#### Titusville Causeway Multi-Trophic Shoreline Stabilization and Resiliency Action Project Carolina Alvarez Ryan Mitchell, P.E.









#### MERRITT ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGEE



### About the Titusville Causeway

- Located in Brevard County
- Built in the 1940s
- Connects City of Titusville the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge (MINWR) and Kennedy Space Center (KSC)



### About the Titusville Causeway

- Critical habit for many plant and wildlife species
- Home to one of the State's largest spawning sites for horseshoe crabs
- Extensively used for public recreation
  - Waterfront access
  - Bike/Hike trail to MINWR
  - Popular viewing spot for KSC launches







Historical Imagery and Timeline

#### Causeway erosion and shoreline degradation









#### Existing concrete riprap along the shoreline



#### Time For Restoration

- Critical infrastructure protection storm surge and wave driven wind energy
- Recreational use of the sandy beach and shallow water environment along the Causeway
- Living Shoreline restoration and coastal resiliency
- Remove armored shoreline
  - Habitat restoration to benefit fish and wildlife
  - Seagrass restoration in shallow water habitat

## Why is this project important relevant to the coastal community?

- Critical infrastructure protection of shorelines.
- Failing seawalls, riprap armored shorelines, and eroded shorelines.
- Sea level rise and storm surge resiliency
- Bridging ecological functions and recreational access into infrastructure projects

#### Design, Planning and Engineering Funding



#### Public Meeting – June 2021

#### **Over \$4 Million in Project Funding**



#### Additional Funding:

Fish and Wildlife Foundation (seagrass) = \$500K Florida Resilient Coastline Program Grant = \$94K FPL Contribution = \$25K FIND Fill Material Donation = \$70k

Wind Direction

Wind Speed
Fetch (distance over water)
Sea Level (IRL)





#### Current bathymetry within the project area



### WAD layout and sand re-nourishment



Table I: Summary of WADs array design. Note that Alt. 5 and 6 are 12 m further seaward and include a curved section to protect the eastern shoreline.

|  | Alt. 1          | Alt. 2          | Alt. 3                | Alt. 4          | Alt. 5*         | Alt. 6*         | No<br>WADs |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
| Extension in<br>meters above<br>mean sea level   | 0.6 m           | 0.6 m           | 0.6                   | 0.8 m           | 0.6 m           | 0.8 m           |            |
| Gaps between<br>WAD arrays   | 9 m             | 15 m            | Overlap-<br>ping gaps | 12 m            | 9 m             | 6 m             |            |
| Other pertinent category   | double<br>rows  | double<br>rows  | double<br>rows        | double<br>rows  | double<br>rows  | double<br>rows  |            |
| WADs array performance: average nearshore wave height. % in bracket represent wave-energy reduction as compared to the existing condition. |                 |                 |                       |                 |                 |                 |            |
| Mean tide level  | 0.25 m<br>(61%) | 0.30 m<br>(44%) | 0.15 m<br>(86%)       | 0.25 m<br>(61%) | 0.20 m<br>(75%) | 0.15 m<br>(85%) | 0.40       |
| Spring tide<br>level   | 0.35 m<br>(75%) | 0.40 m<br>(67%) | 0.20 m<br>(92%)       | 0.35 m<br>(75%) | 0.30 m<br>(82%) | 0.20 m<br>(92%) | 0.70 m     |
| Spring tide +<br>0.5 m surge   | 0.5 m<br>(75%)  | 0.55 m<br>(70%) | 0.45 m<br>(80%)       | 0.40 m<br>(84%) | 0.40 m<br>(84%) | 0.25 m<br>(94%) | 1.0 m      |
| Spring tide + 1<br>m surge   | 0.7 m<br>(66%)  | 0.75 m<br>(61%) | 0.65 m<br>(71%)       | 0.60 m<br>(75%) | 0.65 m<br>(71%) | 0.50 m<br>(83%) | 1.2 m      |
| Efficacy of<br>design 1-10<br>scale  | 5<br>(69%)      | 3<br>(60%)      | 8<br>(82%)            | 6<br>(74%)      | 7<br>(78%)      | 9<br>(89%)      |            |







#### Model

- USACE Coatal Modeling System (CMS-Wave)
- Developed by Ping Wang, Ph.D University of South Florida

#### <u>Design Scenario</u>

- Wind = 40 MPH wind from SSE
- Storm surge = 1.5 ft storm surge
- Wave height = 3-4 ft

<u>Wave Attenuation</u> Waves reduced by 2.3 ft



#### Model

- USACE Coatal Modeling System (CMS-Wave)
- Developed by Ping Wang, Ph.D University of South Florida

