

Islesboro Sea Level Rise Committee Minutes

4 pm, Thursday 1/9/25 Town Office & via Zoom

1. Called to order 4 pm. Quorum established. In attendance: Nancy Alexander, Peter Willcox, Chloe Joule, Donna Leone, Lauren Bruce, Jennifer West, Shey Conover, Fred Porter, Sue Stafford, Peter Rothschild
2. Approved [Draft Minutes 12/12/24](#). Chloe Joule motioned, Peter W. seconded. Unanimous approval.
3. Discussion: How to Prioritize Narrows Phases
 - Committee discussed the viability and timing of taking a phased approach. We need to provide more guidance to Shri and GZA to set expectations for the next phase of engineering design.
 - Should we consider moving the road to the west in the middle of the narrows as part of phase 1? In discussions with permitting agencies, it sounds like they are interested in understanding the difference in environmental impact of moving the road versus larger revetments that impact the intertidal zone.
 - Our highest priority is changing the breakwater so that we don't have the rocks as projectiles in the road. Are we comfortable with completing a 50 year solution? General consensus was this would feel like a success.
 - Fred is concerned with funding availability changing at the federal level. With CA wildfire and southern storms. How will these impact our future funding opportunities, and how long will FEMA resources be available for us?
 - Nancy - we should have no regrets if we are changing our minds about something. We have learned a lot. If our design changes, it is based on what we have learned and best chance to protect the road for the community.
 - Final committee consensus: We are happy to build a solution that lasts 50 years. This solution should prioritize minimizing environmental impact and permitability. The design should prioritize NRPA exemption to permit if possible. We should not focus on phase 2 until phase 1 is completed. We can't speculate more on the design until we've had permit agencies complete their site visit to provide further guidance.
4. Other Business – Nancy will be meeting with professors Orono. This will likely happen with Bob Kochan, Peter Willcox, and Donna Leone.
5. Next meeting date 2/13/25. Adjourned at 4:40 pm.