

Siasconset Civic Association Membership Meeting Minutes
July 7th, 2021

The meeting of the Siasconset Civic Association was held at the Casino.

The guest speaker, Coastal Resilience Coordinator Vince Murphy, began his remarks at 6pm. (A copy of his report is attached.)

President's Remarks: Lynn Filipski

Lynn welcomed the members to this first in person meeting since August 2019. She reviewed that the organization is dedicated to representing the interests of property owners and residents, advocating for the preservation and historical character of the village, raising funds and implementing projects that benefit our community. This actually is the 90th year since the association was founded in 1931 with the first meeting held on August 3, 1931 with F.P. Boynton president and 97 members paying annual dues of \$2.

A moment of silence was observed to honor those whom we have lost over the past year but forever remain a part of the spirit of 'Sconset.

President's Report

Amy Manning began work at the new native and butterfly garden at Larsen Park and there will be a ribbon cutting to be held July 16th at 4pm. Martha Polachi chaired this effort and secured permission from the Nantucket Conservation Foundation to create a garden space with irrigation on the east side of the park. Funding for the plants from the Nantucket Garden Club and the generosity of our member gifts provided the balance of the funds. Lynn thanked Wannacomet for finding a water source, Waterworks for the irrigation and Amy Manning and her team for the design and installation. Special thanks to Snooky Eldridge for facilitating the back flow hook-up for the irrigation.

As always, summer is a busy time and the village attracts many visitors every day. There are two bike safety officers, Dan and Jared, who can assist with parking issues but cannot legally issue speeding tickets. There is a policeman who patrols the village by car beginning at 7pm and through about 3am. Please remember to exhibit caution when driving –there are many challenges you will find in the village.

Since the Civic Association presentation to the Traffic Safety Working Group, there have been a few modifications to several roads. The Burnell/Clifton intersection was resurfaced and the traffic island removed for safety reasons. A third stop sign was added at the Coffin and West Sankaty intersection. Several encroachments of hedges and vegetation were cut back with the help of the DPW. Multiple street signs were replaced as well by the DPW due to the efforts of a subcommittee that compiled an extensive list.

The Civic Association circulated a comprehensive questionnaire asking residents to reflect on key concerns and results were incorporated in the Sconset Area Master Plan for use by the Town of Nantucket. Since the last plan in 2007, there have been many changes that impact the village: erosion and climate change; population growth that affects noise, traffic and development; a lack of affordable housing for year-round and seasonal residents vital for a healthy island; a lack of a fire station that impacts overall safety. The new Sconset Area Plan was distributed to members and others in the community for feedback and the committee has addressed those in subsequent drafts.

The Clean Team and the many volunteers who participate monthly were thanked as well as the volunteers who help at member meetings and those that passed out surgical masks last year. The annual bike and scooter safety day is scheduled for July 14th from 9:30-11. The Civic Association has coordinated with the Nantucket thrift shop to offer weekly Tuesday pick-ups from 8-9am in the Casino parking lot.

Lynn is very grateful for the board's participation and how they continue to think of new ways to educate the village on major issues whether it be town warrant articles; zoning laws governing hedges, encroachments, noise, residential and street lights; the importance of the dark sky movement and more. Each board member was then introduced. (Gail Walker, Wendy Holding, Maggie Boone, Maxwell Mundy, John Shea, David Bailey, Karel Greenberg, Bill Druckemiller, Cindy Nelson, Robert Franklin).

Lynn gave special thanks to our past president Martha Polachi who retired after 5 years as president and 12 on the board. Our other retired board members from 2020 include Snooky Eldridge, Gene Hilzenrath, C.O. North, Cathy Bowman and Mary Will.

