



→ 2023 NEWEA Annual Conference
Session 14 – January 24, 2023
Sara Greenberg / Anastasia Rudenko

Adapting Wastewater Infrastructure To Changing Flood Vulnerabilities

Southeastern Massachusetts Case Studies

Welcome



Presentation overview

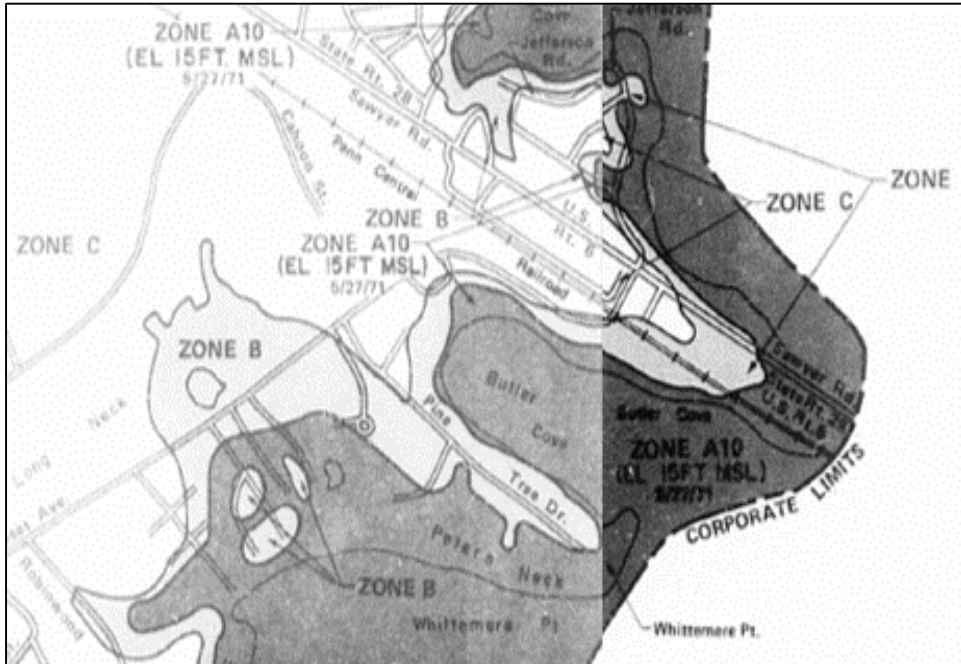
Background

- Changing vulnerability to flooding events
- Design approach

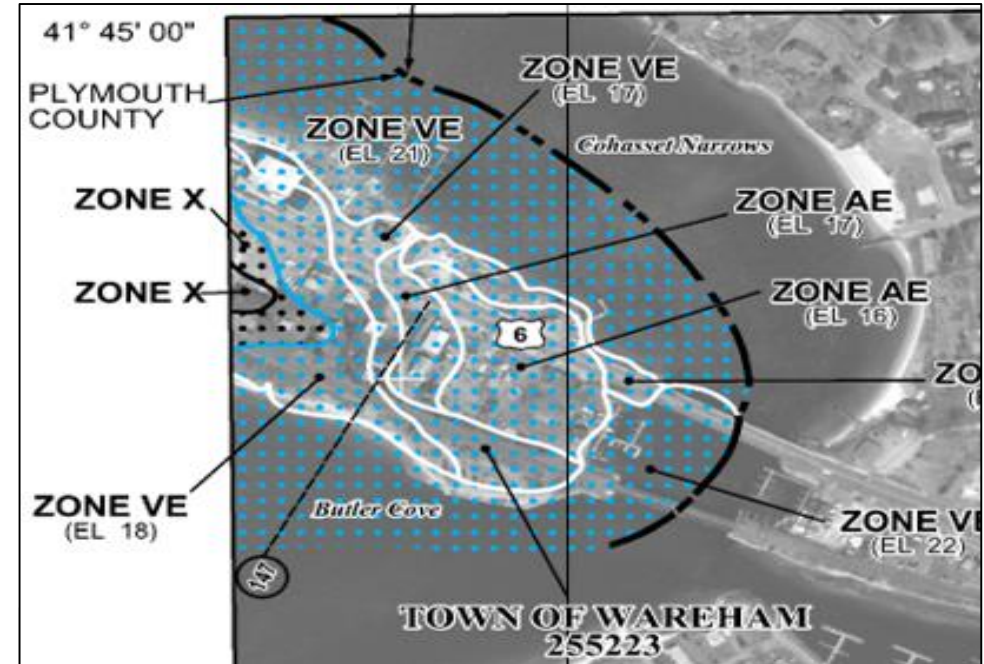
Case studies

- Vulnerable Coastal Wastewater Infrastructure
 - **Wareham, MA:**
Vulnerability assessment and Retrofit design
 - **Falmouth, MA:**
Force main evaluation and lift station coastal resilience conceptual designs

Changing Flood Maps

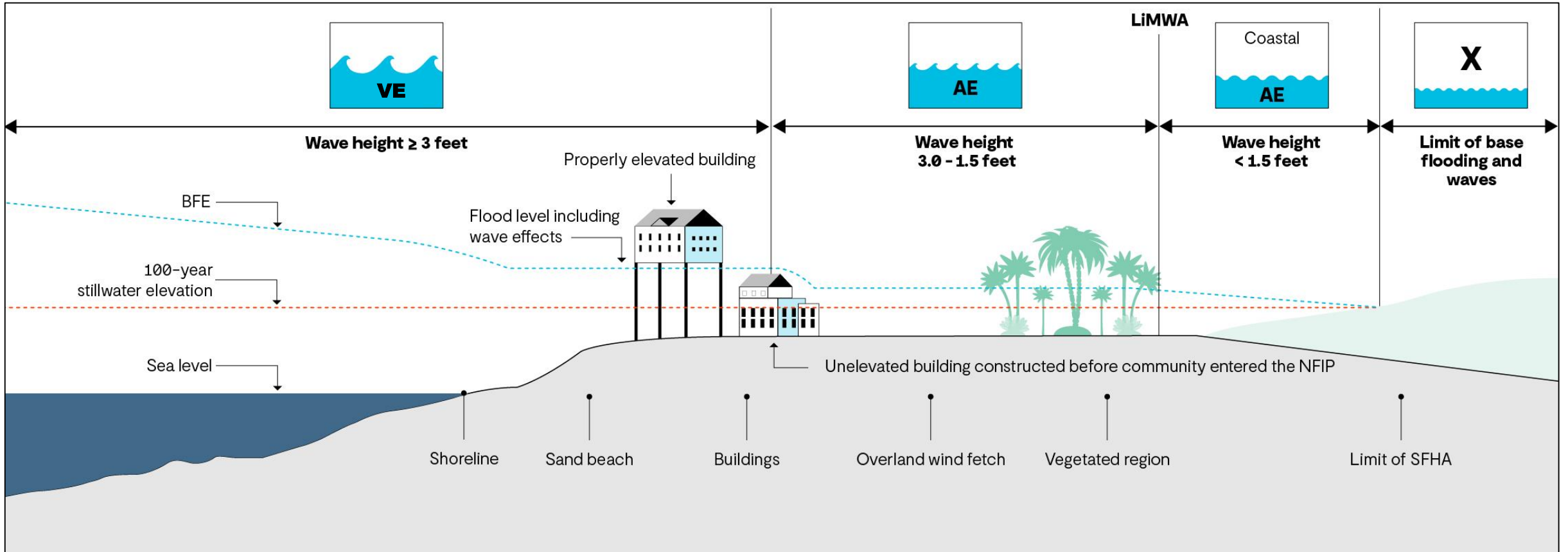


- 1983 FEMA Firm Map
- Zone AE = 15 ft MSL
- Zone B = Area between 100 yr and 500 yr flood
- Zone C = Areas outside 500 yr flood



- 2012 FEMA Firm Map
- AE Zones = 16, 17
- VE Zones = 17, 21, 22

FEMA coastal flood hazard zones and base flood elevation



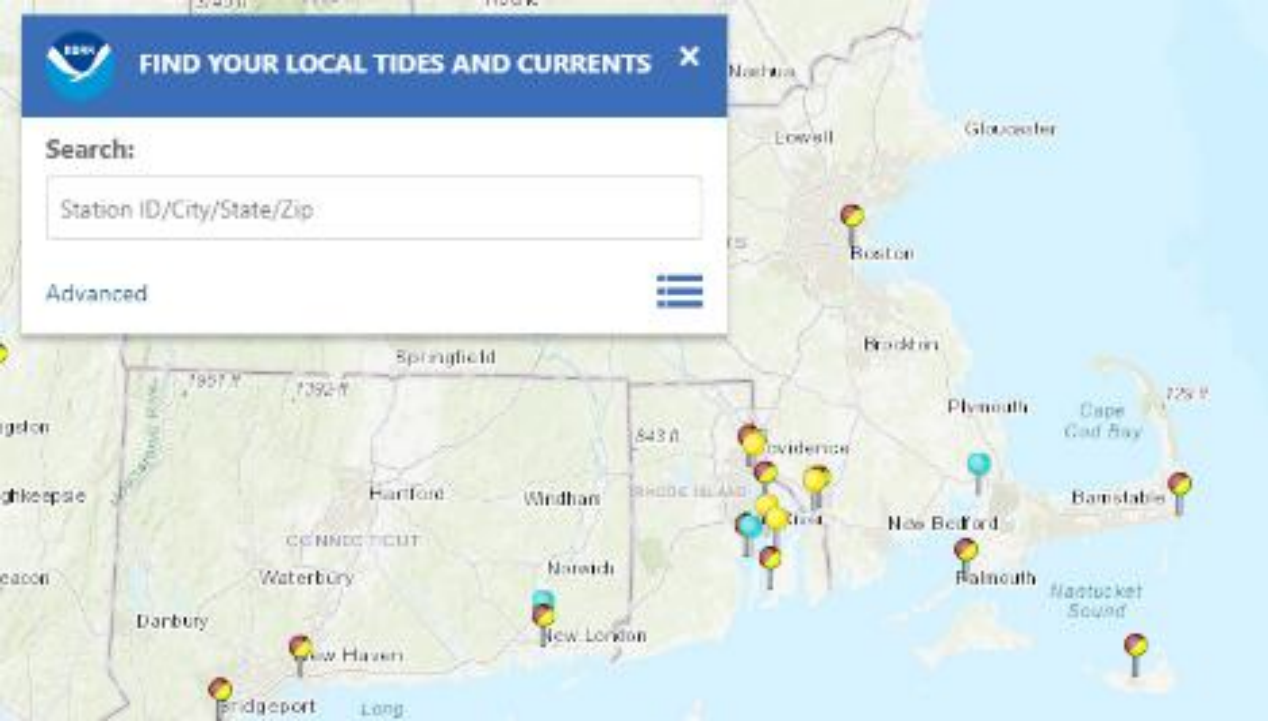
Freeboard requirements

Previous design standard

- Design to 100-year flood elevation
- No required minimum freeboard

Updated design standards

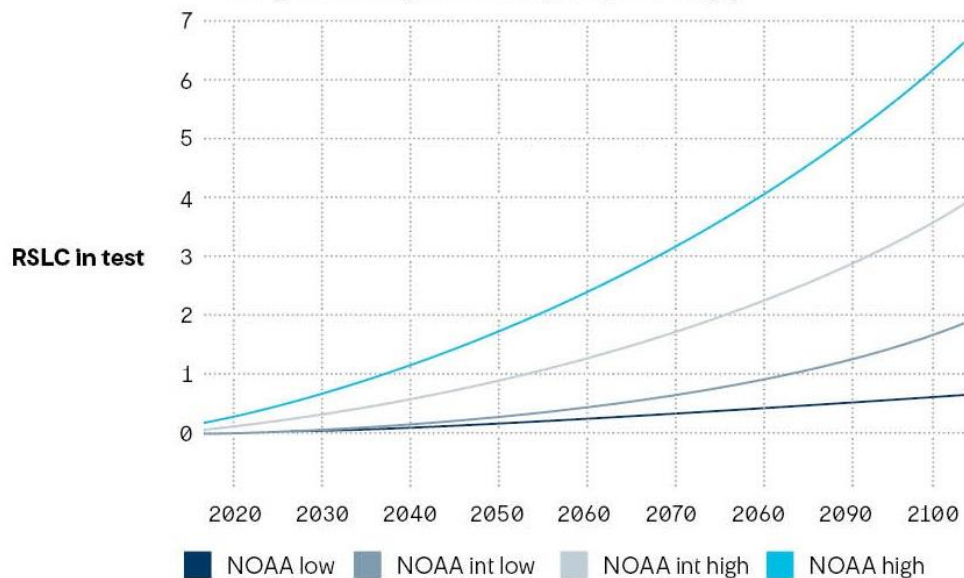
- More stringent minimum freeboard requirements
- TR-16 (NE WW Standards)
 - Critical equipment = 3 ft
 - Non-critical equipment = 2 ft
- ASCE 24-14 – flood resistant design and construction, 2014
 - Requirement of Massachusetts 9th building code
 - Specifies minimum freeboard requirements based on criticality of infrastructure



Sea level rise projections

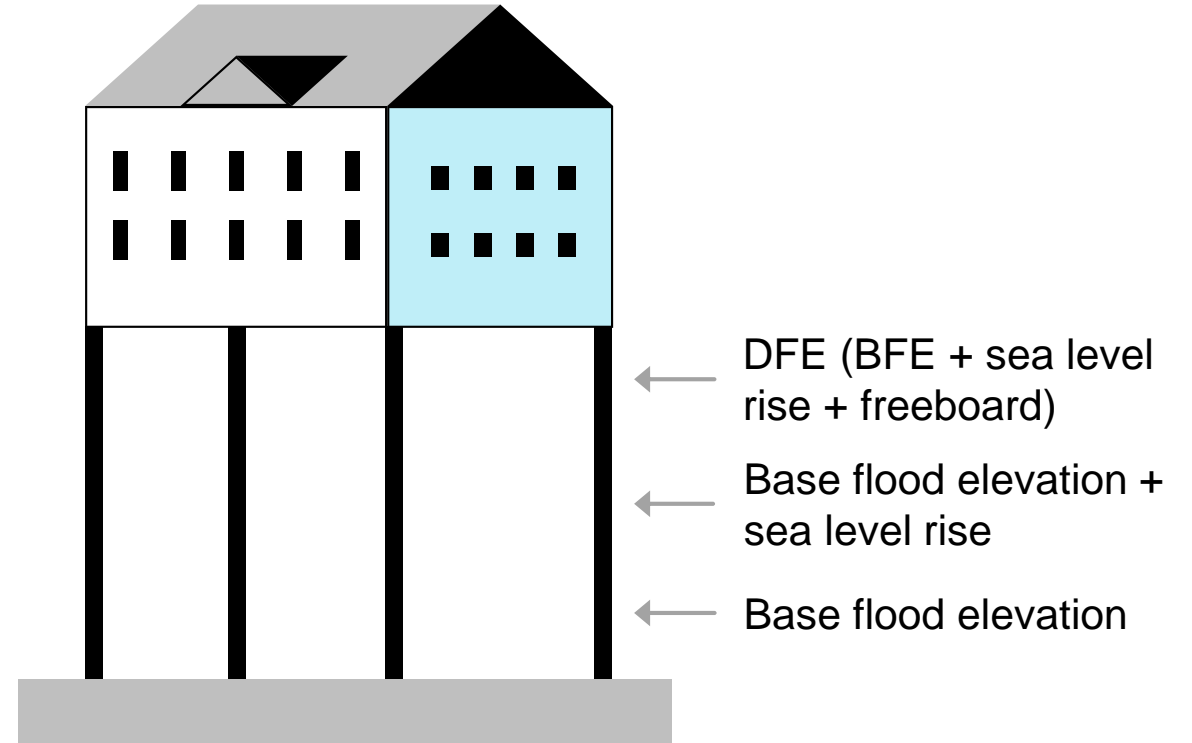
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Sea Level Change Curve Calculator
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) sea level change projections
- 20 year projection used for all proposed mechanical improvements
- 50 year projection used for all proposed structural improvements

