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Subject:	USACE/City of Boston: Boston Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) study update
Date:	Monday, February 5, 2024 12:29:43 PM

Good afternoon,

We hope this email finds you well.

We are writing to provide you with an update on the status of the US Army Corps of Engineers and the City of Boston's Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM) study. We also want to share a new online tool you can use to identify any pertinent ongoing or upcoming efforts within the project area (more detail below).

Since our agency scoping meeting in January 2023, our Headquarters office approved an extension of our previous 3-year timeline for study completion to 6 years due to the size and scope of the project. The current year of project completion is now 2028. During the past, year we've been collecting data within the study area to develop our baseline conditions and to inform the setting of the future without project conditions (no action alternative). Assessments performed include a side scan survey, underwater video, and photographic documentation of subtidal and intertidal habitats in the study area (report anticipated to be complete in the spring of 2024); a structure inventory of the affected environment; cataloging existing and planned City of Boston development projects; and an inventory of subsurface utilities and critical infrastructure. We have also awarded a contract to perform cultural resource surveys of the project area and have initiated the modeling of coastal processes. Additionally, we have begun the process of identifying social vulnerabilities within each neighborhood.

We're using the information gathered to identify the existing condition, as well as a future condition if this project were to not move forward. This future without project conditions/no action alternative will serve as the baseline as we look to formulate strategies and build on the work already done in Climate Ready Boston. We're expecting to complete the existing and future without project condition analyses by July 2024. At that point we'll begin formulating alternatives for the different neighborhoods and evaluating their benefits and impacts.

We will host a second coordination meeting during the next phase of the study (alternative formulation) and will engage in more regular communication as we start to compare and evaluate

alternatives. For updates and information on the study in the meantime, please review the study websites:

Army Corps of Engineers project site: https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-Topics/City-of-Boston-Coastal-Storm-Risk-Management-Project/

City of Boston project site: https://www.boston.gov/departments/environment/climate-ready-boston-and-army-corps-partnership
We have also developed a simple web-based GIS tool (the ArcGIS Online Experience Builder) designed to aid our project partners in providing information on proposed and/or on-going projects that could factor into our development of future without project conditions. The tool, available at the link below, allows partners to upload the geographic location and any other associated data to the website. Instructions on how to enter projects into this tool are attached to this email. We kindly ask that you review the website and provide any information on current and/or future projects that may be missing.

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/4d30011a128147558fe4748b14b5619a

To ensure that this communication has been received and to confirm that we are maintaining the correct points of contact (POC) for each agency, can you please reply to this email and let us know if you receive the update and if you are still a POC for you agency for the City of Boston CSRM study? If you are no longer the correct POC, could you please let us know and provide contact information for an alternate? Many thanks!

For any follow up questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 978-318-8518 (todd.a.randall@usace.army.mil) or Dr. Christine San Antonio at 978-318-8621 (Christine.sanantonio@usace.army.mil).

Thank you,
Todd Randall & Christine San Antonio

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