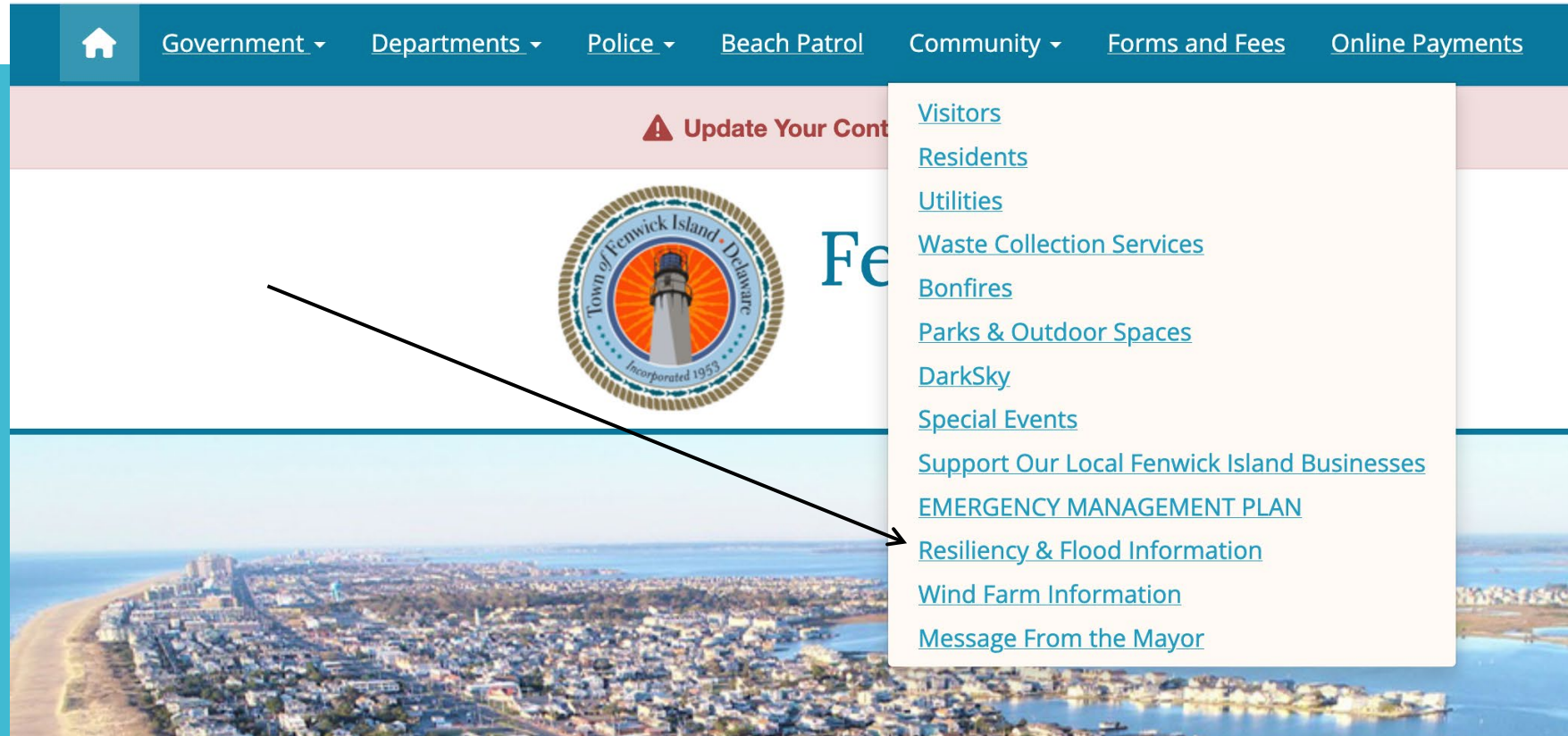


- Continue Public Works using new toolkit
 - Improve existing drainage system
 - Begin partial road raising in conjunction with road maintenance
 - Bioswales and infiltration trenches in rights of way
 - Construct another street end berm like Farmington St.
 - Build rain garden at street ends (could qualify for grant funding)
- Begin Ordinance change drafting
- Possible restoration of Seal Island (US Corp of Engineers project)
- Apply for next FEMA grant

Discussion



THANK YOU



Visit the Town Website for updates

THANK YOU



Resiliency & Flood Information

It is the Town's intent to:

- Promote greater public awareness and understanding of the flood threat in Fenwick Island
- Offer practical guidance on preparing for, mitigating against, and recovering from flood events
- Provide information on important federal, state and local loss reduction programs, services and initiatives
- Answer commonly asked questions regarding flood insurance, flood zones, warning systems, evacuation and other flood related topics
- List key contacts and links where flood information and assistance can be found below.

[Preparedness](#)

[Flood Insurance](#)

[Resiliency](#)

[Town Mapping Resources](#)

[FEMA Community Rating System](#)

[Resiliency Symposiums](#)

Visit the Town Website for updates



Dune/Levee



Living Shoreline