



Randall Meadow Flood Resilience Project

PROTECTING WATERBURY FROM DEVASTATING FLOODS

TOWN OF WATERBURY, VERMONT

Waterbury's Flooding Crisis



Tropical Storm Irene (2011): 220 homes and businesses flooded



July 2023, December 2023, July 2024: Repeated major flooding events



200+ homes and 20+ businesses repeatedly affected



Downtown, Randall/Elm St neighborhoods, State Office Complex impacted



Total damage estimates: \$2.8M - \$12.9M

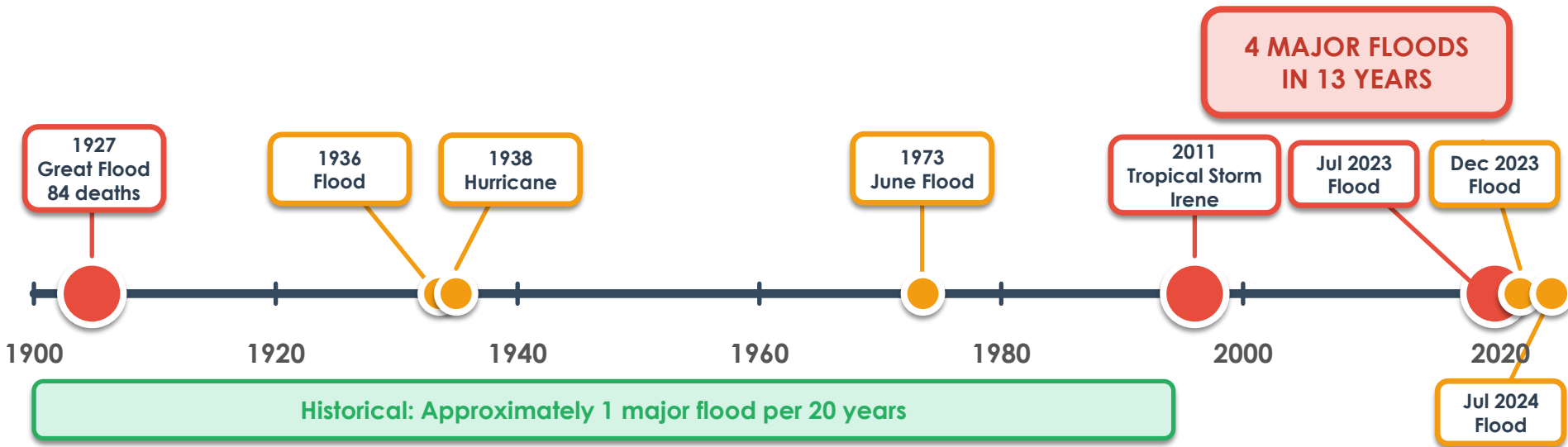


Municipal infrastructure damage: ~\$300,000



Flooding – An Accelerating Crisis

What was once "once in a century" is now happening multiple times per decade



Historical Frequency

~20 major floods
over 200 years
(1 every ~10 years)

