

# HOW MANAGED RETREAT

**A.R. SIDERS, JD, PHD**

**@SIDERSADAPTS**

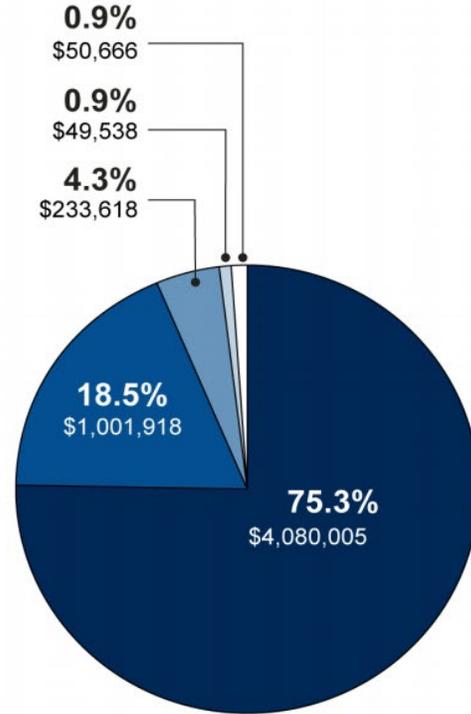
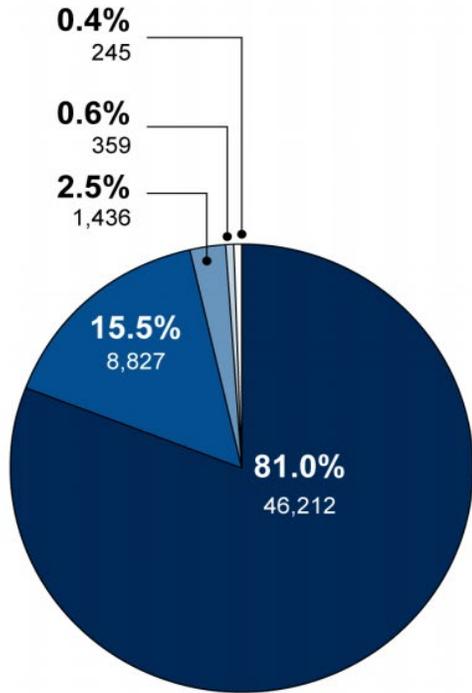
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**DISASTER RESEARCH CENTER**

**Figure 3: Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazard Mitigation Assistance, Number of Properties Mitigated and Funding by Mitigation Method, Fiscal Years 1989–2018**

Number of mitigated properties

Federal funds obligated for flood mitigation (dollars in thousands)



- Acquisition
- Elevation
- Mixed (acquisition and elevation)
- Floodproof
- Relocation

Source: GAO analysis of Federal Emergency Management Agency data. | GAO-20-509

Note: Federal funds obligated were adjusted for inflation using the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers.

GAO-20-509

Resources required



**Coordinated**

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Organized relocation of whole community



**Assisted**

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Support in moving, including identifying or creating housing options



**Funded**

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Compensation for loss of property and moving costs



**Nudged**

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Incentives to relocate to safe areas at own cost

