



May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 3:00 PM

Theodore D. Washington Municipal Building, Henry “Emmett” McCracken Jr. Council Chambers,
20 Bridge Street, Bluffton, SC

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- [1.](#) Adoption of June 27th, 2024 Minutes

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

V. NEW BUSINESS

- [1.](#) Election of Officers - Beth Lewis, Water Quality Program Manager
- [2.](#) Strategic Plan Priority Seven (7) to establish a Climate Resiliency Plan for adaptation to coastal impacts from changing environmental conditions (“rain bombs” and sea level rise) on stormwater runoff water quality and quantity. Assess the environmental resilience of stormwater ponds to changing climate conditions for retrofit opportunities, e.g. ensuring ponds have capacity to hold rain events instead of being pumped full with ground water. – Beth Lewis, Water Quality Program Manager

VI. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE: August 22nd, 2024

“FOIA Compliance – Public notification of this meeting has been published and posted in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Bluffton policies.”

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the Town of Bluffton will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities. The Town of Bluffton Council Chambers are ADA compatible. Auditory accommodations are available. Any person requiring further accommodation should contact the Town of Bluffton ADA Coordinator at 843.706.4500 or adacoordinator@townofbluffton.com as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

Executive Session – The public body may vote to go into executive session for any item identified for action on the agenda.

**Please note that each member of the public may speak at one public comment session and a form must be filled out and given to the Town Clerk. To submit a public comment online, please click here:*

<https://www.townofbluffton.sc.gov/FormCenter/Town-15/Public-Comment-60>

Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker.

May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee Meeting

Theodore D. Washington Municipal Building, Henry “Emmett” McCracken Jr. Council Chambers, 20
Bridge Street, Bluffton, SC

June 27, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chairman Stokes called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Chris Shoemaker
Amber Kuehn
Vice Chair Al Stokes
Jessie White
Chris Kehrer
Larry Toomer

ABSENT

Chair Stan Rogers

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Adoption of the March 28, 2024 Minutes

Motion to adopt the March 28, 2024 minutes made by Shoemaker, Seconded by Toomer.
Voting Yea: Shoemaker, Kuehn, Vice Chair Stokes, White, Kehrer, Toomer

2. Adoption of the May 23, 2024 Minutes

Motion to adopt the May 23, 2024 minutes, made by Shoemaker, Seconded by Toomer.
Voting Yea: Shoemaker, Kuehn, Vice Chair Stokes, White, Kehrer, Toomer

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Lawton spoke about his desire for a DHEC sampling location to be added to the Alljoy area and invited the committee to a public meeting held by the Beaufort County Stormwater Utility Board on July 10th.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee (WAPAC) Tour of the Phase I Bridge Street Streetscape Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) - Dan Rybak, Project Manager

Mr. Rybak provided the committee with information on and explained the plans for the Bridge Street Streetscape project BMPs. He then answered questions from the committee about the project. The committee then began the tour at 3:45pm.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made to adjourn at 4:02pm by White, Seconded by Kuehn.

Voting Yea: Shoemaker, Kuehn, Vice Chair Stokes, White, Kehrer, Toomer

NEXT MEETING DATE: July 25th, 2024

DRAFT

RESOLUTION

**ADOPTING THE RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON
MAY RIVER WATERSHED ACTION PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Town of Bluffton May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee was established by Town Council Resolution on May 8, 2012 (Establishing Resolution), and further defined by an amended Town Council Resolution on December 12, 2017 (Amended Resolution), for the purpose of offering guidance and assistance to the Town of Bluffton Town Council on matters impacting the environmental health of the Town of Bluffton and the May River Watershed Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee shall adopt these Rules of Procedure by Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON MAY RIVER WATERSHED ACTION PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee hereby adopts the Rules of Procedure which are attached and incorporated as "Exhibit A" hereto.

THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ADOPTION.

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED AS OF THIS 22ND **DAY OF** MARCH, 2018.


Chair

ATTEST:

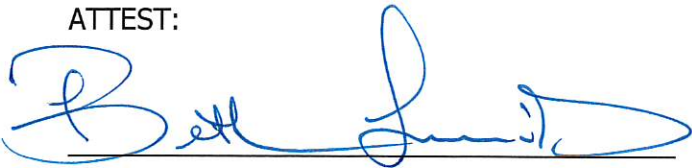

Secretary

Exhibit A

Town of Bluffton May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee

Rules of Procedure

Section 1. Establishment.

