



Town of Wallkill
NYRCR Program
Public Engagement
Meeting #1



Town of Wallkill

NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program

Public Engagement Meeting #1

Thursday, July 24, 2014 – 5:00pm

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Registration by Attendees | 4:45-5:10pm |
| 2. Welcome and Introductions | 5:10-5:20pm |
| a. NYRCR Program, New York Department of State | |
| b. NYRCR Committee members | |
| i. Co-chairs | |
| ii. Committee member | |
| c. Tetra Tech, Inc. | |
| 3. Purpose of the Meeting | 5:20-5:25pm |
| 4. Overview of NYRCR Program | 5:25-5:45pm |
| a. Planning Process and Components | |
| b. Timeline for Project | |
| 5. Breakout Stations – Providing Input and Comments | 5:45-7:00pm |
| a. Comments on the Draft Vision | |
| b. Damage from the Storms | |
| c. Identify Critical Issues, Needs and Opportunities | |
| 6. Meeting conclusion | 7:00pm |



NY Rising Communities
NYRCR Town of Wallkill Public Engagement Meeting Sign-in Sheet
Thursday, July 24, 2014 - 5:00pm-7:00pm

Name	Agency	Phone Number	Mailing Address	e-mail address
Jeff Hutchinson		845-692-2686	44 Loch Lomond Ln Middletown NY	
Ralph Carter	Town of Wallkill	845-549-4216	167 Lybalt Rd Middletown, NY 10940	ralphcarter@gmail.com
Lori Dubard	NYRCR	845-334-8991		lori.dubard@nyrcr.org



NYRCR Town of Wallkill

NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program
Public Engagement Meeting #1
July 24, 2014 | 5:00pm-7:00pm

Working Together to Build Back Better



Working Together to Build Back Better

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Public Engagement Meeting

Overview of the NYRCR Program

- **New York State and Governor Andrew M. Cuomo providing \$650M + planning/implementation for hard-hit communities (by Sandy, Lee, Irene, 2013 floods)**
 - ❖ Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds
 - ❖ Round 1: 102 communities; Round 2: 22 communities
 - ❖ NYRCR Town of Wallkill: Up to \$3M
 - ❖ Amounts based on federally-assessed storm damage



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Understanding the NYRCR Program

- **NYRCR Program Goal:**

“ ... to empower the State’s most impacted communities with the technical expertise needed to develop thorough and implementable reconstruction plans to build physically, socially, and economically resilient and sustainable communities so as to rebuild New York’s communities in a way that will mitigate against future risks and build increased resilience.” <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/nyrcr/faq>

- **Implementation Focused**

- **Bottom-Up Community Participation and Collaboration**

- ❖ Recognize unique local assets/risks, needs/opportunities
- ❖ Identify the best options/viable alternatives



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Understanding the NYRCR Program

- **Focus the NYRCR Strategies and Projects in 6 Major Categories:**

1. Infrastructure
2. Housing
3. Economic Development
4. Health and Social Services
5. Natural and Cultural Resources
6. Community Capacity Building

- ❖ Vulnerable Populations – Need to consider across all categories



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Qualifying for CDBG-DR

- **Is the project eligible under traditional CDBG?**
 - ❖ Public facilities and improvements, and privately-owned utilities; Relocation planning, capacity building; Acquisition of real property; Economic development assistance ; and more
- **Is there a direct link between the project and the disaster?**
 - ❖ Does it address damage caused by, or issues that have been exposed and identified as a result of the storm?
 - ❖ Does it create greater resiliency against future storms?



