Working Together to Build Back Better

Oceanside, Island Park, Harbor Isle and Barnum Island

7:00 PM, September 12, 2013
Lincoln Oren’s Middle School
Community Reconstruction (CR) Plan Agenda for Tonight

• Getting Started – Hitting the Ground Running
• Understanding the Community Reconstruction (CR) Program
• Introducing the Planning Team
• Project Approach
• Local and Regional Issues and Potential Opportunities
• Community Visioning & Outreach
• Post Meeting – Informal Discussion
Hitting the Ground Running

Discussion topics:

• Introductions
• Geographic Scope
• Community Visioning
• Community Engagement Strategy
• Assets to be Inventoried
• Regional Issues
• Meeting Schedule
Project Overview
Understanding the CR Program

New York State Action Plan for Community Development Block Grant Program Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)

Approved April 26, 2013

• Outlines $1.7 billion in supplemental federal funding for housing, infrastructure and business recovery activities for recovery efforts from Hurricane Sandy, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee

• Funding flows through the NYS Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG – DR) Program

www.nyshcr.org/Press/ActionPlan
Presented by Shaun Donovan Chair, Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force and Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to the President of the United States

August 2013
Building Back Better

- New York State established the New York Rising Community Reconstruction Program
- $25 million allocated for reconstruction planning in the most affected communities
- Additional funds will support projects and activities identified in Community Reconstruction Plans
CR Plan Guidance

- Individuals
- Businesses
- Community Reconstruction Program
- Sandy Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) Funding
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
Goals of CR Plan
Building a Stronger Future

• Assess the community’s vulnerabilities to future natural disasters
• Identify economic development needs
• Identify projects and actions to increase resilience and further promote economic development
• Allocate reconstruction funding
• Identify other funding sources and partnerships to implement the full plan
Distribution of Community Reconstruction Funds by County

Total Amount Statewide $1.7 billion

- Nassau County
- Suffolk County
- Rockland County
- Westchester County
- Other Locations
NY Rising Community Reconstruction Spending Categories

Total Amount Statewide $1.7 billion
Nassau County Community Reconstruction Fund Distribution

Total Amount Nassau County $959 million
Project Team
URS Team

• Local knowledge combined with national expertise in coastal area recovery planning
  • Katrina
  • Ike
• Community planners and hazard mitigation and infrastructure experts working together
• Deep understanding of full range of funding sources available
• Commitment to community-driven process and priorities
Team Members

- URS Corporation
  - Project Manager and Planning Lead
- The LiRo Group
  - Recovery Planning and Infrastructure Development
- Sustainable Long Island
  - Outreach and Planning Support
- AIM Development Group
  - Housing and Economic Experts
Communities URS is Helping

Legend

- Community Boundaries

Map showing communities including Atlantic Beach, East Atlantic Beach, Long Beach, Island Park, Barnum Island, Harbor Isle, Oceanside, Lido Beach, and Point Lookout.
What Needs to Get Done?
Project Tasks

**Organize for Action**
- Select consultant
- Appoint Plan Committee
- Identify geographic scope
- Establish vision and goals
- Develop work plan

**Create Understanding**
- Data collection
- Existing plan review
- Site visits & discussion
- Asset mapping
- Risk mapping

**Integrate the Information**
- Risk Assessment
- Needs/opportunities assessment
- Regional planning integration

**Strategies to Move Forward**
- Identify projects
- Project development
- Evaluation of projects
- Prioritization
- Cost-benefit analysis

**Complete Plan**
- Finalize text & drawings
- Provide implementation actions
- Identify next steps
Where Are We Now?

At the very beginning…

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Community Visioning & Outreach
Community Vision

• Community input is critically important. This is a “bottom-up” approach. CR Plan must reflect input and support of community!

• Planning Committee comprised of local people with personal knowledge, experience and concern for area.

• Planning Committee will guide:
  – Who else to involve
  – How best to listen
  – What’s important to focus on
Guidelines for a Community Vision

• Realistic
• Comprehensive
• Coordinated

• Understandable
• Solution-specific

– EXAMPLE 1: “To restore the promise of an affordable, high quality of life for all on Long Island and to position Long Island for the requirements of 21st century communities…” (LI 2035)

– EXAMPLE 2: “Innovation Oakland is a technology-based approach to neighborhood transformation. It introduces new ways of thinking about how community assets, public spaces and commercial corridors contribute towards the economic prosperity of Oakland and of greater Western PA. Fueled by state of the art technologies, Innovation Oakland will combine art, design, place making and way finding solutions to create new interactive public destinations for the use and pleasure of residents, employees, students and visitors from around the country and the world.”
Community Vision

- Community Visions can be short, medium and/or long-term.
- Visions:
  - Define hopes for the future
  - Capitalize on existing social and economic assets
  - Reduce risk and increase community resilience
  - Provide focus and direction
Public Outreach Strategy

• To engage the public in the CR Plan’s development there will be:
  – Regular Committee meetings
  – Community Workshops
  – Monthly Regional Coordination meetings for the planning firm with New York State
  – Nassau County Co-Chairs Meetings
Public Outreach Strategies

• Public outreach takes many forms, we will discuss and decide collaboratively how best to reach and engage the community.
  
