



Meeting Notes

Staten Island

2nd Community Reconstruction Planning Committee

October 2, 2013, 7:00 pm – 9:30pm

SI University Hospital, 475 Seaview Avenue Regina M. McGinn Education Center

Attendance: (See attached Sign-In Sheets)

Planning Committee Members: Vin Lenza (Co-Chair), David Sorkin (Co-Chair); Linda Baran, Thomas Barlotta, Timothy Boyland, Ralph Branca, David Businelli, Ron Cerrachio, Dr. Victor Dolan, Betsy Dubovsky, Bobby Fisher, Arkadiy Fridman, Steven Grillo, Farid Kader, John Malizia, Thomas McDonough, Frank Moszczynski, James Pistilli, Nicole Romano-Levine, Debi Vadola, Dee Vandenburg, Jack Vokral

Planner: Fred Landa

Regional Co-Lead: Alex Zablocki

Firm Representatives: Eric Fang, Perkins Eastman Architects (PEA), Sarah Yackel, BFJ Planning (BFJ), Niek Veraart, The Louis Berger Group (LBG), Ryan Walsh, Howard/Stein -Hudson (HSH), Simon Kates (BFJ), Jennifer Brunton (LBG), Jennifer Gonzalez (LBG)

Guests: Walt Matuka, CERT; JoAnn Sacks, St. George Promenade; Stan Sacks, St. George Promenade; Michael Nagy, Consulting Engineer, Office of the Borough President; Paul Marone, Office of Assemblywoman Mallotakis; Giuseppe Deserio, Office of Assemblyman Borelli; Connie Cerrachio; Michael Kress, College of Staten Island; Anthony Reinhardt, Office of Senator Andrew Lanza; Dan Zirilli, Mayor's Director of Resiliency; Paul Duffy, Governor's Office

The second meeting was intended to relay what happened and why, review the asset inventory, identify the vulnerabilities and risks, gain an understanding of all the projects that are currently under way, develop the community vision, determine the planning area, and discuss public outreach for the Staten Island Community Reconstruction Program. The Committee Meeting started at 7:00 p.m. The presentation is available as a separate file. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. The following was noted:

Item: **General Presentation**

Presenter: **Eric Fang (PEA)**

Summary of Discussion:

- *What happened and why:* Super Storm Sandy inflicted large waves and storm surges along the East and South Shores. Low lying areas were inundated, with the most dramatic inundation occurring in the "bowl" formed inland from Father Capodanno Boulevard, a road which was constructed several feet above the surrounding land.
- *Key assets:* maps were presented of each asset class with Sandy inundation and the proposed planning area highlighted. The maps illustrated the impacts of Sandy on key assets, and what assets need to be protected. All assets at-risk within the study area will be analyzed, as well as critical assets beyond the planning area. Need to identify where socially vulnerable populations are located.

- *Risk Assessment Maps*: Extreme, high, and moderate risk levels were identified by New York State, which correspond with the FEMA flood zones, 100- and 500-year floodplain, and account for 0.2% annual increase in risk and 3 feet plus advisory base flood elevation for projected sea level rise.
- *Existing projects to address future risks*: need to understand what projects are currently underway or proposed, what their impact would be, what their funding status or likelihood of implementation is, and where the gaps are that could be filled through the NYRCR planning process. What needs to be protected but won't be through these projects?
- *Proposed projects to address future risks*: Proposed projects from various sources including SIRR were reviewed. Priority projects in the NYRCR plan may include those that are proposed, if they are good and effective projects.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Identify socially vulnerable populations	LBG	10.9.2013
Conduct further research on existing and proposed projects	BFJ	10.14.2013
Map assets by risk level	LBG	10.6.2013

Agenda Item: Vision Statement

Presenter: Sarah Yackel (BFJ)