Siders, Hino, Mach, 2019

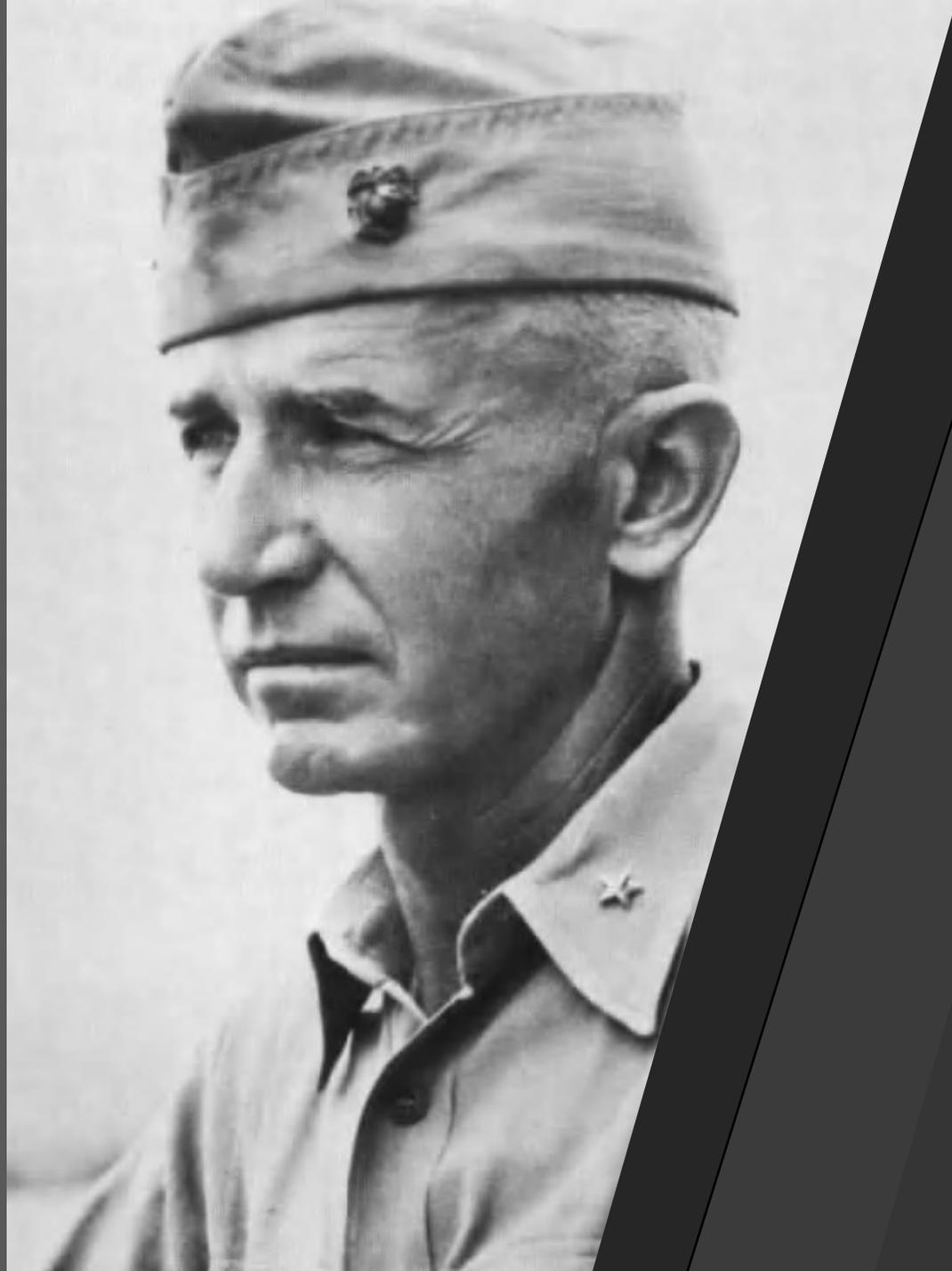
# Keys to Retreat

**Vision**

Equity

Leadership (and Expertise)

Plan



"Retreat, Hell!  
We're just advancing in a  
different direction."  
- USMC General Oliver P.  
Smith

What do you want your city /  
community / coast to look like in  
100 years?



Positive Vision >  
Avoiding Fear

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**Soldiers Grove**

Rochester

La Crosse

MINNESOTA



Madison

WISCONSIN

IOWA

Rockford

ILLINOIS

# Cave

## Will Valmeyer cave become business hub?

Jan 14, 2011 0

Subscribe for \$3 for 3 months

1 of 11



JOHN SWISTAK JR. / JOURNAL Gateway Cold Storage owner David Macheca and developer Joe Koppels in the Rock City cave in Valmeyer last week.

John Swistak Jr.