Increasing Frequency

Since 2011:
Multiple major floods
every few years

Crisis Level

2022-2024:
Back-to-back-to-back
devastating floods

The Randall Meadow Solution



48-acre site between Winooski River and Randall Street



Remove 100,000 cubic yards of material



Restore 40 acres of functional floodplain



Maintain existing recreational trail



Long-term, sustainable flood mitigation

Projected Flood Protection Benefits



Reduce flood levels by 0.3 to 1 foot across 7,000 feet



Protection extends across downtown and neighborhoods



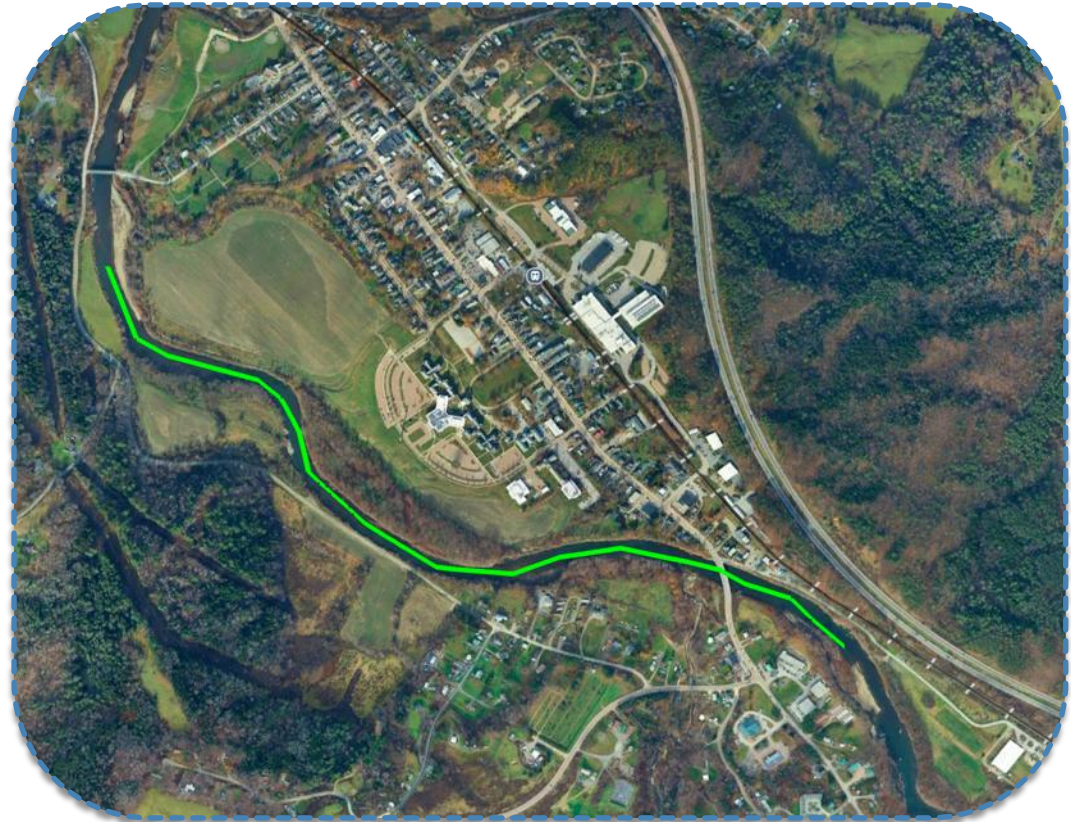
Benefits: State Office Complex, S. Main St, Historic District



Could prevent first-floor flooding in most extreme events





Reduces infrastructure damage and repair costs





Financial Analysis: Strong Return on Investment

 FEMA Benefit-Cost Ratio: 4.20

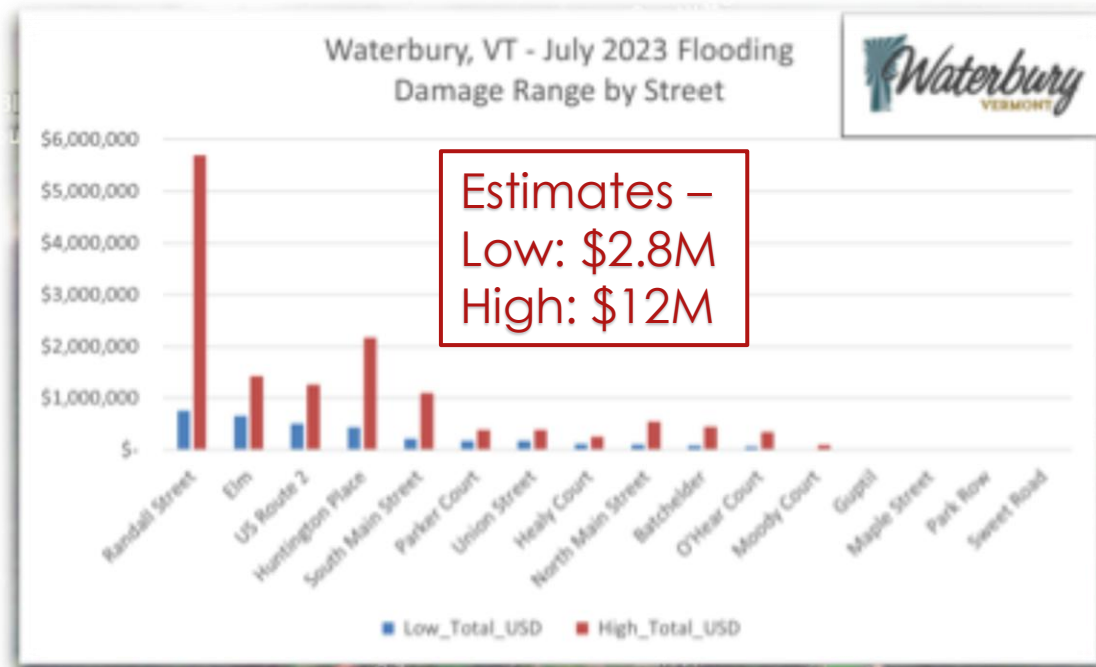
 For every \$1 invested, \$4.20 in benefits