Summary of Discussion: -

- Some of the previous visioning efforts: SI Imagines, Vision for Staten Island, SIRR, SI AIA Regional/Urban Design Assistance Team Vision.
- Working group breakout sessions to discuss visioning questions:
 - *Natural and Cultural Resources*: Identify areas that should not be rebuilt (i.e., regularly flooded low lying areas built on wetlands), and expand buy out areas. Develop the infrastructure (i.e., berms) to stop the storm surges and relieve interior drainage issues. Smarter planning of future development through developing a comprehensive urban plan for Staten Island that includes consistent definitions and treatment of wetland protection. A comprehensive hazard mitigation plan is necessary, with appropriate communication to the community and implementation during the event. Importance of inter-agency coordination was stressed.
 - *Infrastructure*: Efforts must be coordinated. Interagency cooperation is important, as is coordination between the public and private sectors. There should be a full inventory of assets including social, economic, and infrastructure assets to help address damage and improve the local economy. It is necessary to develop cohesive plans now in order to reduce future risk. In ten years, there should be an effective communication plan in place for when emergencies strike. Additionally, in ten years, we must be prepared. The key words associated with the group's vision are Thoughtful, Coordinated, Decisive, Prepared, Ready for Anything.
 - *Public Outreach*: There is a need to throw out the old plans and systems and start with something new and comprehensive – no more patching of broken systems. Staten Island needs to be proactive in its prevention measures. We must be prepared for a wide variety of events, not just the next superstorm. There is a need for accountability at all levels of government and amongst the private sector and the media. Developers should not be able to build dangerous housing and then wipe their hands clean and disappear. There should also be greater inter agency coordination within government. The local economy could be improved by developing the shoreline in a way that will make it a great attraction. The shoreline is an asset; we just have to be smart about how it's developed. There should be greater cooperation between the public and private sector and the hurdles that must be cleared for starting

and running a small business must be reduced. There is a great need for a real master plan. Infrastructure must be improved; utilities should be buried, emergency backup power should be in place. In ten years, everyone should be back in their houses. We should aim for a Staten Island Renaissance – the borough should be the next hotbed of activity and interest.

- *Health and Social Services / Socially Vulnerable Populations:* Staten Island is a vibrant community of civically engaged neighbors where even the most disadvantaged should have access to the resources for a happy productive life. The Vision for Staten Island achieved a comprehensive vision developed through strong community engagement; the issues discussed in the Visioning Report still exist, but need to account for a new level of vulnerability with goals for resiliency. That visioning process determined that Staten Island values the American lifestyle of good healthcare and educational systems, high quality of life with parks and recreation, economic growth, opportunities to make a living for all members of the community, and a government that is responsive to the needs of the community. Staten Island is ‘one island,’ with a strong sense of community, but lacking some of the critical infrastructure and services that other Boroughs have. Many communities most affected on Staten Island are less reliant on social services (non-English speaking and low-income), weren’t educated about how to receive them, and didn’t know how to access services of a disaster. NYRCR plan needs to address the needs of persons with disabilities, and persons with special needs; possibly through a registry of persons with disabilities and elderly. Resilience is just as much about physical infrastructure and assets as it is social programs and education; need to maintain independence while providing social services and effectively communicating those services to all populations.
- *Economic Development / Housing:* Local command infrastructure is necessary and a Staten Island OEM office that can respond to flooding and brush fires. Microgrids, solar panel and battery operations which could both subsidize electricity and provide a revenue stream for storm recovery. Housing stock and transportation network could be improved in response to Sandy, and make quality of life better in the process. Younger people are leaving Staten Island, so the vision needs to provide ideas for the future of Staten Island can keep younger people in the community. The plan should detail how young people can live on Staten Island and get to Manhattan, and encourage mass transit such as Light rail over the Bayonne Bridge. A common application for individual assistance with confidentiality provisions would assist the community in post-disaster recovery.
- Key takeaways:
 - Communication systems need improvement; interagency coordination among agencies at the City, State and Federal levels before disasters can establish a resilient response infrastructure.
 - Staten Island needs a coordinated and consolidated planning process to develop a comprehensive plan which includes hazard mitigation.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Gather visioning feedback from committee members	Co-Chairs	10.9.2013

Agenda Item: Staten Island Planning Area

Presenter: Sarah Yackel (BFJ)

Summary of Discussion:

- Four options for the Staten Island Planning Area were discussed. In all options, the NYRCR plan would analyze critical assets that are outside of the Planning Area.
- Some of the options presented included a primary and secondary planning area. The secondary planning area would address assets and risks that affect the primary planning area
- Existing planning area: Consistent with NY Rising Guidance Document, developed by census tracts and FEMA claims.

