

Galveston Community Recovery Plan – Projects

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2. (4, 50, 57, 66)
3. (5, 9)
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19. (26, 32, 48, 65)
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- 34.(49, 58, 64)
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Projects for Transportation & Infrastructure Focus Area

Infrastructure

12. Sanitary Sewer Improvements:

Provide sanitary sewer to unserved areas of Island.

Slipline (rehab) existing sanitary sewer lines behind the seawall.

Harden the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).

13. Drinking Water Improvements:

Replace/rehab the existing “Bay Line” crossing.

Construct a water tower at Jamaica Beach.

Harden all water pumping stations.

Waterline construction from 13 Mile Road to Jamaica Beach.

14. Implement Existing Stormwater Master Drainage Plan

15. Storm Disaster Operations Center (EOC):

Parking facilities – critical infrastructure.

+ 200 person living capacity.

16. Create Galveston Levee (per attached sketch as proposed with 1979 COE plan):

Match seawall elevation.

Backflow prevention for storm sewer system.

Incorporate “West End” evacuation.

Stormwater pumping station.

17. Require Dry Utilities to be Underground:

Cable/gas/communication/power.

18. Desalinization Plant:

Solar Power.

50 MGD Capacity.

Regional facility.

City owned.

Designed for 500-year storm.

2nd “Bay Line” crossing to support distribution/sale off Island.

Transportation

Projects for Transportation & Infrastructure Focus Area

19. Galveston – Houston Rail

With a central hub at 61st Street containing parking, bus terminal, taxi's and bicycle.
The rail should include 3 stops on Island (61st, 25th, & UTMB) with improvements and amenities @ each. Amenities include ticketing, lockers, café, vending, toilets, bike rack, and news stand...

Parking should be provided @ each

Improve rail bridge at ICW to 300' span, high clearance lift bridge

20. Streets, thoroughfares and bridges

61st mobility enhancements

61st Street flyover for northbound traffic to aid in [lowering] traffic congestion, ease of mobility & evacuation of west side of island

Extension of 61st Street to Harborside

Elevation of FM 3005

TxDot has performed hydrology study and design engineering to most flood prone areas – improvements would aid in [expediting] evacuation time

West – Bay crossing

Improve island connectivity – tie to 288 or 35 to [lower] traffic on I-45 and provide an additional on/off island route for daily and evacuation traffic

Harborside

Raise low areas and improve drainage in flood prone areas

Redevelop & Adopt a workable Thoroughfare Plan for north – south traffic

Pelican Island bridge improvements (2nd tier)

Repair / reconstruct current 51st Street Bridge

Pelican Island industrial bridge [connect] RR track from north side of Pelican island to Loop 197

Projects for Transportation & Infrastructure Focus Area

21. Take a Seat (Bus and Trolley) - Establish a world class bus and trolley system that connects tourists, commuters, students and residents from beach to bay, ferry to San Louis Pass.

Establish a system of hubs across the island (that support “green” living) including 61st Street, Airport, UTMB, 25th Street (and more) that connect to trunk lines, e.g. Seawall Blvd (Goodman Study) & off island

Ensure bus /Trolley stops are clean, safe, well lighted & evoke civic pride

Create a “cool”, consistent marketing campaign to promote wide scale usage including special events to increase awareness & ridership

Explore ways to offer free bus service via federal funding & incentive programs

Equip buses w/bike, surfboard racks that are recreational friendly. Configure interior seating to accommodate luggage and packages.

Establish system of standards to ensure system remains world class

Explore water taxi system from downtown /Pier 21 area up to Houston

22. Stroll & Roll - Establish an island wide accommodation for bikes, hikers & pedestrians to include:

Clearly marked and enforced crosswalks in downtown, seawall, UTMB and public areas.

Construct bike/pedestrian interconnections between downtown /A & M / UTMB / Seawall

Establish bike racks in all of these areas & on buses

Create better definition for bikes & pedestrians along the seawall utilizing the south side parking lane and planters to separate traffic

Develop parking garages on the north side of seawall

Crete bike & hike trails to parks, nature preserves & other public places

1st Phase: 2004 Plan (Goodman)

2nd Phase: is expansion island wide - 2008 City Council - adopted plan

All aspects of this plan should be smart, green & sustainable.

