

Creating Resilient Communities

Georgia Sea Grant/UGA Marine Extension: Preparing Coastal Georgia for Climate Hazards

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN:

Georgia Sea Grant

North Carolina Sea Grant

City of St. Marys, GA

City of Tybee Island, GA

University of Georgia

Carl Vinson Institute of Government

Lamar Dodd School of Art

College of Environment and Design

UGA Marine Extension

Stetson University

GA Department of Natural Resources

St. Marys Earthkeepers

*(Funded by NOAA National Sea Grant
program)*

Kelly Spratt

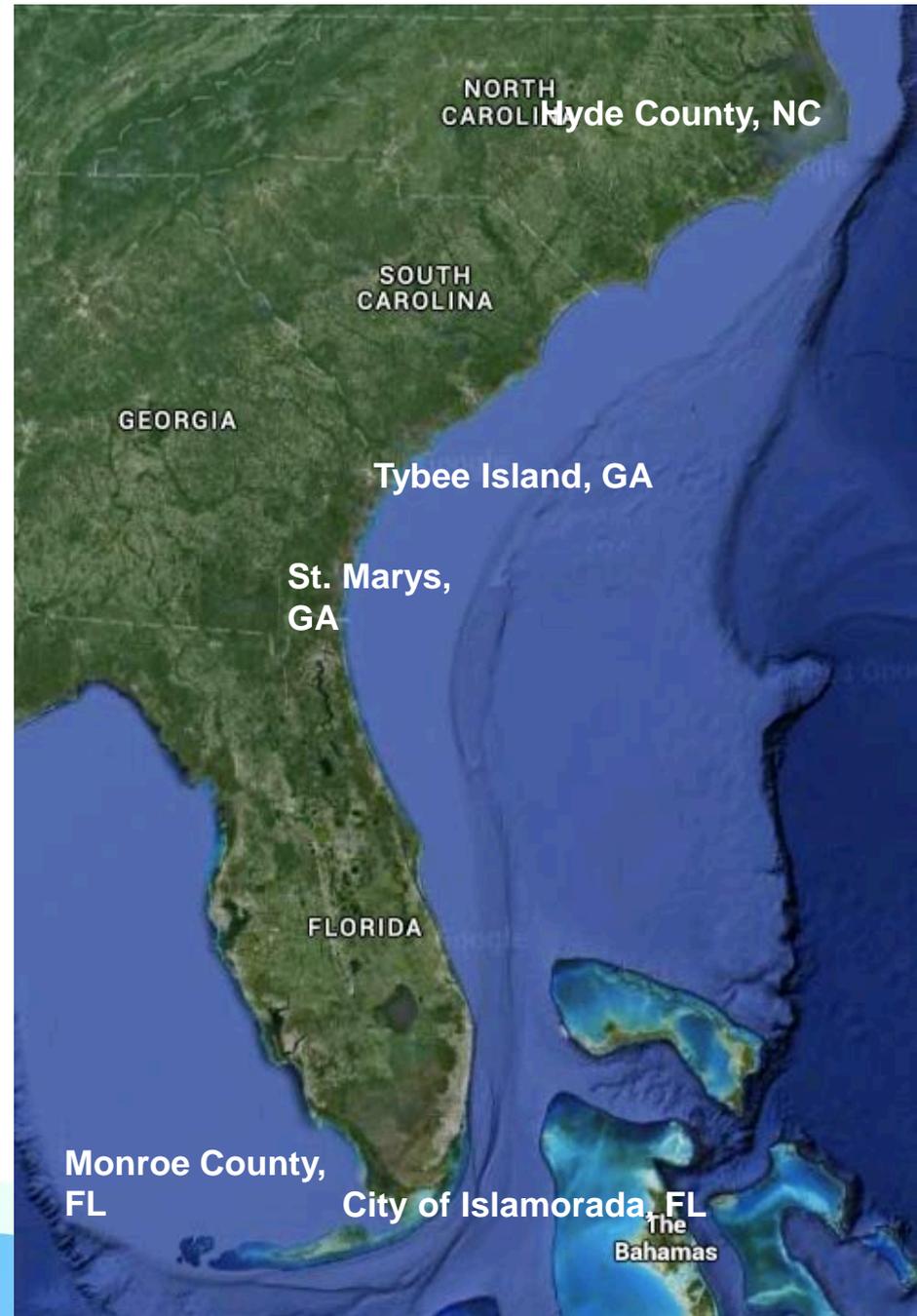
Georgia Sea Grant/

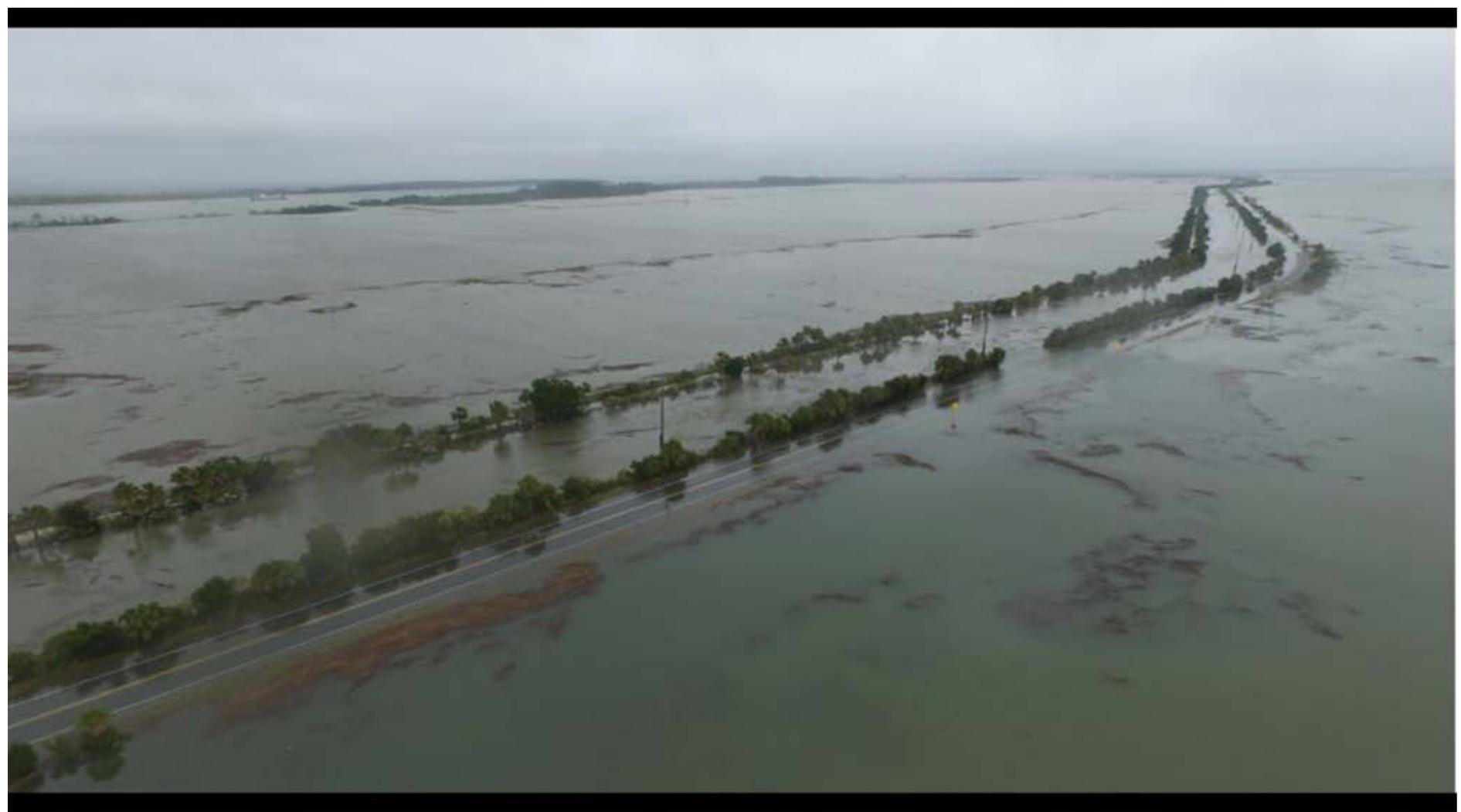
Marine Extension Service

University of Georgia

The Goal

Georgia Sea Grant is actively in increasing resiliency along the GA Coast. Our results are viewed as a model for stakeholder involvement in planning for both riverine and coastal flooding, and preparing for sea level rise.





