Meadow Street Flood Resilience Project Public Meeting

March 1, 2023 | 6:00PM | Branford Community House | 46 Church St | Branford, CT

The Meadow Street Neighborhood

Meadow Street is a low-lying street located between Hammer Field and the Amtrak railroad embankment. This road, Hammer Field and the surrounding neighborhood are exposed to flooding from the Branford River through the "Cattle Crossing" which is an underpass under the Amtrak embankment. The fact that the elevation of the low point on this road is just below Mean High Water (2.66 feet NAVD88) highlights the risk of flooding on the road. This neighborhood is within the FEMA-mapped floodplain and has experienced flooding from past coastal storms.
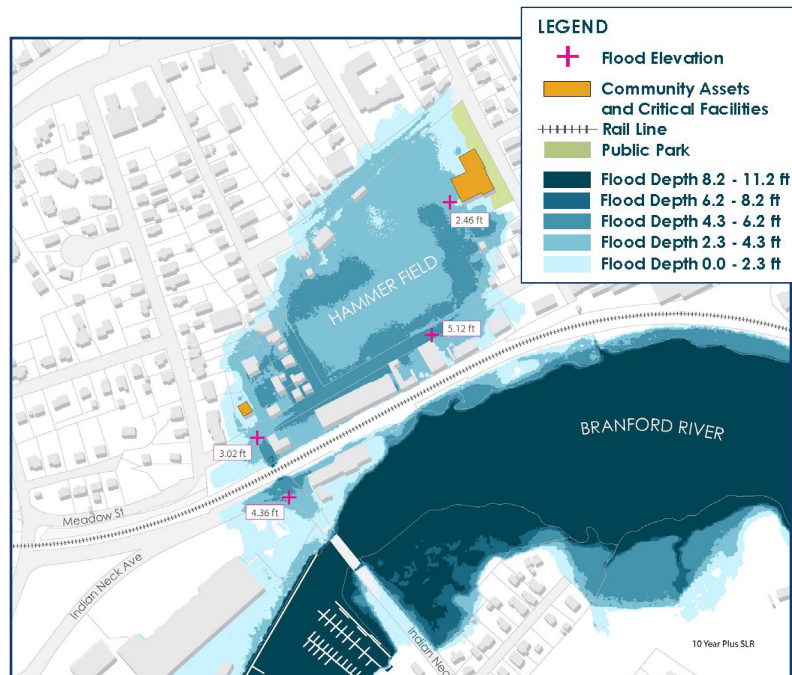
Rising sea levels are increasing the threats of flooding in this neighborhood. On the Long Island Sound shoreline, up to 20-inches of sea level rise is projected by 2050. The impacts of this additional water could be substantial. For example, a storm with a 10% probability of occurring in 2023 would only flood the underpass, however, a storm with the same probability of flooding in 2050 is projected to flood up to 35 residences, businesses, and municipal structures.

The Town of Branford is working with the Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) to develop a plan to reduce flooding risk in the Meadow Street neighborhood. This project is funded through a partnership between Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Connecticut Department of Housing (CT DOH) through the National Disaster Resilience program, and focuses on increasing the resilience and sustainability of communities along Connecticut's coast and inland waterways.

On March 1, 2023 at the Branford Community House, the Town and CIRCA will be conducting a workshop for the public to discuss flooding risks in this neighborhood and potential solutions being considered to control those risks.

The "Cattle Crossing" from Indian Neck Road

Projected Extent of Flooding for 10-Year Storm in 2050