



# Memorandum

**Meeting Details:** February 11, 2026

**Prepared For:** Mayor & Board of Commissioners

**From:** Megan Wepfer, Public Works Director

**Subject:** Area 9 Roadway and Drainage Improvement project discussion

---

## **Background**

The Area 9 Roadway and Drainage Improvement Project includes Bay Point Drive, Bay Point Causeway, and a portion of Pruitt Drive connecting to Sunset Cove. This project is a priority flood mitigation and resiliency initiative identified through the City's Watershed Management Plan.

This project will differ from previous roadway projects in that it will be the first City roadway project to include planned roadway elevation as part of the design.

As identified in the Watershed Management Plan, the consultant determined that the Area 9 roadway corridor can be elevated a minimum of six (6) inches without negatively impacting adjacent private properties. Upon completion of detailed surveying and engineering analysis, there is potential that additional elevation beyond six inches may be feasible.

Advanced Engineering, the proposed consultant for this project, is the same firm that completed the City's Watershed Management Plan. As a result, they have direct familiarity with the tidal influences, drainage limitations, and flood pathways affecting Area 9 and are well-positioned to advance the design efficiently while maintaining consistency with the adopted plan

## **PROJECT PURPOSE**

- Reduce roadway flooding caused by tidal influence and storm events
- Improve stormwater level of service through upgraded infrastructure
- Increase roadway resilience through strategic elevation
- Protect adjacent private properties and environmental resources

## **PROJECT SCOPE OVERVIEW**

The proposed scope includes full design, permitting, bidding, and construction administration services. Key elements include:

- Detailed Surveying with expanded limits beyond the right-of-way
- Refinement of the Watershed Model and stormwater level of service analysis

- Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) evaluating roadway elevation, stormwater piping options, and rehabilitation alternatives
- Stormwater system redesign, including new piping and evaluation of existing and proposed outfalls
- Seawall structural design along the Bay Point Causeway segment, including cap and tieback systems
- Environmental assessment to evaluate potential impacts to habitat and seagrasses
- Permitting coordination and applications with SWFWMD, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Pinellas County
- Community outreach, including public meetings and visual renderings
- Bidding and construction administration services through project completion

## **KEY PROJECT CONSIDERATIONS**

The following items highlight why this project requires additional coordination and analysis compared to previous roadway projects:

1. Expanded Survey Limits due to changing roadway elevation may require construction activities outside of the existing right-of-way. Survey limits have therefore been expanded to capture grades along the front of adjacent homes, whereas typical surveys stop at the right-of-way.
2. Resident Coordination and Permissions because the project may extend beyond typical limits, adequate time is included to coordinate with residents and obtain any necessary temporary construction easements.
3. Neighborhood Meetings to discuss the project- Staff anticipate two (2) neighborhood meetings to review the proposed improvements, address concerns, and discuss construction impacts.
4. Project Renderings- Visual renderings are proposed to demonstrate existing and proposed roadway conditions. These renderings will be critical in addressing concerns that roadway elevation could create a “damming” effect on adjacent properties.
5. Stormwater Improvements- Stormwater level of service will be achieved through new piping infrastructure. This requires additional modeling and evaluation of alternative pipe sizes and alignments.
6. New Outfalls and Permitting-New or modified outfalls will likely be required, triggering additional permitting through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Pinellas County.
7. Environmental Assessment-An environmental assessment will accompany the permitting process to ensure no adverse impacts to habitat or seagrasses.
8. Seawall Design-Seawall design along the Bay Point Causeway is proposed as part of the project to support roadway elevation and long-term resilience.
9. Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)-A PER will be provided outlining alternative stormwater piping configurations and rehabilitation options. This document will also address potential CCNA construction thresholds and inform future funding and procurement decisions.

This project advances the City’s strategic goals related to:

- Flood mitigation and climate resilience
- Protection of critical infrastructure
- Implementation of the Watershed Management Plan

The Area 9 Roadway and Drainage Improvement Project represents a significant advancement in the City’s approach to managing tidal flooding and roadway resilience. Utilizing Advanced Engineering, who completed the City’s Watershed Management Plan—provides continuity, technical expertise, and a deep understanding of Area 9’s tidal and drainage challenges, positioning the City for a successful and well-coordinated project delivery.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The total proposed design, permitting, bidding, and construction administration cost is approximately \$439,494, inclusive of survey, geotechnical, environmental, SUE, rendering subconsultants, and permitting fees. Construction cost estimates will be provided at subsequent design milestones

### **Recommendation(s)**

Staff recommend the Board of Commissioners Approve staff's recommendation to proceed with surveying, preliminary engineering, public outreach, environmental evaluation, and permitting for the Area 9 Roadway and Drainage Improvement Project utilizing Advanced Engineering as the design consultant.

### **Attachments**

- Advanced Engineering Area 9 Proposal
- Project Area Map