

Notes and bullet point on goals and objectives for Coastal Resilience Districts

The purpose of Coastal Resilience Districts (CRD's) is for the Town of Nantucket to have a funding and regulatory model for specific island areas that benefit from coastal resilience interventions. This includes funding and regulating the planning, construction, monitoring, maintenance, and removal of any resilience projects that disproportionately benefit localized areas within the municipality.

Suggested bullet point recommendations from CRAC

- The existing betterment system can be used to progress projects with immediate need. Coastal Resilience Districts can be used in a two-tier fashion. First, as a Town bylaw to assist areas with current or imminent need. Second, gaining the ability to create Coastal Resilience Districts can be pursued at the state level through a Home Rule Petition to solidify coastal resilience district powers.
- Whole island could be a Coastal Resilience District
- Create sub-districts as needed around the island and approved by Select Board
- Create the coastal resilience districts as needed and charge to the beneficiaries in that area accordingly.
- Localized projects get charged to the people who receive benefits from the project; and charged accordingly
- Look at the possibility of both primary beneficiaries and secondary beneficiaries
- As sea levels rise, more land will be impacted. This will necessitate changing the project and betterment areas over time. Allow for redefining the betterments and areas within the district as needed.
- Need to create an airtight system for betterment collection, like tax collection.
- Operation and maintenance costs must be included.
- Consider having public access included for all intervention, where possible and safe.
- Primary Plan and a backup plan to allow for resilience planning. Betterment analysis based on both plans. Secondary plans can be anything from alternative systems, should the first fail, to removal and retreat planning.
- Yearly evaluation for impacts, feasibility to continue, and project function. Town entities undertake the review, for example Conservation Commission. Have a decommissioning plan.
- Allow for cooperation with other programs such as One Big Beach easement and others.
- Allow for additional benefits such as Hold Harmless agreements, insuring public access, donations of land to the Town.
- Educate property owners and purchasers on what the risks are and put them on notice that they may be subject to group projects and potential betterment costs over time. Include real estate community.
- Have legal understandings and agreements in place on the ownership of the interventions put in place. If on private property have a legal agreement between Town and private property owner such as a MOU. Seek to include maintenance access, public access to intervention. Understanding of the legal ramifications of Town ownership of interventions vs maintaining a MOU.
- Consider whether mapped CRD subdistrict beneficiaries should require majority approval of betterment initiatives by property owners before undertaking remediating actions and accompanying assessments.
- Have comprehensive and island wide outreach and engagement on interventions as they arise.
- CRDs shall not in any way circumvent the authority of Nantucket's regulatory bodies, most notably Conservation Commission, Planning Board, and Historic District Commission.