

North Haven Thorofare Waterfront Project

An overview of the project objectives,
timeline, and process.



photo credit Bill Trevaskis

Why do we need to do this?

Problem: The Thorofare Waterfront is our community's economic and transportation hub, but it is under stress.

- **Climate** – Changes in sea levels, warming Gulf of Maine, storm surge, and currents
- **Transportation** – Congestion & competition
- **Infrastructure** – Aging and becoming outgrown
- **Economy** – Lack of diversity and ability to support a range of economic areas

Proposed Solution: Join forces as a community to develop a comprehensive plan to address the problem and obtain needed funds.

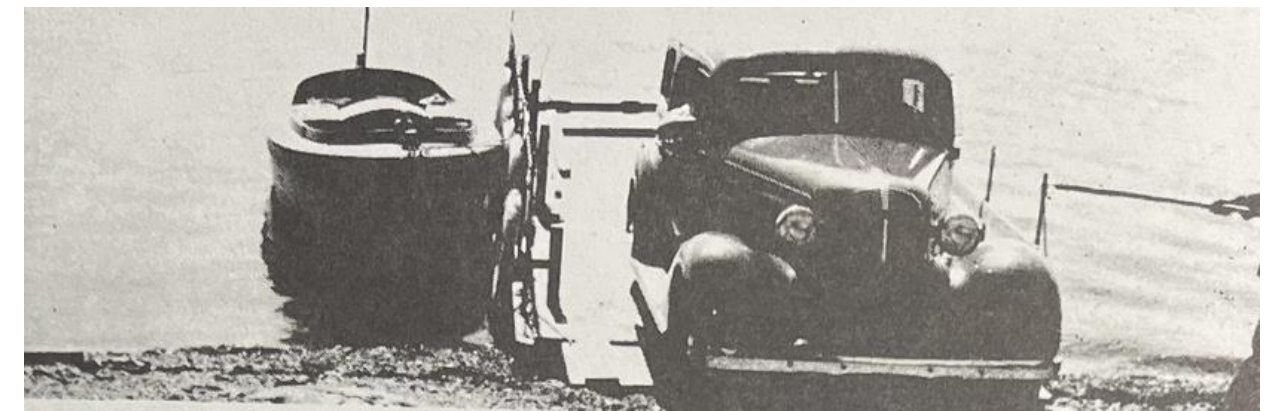
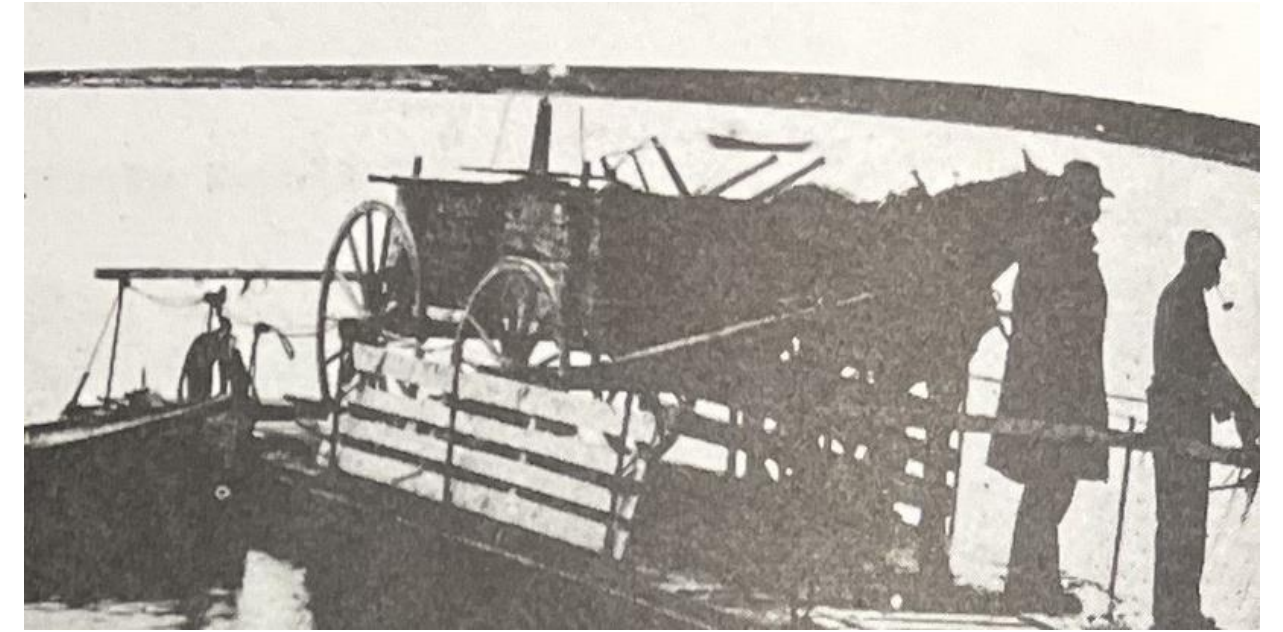
- Individuals cannot solve this on their own
 - Too many overlapping interests
 - Too expensive for individuals
- Scope of the problem calls for joint action
- Opportunity to make changes consistent with our values that sustain our waterfront and environment
- Community is engaged and ready to help