In 2011, Tybee Island, Georgia Sea Grant and the University of Georgia partnered to seek National Sea Grant funding for climate adaptation planning



Sea Level Rise on Tybee Island



- More frequent flooding
- Stormwater drainage issues
- Beach erosion
- Saltwater intrusion
- Intensified storm surges
- Safety and emergency management concerns

Local Knowledge

- Community-driven process
- Identify where is vulnerable
- Identify what is most critical and which potential actions to take



Local Decisions



Cost-benefit analysis of potential adaptation actions:

- Renourishment of the beaches
- Raising U.S. Highway 80 by three to four feet
- Elevating the wells and lift stations out of the flood zone
- Building a sea wall
- Stormwater retrofits

St. Marys Climate Adaptation Initiative



Public Outreach

We began with a SLR public lecture at local theater.



Tapping Local Knowledge



INTERVIEWS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Identify vulnerable flooding areas

FACILITATED DISCUSSIONS

- Identify what is most critical and potential actions

ASSESSING OPTIONS

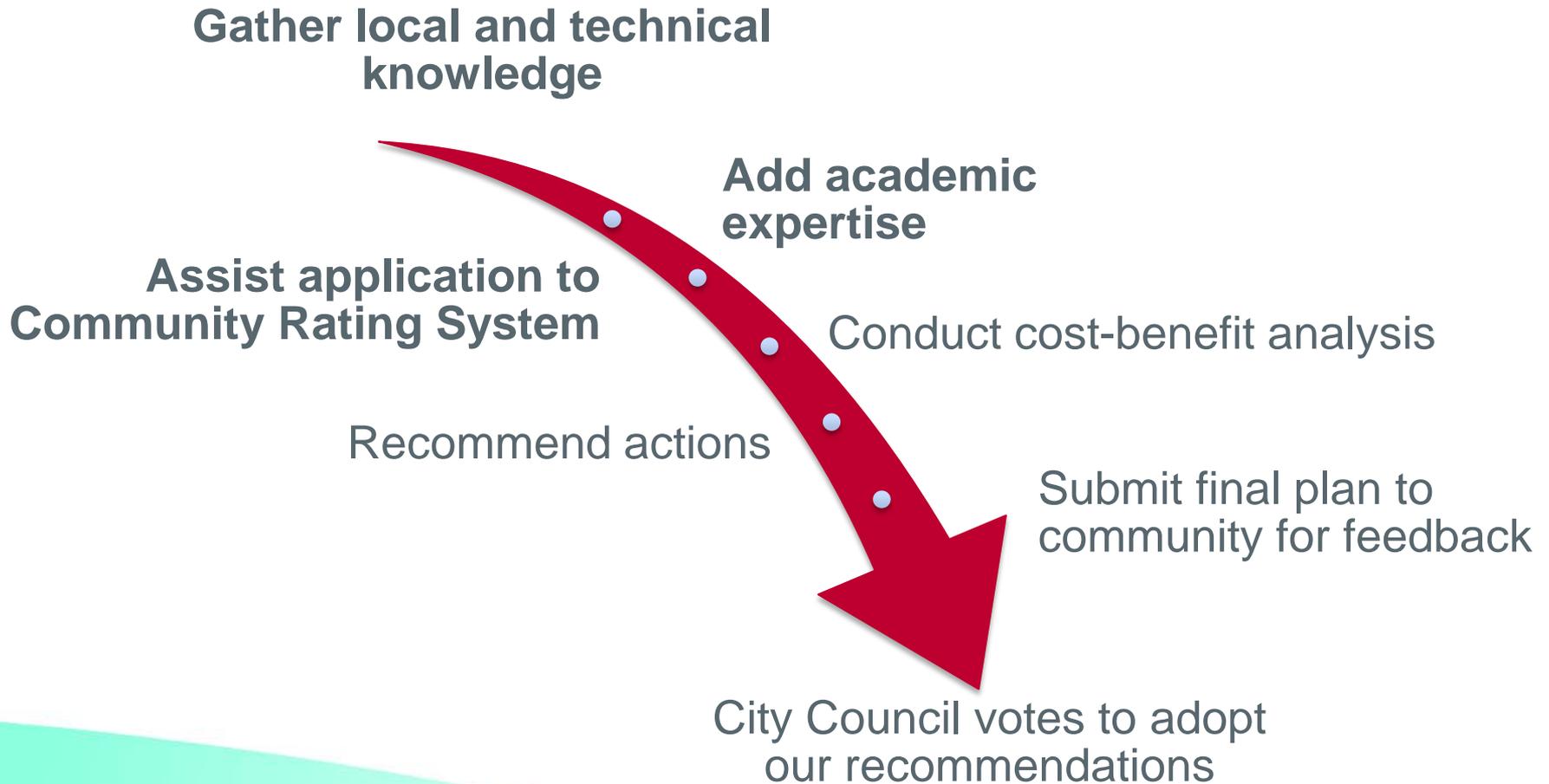
- Cost benefit analysis

VCAPS

Vulnerability
Consequences
Adaptation
Planning
Scenario:
Interviews and
stakeholder input.



