



Village of Suffern
NY Rising Community Reconstruction
Program

Public Engagement Meeting #1

Tuesday, July 22, 2014

6:00 PM, Village Community Center



Welcome

Planning Team

- **State Representatives**

- Suzanne Barclay – GOSR Regional Lead
- Lori DuBord – Regional Lead Support
- William Harding – NYSDOS Planning Lead
- Barbara Kendall – NYDOS Planner

- **Planning Committee**

- Members: Beth Barone, Joel Kanasky, James Lyons, Bruce McClintock, Daniel McInerney, Dina Schmidt, Bruce Simon, Roy Tschudy and Trish Abato (non-voting member)

- **Consultant Team**

- Project Management: Chris Robbins and Flaam Hardy (AKRF)
- Engineering: Jaclyn Hakes, Sarah Quandt, Michael Pianka (MJE)
- Senior Planners: Lisa Nagle and Susan Rivers (Elan)
- Public Engagement Specialist: Allie Zamow and Michael LaPick (ACS)



Agenda

- Welcome
- Overview of NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program (NYRCCR)
- Project Timeline
- Report on Progress to Date
 - Geographic Scope
 - Storm Damage & Critical Issues
 - Vision & Goals
 - Community Asset Inventory
- Community Break-out Sessions





Overview of NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program (NYRCR)

NYRCR Program

- The NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program (NYRCR), developed by Governor Cuomo, is a community-driven initiative that will empower localities severely damaged by Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, or Tropical Storm Lee to develop comprehensive and innovative recovery plans.



NYRCR Program

- Empowers localities severely damaged by Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee to “build back better”
- Culminates in a community-driven recovery plan for Suffern that:
 - Considers current damage, future threats, and economic opportunities
 - Identifies resilient and innovative reconstruction projects



Funding

- Community Development Block Grant–Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)
 - \$4.4 billion throughout NY State
 - \$664 million to NYRCR Program
 - \$3 million of NYRCR funds to Suffern
- Funds used for recovery efforts involving
 - Community Planning and Capacity Building
 - Housing
 - Economic Development
 - Infrastructure Systems
 - Health and Social Services
 - Natural and Cultural Resources



NY Rising Community Reconstruction Plan

- The NYRCR Plan must be prepared by December 2014
- The plan will be developed by a committee comprised of nine (9) residents
- Regular input from the public will be sought
- Existing plans and studies are used as the foundation for the plan
- Assistance from state officials and a team of planning consultants



Overview of the Process

Goal: Identify innovative, transformative projects and actions that enhance resilience and economic development

- Determine Geographic Scope
- Establish Vision and Goals
- Describe Storm Damage and Risk Areas
- Identify Assets
- Assess Risk to Assets
- Assemble Needs and Opportunities
- Coordinate regionally
- Develop Resiliency Strategies, Projects and Actions
- Formulate projects with a focus on CDBG-DR funding
- Prepare cost estimates and finalize “Project” list
- Generate Draft and Final NYRCR Reconstruction Plans



Elements of the Final Plan

- Community Overview, Geographic Scope, Storm Damage, Critical Issues, Community Vision, Relationship to Regional Plans
- Description of Assets, Risk Assessment, Needs and Opportunities
- Resiliency Strategies
- Project Profiles
- Additional Resiliency Recommendations



Role of the Community

- 10 Planning Committee Meetings
- 4 Public Engagement Events
- Rationale
 - Bottom up approach
 - Ensure the Plan meets community needs
 - Shape and inform the Plan
 - Inform and educate residents and stakeholders
- Roles
 - Meeting planning, logistics and facilitation (AKRF)
 - Communication with the public (Committee)





Public Engagement and Goals for Today

Public Engagement Timeline

- Four Public Meetings
 1. Community input on vision and goals, geographic scope, critical issues, storm damage and community assets
 2. Community input on needs and opportunities, strategies, and projects and actions
 3. Community input on proposed projects, draft plan components presented
 4. Share Final Plan and next steps
- Final NYRCCR Plan due December 5, 2014



Staying Involved

- Opportunities for Public Participation
 - Committee Meetings
 - Public Meetings
 - Live participation
 - Feedback forms (after meeting/take home)
 - NY Rising Website
 - <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/nycrcr/community/suffern-village>



Goals For Today

- Sharing the Planning Committee's progress to date
 - Geographic Scope
 - Draft Vision & Goals
 - Draft Community Asset Inventory
 - Storm Damage & Critical Issues
- Getting your input
 - Community Vision
 - Community Assets
 - Storm Damage & Critical Issues





Geographic Scope



Vision Statement & Goals

Draft Vision Statement

Suffern is a quaint, resilient, easily accessible community dedicated to building back better. We are a united community that works together to maintain our quality of life, small town charm, multi-modal transportation options, educational framework and cultural attractions as investments in future generations. We are dedicated to restoring, redeveloping and revitalizing our downtown, infrastructure systems, and our natural resources that make Suffern a unique, historic and vibrant place.



