# NATIONAL NONSTRUCTURAL COMMITTEE

INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE, NS MEASURES AND A PLANNING EXAMPLE

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21 March 2019

"The views, opinions and findings contained in this report are those of the authors(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision, unless so designated by other official documentation."





#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Introduction to the Committee
- 2. Background on Nonstructural
- 3. FY19 NNC Workplan
- 4. Nonstructural Measures
- 5. Planning Methods & Best Practices
- 6. Questions/Discussion





#### NATIONAL NONSTRUCTURAL COMMITTEE

#### Lea G. Adams, PE

Committee Chair
Chief, Water Resource Systems Division, Hydrologic Engineering Center

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Planner, New York District

#### Jodie R. Foster, PhD

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Water Resources Certified Planner, RTS, New Orleans District

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#### Christina (Chris) A. Rasmussen, CFM

Hydraulic Engineer, New York District

https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/nfpc/





#### NONSTRUCTURAL PHILOSOPHY

Flood Risk = Probability x Consequences

- Nonstructural focuses on reducing consequences by:
  - Adapting to the natural characteristics of the floodplain
  - Avoiding impacts to flood stages, velocities or the environment
- Nonstructural touches on:
  - Planning
  - Field assessments
  - Implementation
  - Emergency response







## **RELATED LAWS & GUIDANCE**

- Water Resource Development Acts (WRDA): 1974, 1996, 1999, 2007, 2016
  - WRDA 1974, Section 73: requires consideration of nonstructural measures to reduce flood damages
  - WRDA 1999, Section 201: amended the Small Flood Control Authority to include nonstructural projects
  - WRDA 2016, Section 1184: requires consideration of nonstructural measures when studying feasibility of FRM, hurricane and CSRM projects





## **USACE REGULATIONS**

- ER 1105-2-100 "Planning Guidance Notebook"
  - Exhibit G-1: minimum of one nonstructural plan should be considered. "The feasibility report will document that all reasonable alternatives for addressing the identified problems, including non-structural measures and measures beyond the authority of the Corps to implement, have been systematically formulated and evaluated in accordance with the P&G" (supports WRDA 1974)
- Planning Bulletin 2016-01, Planning Bulletin 2019-03
  - Berms are structural
  - Eminent domain for buyouts
  - Aggregation of structures
  - Interest during construction





#### **FY19 NNC WORKPLAN**

- Nonstructural Working Group
  - POCs: Rachel Shrader, NWO, Brian Maestri, MVN and Andy MacInnes, MVN
  - Connecting requests and resources for nonstructuralrelated needs
  - Webinars
    - January Buyout Guidance, PB 2016-01 and PB 2019-03
    - February Relocation Assistance, PL 91-646
    - April Structure Inventories
    - Possible future topics Cost Estimation, Implementation,
       Plan Formulation





#### **FY19 NNC WORKPLAN**

- Nonstructural Best Practice Guides
  - Study Scoping
    - How best to aggregate structures and define damage areas?
  - Plan Formulation Steps
    - How to incorporate NS into a planning study?
  - Communication with Local Sponsors
    - What is important for local sponsors to know about NS alternatives? No one likes surprises.
  - Historic Properties
    - Older structures must be handled with care.
  - Case Studies





#### **FY19 NNC WORKPLAN**

- Subject Matter Expert List
  - We need you!
- Interagency Nonstructural Projects
- PROSPECT Class in FY20



Photos courtesy of SmartVent





## NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES

Jodie Foster, PhD – NNC Member





## NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES

Allow for people and structures that are exposed and vulnerable to flood risk to <u>adapt to flooding</u> and to those risks associated with flooding <u>without changing the</u> <u>characteristics of the flood</u> ......no increased stages, velocities, or duration of flooding.