Estimated relative sea level change projections from 2015 to 2100
Gauge: 8447930, Woods Hole, MA (2.67 mm/yr)



Design approach – determine design flood elevation

Design flood elevation (DFE) =
Base flood elevation (BFE) +
Freeboard +
{optional **Sea Level Rise (Coastal)**}



Flood resilience strategies

Dry flood proofing

- Reinforce structure to withstand forces of a hydrostatic flood load
- Preventing flood water from entering structure (make structure watertight)

Wet flood proofing

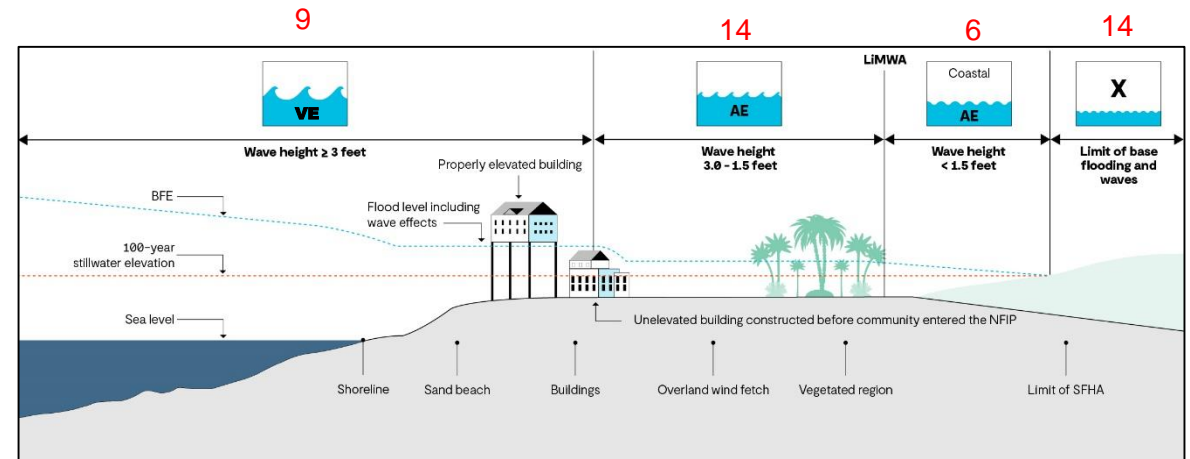
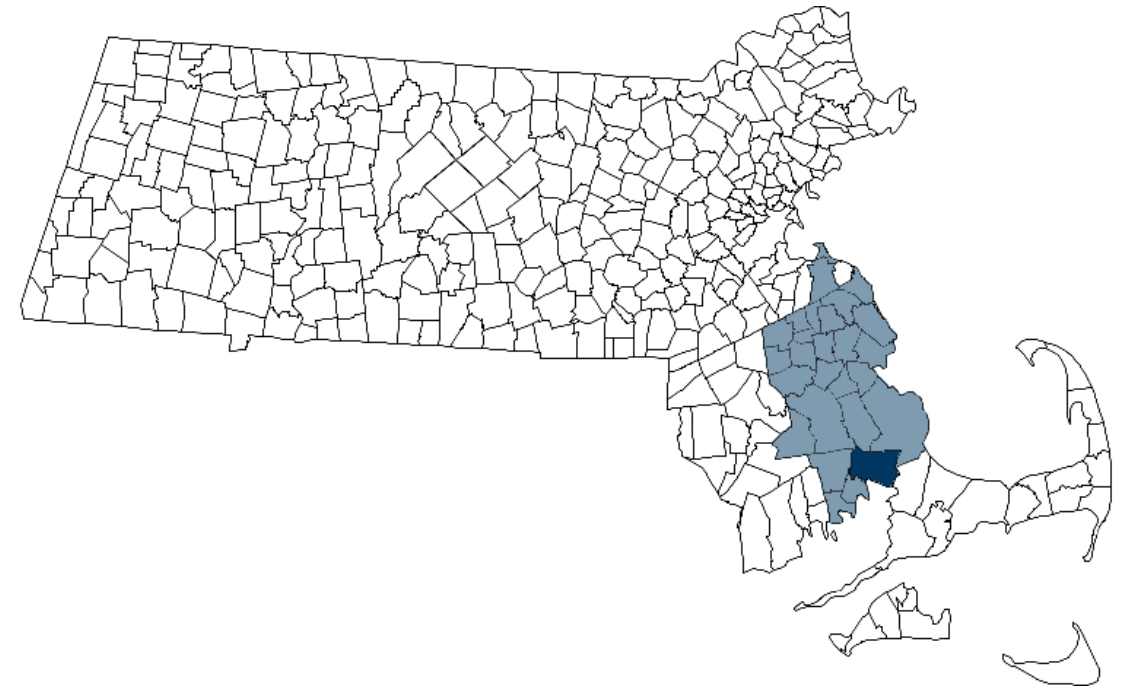
- Allow flood waters to infiltration the structure
- Protect contents of building from water damage (elevate or floodproof)



Vulnerable Coastal Wastewater Infrastructure

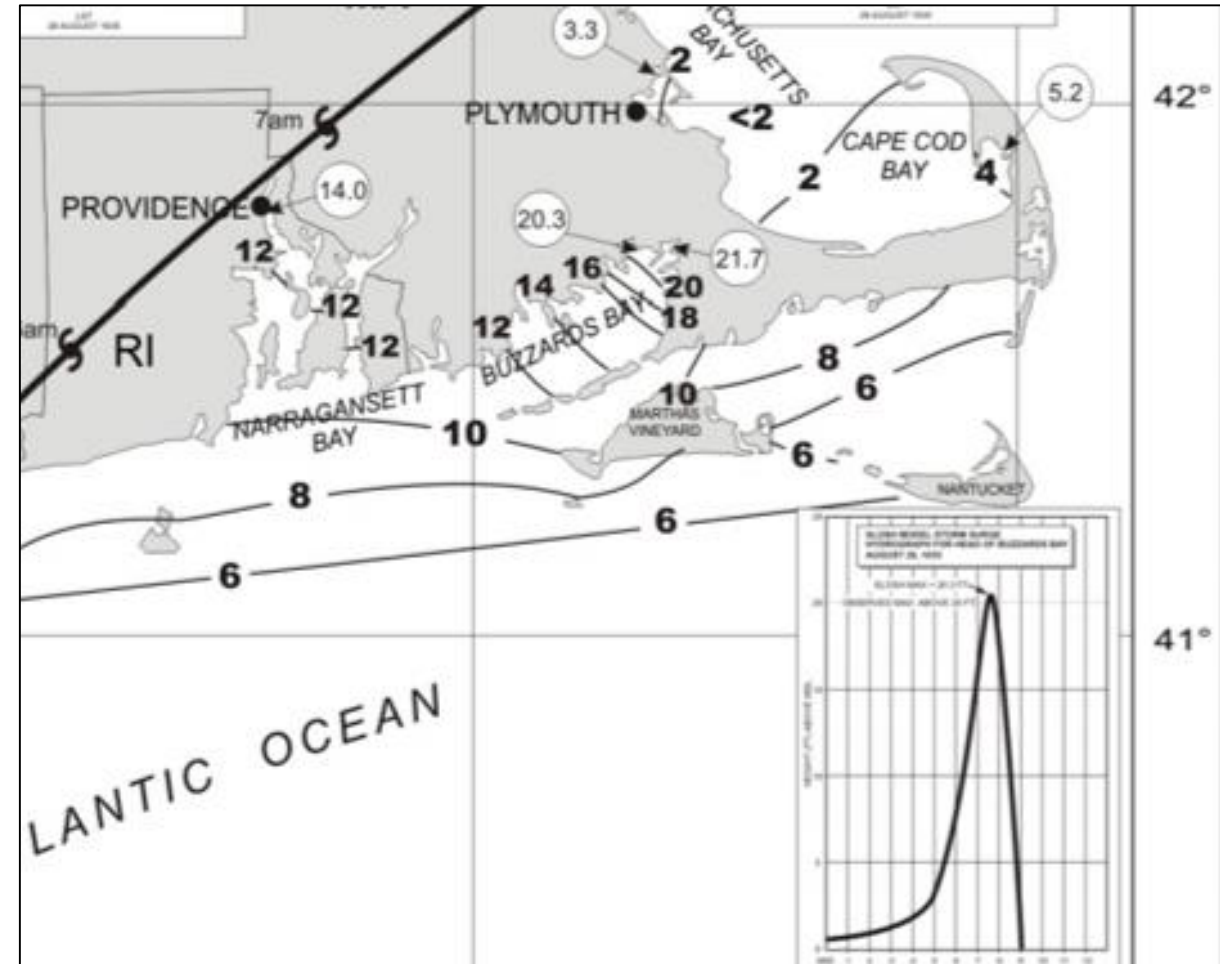
Case Study 1

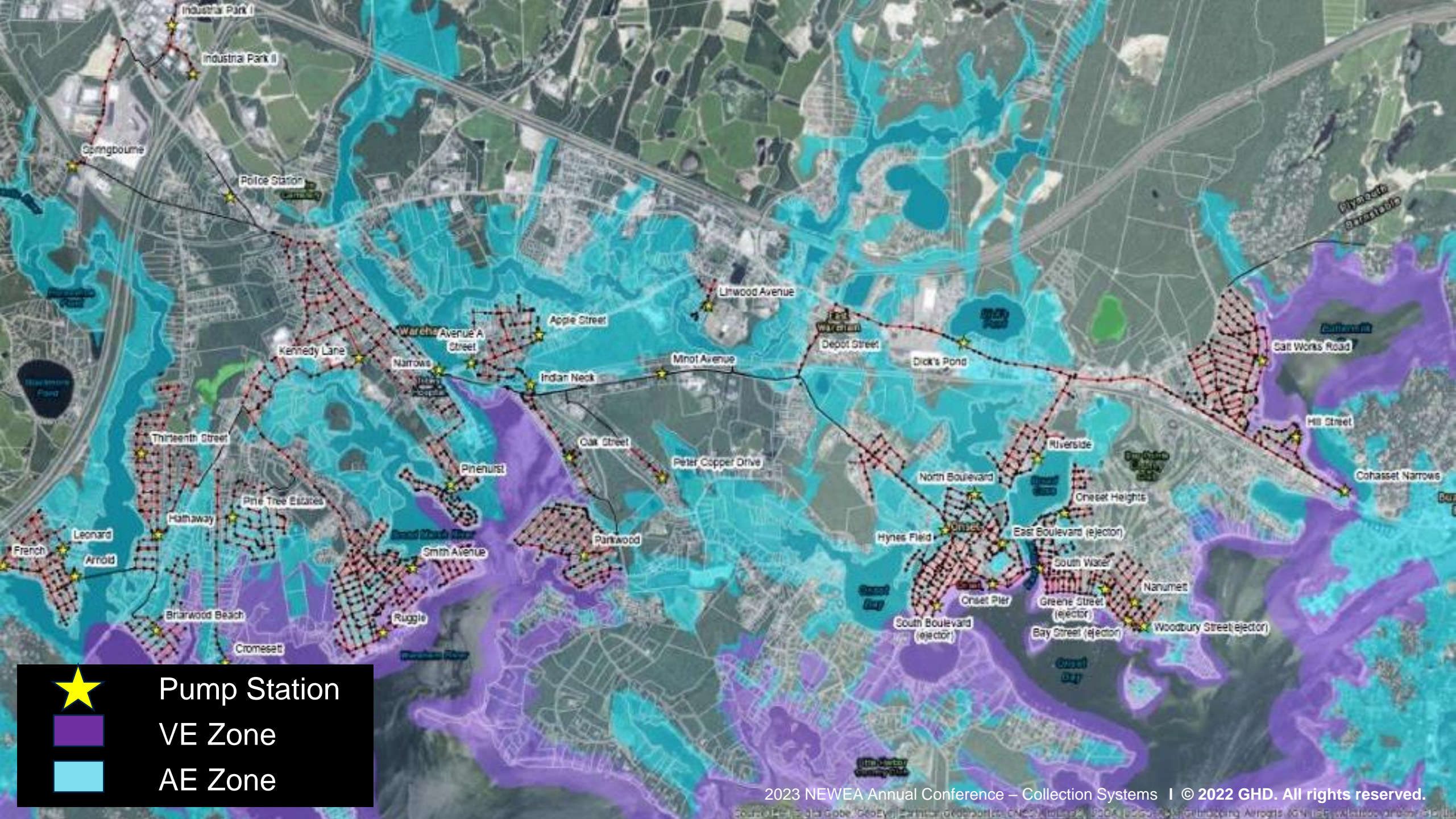
- Town of Wareham
- 54 miles of coastline
- 43 pump stations and 1 wastewater treatment plant
- 29 pump stations in 100 year flood zone



What makes Wareham so vulnerable

- Complex Coastal Estuarine System
- Throttling impact of Buzzards Bay
- SLOSH model run for the 1635 Category 5 hurricane
- SLOSH – “Sea, Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes” model by NWS

