



Project Overview: Resilient Connecticut Phase III Pilot Project - Resilient Stratford South End

Project Origin: Over the past few years, the Resilient Connecticut project, which is being led by UConn's Connecticut Institute for Resilience & Climate Adaptation (CIRCA), conducted extensive analysis and outreach to identify the highest priority "Resilience Opportunity Areas" in Fairfield and New Haven Counties. Stratford's South End was one of the top 20 priority areas and was subsequently selected as one of seven pilot projects for the third phase of Resilient Connecticut. The South End neighborhood and Lordship Boulevard Commercial/Industrial Area of Stratford were both assessed to have high current and future flood risks and identified as critical priorities for the Town of Stratford in its [community resilience plan \(2016\)](#). As Stratford has moved forward with implementation of the recommendations from the plan, several flood mitigation projects have been pursued with the goal of creating a town-wide flood protection system. However, challenges and barriers to implementation have stalled some strategies from the plan. In particular, potential interactions between the Great Meadows salt-marsh, key state highway segments managed by CT DOT, and operations related to Sikorsky Airport, have created challenges for permitting and negotiating consensus solutions that would allow the Town to move forward with a flood protection strategy, while minimizing negative impacts to neighboring land uses in the South End.

Resilient Stratford South End Scope of Work: This planning and conceptual design effort will (1) include a detailed review of the proposed South End and Lordship Boulevard Commercial/Industrial Area flood mitigation strategies from Stratford's community resilience plan, (2) provide an assessment of ongoing implementation challenges, and (3) recommend updated or alternative strategies that can be developed as feasible projects with federal and state grant eligibility that will maximize the Town's resilience goals for the South End community and Lordship Boulevard Commercial/Industrial Area. Alternative strategies may include but are not limited to: revisions or alternative alignments of key flood protection segments; site-scale flooding accommodation strategies for critical community assets; additional road and infrastructure elevations to support the creation of resilient corridors; green infrastructure or nature-based strategies to improve open space for flood management; and/or combinations of the above to create buffers and multiple layers of resilience for the continued long-term viability of the South End and Lordship Boulevard Commercial/Industrial Area. Adaptation alternatives and implementation planning that are identified and carried forward to conceptual design will incorporate the Resilient Connecticut [PERSISTS criteria](#). This project is led by GZA and their subconsultant Dodson & Flinker, CIRCA, and the Town of Stratford. The project will be completed by the end of May 2023.

Location: The geographic boundaries for this planning effort include Lordship Boulevard Commercial/Industrial Area and the South End Neighborhood, from the intersection of Surf Avenue and Lordship Boulevard (including commercial/industrial areas to the south of Lordship Boulevard) to Access Road ; Access Road from the intersection of Lordship Blvd. to Main Street; Main Street north to the intersection of Stratford Avenue; Stratford Avenue to Route 95; and Route 95 from the Stratford Avenue underpass south to the Surf Avenue exit ramp. More detailed maps of the project area can be found at [Stratford-South-End ROAR-Map-Portfolio.pdf \(uconn.edu\)](#).

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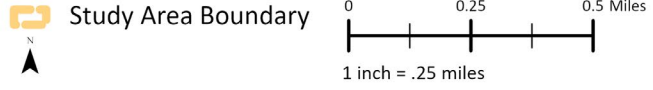


DODSON & FLINKER
Landscape Architecture and Planning



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Resilient Stratford South End - Study Area Map



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