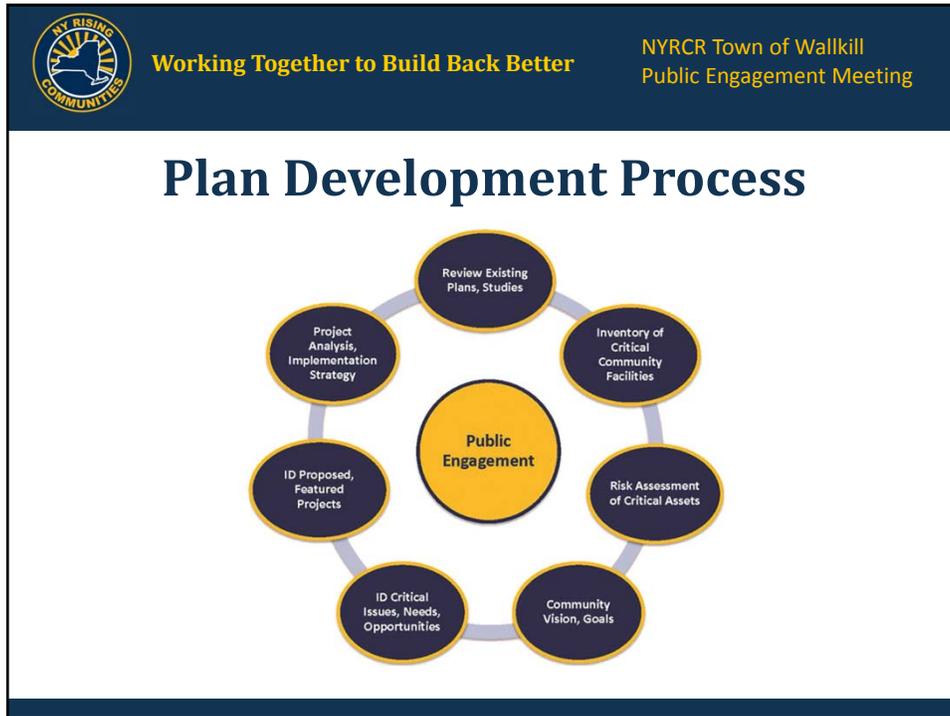
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Qualifying for CDBG-DR

- **Is there a direct link between the project and the disaster?**
 - ❖ Does it address damage caused or exacerbated by a storm?
 - ❖ Does it address emerging issues that have been exposed and identified as a result of the storm?
 - ❖ Does it create greater resiliency against future storms?





 **Working Together to Build Back Better** NYRCR Town of Wallkill
Public Engagement Meeting

What has the Committee Been Working On?

JUNE 2014

- ✓ NYRCR Town of Wallkill Committee was established
- ✓ Review of existing local and regional documents

JULY 2014

- ✓ Project Kick-off Meeting with NYRCR
- ✓ Tour of Town - Description of Storm Damage
- ✓ Geographic Scope of Plan Finalized
- ✓ Develop Draft Vision Statement
- ✓ Begin Risk Assessment
 - Define and Review Critical Assets in the Community
- ✓ Develop Public Engagement Strategy
 - **July 24 – Public Engagement Meeting #1**



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Local and Regional Plan Review

- Regional Economic Development Council (Mid-Hudson and Orange County Business Association and Orange County Partnership)
- Orange County Water Authority Mid-County Water Supply Feasibility Study
- Wallkill Watershed Conservation and Management Plan
- Mid Hudson Regional Sustainability Plan
- Orange County Transportation Council Long Range Transportation Plan, 2011
- Concurrent City of Middletown NYRCR Planning Process



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Geographic Boundary



Town of Wallkill
Orange County
New York
Risk Area Map

Legend

Risk Area
Extreme
High
Moderate

Town of Wallkill
Municipal Boundaries

Scale: 0 1 Mile

This map is for reference only.
Data Sources:
USGS, FEMA, NYSDOT, Orange County
GIS, Risk Area

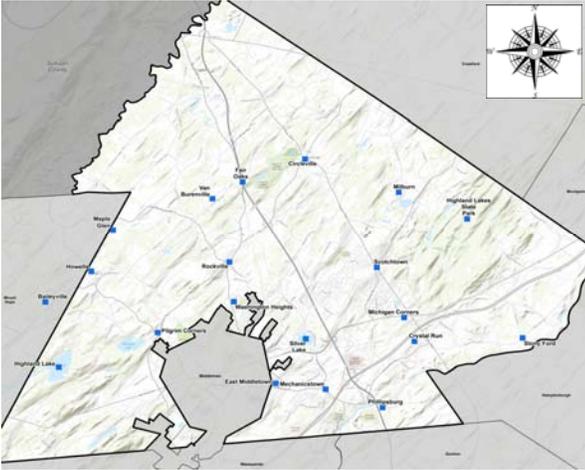
Wallkill
Ulster
Putnam



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Where do YOU live in Wallkill?



Neighborhoods and Hamlets

- Circleville- On NY-302 (hamlet)
- Fair Oaks- On NY-17 (hamlet)
- Milburn - near Highland Lakes State Park (hamlet)
- Rockville - N (hamlet)
- Washington Heights- NW (hamlet)
- East Middletown – SE (village)
- Mechanicstown- SE (hamlet)
- Phillipsburgh - Walkkill River and NY-17 (hamlet)
- Crystal Run - Near I-84 (hamlet)
- Michigan Corners - On NY-211 near Scotchtown (hamlet)
- Scotchtown - On Route 101 (hamlet)
- Silver Lake - Small lake East of Middletown
- Stony Ford – E at Walkkill River on CR 53
- Highland Lake - Lake at Town line
- Howells - North of Baileyville (hamlet)
- Maple Glen- Western Town line (hamlet)
- Pilgrim Corners- On NY-211 (hamlet)
- Van Burenville- Near Mt. Hope (village)



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Where in Wallkill Do YOU Live?

