The Galveston Bay area in Texas is at particular risk of sea level rise (SLR) induced hazards because of its unique geography and geology, including relatively high subsidence rates due to mineral and groundwater extractions. SLR is an exceptionally difficult public policy problem because beaches have a dynamic nature while laws are static. This study examines the effects that various development policies could have on community resilience. Using the Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model (SLAMM), the possible effects of SLR under five development policy scenarios are examined in four regional subsites that each represent a different natural and built environment. The policy scenarios are “no dikes” which serves as a control and employs no shoreline protection, business as usual which models the current situation regarding development and armoring, green infrastructure which shows what may happen if living shorelines were used instead of dikes, shoreline armoring which describes the armoring of the entire coastline, and organized retreat which simulates potential impacts of SLR if people removed structures and moved inland away from the rising seas. Coastal habitats and their ecosystem services are hypothesized to be most reduced under the armoring and business as usual scenarios due to coastal squeeze. Initial results indicate that over 700 hectares of developed land just in Surfside Beach, TX would be inundated under 1.8m of SLR by 2100 in a business as usual policy scenario. Action should be taken immediately to develop policies that foster resiliency and avoid the worst outcomes for both human and non-human communities in Galveston Bay. This work is part of a larger study on living with sea level rise along the Texas coast.