



Meeting Minutes

City & Town of Amsterdam, Town of Florida

Planning Committee

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Centro Civico, 143-145 East Main Street, Amsterdam NY

Attendance: (See sign in sheet, Attachment A)

Agenda: (see Agenda, Attachment B)

Agenda Item: Risk and projects
Zebrowski, John Wimbush

Presenters: Jaime Ethier, Amy Mahl, Nicole

Summary of Discussion:

- Discuss risk associated with projects
 - Review of CDBG funding criteria
 - Introductions – Jaime (Kevin retiring)
 - Next Public Engagement Meeting (number 3)
 - Priority Project Review:
 - o protection of assets
 - o project ranking
 - Refresh on assets and emergency response – inventory done in fall 2013 with needs to operations
 - Send out Rising to the Top criteria flyer to the team.
-

- Regional Project: Montgomery County Office Building Protection: 600K – discussion on how to allocate funds. Committee questions why this project is still included if the County now will have its own reconstruction plan.

City of Amsterdam:

- Emergency Shelter locations – 2 locations, estimated at \$150 total. Agreed that at Microsociety Magnet School a generator needs to be permanently installed.
 - South Side Medical Support: reduce this project cost from \$400K to 100K. Each medical trailer is approximately \$6k, supplies for trailers will come to approximately \$25K, one truck to haul the three trailers at \$90k. Committee discussion wonders if this should be a regional project and contributed to by all. St. Mary's representatives will have to inform whether these services will be made available to Town of Florida where the trailers will be situated.
 - South Chuctanunda Creek Bank Stabilization: Amsterdam City Engineer feels the cost should be lowered from \$900K to \$300k. Planning team to discuss reasons for lower estimate with City Engineer.
 - Dove Creek Restoration: Listed at \$4.5 million but the City is unsure where these funds coming from? The cost for the project and funding confirmation was listed in a Governor's press release.
-

- Amtrak Station Relocation: The next step for this project that could be proposed for this plan is a detailed site plan following the currently ongoing site selection process. The City will be pursuing a USDOT TIGER, grant for construction. For this plan, the City is not looking for funding to move the station, just a detailed building and site plan once the site is determined.
-

- Amsterdam Riverwalk – discussion / no changes proposed to this project.
- Waterfront Heritage area: Suggestion to remove from proposed projects list. The heritage area would have a connection to future Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook Amsterdam, lead to economic improvement and increased tourism along waterfront. Perhaps incorporate sustainable (permeable) parking which is needed in the area. The Mohawk Valley Gateway Overlook was subject to a reduction in funding and this resulted in the artistic and historic features being pulled out. How can we come up with funding to put this back in the project?
- Abandoned building program – The former Carpetland building is condemned. Reduce to \$150k for demolition of the building, and \$150k for creation of parkland, permeable parking, green infrastructure.
- Route 5 Stormwater reconstruction – discussed that this was a “someday” DOT project – but there were no funds for it. Corrected the location from east to west end of the City – wondered if it should be a featured or other project – to emphasize it as a future NYSDOT project. Planning team to discuss with Richard Miller, the City Engineer, and double check information received from McDonald Engineering (City’s consultant).
- Amsterdam City Park: Additional City projects discussion– need to show how these locations provide permeable pavers or green infrastructure to deal with soak in area. Include south side parking lot and underutilized land. Amphitheatre just west of Guy Park recreation area, Lock E-4’ is still in concept phase, how can this project design deflect flood waters and serve to support economic development or slow water down?

Town of Amsterdam

- John Wimbush NYS DOS Planner sat with the Town of Amsterdam Committee members.
 - Establish Emergency Shelter at Town Hall: Reduce cost from \$350K to \$50K – this project only needs a generator; handicapped access already installed. Make this second priority project, after Floodplain Buffers.
 - Stormwater Improvements – Midline road -\$1.2 million – County and Town will have to coordinate work.
 - Culvert repair– Can the Town construct their top three priority projects and then select as many culverts as possible for the remainder (assumed \$4 million)?
 - Restore Storm Infrastructure to Chapman Drive: Replace and enlarge worst culvert on Chapman at the country road. The culvert under Route 5 and CSX is also undersized. This may be a maintenance concern. The Town feels the drainage system is undersized and this causes backups –Downstream of CSX tracks.
-

-
- Heather –will get us info on Chuctanunda trail if she can. Tom Blanchard NYSDEC – call to discuss dam removal/rehabilitation at Pioneer St.

Town of Florida

- Fort Hunter Flood Mitigation should come first, then the Hamlet Drainage improvements, followed by the abandoned and damaged homes program, the enlarging of undersized culverts (ongoing by town).
-

Agenda Item: Public Outreach, Next Steps

Presenter: Amy Mahl/Nicole Zebrowski

Summary of Discussion:

Next Public Meeting - Saturday 22nd — Main Street Arts center, to be held at the same time as the Public Meeting for Riverwalk Feasibility Study.

Public Remarks

No members of the general public attended the meeting

ATTENDEES

Name	Phone	Email
See attached sign in sheet		