The Town of Bluffton May River Watershed Action Plan Advisory Committee (Committee) was established by Town Council Resolution on May 8, 2012 (Establishing Resolution), as amended by Town Council Resolution on December 12, 2017 (Amended Resolution), for the purpose of offering guidance and assistance to the Town of Bluffton Town Council on matters impacting the environmental health of the Town of Bluffton and the May River Watershed Action Plan.

Section 2. Rules.

The Committee is adopting these Rules of Procedure by Resolution.

Section 3. Membership.

A. Appointment. The Committee shall consist of seven (7) voting members comprised of six (6) at-large members and one (1) Town of Bluffton Town Council Member appointed by Town Council in accordance with the Amended Resolution. A vacancy in membership must be filled for the unexpired term by Town Council appointment. Committee members shall serve without compensation. No at-large member of the Committee shall hold any other public office or elected position in the Town, other municipalities within Beaufort County, or Beaufort County.

B. Officers. The Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected annually in July, or as soon thereafter as possible, by a majority vote of members present and qualified to vote who shall perform the following duties:

1. The Chair shall be a voting member of the Committee and shall:

- i. Call meetings of the Committee to order;
- ii. Call Special Meetings of the Committee;
- iii. Preside at meetings and hearings;
- iv. Sign documents for the Committee;
- v. Have decisions of the Committee delivered to parties; and
- vi. Perform other duties approved by the Committee.

2. The Vice-Chair shall preside over the meeting or hearing and perform the required duties set forth in Section 3.B.1 of these Rules of Procedure in the absence of the Chair. In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, an acting Chair shall be elected by a majority vote of members present and qualified to vote.

C. Secretary. The Watershed Management Division Manager, or their designee, shall serve as Secretary and shall perform the following duties:

1. Provide notice of meetings and Public Hearings;
2. Assist the Chair and Staff in preparation of agenda and supporting material;
3. Keep minutes of meetings and hearings;
4. Maintain Committee records as public records;
5. Attend to Committee correspondence;
6. Deliver decisions of the Committee to parties; and
7. Perform other duties normally carried out by a Secretary.

- D. Removal. A member shall notify the Secretary of an absence 24 hours before the scheduled meeting. Town Council may remove any member after written notice in accordance with Code of Ordinances of the Town of Bluffton Chapter 3, Section 3.2(d).

Section 4. Education and Training.

- A. Town Manager Boards and Commissions Training. The Town Manager may develop and implement such periodic training sessions as may be reasonable and appropriate for members of Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Staff liaisons. Such training may include basic provisions of parliamentary procedure, the role of municipal government in the regulatory context, the extent of authority delegated to Boards, Commissions, and Committees by Town Ordinances, and other topics the Town Manager deems appropriate. Attendance by members of Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Staff liaisons shall be mandatory. Failure to attend Town sponsored training without an excused absence for just cause may be cause for removal.
- B. Yearly Boards and Committee Updates. Not less frequently than once annually, the Town Manager may convene a meeting of all Chairs of the Boards, Commissions, and Committees for purposes of allowing the Chairs to share experiences in addressing issues of process and procedure. Not less frequently than once annually, the Engineering Director, or their designee, shall present an update to Town Council of the Committee's activities for the previous 12 months at a regularly scheduled Town Council meeting.

Section 5. Voting/Quorum.

- A. Quorum. A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. A quorum shall be present before any business is conducted other than rescheduling the meeting.
- B. Voting. A member must be present to vote. Each member shall vote on every question unless disqualified by law. The Committee may deliberate and make final disposition of a matter by a majority vote of members present and qualified to vote. Deliberating and voting shall be done in public.

Section 6. Ethics.

- A. Ethics Reform Act. The Committee and its members shall adhere to the *South Carolina Ethics Reform Act*, (S.C. Code of Laws, Title 8, Chapter 13).