Northern Part of Town

Circleville- On NY-302 (hamlet)

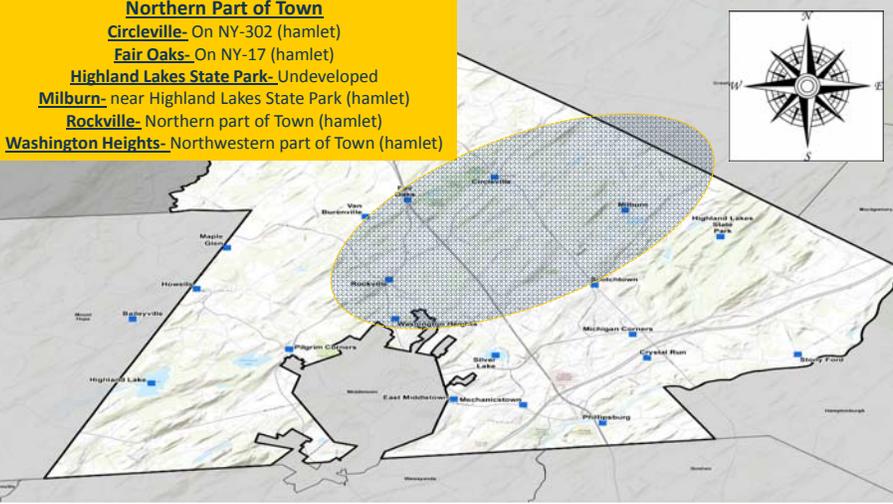
Fair Oaks- On NY-17 (hamlet)

Highland Lakes State Park- Undeveloped

Milburn- near Highland Lakes State Park (hamlet)

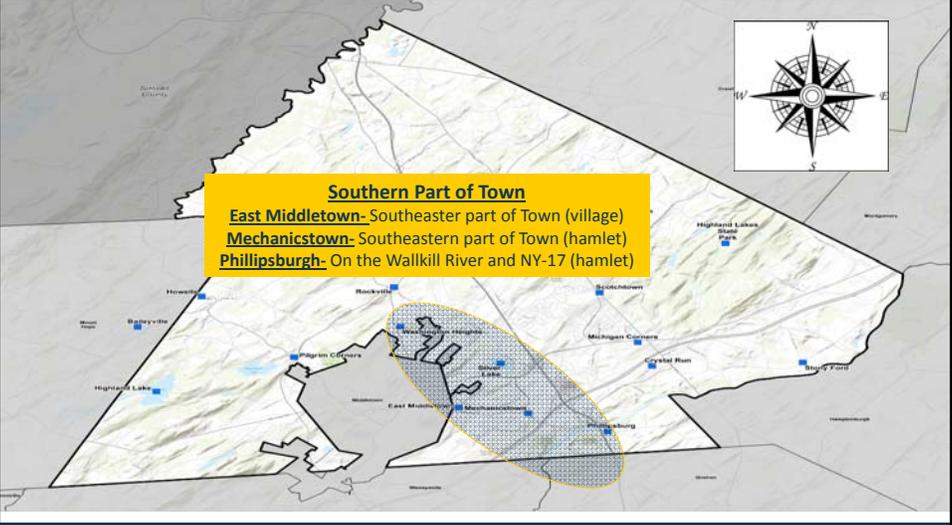
Rockville- Northern part of Town (hamlet)

Washington Heights- Northwestern part of Town (hamlet)



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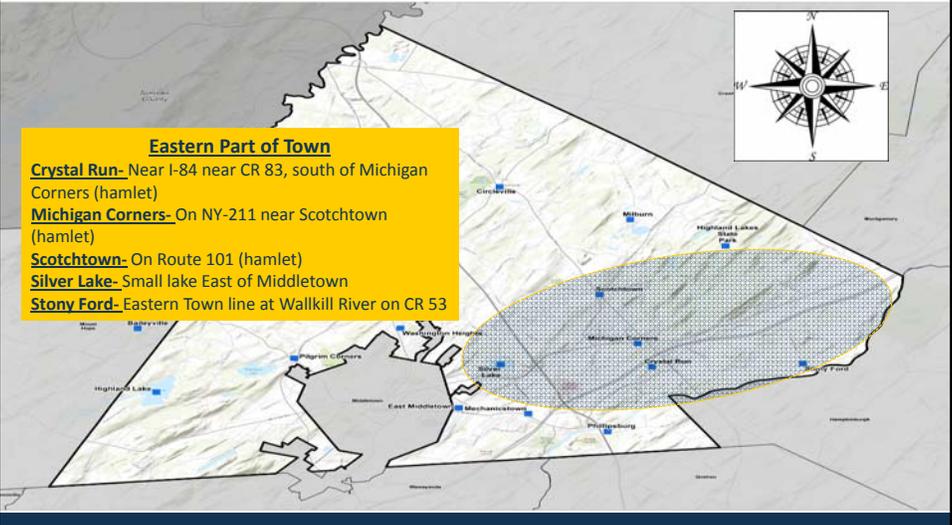
Where in Wallkill Do YOU Live?



