








Martha's Vineyard Beach Road Study

Working Group Meeting 1

Virtual Meeting | July 27, 2023 | 1:00 PM EDT



Zoom controls

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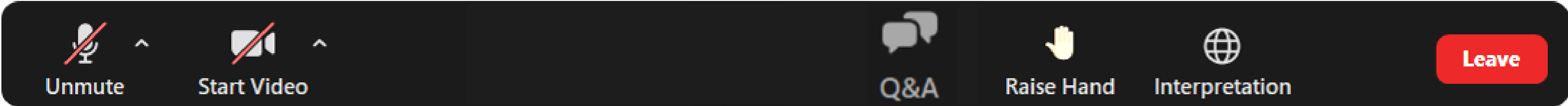
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Agenda

- 01 Working Group Expectations
- 02 Introductions
- 03 Needs
- 04 Goals
- 05 Process/Schedule
- 06 Next Steps
- 07 Discussion
- 08 Public Comment Period



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CHd0z44hTQc>

Working Group Ground Rules

- All participants are requested to listen to the opinions of others in an effort to ensure a constructive and productive discussion.
- Members of the Working Group are asked to make every possible effort to attend the meetings consistently. However, if members are unable to attend, they should let the study team know if an alternate representative will participate on their behalf.
- All Working Group meetings will be recorded.
- Working Group members are allowed to show video and may keep their video on or off during the meeting. Meeting staff may mute you or turn off your video if the audio/video becomes distracting.
- All participants are asked to turn their computer notifications off and mute their cell phones and other electronic devices during meetings.

Introductions

Please state your name, pronouns, and affiliation.



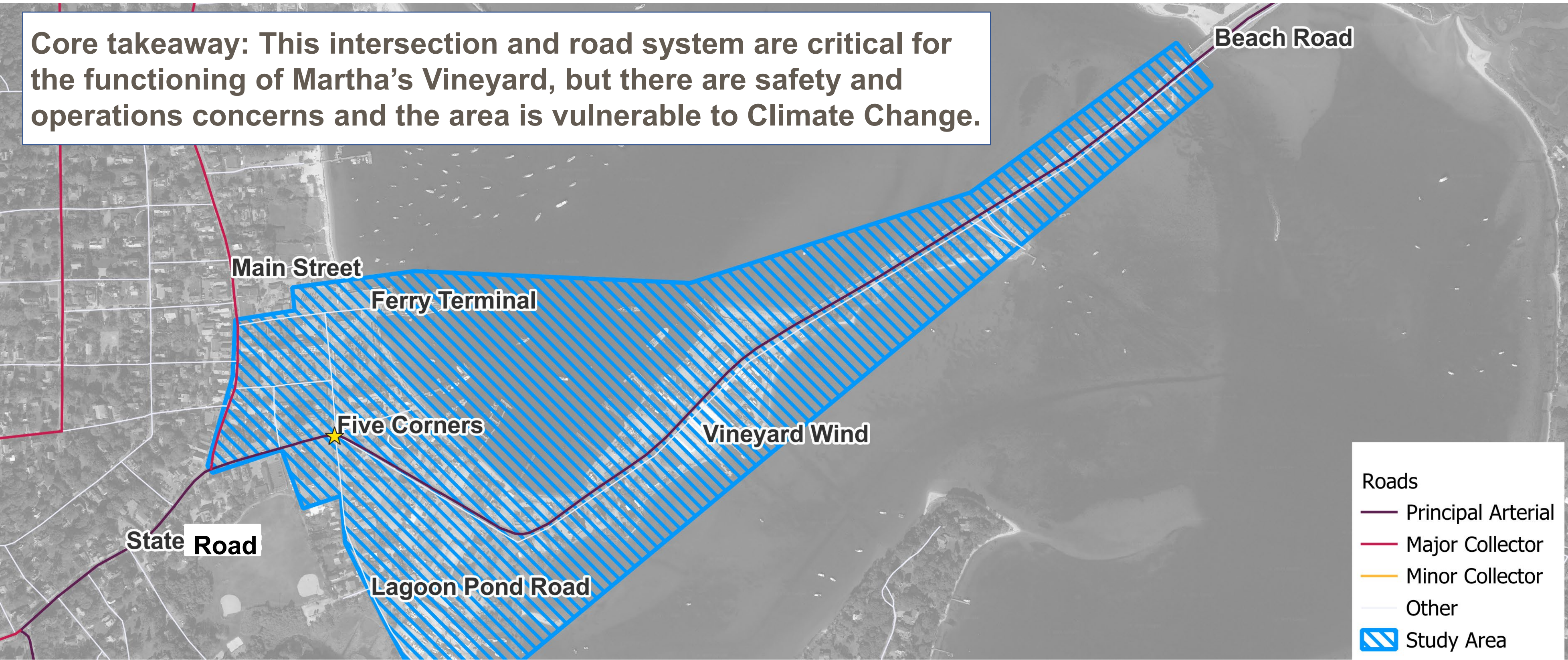
**Why was this
project
initiated?**

How did we get here?



