

2011-2020 Seabrook Master Plan

http://www.seabrooknh.org/Pages/SeabrookNH_BComm/Planning/MasterPlan/index

Seabrook has been proactive and visionary in preparing its latest Master Plan seeking assistance from the public and multiple organizations and specialists in climate change adaptation, visioning, and future land use.

As part of its 2011 Master Plan update Seabrook did the following:

- Got a Stage 1 HCCP Grant to undertake an inventory and analysis of the town's historical and natural resources as well as its population trends and housing resources. This stage also required an analysis of the potential build-out of Seabrook under current zoning.
- Hired a planning consulting firm
- Appointed a Master Plan Steering Committee
- Public visioning using UNH Cooperative Extension Service resources.
- Commissioned a climate change adaptation study
- Updated its build out analysis.
- Based on the build out analysis and town vision came up with a vision and maps for future land use.

Rye has taken none of these steps for this most recent update of its Master Plan.

- Seabrook Plan includes a specific Implementation Guide based on each chapter's goals, see page 2 for natural resources and adaptation.

http://www.seabrooknh.org/Pages/SeabrookNH_BComm/Planning/MasterPlan/Implementation%20Guide.pdf

2009 Seabrook Adaptation Study- Prepared by Rockingham Planning Commission

http://www.seabrooknh.org/Pages/SeabrookNH_BComm/Planning/MasterPlan/Adaptation Study.pdf

Pages 2-3 “Accounting for regional subsidence (sinking of the land), this estimate suggests that by 2100 sea level rise in New Hampshire could be approximately 2 to 5 feet. “

The study recommends that structures be built or when substantially modified from 2’(residential) to 5’(public infrastructure) above the existing 2009 FEMA base flood elevation. Note upcoming FEMA maps may show higher base flood elevations.

Hampton, Seabrook face extreme property loss as sea level rises

<http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20130811-NEWS-308110329>

“Yet the same report showed that if adaptation measures are taken over the course of the next decades, many of the buildings can be saved. And while costly — as much as \$40.5 million in 2011 dollars by 2050 in Hampton, \$30.3 million in Seabrook — the cost benefit ratio ranges from 2:1 to as much as 10:1 compared to taking no action.”

Exeter receives \$683K grant for the “most rigorous on the Seacoast” adaptation study

<http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20130210-NEWS-302100336>

Portsmouth Tours Areas at Risk after conduction its adaptation study

<http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20131023-NEWS-310230374>

“But Peter Britz, the city's environmental planner and sustainability coordinator, told those on the tour Tuesday that much can be done now to protect for the future — at a fraction of the cost. Britz has said that there is a 4-1 ratio between money spent on what is called "adaptation," or protection, measures and the value of the property that would be damaged if no action is taken.”