Draft Goals

- Preserve community character to maintain small town charm
- Revitalize downtown businesses and protect from future storm damage
- Enhance infrastructure and storm water systems where needed
- Continue high level of emergency services and enhance physical access to neighborhoods
- Protect and clean Lake Antrim and the Mahwah and Ramapo Rivers
- Promote and enhance cultural attractions to bring people into the village
- Build closer working relationships with neighboring communities and the State of New Jersey to address flooding issues that do not respect municipal boundaries.





Community Asset Inventory

Asset Classes

Natural/Cultural
Resources



Infrastructure
Systems



Health/Social
Services



Socially Vulnerable
Populations



Economic
Development



Housing





Economic Development

Sample Assets

- Downtown Center
- Grocery, Restaurant, Bank and Storefront
- Tourism Destinations and Lodging
- Industrial, Warehousing, Manufacturing and Storage



Committee Suggestions Include

- Casskeeper Landscaping, Inc.
- Crystal Car Wash
- Vacant Buildings (Rainbow Vacuum)
- Novartis Pharmaceuticals Parking and Storage
- Avon Research & Development
- Others?





Housing

Sample Assets

- Single- or Multi-family Housing
- Mixed-Use Housing
- Supportive Housing
- Affordable Housing

Committee Suggestions Include

- Squires Gate
- Berkley Square Apartments
- Wayne Ave/Lake Antrim Residences
- Memorial Drive Residences
- Knolls of Ramapo/Montebello Rd
- West Ward
- Others?





Natural and Cultural Resources

Sample Assets

- Water Bodies, Wetlands and Marshes
- Natural/Significant Habitats
- Parks and Recreational Facilities
- Libraries, Museums and the Arts
- Historic Landmarks
- Religious Establishments



Committee Suggestions Include

- Horton Memorial Field
- Suffern Baseball Complex
- Suffern Memorial Pool
- Donna Hallett Park
- New Toddler Park
- Others?





Infrastructure Systems

Sample Assets

- Telecommunications
- Wastewater and Stormwater
- Transportation (pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle)
- Liquid Fuels (gas stations/oil depots)
- Water and Power Supply



Committee Suggestions Include

- Water Supply System
- Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Various Road
- Multiple Bridges/Underpasses
- Commuter Parking Lot
- Electric Power Supply
- Others?





Health and Social Services

Sample Assets

- Schools
- Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities
- Daycare/Eldercare
- Government/Administrative Services
- Public Works Facilities
- Emergency Operations/Response



Committee Suggestions Include

- Good Samaritan Hospital of Suffern
- Montebello KinderCare
- Richard P Connor Elementary School
- Sacred Heart School
- Suffern Fire Companies
- Suffern Presbyterian Church (Shelter)
- Suffern Village Hall and Police
- Tender Loving Care
- YMCA - Y's Beginnings





Socially Vulnerable Populations

Examples

Services for the following:

- Disabled
- Low/very low income
- Elderly
- Young Children
- Homeless or those at risk of becoming homeless

Committee Suggestions

- Christ Episcopal Church
- Esther Gitlow Towers
- Others?





Critical Issues & Storm Damage Input

Critical Issues

- Emergency Access
- Streambank Erosion
- Road Closures
- Inundation of Critical Facilities
- Flooding in Residential Neighborhoods
- Business Closures
- Loss of Power



Storm Damage Areas

- Squires Gate Development (Lonergan Drive)
- South Street (near Pump station)
- Lake Antrim Area, Memorial Pool
- NYS Route 59
- Water and Waste Water Treatment Plants
- Ball Fields
- Knolls of Ramapo
- Montebello Road
- West Ward





Community Break-out Sessions

Break-out Stations

- Background/Process
 - Learn more about NY Rising and the committee
- Geographic Scope
- Community Vision
 - Ensure that your vision for the community's future is portrayed
- Community Assets
 - Help us identify and prioritize community assets
- Storm Damage & Critical Issues Input
- Photo Booth
 - Provide your input on the Village