Southern Part of Town
East Middletown- Southeastern part of Town (village)
Mechanicstown- Southeastern part of Town (hamlet)
Phillipsburgh- On the Wallkill River and NY-17 (hamlet)

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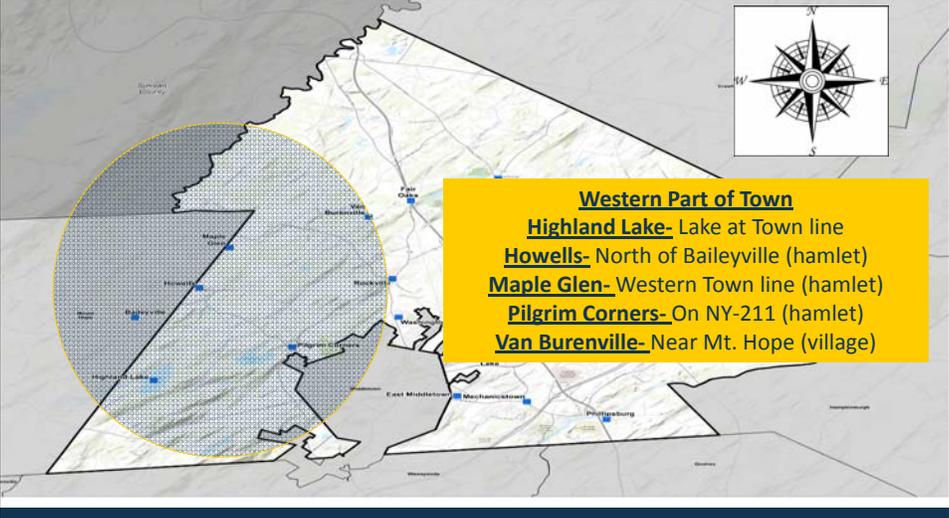
Where in Wallkill Do YOU Live?



Eastern Part of Town
Crystal Run- Near I-84 near CR 83, south of Michigan Corners (hamlet)
Michigan Corners- On NY-211 near Scotchtown (hamlet)
Scotchtown- On Route 101 (hamlet)
Silver Lake- Small lake East of Middletown
Stony Ford- Eastern Town line at Wallkill River on CR 53

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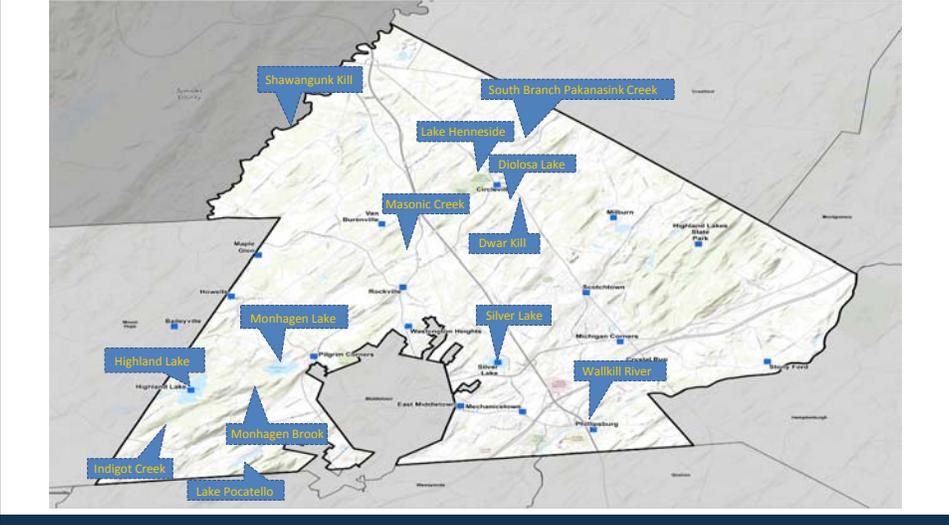
Where in Wallkill Do YOU Live?