## **NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES**



#### **PHYSICAL**

- Acquisition (buyout / demolition)
- Basement Fill



- Elevation
- Relocation (Individual Structures / Multiple Structures)



- Dry Flood Proofing
- Wet Flood Proofing
- Barriers Berms Walls (Temporary / Permanent)



#### **NONPHYSICAL**



- Education / Communication
- Flood Emergency Preparedness & Warning



 Other - National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); Floodplain Management; Land Use Regulation (Zoning); Building Codes





 Low Impact Development / Green Infrastructure / Floodplain Restoration





**A1** Author, 2/21/2019

## **ACQUISITION / DEMOLITION**









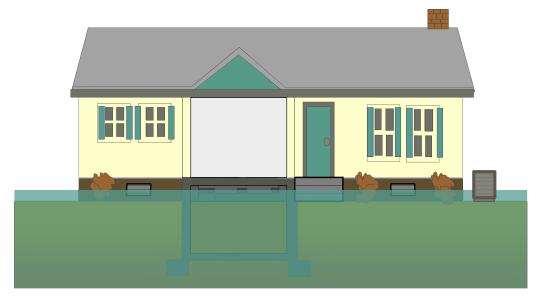


## SECONDARY USE OF EVACUATED PROPERTY



### **BASEMENT EVACUATE / FILL**





- Evacuate Basement
  - Relocate Storage/Other (Above Design Flood Elevation (DFE))
  - Elevate Mechanical/Electrical Equipment (Above DFE)
  - Remove Finishes & Demo Floor Slab
- Fill Basement (Level w/Exterior Grade & Suitable fill)
- Install Flood Louvers/Vents/Openings

## **ELEVATION ON EXTENDED FOUNDATION**







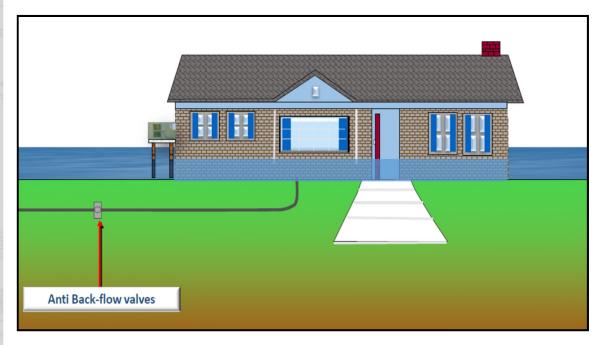


Residential Structure – Grundy, VA

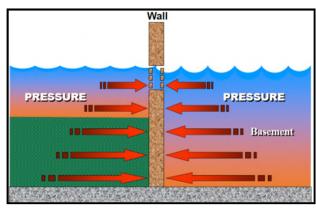
- ...is one of the most **common and effective** methods used to prevent flooding of living space...
- ...recommend design and construction by reputable/qualified professionals and contractors...
- ...Not permitted in regulatory floodway...**Not** recommended areas of high flood velocities
- ...Acceptable in A Zones.

## **WET FLOOD PROOFING**









Equalize the pressure

## Ellicott City, MD : Residential/Commercial (Wet Flood Proofing Example)















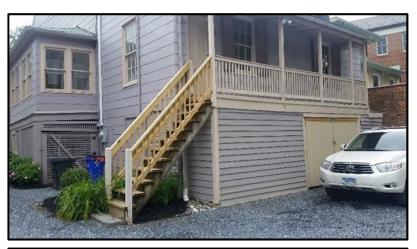
## Ellicott City, MD : Residential/Commercial (Wet Flood Proofing Example)

## **Key Building Features:**

- Masonry construction below first floor
- Unoccupied walkout basement

#### **Considerations:**

- Placement of flood vents
- Move utilities











## **OTHER ELEVATIONS**





Piers and posts



Elevate on fill



## **INTERIOR ELEVATION**











## **RELOCATION**





Lighthouse - Cape Hatteras, NC



**Masonry Structure** 



Grundy, VA

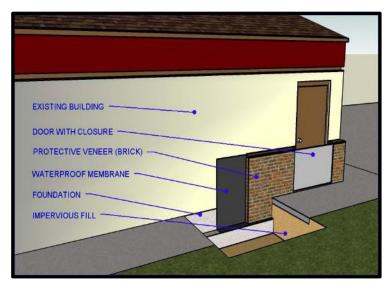
## DRY FLOOD PROOFING





(Temporary)

- Flood depths 3 feet or less
- Structurally sound buildings
- New design & construction
- Retrofitting existing structures
- No basement or crawl space



Detail



Kermit, WV (Pizza Hut)

## **DRY FLOOD PROOFING**

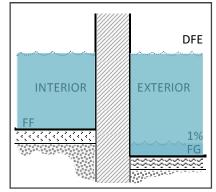




**Temporary Barrier** 



Closure/Shield



BUILDING SECTION (at Grade)

