

Sea Level Adaptation Working Group (SLAWG)
Meeting Minutes
Date: 11/19/2010

Attendees: Gary Lamb (OOB), Jim Walker (OOB), Bill Robertson (OOB), Jay Chace (Scarborough), Lucy LaCasse (Scarborough), Peter Marks (Saco), Ken Buechs (Biddeford), Steve Zeeman (Biddeford), JT Lockman (SMRPC), Peter Slovinsky (MGS)

Review of the Produced Inundation Simulation Maps:

- Pete reviewed the maps that were created; Highest Annual Tide (HAT) +2 feet plus 1978 storm + 2 feet, and how they were created. These are good scenarios to use.
- The group would like to see 3 additional map series created:
 - The average annual high tide (MHW) value plus 2 feet of sea level rise.
 - The normal HAT for each community.
 - Front dune, back dune, and EHA boundaries
- Use the maps to identify vulnerable structures (commercial infrastructure, roads, residential, etc.) and summarize the impacts to those structures.
- We discussed how to simulate impacts to the open coast; we could potentially use FEMA FIRMs and adapt them to be more dynamic; could use results of the RISKMAP process which would be in 2011; the problems with using the FEMA maps is they are static and do not look into the future, so would need to be adapted. We also could use the defined ‘Erosion Hazard Areas’ maps or frontal dune maps.
- The maps cannot show whether or not structures are elevated and therefore could be less damaged; would be nice at some point to identify the impacts of elevating X% of structures to see the decrease in the amount of damage that would be caused by different scenarios.
- Could potentially look at impacts to traffic counts by road flooding? This would be difficult since there is a time period before and after a high tide or surge when the road would be impacted.
- Impacts to roads could be less than other structures since the roads will only be influenced by flooding for certain periods of time and then the impact goes away.
- The group is concerned that SLAWG just turns into a report producing group.
- Can SLAWG take into account upper watershed impacts from precipitation and freshwater flooding? Would be very difficult from a modeling standpoint, but could be a recommendation from SLAWG to further look into.
- May want to develop a SLAWG logo.
- More data is going to be provided by each community’s public works (value of pipes, roads, etc.), and each community on footprint data that could be fed into additional GIS mapping.
- We could calculate the volume of flooding in the Ocean Park area under HAT and HAT+2 scenarios.

Timing

- Should we hold Tuesday's meeting next week? We will skip the 23rd and reconvene on the 29th, on the following Monday. We could identify priority areas on each of the maps and start working on priority areas.
- Are we rushing the process along too much? Should we put off providing a report to Town Councils by December 31? Just provide a status update and say the process is ongoing?

Immediate Action Items:

- For Monday the 29th, Pete will prepare a series of maps (on one sheet for each community) showing:
 - Base flooding from HAT;
 - HAT+2 flooding;
 - 1978 Storm +2 flooding;
 - Front Dune, back dune, EHA boundaries.
 - The maps will be more watershed based – not necessarily political boundaries.

The next meeting will be 4:30 pm, Monday, November 29, at Saco City Hall.
Minutes by P. Slovinsky, MGS.