YouTube

Search

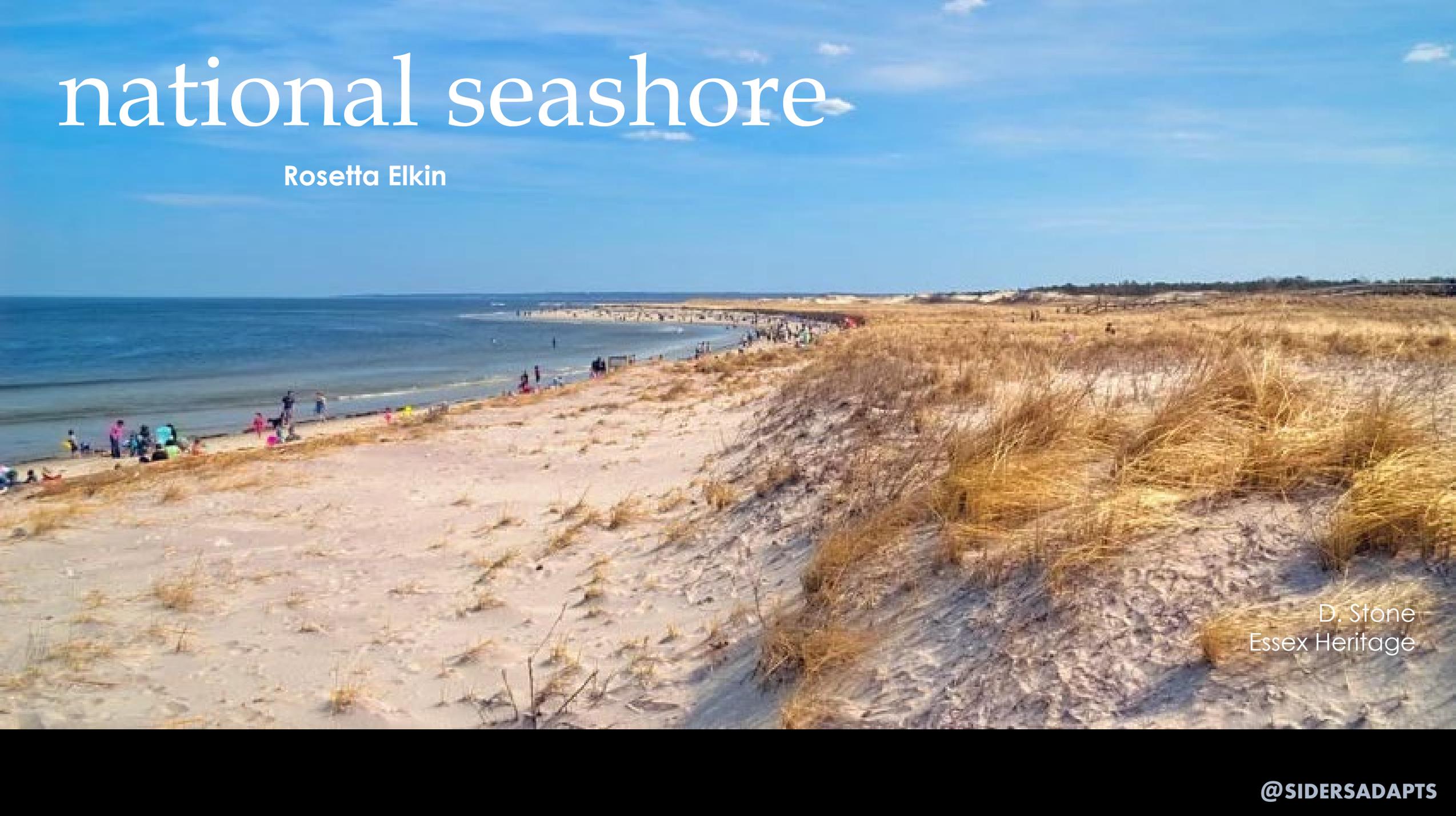
*Doris Rippelmeyer*  
*Former Valmeyer Resident*

