

President's Day Weekend Storm  
Community Meeting and Workshop  
April 17, 2017



# Meeting outline

1. Progress update on the City of San Jose's recovery efforts
2. Water district presentation on:
  - Weather situation leading to the Presidents' Day Weekend storm and flooding
  - Storm roles, coordination and winter preparations
  - Proposed solutions: short, intermediate and long term
3. Small group discussion
4. Report out from the small group discussions
5. Next steps
6. Staff available to answer questions



Winter of 2016-2017 was an extraordinary rainy season.



# District roles and responsibilities

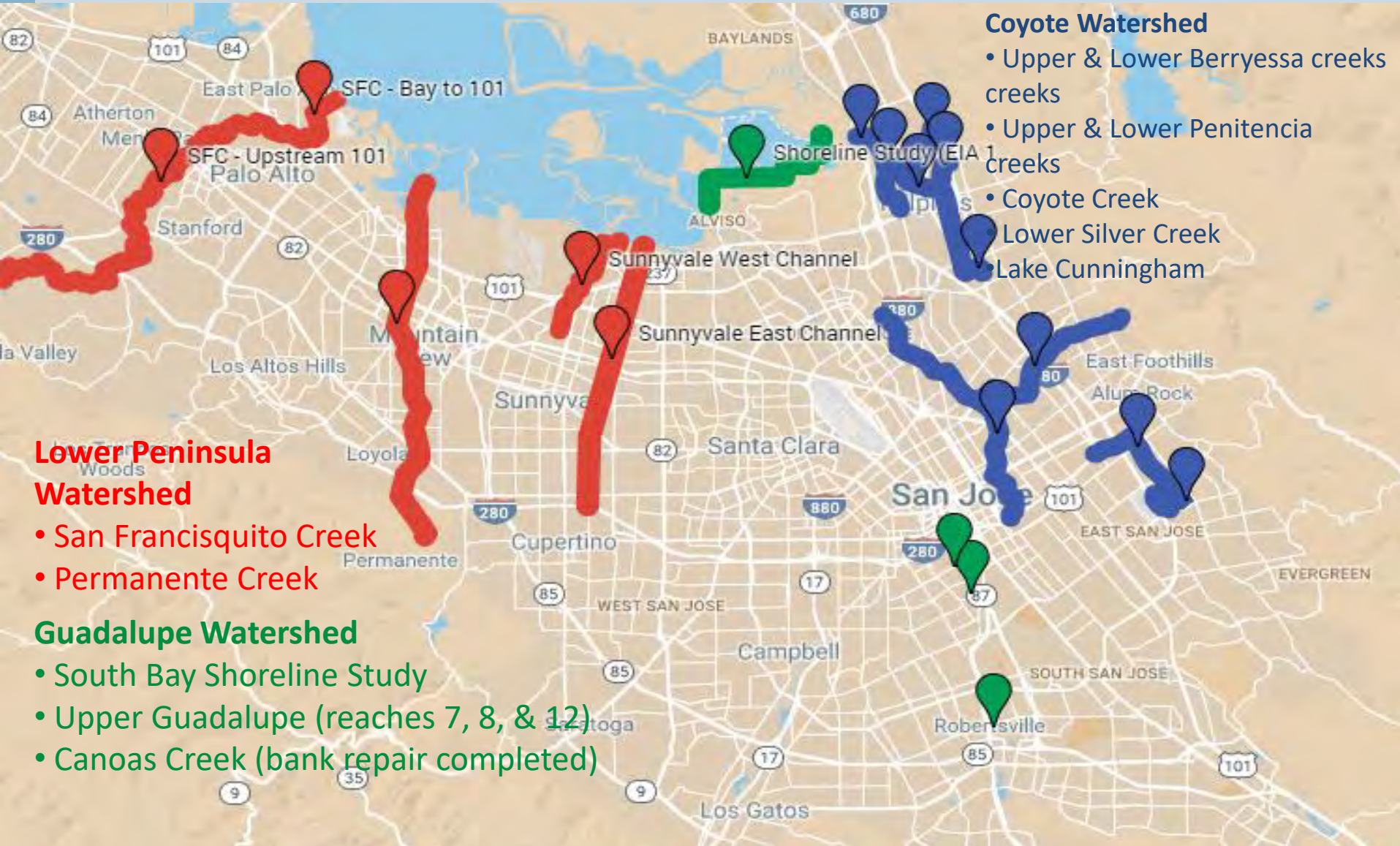
- ▶ Countywide District
- ▶ Infrastructure stabilization
  - 275 of the 800 miles of creeks
  - For Mid-Coyote Creek District owns less than 10% of right-of-way
- ▶ Monitor and assess information
- ▶ Activate emergency plans
- ▶ Share information