- The four options presented are as follows:
 - Existing Planning Area
 - Option 1: Primary Planning area would stay the same; secondary planning area would add the North Shore (including the Staten Island Ferry up to Wall Street).
 - Option 2: Primary planning area would add the north shore and trim the southwest shore; secondary planning area would add two southwest census tracts.
 - Option 3: Existing planning area would be expanded by adding the north shore (up to Wall Street).
- Working group breakouts to discuss planning area options. The following was noted:
 - Staten Island is one island; so all planning must consider the entire Island. The plan can have island-wide recommendations for economic development without expanding the study area.
 - Since the existing planning area was determined by the state as the most impacted area, it shouldn't be expanded at all; with limited resources the planning area should remain limited.
 - The addition of the north in Option 1 would add vulnerable populations, critical infrastructure with the rail yard and ferry terminal, government seat, and other strategic infrastructure.
 - The addition of the south in Option 2 would account for Arthur Kill at Bloomingdale Road, which has economic development assets and a new senior center.
 - Inclusion of the whole island under three levels of analysis/effort would provide an opportunity to evaluate more areas geographically, but account for areas that were more vs. less impacted. If the whole island is not included, the final plan should recommend that what wasn't studied be studied at a future time.
 - The north shore and west shore have been studied already for different planning purposes.
 - If the Planning Area does not expand, the plan should include a policy recommendation for further study of the remaining coast.

Decisions / Votes:

The Planning Committee discussed all four options in depth and consensus was reached among the Planning Committee to keep the existing planning area as is with the caveat that key critical assets in the remainder of the Island will be identified and addressed and that the Plan will voice a "one-island" approach.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Map all City and State-owned property	LBG	10.9.2013
Illustrate entire Island plus planning area in visuals and mapping.	LBG/BFJ	

Agenda Item: **Public Outreach**

Presenter: **Sarah Yackel (BFJ)**

Summary of Discussion:

- Goals of public engagement are to provide ongoing, inclusive and responsive communication that engages a large number of stakeholders and lowers barriers to participation.
- First series of Public Engagement Meetings will be an open house format with stations that include opportunities to talk with the project team and provide input via discussion, comment form, and/or markups on boards, maps, etc.
 - Wednesday, 10.9.2013, 7-9 PM, Olympia Activity Center, 1126 Olympia Boulevard, Staten Island
 - Thursday, 10.10.2013, 7-9 PM, CYO Mount Loretto, 6581 Hylan Blvd, Staten Island
- Project website: <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/nycrcr/community/staten-island>

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Publicize public engagement meetings	HSH Committee Members	10.9.2013



Meeting Photos & Documentation

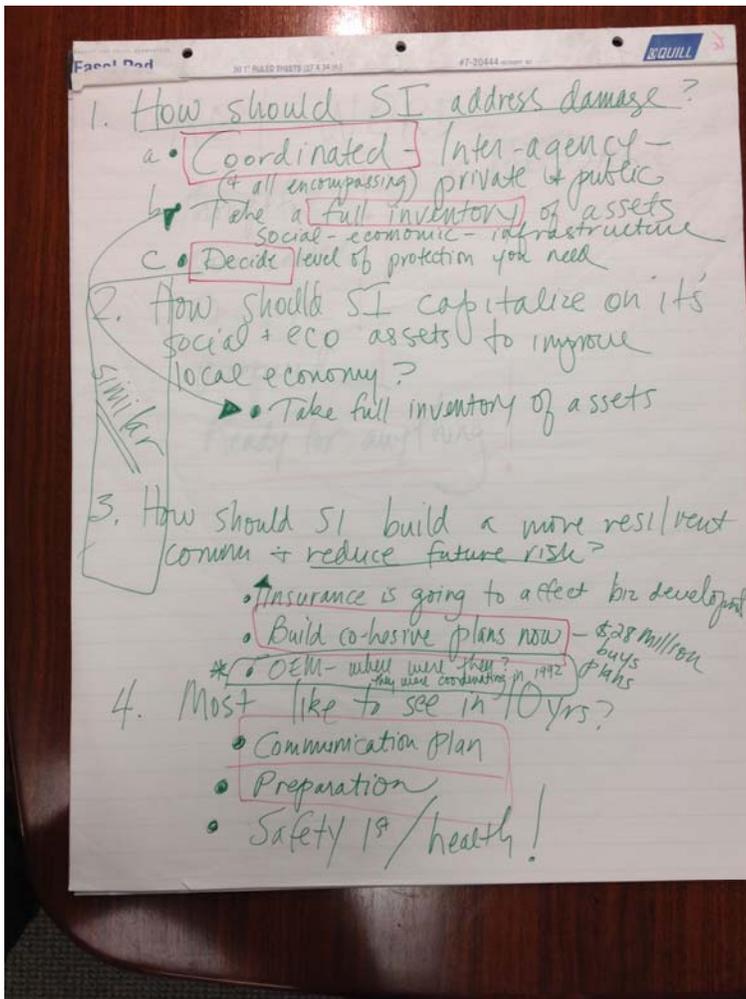
Staten Island

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Infrastructure Working Group Images



Description: Planning Committee members of the Infrastructure Working Group discussed their vision for Staten Island.