In addition to the Civic Association Board, there are many people in the village that contribute to town boards. Sarah Alger, town moderator; Tony Bouscaren, airport commission; Daryl Westbrook, Council for Human Services; Peter Schaeffer, Finance Committee; Angus MacLeod, Georgia Raysman and Clement Durkes Nantucket Historical Commission; Nelson Eldridge Roads and Right of Way committee; Ed Toole Zoning Board of Appeals, Sconset Advisory Board Rob Benchley, Mary Will, Angus MacLeod and Clement Durkes; Nantucket Water Commissioner Rob Benchley; Gail Walker adviser Nantucket Civic League; Bob Felch the Community Foundation of Nantucket. Needless to say those that serve on the board of the Sconset Trust are owed a debt of gratitude for their efforts in conservation and preservation as well as those who serve on the SBPF who have led the efforts to work on erosion issues. Many have served with the civic association or one of the other boards and without this active participation the village would not be the wonderful place it is.

Treasurer's Report by David Bailey

The financial position of the Civic Association is strong – there is \$152,000 in cash, up significantly from the prior year. Obviously, 2020 was anything but a normal year and with lower expenses the operating surplus was over \$12,000. This year through June, revenues are just under \$18,000. Dues are at 84% of budget while donations have already exceeded our budget of \$8,000. Many thanks to all who support the SCA. Donations are used for improvements such as Larsen Park as well as for bike safety programs and scholarships.

The proposed budget for 2022 is pretty straightforward and anticipates a “normal” year. Revenues are expected to be comparable with prior years and expenses are budgeted up \$4,000, mostly for landscaping maintenance, the largest expense category and roughly 50% of total expenses. The increase provides more for the maintenance of Larsen Park and the Civic Association has also assumed responsibility for Pump Square. Expenses would cover for example Amy Manning Landscape, who provides additional plantings, and Waterworks, who maintains the irrigation system. The budget for other expenses is based on experience in prior “normal” years.

A vote was taken and was in favor of approving the 2022 budget.

Nominating Report by Karel Greenberg

Together with Mary Will and Martha Polachi, the nominating committee found two outstanding candidates to join the board of the Civic Association, Holly Pagon and Tom Loughlin.

David Bailey and Karel Greenberg are nominated for a first full term after serving a special one year term.

A vote is taken and the new directors for the class of 2024 were approved. The by-laws stipulate that officers are elected for a one year term with a maximum of 3 years as an officer. The recommendation by the nominating committee for the officers of the 2021-2022 year were approved.

Lynn Filipski, President
Gail Walker, Vice President
Wendy Holding, Treasurer
Maggie Boone, Secretary/Clerk
David Bailey, Assistant Treasurer

Membership Committee Report by Robert Franklin

This winter, we conducted a direct mail membership drive to attract new members. For every street in Sconset, Robert analyzed the Nantucket Town tax database house by house to see whether each household was a member. We identified 385 that were not and solicited all at the mailing address listed on the town tax records. Luckily, the vast majority of the trusts that own property were in fact located in the owner's actual primary residence. The letter

included a brief explanation of what the civic association does and an invitation to join. A relatively small number were returned as undeliverable and some 25 new households joined based on that drive. To put that in some marketing context, 25 new members represents a 7% success rate whereas the average success rates for direct mail run from 1/2 of a percent to 2 percent. Furthermore, several of these new members made generous donations over and above their annual dues.

Overall, as of this morning, there are 266 active households versus 244 last year in August. Before this meeting, there were 123 pending memberships to renew. A lot of these will be paid tonight, some will pay in August. A further plea will be sent in the fall. All in all, we've grown the membership, grown donations, and will find ways to continue growing.

Robert asked if anyone would like to help tap into those potential new members, and concluded word of mouth is really probably the best pitch. The website has the information about the Civic Association and how to sign up online.

Scholarship Committee Report by Karel Greenberg

The Sconset Civic Association awards a scholarship of \$2,500 each year to a qualified Nantucket High School student who is a current, year-round resident of Sconset or a recent graduate of the Nantucket High School whose family resides in Sconset year round. The purpose of the scholarship program is to encourage and support the enrichment of the recipients education. This year the scholarship is awarded to Elizabeth Eldridge. Elizabeth graduated Nantucket High School in 2016, and went on to study Fire Science and Emergency Management in college. She is now in the Masters of Public Administration program at Anna Maria college and hopes to come back to her home Nantucket to be a Firefighter.