# Roles & responsibilities the water district is not engaged in

- ▶ Assess local conditions
- ▶ Inform public and first responder agencies about evolving conditions
- ▶ Direct police, fire, EMS, public works and other human services functions
- ▶ Initiate, communicate and carry out safety actions such as evacuations
- ▶ Provide care, medical services, and shelter

# Flood protection projects: planning, design, or construction





# Pre-season preparations: June – October



- 8,250 cubic yards of trash & debris cleaned
- 84,000 cubic yards of sediment removed
- Creek bank stabilization
- 5 acres of in-stream vegetation removed



# Winter preparedness: October - November



- Inter agency coordination
- Annual winter workshop
- Anderson Dam functional exercise
- ArkStorm tabletop exercise

- Pre-storm inspections
- Preventative maintenance
- Respond to field conditions





# Coyote Watershed

322 square-miles, including 16 major creeks



# Weather situation overview

- ▶ Series of atmospheric rivers back-to-back (~200% of average)
- ▶ Oroville Dam spilled
- ▶ In Santa Clara County 8 out of 10 dams spilled
- ▶ Second highest seasonal rainfall at Coyote Reservoir rain gauge since 1936



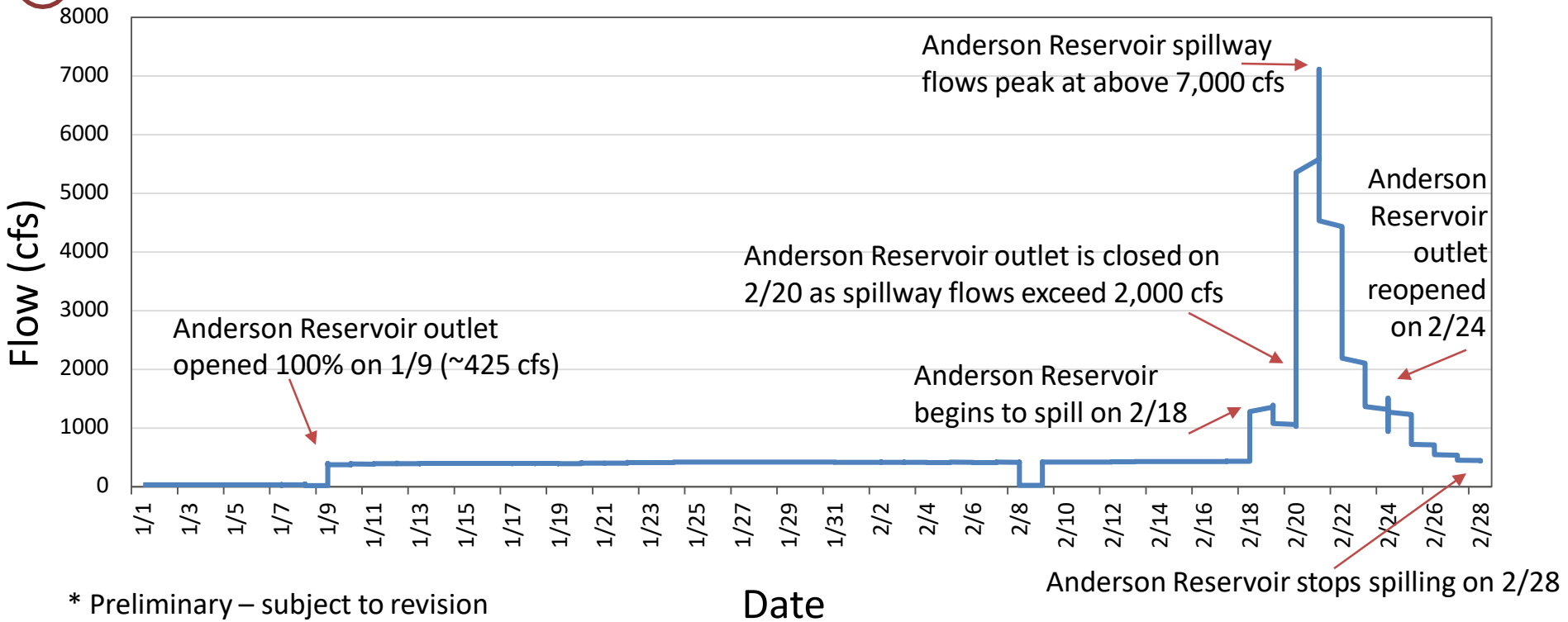


# Weather situation overview

- ▶ Less than half-full Anderson Reservoir filled to the brim in a month-and-a-half
- ▶ Record spill over Anderson Dam in its 67-year history and continued spilling for 10 days
- ▶ Record flood water level
- ▶ Coyote Creek Edenvale Stream Gauge
  - ▶ Tuesday, Feb. 21                      13.7 feet
  - ▶ Previous Record (1922):            12.8 feet