Study Area

Core takeaway: This intersection and road system are critical for the functioning of Martha’s Vineyard, but there are safety and operations concerns and the area is vulnerable to Climate Change.



- Roads
- Principal Arterial
 - Major Collector
 - Minor Collector
 - Other
 - Study Area

Needs - Roadway

- **Five Corners accommodates:**
 - First responders (State Police and ambulances)
 - Buses
 - Bicyclists
 - Pedestrians
 - Local island traffic
 - Ferry traffic
 - Personal travel
 - Freight
 - Businesses
- **Intersection is not controlled and operates informally**
 - Operations require good sightlines and awareness
 - Two crashes causing injury at Five Points between 2018 and 2022, both involving a pedestrian or cyclist
 - 20 crashes causing injury in study area between 2018 and 2022, one fatal

Needs - Vulnerability

- **Rising sea level poses extreme vulnerabilities¹**
 - Sea level expected to rise between 1 and 4 feet by 2050, and between 1 and 6 feet by 2100.
 - Several areas on Martha's Vineyard (including Five Corners, and stretches of low-lying beaches, salt marshes, and properties) face high risk of submergence.
 - Critical infrastructure will be severely impacted, affecting the region's future suitability for commercial and residential use.
- **Drainage is a challenge in Tisbury**
 - Drainage solutions being considered for Veterans Park
 - Current outfall, located at the foot of Beach Road Extension, faces regular blockage issues due to debris
 - MassDOT's Highway Division evaluating drainage and stormwater improvements on the State Highway, including State Road, Beach Street, and a portion of Beach Street Extension.

2050 Storm and Tidal Flooding Map

"State of the Coast", Trustees of the Reservations, 2021.

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ce308a7514487000112e19b/t/611564b45c6d0876effbfdc1/1628792000156/SOC_2021_IslandsReport_Web+2.pdf



- Roads potentially flooded by 100-year storm flooding
- Buildings potentially flooded by 100-year storm flooding
- Buildings and roads potentially affected by daily/frequent tidal flooding
- Areas potentially affected by 100-year storm flooding
- Areas potentially affected by daily or frequent tidal flooding (MHHW)
- Current Shoreline

1. Data per 2021 *State of the Coast Report*, Martha's Vineyard Commission, Vineyard Conservation, and Tisbury Coastal Resilience Report.



**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Goals and Objectives

- Address **current and potential future flooding**
- **Involve local stakeholders**
- Consider impacts of the **Steamship Authority (including freight) and Vineyard Wind**
- Acknowledging and building on work done in 2015-2021, **evaluate roadway improvements** at Five Corners and on Beach Road to increase safety and comfort for all road users
- Develop **three conceptual plans** with high-level cost estimates



Scope-of-Work: Resiliency

- **Review prior work on resiliency in the study area (ongoing drainage project)**
 - Findings
 - Challenges
 - Further opportunities
- **Analyze exposure to flooding using statewide climate change projections and hazards data**
- **Identify/evaluate potential adaptation strategies**
 - Elevation of assets (and impacts to abutting property)
 - Hardening assets
 - Drainage and green stormwater
- **Develop design standards from MA Climate Resilience Design Standards Tool**
 - Recommended planning horizon (immediate and/or target)
 - Recommended return period
 - Applicable design criteria

Scope-of-Work: Complete Streets

- **Review prior safety work in the area (2015 RSA, Tisbury Drainage Project)**
 - Findings
 - Challenges
 - Further opportunities
- **Collect data from Steamship Authority, Town of Tisbury, MassDOT, etc. for:**
 - Pedestrians
 - Freight
 - Bicycles
 - Passenger vehicles
- **ADA compliance**
- **Crash analysis of Five Corners**
- **Sight distance analysis**

Scope-of-Work: Alternatives Analysis

- **Up to 3 concept plans for the study area to demonstrate resiliency, safety, and operational improvements:**
 - Resiliency countermeasures (elevation change, drainage)
 - Pedestrian accommodations (ADA, crosswalks, curb ramps, sidewalks, etc.)
 - Bicyclist accommodations (crossing controls, separated lanes, turning boxes)
 - Placemaking, wayfinding, landscaping, and signage
 - Geometric improvements
 - Intersection control
 - Reversing direction of one-way streets, possible varying with ferry schedule
 - Turn and parking restrictions
- **Minimize impacts to neighboring properties (manage Right of Way)**
- **High-level cost estimate with documented methodology and assumptions**

Our next steps



Collect and analyze existing conditions data
(July/August 2023)



Conduct site visit and sight distance analysis
(August 2023)



Next Working Group meeting in the Fall 2023 (likely early October) to review data collection and ongoing efforts



Public meeting in November 2023 to review study, existing conditions, and collect feedback



Develop conceptual alternatives
(Fall/Winter 2023-2024)

Final Working Group and Public meetings in the Winter 2024



Working Group Member Discussion

Prompts for Discussion

- In your opinion, what issues are most important for a successful project to address at this location?
- Are there developments or trends in the community around the Study Area that are important for this project to consider?
- Are there lessons from prior efforts at this location that are important for this project to consider?
- Do you have data that you believe would be useful to the project team?



**Public
Comment
Period**



Thank You

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