

- 1) How fast is erosion taking place?
 - a. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) used in their estimates just less than 1-foot per year assuming normal tidal effects and weather conditions.
 - b. High surges and extreme weather conditions will significantly accelerate erosion rates.
- 2) If we do the project, how will it affect the current rate of erosion? Does it stop it completely, or just slow it down?
 - a. The project will stop and even reverse the shoreline erosion in the areas where the barriers are built.
 - b. No barriers are planned on the south-east side of the picnic area since DNR believes the wave shadow from the east proposed barrier plus maintaining a formal buffer management plan area (BMPA) should naturally stop and reverse the erosion effects to the south-east side of the picnic area.
 - c. The proposed project does not address other picnic-area erosion effects such as heavy-downpour surface-rain runoff. Even though this and other concerns were presented to DNR, DNR did not believe them to be a significant shoreline erosion concern.
- 3) Why do we have to move so quickly to make a decision?
 - a. During this economic down-turn and balancing the state budget, the DNR loan program had recently suffered budget cut-backs and could experience more.
- 4) Why aren't we building a wall like the one at Bay Ridge?
 - a. Unlike our picnic area, Bay Ridge is considered part of the main stem of the Chesapeake Bay with a relatively high energy environment of long wave fetches greater than 2-miles, high boat wakes, bordered by steep upland topology, and experiencing a much higher rate of erosion than our picnic area; therefore our picnic area did not need the walls (i.e., groins and breakwaters) like those in Bay Ridge.
- 5) What are the secondary effects of the barriers? How will this affect how sand builds out in other areas of the lake?
 - a. Turbulent and moving waters naturally pick-up and carry sediments such as sand and then naturally deposits them in the areas where the waters are calmer.
 - b. As such, marsh grasses, which naturally calm turbulent and moving waters, are critical in trapping sediments and sands; thereby reversing erosions effects and slowly building up land.
 - c. The new barriers, which are rock walls filled-in with marsh grasses, would essentially stop the erosion coming from those areas and as well as stop the resulting sedimentation and sand buildups currently occurring into the other areas of the lake.
 - d. Additionally, the wave shadow from the proposed east barrier plus the promoting of marsh grass growth on the south-east side of the picnic area are part of the design to trap sediments and sand to slowly build-up and restore the east picnic area shoreline.

- e. Since the new barriers will significantly reduce the introduction of sediments into the lake, plus purposefully trap any available sediments and sands on to the east picnic area shoreline as well as in the added marsh grass areas, it is too difficult to determine if and how additional sand buildup might occur in other areas of the lake resulting from this project.
- 6) Has the Board considered getting legal counsel to ensure that the property owners impacted by the remediation are in agreement that they will not sue Annapolis Cove Property Owners Association (ACPOA) if there are secondary effects to the depth of the water in front of their property?
- a. No.
 - b. The project is expected to significantly reduce the current adverse erosion impacts to neighbors' water depth.
 - c. This question will be provided to the contractors competing in the construction bid.
- 7) Has the design been finalized?
- a. The design phase has not started.
 - b. Only a DNR site survey was performed.
 - c. The community first needs to pass the vote on funding the erosion project before the design phase can start.
- 8) Were other options to remedy the erosion considered?
- a. Yes. A "Picnic Area Shoreline Stabilization/Restoration" presentation and report was provided to the board 16 July 2008.
 - b. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Chesapeake Bay Trust were consulted in 2008 for grants, but they required a "shovel ready" design and community commitment before seriously considering our requests.
 - c. August 2008, Shoreline Design Ltd. offered to create a comprehensive picnic area erosion design for \$5,000, believed sufficient to submit for grant proposals. Those grants required community commitment and (significant) volunteer work as a means to share in the construction cost.
 - d. At the time, the board did not have the money for the project. When the board obtained the money, that grant was no longer available. However, required would have been community commitment and (significant) volunteer work.
- 9) What warranties come with the DNR plans and work performed by the contractor?
- a. DNR stated there are typically a 2-year warranty on the construction and workmanship, and a 1-year warranty on the plants planted.
- 10) Will any trees or other material be removed from the area?
- a. Only the few trees that have significantly started to fall, which are also threatening to rip out the picnic area steep cliffs will most likely be removed.