# Coyote Creek Flows: 1/1 – 2/28

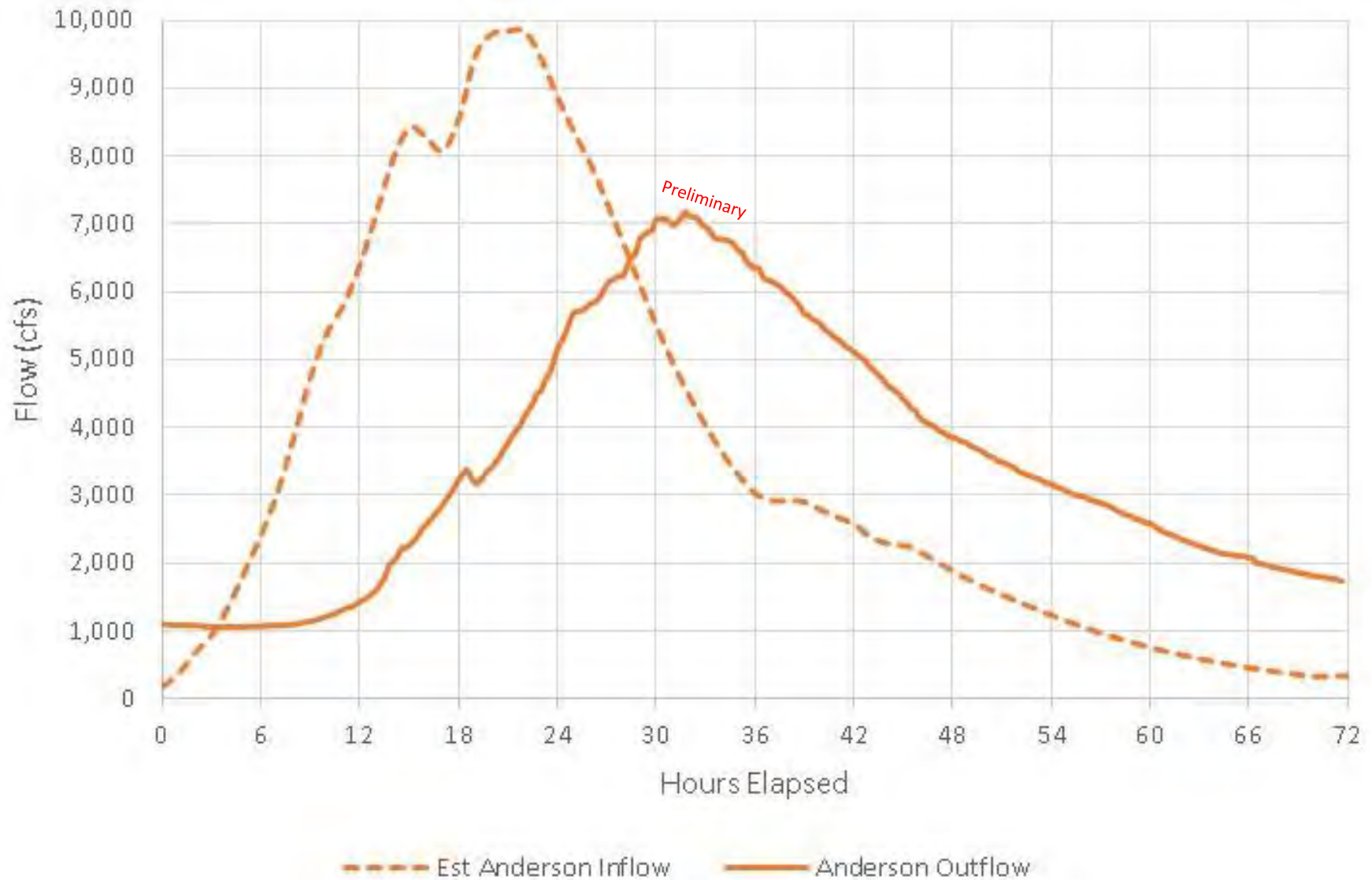
## 6 Coyote Creek at Madrone Streamflow Gauge (ALERT gauge 5082)\*





# Anderson reduces peak flows

SUBTITLE



# Storm coordination – Feb. 8-17, 2017

- ▶ 4 Operational area conference calls
  - ▶ Updating stream forecasts & gauge data
- ▶ Coordinating calls with San Jose Feb. 14 & 15
- ▶ National Weather Service (NWS) webinars
- ▶ Information via WebEOC and emails:
  - ▶ Overtopping location map and list
  - ▶ Ownership/jurisdiction maps
  - ▶ 7,300 cfs inundation maps