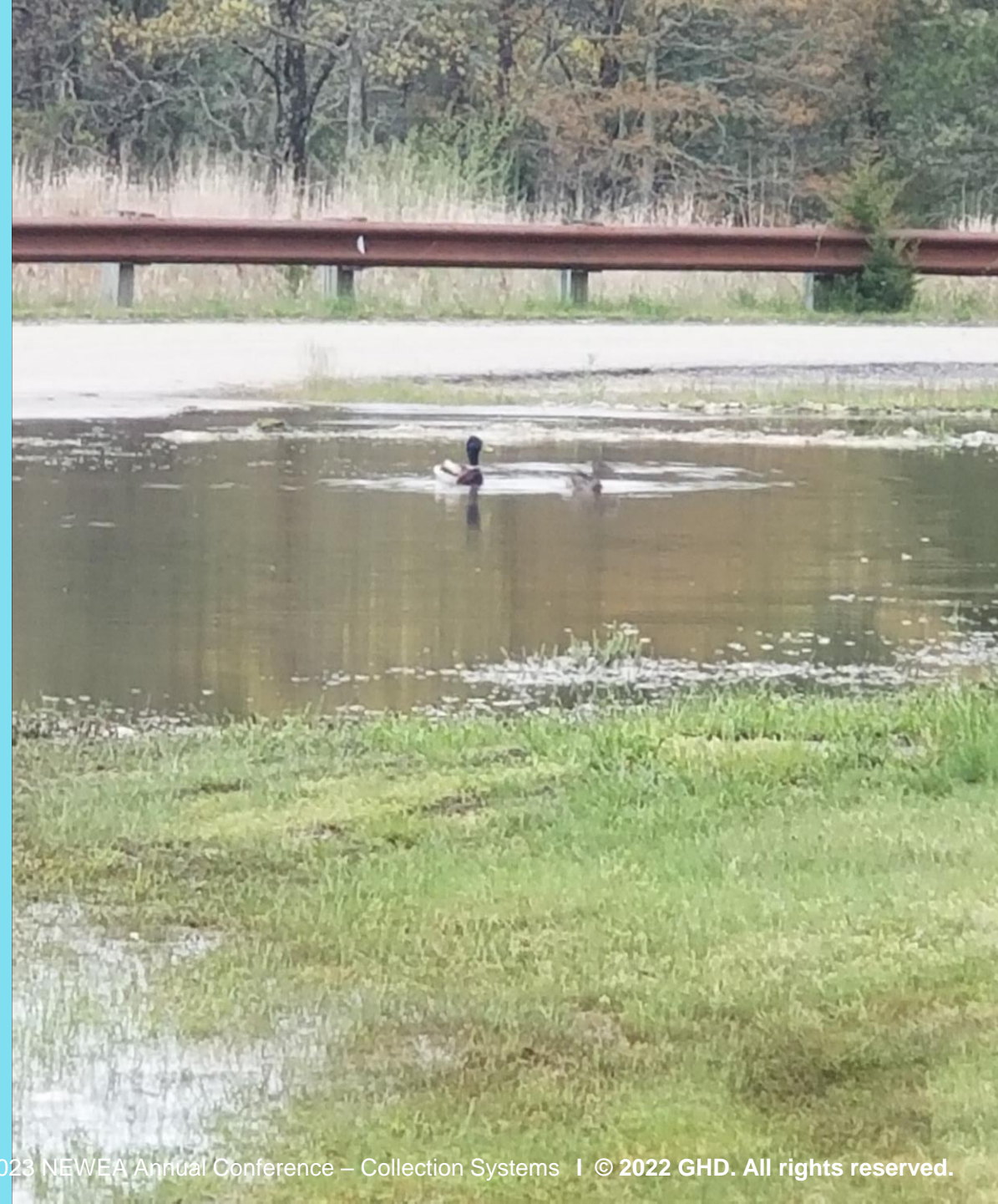




- ★ Pump Station
- VE Zone
- AE Zone

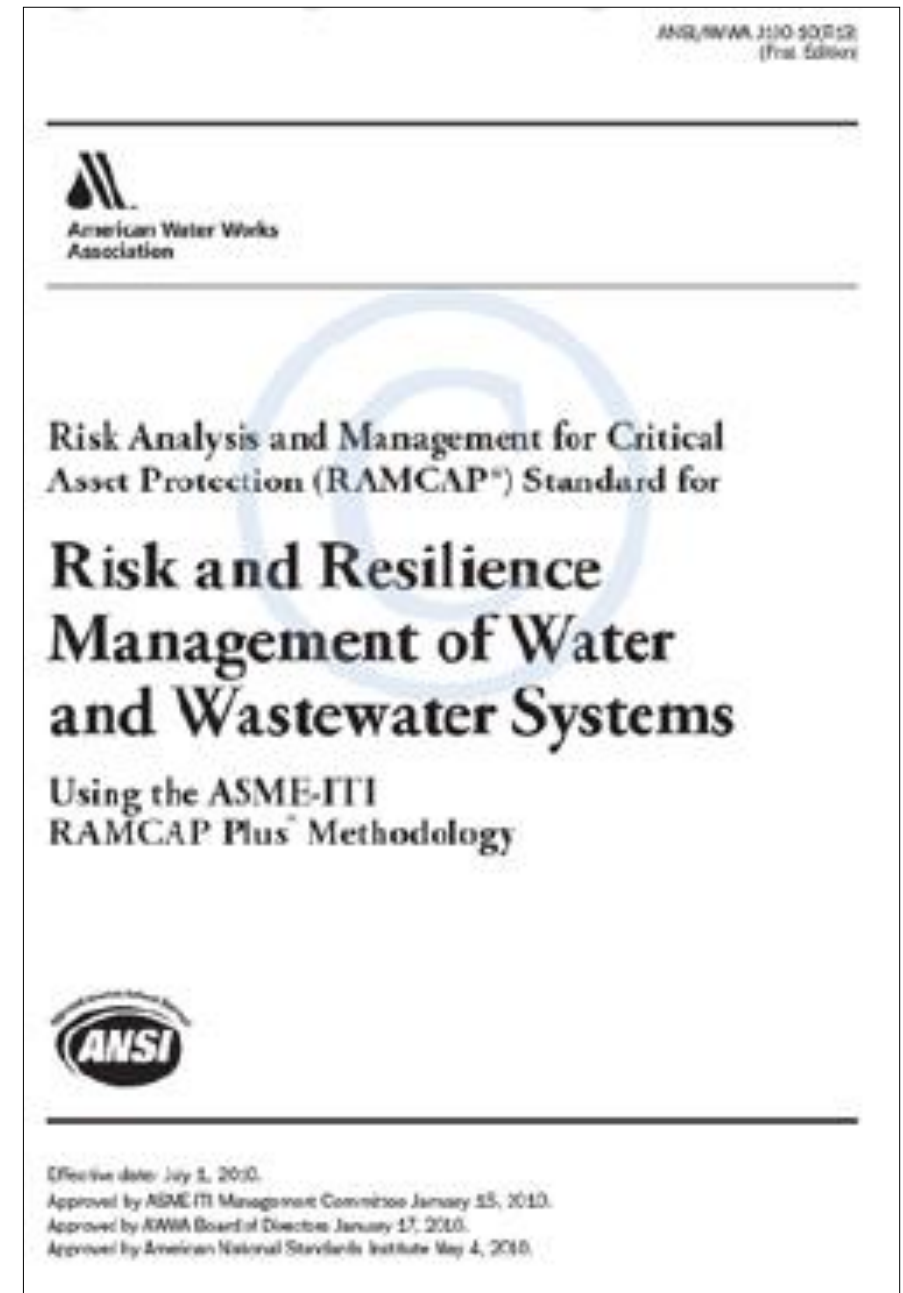
Approach

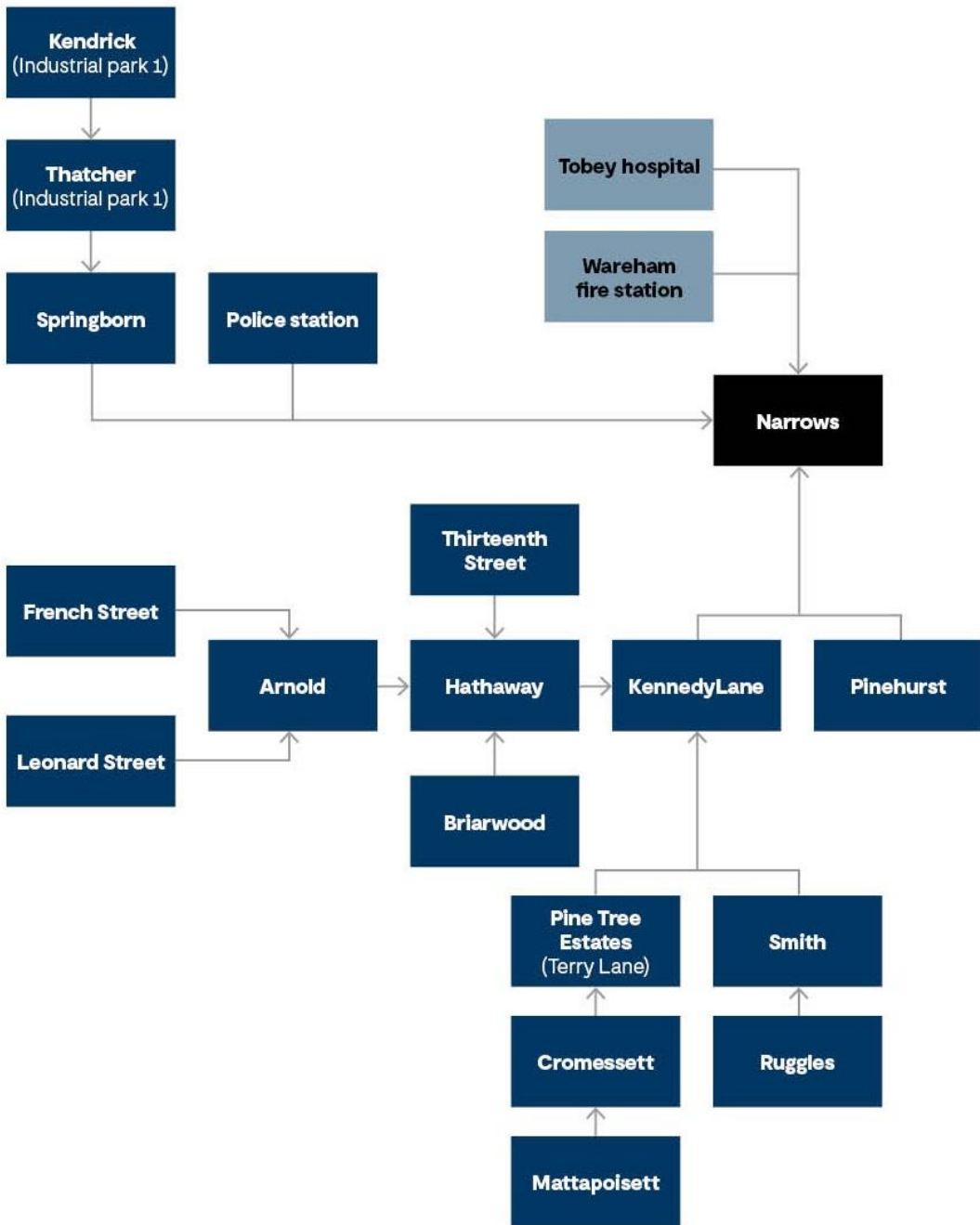
- Town needed methodology to prioritize pump station retrofits
- Risk and vulnerability assessment
- Assessed annual flood risk for each vulnerable station



Risk and vulnerability assessment

1. Determine design flood elevations
2. Determine which components will be damage/ruined in 1% storm (100 year) and replacement costs
3. Determine estimated monetary total loss:
FEMA Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA)
Software
4. Flood Risk (\$) = (Threat of Likelihood) x (Total Loss)





Coastal resilience design phase

Three high priority wet pit/dry pit stations:

- Narrows pump station
- Hynes Field pump station
- Cohasset narrows pump station

All three stations serve:

- Multiple dependent pump stations
- Critical infrastructure

Priority pump stations

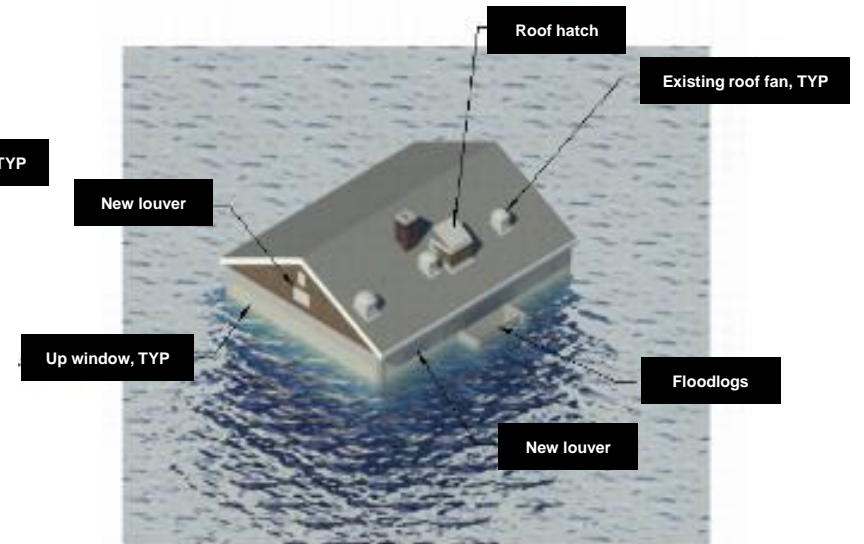
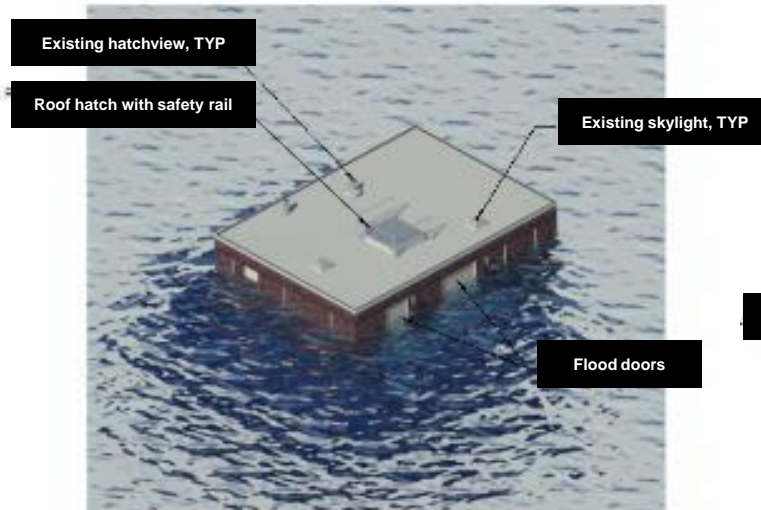
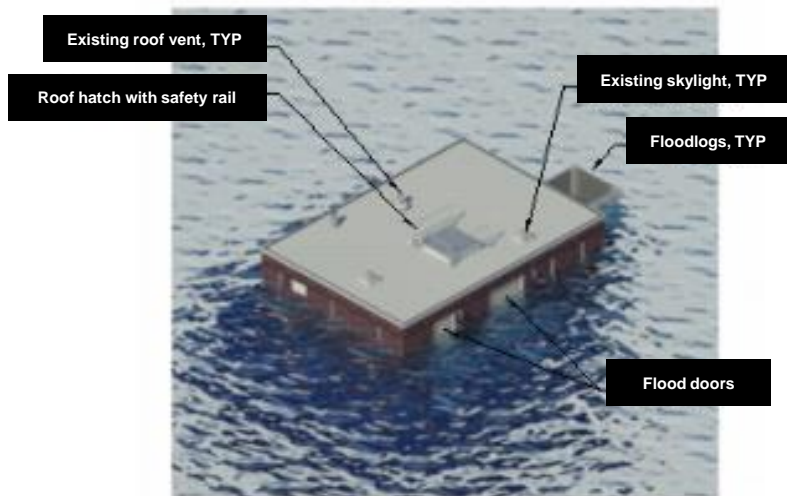
Narrows



