

## **STATEMENT SUPPORTING MD EHRA SB 0783 Submitted March 9 2022**

I am an attorney in Annapolis MD. I ask for a favorable report on SB 0783.

### **THESE FACTS ARE NOT IN DISPUTE.**

The city of Annapolis, the harbor and the Naval Academy are threatened by sea level rise (SLR). This flooding will damage the growth and economy of your capital city. The salient facts are published in the City of Annapolis/ NSA Annapolis CLIMATE RESILIENCE CONTEXT.

**EXHIBIT 1** is the title page of this report. The report is available on the city website.

**Exhibit 2** holds two graphs. The **DSL R SELECTED PROJECTIONS** from est. 2030 to 2100 shows projected sea level rise with a 1 ft low on 2030 to a high of 8 ft 2100. The median level of rise at 2050 appears to estimate slr at 2050 at 1.9 - 2.0 ft. **The second design level graph suggests a seawall of 5.2 ft is required to protect the Naval Academy and Annapolis harbor.**

**Exhibit 3** is a summary of two findings in the **2022 SEA LEVEL RISE TECHNICAL REPORT** published by the NOAA on their website. The Northeast coast line (includes MD) may average a slr of between 14 to 18 inches by 2050. THE NOAA report also finds **FAILURE TO CURB EMISSIONS between 2022 and 2100 could cause an additional sea level rise from 1.5 ft to 5 ft of slr for a total slr of 3.5 ft to 7 ft in 2100.**

**WE CAN AGREE** the duty of legislators is to protect the common good. **WE CAN AGREE** that the **OPINION WORKS POLL** finds 76 % of MD voters favor the EHRA.

Do the members of this committee have the courage to act and publicly vote on HB 0596 or are they coopted by fear? One of those fears may be fear of party discipline (unlikely in this crisis) or the fear of the costs of such remedies. The cost of remediation will likely share 50% of the burden with the NSA. The cost of doing nothing will be catastrophic, as we slowly watch businesses, homes, and the Naval Academy continue to deteriorate, and be abandoned or sold at substantial losses. Growth in the city economy will substantially fall and fail. It is clear public opinion supports passage of SB 0783, and your support.

I refer you to The WATER WILL COME by Jeff Goodell available on Kindle.

CITY OF ANNAPOLIS /  
NSA ANNAPOLIS

# CLIMATE RESILIENCE CONTEXT

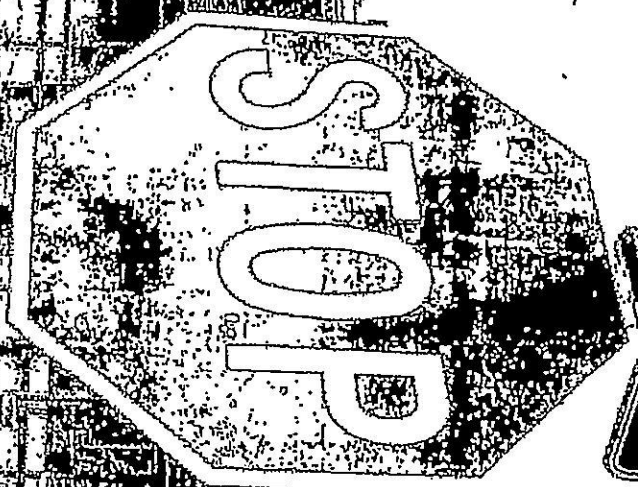


Image: Barbara Weis/ANP

Exhibit 1. A Naval Academy Study of this century's projected sea level rise projects about 1.9 feet of Mean Seal Level (MSL) rise by 2050. The 2022 NOAA Sea Level Report moderated that to about 1.0 foot, only IF emissions are curbed. If not, it projects similar 5-7 feet rise by 2100.

