SERPPAS Coastal Resilience and Regional Adaptation Work Group Call Summary

June 13, 2022; 2pm ET

Theme and Speakers

OLDCC Installation Reviews and Defense Communities Coastal Projects
- Michelle Covi (mcovi@uga.edu) – Coastal Resilience DoD Liaison/CRRA Work Group Lead
- Margit Myers (margit.a.myers.civ@mail.mil) – Installation Resilience Program Activity Lead, DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation
- Stephanie Rossi (rossi@lowcountrycog.org) – Planning Director, Lowcountry Council of Governments
- Bill Van Houten (william.j.vanhouten.civ@mail.mil) – Senior Project Manager, DoD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation
- Isabel Cosio Carballo (isabelc@sfrpc.com) – Executive Director, South Florida Regional Planning Council
- Rick Miller (rillard@pharosmissioncritical.com) – South Florida Defense Alliance Project Manager
- Susy Torriente (Susy.Torriente@jacobs.com) – Project Manager, Jacobs

Materials
OLDCC Presentation
SC Lowcountry Military Installation Resilience Review Presentation
South Florida Military Installation Resilience Review
Meeting Recording

Discussion
Welcome & Speaker Introduction – Michelle Covi, Coastal Resilience DoD Liaison/Work Group Lead

- Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC), formerly the Office of Economic Adjustment, enables states and communities to: plan and carry out strategies to support and enhance the military value of installations, ranges, and test evaluation facilities; partner with DoD; and plan and carry out investments in public service and infrastructure to support mission growth at installations.
- OLDCC’s authority comes from 10 USC 2391 to make grants, conclude cooperative agreements, and supplement other Federal funds to work with states and communities. Under OLDCC, there are two main umbrellas of authority: Community Investment and Community Adjustment. Installation Resilience falls under Community Adjustment.
OLDCC defines Installation Resilience as anything natural or manmade that may impact the readiness, resilience, or operability of an installation outside the fenceline. Resilience risk include flooding, wind, drought, wildfire, or earthquakes, and resilience impacts include water availability, installation energy, transportation, access, and communication. OLDCC can fund planning and design work for these issues but is not currently funding construction related to resilience. In FY 2021, 13 Installation Resilience projects were funded worth $8.5 million.

To initiate a project, contact OLDCC through a community inquiry, direct contact with Margit Myers, or receive a formal nomination through the installation. If a project is worth exploring, a project manager will be assigned to guide through a project assessment and initiation and determine if the project is eligible to pursue. If approved, OLDCC can help with the grant application. This program is not competitive so the project manager can help to write the best application and plan possible, including examples and details needed. OLDCC will assist throughout the entire grant life cycle including grant performance, an action plan, funding sources, and report recommendations.

OLDCC also has the Compatible Use Program focuses on encroachment. Both the Installation Resilience and Compatible Use programs can be used together in one grant, but the project must come under at least one.

The installation recommends and supports the nomination, represents installation interests, and provides releasable data. The community sponsors the effort, provides partial funding, administers the OLDCC grant, and implements recommendations. Lastly, OLDCC confirms the need for assistance, provides guidance to initiate, conduct, and complete a community-driven effort, provides technical assistance and funding assistance to the local jurisdiction to conduct the project, and facilitates communications between the local jurisdiction and the installation.

Project subjects are varied; examples include Infrastructure Sea Level Rise Analysis (MCRD Parris Island, MCAS Beaufort), Gate Alternatives Analysis (JB Langley-Eustis), and Infrastructure Assessments/Design (Pine Bluff Arsenal, Fort Drum).

OLDCC hopes this effort serves as a catalyst for sustained local, State, Federal agency and military engagement, and are looking to leverage local and State resources for implementation, integrate recommendations and strategies into ongoing local and regional planning efforts.

Questions:
- What is the definition of a community for OLDCC?
  - For the effort, the applicants define community. To be the grantee/fiscal agent, a community must be a state university or a regional planning commission but must be non-installation.
- Are there any grants for projects inside the fenceline?
  - Not currently, unless it is a public utility that runs inside the installation. In that case, it must still be non-installation ownership but filling a gap for the community.
- Can OLDCC expand on the releasable data piece?
  - To ensure data is not classified, OLDCC coordinated with the Military Service headquarters before launching the program to confirm the installations were on board with sharing data.
Yes, and the community can also reject an installation-nominated project. A community inquiry project will need installation support, and OLDCC is here to facilitate communication between the two.

