

Press Release



Mayor Ellen O. Moyer

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For Immediate Release

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Sea Level Rise Study to Predict Annapolis's Impacts

Annapolis, MD (6-18-09) Annapolis Mayor Ellen Moyer announced the City has hired an engineering firm to provide a report which identifies the impacts and proposes alternatives for varying storm frequencies and severity. This comes in the wake of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change Report, which predicted a sea level rise in Maryland of at least 2 feet by 2100.

"The plan of action looks at the possible reason for climate change, and allows governments to prepare for possible impacts, while establishing timetables for implementation," said Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley. "Annapolis has taken the charge seriously and is setting the example for other municipalities to be prepared to deal with the impacts that sea level rise could have on local businesses and communities."

On April 20, 2007 Governor Martin O'Malley signed an Executive Order establishing the Maryland Commission on Climate Change. The Governor charged the Commission and its three Working Groups to prepare a Climate Action Plan. The plan addresses the following three key questions:

- What can the State's best scientists tell us about how and when climate change will affect Maryland's citizens and natural resources?
- What can Maryland do to adapt to the consequences of climate change?
- What can Maryland do to reduce emissions of GHGs and the State's carbon footprint to begin reversing global warming trends?

With this in mind, the city has obtained services of Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani, LLC to develop a study on sea level rise impacts and provide engineered solutions.

“The City Dock in Annapolis is one area that is particularly prone to flooding and is the focus for this particular study,” said Mayor Moyer.

The \$75,000 report will be paid out of the City’s Capital Budget. Several public hearings on the report will take place prior to it being presented to council by the end of the year.

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