Proposed Bylaw Amendments by Gail Walker

Vice President Gail Walker discussed the proposed changes to the Bylaws that will be voted on at the August meeting. The main change the Board is proposing is that, instead of having nine (9) Directors with the four (4) Officers elected separately and serving on the Board *ex officio* (by virtue of their position), there be twelve (12) Directors with Officers elected from among those Directors. This would simplify the process of determining who is eligible for re-election and ensure that we always have three classes of Directors with staggered terms; it would also bring the Civic Association into line with how many other nonprofits operate. This proposed change, along with several more technical changes, were explained in an email to members sent June 30 and are also explained in the document found here:

https://www.siasconsetcivicassociation.org/resources/Documents/Civic%20Association%20Documents/Bylaws/2021%20PROPOSED%20AMENDMENT%20TO%20SIASCONSET%20CIVIC%20ASSOCIATION%20BYLAWS_Explanation_03%2031%2021.pdf

Clean Team by Gail Walker

Gail, who also serves as co-coordinator of the Clean Team along with Anne Dougherty, thanked **Luke Nims**, **Tessa Nims**, and **Wilson Prieve**, dubbed the Teen Clean Team, for cleaning up Larsen Park this summer and encouraged other teens to volunteer to help with this. She also pointed out the branded Clean Team safety vests modeled by Luke, Tessa and Wilson, purchased to keep Clean Team volunteers safe. She encouraged members to sign up for upcoming clean-ups, including a special one scheduled for August 4 to honor long-time Clean Team volunteer Nancy Broll, who recently passed away. Finally, she reported on the two Sconset Clean Teams that participated in the 2021 Litter Derby in April and said that given how much trash was collected, the Clean Team plans to participate in next year's Litter Derby and encouraged members who will be on island to sign up for that.

Bike Safety Day by Lynn Filipski

Bike Safety will be held Wednesday, July 14 from 9:30 to 11am on New Street. Police officers Cassie Thompson and Kevin Marshall will set up a course for participants to ride and will check helmets. Children will receive an ice cream coupon from the 'Sconset Market and a t-shirt after completing the course.

Robert Benchley's Report of Water in Sconset

Rob Benchley commented on the excellent water quality in Sconset and that we have more than enough water to support the needs of the village. He commented on the merger of the Sconset Water Company with Wannacomet.

Josh Posner's Comments on SBPF

The SBPF is asking the Select Board to urge the Conservation Commission to reconsider and rescind it's geotube removal order. The SBPF is prepared to meet a 4 year program of catching up as was proposed by the project's opponents and as the commission indicated would be acceptable. The SBPF has agreed to engage in a holding pattern while the Town works with an independent expert, Arcadis, to evaluate the viability of the project and explore alternatives within an agreed timetable. If the Arcadis process does not lead to a resolution in the short term, there will be no need to order its removal; SBPF will hand the project over to the Town.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm. The next meeting of the Siasconset Civic Association will be held Wednesday, August 4 at 6pm at the Casino. Doors open at 5:30 for check-in and refreshments and the meeting will be followed by a potluck dinner.

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie Boone
Secretary

Project Mission



Draw on the cherished built and natural heritage of Nantucket to create a **community-supported roadmap** to implementation for a series of layered flood control and adaptation approaches.

Coordinate with other ongoing adaptation and sustainability initiatives to address the **whole island and county** while respecting the unique characteristics of each neighborhood.

Driven by the **inclusive and equitable engagement** of all, the plan aspires to create **social, environmental, and economic benefits and value** to everyone who will share in Nantucket's future.