Is doing nothing an option?

Change is Hard - and Part of North Haven's History



Change is Hard - and Part of North Haven's History





Project Purpose

Project Goal

The focus of this project is to modernize, diversify, enhance, and protect the Thorofare waterfront along Main St.

Project Objectives

- Reduce the risk of damage to the community's central economic and transportation hub due to sea level rise, severe storms, and coastal flooding
- Adapt to climate change and protect the area from coastal flooding
- Increase public access; reduce congestion
- Ensure the community's long-term economic, cultural, and environmental vitality and sustainability



Project Details



Project Area



Why limit the project to this area?

- **Economic and Transportation hub of the island**

- Ferry
- Transportation to Vinalhaven
- Public ramp and floats
- Access for fishermen
- Recreational boating
- Waterfront businesses & organizations
- Fuel storage and sales
- Parking

- **Sewage Treatment Plant**

- Separate Project
- Possibly very complicated
- More to it than addressing sea level rise and climate change impacts

- **Ship House**

- Not commercial or recreational
- On the National Historic Register – Complicates the grant

- **Ferry Landing Beach**

- No structures to address
- Access road is challenging
- Not affected by sea level rise

Timeline: Steps to Date

Fall 2022

Met with affected landowners

December 2022

Applied for \$200,000 BRIC scoping grant

August 2023

Received \$10,000 from Island Institute to kick-off project

August 2023

Posted Request for Proposals (RFP) to engage engineers for initial phases

Fall 2023

Reviewed engineering applications with an Evaluation Panel of community members

November 2023

Hired GEI Consultants as the engineering firm; Hosted Communitywide Kickoff meetings



Project Phases

PHASE 1: BASE PERIOD WINTER 2023-24

With Island Institute and BRIC grant funds, engage initial engineering services and begin conversations with property owners and stakeholders to discuss various alternatives, ruling out those that are not practical or cost-effective.

PHASE 2: PROJECT SCOPING WINTER - SUMMER 2024

With engineering analysis, technical support, and community input, create a solution that is cost effective, technically feasible, and addresses the anticipated impacts of climate change and sea level rise.

PHASE 3: CONSTRUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OCT. 2024 - SEPT. 2027

Work with engineers to hire and oversee a construction firm to execute the design approved during Phase 2.

Funding



Anticipated Funding:

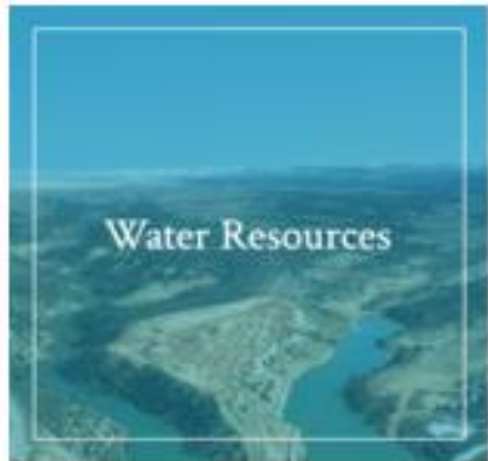
Phase 1: Secured a \$10,000 ShoreUp grant and Town funds.