#### Design Scenario

- Wind = 75 MPH wind from SSE
- Storm surge = 3 ft storm surge
- Wave height = >4 ft

<u>Wave Attenuation</u> Waves reduced by 2 ft

#### Shoreline Stabilization



SHORELINE STABILIZATION PLANTING ZONE

| Common Name          | Scientific Name         | Quantity | Spacing         | Zone         |  |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| White Mangrove       | Laguncularia racemosa   | 140      | 10 ft on center | Estuarine    |  |
| Red Mangrove         | Rhizophora mangle       | 140      | 10 ft on center | Estuarine    |  |
| Silver Buttonwood    | Conocarpus erectus      | 140      | 10 ft on center | Estuarine    |  |
| Saltgrass            | Distichlis spicata      | 1500     | 3 ft on center  | Estuarine    |  |
| Perennial Glasswort  | Salicornia perennis     | 1500     | 3 ft on center  | Estuarine    |  |
| Saltmeadow Cordgrass | Spartina patens         | 1500     | 3 ft on center  | Estuarine    |  |
| Sea Oxeye            | Borrichia frutescens    | 1100     | 3 ft on center  | Transitiona  |  |
| Seaside Goldenrod    | Solidago sempervirens   | 1100     | 3 ft on center  | Transitiona  |  |
| Seashore Paspalum    | Paspalum vaginatum      | 1100     | 3 ft on center  | Transitional |  |
| Sea Purslane         | Sesuvium portulacastrum | 1100     | 3 ft on center  | Transitiona  |  |
| Smooth Cordgrass     | Spartina alterniflora   | 1100     | 3 ft on center  | Transitional |  |
| Seagrape             | Coccoloba uvifera       | 800      | 5 ft on center  | Transitional |  |
| Cabbage Palm         | Sabal palmetto          | 75       | 20 ft on center | Upland       |  |
| Gumbo Limbo          | Bursera simaruba        | 75       | 20 ft on center | Upland       |  |
| Railroad Vine        | Ipomea pes-caprae       | 220      | 10 ft on center | Upland       |  |
| Sea Oats             | Uniola paniculata       | 220      | 10 ft on center | Upland       |  |
| Muhly Grass          | Muhlenbergia spp.       | 2500     | 5 ft on center  | Upland       |  |
| Smooth Cordgrass     | Sparting alterniflorg   | 2500     | 3 ft on center  | Upland       |  |

#### Notes

Plant spacing provided only to demonstrate sufficient quantities throughout the habitats. Plant installation shall be in a manner to mimic natural vegetative communities with plant species in clusters, not linear rows. Plant species should be alternated in groups, to provide greater long-term survival for each species type. Coordination efforts with Brevard County Natural Resources Management Department is required prior to plant installation.

All plants shall be watered and/or staked in place as needed for a minimum of 6 months.

In areas where existing desirable vegetation remains, proposed plantings will not be installed. If desirable vegetation can be successfully transplanted onsite following regrading efforts, proposed plantings can be reduced.

A total of 23 mature mangrove trees are proposed to remain. If during construction efforts the designated trees cannot be saved, 4 mangroves must be installed as replacement. This count is in addition to the quantity listed in the table on this plan.

80% planted species survival is required after one year of monitoring. If the percentage is not demonstrated, replanting efforts will be required.

Minimum of three years maintenance and monitoring required throughout restoration area. No more than 5% exotic species coverage and at least 80% desirable species coverage required in order to meet success criteria. Annual reports required to be submitted to SJRWMD in August following initial report submittal upon completion of restoration and planting efforts.

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#### 2,000 ft Shoreline Stabilization Planting Plan



Seagrass Survey performed on May 2019

Updated June 2020

Aquatic Resource Survey 2021



#### Seagrass Meadow Restoration Plan



- Benthic, Seagrass and Shoreline Survey
- Wave Modeling
- Design Plans and Specifications
- Sovereign Submerged Lands SSL Easement
- Shoreline Planting Plan & UMAMs
- Seagrass Meadow Restoration Plan
- Flow Monitoring and Sediment Transport



- St. Johns River Water Management District
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Department of Transportation

### Project Details



#### TYPICAL WAD PROFILE SECTION

N.T.S.

### Project Details





What are Wave Attenuation Devices (WAD's)?



E.G. Simmons Park Hillsborough County, FL

### Shoreline Protection



Breakwater arrays (WAD's) provide a multi-functional approach to shoreline restoration and ecological functions.





#### Sunken Island





# WAD arrays as breakwater reefs



## WAD's quickly transition into reef habitat as structure for fish and marine wildlife.







### Future Shoreline- Representative Cross Section





### SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PROJECT PARTNERS













Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection



Brevard County Tourist Development Council



### Any Questions?