Valmeyer, IL: The Documentary

12,560 views

125 5 SHARE SAVE

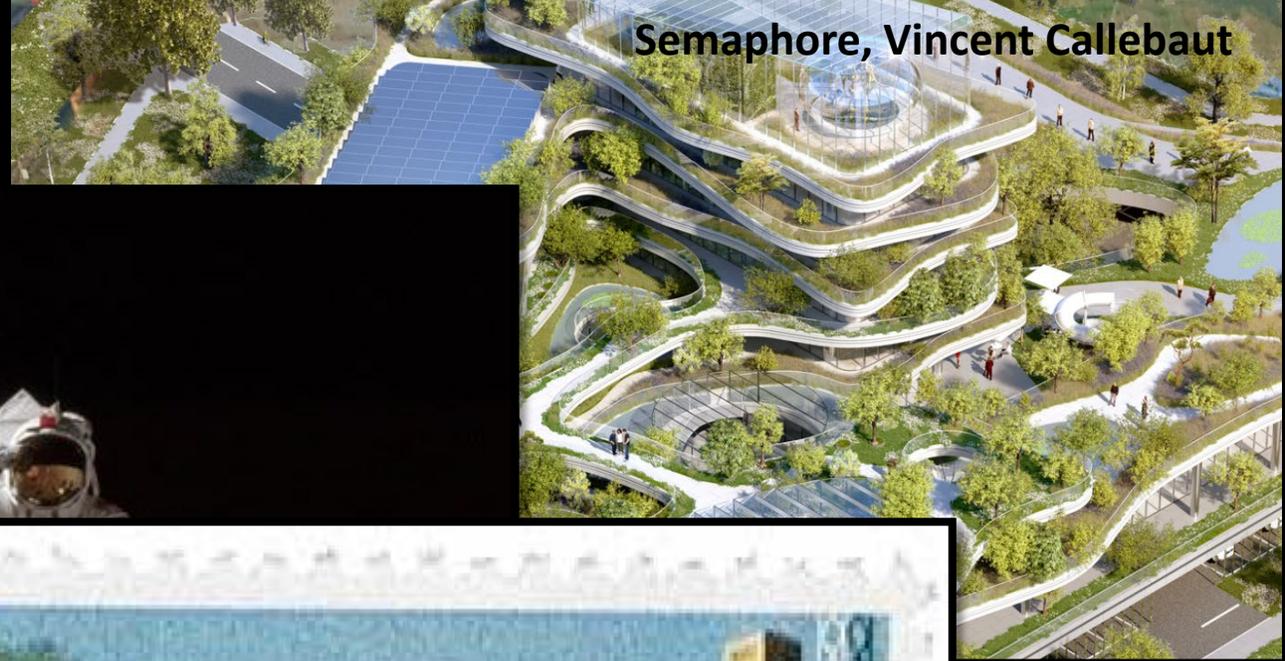
# national seashore



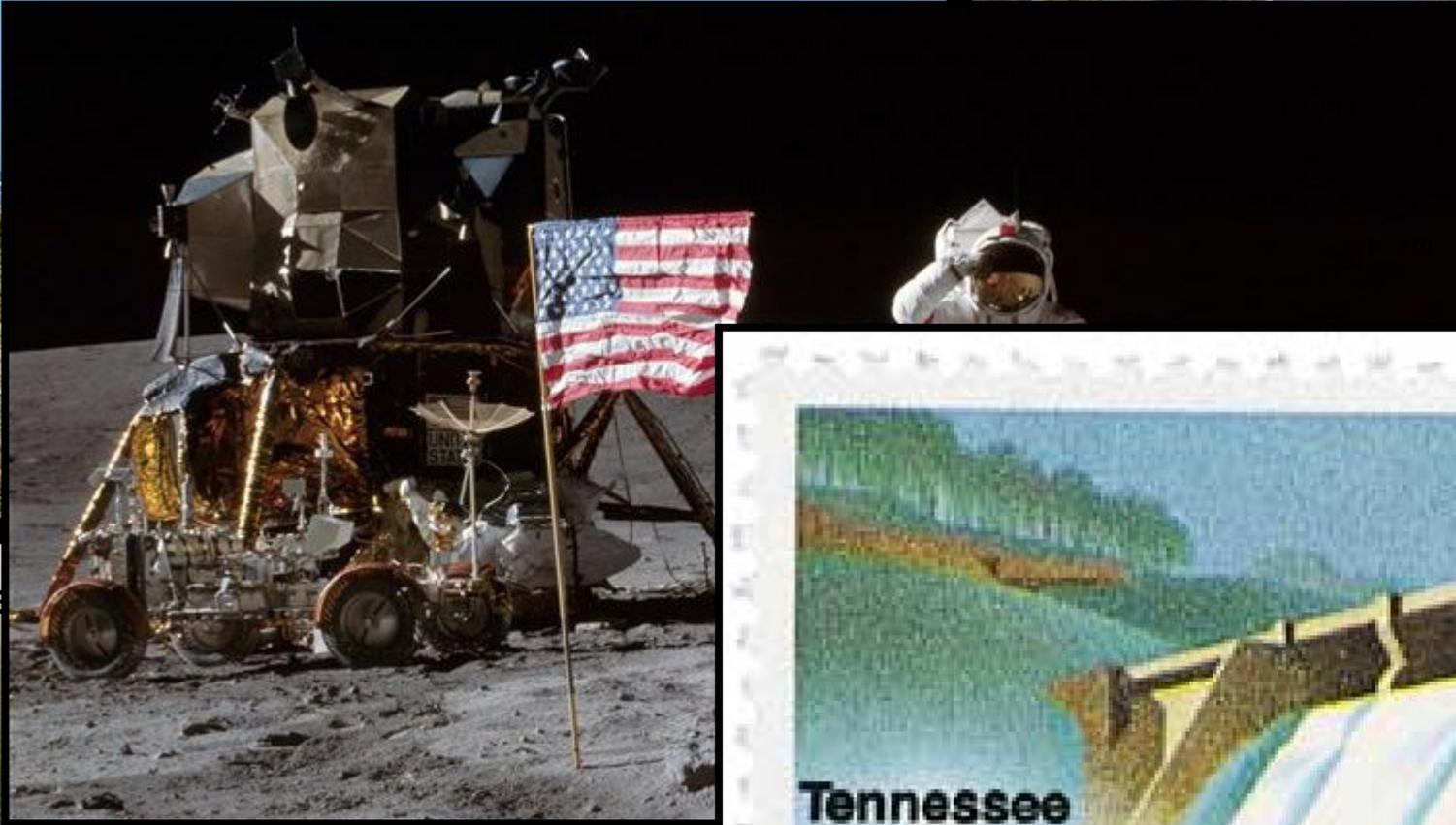
