



Living with the Bay

Rebuild by Design

March 28, 2017 CAC Meeting

**Living with the Bay
Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting #5
March 28, 2017
The Knights of Columbus
2985 Kenneth Place, Oceanside, New York 11572**

Meeting Summary

The fifth meeting of the Living with the Bay (LWTB) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was held on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at The Knights of Columbus in Oceanside. Forty-six (46) citizens attended the meeting including ten (10) CAC members, staff from the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR), Tetra Tech staff, and members of the public (see sign-in sheet attached).

CAC Member Attendees

The following ten (10) CAC members were present:

- Joe Forgione, Co-Chair
- David Stern, Co-Chair
- Andrew Miller
- Daniel Caracciolo
- Thomas Rozakis
- Raymond Pagano
- Linda Marshall
- Jay T. Korth
- Leslie Price
- Brien Weiner

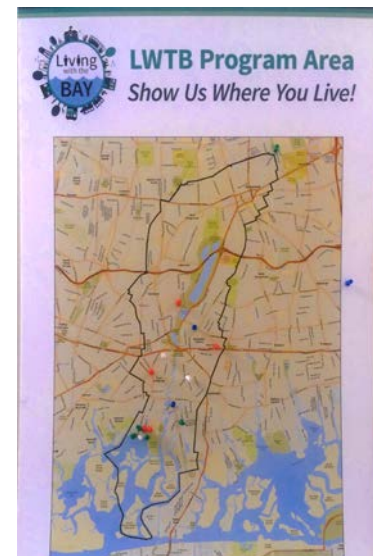


Figure 1. Geographic distribution of meeting attendees.

(Members that were not present include: Amy Wolf, William Faraday, Arthur Mattson, Daniel Horn, Gregory Rinn, Shelley Brazley, James Loglisci, Jim Ruocco, Joseph Landesberg, Justin Corbo, and Steven Ruscio.)

Introduction

Laura Munafo, LWTB Project Manager for GOSR, delivered welcoming remarks and briefly introduced the purpose of meeting. She welcomed CAC Members and thanked them for their consistent participation and community support. Ms. Munafo introduced Michael Bomar of Tetra Tech, GOSR's contractor for development of the LWTB Resiliency Strategy Plan. The LWTB program area expands from south of the Village of Hempstead to the Bay in East Rockaway.



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Mr. Bomar introduced fellow Tetra Tech colleagues – Russ Dudley, Hope Herron, and William Arya – all of whom committed to stay after the meeting to answer additional questions. Mr. Bomar welcomed everyone and reviewed the anticipated agenda for the evening, which included the LWTB update, recap of last meeting, activities since last meeting, Seatuck Environmental Association presentation, the roll out of the LWTB prioritization methodology used to prioritize projects (the main focus of the meeting agenda), and the project look ahead.

LWTB Resiliency Strategy Update

Mr. Bomar explained that Tetra Tech's goal is to prepare a master plan with a series of projects addressing certain objectives. Tetra Tech is working on the methodology to prioritize projects. Forty projects need to be prioritized. Mr. Bomar then reviewed the program goals of the resiliency strategy and how these goals interact with the goals established by HUD, Rebuild by Design (RBD), and the original LWTB application objectives for the project. The LWTB methodology framework to be presented later in the meeting addresses these goals and overall objectives.

Goals of the Resiliency Strategy:

1. Increase Community Resiliency (includes flood mitigation)
2. Provide Educational Opportunities
3. Create and Improve Public Waterfront Access
4. Restore Environmental Health
5. Preserve Quality of Life

Three Overall Objectives:

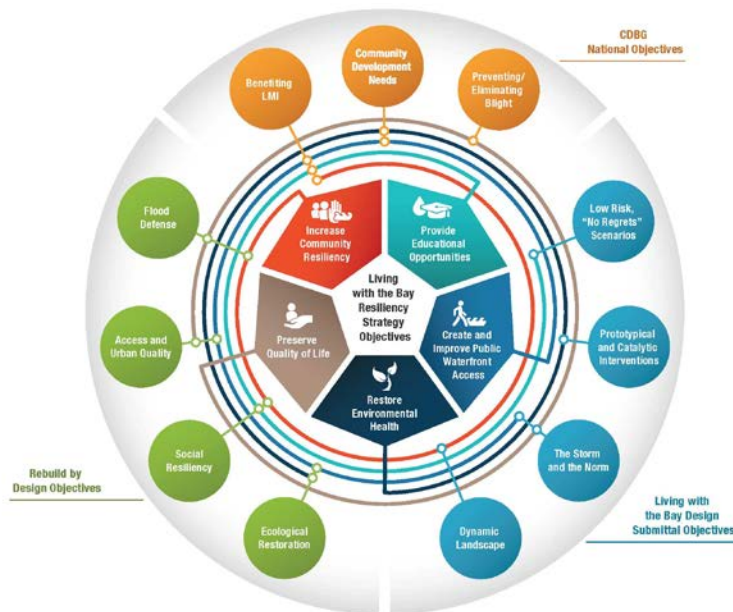
1. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Funded CDBG National Objectives
 - Benefiting Low to Moderate Income (LMI) Areas
 - Community Benefit Needs
 - Preventing/Eliminating Blight
2. Living With The Bay – Design Submittal Objectives
 - Dynamic Landscape
 - The Storm and the Norm
 - Prototypical and Catalytic Interventions
 - Low Risk “No Regrets” Scenarios
3. Rebuild By Design Objectives
 - Flood Defense
 - Access and Urban Quality
 - Social Resiliency
 - Economical Restoration



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Recap of Last CAC Meeting #4 - February 28, 2017

Mr. Bomar mentioned that more than 80 problem areas were identified within the program area as presented at the last CAC meeting and reviewed the seven problem types:

1. Tail water Backup
2. Inadequate Collection
3. Poor Conveyance
4. O&M of Facility Inadequate
5. Shoreline / Marshland Erosion
6. Water Quality
7. Tidal Surge – Sandy type

The program schedule was reviewed and future phases discussed. A list of prioritized projects is scheduled to be presented at the June and July CAC meetings, which will approach finalizing the resiliency plan.