- B. Disqualification. The question of disqualification shall be decided by the member affected, who shall announce the reason for disqualification, provide the Secretary with a completed Recusal Form, have it placed in the minutes, and refrain from deliberating or voting on the question in any way.
- C. Ex Parte Contact. Any ex parte contacts with applicants, opponents, or other parties of interest in a matter to come before the Committee shall be reported at the earliest opportunity to the Chair. It shall be considered the duty of Committee members to conduct themselves in a manner that will discourage such contact.
- D. Expressions of Bias. Committee members shall avoid all situations and circumstances that may lead to bias or prejudice in manners presented to the Committee. No Committee member shall offer expressions of individual opinion regarding any matter of consideration by the Committee prior to the meeting.

Section 7. Meetings.

- A. Robert's Rules of Order. The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern the conduct of meetings except as otherwise provided by these Rules of Procedure.
- B. Meeting Schedule. The Committee shall adopt an annual meeting schedule. Each November, the Committee shall adopt, publish, and post its schedule of meetings for the next calendar year. Meetings shall be held at the Theodore D. Washington Municipal Building located at 20 Bridge Street, or a designated public building, and shall be open to the public. Meetings may be cancelled by the Director of Engineering if there is no business before the Committee.
- C. Agendas. The Secretary shall post the meeting agenda at least five (5) days prior to each regular meeting by notice delivered to the local news media, interested citizens and posting at Town Hall. Special meetings may be held at the call of the Chair or a majority of the Committee upon twenty-four (24) hours by notice delivered to the local news media, interested citizens and posting at Town Hall.
- D. Agenda Amendment. Items may only be added to the agenda at a meeting pursuant to the regulations set forth in the *South Carolina Code of Laws Title 30 Chapter 4 Freedom of Information Act*.
- E. Conduct of Meeting. In matters brought before the Committee for public meeting, the normal order to hear the agenda item, subject to modification by the Chair, shall be:
 1. Statement of matter to be heard;
 2. Presentation by Staff or Invited Speaker;
 3. Staff Remarks;
 4. Committee Comments and Questions;
 5. Final Staff Remarks; and
 6. Motion, 2nd to the motion, discussion of the motion, and vote of the Committee.
- F. Public Comment. Members of the public desiring to be heard by the Committee during the Public Comment agenda item or during a Public Hearing must provide written notice to the Secretary before the start of the meeting. Members of the

public shall be recognized by the Chair before stating their business and shall be limited to three (3) minutes. Members of the public shall avoid disrespect to the Committee, Town Staff, and other members of the meeting.

- G. Recess. A recess may be called by the Chair or by a majority vote of members present and qualified to vote. The Chair shall state the duration of the recess and time the meeting will recommence before the recess begins. The recess start and end time shall be recorded in the minutes.

- H. Executive Session. The Committee may enter Executive Session as set forth in the *South Carolina Code of Laws Title 30 Chapter 4 Freedom of Information Act*. The Committee may request the attendance of non-members as they deem appropriate. All proceedings of Executive Sessions are confidential and attendees are honor bound not to divulge the proceedings.

- I. Workshops. The Committee may periodically hold workshops to discuss issues and general policies and procedures to determine the necessity for future action. No formal action shall be taken at the workshop. Workshop sessions shall be open to the public.

- J. Stakeholder Involvement Public Meetings. The Committee may be involved in public meetings that provide opportunities for stakeholder involvement in updating the May River Watershed Action Plan.


- K. Minutes. The Secretary shall prepare minutes of each meeting showing the vote of each member upon each question, and if members are absent or failing to vote. The minutes shall also document the Committees examinations and other official actions. The minutes shall be approved by a majority vote of members present and qualified to vote at the next regular meeting. Minutes shall be maintained as public records in the Department of Engineering.

- L. Decisions of the Committee in Writing. All final decisions of the Committee must be in writing which may include recommendations forwarded to Town Council, letter, or other documents issued by the Engineering Director. Decisions shall be permanently filed in the Department of Engineering as a public record.

Section 8. Amendment and Adoption.

These Rules may be amended at any regular meeting of the Committee by a majority vote of members present and qualified to vote at least seven (7) days after the written amendment is delivered to the members.

These rules were adopted by a majority vote of members present and qualified to vote at a regular public meeting on March 22, 2018.



