

Flooding Adaptation In South Bethany

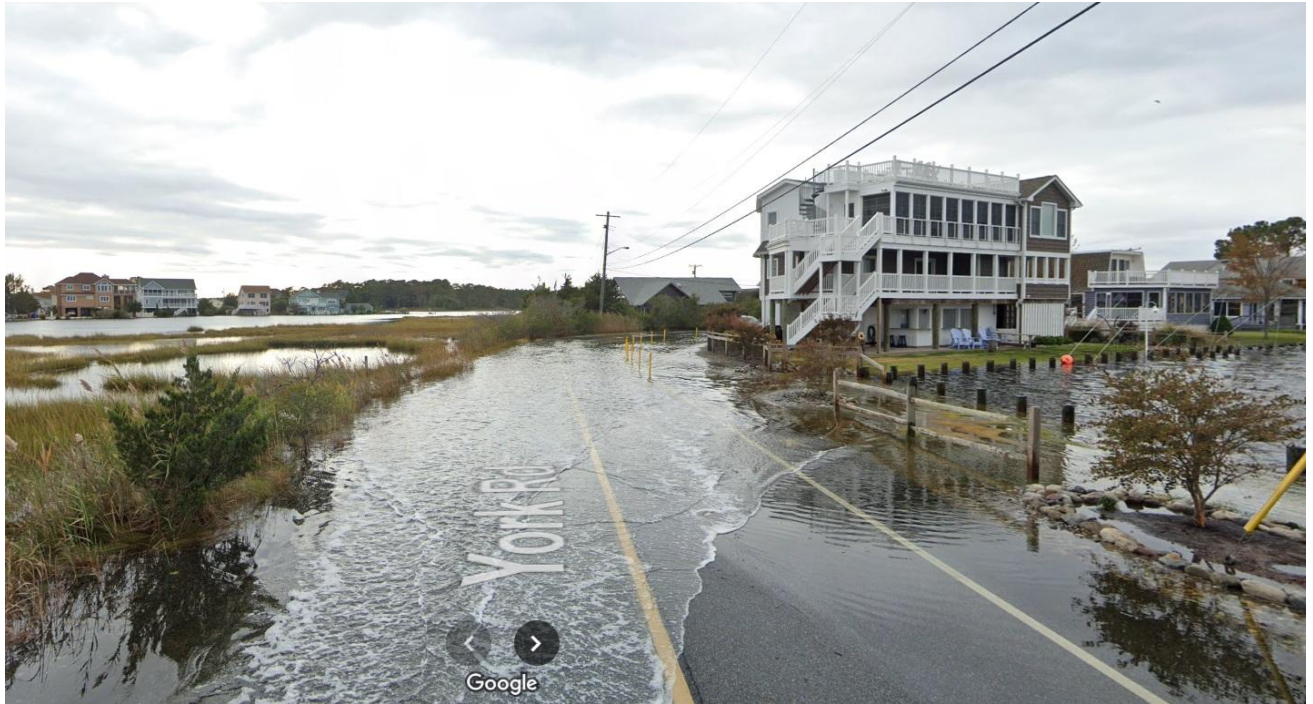
What is the challenge and what can you do?

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What is the challenge?



Yes the flooding, but also....



...synthesizing so many perspectives.



What can you do?



Different Types of Adaptation Strategies

- Protect: Soft or hard engineering designed to prevent flooding/damage
- Accommodate: Altering existing assets to reduce vulnerability to flood impacts
- Avoid: Not placing assets in areas exposed to flood impacts
- Relocate: Moving existing assets to areas that are less likely to be exposed to flooding

Butler, W. H., Deyle, R. E., Mutnansky, C. (2016). Low-regrets incrementalism: Land use planning adaptation to accelerating sea level rise in Florida's coastal communities. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 36 (3), 319-332.

Protect: Dikes in New Castle



Accommodate: Freeboard in Lewes



Avoid: Bethany Beach Nature Center



Relocate: Bowers Beach Bocce Court



Thank you! Questions?



Lewes Executive Committee on Resilience

Purpose: To help the City of Lewes further develop plans and preparation activities to address the challenges anticipated as a result of Sea Level Rise (SLR) and Climate Change.

The focus of the LECR was to identify strategies and actions that the city can undertake to balance the development of physical space while maintaining the natural environmental characteristics and a sustainable quality of life.

Assistance from DNREC's Resilient Community Partnership

Lewes Executive Committee on Resilience

- Committee: 11 stakeholders representing various geographic areas and interest groups met twice per month over 9 months
- Process
 - Listening sessions and survey
 - Expert presentations and guest speakers
 - Compilation of best practices into 14 policy options
 - Policy analysis
 - Committee discussion and voting

Lewes Executive Committee on Resilience

Committee Recommendations

- Develop a Resiliency Fund
- Sea Level Rise Real Estate Disclosure

Outcomes as of 2025

- Adoption of ordinance amendments addressing the first 12 policy options
- Still working on the two committee recommendations, particularly the Resiliency Fund