Not to Scale

## **DRY FLOOD PROOFING**









Stop Logs



Flood Door



Panel System



Swing Gate (Driveway)



Wall Swing Gate

## HISTORICALLY SENSITIVE FLOOD DOORS





http://stormmeister.com/ \*







## **TEMPORARY BARRIERS**



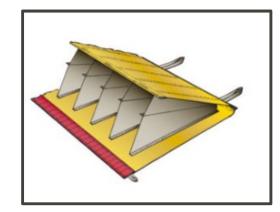




Bladder



Manual Panels



Self Rising Panels

## THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX: DEBRIS BARRIERS

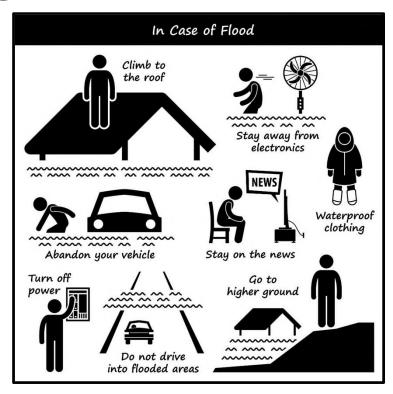


Bollards Hidden Behind Porch

Flood Door Behind Porch

## **NON-PHYSICAL MEASURES**

- Awareness Education/ Outreach
- Regulations (codes, zoning, floodplain management)
- Warning / Evacuation
  - Who / How / When
- Preparedness Planning
  - Emergency Action Plans
  - Response / Recovery
  - Evacuation Routes
  - Evacuation Centers
  - Vertical Evacuation
- Insurance







## **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE KEY PROCESSES**

- Interception
- Infiltration
- Retention
- Evaporation
- Evapotranspiration
- Reuse

Green Infrastructure can be designed to work in a variety of areas as long as it can use 1 or more of these processes



## LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE









- PLANTER BOX
- GREEN SPACE
- POROUS PAVEMENT
- RAIN BARREL





## **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE APPROACHES**



Rainwater collected in planter box then channeled into rain garden Boulder, CO



Irrigation by disconnected downspout Denver, CO



Green roof Salt Lake City, UT



Vegetative swale Fort Carson, CO



Pervious pavement sidewalk Sioux City, SD



Retention pond Fargo, ND

# PLANNING METHODS & BEST PRACTICES

Danielle Tommaso, CFM – NNC Member





## NNC BEST PRACTICE GUIDES

- Have a nonstructural planning challenge? You're not alone!
- The National Nonstructural Committee will soon publish best practice guides
  - Planning Challenges COMING SOON!
    - Plan formulation and evaluation
    - Economic analysis
    - Estimating project costs
  - Design Standards
  - Implementation Methods





#### **KEY TAKE-AWAYS**

- Structural and nonstructural measures / alternatives should be considered equally and concurrently, when a project is initiated. The recommended plan may include one or the other, or a combination.
- The USACE planning process is the same for structural and nonstructural flood risk management... The difference is in the details.
- Inventory and data requirements are very similar, but there are some differences... Awareness and knowledge of this will improve project completeness and success.

Structural versus and nonstructural flood risk management



#### WHAT'S DIFFERENT? WHAT'S THE SAME?

- The planning process doesn't change when you consider nonstructural measures
- Applicable guidance still applies
- Important to remember:
  - Consider P&G accounts, life safety, residual risk, and study-specific planning objectives
  - Consider and document eight-step decision-making process (EO 11988)

We will focus on considerations and best practices unique to nonstructural plan formulation, evaluation, and selection





#### NONSTRUCTURAL PLAN FORMULATION

- Not an afterthought part of formulation from day one
- Minimum of one nonstructural plan should be considered (EO 11988/ER 1105-2-100 Exhibit G-1)
- Consider all nonstructural measures regardless of who and which program can implement
  - Many measures are not within the purview of the USACE CW mission
  - USACE, FEMA, HUD, states, local municipalities, homeowners, businesses, etc.
  - Silver Jackets Program has list of different types of programs





# STEP 1: SPECIFY PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

#### Problem identification

- Impacts of flooding ← most apparent focus of study
- Life safety, residual risk, OSE (community cohesion, resilience)

#### Opportunities

- Build on problems
- Not limited to NED
- Life safety, residual risk, OSE

Best practice: Think about how problems and opportunities will help form objectives, and how those objectives will be quantified (metrics, thresholds, etc.)