Rosetta Elkin

D. Stone  
Essex Heritage

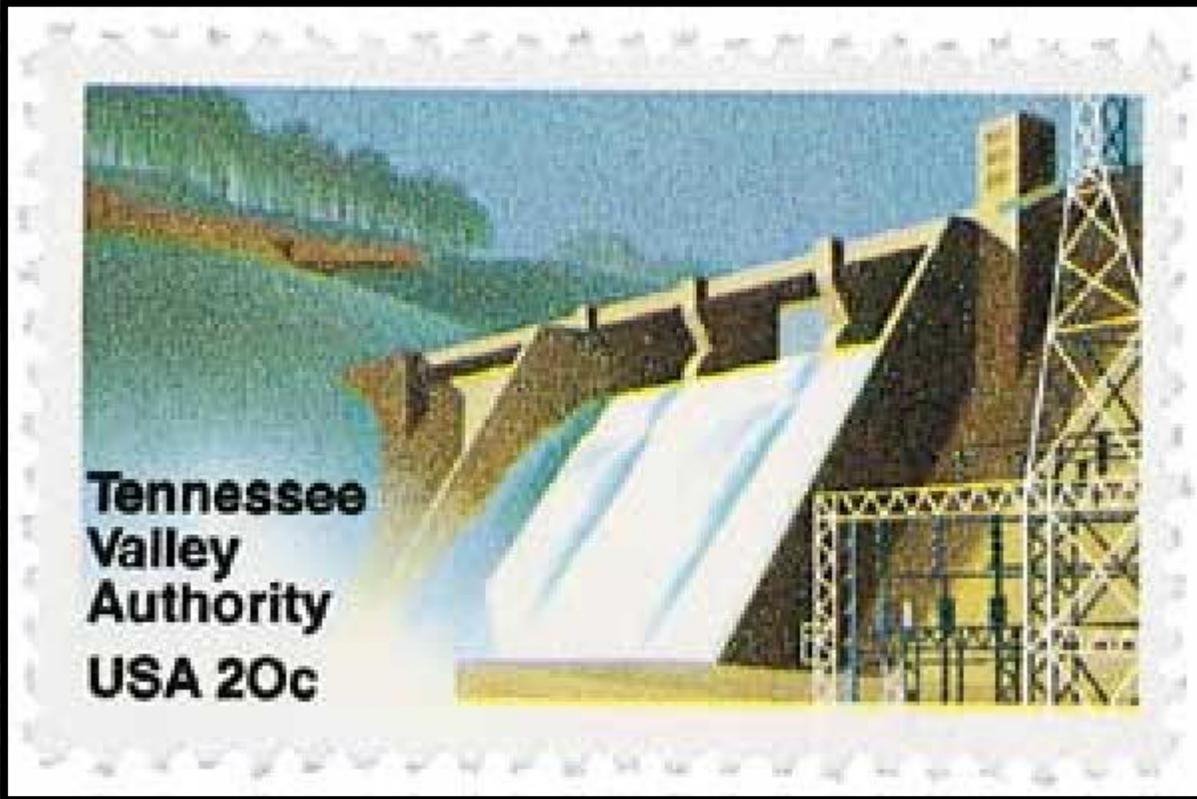
Padre Island National Seashore,  
Heydere Flickr