 Ecosystem services value:
Over \$15 million

 Avoided flood damages far exceed project costs

 Prevents repeated repair and recovery expenses

 Protects tax base and property values



Benefit- Cost Analysis

Ecosystem
Restoration
Services @
\$15M

- Carbon / **Phosphorus** Sequestration
- Improved river function
- Habitat creation

Avoided
Building
Damages
@ \$3M

- ~\$50K building @ ~100 buildings
- Benefits compound over 30-50 year project life

Project Timeline (Anticipated)

Application Phase

Award & Setup

Planning & Procurement

Construction Phase

Completion

**Dec 2025/
Jan 2026**
Grant awards announced

March 2026
Finalize grant agreement

Feb 2027
Complete environmental review & permitting
Bids issued

April 2027
Procurement completed

June-Sept 2027
CONSTRUCTION
Soil removal & restoration

Sept-Dec 2027
Post-construction work

Spring/Summer 2028
Final paving & restoration

Summer/Fall 2028
Project completion & closeout

2025

2026

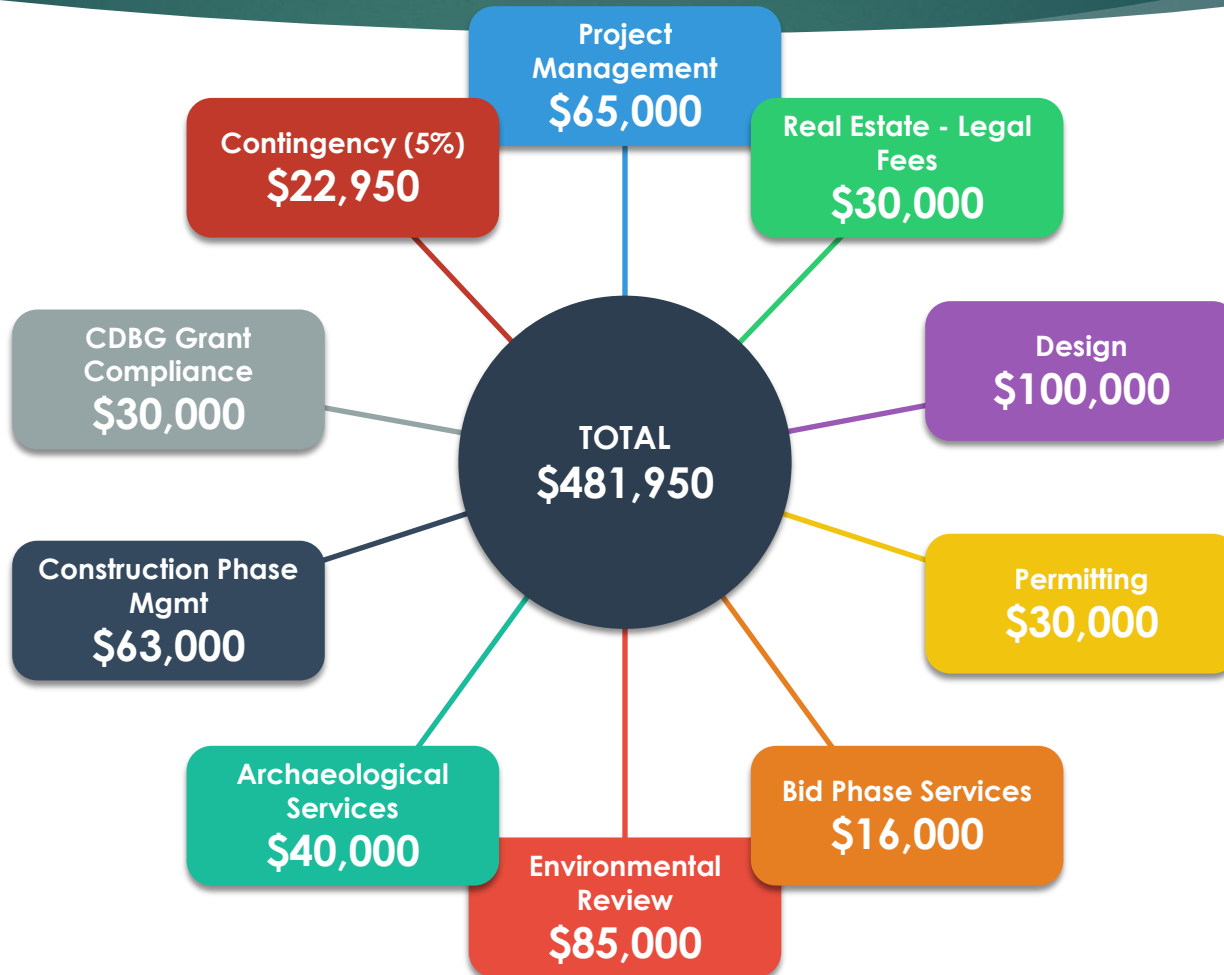
2027

2028

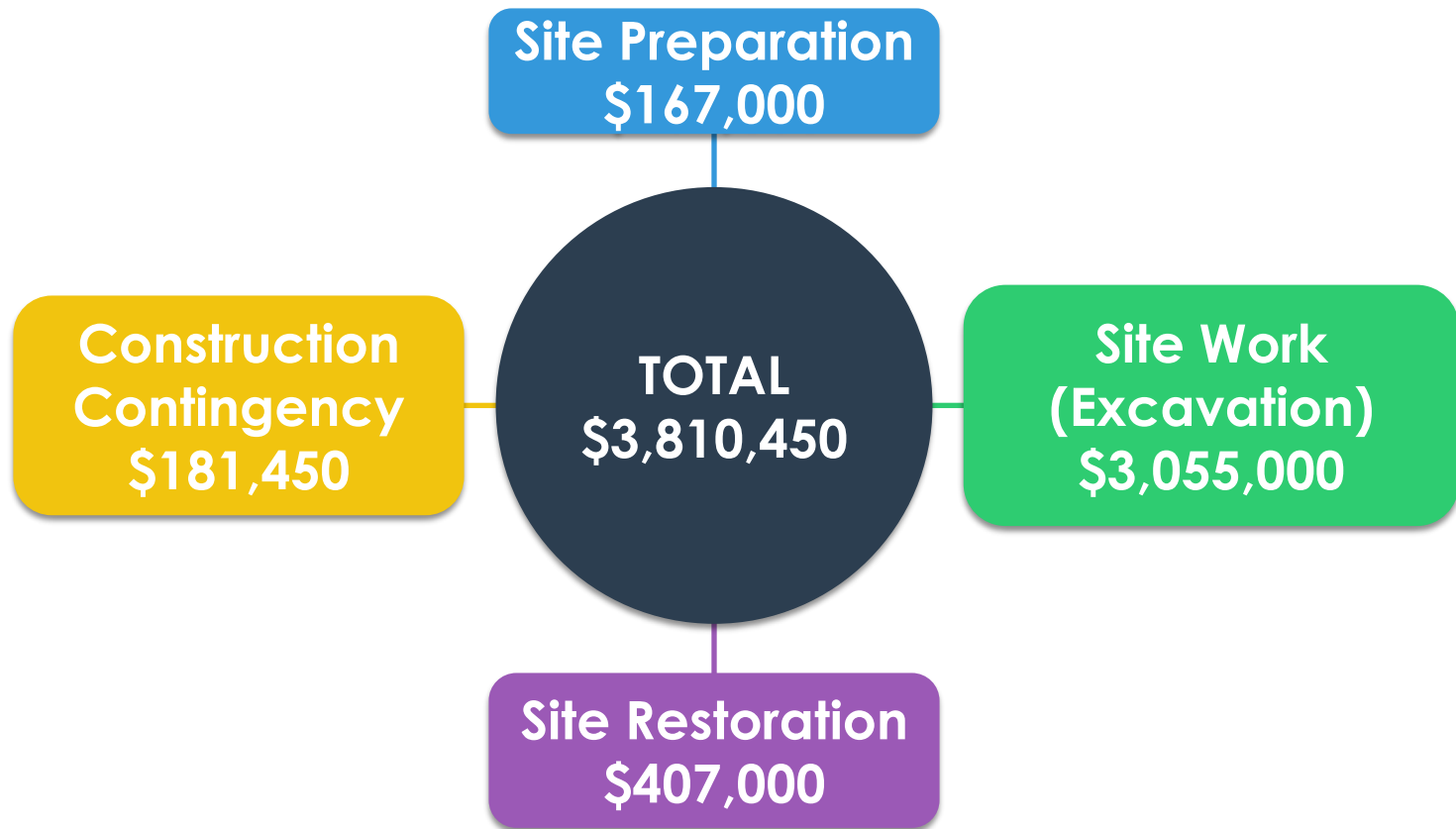
Total Project Duration: Approximately 3 Years

Key Milestone: Construction begins June 2027

Administrative Tasks



Construction Phase Tasks



Why Support This Bond



Guarantee the FULL project with COMPLETE benefits occurs

We could phase the project – with limited benefits (and lower BCA)



Awareness of Project and Funding Landscape makes it VERY unlikely that we'll pay full amount (\$4.3M)

Clean Water Fund / Enhancement Grants (~\$1M?)
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (Unknown)
Lake Champlain Basin Program (~\$200K?)



Delaying this project will set us back years



\$2M in CDBG-DR funding is ONE TIME – we don't get another chance



Questions?

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