

# NY & NJ Harbor & Tributaries Focus Area Feasibility Study Teach In: Hazard & Risk Assessment

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## AGENDA

- Contribution of hazards to risk
- Sectors at risk
- How to review a risk assessment
- Holistic risk reduction
- Future risk reduction through maintenance and adaptation
- Iteration during construction



## HAZARDS Multiple, simultaneously





## **CRITICAL ASSETS BY SECTOR**

#### **Resilient Communities**



## **DURING THE RISK ASSESSMENT**

What to verify?

#### Data Collection

#### Study area

- Check perimeter for critical assets
- Determine unique geography and services
- Scenarios
  - Tide datum and elevation datum
  - Return interval varies with data input
  - Compound scenarios: sea level rise + surge
  - Sea level rise projections- acceleration potential
- Modeling results
  - Extracting data for points, lines and areas
  - Grid size and extrapolation
- Asset Interdependencies
  - Road access to utilities
  - Electrical systems for flood control



## **DURING THE RISK ASSESSMENT**

What to verify?

- Vulnerability (impacts and disruptions)
  - Exposure (proximity to hazard)
    - Review by sector, multiple hazards at same location, compound impacts requiring multiple adaptation strategies
  - Sensitivity (effect of hazard)
    - Sector specific asset data necessary to know sensitivity (underground assets)
    - Quantifying aged infrastructure
  - Adaptive Capacity (feasibility to accommodate threat)
    - Thresholds for emergency response, lifeline services

#### Risk

- Likelihood of Occurrence (probability of event)
  - Assigning probability to future sea level rise in context of current hazards
- Consequence (effect of impacts)
  - Damages based on recent events to weight impacts
- Risk Ranking and Prioritization (scale, criticality)
  - Varies by stakeholder interest and location



## **DURING THE RISK ASSESSMENT**

What to ask?

- What is most critical to protect?
- Where are the impacts most severe?
- Where are the stakeholder prioritized vulnerabilities?
- Where are the at risk assets concentrated?
- What are the common vulnerabilities across locations?
- What are the regional assets the community is dependent upon (electrical grid, transportation systems, water resources, housing)?





## APPLICATION OF RISK ASSESSMENT

#### How to think holistically?

- Using this information for community asset planning/ leverage current initiatives for continued success
- Affordability of property insurance
- Implications of access and supply chain risks
- Regional population growth, commerce projections and land use changes
- Sectors (energy and flood control) should coordinate to address cascading failures
- Public private partnerships



Low Compounding Risks Superfund Sites Wastewater Discharge Sites

### **BUILDING RESILIENCE, SEEING OPPORTUNITIES**



## **ITERATION DURING CONSTRUCTION**

#### **INTERIM SOLUTIONS**



#### **OPERATIONS**



## BAYOU CHENE FLOOD PROTECTION STRUCTURE, Louisiana

- Scope: Downstream flood control in response to new upstream structure and floodwater release
- Iterations
  - St. Mary Levee District constructed temporary structure to prevent 5' of flooding
  - In 2016, installed emergency structure in 15 days to hold 2' flooding
  - In 2019, emergency structure in 11 days
  - Final project of floodwall, gate and levees
  - Iteration of design standard



#### INNER HARBOR NAVIGATION CANAL SURGE PROTECTION BARRIER, Louisiana

- Scope: 24 feet and 26 feet above water, 100-year storm surge protection for large portion of Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes
- Iterations
  - Closure piles design for effective seal
  - Logistical needs for over water construction



HOUMA NAVIGATION LOCK COMPLEX, Louisiana

- Scope of Work: 800 foot long lock chamber, flood gate, 100-250 foot navigation channel, connects to existing levees
- Iterations
  - Phased approach to ensure federal funding is available via Restore Act
  - Coordination with stakeholders and USACE to ensure public and agency concerns are heard
  - Logistical needs for both overwater construction and maintaining flood protection during construction

## **FUTURE RISKS**

#### Maintenance and Long-term Adaptation

- Evaluation of performance metrics
- Recovery planning
- Timeliness and cost sharing for maintenance
  Inclusion in cost benefit analysis
- Federal reauthorization process
- Adaptability of constructed project for future conditions
  - Expected life cycle and projections for future scenarios
  - Anticipated future points of failure for aged infrastructure



# QUESTIONS

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**Expect the Extraordinary.**