

Newburyport Resiliency Committee (NRC) October 18th 2018 Meeting

Attendees Michael Morris, Jon-Eric White, Molly Ettenborough, Julia Godtfredsen, John O'Connell, , Lise Reid, Barry Connell, Joe Teixeira, Bill Mullen.
Absent: David Chatfield, Christopher LeClaire, Donna Holaday and Chris Boelke

NRC Mission Statement

The Newburyport Resiliency Committee will analyze, coordinate and develop a plan in conjunction with regional planning efforts to increase community resilience related to sea level rise, storm surge, flooding and extreme weather events throughout the city. Further, the committee will advocate for and oversee implementation of the plan's recommendations

Agenda

- Approval of September 20th minutes
- ☐ Review of outstanding action points from previous meetings
- ☐ Review of draft plan sections - Michael Morris
- ☐ Review of Grants and funds progress - Julia Godtfredsen
- ☐ Any other business

Previous minutes and review of previous meeting action points

Minutes from September 20th 2018 approved.

The status of action items from previous meetings is

- Kathleen Theoharides Asst. Sec. Climate Change will be contacted to determine the rules relating to MVP grants particularly timing of next round of funds, ability to have more than one grant in operation at a time etc. **Complete**
- Information on distribution of electricity and gas will be requested from National Grid and the City electrician – Requested but information not released due to security concerns.
- A link to hazardous material map to be provided. – **Complete**
- A link or a summary of the City Emergency Response Plan was requested. – Chief LeClaire.
- Committee members are asked to send Mike Morris their feedback – **Complete**
- Further feedback on the revised resiliency plan spreadsheet should be sent to D Chatfield – **Complete**
- The action spreadsheet will be revised based on input received by October 9th – **No further actions at this time**
- Circulate the one pager on items to be included in the request for Environmental Bond Bill items for additional review. - **Complete**
- The approach to releasing these funds for the Clipper City Rail Trail will be discussed with the Mayor. – **Complete**
- The list of potential MVP projects will be issued for further review. **Complete**

- A list of talking points regarding Waterfront West based on this discussion and input regarding CA 40 targets will be provided to the Mayor. – **Complete**

Resiliency Plan Write up

A revised target date for a draft report by January 1. A presentation and discussion will be held with the City Council in early 2019 and then the report will be finalized. At that time a presentation to the public will be considered.

The action list was discussed and how Mike will write up the prioritized list. Mike will use the Great Marsh plan info.

JEW said we cannot publicize underground gas and electrical infrastructure. The discussion covered how to obtain the information regarding redundancy so that it can be reviewed from an emergency perspective. Barry will be with Ngrid next week and will check on this. - **B. Connel November 1**

The vulnerability assessment will be pulled from Great Marsh report and the MVP. The city will be divided into regions and then within the regions a discussion of hazards. The hazards will be the ones from the MVP i.e. sea level rise, storms, CSO, wind, heavy precipitation, flooding, weather extremes, insect borne diseases. There is a need to tie into standards to the greatest extent possible. Graphics should be from existing sources with the objective of making accessible and understandable. Other hazards have been mentioned in the "Overview".

Grants and Funds

The various grants and funds for resiliency plan implementation were reviewed.

- MVP Implementation Grant \$122,000 WWTF . No further update.
- National Fish and Wildlife Grant –An application has been made for PI dune and eco system protection.
- Environmental Bond Bill >\$1,000,000 for storm surge protection, drainage and sewer infrastructure upgrades and storm water retention. The Governor has signed the bill.
This subject was discussed by the Mayor with the Lieutenant Governor earlier in September. Circulate the one pager on items to be included in the request for Environmental Bond Bill items for additional review. No further update
- The Environmental Bond Bill also contained a provision *that not less than \$750,000 shall be expended for coastal shoreline [SEP]stabilization, [SEP]polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCB, removal and storm surge protection of the [SEP]Newburyport Clipper City Rail Trail for redesign and construction along the Merrimack river;* [SEP]The Mayor has drafted a letter to request the release of funds.

- The issue of obtaining further MVP grant funds was discussed. J Godtfredsen issued a draft list of potential projects for review. The list was discussed.
- Funds have been obtained from Mass DOT for installing a road bordering Bartlett Spring pond that will protect the water supply from Sea level rise and storm surge. Jon Eric reported that the design is done and construction will start in Spring 2019 once the bridge contractor has cleared the site and an order of conditions is approved by the City. No change?
- The Mayor identified FEMA grants and the feasibility of obtaining the grants was discussed.

AOB

The Mayor / Molly presented a follow up on the Waterfront West project and also the checklist that Boston uses.

Jon Eric handed out a rough sketch on what level the building grade should be. This came up during Barry's question as to what the committee will be recommending for any new developments particularly NED. And that there is some urgency to this. A subcommittee was recommended by Molly and Barry and agreed to by the group. Jon Eric, Bill, Mike Morris, and John O'Connell will meet on their own to come up with their "logic" on what the restrictions/requirements could be recommended for NED and potentially any waterfront development from here on in. They will bring to our next meeting for discussion by the whole group. Barry thinks we need something by December. Julia- perhaps you should connect with Andy Port on this as well. **Action:**

Resiliency Plan Actions

Michael Morris will develop an approach regarding actions based on areas of the city

Green Expo

Molly mentioned the Green Expo project which will be held on April 11 from 4-8pm. The Resiliency Committee may be asked to present its plan and also host a table for public informational purposes.

Next Meeting: Thursday November 29th 3:00 pm (was changed from Nov 15)