Semaphore, Vincent Callebaut



Stefano Boeri



Tennessee  
Valley  
Authority  
USA 20c



# Keys to Retreat

Vision

**Equity**

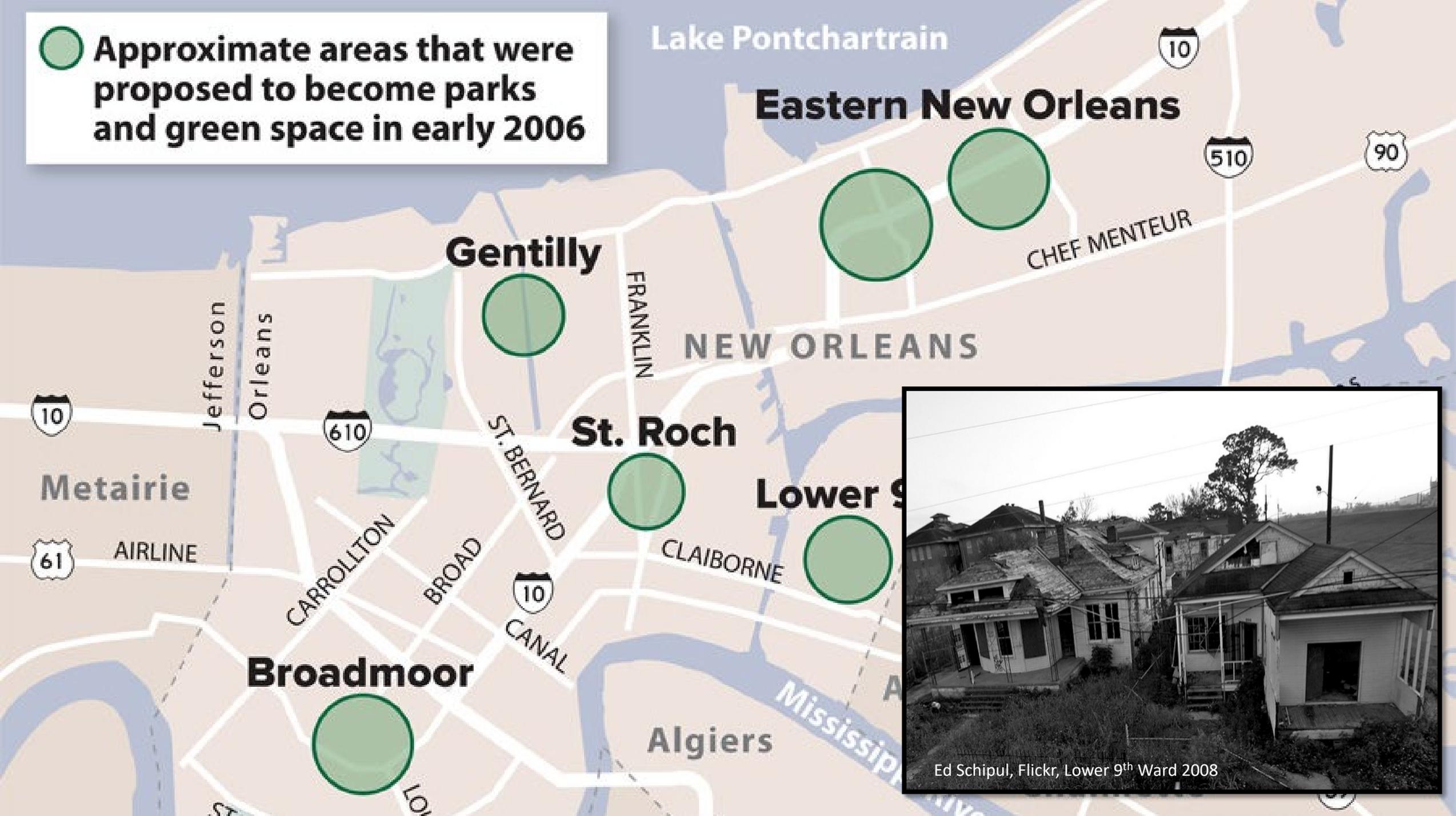
Leadership (and Expertise)

Plan

What does equity mean for your community?

- Take race, income, historic injustice into account explicitly
  - Be skeptical of CBA
- Account for difference in local capacity

○ Approximate areas that were proposed to become parks and green space in early 2006

