

Emerging Galveston

The earth is experiencing rapid climate changes, and rather than distance ourselves from those changes, we must invite them and adapt to them. Galveston will be underwater at some point in time and it is crucial to start thinking of how to react to the inevitable. In addressing this issue, modular design may be the best approach for Galveston due to its extensive grid layout of its existing streets. Modular design allows for quick construction in emergency scenarios. The design proposal for Galveston comes in 3 phases.

Phase 1 introduces the floating modular palettes to Galveston before significant flooding occurs. This will allow residents to familiarize themselves with this future construction for the city through an observation bridge made from the floating palettes. The observation bridge will be located near the Moody Gardens, offering recreational activities for the people.

Climate reports show that sea levels near Galveston are rising roughly an inch per year. This means in 30-40 years, water will start to enter the city from the bay side where there is no sea wall currently. Having no means of defending itself, the two feet of water will stay and not dissipate, so how do we adapt?

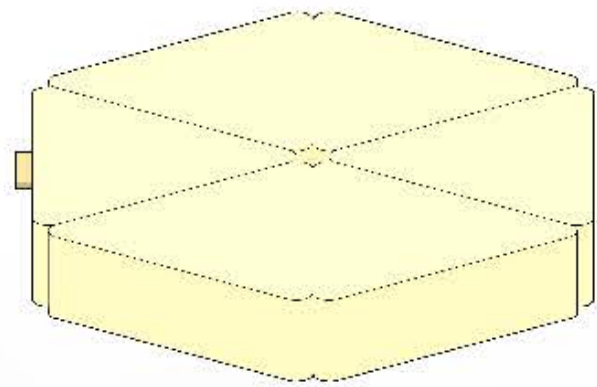
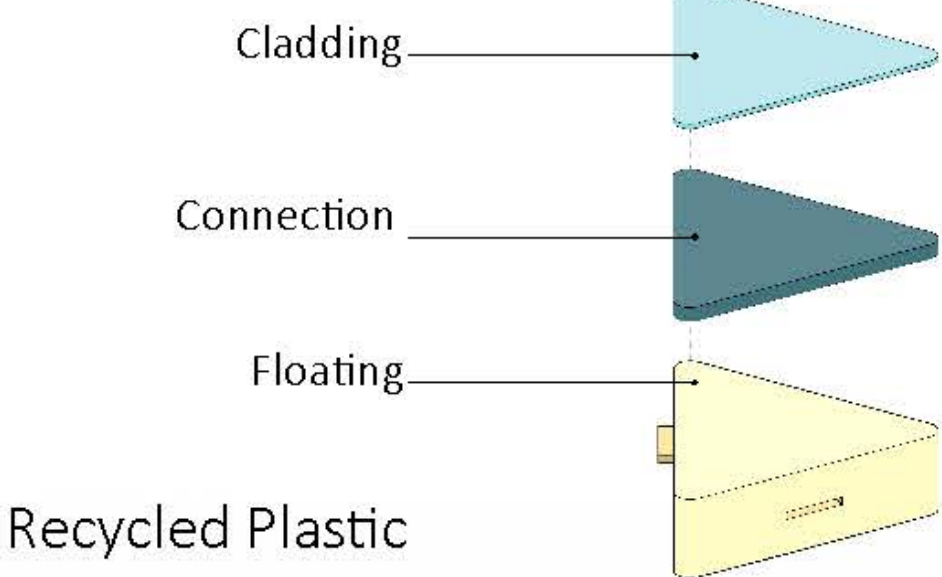
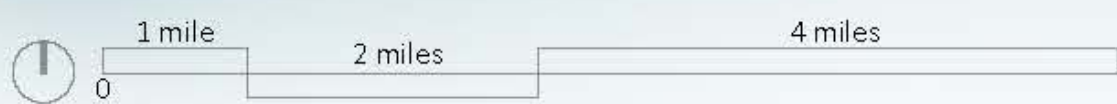
Phase 2 addresses this by reintroducing the floating modular panels that will become the new streets. These modules can be assembled quickly and customized to the neighborhoods affected. People who have strong ties to Galveston are given an opportunity to stay. Rather than fear the water, embrace it and adapt.