  – **Messaging & outreach:** options such as email, signage, flyers, etc…
  
  – **Activities & engagement:** options include workshops, public meetings, surveys, etc…

• Timeline & implementation for outreach will be decided collectively.
Looking Forward
Geographic Scope

- Area where assets are most at risk
- Area in which reconstruction or future construction should be encouraged
Extent of Flooding During Sandy
Risk Areas
Identify Risks to Assets

Identify assets potentially affected by each of the following:

- Coastal hazards
- Location in extreme and high risk areas
- Defined as critical facilities by FEMA

Ultimate Goal: Reduce the risk to these assets AND make it easier to recover if they are damaged in the future

Critical Facility Examples:

- Emergency service facilities
- Schools
- Police and fire stations
- Emergency operations centers
- Public works facilities
- Evacuation shelters
- Jails and juvenile detention centers
- Physical and cultural assets
Focus on the Future

• Allocated CDBG Disaster Recovery Funds are just one source
• The most successful plans will:
  • Use Disaster Recovery Funds efficiently
  • Identify and present compelling cases for funding by additional sources
  • Leverage projects internally and with other implementation partners
Other Implementation Resources

- CDBG-DR Funds for Sandy, Irene & Lee damages
- FEMA Public Assistance (FEMA-PA Section 406)
- FEMA Individual Assistance (FEMA-IA)
- FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants Program (HMGP-Section 404)
- Social Services Block Grants
- Federal Transit Authority Emergency Relief
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Federal Highway Administration Relief
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund & Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
Focusing Our Efforts

• Places and projects where can we have the greatest impact
• Projects that address the most important issues
• Actions that can leverage further investment by others and additional grant resources
Tonight’s To Do List

• Understand the Community Reconstruction Program and opportunities for your community

• Set the stage for a community visioning and planning process that:
  • Results in a set of projects and strategies that reflect local vision and needs
  • Maximizes the total local, regional, state and federal investment for needed improvements
Conceptual Plan

• Prepare a draft concept plan that:
  • Reflects community priorities
  • Appears possible to achieve financially, legally, logistically
• Engage Planning Committee and community in meetings and workshops
• Complete by October 28th
Complete Plan Document

- Revise and expand Conceptual Plan to:
  - Complete risk assessment
  - Complete cost-benefit analysis
  - Refine and prioritize recommended projects based on community feedback, cost/benefit, risk reduction
  - Prepare detailed implementation and funding strategy
- Continue to engage Planning Committee and community in meetings and workshops
- Plan complete by March 31st
Issues and Opportunities
Economic Development

• Businesses affected by flooding are struggling
• Enhance future economic development investments
• Protect & strengthen businesses & commercial areas
  – Diversifying
  – Access to employment
  – Back-up systems
Community Facilities

Issues
• Closed firehouses
• Damage to Island Park Village Hall
• Area Schools

Opportunities
• Rebuild to combine resources where reasonable
• Consider ways to incorporate open space resources into resiliency planning
Infrastructure

Issues

• Poor drainage, with high water table, means nowhere for water to go
• Back ups in channels
• Austin Blvd. flooding
• Bulkheads inconsistent
• Power plant
• Long Beach & Bay Park Sewage Plant failures
Infrastructure

Opportunities

• Austin Blvd. improvements in conjunction with Bay Park Sewage Plant solutions
• Incorporate a “riverwalk” into bulkheads if constructed along waterfront adjacent to Long Beach Blvd. Bridge
• Creative solutions in and around landfill site
  – Stormwater infiltration
  – Recreation/emergency staging
Housing

Issues
• Vulnerable low lying neighborhoods
• Up to 6 feet of water on first floor
• Many still struggling to rebuild

Opportunities
• Create a clear process for recovery & access to resources
• Tools to rebuild more resilient to future storms
Protect, Enhance & Restore Natural Resources

- Protect natural resources
- Changes to enhance the flood reduction function of wetlands and floodplains
Regional Coordination

• Committee member to participate in Regional Economic Development Council
• Ensure consistency with regional plans
• Building regional support for local projects
Next Steps

• Conceptual Plan due October 28, 2013

• Planning Committee Meetings:
  • September 26, 2013
  • October 9, 2013

• Community Workshop
  • To be scheduled at September 26th Committee Meeting
Thank You!

Keep up with us on the Web

Community Reconstruction Program Website
http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/community-reconstruction-program

Barnum Island, Oceanside, Island Park & Harbor Isle Community Reconstruction Website:

Or search for NY Rising and follow the links.