Image 1

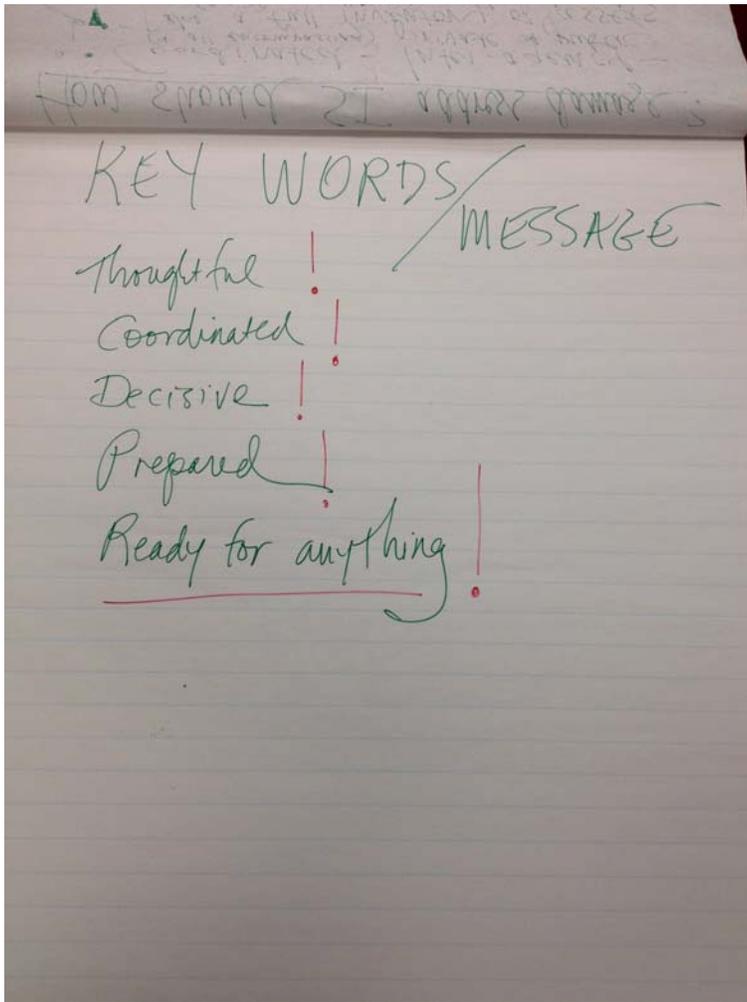


Image 2

Image Title: Public Outreach Working Group

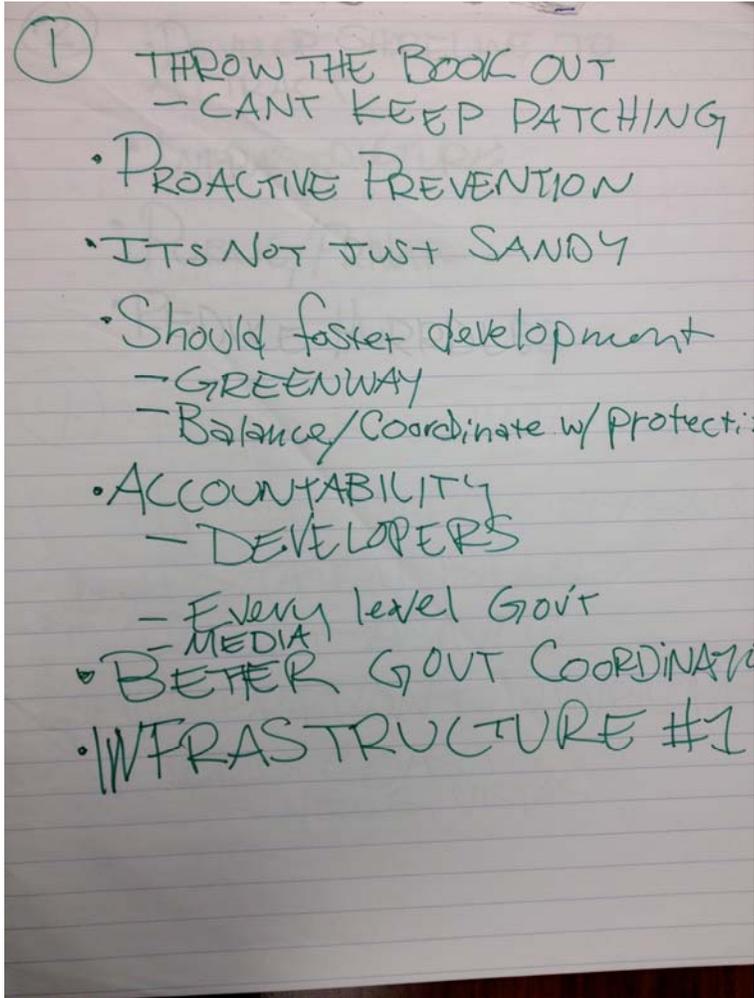


Image Description: Planning Committee members of the Public Outreach Working Group discussed their vision for Staten Island.

