CAROLINA BEACH RCCP
CAT KICKOFF MEETING

Town of Carolina Beach | Coastal Protection Engineering (CPE)
Inspire Placemaking Collective | NC Division of Coastal Management

CAROLINA BEACH RCCP PROJECT TEAM

TOWN OF CAROLINA BEACH

- Jeremy Hardison – Community Development Director
- Ed Parvin – Deputy Town Manager
- Sheila P. Nicholson – Administrative Services Officer
- Gigi Baggarley – GIS Administrator
- Role: Partnering with RCCP team, supporting CAT, and coordinating municipal resources.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

- Kasen Wally – Coastal Resiliency Specialist
- Makenzie Todd – Coastal Resiliency Coordinator
- Role: Providing technical guidance, reviewing deliverables and support community resilience planning.

CAROLINA BEACH RCCP PROJECT TEAM

COASTAL PROTECTION ENGINEERING

- Tara Marden – RCCP Project Manager and Senior Coastal Geologist
- Adam Priest – CPE Resident Professional Engineer (CB resident)
- Stephanie Spranger – UNCW Coastal Engineering Intern
- Role: Leading the RCCP process for Carolina Beach, managing project phases, schedules, and deliverables.

INSPIRE PLACEMAKING COLLECTIVE

- Jay McLeod, AICP – Director of Comprehensive Planning
- Robbie Addington, AICP – Planner
- Addie Sherman – Senior Graphic Designer
- Role: Leading GIS database and project website, community engagement, and public-facing resources.

CAROLINA BEACH COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM (CAT) MEMBERS

Voting Members:

- Stephen Taylor
- Joseph Starks
- Matthew Lettrich
- Stefanie Young
- Debi Haynes

- Staff Liaison: Jeremy Hardison



RESILIENT COASTAL COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

The Resilient Coastal Communities Program (RCCP) is a state–local partnership led by the NC Division of Coastal Management that provides technical assistance, planning support, and grant funding to help coastal communities identify risks, develop resilience strategies, and implement projects that strengthen long-term coastal resilience.

Phases:

- 1. Community Engagement & Risk/Vulnerability Assessment
- 2. Planning, Project Selection & Prioritization
- 3. Engineering & Design
- 4. Implementation

*Carolina Beach Focus: Phases 1 & 2 – Engage the CAT and community to assess vulnerabilities and develop resilience strategy.

PHASE 1: RISK & VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

Purpose:

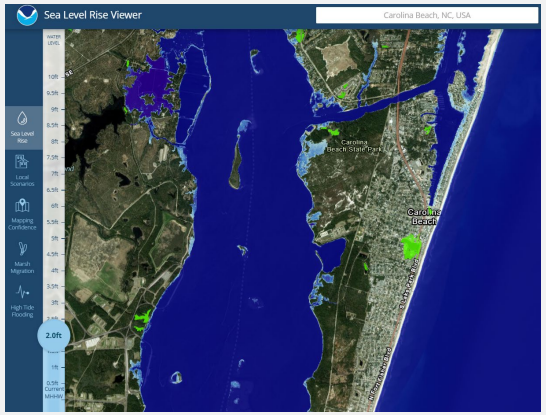
Establish a clear, data-driven understanding of Carolina Beach's coastal risks as the foundation for resilience planning.

Key Tasks:

- Collect and analyze data on infrastructure, natural systems, and hazards
- Assess vulnerabilities to flooding, storms, and sea level rise
- Develop a Public Engagement Plan and work with the CAT
- Integrate local knowledge and existing plans (Land Use, Stormwater, Hazard Mitigation, etc.)

Local Focus Areas:

- Flooding hotspots – canals, low-lying neighborhoods, drainage issues
- Erosion and storm impacts – dune overwash, shoreline change
- Infrastructure at risk – roadways, stormwater systems, marinas
- Natural buffers – beaches, dunes, wetlands





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KEY VULNERABILITIES – CAROLINA BEACH

🌊 Coastal & Flooding Risks

- Oceanfront and canal-side areas experience chronic flooding from storms, king tides, and sea-level rise
- Dune erosion and overwash reduce natural storm protection

🏠 Infrastructure at Risk

- Flood-prone roads and neighborhoods near the canal system
- Aging stormwater infrastructure limits drainage capacity
- Utilities and pump stations located in vulnerable low-lying zones

🌿 Natural Systems Under Pressure

- Loss of dunes, wetlands, and maritime forest reduces resilience
- Habitat stress from saltwater intrusion and shoreline retreat

⚠️ Climate & Development Challenges

- Increasing storm intensity and rainfall exceed system design
- Limited room for inland migration or managed retreat due to dense development







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PHASE 2: PLANNING & PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

What happens in Phase 2

Develop a resilience vision and goals:

- Communities define their long-term aspirations for resilience, considering social, environmental, and economic factors.