Phase 3 looks at the near future for the next generation in which streets and the use of cars will become obsolete in Galveston as water levels continue to rise along with the modules. First floors on pre and post 19th century construction will be uninhabitable, and second floors of buildings will become the new first floors. New construction will form with the help of the floating modules, and both the people and city will continue to live on.

Phase 1 | Introduction
Near Moody Gardens
Water level 0 feet

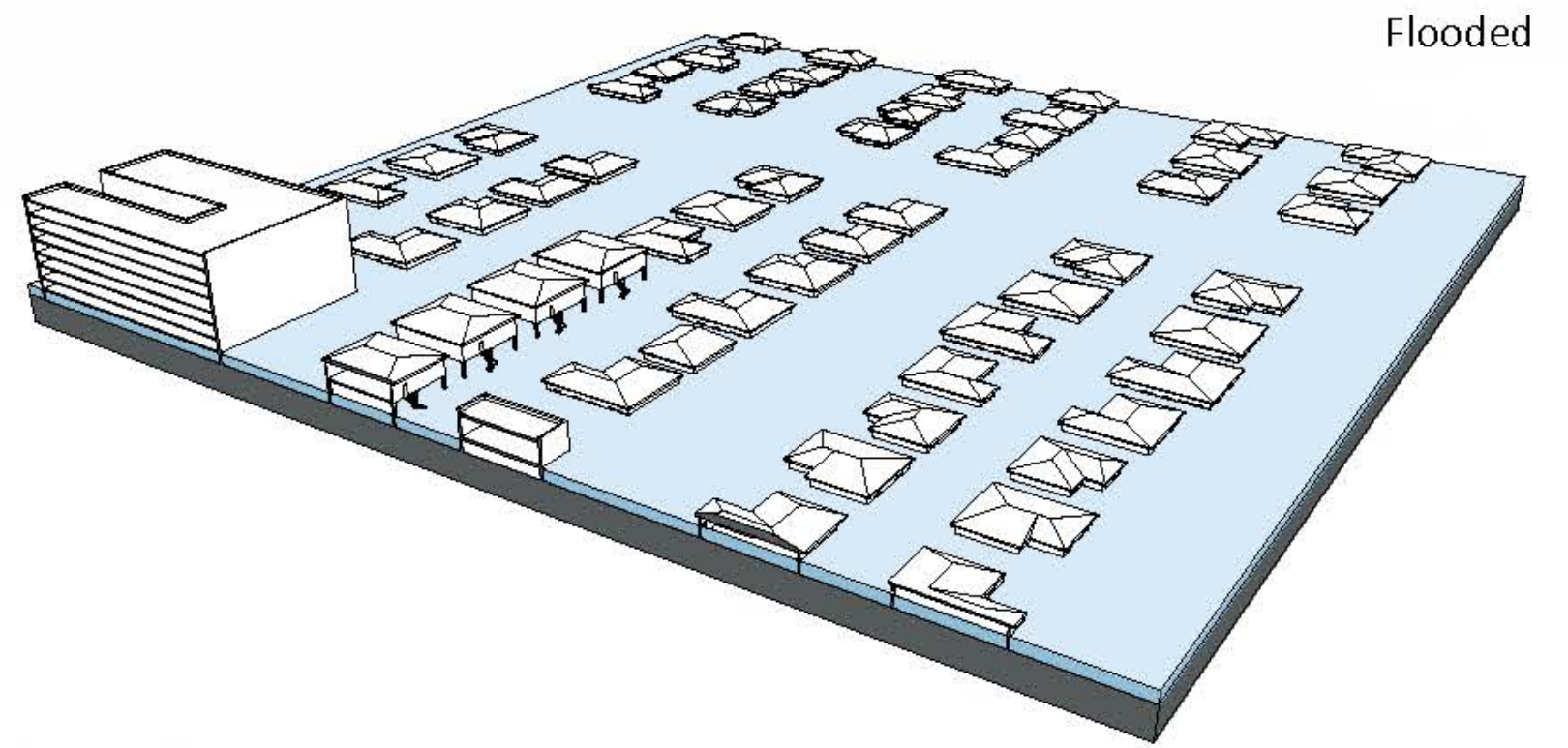
Phase 2 | Adapt
South Galveston Residential
Water level 2-3 feet