Chair

ATTEST: 

Secretary

CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON

Chapter 3. Boards, Committees and Commissions Terms, Appointments and Qualifications

Section. 3.1. Definitions.

Board: A body established by the Town of Bluffton or laws of the state of South Carolina to advise council and its staff in appropriate matters as set forth by its charter, and/or perform such other functions granted to the group by the enabling statute or ordinance and any other amendments thereto.

Committee: An ad hoc group established to advise Council in matters for which the group is organized.

Commission: An organization with authorities, limitations and responsibilities as specified by the laws of the South Carolina.

Section. 3.2. Membership.

(a) Number of members

- 1) The Board, Committee or Commission shall have odd number of voting members of no less than three, nor more than nine unless modified by individual charter. The Board, Committee or Commission may also include one nonvoting member serving ex-officio as designated by the Town Manager or Town Council.

(b) Term

- 1) Terms shall apply to those Boards, Committees or Commissions for which Town Council has established terms lengths.
- 2) Board, Committee or Commission members shall serve at the pleasure of Town Council for a whole-year term of 3 years.
- 3) Any partial term in excess of one-half plus one day of a full term shall not be considered as a full term.
- 4) Any partial term less than half the full term shall be considered a full term.
- 5) Members shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified.

Chapter 3. Boards, Committees And Commissions Terms, Appointments and Qualifications

- 6) No reappointment can be considered less than 30 days prior to the expiration of a particular term.
 - 7) Board, Committee or Commission terms as established by Town Council begin July 1 and end June 30.
 - 8) Establishment of a new Board, Committee or Commission will start with staggered terms of one year, two years and three years divided evenly as possible between the new members starting July 1 and ending June 30 for each term.
- (c) Selection criteria.
- 1) Town Council shall appoint Board, Committee or Commission members with consideration for demographic representation and the following:
 - 2) Knowledge and experience relevant to the needs of the particular Board, Committee or Commission;
 - 3) Diverse representation of backgrounds, professions and viewpoints;
 - 4) Diverse geographic representation of the Town; and
 - 5) Potential dual membership on more than one Board, Committee or Commission.
- (d) Removal from Board/Committee/Commission.
- 1) The Town Council has the absolute authority to remove a member, with or without cause, upon a majority vote of Town Council
 - 2) A member shall be removed automatically for:
 - i. Absence from more than 1/3 of the Board, Committee or Commission meetings per annum whether excused or unexcused;
 - ii. Failure to attend any three consecutive regular meetings;
 - iii. Violation of subsection (e) below.
- (e) Conflict of interest.
- 1) Conflicts of interest and disqualifying economic interests shall, in the first instance, be governed by the South Carolina

Chapter 3. Boards, Committees And Commissions Terms, Appointments and Qualifications

Ethics Reform Act of 1991, as amended. Conflict of interest shall be handled in the following way.

- 2) Upon making application for membership on a Board, Committee or Commission, all members shall certify they do not have a conflict of interest.
 - 3) Upon appointment, members shall disqualify themselves from voting or otherwise participating in any particular issue, which may arise, in which they have a conflict of interest or disqualifying economic interest, as required by S.C. Code Section 8-13-700(B).
 - 4) A member, who has an actual or known potential conflict of interest, shall take such action as is required by the South Carolina Ethics Reform Act of 1991, as amended and abstain from voting and discussing the issue, which is the subject of a conflict.
- (f) Registered voter.
- 1) Board, Committee or Commission members shall hold a valid voter registration card in Beaufort County.
- (g) Quorum.
- 1) Quorum means a simple majority of the members serving.

Section. 3.3. Chairman and Vice Chairman.

The Board, Committee or Commission shall elect a chairman and a vice chairman, by simple majority of the voting members during their first meeting in July. The chairman and the vice chairman shall serve for one year and shall be eligible for re-election to serve in that post for as long as that individual remains a member of that Board, Committee or Commission.

Section. 3.4. Compensation.

Members of Boards, Committees or Commission shall serve without pay. However, they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties, with prior approval of the Town Manager, subject to the provisions of their respective charter.

Section. 3.5. Support.

Town staff and resources shall be provided to any Board, Committee or Commission on an ongoing basis, or on a case-by-case basis, at the sole discretion of the Town Manager.

Section. 3.6. Compliance.