Hynes Field



Cohasset Narrows

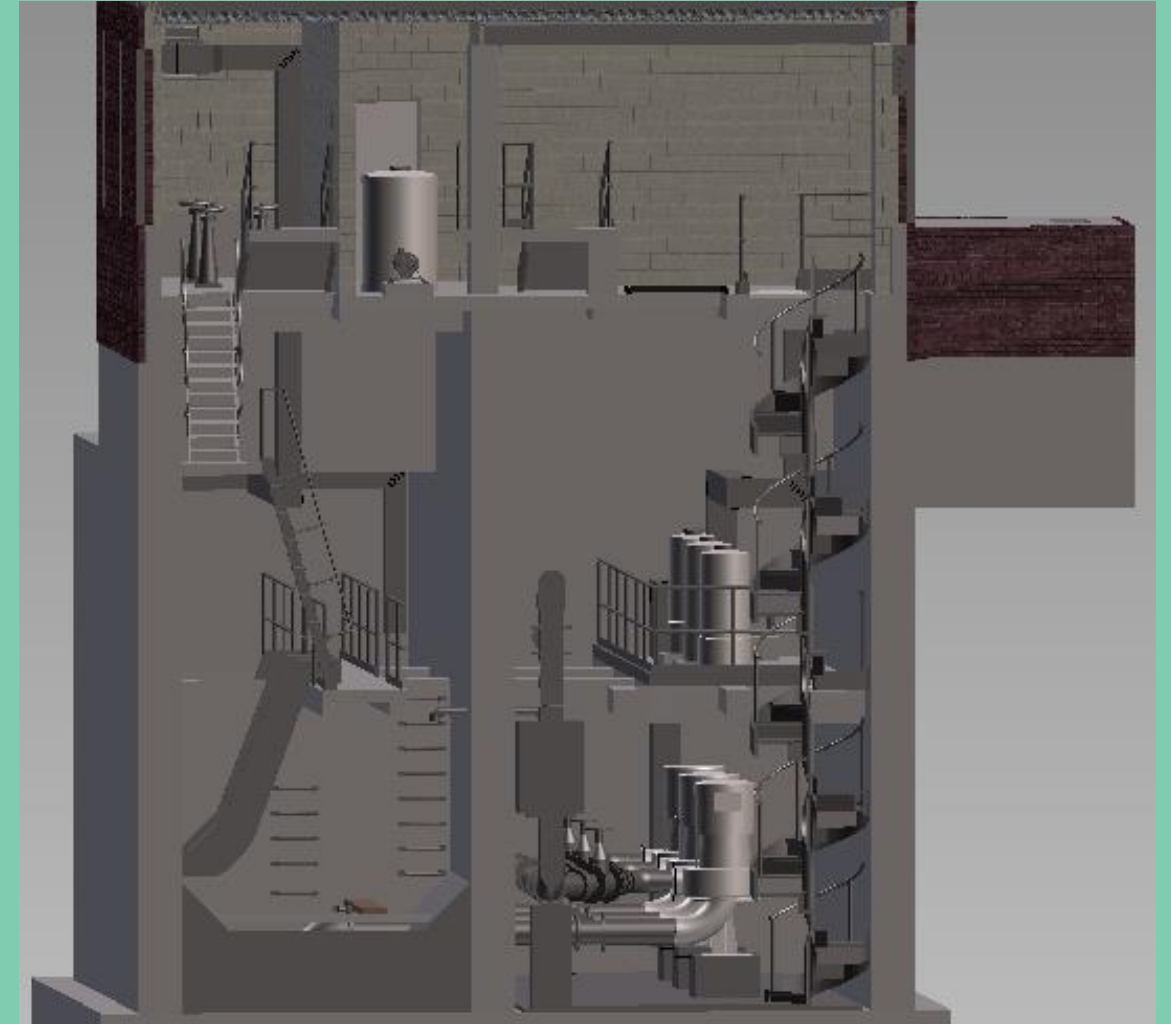
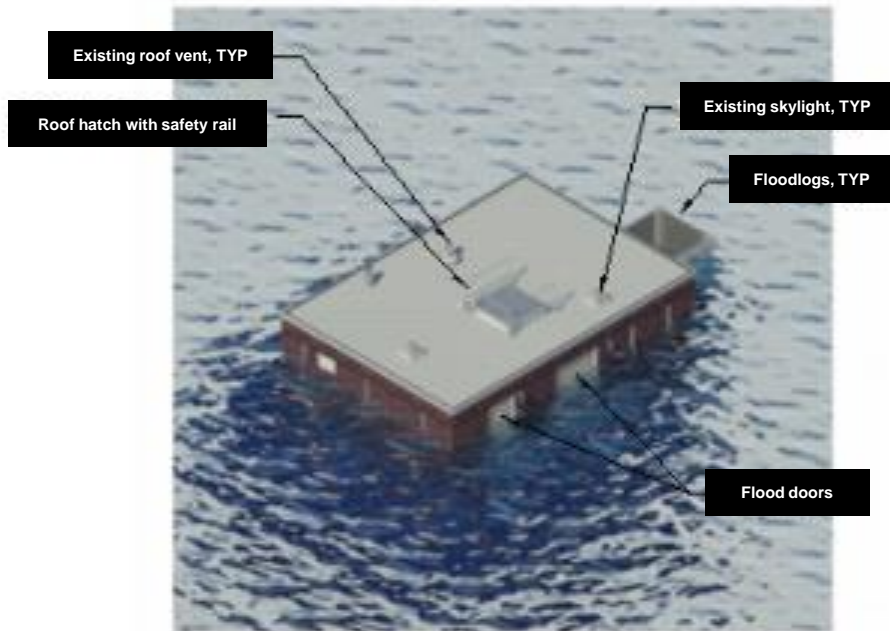


Priority pump station

Existing equipment not waterproof

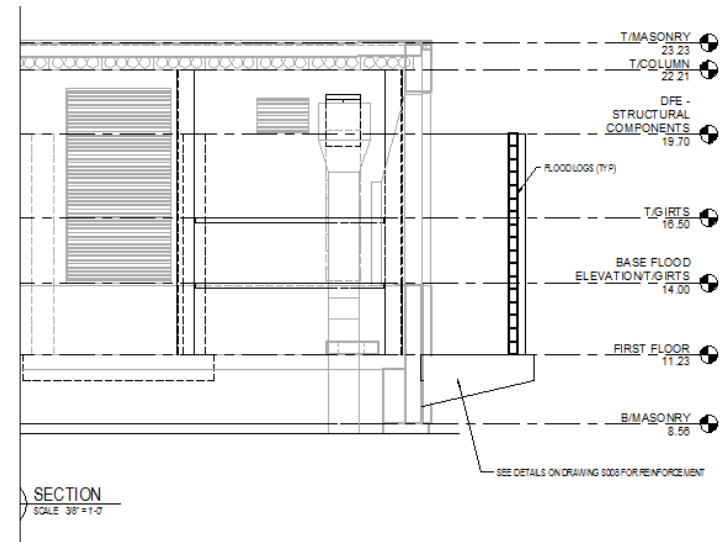
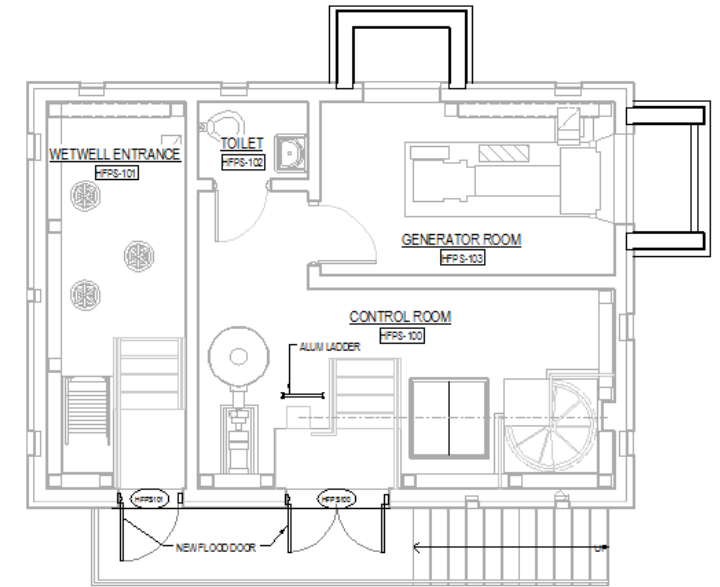
- Equipment damage
- Electrical damage

Potential structure collapse



Sealing potential entry points

- Flood proof doors
- Flood plank systems
- Relocating openings below DFE



Structural reinforcement

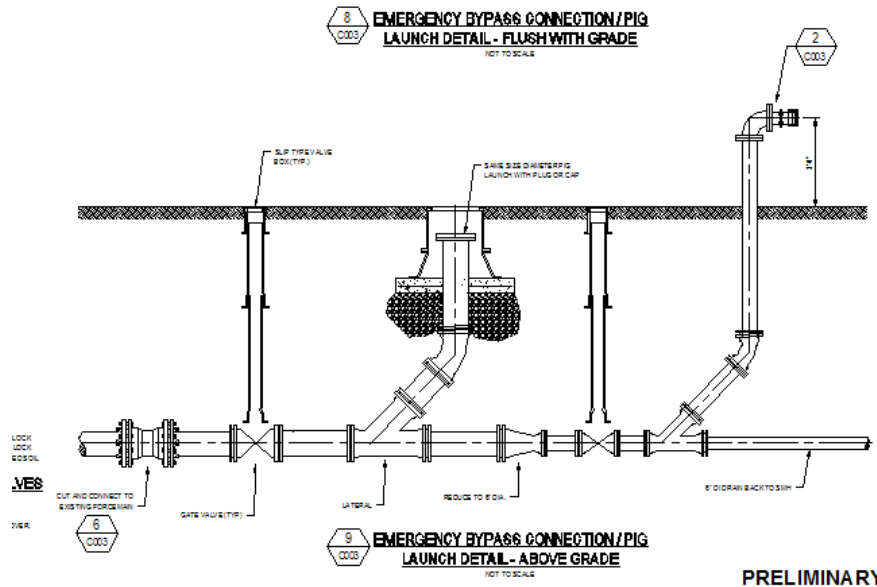
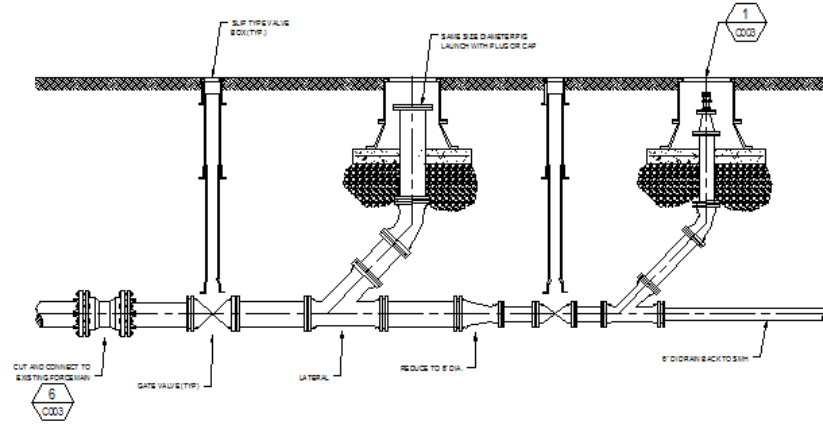
Carbon reinforcing strips



Internal structural bracing



Emergency bypass connection



Vulnerable Coastal Wastewater Infrastructure

Case Study 2



- Town of Falmouth
- Southwestern portion of Cape Cod
- 4 lift stations and 1 force main in vulnerable locations
- Examples:
 - Lift Station without Superstructure
 - Lift Station with Superstructure

Falmouth Sewer and Collection System Infrastructure

Problems:

- Sewer system components are some of the most critical municipal assets and most vulnerable to impacts of climate change

FY-22 Municipal Vulnerability Action Grant:

- Evaluate alternatives for the Woods Hole sewer force main
- Evaluate and compare conceptual designs to increase coastal resilience of four vulnerable lift stations



