



CHARLES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Department of Planning & Growth Management

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MEETING SUMMARY

OLDCC Military Installation Resilience Review Grant – Regional Collaboration Forum

September 30, 2021, 9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Overview

Charles County Government is a current recipient of a Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) grant through the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) to support Naval Support Facility Indian Head and the surrounding Indian Head community. The University of Maryland Center for Global Sustainability is assisting Charles County with this grant as a subrecipient. As part of Charles County's MIRR project, a collaborative forum type event is being organized on a quarterly basis to get together with other OLDCC grantees, various State agencies, and other interested parties to share information, ideas, data and resources. There is value in meeting collaboratively with other grantees and State agencies to support not only installation resilience, but also regional resilience, as similar challenges, especially from climate change, will be faced in the future.

Observations from OLDCC

- Challenge is to think strategically about funding.
- Report on sea level rise on military installations led to fixing a road in one community, which enabled a military/civilian hospital.
- Look for opportunities that benefit both the military and the community.
- Projects are not all being done the same way partly due to differing conditions at different installations.
- Identify solutions through projects, but not vulnerabilities.

Key Points during Conversation among Grantees

- This regional forum is an outshoot of Charles County's resilience effort.
- Charles County has created a resilience finance authority.
- There are four key aspects to NSFIH project:
 - Goal is to develop prioritization framework
 - Think about aging infrastructure and growing demand, as well as encroachment
 - Coordination is key and understanding available funding mechanisms
 - Quantitative analysis
- For projects under consideration, how do you trade off cost considerations and resilience improvements? (i.e., what severity of hazard loadings (e.g., flood elevations) are the projects designed for?).
- Northern VA Regional Commission has a history of coordinating community/base collaboration.
- For risk-based approaches, try to quantify likelihood of occurrence and consequence of occurrence for various threats, and use that information to inform how much various mitigation options can buy down risk. There is a spectrum of approaches to use, some are quantitative, and some are more qualitative.
- New construction at Joint Base Andrews must have 100-year flood resilience.
- Design standards for flood risk is probably a separate, but important topic. Most jurisdictions are planning around the 500-year flood risk and using recent information on Intensity, Duration, and Frequency (IDF) of

rainfall or in coastal areas, sea level rise (as an example). This might be a good discussion topic for a future meeting.

- Connecting levels of government and infrastructure providers is key. This is a strategic goal of NSFIIH project.
- Communities and installations need to work together beyond completion of projects (MIRR, Compatible Use, etc.).
- Technically, there are collaborative online tools that can improve communication like Mural Whiteboard.
- Having someone that facilitates cooperation and communication is very helpful and sometimes needed.
- Meeting with the installation commander to brief them and ensure the project is going down the right path is important.
- ICF staff leads data for DoD climate assessment tool (DCAT).
- A challenge is using different scenarios: what are unifying themes?
- Absence of geospatial data on flood extent and duration.
- Beneficial to have county staff member serve as project lead since you do not have to go through the hiring process, and they are more likely to be familiar with the community.
- DCAT is based on national GIS data, doesn't pull in local data.
- How do we use DCAT to produce reports that are of use to specific installations?
- Can DoD funds be used for this project?
 - DoD can fund off base activities that support the military mission.
- North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study: <https://www.nad.usace.army.mil/CompStudy/>
- NIST is developing a tool (currently Beta) to model interdependencies that helps users identify combinations of resilience actions and addresses cost/resilience tradeoffs. <https://www.nist.gov/services-resources/software/nist-arc-nist-alternatives-resilient-communities-tool>. The page also has links to other NIST guidance/tools.
- It is important to have data-driven recommendations in order to tell the story and explain why the mitigation options identified make sense from a return-on-investment perspective.
- It's critical to develop a set of recommendations that are harmonized between communities and the installations.
- Military installations are not always identified as critical infrastructure in Hazard Mitigation Plans, but should be.
- US Army Corps of Engineers use lots of modeling and mapping is not incorporated in local installation projects and FEMA.
- MWCOG has an infrastructure risk assessment program that uses a data driven approach.
- Create a problem statement and refer back to it often.
- The Smart DG+ tool developed by the Maryland Energy Administration and Department of Natural Resources is another resource to make better decisions related to distributed energy siting:
<https://dnr.maryland.gov/pprp/Pages/smardtg.aspx>

Key Points during Conversation among State, Federal, and Nonprofits

- Jennifer Chiasson, MDOC - Provides grants and leads community coordination and state planning
- Compatible use planning for joint base and community projects
- Facilitates communication between DoD, state, and community
- They have a Compatible Use Website that identifies land use availability for renewable energy projects that does not impact the military mission: <https://commerce.maryland.gov/compatibleuse>
- Meant to inform renewable energy developers and regulators, not intended to be a policy tool
- Sarah Diehl, Maryland Department of Planning (see slides from presentation)
- MWCOG has had two consultants under Master Contracts with our COG Rider Clause for several years now. The contract scope supports all aspects of climate/sustainability/energy/resilience planning support, but does not

explicitly mention or have scope focused on military/community collaboration. The contracts have been widely used across localities in Maryland and Virginia. We plan to issue a new RFP next Spring to extend the contract, will be interested in any input folks have on SOW scopes that could be added to better enable deployment of consultant support for MIRR, CPLUS, etc.