Boards, Committee or Commission covered by the Municipal Code of the Town of Bluffton or laws of the state of South Carolina must follow the Town of Bluffton policies that may be implemented or adopted from time to time.

Section. 3.7. Minutes.

The Chairman of each Board, Committee or Commission shall keep or cause to be kept activities of each body, including minutes of all meetings.

(Ord. No. 2012-01, 2-20-2012; Ord. No. 2012-08, 11-13-2012)

TOWN OF BLUFFTON RESILIENCY PLANNING

Section V. Item #2.



OVERVIEW

Background

Data Collection

Gantt Chart Review

THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

BACKGROUND- THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

- Starting in late 2020, Bluffton began the process of developing its next Comprehensive Plan.
- The Town's Comprehensive Plan, known as Blueprint Bluffton, is intended to guide decision making for the next ten (10) years. It serves as the vision for the Town of Bluffton.
- In 2022, the South Carolina Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act (S.C. Code Section 6-29-510) required local governments to add a resilience element to comprehensive plans.
- Blueprint Bluffton was adopted in November 2022. For the first time, it included a Resiliency Chapter to meet this requirement and prepare the Town for a more resilient future.
- <https://www.townofbluffton.sc.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3569/Element-4-Resiliency>

THE STRATEGIC PLAN

BACKGROUND- THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Implementing the Vision and Mission of the town requires discipline and collaboration between the Town Council, Town Manager and Staff. Bluffton will rely on the Strategic Focus Areas and Strategies of the Strategic Action Plan to:

- Develop the operating budget.
- Consider revisions to capital improvement projects.
- Develop new projects and assign them to Staff for execution.
- Implement projects and initiatives already approved in existing town plans.
- Determine an agreed upon process and schedule to prioritize projects and revise priorities as necessary.

Mission Statement:

We take care of our citizens, the Town and each other by continuously making our community and organization better.

Vision Statement:

Bluffton, the Heart of the Lowcountry, a Town that appreciates the past, focuses on today and is planning together for a greater future.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

Section V. Item #2.



Affordable and/or Workforce Housing



Community Quality of Life



Economic Development



Fiscal Sustainability



Infrastructure



May River and Surrounding Rivers and Watersheds



Town Organization

MAY RIVER AND SURROUNDING RIVERS AND WATERSHEDS

Section V. Item #2.

Guiding Principal 4:

Support active planning and management for resilience of natural resources and our response to weather events, future disasters and changing environmental conditions.

Action Agenda Item:

Develop a resiliency plan focused on the Town's natural resources, sustainability, wetland ordinance/restoration and environmental principals.

WAPAC STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITY 7

Establish a Climate Resiliency Plan for adaptation to coastal impacts from changing environmental conditions (“rain bombs” and sea level rise) on stormwater runoff water quality and quantity. Assess the environmental resilience of stormwater ponds to changing climate conditions for retrofit opportunities, e.g. ensuring ponds have capacity to hold rain events instead of being pumped full with ground water.

RESILIENCY ANALYSIS

DATA COLLECTION AND RESILIENCE PLANNING

- Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), included funding for a Resiliency Analysis.
- In February 2024, the Town contracted with the College of Charleston and the S.C. Sea Grant Consortium to develop resiliency-focused scientific models and engage community members.
- This project focuses on observing current impacts and anticipating future challenges related to climate change and associated vulnerabilities.
- To mitigate potential damage and maintain critical infrastructure functionality, Bluffton is developing reliable information to guide policy and planning decisions.