Phase 2: Awarded a \$200,000 FEMA/BRIC project scoping grant.

Phase 3: Planning to apply for FEMA/BRIC construction grants and other funds in 2024.



Meet GEI Consultants



- **Multidisciplinary Firm**
- **43 Offices and 1,400+ staff throughout North America**
- **Local office in Portland**
- **Specialized Practice in Coastal and Waterfront Engineering**
- **Experience throughout the coast of Maine including island communities**

Key Team Members



DANIEL BANNON, P.E., CFM
LEAD PROJECT ENGINEER
Portland, Maine

- 16 years of experience
- Primary focus on coastal and waterfront engineering projects in Maine
- Leads inspection, planning, design, and permitting projects for resilient waterfront infrastructure



LEILA PIKE, P.E.
FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT LEAD
Portland, Maine

- 10 years of experience
- Specializes in coastal and riverine modeling and town-wide resiliency and vulnerability studies
- Majority of clients in coastal Maine settings, including rural and island communities



Selected GEI Consultants Experience



Cape Porpoise Pier
KENNEBUNKPORT, ME



Municipal Fish Piers
STONINGTON & ROCKLAND, ME



Flood Resilience Study
STONINGTON, ME



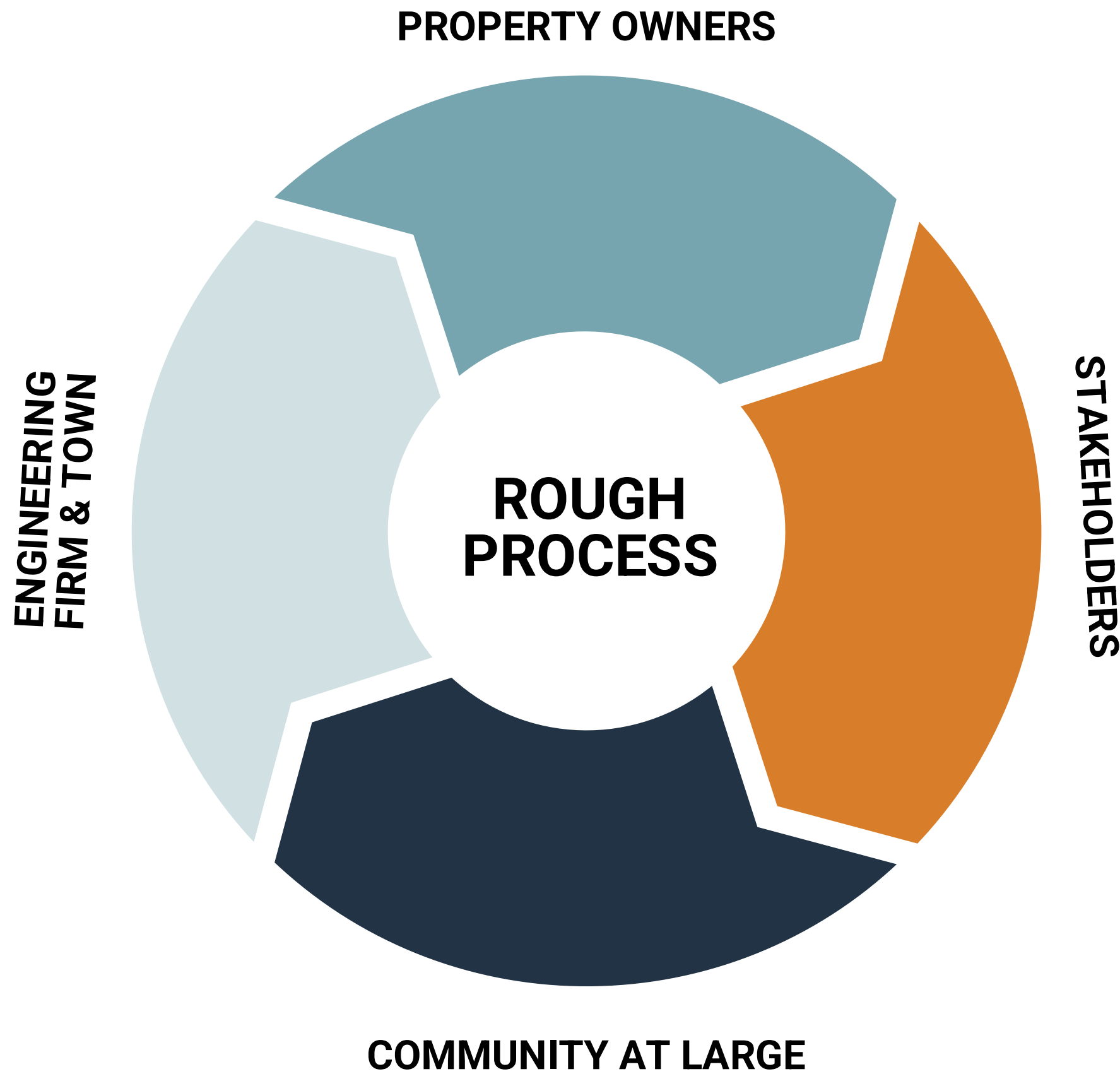
Resilience Study
MONHEGAN, ME



Downtown Resilience (FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation)
MACHIAS, ME



Ferry Terminal
NORTH HAVEN, ME



PROCESS & ENGAGEMENT

CYCLES OF INPUT AND ONGOING COMMUNICATION

- Property Owners
- Stakeholders
- Community
- Repeat

ENGAGEMENT GOALS

- Compromise
- Consensus Decisions
- Transparency
- Community-wide Communications

- What data do we need?
- What are our concerns and ideas?
- What alternatives should we explore?
- Develop outcomes & obtain grants/funding

Stakeholder Categories

- Fishing & Lobstering
- Aquaculture
- Farming/Agriculture
- Innkeeping
- Restaurateur
- Arts & Culture
- Ferry Passengers
- Freight Trucker
- VH & Local Thorofare Transportation
- Healthcare
- Education
- Youth Representation
- Housing Working Group
- Climate Working Group
- Nonprofits
- Tradespeople
- EMS/Fire/Sheriff
- Recreational Boaters
- Ferry Service
- Petroleum Carrier
- Fox Islands Electric Cooperative
