



Meeting Notes

Planning Committee Meeting

October 1, 2014, 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Town Hall, Horton Road, Blooming Grove, NY

Attendance:

Town of Blooming Grove Steering Committee:

Richard Bachman
Perry Ragusa
Jay Beaumont
Carl Takiakjian
Carl Gilbert
Lorraine Tomassi

NY Rising

Lori DuBord

NY Department of State

Lisa Melville

Public

Valarie Prunty

Tetra Tech, Inc.:

Emily Slotnick
Caitlin Kelly
Susan Roth

Town of Blooming Grove

Johanna Kiernan, Town Board
Robert Fromaget, Supervisor

Agenda Item: Welcome/Notes/Future Meetings

Presenter: Tetra Tech/Slotnick

Summary of Discussion:

1. Emily Slotnick welcomed everyone to the meeting. Meeting notes from the committee meeting held on September 17th were approved by the committee.
2. The next committee meeting will be on October 15th at 4:30 at the Senior Center.
3. The date for Public Engagement Meeting #3 will be on November 5th. Prior to this meeting there will be a committee meeting. The committee meeting will start at 6:00, and the public engagement meeting will start at 7:00.
4. The committee was provided with additional copies of the ethics agreement and reminded to read and sign them and return them to Lori DuBord.
5. Decision/Motions/Votes: N.A.

Action Items: N.A.

Person Responsible:

Due Date:

Agenda Item: Project Review

Presenter:

Tetra Tech/Slotnick

Summary of Discussion:

1. A listing of the potential projects for Blooming Grove was provided to the committee members and discussed at the meeting. The project list was a compilation of those ideas provided by the committee in discussions, feedback from the public and preliminary feedback from the hydraulic engineering team. The focus of the discussion was to determine which projects would move forward in the process and

stay on the list that is due October 3rd to the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery for review. The list can change if there is new data arises or something that is unaddressed emerges through a later discussion; however it is important to have this list as complete as possible for the first submittal. The ranking of the projects were described (Proposed, Featured, and Additional Resiliency), but were not applied to the projects on the list for this deliverable.

2. Project 1: Strategic Residential Flood Mitigation Program: The committee discussed the logistics of a flood mitigation program verses a buyout program. The cost of both programs should be analyzed before deciding the priority.
3. Project 2: Barnes Road Levee: the preliminary hydraulic analysis shows that a Barnes Road Levee would protect the homes that are flooding and not have upstream or downstream impacts, but the cost of the Levee should be quantified with the cost of buying out the homes and returning this area to natural flood plain.
4. Project 3: Strategic Critical Facility Flood Proofing and Structural Mitigation Program: The Salisbury Mills Fire Department was just rebuilt and would not be an immediate priority. The relocation of the Town Maintenance Garage and flood proofing the Tappan Wastewater Treatment Plan are both higher priorities to the committee. The flood proofing measures of the South Grove Sewer Pump Station have been completed.
5. Projects 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 18 address the need for mitigation of flooding along Moodna, Satterly Creek, and Perry Creek in various locations within the Town. The Hydraulic team suggested that a larger and more detailed study is needed to understand where mitigation measures would be best located. These projects will be combined into a single project that will include the creation of this study, and implementation of the studies recommendations. This project will be referred to as "Additional Hydrologic (Flood Routing), Hydraulic, and Stormwater Analysis." The Village of Washingtonville is poised to begin a similar study within the Village limits and it would be possible to address flooding issues regionally with their cooperation.
6. Project 9: Drainage Improvements and Flood Damage Reduction in Mountain Lodge: This is a potential project to assist with needed drainage improvements in Mountain Lodge, an area that has about 800 homes that house mostly low and moderate income families. The committee discussed potential issues related to proposing changes to private roads and the potential to get cooperation with the homeowners association during the implementation phase of the project. This project should remain on the list for further development in the plan.
7. Project 10: Update Local Land Ordinances: This project would be a review and update of local codes and ordinances. The committee members noted that in terms of spending priority for the New York Rising funding set aside, that this would mostly likely be a lower priority. However this project should stay on the list for consideration, since it may have a significant benefit at a low cost relative to other projects. The committee recommended taking out the requirement for maintenance of tree limbs over power lines because O&R has an effective program.
8. Project 11: Transportation and Critical Facility Asset Management Evaluation, Tool, and Improvement Program: This project described a number of roads that should be improved or protected from flooding, as discussed by the committee. It was noted that some of the roads were state roads and plans have been created for improvements that have not been implemented. The committee discussed the

creation of an “asset management tool” to better describe and prioritize in terms of their function and use during a flooding event.

9. Project 12: New Multi-Purpose Shelter and Emergency Operations Facility and Emergency Preparedness addressed the need for a new emergency shelter. The creation of the shelter would be a proposed project or featured. There is a need to identify shelter locations within the community.
10. Project 13: Install Natural Gas or Solar Backup Power For Critical Facilities and Infrastructure described the need for back-up power. The committee noted that the Town Hall and senior center already have generators. The highway garage and South Blooming Grove Village Hall are both in need of a generator.
11. Project 14: Vulnerable Populations and Community Emergency Alert, Warning and Support addressed emergency alerts and public education regarding emergencies. The reverse 911 calling system is in the process of being addressed. However, public education for utilizing this system should be a proposed project.
12. Project 15 addressed the need to install stream gauges for the purposes of creating an early warning system. Orange County recently installed new stream monitoring gauges and the committee discussed the ability of the Town to use the existing gauges for this project as a cause to remove this project from the project list.
13. Project 16: Town of Blooming Grove Multi-Modal Emergency Exit Trail Map and Project 17: “Rails to Trails” Acquisition and Public Trail Development discussed the feasibility of developing trails maps and extending the rails to trails to connect with other county trails as a way to help bolster economic development in the town. The committee is generally in favor of these projects. The committee also discussed the idea of using trails as a walking emergency exit to safe areas. The development of the former rail right of way in Blooming Grove into a stable trail could help to address erosion and silt deposits into the Moodna Creek.
14. Project 19 discussed the potential opportunity of the Town to investigate storm water improvements associated with the LIVE casino. The developers have yet to receive a casino license. This project may be better addressed through a change in zoning requirements, and will be removed from the list as a stand-alone project, but will be recommended as part of Project 10: Update Local Land Ordinances.
15. Project 20 addresses the participation in the national flood protection Community Rating System, which would allow for reductions in homeowner flood insurance. The idea of participating in the program has merit; however, some of the committee members felt that the funding of this project should be the responsibility of the Town. This project should remain on the list for further development in the plan.
16. Project 21 addressed the funding of a Floodplain administrator and its advantages. The committee felt that this position should be included as an additional resiliency recommendation, rather than a project proposed for NYRCR funding.

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Decision/Motions/Votes: N/A

Action Items: N/A

Person Responsible

Due Date

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End of Meeting Notes