# Storm Arrives – Feb. 20-21, 2017

- ▶ District crews check hot spots, remove debris from bridges, repair facilities
- ▶ Continued coordinating calls with San Jose and other agencies, San Jose staff member imbedded in District EOC
- ▶ Coyote Canal repaired
- ▶ Flood information teams dispatched. Hydrologists calibrating gauge information

# Actions, collaboration, & proposed solutions

## Short Term

### 1. Emergency Response Planning:

- Joint emergency action plan (EAP) with City of San Jose
- Improvement of the ALERT website for Coyote Creek
- Install additional streamflow gauges and stage indicators



Example of a water height stage indicator.

### 2. Flow Improvements:

- Non-native vegetation removal
- Continued vegetation and sediment maintenance in improved sections of creeks



Sediment removal.

Note: creek flow improvements can only be conducted if they do not worsen or induce flooding downstream.



# Actions, collaboration, & proposed solutions

Flood risk reduction actions to be considered by Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors

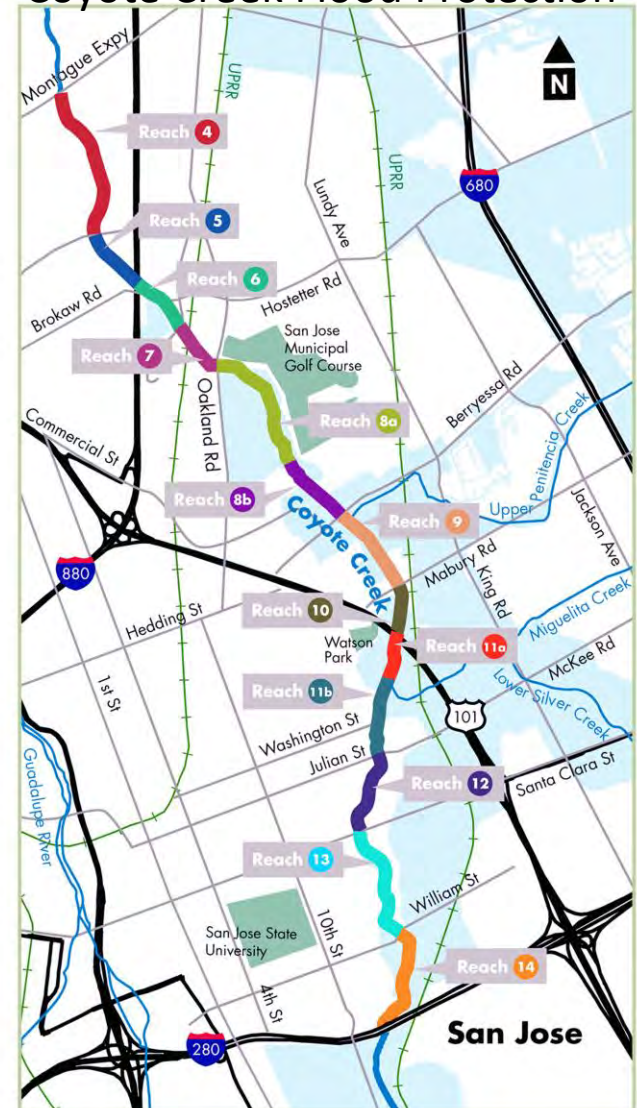
Short Term:

- Immediate and implementable flood relief solutions
- Permittable and do not cause flooding elsewhere

Intermediate to Long Term Measures:

- Update Mid-Coyote Project planning study
- Utilize local funds and seek state and federal funding to complete construction

## Coyote Creek Flood Protection



# Group discussion

## Questions:

1. What do you want the water district to know about the flooding?
2. What questions do you have for the water district?
3. How would you like to receive information about future storm events?

## Group report out:

1. Share what was discussed in your group with the rest of attendees.

# Next steps

## Response follow-up

- Written answers to the questions asked at all three meetings will be provided in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese
- Provide us with your contact information
- Responses will be posted on water district website [www.valleywater.org](http://www.valleywater.org)

## Questions

- If you have other questions, please fill out a comment card or send an email to [floodsafe@valleywater.org](mailto:floodsafe@valleywater.org)
- Water district staff is available to answer questions



# Meeting Summary

Thank you for your questions, time and participation as we discussed:

1. Recovery efforts
2. Extraordinary rain conditions of January and February
3. Storm preparations
4. Proposed short, intermediate, and long term flood safety solutions