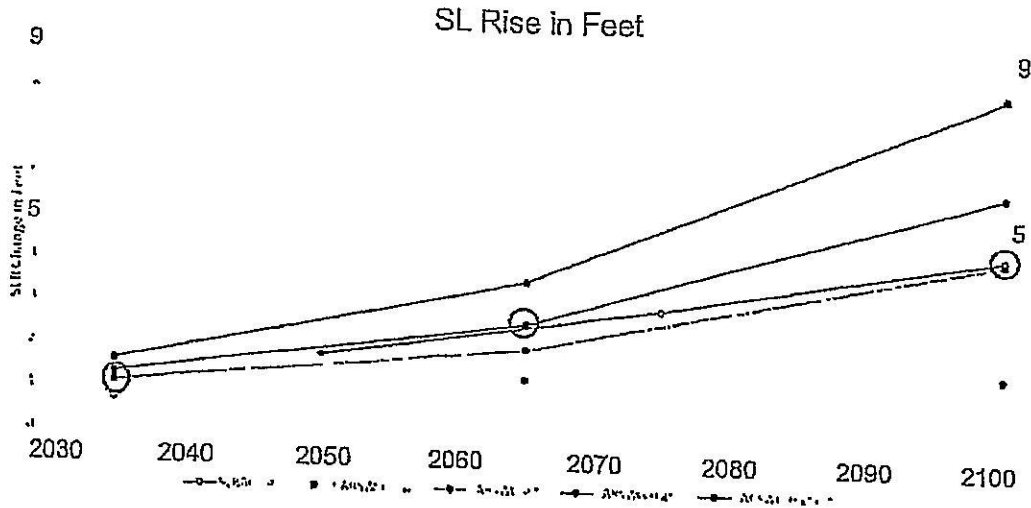
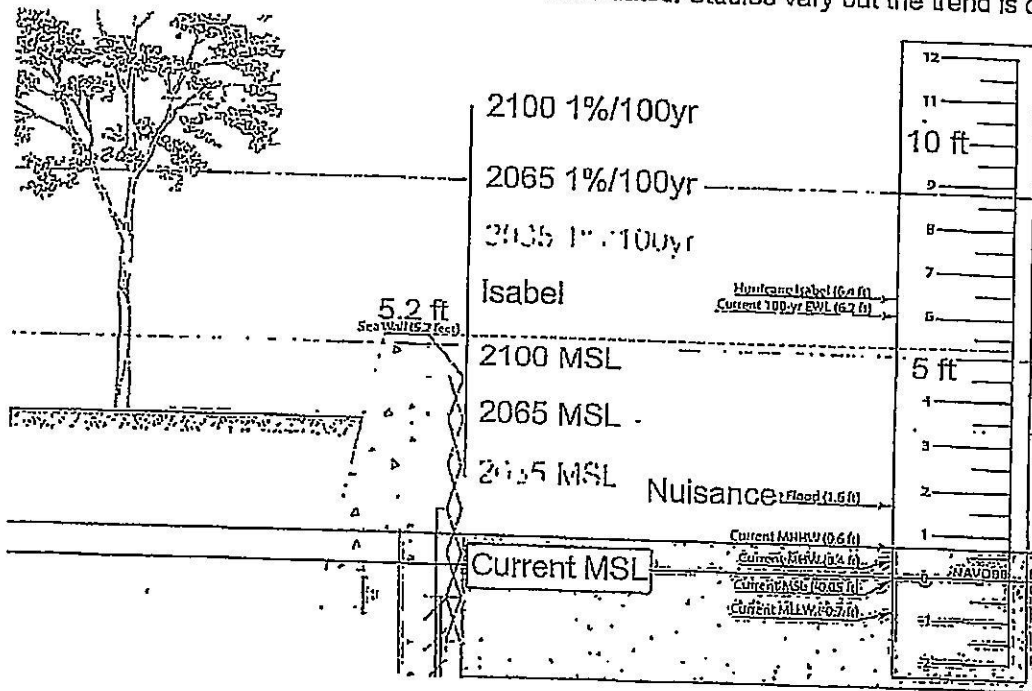


Exhibit 2. the recommended seawall is 5.2 feet above current MSL Future MSL and 100 year flood levels based on rising MSL are shown at three dates. Studies vary but the trend is clear.



# NOAA REPORT

## 2022 SEA LEVEL RISE TECHNICAL REPORT

### 1

#### THE NEXT 30 YEARS

Sea Level Rise along the U.S. Coast Line is projected to rise, on average, 10 -12 inches in the next 30 years (2020 – 2050), which will be as much as the rise measured over the last 100 years ( 1920 – 2020). Sea level Rise will vary regionally along US coasts because of changes in both land and sea level height.

Rise in the next three decades (to 2050) is anticipated to be, on average: 10 to 14 inches for the East coast .....

### 3

#### EMISSIONS MATTER

Current and future emissions matter. About 2 feet of sea level rise along the U.S. coastline is increasingly likely between 2020 and 2100 because of emissions to date. Failing to curb future emissions could cause an additional 1.5 to 5 feet of seal level rise for a total of 3.5 -7 ft by the end of the century (2100).