Historical Storm Events



Hurricane of 1938 – Falmouth, MA



Hurricane Bob (1991) – Surf Drive

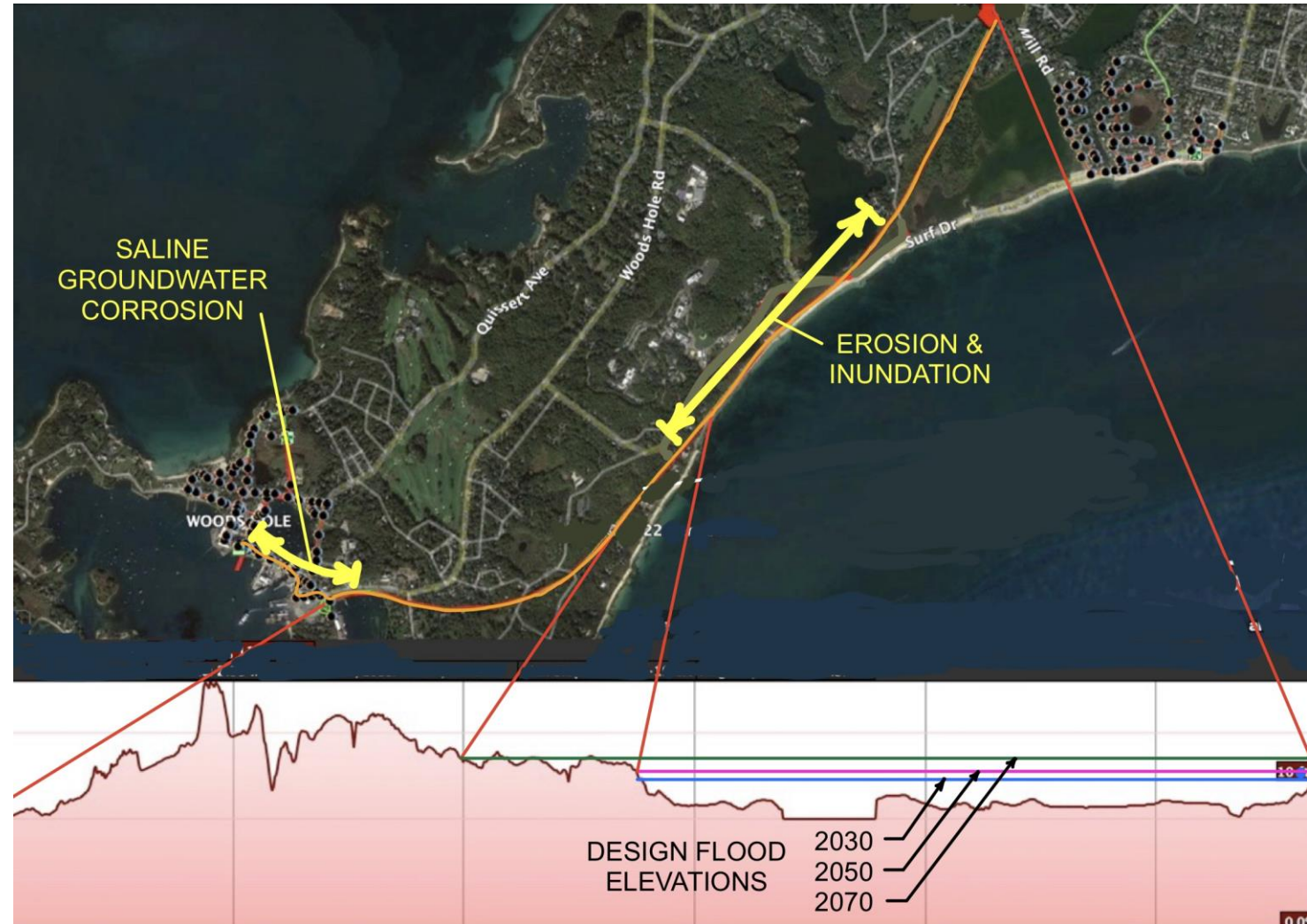


Hurricane Bob (1991) – Shuckers in Woods Hole

Woods Hole Force Main Evaluation

Background:

- 4.6 miles from Woods Hole to Jones-Palmer Lift Station
- Section along south coast was lined in 2012 but is vulnerable to erosion / undermining
- Section in Woods Hole village vulnerable to corrosion from saline groundwater



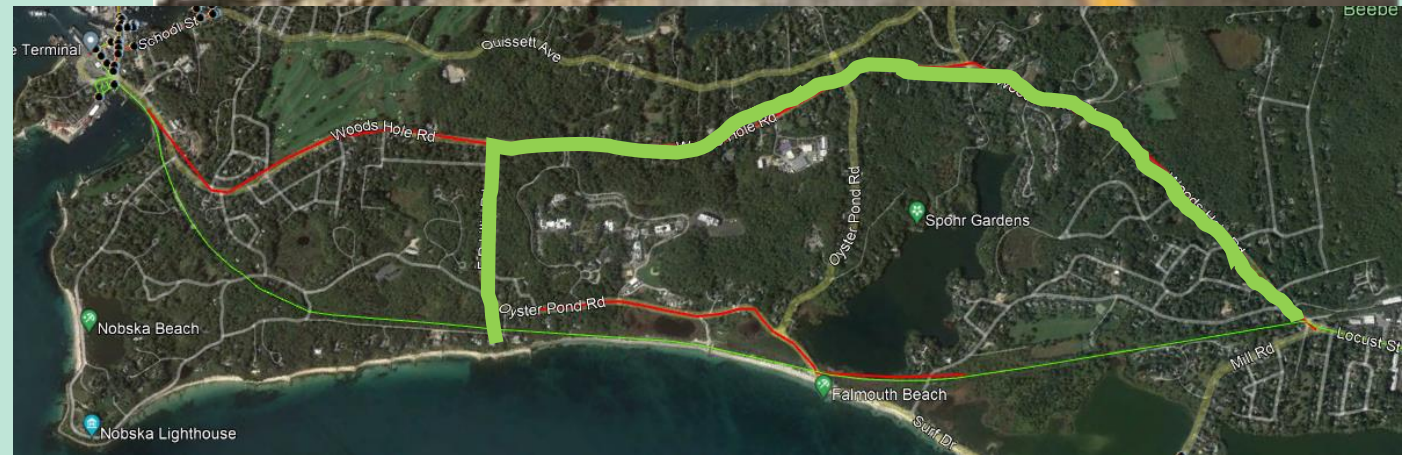
Mitigation measures

For section along southcoast vulnerable to erosion/ undermining:

- Relocate force main inland – several route/length options
- Replace with corrosion-proof pipe at depth – directional drilling

For section in Woods Hole village vulnerable to corrosion:

- Line existing pipe (for this area, as effective and lower cost than replacement)



Lift Stations Without Superstructures



2070 Design Flood = 19.9 ft
2050 Design Flood = 19.1 ft

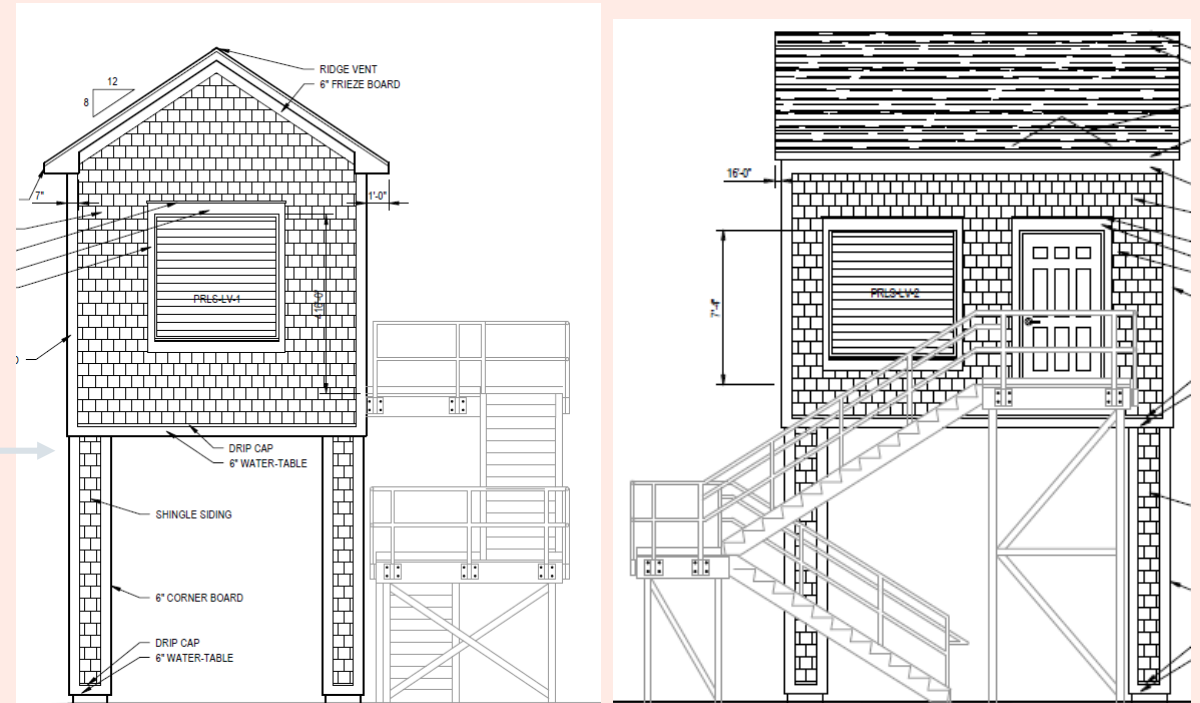
2030 Base Flood = 13.4 ft

Park Road Design Flood Elevations



Park Road Option – Elevated Structure

- Construct elevated building to house gas-powered generator and lift station electrical
- Building **“floor” > 19 ft above ground**
- **Operational Concept**: Keep station operational during a design flood event



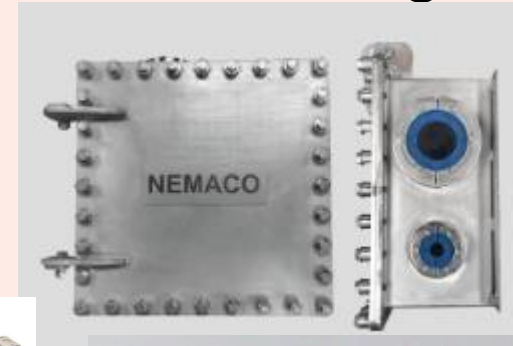
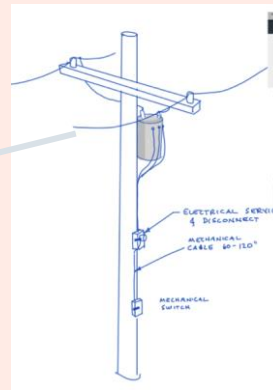
Park Road Option – Low Pressure Sewer

- Replace gravity system with low pressure piping.
- Provide grinder pump for each house
- **Operational Concept:** System will continue to operate during design flooding until pump control panels are flooded; pumps will not run when power is lost unless owner installs home generator.



Park Road Option– Electrical Relocation

- Relocate electrical (use portable generator in outage)
- **Operational Concept:** Station will operate during moderate flooding but not during “100 year storms”; will be protected from water damage.



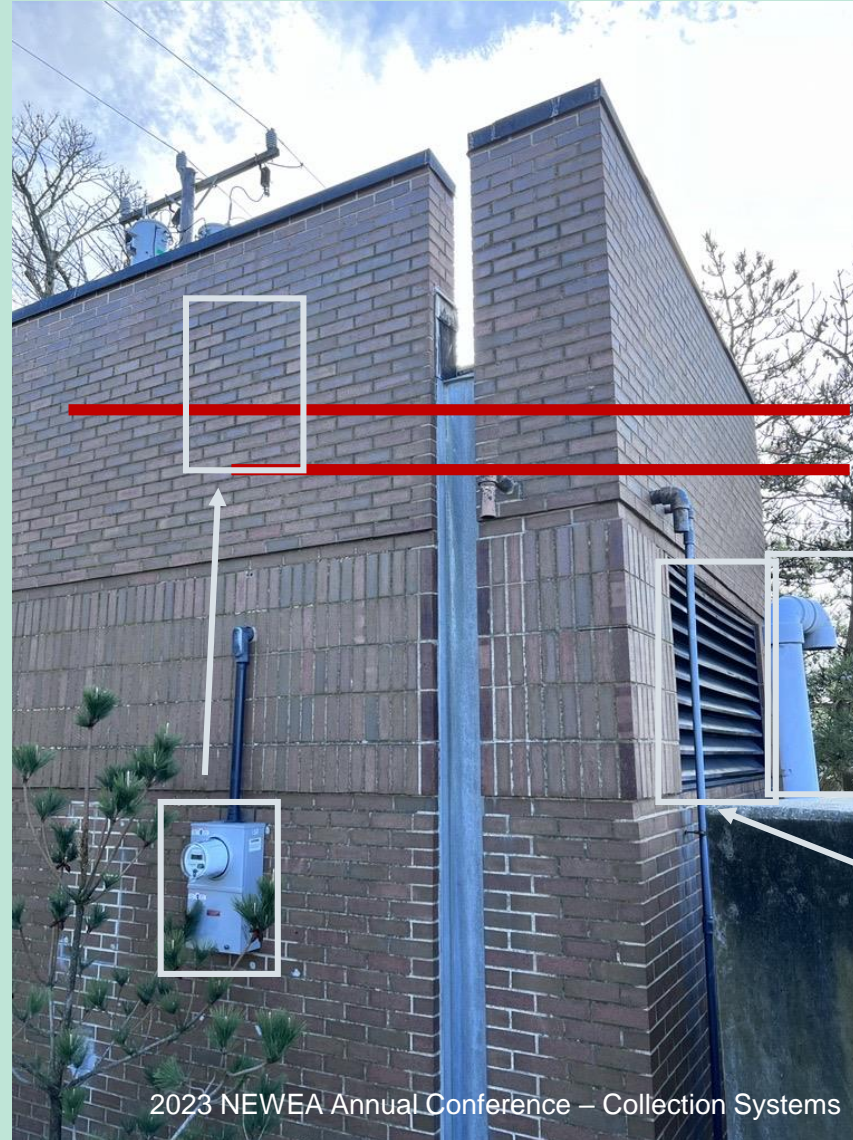
Lift Station with Superstructure

- Goal of Design: Keep station operational during a design flood event.
- Lift Station Serves: all of Woods Hole
 - Woods Hole US Coast Guard Station, MBL, WHOI, NOAA Northeast Fisheries Center, and Steamship Authority.



Woods Hole Lift Station Design

- Move vents to roof
- Flood-proof louvers and door
- Raise exterior electrical meter and disconnect switch
- Seal all wall penetrations
- Test flood proofing of hatches



2070 = 18.0 ft
2050 = 17.4 ft





Summary

- Recent FEMA flood map revisions indicate low-lying wastewater infrastructure is becoming increasingly vulnerable in multiple coastal communities.
- Towns can get creative in using grant funding for some of this work – and to get this finally implemented!
- Opportunities to implement cost-effective coastal resilience retrofits to protect vulnerable infrastructure as municipalities continue developing long-term adaptation strategies

 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
All Evidence is Science

Search NOAA sites

NEWS & FEATURES

Above-normal Atlantic hurricane season is most likely this year

'Weak or non-existent' El Niño is a factor

Weather | Forecasting | Hurricanes

UPDATED: May 25, 2017. Also see related article on its posted to our "Resources" section below.

May 25, 2017 Forecasters at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center say the Atlantic could see another above-normal hurricane season this year.