Projects for Transportation & Infrastructure Focus Area

23. Smart Streets – Bring Galveston streets up to the “Complete Streets” standard to include:

Make all intersections & grade changes ADA

Install proper signage at all crosswalks & intersections

Enforce pedestrian Right-of-Walk to make Galveston ‘Pedestrian Friendly’

Upgrade all street lighting to make it safe, beautiful & ‘dark sky’ compliant & energy efficient.

Improve lighting for pedestrians on seawall

Upgrade visibility and enforcement of all crosswalks

Establish a “clear site triangle” at all intersections, alleyways and driveways

Implement street beautification

Limit parking to one side of all thoroughfares and “one-ways”, restrict parking of large trucks, trailers & boats on these streets, use the open lane for bikes

Establish trash and recycling containers along all major streets, downtown, seawall / UTMB / A & M.

Projects for Housing & Community Character Focus Area

Community Character

24. Beautification Master Plan

Develop plan to address enhancement of streetscapes and public spaces including design guidelines for gateways, boulevards and neighborhoods. Create incentives for commercial / private property owners to implement design guidelines. Explore Low Impact Design and complete street standards for streetscape / landscaping. Create partnership with GISD to landscape / enhance schools. Develop program for ongoing maintenance (funding). Create urban forestry program and garden club / community garden program to plant public spaces (American Community Garden Association). Support Texas participation in national Scenic Byway program.

Phase I

Entry Gateway / Broadway Boulevard beautification plan to include: way finding, intersection enhancements, (traffic calming) landscaping (native and signature species – oleanders), public art, and decorative lighting (green).

(Beautification of Galveston landscape seawall – incentivize neighborhoods (11 dots))

Projects for Housing & Community Character Focus Area

25. Sea Wall Master Plan to include:

Streetscape enhancements: low maintenance / native plantings, lighting (green), way finding (mile markers);

Public art: decorative tile benches, sculpture;

Public amenities: restrooms (beach & Strand), vendors kiosks, public market;

Access: trolley, parking plan, context sensitive design, compete streets

(Seawall park/scape – (resurrect 1983 study) beaches and landscaping (10 dots)

26. Redevelopment Plan.

Develop financial incentives for revitalization and adaptive use of commercial / residential buildings in Galveston's historic urban core. Explore opportunities to create live work / loft / mixed use space for arts community, students, empty nesters. (Adaptive reuse of old Falstaff Brewery/large downtown buildings: e.g., for student housing)

This project was addressed by other groups and partially through City wide Beautification plan. Safe, off street sidewalks, improve walking areas, pedestrian walking trails, access to all (6 dots)

27. Tourism Master Plan.

Develop multi-media promotional campaign (op-ed, paid advertising, Travel Texas) to market Galveston at national, state, regional (Houston) and local travelers. Create slogan to brand city (i.e. So Easy to Do So Much – Indianapolis). Create a City Cultural Tourism Commission and tourist “ambassadors” (guides). Develop 52 Weeks tourism program. Promote recreational tourism (boating, surfing, fishing), eco-tourism (birding, low-impact touring), historic Galveston and cultural tourism (Why Galveston Matters).

Phase I

Create Cultural Tourism campaign to promote Galveston's as an affordable state-cation, day trip travel option for tight economic times. Promote Galveston's as a community for culture and the arts.

(Expand awareness of Galveston outside of state/nationwide; PR campaign to create awareness of enforcement/responsibility (empowerment); attractions and events making “Galveston.com” a catch phrase (6 dots)

28. Code Enforcement Program

Clean and well maintained neighborhoods and commercial districts will enhance the image and beauty of a Galveston. Develop a procedure for the review and revision of Galveston's code enforcement program and policies. Investigate and recommend best practices for code enforcement at state level and national level.

Phase I

Develop multi-media (brochures, directory, web page) public awareness campaign to education and inform citizens and property owners about local codes and enforcement policies and procedures. Develop Ride-Along program to allow trained citizens to ride along on code enforcement patrols to help maintain the beauty and safety of Galveston.

Projects for Housing & Community Character Focus Area

Historic Preservation

29. Historic Preservation and Public Housing Partnership.

Develop a model project using historic buildings for scattered sites public housing utilizing the resources of the Galveston Historical Foundation (GHF), the Galveston Housing Authority (GHA), and the City of Galveston that are in compliance with all zoning, HUD regulations, etc.

Benefits:

Revitalize neighborhoods

Cooperative

Provides homes

Prevents blight

30. Establish an institution of higher education for Historic Preservation that uses Galveston Island as a coastal working environment and related preservation issues.

