

USACE/NJDEP Flood Projection Project
Feb. 7th Public Information Session Q & A'S

Note: The following is not meant to be a complete list of all questions and answers during the session as some dialogue was not recorded well by the available audio recording system. The best possible transcription of the Q & A session is provided herein.

David Gentile (USACE Project Manager) answered all the questions unless otherwise stated.

- At the bulkhead from the parking lot by Pine Street, how much higher will the dune be?
 - a. About 6-8ft. The walkway is already about 10 feet so we are only going to be adding on the top.

- Residents of Gateway raised concerns over the fencing that has already been staged by their condos. They are concerned for when it is high tide and how they are going to exit their development.
 - a. They have been in contact with Dennis Dayback, Mr. Howard and the contractors to try to come up with an alternative route.

- A resident asked if any engineers were present and if they were involved in the first meeting back in 2017. His main concern was why they starting the project in the middle and working their way out instead of vice versa. He also brings up the storm from 12/23/22 and states that the flooding was worse and believes it is from the pumps at Port Monmouth not being turned on.
 - a. During construction there will still be flooding but the project is not going to cause more flooding. The high tide elevation will not change but whenever it is full or new moon, the tides will increase because of other measures.

- Will any part of this project force to close Front Street?
 - a. No.

- The few months that the project will be 24/7, is there a decibel number for the sound of the machines working? Concerns because of people working from home, children, etc.
 - a. The loudest noise during that time period is going to be the backup sounds from the dozers. The dozers will not be on for the entirety of the night because they will be shut off when the dredge boats leave to collect more sand. There is a four-hour break in-between when the dredge boats are going to be moving the sand. Only during the pump out session will the noises be constant. You also will not hear the dredge boats because they are going to be anchored a mile or two off the beach. They also are going to comply to the town noise ordinance.

- What are the tax implications for the future?
 - a. Mayor Cocuzza answered, “There will be. The borough is going to have to pay back their share but that is several years away and at the completion of the project.”
- Will the walkway be closed?
 - a. We are going to be pushing the sand all the way up to the bulkhead in increments. During the time in the specific area, we will close that section of the walkway for safety purposes. However, whatever part of the walkway is not being worked on will be open to the public.
- Are the houses/businesses that are directly on the beach going to be affected when you begin to push the sand?
 - a. The only thing that will affect them could be potential road closures which they will be notified in advance.
- Any measures after Phase I that will reevaluate the flooding?
 - a. The tide elevation from one house to another is going to be different. The tide is going to be the controlling factor so you will continue to have water if your house is below the mark of the tide. Once we get more complicated into this project, we are going to work on the gates, groins, etc. that is going to work with the flooding.
 - b. Paul (USACE) also states, “Until the system is closed, we are going to just level everything out. We created designs to make sure that we are not going to induce flooding. Inducing flooding means causing flooding more than what it already does. None of that is going to change until this project is completed.”
- What will happen during phases?
 - a. During the phases we have a plan to work with all aspects of the project. That is how we have to get our permits for a Corps of Engineers Project. We don’t issue our own permits. The State Land Use looks at all our information to provide the permits.
- The rocks that are in front of the condos, are you going to add to them? Lower them, because the rocks are currently lower than the present walkway?
 - a. That is where the dune is going to begin.
 - b. Debbie from the DEP answered, “4-5ft higher but will not cover all the way. The dune ahead of that will be about 18ft high.”
- Is piling going to be done?
 - a. Yes, and we have vibration monitors for the pile drivers that are going to monitor during construction. The people that are living around the section of the project will feel and notice work happening. The piling will be done by the outfall which

is by Florence Avenue. We are going to have to create new cribbing for the outfall that we are constructing.

- What is the distance between the bulkhead and the high-water line?
 - a. About 250 feet.
- What is going to happen with the rats that are currently living in the rocks before the sand begins to arrive?
 - a. Mayor Cocuzza answered, “We will make arrangements to make sure we begin bait trapping over there to ensure we can remedy the problem quickly. We already trap on the other side of the beach so we will extend down by you.”
- The survey people that came to do a survey to monitor the houses affected, is that something you guys provided?
 - a. Yes. The contractor also has monitors placed in areas that will notify the contractor immediately if anything is being done that will cause any damage to anyone.
 - b. Paul (USACE) elaborated, “Before we start this project, we send people out to take pictures and reports of the houses beforehand to give us a baseline. Once the project is completed, we will do another survey to compare data and see if any damage was done to the properties. If you have not taken advantage of this, we highly recommend.”
- There are survey points already placed on the rocks. Can you possibly give a visual of the 18-foot mark?
 - a. Paul (USACE) answered, “Yes, I believe we can provide something. We will work on drafting something up and provide to Anne Marie (The Borough Clerk) so she can post on your town website or something.
- During this process, the communication with the residents have been poor. Can we please work on this for the future and the next phases?
 - a. Yes.