

**THE GREATER BOSTON HARBOR REGION IS FACING AN
EXISTENTIAL THREAT FROM STORM SURGE, SEA LEVEL RISE
AND STORM WATER AND WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME**

Presentation by BILL GOLDEN Boston Harbor Regional Working Group

Boston Harbor Coastal Flooding is an Existential Regional Threat that Requires A Regional Solution



CAUSES OF COASTAL FLOODING IN BOSTON HARBOR Municipalities

**There are Four Separate Phenomena that
Cause Climate Related Coastal Flooding in Boston Harbor**

*** Sea Level Rise**

*** Storm Surge**

*** Storm Water**

*** Subsidence**

STORM SURGE

- **Storm Surge is caused by extreme weather events such as Tropical Cyclones and Nor' Easters**
- **Storms are more frequent and getting stronger due to climate change**
- **Fourteen of the Fifteen Most Destructive US Storms in History have occurred since 2004**
- **Storm Surge Devastation Must Be Considered a More Urgent and More Devastating Threat than Sea Level Rise**

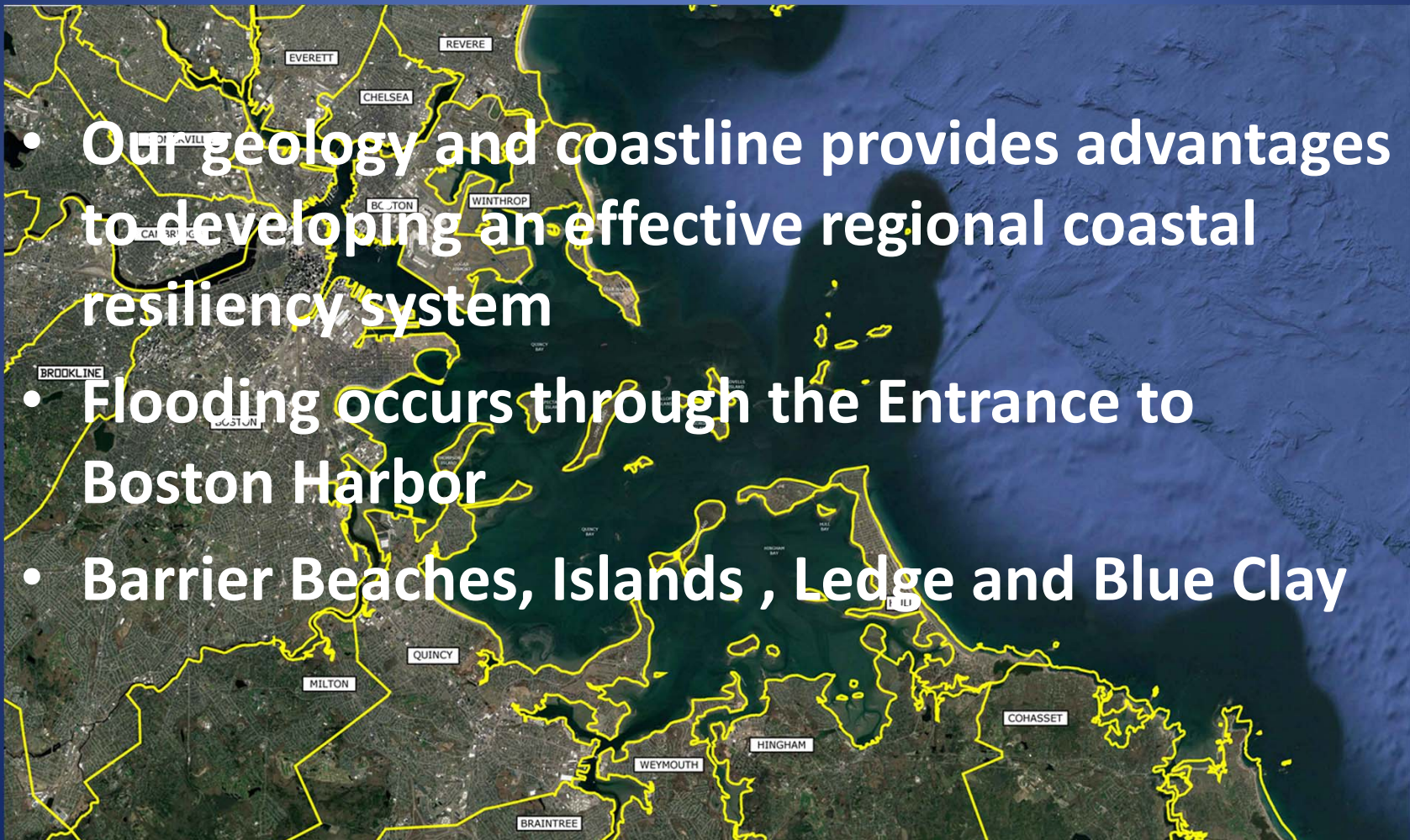
2018 NOR'EASTERS

A WAKE UP CALL

- The Entire Boston Harbor Region Was Impacted
- Public Safety and Security in All Coastal Communities
- Massachusetts Economy as well as the Region
- The Marine Ecology of Boston Harbor
- Our Social Justice Goals and Values

The Boston Harbor Region Has Viable Options For Protecting Our Coastal and Maritime Resources

- Our geology and coastline provides advantages to developing an effective regional coastal resiliency system
- Flooding occurs through the Entrance to Boston Harbor
- Barrier Beaches, Islands , Ledge and Blue Clay



Where Are We Today?

- **City of Boston: Land Based Infrastructure, zoning, building codes, short term protection for individual buildings**
- **Other Boston Harbor Municipalities focused on seawalls**
- **Need for Mix of Green and Gray Solutions**
- **No Regional Plan, No Long Term Plan, No Regional Advocate for Developing , Funding and Constructing A Regional System**



Urgent Need to Act

- **Imminent Threat of Continuing Storm Surge Devastation**
- **To Obtain Federal Funding Boston Harbor Municipalities We Need a Shovel Worthy Regional Plan and a governmental Institution with the authority and financing capacity necessary to implement a regional Master Plan**

CONCLUSION

- Coastal flooding in the fifteen cities and towns that flood through Boston Harbor is an existential regional issue that will require a multi billion dollar investment in coastal infrastructure
- To optimize federal, state and local funding Massachusetts must act now to develop a US Army Corps of Engineers acceptable “shovel worthy” regional master plan
- To obtain federal funding in a timely fashion, we must begin immediately to develop the institutional leadership capacity and a regional master plan with an in depth economic feasibility cost benefit analysis that includes protection for not only coastal real estate and land based infrastructure but also for our commercial and recreational maritime resources and activities