Image 1

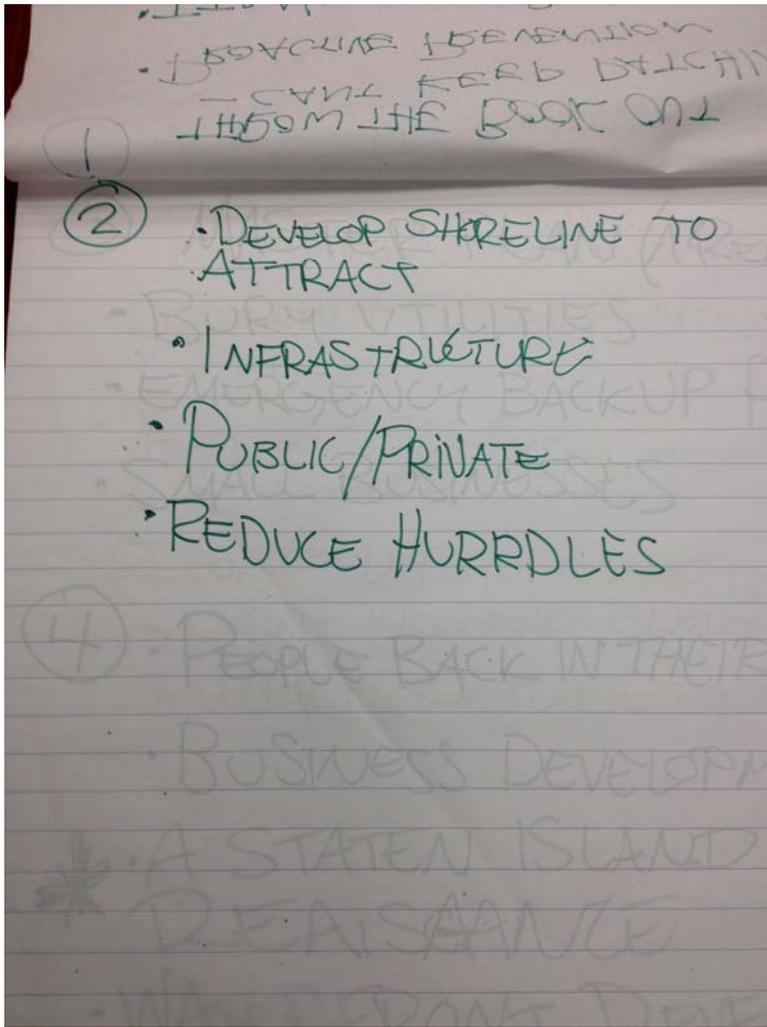


Image 2

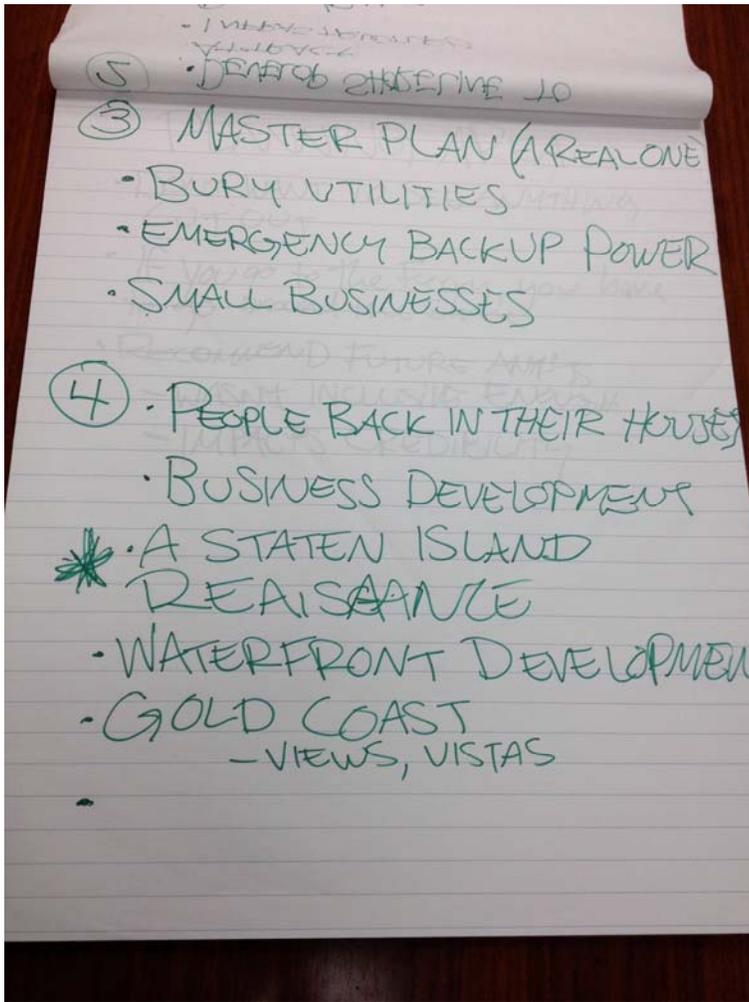