The goal of the CRP is to develop a comprehensive plan for the **whole island** that addresses



Coastal Erosion



Coastal Flooding



Sea Level Rise

Nantucket Coastal Resilience Plan Overview – June 26 – Monomoy Civic Association – 15 mins

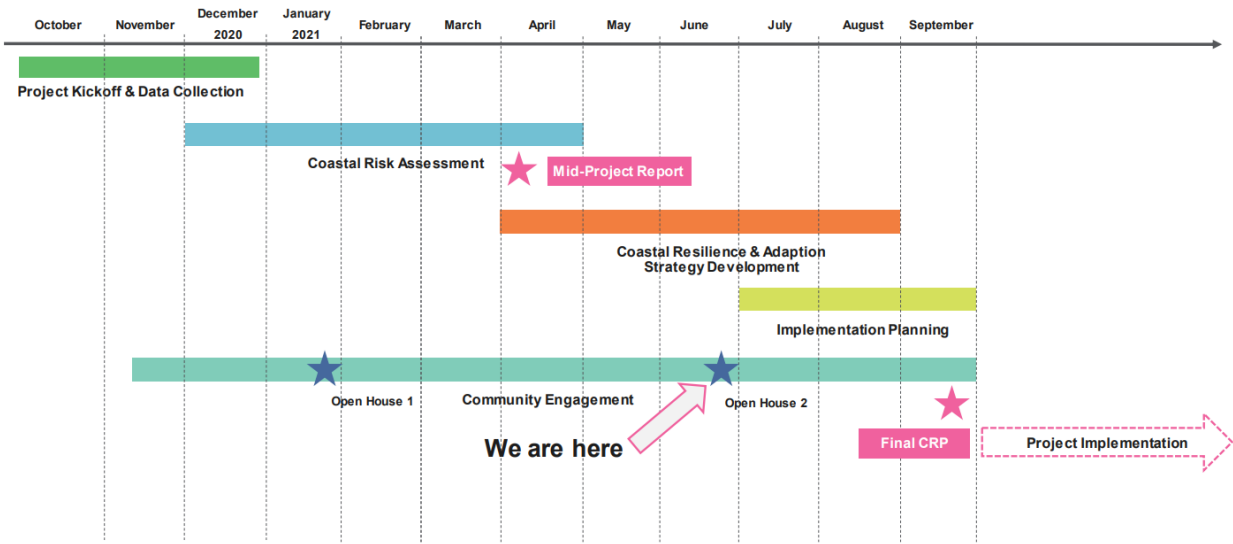
Bullet point history of coastal resilience and developing a CRP

- 2019 Hazard Mitigation Plan had 50+ recommendations – top points were
 1. Hire a Coastal Resilience Coordinator
 2. Develop a Coastal Resilience Plan
- May 2019, Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee was established by Select Board
 - Committee had their first meeting in July 2019
- July 2019 – Vince Murphy hired as Coastal Resilience Coordinator
- September 2019 – began working with the committee to finish an already underway plan called the Coastal Resilience Strategies Document
 - Completed in January 2020
- December 2019 – began working on an FRP for a Coastal Resilience Plan
- January & February 2020 – began developing a recommendation for building with Sea Level Rise in mind for Town properties and projects.
- March 2020 – world ended – Thank you Covid 19.
- May 2020 – Posted the RFP for a Coastal Resilience plan
 - Received 7 proposals, reviewed and made a recommendation to the Select Board
- August – 2020 Hired Arcadis with sub consultants Stoss, One Architecture and The Craig Group
- August 2020 – Recommendation on SLR concerning developments on Town property accepted by the Select Board
- September 2020 – Work commenced on the CRP.
- October & November 2020 – project initiation
- December 2020 & January 2021 – stakeholder meetings
- January 28, 2021 – Virtual Open House #1. Collecting concerns from the public and outlining the process
- February and March 2021 – undertaking the island wide risk assessment.
- April 2021 – Mid Project Summary Report
 - Contains the risk assessment and may other project details and assessments
- May & June 2021 – undertake initial ideas and methods for adaption island wide
- June 24 2021 – Virtual Open House #2. Present ideas to the public and collect ideas and other feedback on what is acceptable to the community.