Benefits:

Utilizes existing buildings for classrooms and housing for students and faculty

Ability/opportunity to partner with other institutions of higher education

Helps with economic benefits

31. Research, develop, and publish technical assistance guidelines for historic properties to address elevating, sustainability, and hazard mitigation that meet federal, state, and local standards.

Benefits:

Proactive for future damage

Reduce repetitive loss

Respects historic property and allows for change and adaption

32. Develop façade restoration grant program for Strand/Mechanic Historic District.

Benefits:

Preserving economic attraction

Boosting Heritage Tourism

Attracts and retains businesses

Projects for Housing & Community Character Focus Area

33. Nominate Galveston's historic urban core to the National Register of Historic Places.

Benefits:

Expands tourism and marketing opportunities

Increases opportunities for additional funding & Programs

Allow adaptive use and incentives for corner stores and older commercial areas outside of downtown

All the use of federal tax credits for rehabilitation

Improves preservation ethics and national image

Expands awareness of historic architectural styles

Digitize the City's existing survey data

Housing

34. Housing Rehabilitation and Infill in Existing Neighborhoods

Project Description: Develop partnerships and find resources to fix up existing houses, build new houses in Galveston neighborhoods.

Action Steps:

Identify target neighborhoods

Create a design competition for design/plans resulting in for-sale homes @ at or below \$125,000

Rehab of owner-occupied housing, given priority in program.

Access dollars (grants) for d.p. assistance, that guarantee community continuity.

City to make delinquent properties available for infill development.

Maintain diverse neighborhoods, by building homes at a variety of price points, per results of needs assessment

35. Sally Abston Rent -to-own/work-to-own Homes

Project Description:

A comprehend program to stimulate the middle class by assisting hardworking low to middle residents to become homeowners.

Actions Step:

Creation of the Sally Abston Advisory Board

Attract inter-faith groups, Americorps to volunteer

Business owners give days off to allow employees to volunteer

Community Service Programs that will allow high school students to volunteer in order to get scholarships

Creation of Galveston Chapter of Habitat for Humanity to assist with the volunteer work

Build Homes with a sales price of \$40,000 to \$80,000

Projects for Housing & Community Character Focus Area

36. Current Housing Assessment

Description: Obtain and analyze data within the consolidate plan of the cities housing department and within the GIS mapping system of TAMV and make analysis available to community projects work groups.

Action Steps:

request consolidated plan

correlate census tracts in plan to analyze neighborhoods

analyze plan data for

general market values mix

empty lots

other enforcement available to facilitate understanding of resources available and what is needed to convert then to community projects uses

obtain layered GIS maps for TAMV by electronic access to internet-base septen with data layered by precinct and/or census tract

analysis mapping data for information specified in 3 above

summarize and analyze to avoid enforcement to community projects to show opportunities available resources.

Projects for Human Services Focus Area

Education

37. To create, fund, implement and promote “The Galveston Promise”

Description: The Galveston Promise will provide free of charge post-secondary education tuition and books for up to four years at any educational institution in the State of Texas. Recipients must be Galveston High School or GED graduates and long-term Galveston students. The program will extend the two-year Universal Access program already in place at an estimated cost of \$20 million and be in place in three to five years.

The Galveston promise will

Attract families to Galveston

Increase enrollment in schools, and

Raise student expectations

To be successful The Galveston Promise program will require an active and sustained city-wide promotional campaign.

Projects for Human Services Focus Area

38. Establish (design, develop and evaluate) a model Neighborhood Learning Center to create a culture of lifelong learning for Galveston families from early childhood to elderly seniors

Description: The prototype center would create a culture of lifelong learning, encouraging participants to contribute to the community by being better learners, better consumers (contributing to the economy), better producers (in their jobs), and better citizens. It would incorporate and fund a broad range of programs including training for three-year-olds through classes on parenting, through programs for seniors.

39. Build a Sports/Arts complex to replace the storm-devastated Galveston High School Stadium.

Description: Galveston's only sports stadium suffered extreme damage from Hurricane Ike. A new Sports/Arts complex will combine a venue for sports competition as well as artistic performances and other cultural events. The facility would be constructed to LEED certification standards.

40. Build a LEED certified Vocational/Technical facility

Description: The Vocation/Technical facility will prepare high-school and college students for the workplace by training them in welding, HVAC, energy, marine diesel, applied technology, and other craft skills.