- Activities at MEA - Resilient Maryland Program (grants):
<https://energy.maryland.gov/business/pages/ResilientMaryland.aspx>
- For several years the State of Florida has focused funds to communities to support Defense installations. In many cases communities used these funds as a match to REPI projects.
<https://www.wfla.com/news/florida/gov-desantis-announces-3-4m-in-funding-for-military-communities-bases/>
- More on Maryland's Compatible Use program here: <https://commerce.maryland.gov/compatibleuse>
- MWCOC has launched a new climate collaborative website, not specific to MIRR or Base/Community, but we might look to add some content at some point. <https://climatepartners.org/>
- David Johnston, DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency gave brief on the agency, mission, and projects (see presentation slides). CISA cybersecurity capabilities can be found on website:
<https://www.cisa.gov/cybersecurity>
- NIST talked about their resources: <https://www.nist.gov/community-resilience>
- NIST is part of Dept of Commerce: National Institute of Standards and Technology
- ADC/Stantec Community resilience planning guide: <https://defensecommunities.org/2021/05/new-from-adc-and-stantec-resilience-planning-framework-for-communities/>
- Alternatives for Resilient Communities (ARC): <https://www.nist.gov/services-resources/software/nist-arc-nist-alternatives-resilient-communities-tool>
- Community Resilience Planning Guide for communities: <https://www.nist.gov/community-resilience/planning-guide>
- Colorado State University Center of Excellence: <https://enr.source.colostate.edu/nist-renews-20-million-partnership-with-csu-community-resilience-center-of-excellence/>
- Army Corps of Engineering - ACE has planning tools related to resilience.
- FEMA Flood plain management program: <https://www.fema.gov/floodplain-management>
- USACE has state outreach program and interagency projects:
<https://www.usace.army.mil/missions/sustainability/building-resilience/>
- Silver jacket teams: <https://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/>
- Baltimore is home of USACE hurricane readiness center.
- Mike Shaw talked about DoD REPI grants - \$40M in grants, includes \$25M for climate resilience (focuses on natural or green infrastructure to improve resilience). Expected to grow to \$150M: www.repi.mil
- FY22 REPI Challenge RFP: https://www.usendowment.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2022_repi-challenge-rfp_final_20210910.pdf
- REPI has the new expanded authority to serve as a non-federal match to any federal conservation or resilience program, including FEMA BRIC. In other words, communities and states can use REPI to help meet FEMA BRIC's cost sharing requirements. They are working very closely with FEMA BRIC to explore potential funding opportunities together. <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>
- Responding to the recent discussion about nature-based solutions - this international guidance on engineering with nature would likely give a nice menu of potential project ideas. USACE, NIST, other Fed agencies and a range of international partners developed this resource over the past few years -
https://ewn.erdcdren.mil/?page_id=4351
- MARISA (RAND Corporation) Seasonal climate summaries with interactive data tools:
<https://www.midatlanticcrisisa.org/climate-summaries/2021/09.html>

- RAND Climate Resilience Center: <https://www.rand.org/well-being/community-health-and-environmental-policy/centers/climate-resilience.html>
- Early version of the planning tool: <https://champ.rcc-acis.org/>
- <https://www.midatlanticrisa.org/>; <https://www.midatlanticrisa.org/data-tools.html>; <https://midatlantic-idf.rcc-acis.org/>
- North Atlantic Coastal Comprehensive (NACCS): <https://www.nad.usace.army.mil/CompStudy/>
- MD Hurricane Evacuation Study: The National Hurricane Program (NHP) has actively worked with MDEM (formerly MEMA) and other local EM agencies to work on an updated Maryland Hurricane Evacuation Study (MD HES). The data associated with this study, specifically any traffic analysis, evacuation zone development, and evacuation timing might be useful to the recently started City of Annapolis Evacuation Study. <https://www.hSDL.org/?abstract&did=764628>
- Follow-Up from Michael Schuster, USACE : Amy Guise (Baltimore District – Planning Division Chief) and Tony Clark (Baltimore District – Planning Division – Technical Assistance Branch Chief). Ms. Guise is actively working with the REPI program and the Banking Industry to identify potential partnering opportunities with USACE. Additionally, Mr. Clark provides oversight to the following programs: the Floodplain Management Services (FPMS), Planning Assistance to State (PAS), Silver Jackets, and the National Hurricane Program.

Next Steps/Action Items:

- The next meeting has been scheduled for December 16th from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m., and an appointment will be sent out soon.
- Michael Schuster is reaching out to Dr. Kate White and the DoD Climate Action Team to see if she or an associate can provide a presentation on their efforts and the future of DCAT.
- Please email any suggestions you may have for topics, speakers, etc. for our next meeting agenda. Suggestions should be sent to Beth Groth at GrothB@CharlesCountyMD.gov.