Future

- 3 months left – July to September 2021
- Continue developing adaption strategies
- Continue public outreach
- Begin implementation planning
- Develop final CRP for delivery in September 2021
- October 2021 – seek approval and acceptance at Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee and Select Board.
- October / November 2021 – Vacation is over – begin implementation of the CRP
 - Seek as much federal, state and local funding as possible

Where are we in the process?



What does all this mean for ‘Sconset?’

Some solutions and ideas to help the ‘Sconset area

Wait, what about the other work on Baxter Road?

CRP and The Baxter Road Project – Linked, but separate?

Nantucket CRP

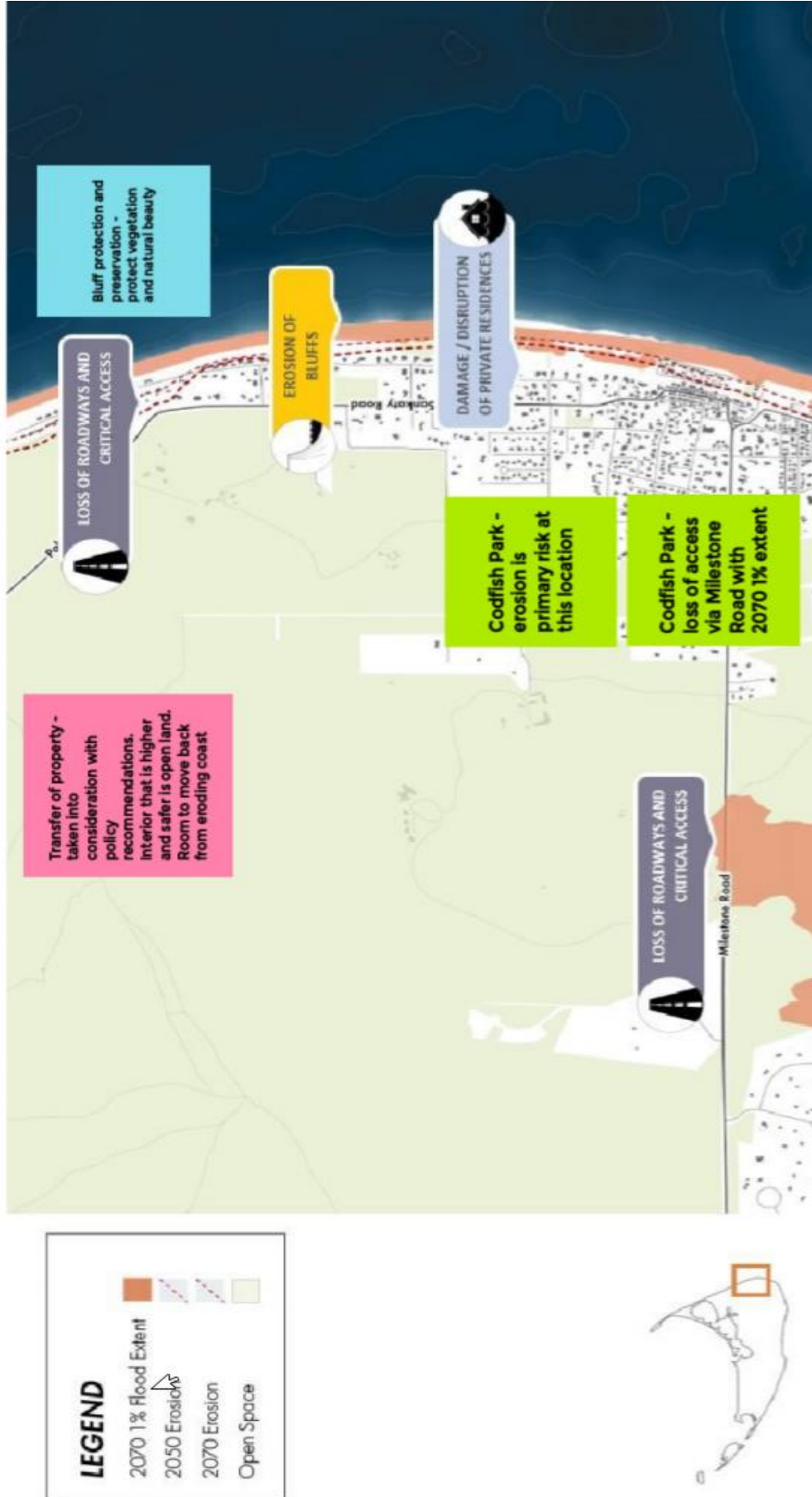
Key Resilience Issues

5 mins



COASTAL RESILIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DRAFT- FOR DISCUSSION ONLY