Image 3

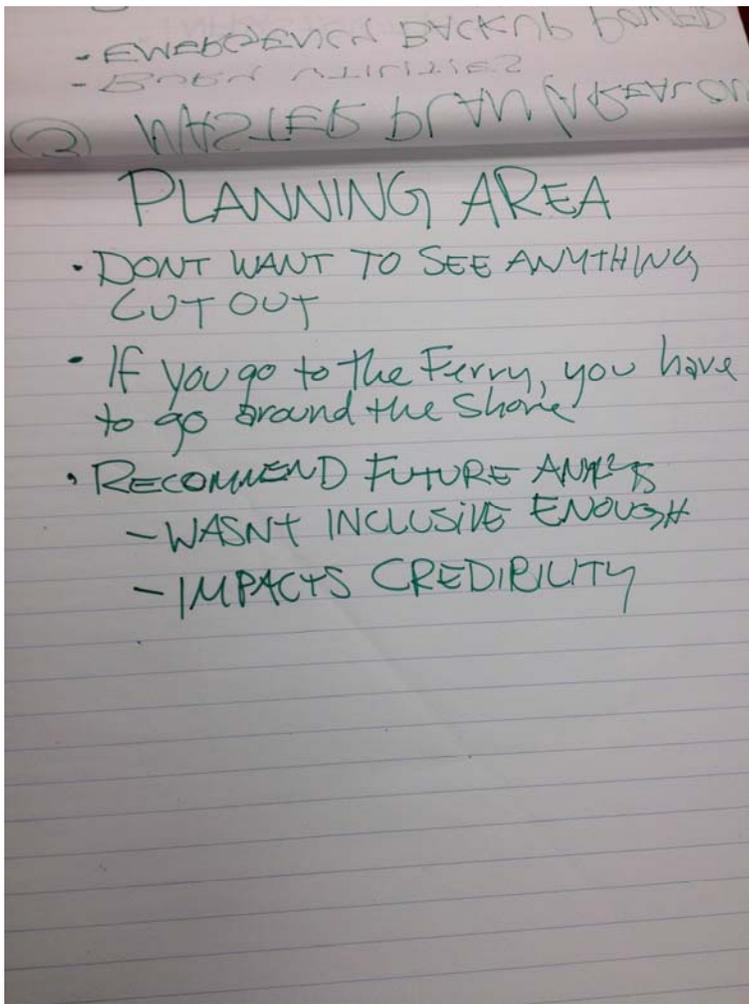
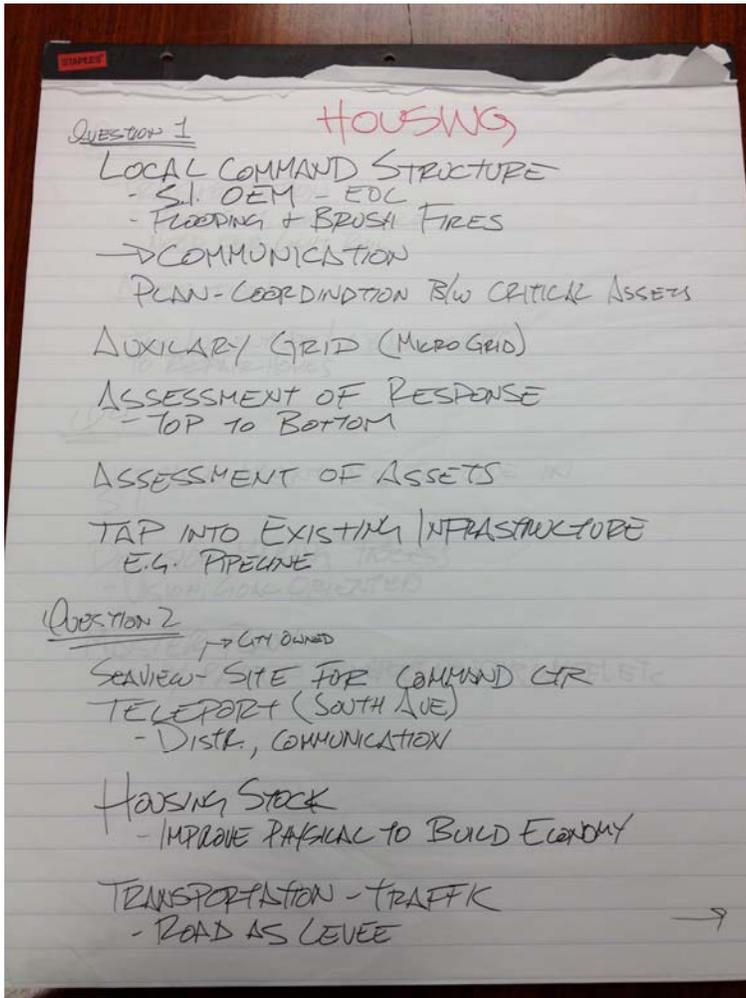