Activities Since Last Meeting

- 3 GOSR Briefings
- GOSR is drafting the Action Plan Amendment (APA)
- The team has completed the problem area identification and condensed 80+ problem areas that might be connected or duplicated - narrowing problem areas to 40 projects.

Ongoing Outreach Events

- NYS Parks
- Nassau County
- Town of Hempstead
- Village of Rockville Centre



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- Village of East Rockaway
- Operation Splash
- Seatuck Environmental

Seatuck Environmental Association Presentation

Enrico Nardone of the Seatuck Environmental Association, is a member-supported 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to conserving Long Island wildlife and the environment. The organization pursues its mission by 1) employing a multi-pronged approach to various wildlife conservation projects, and 2) offering high quality environmental education opportunities for Long Islanders of all ages. Seatuck's educational outreach includes work at three nature-based public education facilities in Suffolk County. The organization is based at the Suffolk County Environmental Center in Islip. It operates through a partnership with the Suffolk County Department of Parks. Seatuck also manages the South Shore Nature Center in East Islip through a partnership with the Town of Islip. That location offers outdoor programming at the Sherwood Jayne Farm in East Setauket through a partnership with the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities (SPLIA).

Seatuck's overall contribution to this project is to create a biological base line and advance the conservation policy of Mill River. Seatuck reaches out to schools to do one-day projects such as, *A Day in the Life of the Mill River*, where students conduct biological assessments and test for contaminants, such dissolved oxygen and nitrates. Seatuck also conducts public nature walks so the citizens and can learn and appreciate the natural history of Mill River. Future examinations and observations will be duplicated and the findings reported back to GOSR.

Seatuck discussed the discovery of migratory fish at the Smith Pond Spillway. Valuable information like this will be considered and protection for their habitat may be part of final design projects. A fish ladder, for example, could be provided so that the natural spawning process is not interrupted by manmade structures. Seatuck has a contract with the state that includes a two-year survey and other educational programming. Seatuck uses many volunteers and works with other nonprofits for much of their work.

LWTB Prioritization Methodology

Mr. Dudley stated that approximately 40 initial potential projects have been identified and need to be prioritized but noted that all of the projects will cost more than the available funding. The methodology approach will help determine which projects get funded and will identify other funding that might help pay for the projects. He then walked through the project prioritization methodology in detail. Mr. Dudley defined the project prioritization metrics that determine the project prioritization criteria and that its part of the resiliency strategy objectives. He explained that the first three pillars of (1) Cost, (2) Benefits and (3) Risk and Vulnerability are engineering functions and will be addressed by Tetra Tech. The second two pillars – (4) Synergies and (5) Social Resiliency – are where the team is looking to engage and receive feedback from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and CAC committees.



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Five Pillars of Prioritization Framework:

1. Cost – estimated project cost, estimated cost contingency, project lifespan
2. Benefits – flood reduction, water quality and ecosystem, habitat
3. Risks and Vulnerability – health and safety, reduced risk to natural hazards and future adaptability
4. Synergies (TAC Focused) – dependencies, critical infrastructure, leveraging funds
5. Social Resiliency (CAC Focused) – improved quality of life, support to community heritage, environmental education opportunities

Mr. Dudley stated that the RBD competition was intentionally underfunded. The purpose of the competition was to develop an overall framework which allows the community stakeholders to contribute by utilizing resources that have already been identified or seek supplemental resources. Residents noted concern that the funding would only go to the north and funding may not be available for the southern portions of the project area. Ms. Munafo stated that projects will be prioritized by benefit, cost, value, etc. and not by geography.

Closing and Looking Ahead - The Next 60 Days

In closing, Mr. Bomar explained that project prioritization would occur in the coming months. By the June and July CAC meetings, the LWTB projects will be identified and prioritized in the project area.

Public Comments and Questions

Question – What is RBD and LWTB?

RBD is Rebuild by Design. This is the overarching design competition for New York State. That competition was evolved into two projects that are part of Living with the Bay (LWTB). The first project was awarded for Staten Island and the second project for Long Island.

One audience member asked how much of the \$125 million is left to address project prioritization. Ms. Munafo stated that will be addressed when Tetra Tech addresses the project prioritization framework since cost of projects is one of the pillars. The large majority of the money has not been spent.

Everyone was encouraged to fill-out, hand-in, or mail-in the public comment form. Public comment forms were available and distributed at the registration table as well as available on the GOSR Website at <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov>.

Next Steps - Future Meetings

The next CAC meeting will likely be held in May in The Village of Lynbrook to continue revolving the CAC meeting locations throughout the LWTB program area.