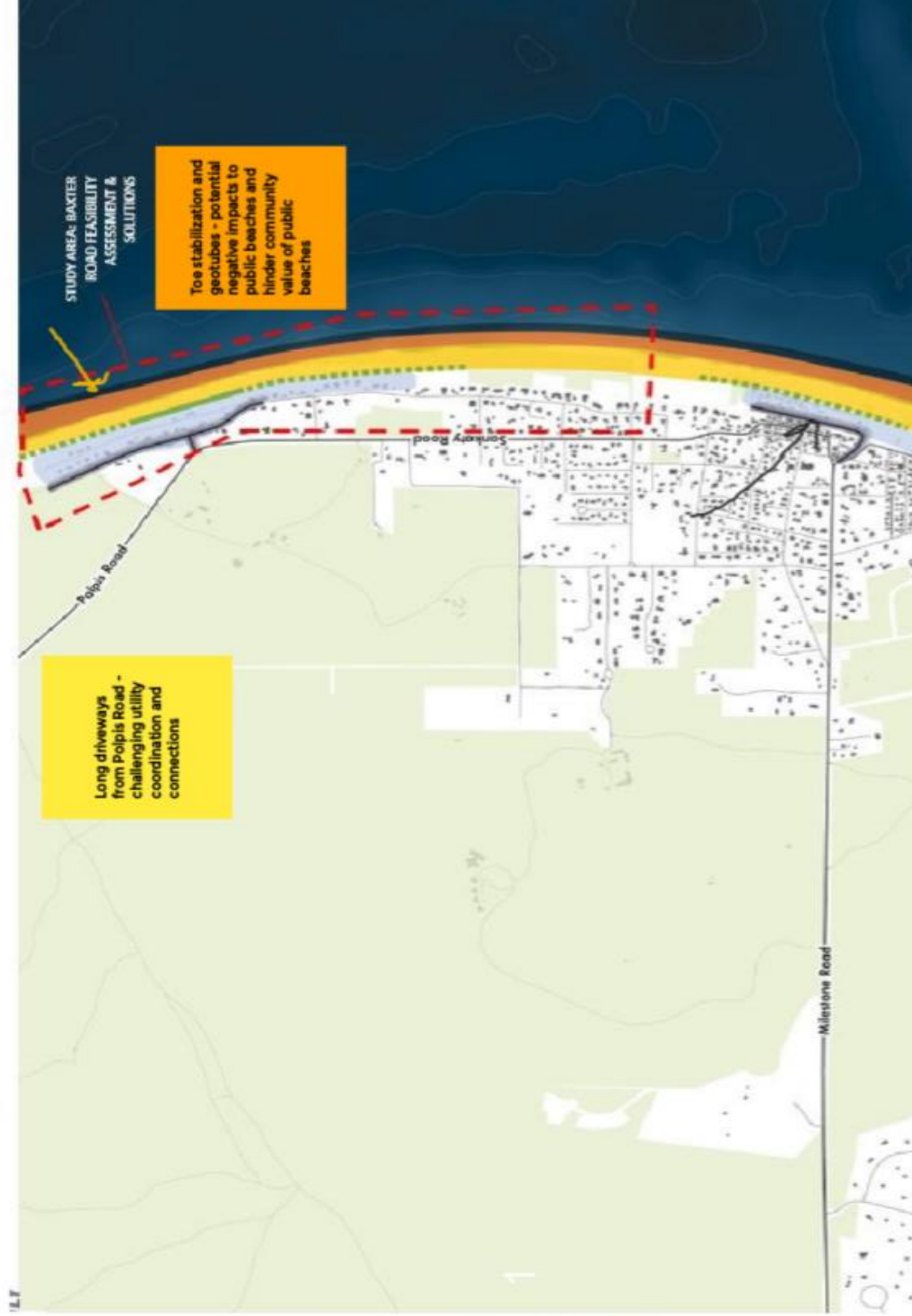
Nantucket CRP

10 mins

Preliminary Resilience Framework



DRAFT - FOR DISCUSSION ONLY



STUDY AREA: BAKTER ROAD FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT & SOLUTIONS

Toe stabilization and geotubes - potential negative impacts to public beaches and hinder community value of public beaches

Long driveways from Poppis Road - challenging utility coordination and connections

- RELOCATION OF ROADWAY/ACCESS
- DUNE NOURISHMENT AND STABILIZATION
- HOMEOWNER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
- NEARSHORE BREAKWATERS
- EXPANSION OF EXISTING TOE STABILIZATION