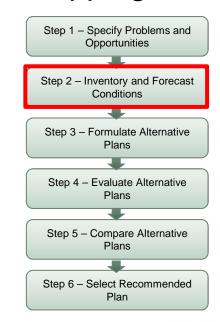


### STEP 2: INVENTORY AND FORECAST CONDITIONS

- Characterize historic and existing conditions, and future-without project (FWOP) conditions
  - Hydraulic modeling, structure inventory, identify environmental and cultural considerations, mapping
- Common considerations:
  - Land use and development
  - Projects by others
  - Post-disaster actions

<u>Best practice</u>: Document historic structures (need to maintain historic integrity may impact screening of measures)

Best practice: coordinate with Federal, state, and local agencies after disasters

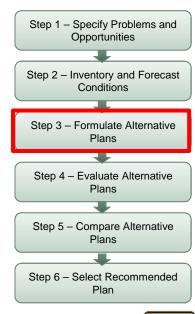






### STEP 3: FORMULATE ALTERNATIVE PLANS

- Similar to procedures used for all FRM and CSRM studies
- Plan formulation strategy and objectives will help you screen and combine measures.
   They likely focus on:
  - Managing risk of economic damages
  - Economic damage centers (geography)
  - Minimization of life loss
  - Supporting community resilience and cohesion
  - Critical or existing infrastructure
  - Focus on regional vs. local solutions
- Structural and nonstructural measures can work together to manage flood risk

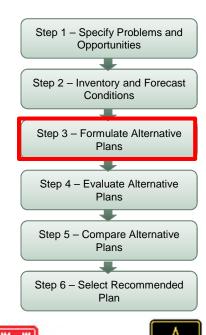






### UNIQUE NONSTRUCTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Must consider one primarily nonstructural plan
- Participation: voluntary vs. mandatory nonstructural measures
- Federally-led implementation
- Historic properties (potential constraint or consideration)
- Environmental and land use impacts
- Using a logical aggregation method for considering nonstructural measures



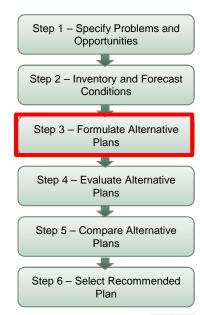




#### **USING A LOGICAL AGGREGATION METHOD**

- Neighborhoods or communities sharing common floodplains
- Neighborhoods or communities sharing common infrastructure
- Structures within other geophysical boundaries or sharing other flood characteristics
- Census block or tract boundaries
- Main floor elevation/first floor elevation

Best practice: Document logic and methodology for aggregation in decision document

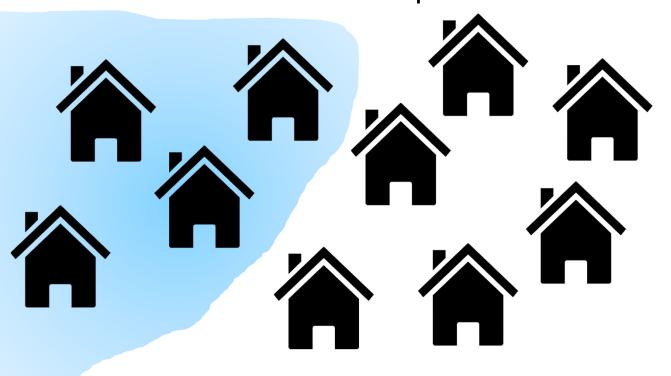






#### **EXAMPLE: DELINEATING FLOODPLAINS**

- Pick one or more floodplains during initial formulation (1%, 4%, 10%, etc.)
- May choose to compare economic damages reduced for different floodplains

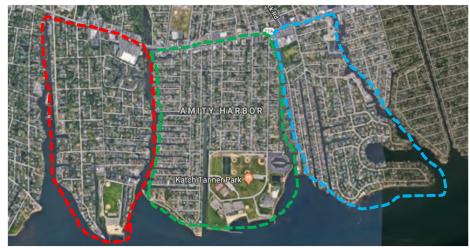




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# **EXAMPLE: AGGREGATION BY MAIN FLOOR ELEVATION**

- Typically, there are different main floor elevations in communities
  - May vary within a town, neighborhood, or even block