Planning Process



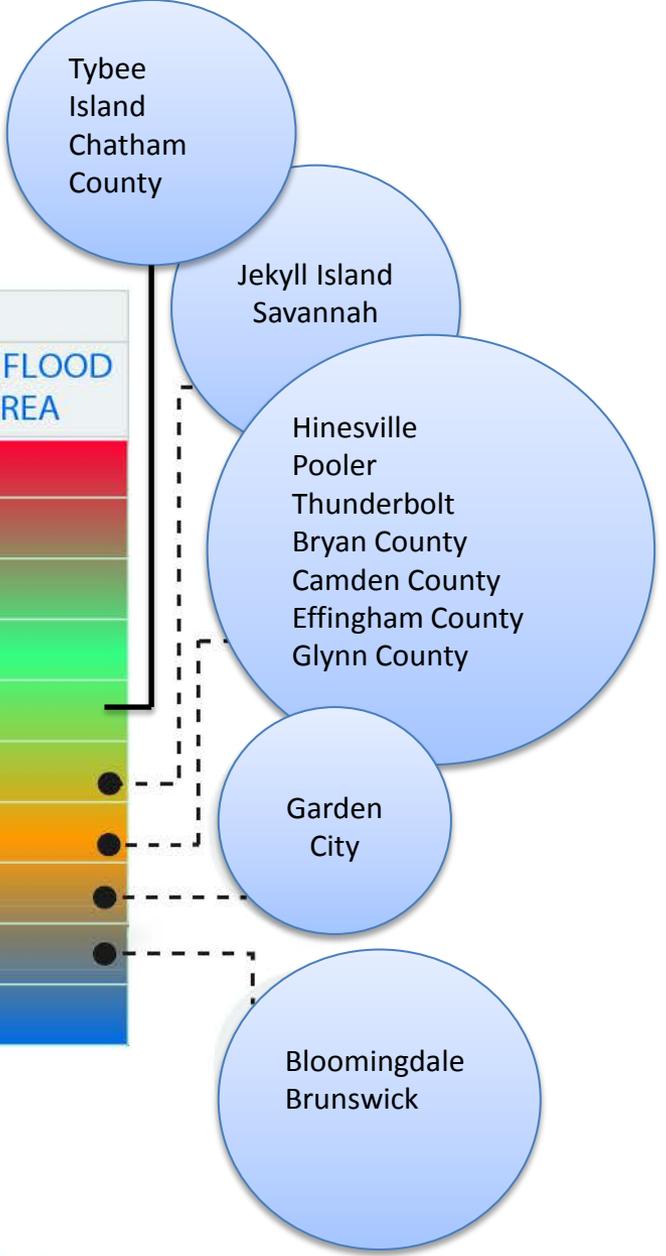
Community Rating System

The Community Rating System (CRS) recognizes communities who take steps to reduce their flood risk and provides flood insurance discounts for residents.



COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM (CRS)
CLASSIFICATION AND PREMIUM REDUCTION
 Participation can lower community flood insurance rates

CREDIT POINTS	CLASS	PREMIUM REDUCTION	
		SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA	NON-SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA
4,500+	1	45%	10%
4,000 – 4,499	2	40%	10%
3,500 – 3,999	3	35%	10%
3,000 – 3,499	4	30%	10%
2,500 – 2,999	5	25%	10%
2,000 – 2,499	6	20%	10%
1,500 – 1,999	7	15%	5%
1,000 – 1,499	8	10%	5%
500 – 999	9	5%	5%
0 – 499	10	0	0



420 – Open Space Preservation

Resilience Rating C

- Current Level of Activity (46 of 2,020 points)
 - Additional points are available at the present time
 - 1,573 acres of SFHA in Millford are considered dedicated permanent open space
 - Much of the open space is deed restricted (DR) and much of the open space provides natural functions (NFOS)
- Proposed Improvements
 - Documentation of existing open space to gain points in the short term
 - Acquisitions of residential properties and conversion to deed restricted open space
 - City will compile an inventory of properties that may meet the criteria for natural shoreline protection (NSP) and prepare a summary for future increases in points