Nantucket CRP

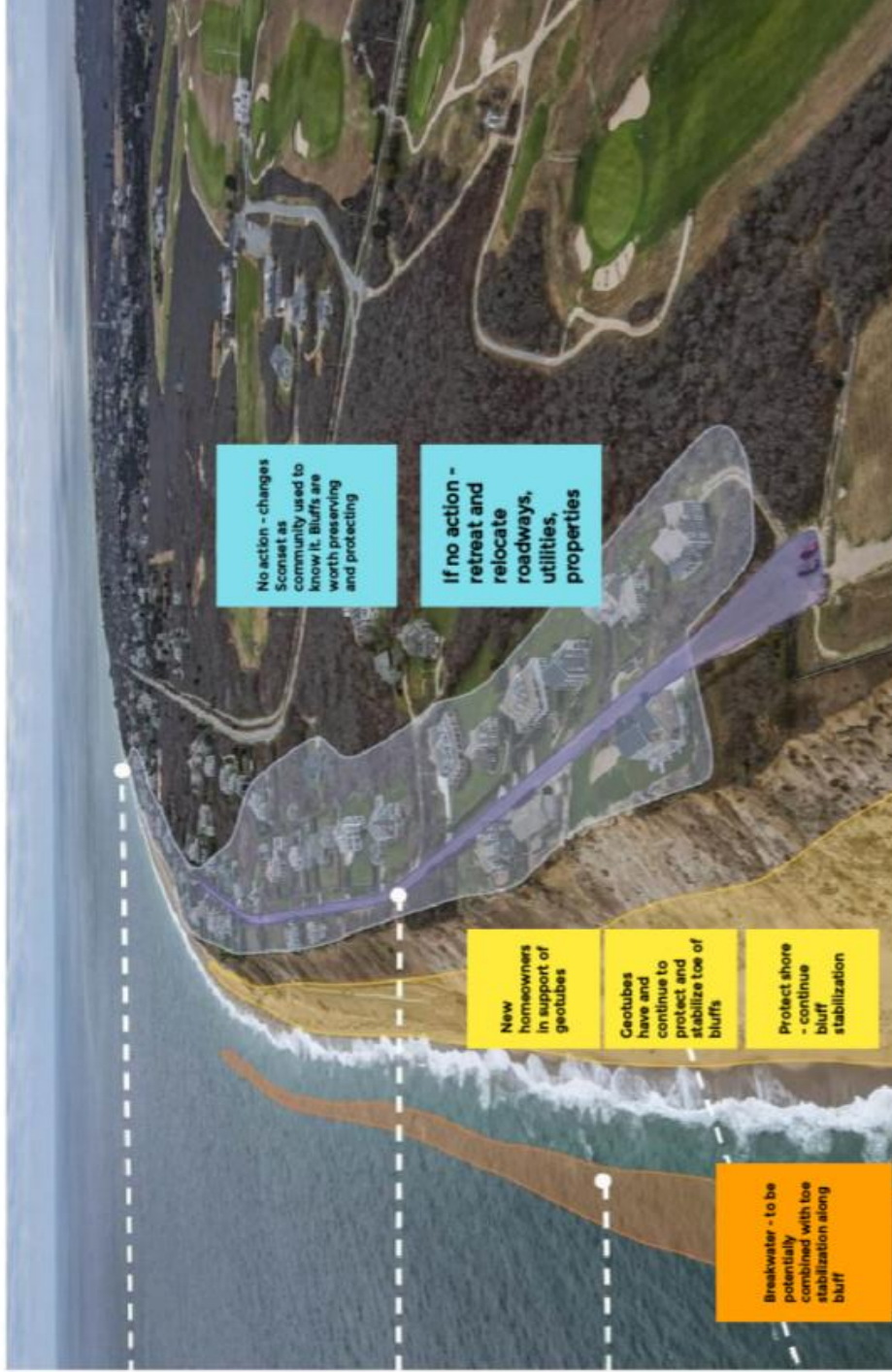
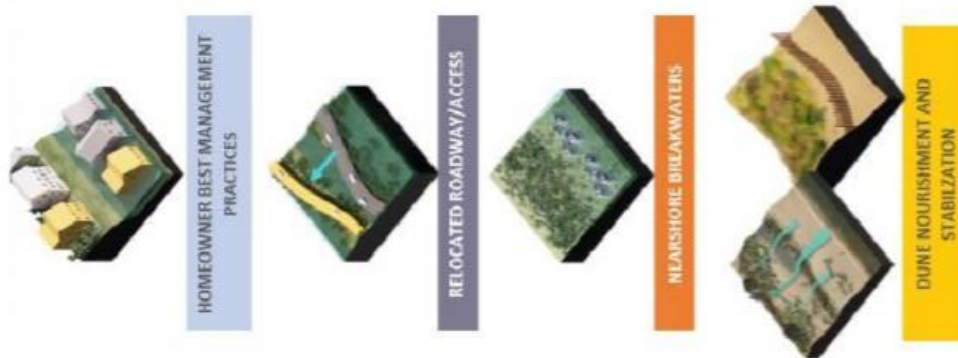
Preliminary Resilience Strategies

10 mins



COASTAL
RESILIENCE
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

DRAFT - FOR DISCUSSION ONLY



No action - changes
Sceneset as
community used to
know it. Bluffs are
worth preserving
and protecting

If no action -
retreat and
relocate
roadways,
utilities,
properties

New
homeowners
in support of
geotubes

Geotubes
have and
continue to
protect and
stabilize toe of
bluffs

Protect shore
- continue
bluff
stabilization

Breakwater - to be
potentially
combined with toe
stabilization along
bluff

What else for 'Sconset?

Other outcomes from the CRP will include;

- **Policies**
 - **Policies around development in**
 - **coastal flood zones**
 - **Erosion zones**
 - **Areas that may be affected by sea level rise**
 - **Excess watering causing runoff**
 - **Leads to unwanted bank erosion**

Coastal engineering in 'Sconset

- **Potential for beach nourishment with dredged sand**
 - **New dune area?**
- **Potential for coir bags to reduce wave impacts or other approved structures**
- **Bluff stabilization with plantings**

Homeowner toolkit

- **A guide for homeowners to help increase the resilience of their properties**
- **Also, may include information on grant opportunities**

Are any of these acceptable?

What is not acceptable?