- 11) Will we have trenches (French Drains) at the top of the picnic area hill to minimize run-off?
- a. The proposed project does not address trenches (such as French Drains) at the top of the picnic area hill to minimize run-off other picnic-area erosion effects such as heavy-downpour surface-rain runoff. Even though this and other concerns were presented to DNR, DNR did not believe them to be a significant shoreline erosion concern.
 - b. After community approval for the erosion project, the Erosion Control Committee (ECC) expects to meet with Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) to discuss any other criteria and concerns CBT and the grant processes may deem important and addressed in our designs, such as possibly including surface erosion runoff mitigations.
 - c. Additional erosion mitigations, such as French Drains, that are fully paid for by grants that also reduce homeowner yearly assessment fees will be strongly considered.
- 12) What is the process of requesting a grant and what are the required timelines?
- a. Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) requires having a “shovel-ready” design in hand with both erosion protection and bay habitat goals in mind, along with community support before starting the grant process.
 - b. CBT then considers and gives preferences to one or more of the following four characteristics: (a) relatively high energy (relatively long fetch, high boat wake environment, etc., though not all high-energy environments are appropriate for living shoreline approaches), (b) steep upland topography, (c) heterogeneous shorelines (e.g., several shoreline types within a single stretch), OR (d) sites in other areas that present complications. (See: [CBT-Living Shoreline Grants](#)).
 - c. Application is typically required by August 26 of that year.
- 13) How is a final contractor chosen?
- a. DNR solicits design and construction proposals from several contractors deemed qualified, and then selects the lowest bidder.
- 14) Does DNR have final say or influence on the final plan that is undertaken by the contractor?
- a. Generally yes, DNR will most likely have final say and influence on the final plan; since DNR is responsible for protecting their loan from breaches and violations of policies, laws, and contracts. However, that said, we have full flexibility (most likely with added costs) to alter aspects of the plan that does not threaten or risk the ability for the DNR loan to be repaid.
- 15) How can we be assured of the cost integrity of the project -- that the costs will not escalate beyond the \$\$ of the loan or grant?
- a. DNR has estimated slightly on the high-side on the site survey, and will be involved in most phases of the design and construction phases to help reduce this risk.
 - b. Additionally, DNR is expected to ensure there are provisions in the contracts to address and protect us from cost overrun risks.

- c. This is the main reason (see below) that DNR strongly recommends that we plan and budget for the original \$227,020 loan (i.e., \$75.00 per household per year), even while the Annapolis Cove board and Erosion Control Committee expects to find ways and grants to significantly reduce this cost.
- 16) Where will the sand used for the barriers come from?
- a. The DNR site-survey estimate requires that “clean sand fill” be used; but the source of the sand was not specified.
- 17) Why has the erosion project cost increased from \$57 per household per year that was stated in the November Annapolis Cove News and presented in the informative meeting to \$75.00 per household per year?
- a. The assessment amount was increased to \$75.00 after the Board was informed by the DNR that the full estimated \$227,020 funding for our project was obtained for the FY-2010 budget.
 - b. Erroneously, \$180,000 was believed the limit of available loan funding and erroneously believed to be the minimum expected project cost. Additionally, DNR informed the erosion committee that the proposed \$57 assessment amount also failed to include other significant mandatory fees.
 - c. DNR strongly recommended that we plan and budget for the original \$227,020 loan, even though the Annapolis Cove board and Erosion Control Committee expects to find ways and grants to significantly reduce this cost.
 - d. Therefore, the ACPOA Board decided that it was in the community’s best interest to vote on a potential increase of \$75.00 per year rather than the previously briefed \$57 amount.
- 18) What is the total project duration from beginning to end of construction phase?
- a. DNR estimates 3-weeks, assume 5-weeks
- 19) What actions are expected from the Erosion Control Committee?
- a. Nurture and promote the erosion project and follow it to completion.
 - b. Help find ways to significantly bring down the annual household costs for this project.
 - c. Follow up with DNR recommendation to establish and maintain a Buffer Management Plan Area (BMPA) for the south-east side of the picnic area, such as planting any specified marsh grasses.