

project has been proposed and revised numerous times since it was initially discussed by the Georgia Department of Transportation in 2011, before the adoption of the plan.

Completion is one of the biggest challenges of plans like Tybee Island's. Gambill emphasizes that plans are just that – plans. “They need to be implemented and they need to be updated. They can't just sit on a shelf and be good for the next 10 years.” Since Tybee was one of the first communities in the Southeastern US to adopt a plan, they are now the first community revising and updating their plan just five years after its adoption. Climate change is a dynamic ever-changing process and the sea rise level plans must also be dynamic to mitigate the hazards.

Gillen agrees. “I'm not a climatologist. I don't pretend to understand sea level rise, or how you measure it. But I look at the data from the experts that says at the Fort Pulaski tidal gauge, there are more frequent, higher tides. Is this an anomaly or a trend? I don't know. All I know is we need to deal with it.”