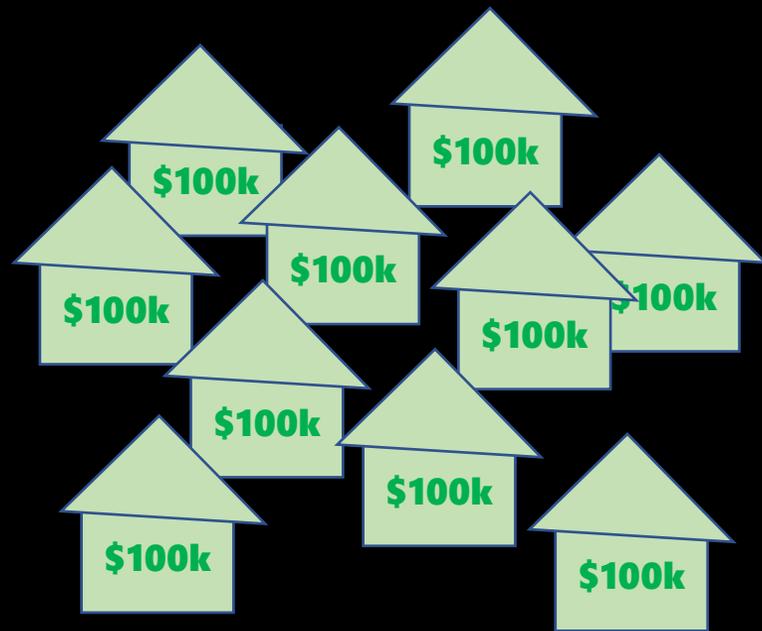


Grand  
Forks,  
North  
Dakota



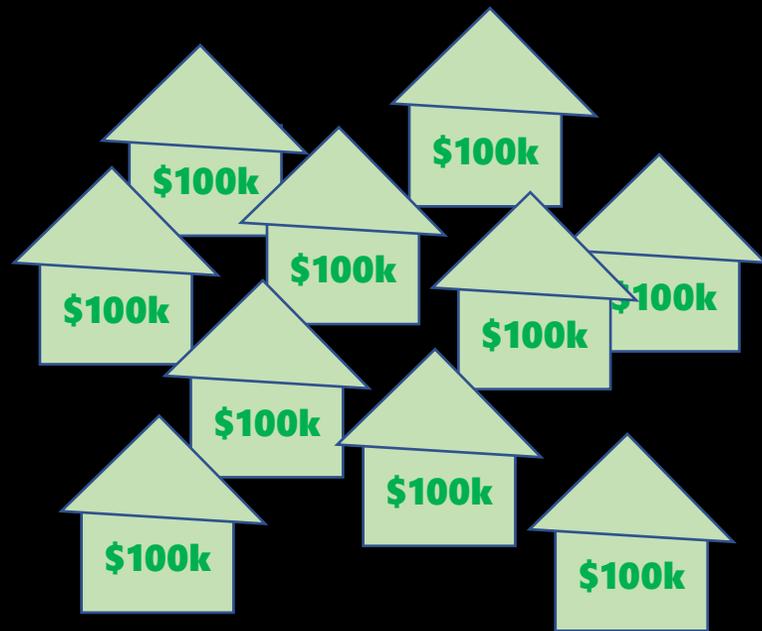
# COST-BENEFIT CHALLENGE

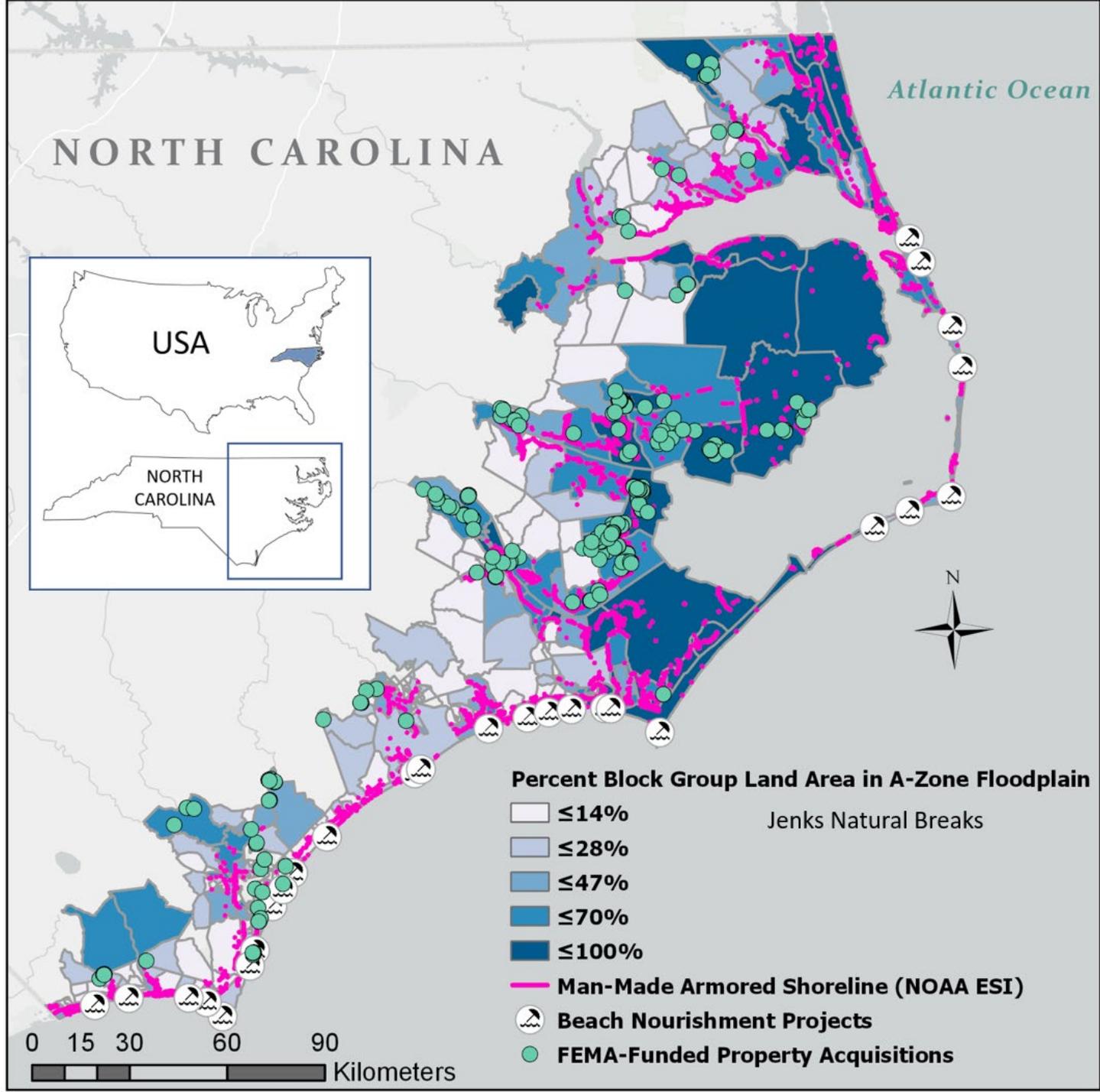
WHERE WILL YOU BUILD THE  
FLOODWALL?