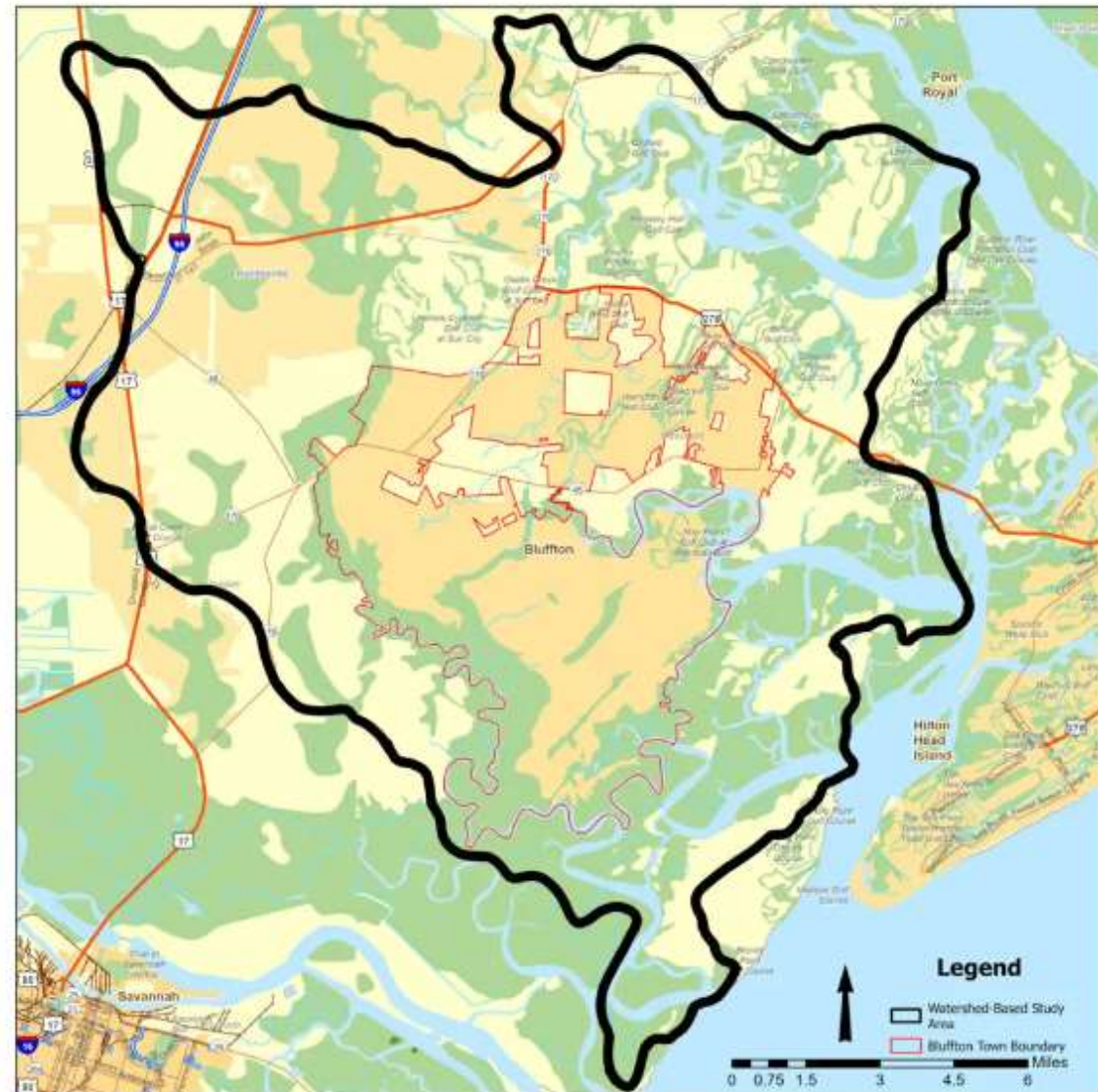
DATA COLLECTION – RESILIENCY ANALYSIS PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Maps and Data of Bluffton's Infrastructure
 - Provide easy-to-understand maps and data showing the layout and elevation of roads, as well as residential and commercial buildings in Bluffton, South Carolina.
- Flood Risk Maps and Information
 - Present maps and tables that illustrate which roads and buildings might be affected by different flood scenarios, including stormwater runoff and storage
- Current Vulnerable Areas & Build-Out Analysis
 - Offer maps and tables that identify areas and properties most at risk of flooding based on current and future land use plans.
- Recommendations for Planning
 - Provide clear recommendations for updates to local policies and codes.
- Comprehensive Data Access
 - Share all the data used in the project in a format that is accessible and easy to understand.
- Interactive Map Tool
 - Create an interactive tool that allows community members to view and explore the project data and results on a map.

DATA COLLECTION – RESILIENCY ANALYSIS PROJECT AREA

Project Area

Section V. Item #2.



