

Weston & Sampson Meeting (2-28-18)

- They have one project in our area – Church Creek Drainage Project (at about \$200k cost)
- They have 3 phases of work: (1) Climate scenario selection (2) Vulnerability & Risk Analysis (3) Adaptation Strategies
- It is probably better to work with Dr. Levine on climate scenario selection and mapping.
- W&S may be good to use on their other 2 phases - provided that they do not dwell on things that are in good shape (but rather confirm that they are in good shape and have good plans). Our work suggests that their most useful services for us are Stormwater & Infrastructure Resiliency. Major areas where Kiawah needs help are roads (particularly Parkway & Governors), ponds & drainage, salt marsh issues & adaptation, and, perhaps, electricity, phones, & Internet.
- Kiawah has fragmented responsibilities making an overall contract difficult (who pays for what). A contract with Weston & Sampson (or similar firm) is recommended to review the findings and recommendations of the SLR committee with the objective of endorsing the work and/or recommending modifications or additions. This type of independent review should increase the confidence of property owners, TOKI, KICA, the Resort, ARB (and Partners), and other interested parties about the path forward and expedite the execution of needed actions.
- Their incremental adaptation approach that enables future improvements to take advantage of earlier work can be good - provided that a lot of money is not wasted on short term fixes (for example, get the Parkway and Governors to the height needed for the next 50 years now & don't redo road height a number of times over the next 50 years). The big areas where good, long-term plans are needed are roads, pond system and drainage.
- The mayor expressed a need for setting expectations of guests and residents and managing public safety issues associated with various storm and water events. The mayor has provided more detailed information about the need and his concerns (see attached document). Phase 1 and 2 work on Climate/weather Event Scenarios and Vulnerability & Risk Analysis can help address these needs. This work coupled with predictive/dynamic computer models could provide good immediate insight on which communication/actions should be initiated - by the Town or others- for specific weather events.