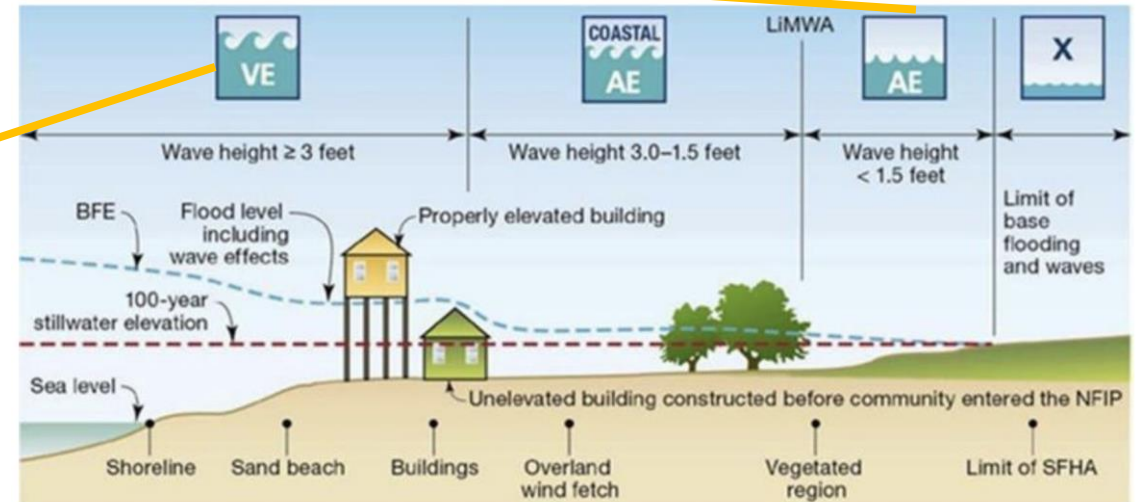
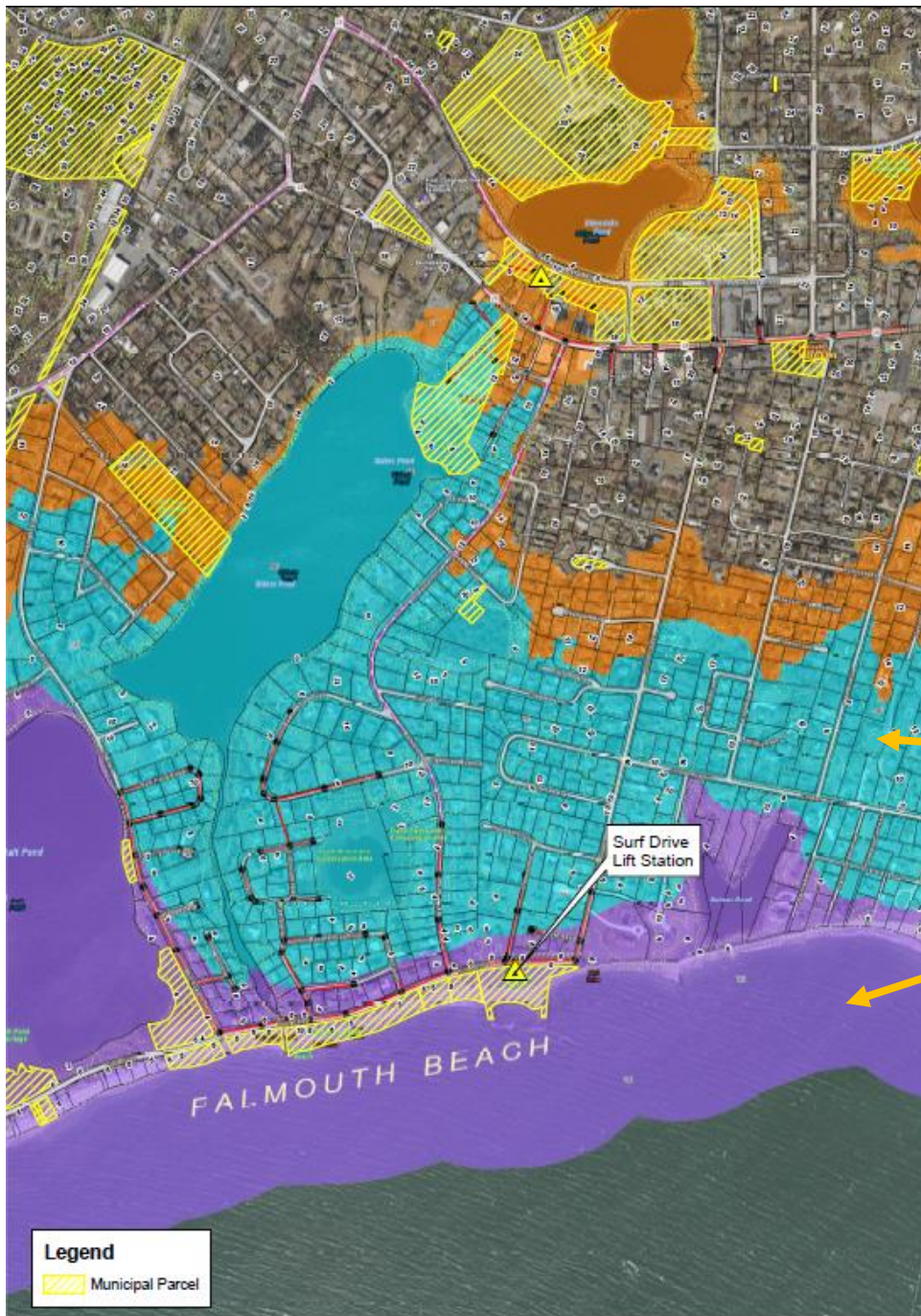
An aerial photograph of a coastal town featuring a large marina filled with numerous sailboats and yachts. The marina is situated between residential neighborhoods with houses and green spaces. A prominent road runs alongside the marina. In the foreground, a sandy beach is visible, along with a long, low building and a parking lot. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.

**Thank You!
Questions?**

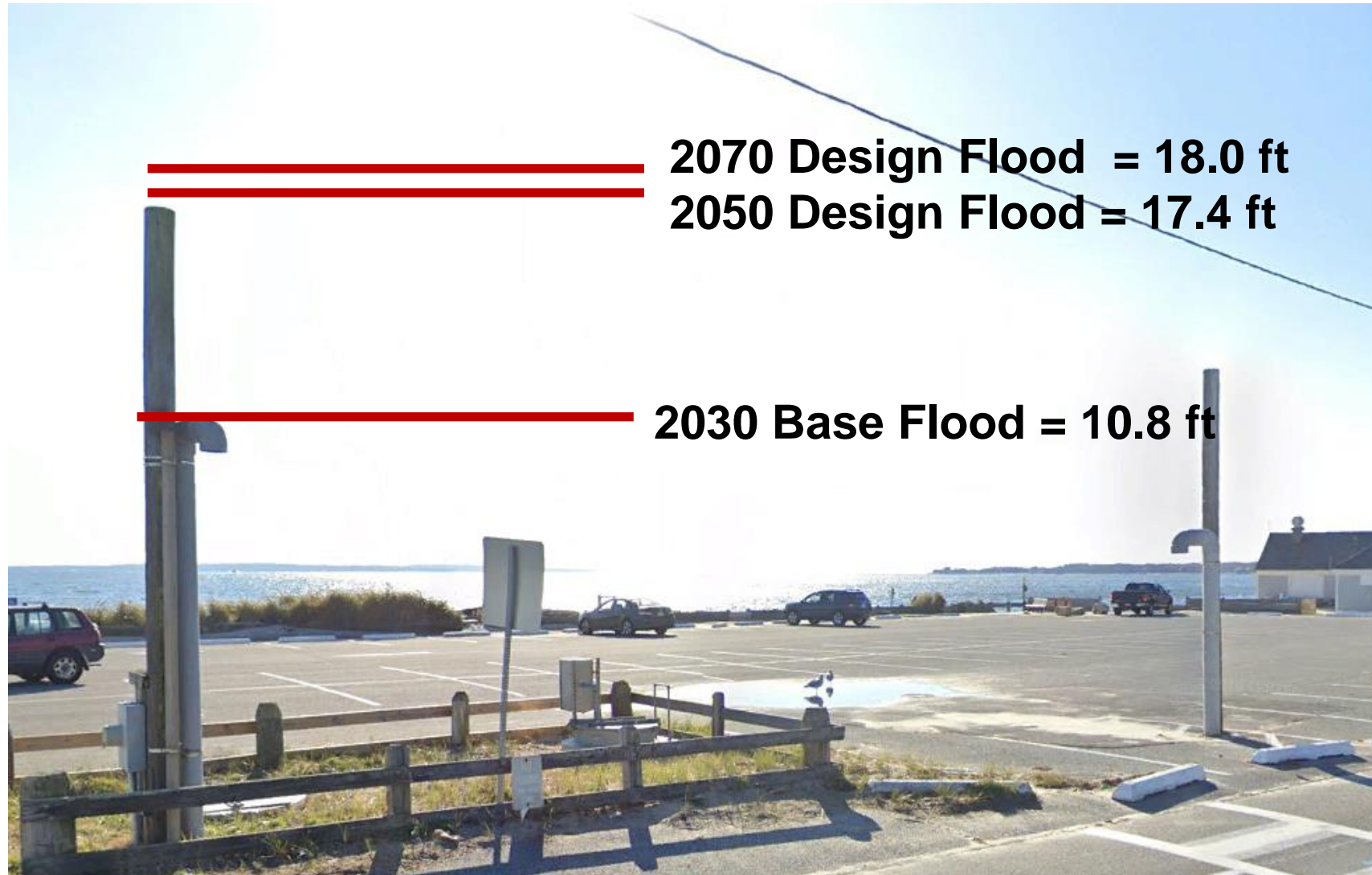
sara.greenberg@ghd.com
anastasia.rudenko@ghd.com