Identify projects:

- Based on the Phase 1 vulnerability assessment, communities identify a range of potential projects to address hazards like flooding and erosion.

Prioritize projects:

- Communities select and prioritize a portfolio of projects to form their resilience strategy. This selection is based on local needs, risk exposure, and input from stakeholders.

Update CAMA Land Use Plans:

- For some communities, Phase 2 involves integrating the resilience strategy into their Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) Land Use Plan, which guides future development and public investments.





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THE ROLE OF THE CAT

- 🧠 Local Knowledge
- 📍 Identify Risks
- 🗺️ Review Data
- 🤝 Build Consensus
- 💡 Shape Solutions
- 📋 Guide Final Plan

•You're the local voice of this project — helping ensure the plan reflects community priorities and real experiences.

•Share what you know about local flooding, erosion, and infrastructure issues.

•Help us identify what's most important to protect — homes, roads, natural areas, and community spaces.

•Review maps and data and tell us if they match what you're seeing on the ground.

•Provide feedback on proposed resilience and adaptation strategies.

•Build consensus among community members and partners on the best path forward.

•Help shape the final Resilience Strategy and Project Portfolio so it's realistic, community-supported, and fundable.

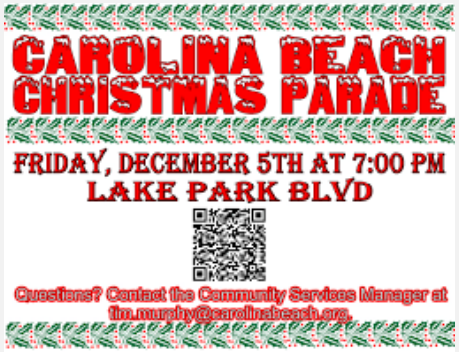
COASTAL PROTECTION ENGINEERING

UPCOMING OUTREACH EVENTS - PROPOSED

Carolina Beah Drone Show – November 7
Carolina Beach Christmas Parade – December 5

- **Purpose:**
  These events provide an opportunity to meet residents where they are, share information about the Resilient Coastal Communities Program (RCCP) and gather input on local priorities and challenges related to flooding, erosion, and coastal change.
- The team will host a resilience booth to share maps, visuals, and project information, and invite the community to pin locations of concern, share stories of past storm impacts, and suggest ideas for future resilience projects.
- The goal is to raise awareness, build community connections and ensure the RCCP planning process reflects real local experiences and values.





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NEXT STEPS & DISCUSSION

- Confirm CAT meeting schedule and communication plan
- Review Phase 1 findings (Nov–Dec 2025)
- Launch public engagement events
- Begin Phase 2 planning (Jan 2026)

Thank you for your participation!

PROJECT CONTACTS

Town of Carolina Beach

- Jeremy Hardison – Community Development Director

jeremy.hardison@carolinabeach.org or 910-458-2991

- Ed Parvin – Deputy Town Manager

ed.parvin@carolinabeach.org

- Sheila P. Nicholson – Administrative Services Officer
- Gigi Baggarley – GIS Administrator

State of North Carolina – RCCP Program

- Kasen Wally – Coastal Resiliency Specialist

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- Makenzie Todd – Coastal Resiliency Coordinator

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Coastal Protection Engineering

- Tara Marden – RCCP Project Manager and Senior Coastal Geologist

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- Adam Priest – CPE Resident Professional Engineer (CB resident)

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- Robbie Addington, AICP – Planner

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- Addie Sherman – Senior Graphic Designer

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RELEVANT LINKS

https://app.climatecentral.org/coastal-risk-finder

https://www.nhcgov.com/222/Southeastern-North-Carolina-Regional-Haz

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/203f772571cb48b1b8b50fdcc3272e2c/page/Category-1

https://sunnydayflooding.com/view-data/

https://www.climate.gov/maps-data/dataset/sea-level-rise-map-viewer