Current Projects:

Partnerships
with EPD,
Floodplain
Mapping,
Training



FL

Current Projects:

CRS Users Group, Coastal Hazards Community of Practice

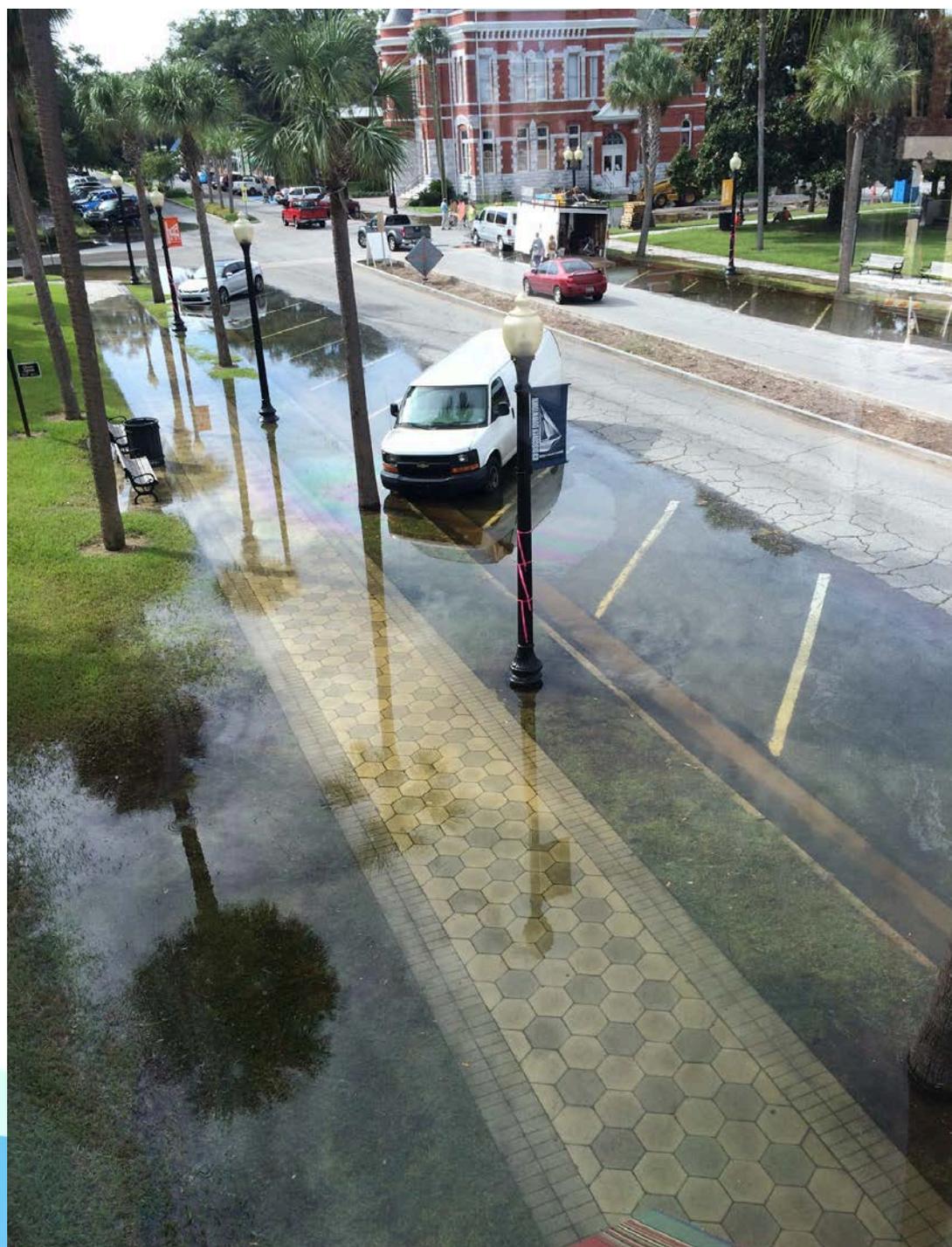


Current Projects: Plan for Public Information



Next Steps:

Bringing in other coastal communities and creating the model





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