Falmouth Beach Lift Station

Station serves residential properties, all in VE or AE zone

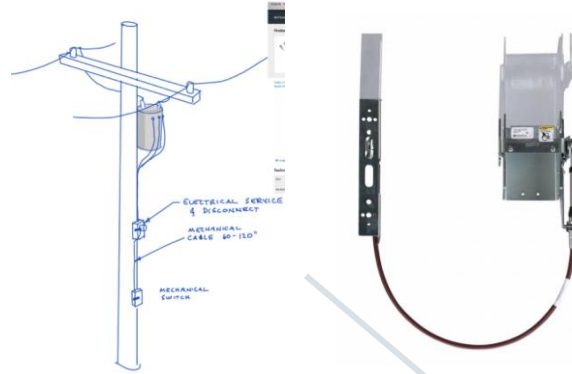


Falmouth Beach Design Flood Elevations



Goal: Keep station operational during a design flood event

1' Stations Without Superstructures

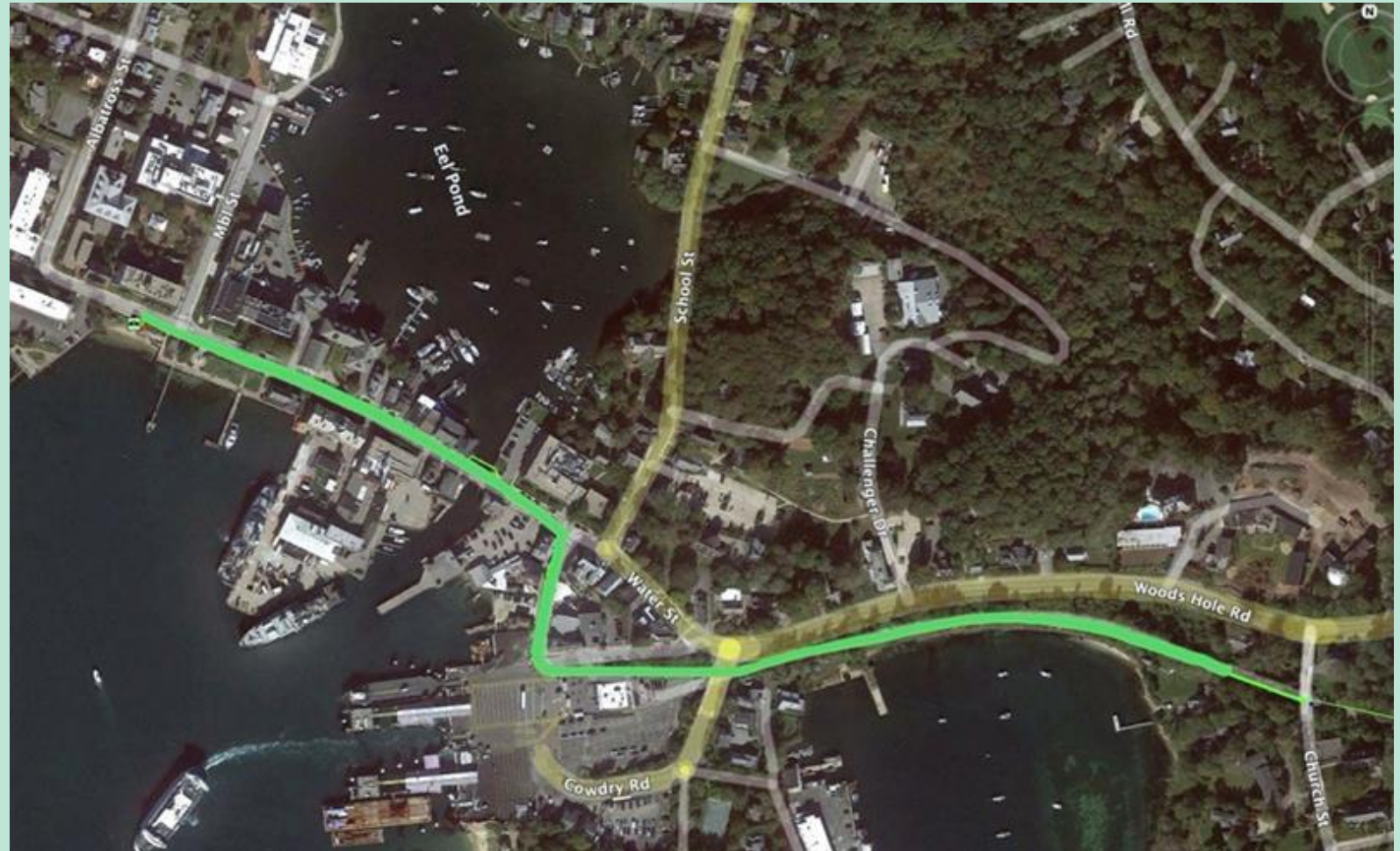


- Flood proof hatch
- Raise meter, shut-off, vents
- Install permanent by-pass



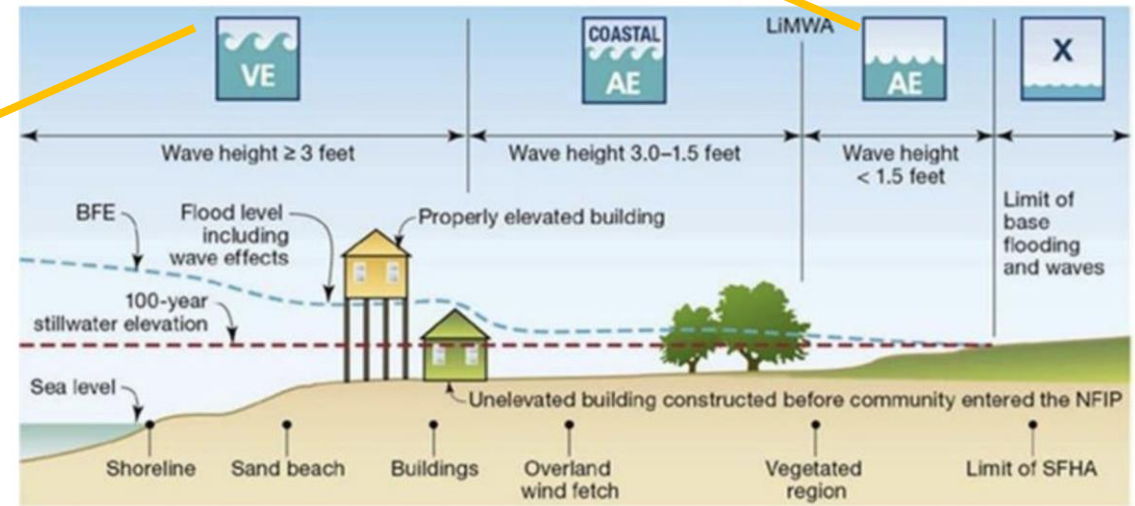
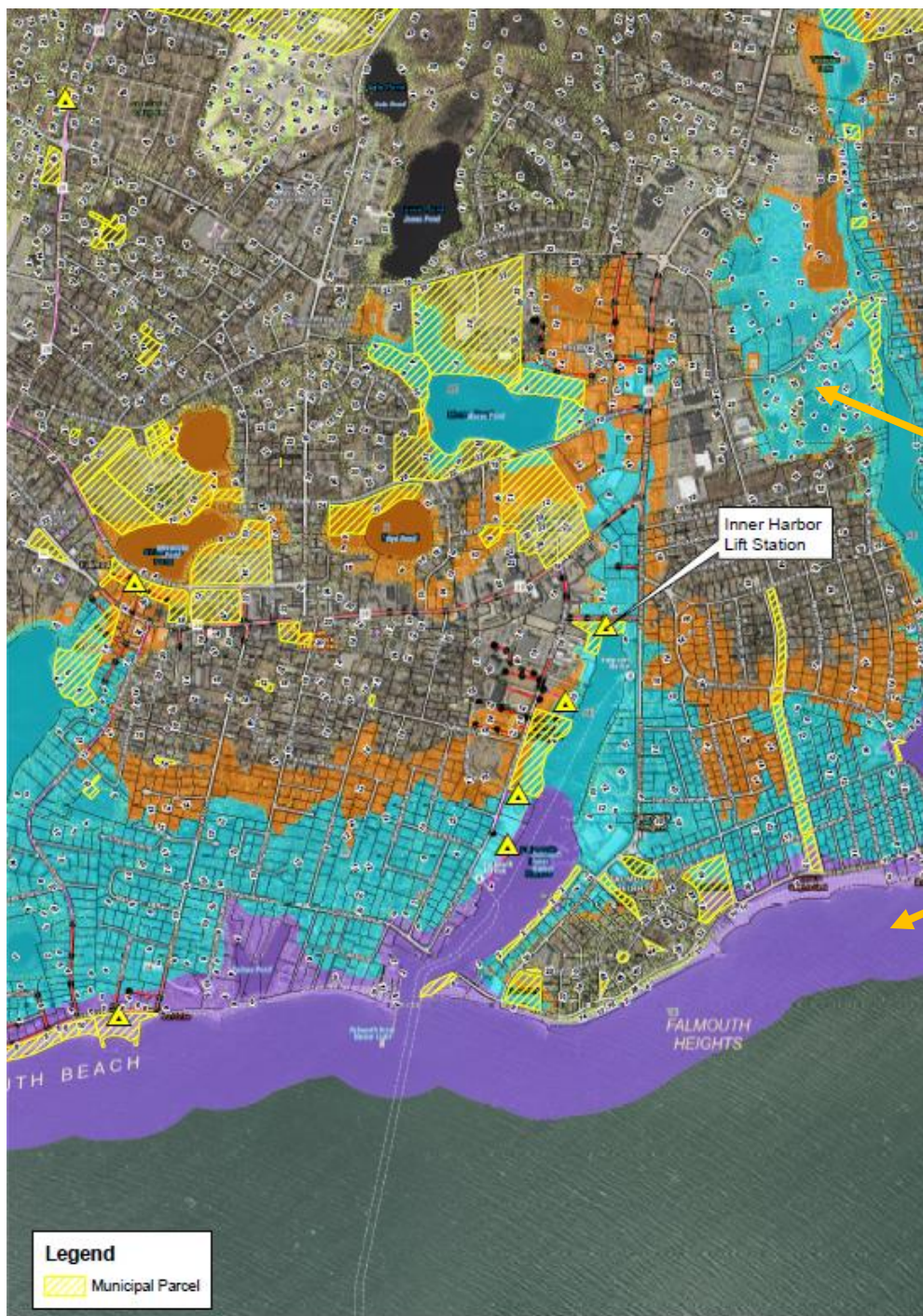
Woods Hole Village Force Main Lining

- Under all options, line up to 3,200 feet of force main in Woods Hole village subject to corrosion
- \$1.7 million



Inner Harbor Lift Station

Serves commercial, municipal and residential properties in Davis Straits/Scranton Ave area, as well as Falmouth Heights, much of service area in AE zone



Woods Hole – Additional Info

- The current generator is anticipated to power the station for 14 hours under peak conditions.
- Longest predicted flood duration is <6 hours.
- Buoyancy analysis indicated station is anticipated to remain in-ground during flooding events.
- Flooding will cause hydrostatic pressure on the superstructure's walls. Existing walls are anticipated to support short-term flooding.

Lift Station Operation As Sea Level Rises

- Optimum: Continuous operation, even during and immediately after flood events.
- Will not be possible under some flood conditions because:
 - i. Equipment will get damaged by flood water and/or
 - ii. System will be overwhelmed (pipes full of flood water; pumps cannot keep up)
- Evaluated means of protecting stations from 2050 design flood
- Did not evaluate relocating or elevating stations. See how Town’s strategy for “adaptation, protection and retreat” progresses.



Woods Hole Lift Station



Falmouth Beach Lift Station



Inner Harbor Lift Station

Park Road Option Evaluation - DRAFT

Alternative	Capital Cost Estimate (2022\$)	Pro	Con
Elevated Structure	\$1,100,000	Would operate during design flooding; back-up power onsite	Visual impact; challenging construction; highest cost
Electrical Relocation	\$250,000	Lowest cost; would allow operation during moderate flooding; electrical protected from flood damage	Portable generator must be brought to site when power out; will not operate during extreme flooding. Continue to operate lift station in marsh.
Low Pressure	\$900,000	Eliminate lift station in increasingly flooded marsh	Each resident would need grinder pump; pumps won't run when power out (if no home generator); control panel damage during flood; cost

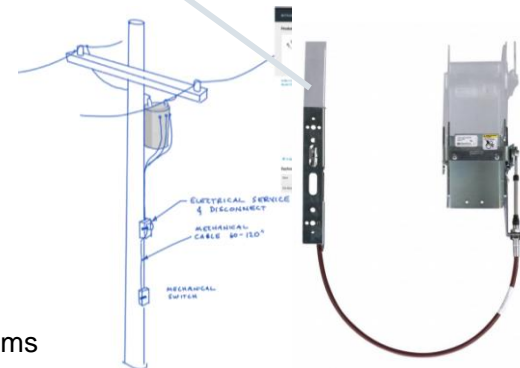
Sealing existing manholes from inflow would be additional cost for elevated structure and electrical relocation options

Inner Harbor Design Flood Elevations



Goal: Keep station operational during a design flood event

Inner Harbor Design



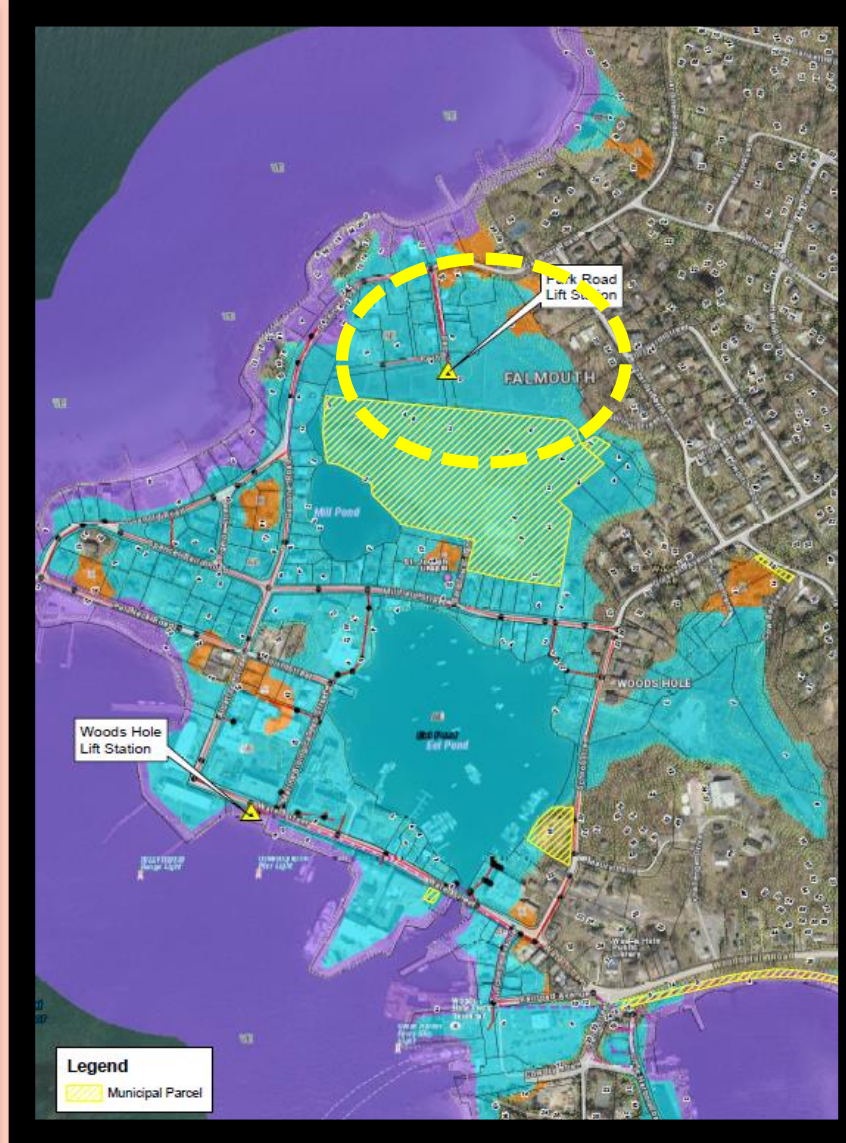
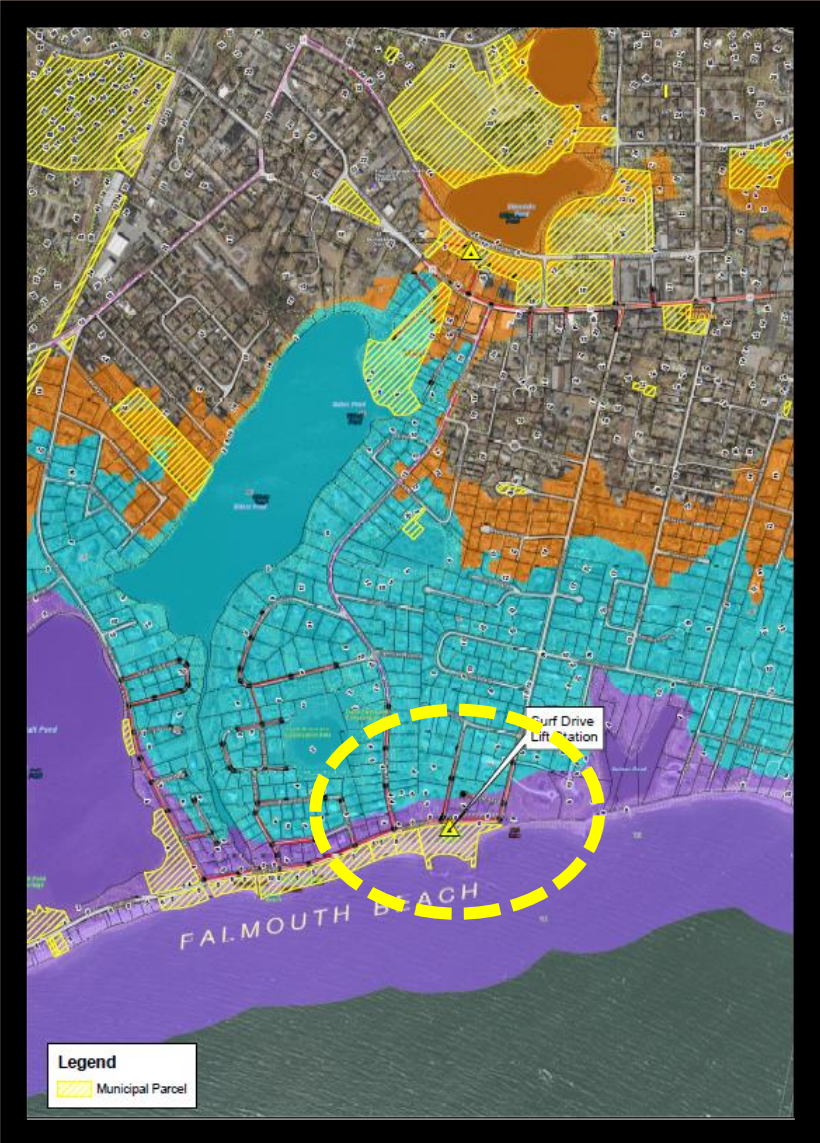
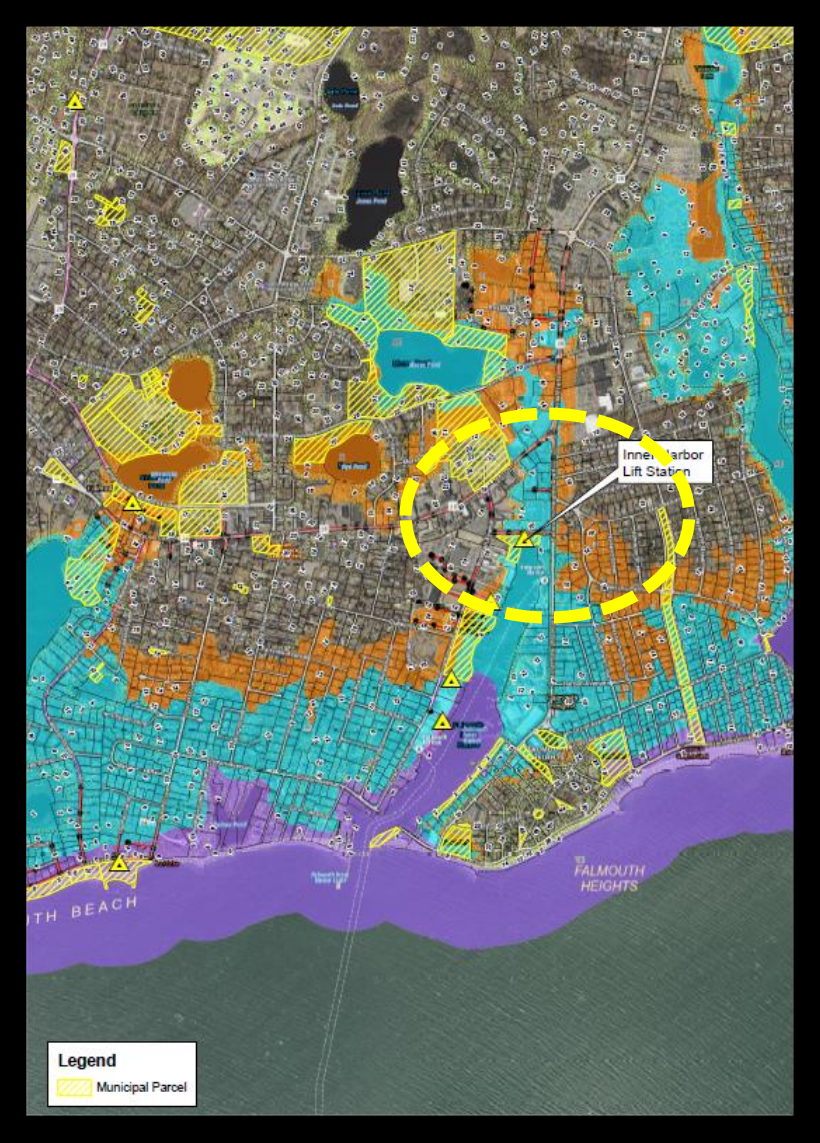
Lift Station Flood Proofing Cost Estimates