41. Pilot a virtual learning program in the Galveston Independent School District

Description: Purchase and pilot a virtual learning curriculum in all subjects in the Galveston Independent School district beginning with 100 sixth-graders (Early College High School).

Health

42. Health Impact Assessment

Project Description: A health impact assessment is needed to identify the those Galveston residents who are unable to maintain or gain reasonable access to adequate health care due to income limitations or other issue(s) that make such access unachievable. Target groups could include residents of subsidized housing and individuals under the care of social services agencies.

43. Health and Wellness Partnership

Project Description: It is important to understand how community design, planning, and education can positively influence healthy living and disease prevention. This is especially important for a speedier post-Ike recovery process, as well as, for similar events that may occur in the future.

44. Public Information Project

Project Description: In order to maintain positive, broad-based public and political support for the various health issues tied to Galveston Island's recovery process, it is important to establish a strategic public information and relations program that involves a cross section of various interested groups.

Projects for Economic Development Focus Area

Business District Plans

45. TOURISM

Gateway visitor's center – Location: Broadway @ 6th

Tourist information, public restrooms, etc.

Gateway to downtown and Cruise ships – Improve entrance images (multiple locations)

46. EAST END NATURE PARK

Eco-Nature Tourism

Scope – Master Plan RFP – City of Galveston

Approximately 600 acres (size of central park in NYC)

Interpretive Center

Trails

Restaurants

Canoe/Kayack

Birdwatching

Phase I – Preliminary Plan

Funding from Private Foundation & Department of Interior

Phase II – Detail Plan

Phase III – Implementation

Issues:

Transportation/Infrastructure – extension of trolley service

Tourism – connection to other island tourist attractions

Coordination with other plans

47. SEAWALL, Galveston's #1 tourist attraction

Expand on Goodman Plan and add elements from 1983 Plan.

Add Parking garage- no parking on south side

Pilot program-phased-(61st 27th)

Ft. Crockett Area: Improve Landscaping

Add traffic calming street design

Bike lane

Pedestrian crossing

Projects for Economic Development Focus Area

48. DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN

Plan encompasses the area between 26th to 19th from the harbor to Broadway, and includes the UTMB Corridor.

An RFP was completed and the consultant for the project has been selected.

Funding: HGDP has 50% of needed funds from private source

Related projects to be included with this plan are:

Redevelopment of Port from 25th east

Housing, Commercial Development, Entertainment, Restaurants

Incubator: (See below)

Transportation: Commuter Rail

Connecting the Port (cruise ships) to downtown

Other Ideas: Connect Moody Gardens to downtown via

Barriers:

Magnolia Homes

Access to Pier 10 - Harborside Drive and Railroad tracks

49. PORT AREA DEVELOPMENT- HARBORSIDE

The area of the port east of 25th street should be redeveloped as part of the Downtown Master Plan. Envisioned as a mixed-use project with full-service marina offering transient slips to visiting yachts and pleasure craft. The project would require removal of rail and the port to move the uses on Pier 10 to an alternate location.

50. INCUBATOR PROJECT

Incubator - Subset to Downtown

Various Uses:

Maritime

Biotech

Arts

Energy

Small Business

Building custom houses

Between TUMB – Strand

51. TRANSPORTATION:

Commuter Rail –

Terminal @ 25th Street should be part of the Downtown Plan and should be integrated with the trolley system (Island Transit)

Projects for Economic Development Focus Area

52. POLICY/PLANNING 2-23-09

As plans are formulated – oversight

Bring groups together

Planning commission

GEDP

Update-redo comp plan

53. EDUCATION

Galveston Promise

54. MITIGATION

Ike Dike – Regional Protection System

Downtown vulnerable – Evaluate flood proofing techniques

Business Retention and Expansion

55. Implement 2006 Goodman Seawall Boulevard Improvement Plan

This project is fully planned, ready to move toward implementation. First steps will be to authorize detailed engineering. As elements are made more specific, the public will have opportunities to review drawings. Some site details are yet to be resolved. Public support will be essential for project success. This project will benefit from identification of multiple funding sources including post-disaster recovery funds such as CDBG.

56. Establish Paid Parking Program on Seawall

This project has potential for early implementation, subject to refinement as the Goodman Seawall plan is designed and implemented. Alternatives such as on-street meters, permit tickets, business rebates and off-street parking structures will be considered. Funding from parking revenues will likely benefit ongoing maintenance and operation of expanded Seawall amenities but will not be sufficient to pay for the initial construction of features from the Goodman plan.