Low Country Military Installation Resilience – Stephanie Rossi, Lowcountry Council of Governments

- The Lowcountry Council of Governments conducted a Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) of Beaufort County, South Carolina, a coastal region that sits just above sea level with many low-lying barrier islands separated by marshlands and creeks. Two-thirds of the Beaufort County uplands are very low, within the 100-year flood zone designated by FEMA. Beaufort County includes a mixture of tourism, retirees, and two thriving Marine Corps installations (MCAS Beaufort and MCRD Parris Island).
- The Lowcountry MIRR it is not a review of the installation itself and does not comprehensively cover all possible hazards/threats/vulnerabilities; rather, it covers the most likely scenarios without going into project planning and design.
- Many stakeholders were involved and during the process, efforts were made to build on previous local work, particularly the comprehensive planning work of the county.
- The focus of the vulnerability analysis was on hazards, threats, and infrastructure type, to be developed into toolkits and recommendations. Nine toolkits were identified, and using a prioritization process, three pilot projects were identified aligned with land use typologies of rural, suburban, and urban. For each location, the vulnerabilities are identified along with recommendations, potential funding, and partnerships.
- Overarching recommendations from the report are to increase education and awareness, improve and expand military collaboration, expand interest in resilient development, developing resilience data integration tools, and conserving and improving physical and natural infrastructure.

Questions:
- Did you look at local ordinances to see what changes were needed there to support your infrastructure needs?
  - There were two of potential interest that came up, a fill ordinance that did pass and an overlay ordinance that did not make it through the process.
- What was used as guidance on sea level rise elevation and timing?
  - The information came from the nearest NOAA tide gauge and predictions for Fort Pulaski in Georgia.

South Florida Military Installation Resilience Review – OLDCC, South Florida Regional Planning Council, South Florida Defense Alliance

- The South Florida Regional Planning Council, South Florida Defense Alliance, and Jacobs (engineering contractor) together are spearheading the South Florida MIRR which covers three counties and four installations in South Florida that share common issues such as sea level rise, hurricanes, and high winds. This project started three years ago after recognizing a need to align and coordinate civilian/military community resilience efforts. This area of Florida is of strategic importance due to its population size, defense footprint, and major seaports and airports.
- The foundation for the work of the South Florida MIRR began in 2009 when the four counties collaborated to do regional planning for climate adaptation and mitigation, which lead to the creation of the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact.
• The South Florida MIRR will identify risks, hazards, and vulnerabilities that could harm resilience and restrict the military missions of installations and identify solutions outside the fence line in the community. Common shocks and stressors include hurricanes, flooding and other related coastal issues, as well as unique issues including easy access to supplies.

• The project process consists of six steps: (1) project goal setting, (2) data collection and analysis, (3) study advisory committee and work group engagement, (4) vulnerability and risk assessment, (5) adaptation strategy development, and (6) implementation strategy.

• The vulnerability assessment will take place on two levels, at the county/city and at the installation. Data collection will focus on understanding the interdependency of systems, individual shocks and stresses, and risks to missions. The vulnerability and risk assessment will include an exposure analysis, impact analysis, adaptive capacity assessment, risk assessment, and qualitative and quantitative methods to assess to compare and rank vulnerabilities/risks. This information will combine with working group input to finalize matrices.

• The Study Advisory Committee (SAC) is composed of installation and local government leadership and resilience professionals. The SAC will provide information and advice based on local knowledge, historical context, and best available data on future conditions.

• Questions:
  o Can you mention any emerging land use activity associated with the gulf range extension project out of Eglin AFB?
    ▪ The mobility option presents an opportunity that will tie in with the Eglin Complex, Eastern Gulf Range, and all the military training routes that are approved.
  o Was there any aspect of the Lowcountry project that stood out to you?
    ▪ Interested in the final report to derive lessons learned.

Other Updates – Michelle Covi

• We are hoping to bring in the Tampa group to come to a meeting in the fall, and the Northwest Florida group.

• The next meeting will include the Sentinel Landscapes in the Southeast Work Group to hear about climate adaptation efforts of the Sentinel Landscapes in the SERPPAS region.

*The next work group meeting will be Monday, July 11, 2022, at 2pm EST.*