DRAFT


Lift Station	Capital Cost Estimates (2022\$)
Woods Hole	\$150,000
Falmouth Beach	\$150,000
Inner Harbor	\$ 80,000


Sealing existing manholes from inflow is additional cost, not included

Lift Stations Without Superstructures





 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
401 Boulevard, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Search NOAA sites 

NEWS & FEATURES

Above-normal Atlantic hurricane season is most likely this year

'Weak or non-existent' El Niño is a factor

Weather | Forecasting | Hurricanes

UPDATED: May 25, 2017. Also see related article on El Niño posted to our "Resources" section below.

May 25, 2017 Forecasters at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center say the Atlantic could see another above-normal hurricane season this year.

Summary

Towns can get creative in using grant funding for some of this work – and to get this finally implemented!

Impact majority of critical infrastructure in coastal communities

Increasing importance of flood proof mitigation measures to strengthen resilience of critical infrastructure

Evaluation methodology

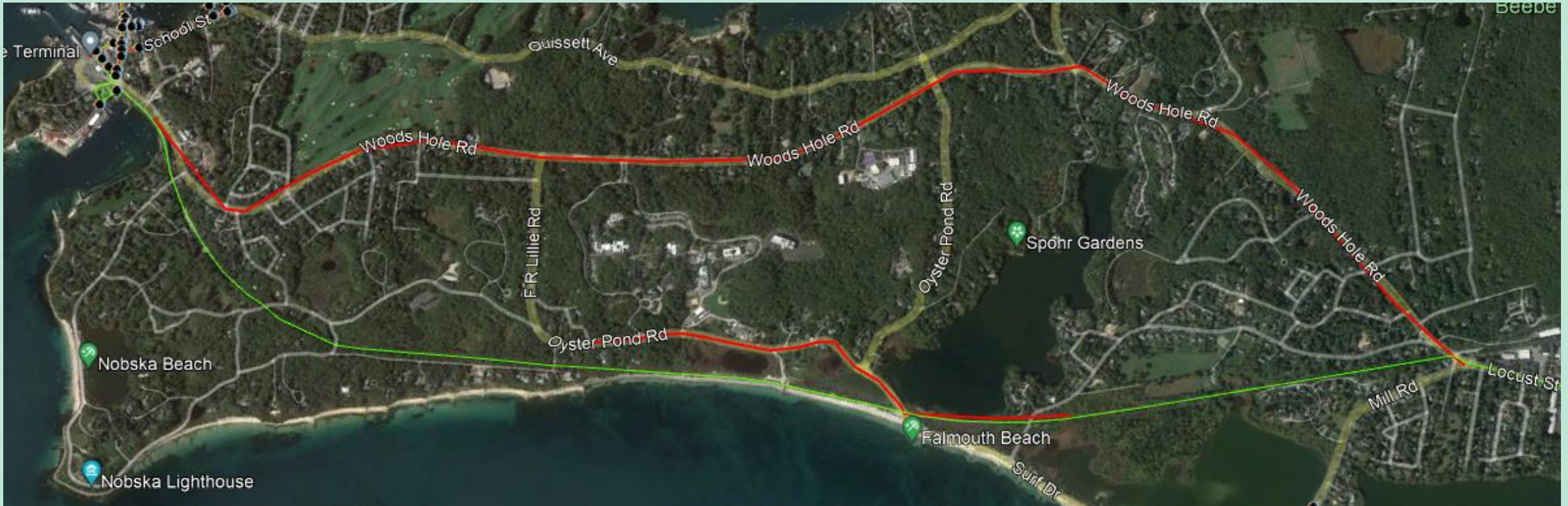
HAZUS – a nationally applicable standardized methodology that contains models for estimating potential losses from earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and tsunamis. Hazus uses Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to estimate physical, economic, and social impacts of disasters.

BCA 5.1 – Benefit Cost Analysis was developed using the FEMA software program BCA 5.1. This software analyzes proposed project costs and benefits, and produces a benefit-cost ratio (BCR). This model considered many factors including the local environment, critical facilities served and interdependency of pump stations.



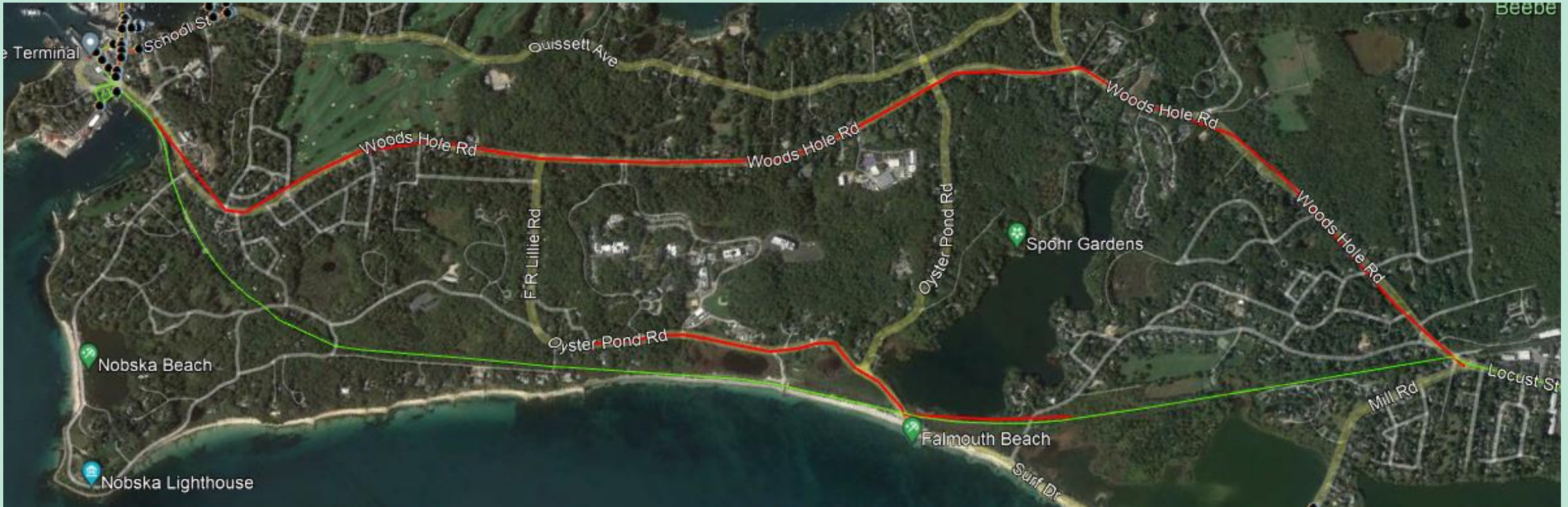
Woods Hole Force Main Options

1) Relocate most vulnerable section to Oyster Pond Road



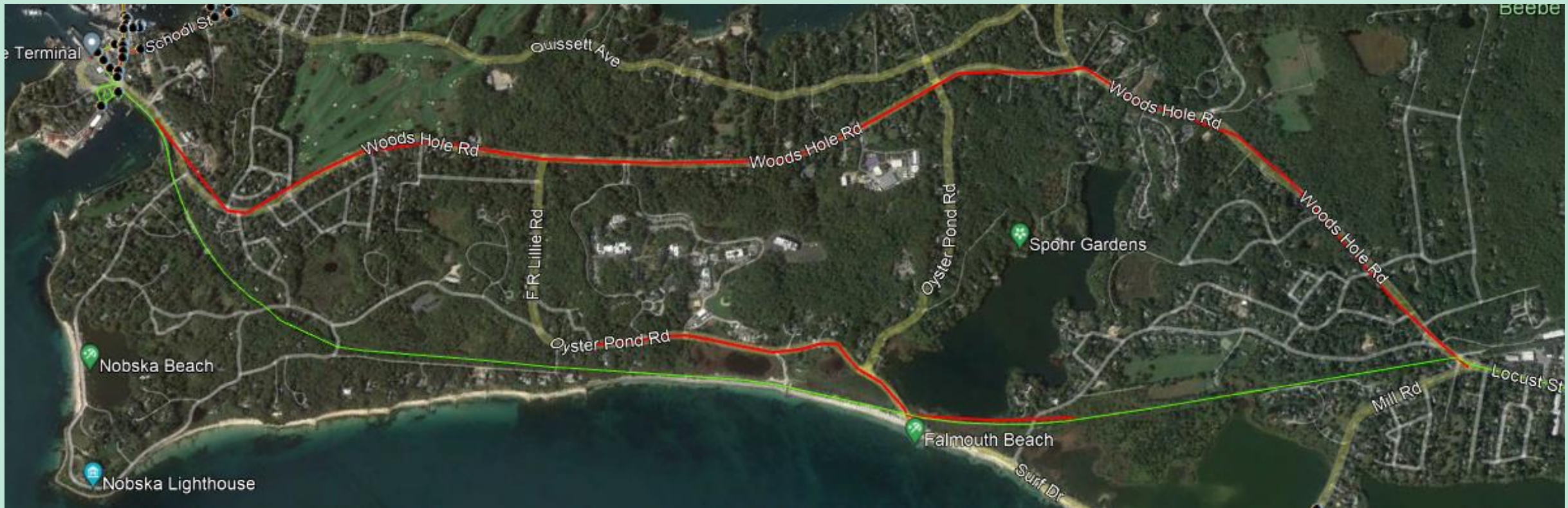
Woods Hole Force Main Options

2) Relocate most of coastal section inland via FR Lillie and Woods Hole Rd



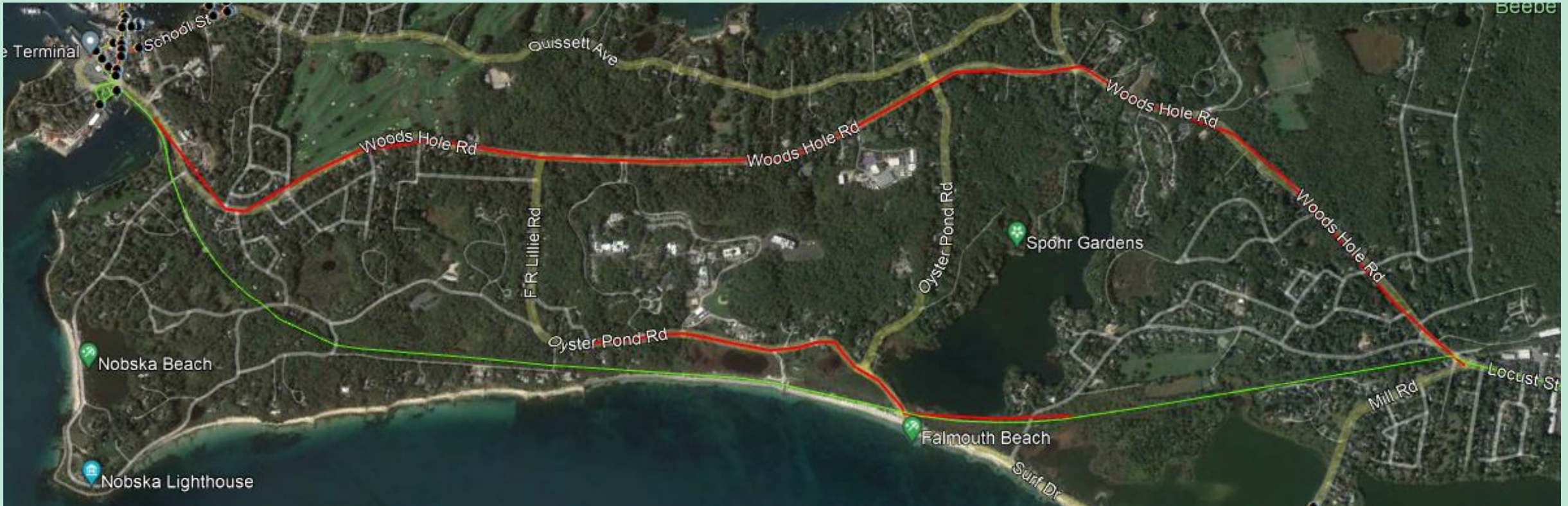
Woods Hole Force Main Options

3) Relocate entire coastal section inland to Woods Hole Road



Woods Hole Force Main Options

4) Directionally drill new HDPE pipe at depth under current location



Woods Hole Force Main Evaluation Matrix

Option	Length (feet)	Cost (millions, 2022\$)	Pro	Con
Relocate most vulnerable section to Oyster Pond Rd	4,500	\$4.0	Shortest relocation, lower cost	Future erosion potential if bike path/ Surf Drive abandoned
Relocate large section to F.R. Lillie and Woods Hole Rds	14,000	\$11.5	Relocates all vulnerable sections	Higher cost, higher disturbance
Relocate entire southern section to Woods Hole Rd	16,000	\$12.9	Complete replacement, no gap	Highest cost, most disturbance
Directional drill pipe ~ 40 ft under current bike path	5,000	\$4.6	Least disturbance, lower cost	New pipe will be inaccessible, under receding shoreline