DATA COLLECTION - ENGAGEMENT

- Community invited to complete online or paper flooding survey.
- Three (3) public drop-in events scheduled July – October.
- The data collected from residents will help researchers assist the town with understanding how flooding occurs and help improve scientific flood models.

Town of Bluffton Coastal Flooding Public Input Opportunities



About the Study

The Town of Bluffton, working with the S.C. Sea Grant Consortium and the College of Charleston, is undertaking a Resiliency Analysis. The public is invited to help us document past floods and assist researchers in understanding how flooding occurs in the Town. For more information on the project, please visit <https://www.scseagrants.org/community-flooding-survey/>

Public Input Opportunities

- Share your experience by completing the online Bluffton Flood Observations Survey. This survey can be found using the website below or the QR Code provided:
<https://arcg.is/10a5Sn>
- Attend one of the three drop-in events detailed below.

EVENT 1

LOCATION: BLUFFTON ROTARY,
11 RECREATION COURT,
BLUFFTON, SC 29910

DATE: THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024
6:00PM - 7:00PM

EVENT 2

LOCATION: PRITCHARDVILLE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
9447 EVAN WAY, BLUFFTON, SC 29910

DATE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2024
6:00PM - 7:00PM

EVENT 3

LOCATION: ARTS AND SEAFOOD FESTIVAL,
TOWN BOOTH AT STREET FEST

DATE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024
10:00AM - 5:00PM



COMPREHENSIVE DRAINAGE STUDIES

DATA COLLECTION – COMPREHENSIVE DRAINAGE PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Identify & determine stormwater infrastructure conveyance systems by type, condition, size, and owner.
- Identify stormwater infrastructure conveyance systems in need of maintenance, repair, upgrade in size or type.
- Identify areas of inundation from storms of different magnitudes.
- Provide information to guide policy and program recommendations for implementation.

DATA COLLECTION – COMPREHENSIVE DRAINAGE STUDIES TIMELINES

- Will include all subwatersheds within the Town's jurisdiction, not just the May River.
- Successfully completed the Heyward Cove Watershed Comprehensive Drainage Study in October 2023. Serving as a model for on-going and future Comprehensive Drainage Studies.
- Town Council authorized budget and MSA Task Authorization for work associated with the Crooked and Guerrard Cove Watersheds.
- Studies include 2D H/H Model development and preparation of the Master Planning Report.
- Submitted BRIC grant application for planning work associated with the Verdier and Huger Cove Watersheds. Have been invited to submit a full proposal.



OTHER DATA SOURCES

DATA COLLECTION – RESILIENCY PLANNING

- May River Baseline Assessment Results Expected in December 2024.
- Previous Water Quality Studies
 - Dr. Montie's 2019 Technical Report and Dr. Sanger's 2015 Tidal Creek Study
- Additional Data Resources
 - Such as South Carolina Office of Resilience, NOAA, USGS, and SC Climatology Office.