# COST-BENEFIT CHALLENGE

WHERE WILL YOU OFFER  
BUYOUTS?





# Keys to Retreat

Vision

Equity

**Leadership (and Expertise)**

Plan



Dennis Knobloch, Former Mayor of Valmeyer, IL

# Expertise

- Uniform Relocation Act
- Real Estate Agents
- Engineers to assess damage
- Environmental Site Inspectors
- Assessors for home value
- Cost-Benefit Calculation
- Willing to talk to people with prior experience ...

# Learn but innovate

## Funding

- Charlotte, NC– stormwater fee
- Harris county, TX – fees
- Des Moines, IA – sales tax
- Wisconsin – state fund, water quality funds
- California – adaptation fund



## PARTICIPATION

- **10% incentive in high-risk area**
- **5% incentive if move as a block**
- **Pair with real estate agent to find new house**
- **Help neighbors relocate together**
- **Purchase through non-profits (trust)**
- **Property swap (Wapello)**

# Keys to Retreat

Vision

Equity

Leadership (and Expertise)

**Plan**

# PLAN

- What are you going to do with the land?
  - Who will own it? How will it be maintained?
- Where do people move TO? How does buyout relate to development?
- What happens to neighbors who stay?
- How will you decide who participates?
  - How will you communicate?
  - How will people decide? (How will decisions be made equitable?)
- Have an integrated plan
  - Be totally transparent
- Involve community members
  - Get creative!



“the community” decides



# Louisiana and Isle de Jean Charles Tribe Seek to Resolve Differing Visions for Resettling 'Climate Refugees'

By Julie Dermansky • Tuesday, February 5, 2019 - 14:02

Read time: 13 mins

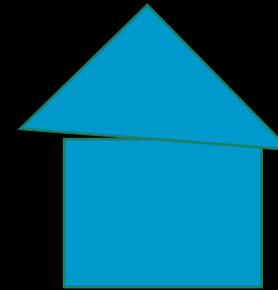


Who decides?

Household

Community

What when conflict?  
How define community?  
What scale?



How decide? Vote?



“When you walk through Ellicott City and when you discover what's inside of those buildings, you see where slaves were hidden on their path to freedom. You see a lot of things that connect you to our greater community...this place is worth sticking around and working for.”

“If you pretend that human lives are worth less than historic buildings you’re a despicable person. And I don’t have any bones about saying that. You’re absolutely despicable.”

- Ellicott City, MD residents, quoted in Hersher, NPR, 2019



Jobs Programs

Water Quality Partnerships

Leasebacks / Life Estates

Expiring Permits

cre@t@ve

**Vision** – Advance in a new (positive) direction

**Equity** – Actively work to undo historic injustices

**Leadership** (and Expertise) – Leverage others

**Plan** – Integrated, participatory, transparent, creative

# Questions?

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