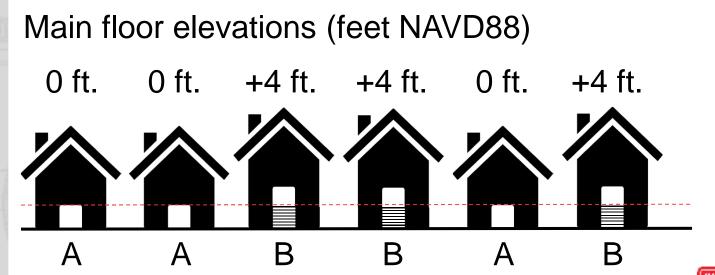
Ranches Elevated +0.5 ft NAVD88 +10.0 ft NAVD88

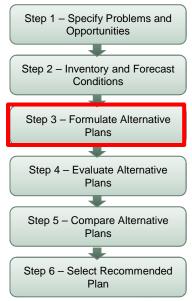
Bungalows +3.0 ft NAVD88



### **EXAMPLE: AGGREGATION BY MAIN FLOOR ELEVATION**

- Typically, there are different main floor elevations in communities
- Banding by different MFEs → increments
- Economic analysis using different increments



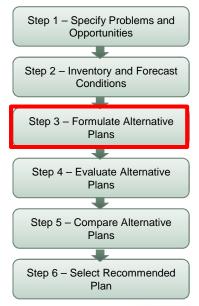


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# IDENTIFYING AND SCREENING STRUCTURAL AND NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES

- May consider nonstructural measures as a group during initial plan formulation
  - Ask first: Does a nonstructural approach meet objectives and avoid constraints?
- Eventually screen different types of nonstructural measures for each aggregate or structure

Best practice: consider planning objectives and constraints



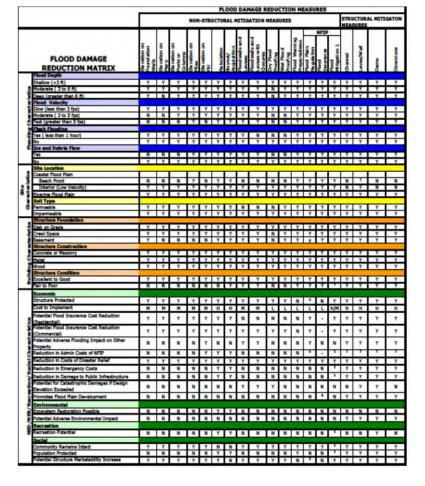


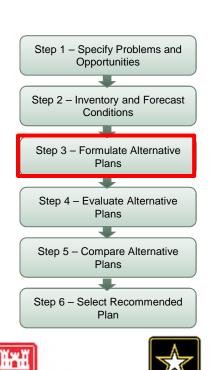


# IDENTIFYING AND SCREENING NONSTRUCTURAL MEASURES

 Best practice: Pocket Tool - Flood Damage Reduction Matrix (located on National Nonstructural Committee

website)





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#### FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION MATRIX

 Can be used to identify site-appropriate nonstructural measures for individual structures (FWOP conditions will help determine)

Can be used to screen measures based on a logical Y/N flowchart

January 2018		FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION MEASURES  NONSTRUCTURAL MITIGATION MEASURES												
										NFIP				
FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION MATRIX		Elevation on Foundation Walls	Elevation on Piers	Elevation on Posts or Columns	Elevation on Piles	Elevation on Fill	Relocation	Buyout/ Acquisitior	Dry Flood Proofing	Wet Flood Proofing	Flood Warning Preparedness	Flood Plain Regulation	Flood Insurance	Flood Mitigation 1
	Flood Depth													
	Shallow (<3 ft)	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
10	Moderate (3 to 6 ft)	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
Characteristics	Deep (greater than 6 ft)	Υ	N	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Y	N	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
-22	Flood Velocity													
ij	Slow (less than 3 fps)	Υ	Υ	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ
ara	Moderate (3 to 5 fps)	N	N	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	N	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
	Fast (greater than 5 fps)	N	N	N	Υ	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
Flooding	Flash Flooding													
b	Yes (less than 1 hour)	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	N	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
윤	No	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
	Ice and Debris Flow													
	Yes	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	Y	Υ	N	N	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
	No	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
S	Site Location													
aracteristics	Coastal Flood Plain													
	Beach Front	N	N	N	Υ	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
	Interior (Low Velocity)	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ
ā	Riverine Flood Plain	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ	Υ	Υ	Y	Y	Y