Phase 3 | Future
Downtown Galveston
Water level 8-10 feet

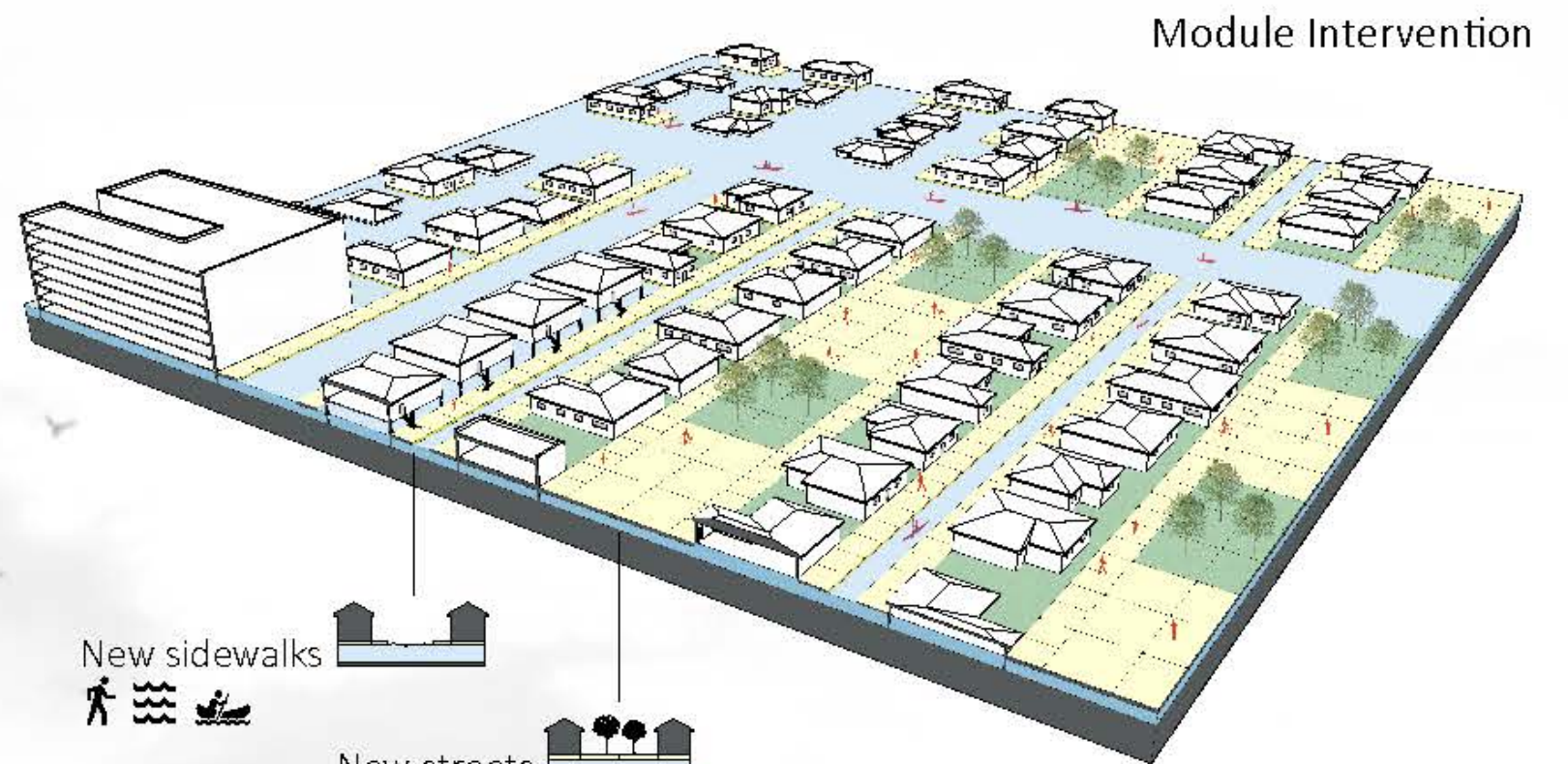


Triangle module shown (used in Phase 1)

Hexagonal configuration



Flooded



Module Intervention