GANTT CHART REVIEW

THANK YOU

Beth Lewis
Town of Bluffton
Water Quality Program Manager

Watershed Resiliency Plan

Fiscal Year 25-FY26 Strategic Plan Timeline for Development

		ACTIVITY				Fiscal Year 2024												Fiscal Year 2025												Fiscal Year 2026																																	
		Assigned To:	Progress	Start Date	End Date	January		February		March		April		May		June		July		August		September		October		November		December		January		February		March		April		May		June		July		August		September		October		November		December		January		February		March		April		May	
Element 1	Information Gathering/ Input from Stakeholders and Partners/ SC Sea Grant Resiliency Community Engagement	Activity 1. Development of Scope of Work: Finalize College of Charleston & SC Sea Grant's scope of work to conduct a Town of Bluffton Resiliency Analysis (RA)	Beth Lewis	100%	01/01/24	02/28/24																																																									
		Activity 2. MOA Execution: Execute the MOA between the Town of Bluffton and College of Charleston	Beth Lewis	100%	02/01/24	03/01/24																																																									
		Activity 3. Work Performed: Development of a HUC 12 Resiliency Model	Beth Lewis	40%	03/01/24	12/02/24																																																									
		Activity 4. Work Performed Community Engagement Events: Information gathering from community members, assist in ground-truthing flood models, identify current and future concerns, and share results of planning analyses with members of the community. Will include three (3) events.	Beth Lewis	30%	03/01/24	11/01/24																																																									
		Activity 5. Community Engagement Survey: Development of a web and paper surveys to aid in flood data collection.	Beth Lewis	75%	03/01/24	08/30/24																																																									
		Activity 6. Internal Engagement Survey: Distribution of modeling survey to internal stakeholders to identify prioritization of key	Beth Lewis	100%	03/01/24	07/01/24																																																									
		Activity 7. Final Report & Deliverables Provided to Town: The final report and all deliverables discussed in the Planning Scope of Work have been delivered to the Town.	Beth Lewis	0%	11/01/24	12/31/24																																																									
Element 2	Information Gathering/ May River Baseline Assessment Update	Activity 1. Development of Scope of Work: Finalize SCDNR scope of work to conduct a Town of Bluffton May River Baseline Assessment Update	Beth Lewis	100%	01/01/24	02/28/24																																																									
		Activity 2. Contract Execution: Execute the contract between the Town of Bluffton and SCDNR	Beth Lewis	100%	02/01/24	03/01/24																																																									
		Activity 3. Work is Performed: Consultant performs all tasks associated with the scope of work.	Beth Lewis	60%	03/01/24	12/02/24																																																									
		Activity 4. Final Report & Deliverables Provided to the Town: The final report have been delivered to the Town.	Beth Lewis	0%	11/01/24	12/02/24																																																									
Element 3	Information Gathering/ Comprehensive Drainage Assessments	Activity 1: Heyward Cove Asset Inventory/Condition Assessment: Identify stormwater conveyance system inventory and condition assessment, ownership, choke points, maintenance needs, primary conveyance systems and ensuring functioning as designed/intended is critical. Also identify "storage areas" for larger	Dan Rybak	100%	01/01/23	12/31/25																																																									
		Activity 2: Final Report, 2D H/H Model, Deliverables: The final report and PCSWMM Model have been delivered to the Town.	Dan Rybak	100%	01/01/23	12/31/25																																																									
		Activity 3: Owner Asset Reports: Agreement by Asset Owner to take responsibility for and perform required maintenance needed.	Dan Rybak	15%	10/31/23	12/31/25																																																									
Element 4	Information Gathering/ Statewide and Local Climate-Related Regional Partnerships	Activity 1. Explore Additional Resources/Data for Local Changing Conditions. Examine additional resources (outside of RA outcomes) available through the SCOR, NOAA, USGS, and the State Climatoloav Offices.	Beth Lewis	10%	05/01/24	08/01/24																																																									
		Activity 2. Review of Previous Studies: Review existing studies, such as Dr. Montie's 2019 Technical Report and Dr. Sanger's 2015 Tidal Creek Study.	Beth Lewis	10%	05/01/24	08/01/24																																																									
Element 5	Internal Identification of Objectives and Goals	Activity 3. Identify Partnerships: Seek partnerships and/or new agreements with other jurisdictions, asset owners, educational partners, and scientific researchers/ resource managers.	Beth Lewis	10%	12/01/24	02/01/25																																																									
		Activity 1. Define Resiliency Plan Objectives and Goals: Discuss and define the Town's vision, values, and goals of the plan. The RA and RA engagement data will identify challenges/hazards.	Beth Lewis	0%	12/01/24	02/01/25																																																									
		Activity 2. Identify Strategies: Identify what strategies exist to address the Town's challenges/hazards. Filter out strategies or actions that are infeasible or not directly relevant.	Beth Lewis	0%	12/01/24	02/01/25																																																									
		Activity 3. Identify Actions: Identify what actions can be taken for each strategy and to meet Town objectives.	Beth Lewis	0%	12/01/24	02/01/25																																																									
		Activity 4. Examine Opportunities: Existing projects, programs, and plans can be augmented, modified, or leveraged to achieve one or more resilience objectives. Also make note of any current efforts that may conflict with resilience objectives or assessment findings.	Beth Lewis	0%	12/01/24	02/01/25																																																									
		Activity 5. Develop Strategies or Actions that Other Communities Have Consider or Implemented to Address Similar Challenges: Includes sector-based, regional, or state-level guidance.	Beth Lewis	0%	12/01/24	02/01/25																																																									