### **EXAMPLE USE OF MATRIX**

Matrix Characteristic	Assessment
Flood Depth - Deep (less than 3 feet)	Υ
Flood Velocity – Slow (less than 3 fps)	Υ
Flash Flooding – Yes (less than 1 hour)	Υ
Site Location – Coastal Floodplain Interior (low velocity)	Υ
Soil Type - Permeable	Υ
Structure Foundation - Basement	Υ
Structure Condition – Excellent to Good	Υ
Economics – Potential Flood Insurance Cost Reduction	Υ
Social – Community Remains Intact	Υ





Result: "Elevation on Foundation Walls"



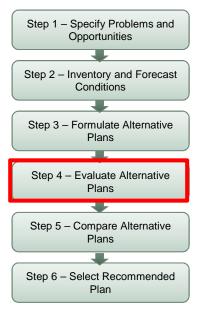
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# STEP 4: EVALUATE ALTERNATIVE PLANS

 Similar to procedures used for all FRM and CSRM studies, including those for structural measures (WRDA 1999, Section 219)

#### Main goals:

- Evaluate and document plans' economic benefits, and their impacts on the prevention of loss of life and residual risk
- Consider environmental, social, and cultural factors

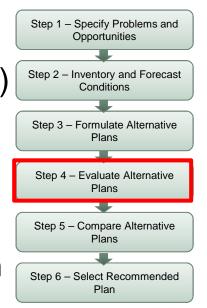






#### UNIQUE NONSTRUCTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Appropriate level of incremental analysis (PB 2019-03)
- Consider project performance under:
  - Different participation rates sensitivity analysis (PB 2019-03)
  - Different relative sea level change (RSLC) scenarios - sensitivity analysis
- Consider benefits of alternative use of land (ER 1105-2-100 and PB 2016-01)
- Recreation benefits not limited for justification (ER 1105-2-100, Appendix E)



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#### **COST ESTIMATING**

- Look to recent projects in your District and local data
- Include cost of relocating eligible residents (Public Law 91-646, Uniform Relocation Assistance)
  - Renters only, not homeowners



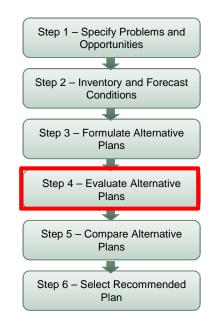




# ESTIMATING ECONOMIC BENEFITS: INCREMENTAL ANALYSIS

 Incremental analysis using previously-defined aggregates or other logical groupings

	First Cost	Average Annual Cost	Average Annual Benefit	Net Benefits	BCR				
Alternative NS 1									
Structures at/below 10%									
floodplain WSEL	\$283,000	\$11,000	\$7,000	-\$5,000	0.63				
Alternative NS 2									
Structures at/below 4%									
floodplain WSEL	\$7,891,000	\$314,000	\$395,000	\$81,000	1.3				
Alternative NS 3									
Structures at/below 1%									
floodplain WSEL	\$14,641,000	\$583,000	\$583,000	\$1,000	1.00				
Alternative F 1	\$40,202,000	Ф <b>7</b> 27 000							
+7.0-foot NAVD88 floodwall	\$10,203,000	\$737,000	\$479,000	-\$258,000	0.65				
Alternative F 2	\$10 COE 000	\$764 000							
+8.5-foot NAVD88 floodwall	\$10,605,000	\$764,000	\$508,000	-\$257,000	0.66				
Alternative F 3	\$10,832,000	\$780,000							
+9.5-foot NAVD88 floodwall	\$10,032,000	\$700,000	\$562,000	-\$218,000	0.72				
Alternative F 4	\$11,897,000	\$854,000							
+11.5-foot floodwall	φ11,097,000	φου4,000	\$587,000	-\$267,000	0.69				
Storm Surge Barrier	\$374,579,000	\$19,538,000	\$14,200,000	-\$5,338,000	0.73				







# ESTIMATING ECONOMIC BENEFITS: PARTICIPATION RATES

 For plans with voluntary measures, must consider project performance under different participation rates

 Economic net benefits may change under different scenarios

	First Cost	Average Annual Cost	Average Annual Benefit	Net Benefits	BCR
100% Participation Rate	\$7,891,000	\$314,000	\$395,000	\$81,000	1.3
90% Participation Rate	\$7,091,000	\$290,000	\$305,000	\$15,000	1.1
50% Participation Rate	\$4,550,000	\$245,000	\$250,000	\$5,000	1.0