57. Expand UTMB Bio-Tec Business Incubator and Workforce development

This project involves both incubators and an element of workforce development, training and education. UTMB has been a national leader in this realm, however some Galveston incubator activities may have industry orientations rather than medical and bio-tech. A special collaboration is needed now, Post-Ike, to maximize the opportunities with a variety of funding sources that will be coming to the City and other entities. Time is critical because some pre-storm incubator operations have moved off-Island and need to be attracted back to refurbished facilities. Early implementation is feasible if good collaboration can be quickly arranged.

Projects for Economic Development Focus Area

58. Repair Existing Port Bulkhead and create pelican island project cargo terminal

This project is complex due to the market of port lessees and customers, the arrangements with Port of Houston, and practical issues of waterways and infrastructure. A consolidated infrastructure plan is needed, linked to an expanded version of a City capital improvements plan (CIP), and prepared under the leadership of a special taskforce. Due to post-Ike recovery funding coming to various entities, this is an opportune time to tackle this initiative. Specific recovery projects could be identified soon by a taskforce

59. Create a property tax credit for anyone living and working on the island

This project needs refinement into a package of meaningful incentives that will help the City realize its desired jobs/housing balance. Some elements may require enabling legislation. Implementable concepts need to be better defined. Realistic market-sensitive initiatives are needed. Post-Ike special funding such as CDBG dollars earmarked for housing can make a major impact with infill housing to repair, mitigate and enhance housing stock. Employer incentives may be feasible to bolster the public investments. A special need for service employees' housing exists due to the high proportion of tourism businesses in Galveston.

60. Revisit and reconfirm the city's public policy on economic development incentives

This project is a policy development assignment. While policies already exist, the special circumstances post-Ike will bring many new options into focus, especially new funding for economic recovery and numerous types of investment, both construction and programs. This restudy can potentially start quickly, subject to agreement by stakeholders that this work is a high priority

Business Development/Jobs Creation

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

61. Festival Beach -

Develop seawall area w/hotels/rest/ and other attractions.

Open – Outdoor, very active, themed Green/Purple/Gold

13th to 14th street... an area that can be loud w/out affecting neighbors

Neighbors... Walk “Coney Island” “Branson Outdoors”

Security, perception of safety,

Mixed use, low rise w/ deck parking

Green space from Poretto Beach

Stewart Beach redevelopment as entertainment core

Park Board & City – manage & develop

Funding: Beach user fees, concessionaire rentals

Venice Beach Model, neighborhood compatible

Projects for Economic Development Focus Area

62. Casino Gaming

Need a feasibility plan – Chamber of Commerce started feasibility study....

What are the elements of this study?

Homework – Politics and alliances w/in the state and community

Shakers/Bakers of Galveston take charge

April – Expert coming to Galveston

Jobs, income, schools, tourism all benefits.

Linked to Downtown/Harborside

63. MITIGATION

Study/Evaluate alternatives for island protection

Identify alts/options to existing system of protection and provide
data/analysis on pros/cons to help guide decision making

Nothing

Elevating where you can – flood

“Hardening” against wind

Offshore breakwater?

Levee around “Old Galveston \$

Mini Ike (revetment)

Ike Dike

Projects for Economic Development Focus Area

64. Port Area Development

Pelican Island – Cooper/TK S. U./ Port of Houston/ Port of Galveston

Harborside – Downtown and industrial area

Marina/Hospitality/ Third Cruise Ship Terminal

Infrastructure – Fill in slips, bulkhead, drainage s/w bridge/road access to pelican island

Expand but don't get on top of cargo

Is this a recovery project? Or is this coordination and implementation of existing plans.

City of Galveston key stakeholder for infrastructure @ Harborside and Pelican Island.

Bulkhead replacement – Pier 41 to Pier 10

Improve Harborside Drive conditions:

Drainage

Communications – Telephone/Cable

Sewer – West of 51st Street

Expansion – 6 acres at 9th Street

Develop sites – elevate land with utilities

65. DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Hotels for Cruise Ships

Need a Plan – Retail analysis

Regional Economic Analysis

Organize-

HDGP (Historic Downtown Galveston Partnership)

Port

City

Neighborhoods

UTMB

Merchants

66. INCUBATOR PROJECT

Biotech/Small Business/Energy

Chamber – Small Business Incubator – working on this now

Energy Incubator – A place where fledgling alternative energy businesses can locate to build their business. May need port access for moving large structures.

Provide “connections”/ networking service.