Image 4

Housing Working Group Images



Description: Planning Committee members of the Housing Working Group discussed their vision for Staten Island.

Image 1

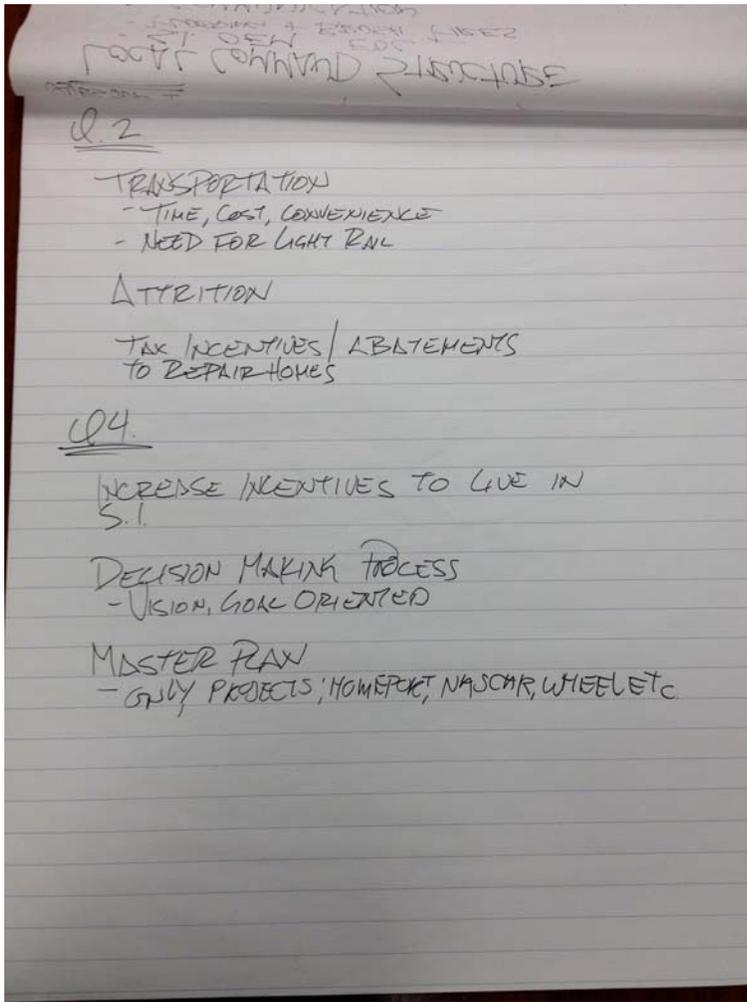


Image 2

East Shore/ South Shore CR Plan 2nd Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 2, 2013
Staten Island, NY