- Best practice: estimate likely participation rates using Census data or local knowledge
- Best practice: communicate methodology at Vertical Team meetings

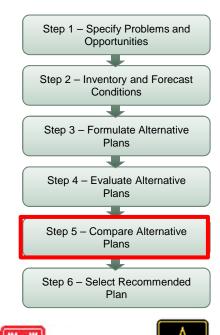






### STEP 5: COMPARE ALTERNATIVE PLANS

- NED (project costs and economic benefits)
   But also...
  - P&G accounts, including OSE (qualitative)
  - Life safety (qualitative)
  - Residual risk to property, critical infrastructure, etc. (quantitative)
  - Critical infrastructure, if applicable (quantitative)
    - Evacuation routes are important to consider







# STEP 6: SELECT RECOMMENDED PLAN

 Consider NED, P&G accounts, life safety, residual risk, and study-specific planning objectives



Issuing Office: CECW-P

Subject: Further Clarification of Existing Policy for USACE Participation in Nonstructural Flood

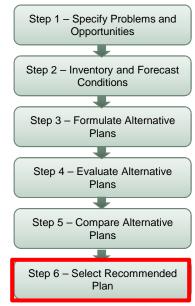
Risk Management and Coastal Storm Risk Management Measures

No. PB 2019-03

PB 2019-03 13 December 2018 Subject: Further Clarification of Existing Policy for USACE Participation in Nonstructural Flood Risk Management and Coastal Storm Risk Management Measures

Issued: 13 December 2018

b. The federal objective to reasonably maximize net NED benefits is not the only planning objective. Project delivery teams should consider the P&G accounts, life safety, residual risk, and study-specific planning objectives when formulating, evaluating, and selecting nonstructural measures. These considerations are a fundamental component of all flood and coastal storm risk management studies. Nonstructural measures may produce benefits and costs captured in the Environmental Quality (EQ), Regional Economic Development (RED), and Other Social Effects (OSE) accounts, and trade-offs between the accounts provide valuable decision information to USACE, project partners, and stakeholders.







# EXAMPLE: SHREWSBURY, NJ CSRM STUDY (GI)





- High frequency flooding due to coastal storms
- Geographic focus on Downtown Sea Bright, NJ (economic damage center)









 Post-Hurricane Sandy local rebuilding strategy included many structure elevations

Does Federal participation in a nonstructural plan make

sense? Let's find out...



Hurricane Sandy watermark, 2012





- Logical aggregation by main floor elevation
- Flood Damage Reduction Matrix used to select nonstructural measures for each structure

	First Cost	Average Annual Cost	Average Annual Benefit	Net Benefits	BCR
Alternative NS 1					
Structures at/below 10%					
floodplain WSEL	\$283,000	\$11,000	\$7,000	-\$5,000	0.63
Alternative NS 2					
Structures at/below 4%					
floodplain WSEL	\$7,891,000	\$314,000	\$395,000	\$81,000	1.3
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+9.5-foot NAVD88 floodwall	9.5-foot NAVD88 floodwall		\$562,000	-\$218,000	0.72
Alternative F 4	\$11,897,000	\$854,000			
+11.5-foot floodwall	ψ11,031,000	ψ00 <del>4</del> ,000	\$587,000	-\$267,000	0.69
Storm Surge Barrier	\$374,579,000	\$19,538,000	\$14,200,000	-\$5,338,000	0.73





- Project performance/economic benefit increase seen with: 1) 100% participation rate 2) "High" RSLC scenario
- Nonstructural measures make sense in Sea Bright, but leave gaps in flood risk management
  - Supports/similar to post-disaster rebuilding strategy
  - Evacuation route remains vulnerable → importance of robust evacuation plans
  - Residual risk is relatively high, but is reduced by local flood management actions
- Recommended plan is part of a comprehensive strategy to reduce flood risk to life and property





#### NATIONAL RESOURCES

- National Nonstructural Committee
  - POC: Chairperson Lea Adams, HEC
  - Upcoming best practices guides
  - HQ guidance and policy
  - Website: https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Project-Planning/nfpc/
- Nonstructural Working Group
  - POC: Rachel Shrader, NWO
  - Listserv
  - Webinars