- Post Office/PIA/FedEx
- Road Commissioner
- Groceries/Food Transport
- Faith-based Organizations
- Commercial Boaters

Please let Claire know if you're interested!



Project Area: Current and Potential Uses

Current Uses

- Transportation
- Parking
- Residential
- Commercial fishing/aquaculture
- Recreational boating
- Fuel storage and distribution
- Boat storage and repair
- Retail sales
- Food sales
- Access to floats and skiffs

Potential Uses

- Same as current uses?
- Increased emphasis in any areas?
- Deemphasize anything?
 - e.g., Parking?
- New Uses?



What will we do?

Where will we end up?

That is up to us.



Questions?

An aerial photograph of a coastal landscape during sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the scene. The sky is filled with scattered clouds, some of which are illuminated from below. In the foreground, there is a dense forest of evergreen trees, and a winding road or path is visible on the right side. The middle ground shows a large body of water, possibly a bay or inlet, with some smaller islands or peninsulas. The overall atmosphere is serene and scenic.

North Haven is a remarkable island community – resourceful, caring, safe, and inclusive – committed to sustaining a thriving year-round economy, stewarding our natural resources, and preserving scenic beauty for current and future generations.

Appendix



Community Priorities Alignment



Workforce Development & Economic Diversification

Objective Foster a diverse economy that sustains both a year-round workforce and the human infrastructure (childcare, healthcare, education) needed to support that workforce.

Camoin's Economic Assessment top strategic priority areas:

- Waterfront Infrastructure and Planning
- Flow and Movement of Goods and People





Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change Impacts

Objective Take actions that support environmental sustainability and address the impacts of climate change on the island.

Priority actions to date:

- Completed freshwater resource study
- Received Coastal Community Grant for further study of risk of saltwater intrusion into Fresh Pond
- CRP enrollment and grant application for LED streetlights