SIGN-IN-SHEET CO-CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Check Here	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Telephone	Email
	Yasmin	Ammirato	Midland Beach Civic		
✓	Linda	Baran	Staten Island Chamber of Commerce	718-727-1900	lbaran@sichamber.com
✓	Thomas	Barlotta	Community Board 3	917 658 9263	TBARLOTTA @AOL.COM
✓	Timothy	Boyland		718-7200710	tb@vb-architects.com
✓	Ralph	Branca	Victory State Bank Victory Bank	917-364-5884	
✓	David	Businelli	Staten Island AIA	718-667-6390	dbusinelli@SI6a.com
✓	Ron	Cerrachio	Crescent Beach Civic Association	718-675-8504 (w) 917-923-6290 (c)	rcerrach@courts.state.ny.us
	Bobby	Digi	Island Voice Inc.	718-288-2402 (c) 718-600-4717 (w)	bobbydigibd@gmail.com
✓	Dr. Victor	Dolan	Old Town Civic; Board of Ocean Breeze Civic; Community Board #2		Drvictordolan@aol.com
	Betsy	Dubovsky	Staten Island Foundation	718-697-2831	dubovsky@thestatenislandfoundation.org
✓	Bobby	Fisher	Midland Beach Merchants Association		
✓	Arkadiy	Fridman	Staten Island Community Center	718-619-5891	afridman@siccnyc.org

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SIGN-IN-SHEET CO-CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Check Here	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Telephone	Email
	Dr. William	Fritz	College of Staten Island	718-982-2400	William.fritz@csi.cuny.edu
	Steven	Grillo	Staten Island EDC		
	Farid	Kader	Yellow Boots Team, SI LTRO	917-885-6537	farid@yellowboots.org
	Vincent	Lenza	SI Not-for-Profit Association		
	Dana	Magee	Community Board 2		
	John	Malizia	Fisherman's Conservation Association	718-984-3653 646-483-5728 (c)	j.malizia@att.net
	Janine	Materna	Pleasant Plains, Prince's Bay, Richmond Valley Civic Association	917-957-8448	Janine.materna@gmail.com
	Joseph	McAllister	South Beach Civic Association		
	Thomas	McDonough	Tunnels to Towers	718-987-1931 (w) 917-660-5429 (c)	Thomas.mcdonough@tunnel2towers.org
	Gonzalo	Mercado	El Centro de Imigrante		
	Frank	Mosczynski	Ocean Breeze Civic; Port Richmond	718-909-0122	FMSK11@gmail.com
	James	Pistilli	Tottenville Civic Association	718-541-4728	jamespistilli@gmail.com

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SIGN-IN-SHEET CO-CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Check Here	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Telephone	Email
✓	Nicole	Romano-Levine	New Dorp Beach Civic Association	347-351-2029	Nrl927@gmail.com
/	David	Sorkin	Jewish Community Center of SI		
✓	Debi	Vadola	Midland Beach Civic	347-234-7900	dvadola@msn.com
✓	Dee	Vandenburg	SI Taxpayers Association	917-859-7383	SITAINC@aol.com
/	Jack	Vokral	Community Board 2	646-338-0975	LGHTHSE25@aol.com



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Staten Island, NY

Check Here	First Name	Last Name	Organization	Telephone	Email
	WALTER	MATUKA	CERT	718-755-5640	WALTER@3000@
	JoAnn	SACKS	Jr. Geo-Tompk. Promenade	718-727-7539	JoAnnSacks@mac.com
	STAN	SACKS	" " "	917-913-7713	StanSacks@mac.com
	MICHAEL	NAGY	CONSULTING FINGER BORO PRESIDENT	718 916 2115	MNAGY@STATENISLANDUS.A.COM
	PAUL	MARRONE	ASSEMBLYWOMAN MALLOTAKIS	718 987 0197	marronep@assembly.state.ny.us
	Giuseppe	Deserio	Assemblyman Borelli	718-987-5194	deserio@assembly.state.ny.us
	Commit	Manassis-Cerrachio		917-836-9465	COMVON228@VERIZON.NET
	Michael	Kross	College of Staten Island	718-982-2350	mkross@cs.csi.cuny.edu
	Anthony	Reinhardt	Sen. Andrea Lanza	718-984-4073	Reinhardt@ny.senate.gov