

My name is Janice Pinto. I live at 112 Rodney Ave in Lewes DE. I am a retired Health Science teacher and have been fortunate to study at the UD CEOE for 10 years. I am an ocean science geek and beach bum.

From the scientists at Sea Level Rise.org whose mission it is:
to enlighten and enable elected officials to implement widespread solutions to sea level rise.

we know that:

Delaware's Sea Level Is Rising

The sea level off Delaware's coast is 4 inches higher than it was in 1956. This increase is mostly due to land sinkage and ice melt. Solutions in Delaware can be complicated because all 3 counties and over 50% of the state's cities are at risk and need solutions for sea level rise and flooding.

What's the Future of Sea Level Rise?

In the last decade, the speed at which Delaware's sea level is rising has increased and is now rising by as much as 1 inch every 10 **years**. Around Reedy Point, it took 35 years for the sea level to rise around 6 inches. Scientists now forecast that in the next 14 years, the sea level will have risen by another 6 **inches**.

What's at Risk in Delaware?

There's a lot at risk from sea level rise and flooding in Delaware, particularly because the state has the lowest mean elevation in the U.S. This puts the state's 381 miles of shoreline at great **risk**. Sea level rise is already causing Delaware to lose one acre of tidal wetlands every **day** and based on current projections, the state could face losing 11% of its land mass due to beach erosion, which is progressing at a rate of over 3 feet per **year**. The Delaware Estuary is also at great risk, which supports over 500,000 jobs with over \$10 billion in wages annually.

Thank you to LPC and City Council for your recognition that the City of Lewes Flood Report is a dynamic baseline tool. Thank you for recognizing the need to have further storm water management consultation so that a more complete set of data is available for your decision regarding the Fishers Cove application.

We believe that "planners are stewards of the city". We appreciate and respect your work. Our coastal sister city of Virginia Beach says...STOP THE FLOODING NOW. We ask you to Stand with us as we say : Stop the threat of flooding now.

In our household on Rodney we experienced hydrostatic pressure flooding pushing up our basement floor and bending a vertical support beam and costing many thousands of dollars in damage, and that was WITH an intact flood plain. It was very frightening to live through that. And now we are threatened by an intrusion and removal of that protection by altering the flood

plain that protects us. This is a direct threat to our health and well-being, our neighbors and our homes. And it is unnecessary, and we believe immoral.

I believe the purpose of our laws and regulatory procedures is to protect existing citizens of Lewes, not real estate developers and sales people.

For years the flood plain on that property has protected the surrounding neighborhoods.

Please help us not to flood...we need protection. The destruction of this environmentally sensitive flood plain impacts the habitability of the entire city of Lewes. We believe we are worth saving and we need your help.

We have people from all over Lewes standing with us, the Concerned Citizens of Rodney, Hoornkill and Friends...they tell us they care because they see flooding, they have never seen before. As more land gets covered, the water has no place to go. This is not a Rodney and Hoornkill and Pilottown issue. It is a City of Lewes Issue.

This is a defining moment in Lewes.

The editorial from the Cape Gazette June 4, 2019 tells us "Get ready now for hurricane season." In it we are reminded that Sussex county is rapidly losing the marshland and open space that once absorbed stormwater and tidal flooding. The Cape Gazette urges everyone to prepare now to handle a major storm event. At the same time, it says, we urge officials to place greater emphasis on determining how future development will affect the resiliency of our region. New developments remove land that once absorbed stormwater and increase the threat of flooding they are warning us about. That is what is happening here regarding Fishers Cove.

We are not against development. We encourage smart, responsible development. I am sorry that Tim Tice, Justin Healy, Chris Schell, fine young men I assume, spent their money on a flood plain that must be left intact to protect our lives and homes.

As a retired teacher or science geek who has been studying at UD CEOE for 10 years now, I put my faith in science. I believe in the concept of NAI No Adverse Impact. The summary statement in the State Floodplain Infrastructure Guide:

As a nation, we continue to build at-risk structures in or near floodplains, yet we don't spend as much time or effort considering the adverse impacts of these developments on adjacent properties or elsewhere in the watershed. The minimum standards we follow today are resulting in increasingly difficult flood issues and higher flood risk to our communities and its citizens.

"Insisting that landowners internalize the negative externalities of the conduct is a hallmark of responsible land use-policy" Justice Samuel Alito in the majority opinion for the US Supreme court.

I put more faith in the Supreme Court and science than I do in one of Schell's ad campaigns.

"Kindness Rocks incentive. It Pays to be Kind. The challenge: At Schell Brothers we think kindness rocks! So, in 2019, we're challenging you to pay it forward by spreading encouragement and inspiration to others! Dream Big...."

I DREAM of a time when citizens of Lewes and public and elected officials stand tall and say "enough"....decisions from now on will be made in favor of the health and well-being of our citizens and our decisions will reflect protection of them and their property against flooding.

This is my dream.