Western Part of Town
Highland Lake- Lake at Town line
Howells- North of Baileyville (hamlet)
Maple Glen- Western Town line (hamlet)
Pilgrim Corners-On NY-211 (hamlet)
Van Burenville- Near Mt. Hope (village)

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What Water Body Do YOU Live Near?



Shawangunk Kill
South Branch Pakamozink Creek
Lake Henneside
Diobasa Lake
Massena Creek
Dwar Kill
Monhagen Lake
Silver Lake
Walkill River
Highland Lake
Monhagen Brook
Indigot Creek
Lake Poratello



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Description of Storm Damage

- Conducted Tour of Impacted Areas
- NYRCR Committee Member Input
- Citizen and Stakeholder Feedback via Surveys and Public Engagement Meetings
- Local, State, Regional, Federal Documentation



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Draft Vision Statement

- **Draft Vision Statement**
 - ❖ What is the realistic “favorable future” we want to see in NYRCR Town of Wallkill
 - ❖ Reduce risk and increase community resiliency
 - ❖ Solution-focused and comprehensive
 - ❖ Community-inclusive
 - ❖ How can we capitalize on current assets?



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Risk Assessment - Inventory of Assets

- **Working with NYRCR Town of Wallkill Committee to identify assets in each category:**

- ❖ Economic
- ❖ Health and Social Services
- ❖ Housing
- ❖ Infrastructure Systems
- ❖ Natural and Cultural Resources
- ❖ Socially Vulnerable Populations

- **Provide additional detail on all assets identified**

- ❖ "Extreme," "High-Risk," and "Moderate" Areas
- ❖ Defined as critical facilities by FEMA (essential to health and welfare of the whole community, especially after hazard incidents)

EXAMPLES

- Emergency service facilities
- Infrastructure
- Police and fire stations
- Public works facilities
- Schools
- Food and grocery stores
- Medical facilities and pharmacies
- Businesses
- Natural systems/waterways
- Jails and juvenile detention centers
- Senior/vulnerable population housing
- Disaster assistance services



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Public Engagement Strategy

- **Identify audiences, stakeholders**

- ❖ Citizens and residents
- ❖ Businesses, non-governmental organizations
- ❖ First responders, emergency management teams

- **Identify engagement techniques, outlets**

- ❖ Public meetings/workshops, websites, e-campaigns, social media, public access channels, mailings, ads, special events, high-traffic venues

- **Committee Meetings**

- ❖ Meet in Wallkill Town Hall, Building A
- ❖ Public participation is encouraged!





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What will the Committee be Working on During Upcoming Months?

JULY 2014

- Begin to identify critical issues, needs and opportunities
- Risk Assessment - Begin HEC RAS Hydraulic Modeling

AUGUST 2014

- By August 1 – CR Plan Section 1
- Risk Assessment - Complete HEC RAS Hydraulic Modeling
- By August 22 – CR Plan Section 2

SEPTEMBER 2014

- By September 12 – Public Engagement Meeting #2
- By mid-September – Develop a list of strategies



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What will the Committee be working on during upcoming months?

OCTOBER 2014

- By October 3 – List of projects and actions
- By October 22 – Draft #1 CR Plan

NOVEMBER 2014

- By November 14 – Draft #2 CR Plan
- By November 14 – Public Engagement Meeting #3

DECEMBER 2014

- By December 5 – Final CR Plan

JANUARY 2015

- By January 16 – Public Engagement Meeting #4



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Community Voting Exercise

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO SEE THE MONEY COMMITTED?



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Where Should the NYRCR Committee Invest the NY Rising Funds?

- **Infrastructure** (improve/rebuild roads, bridges, sewer and water systems, drainage systems to be less vulnerable to flooding or prevent flooding)
- **Economic Development/Redevelopment** (ex. Support of commercial hubs, redevelop opportunities, branding...)
- **Health and Social Services** (access to services, access of post-disaster access health care, support of vulnerable populations...)
- **Housing** (identification of funding for house elevations, relocations, acquisitions, diverse housing options...)
- **Natural and Cultural Resources** (historic preservation, stream bank management, preservation of natural resources and parks...)
- **Community Planning and Capacity Building** (ex. Better codes, enforcement, mixed use housing, improve response time during disasters...)
- **Vulnerable Populations** (implement programs to ensure evacuation or sheltering in place of aged, infirm population and the youth...)



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Public Open House

Provide your Input on **Where Damages Occurred**, and your Ideas on **Needs and Opportunities**

We are Looking for your Input!



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Information Resources

<http://stormrecovery.ny.gov> (Main Site)

<http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/resources-0> (Plan Elements)

<http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/nyrcr/faq> (FAQs)

THANK YOU



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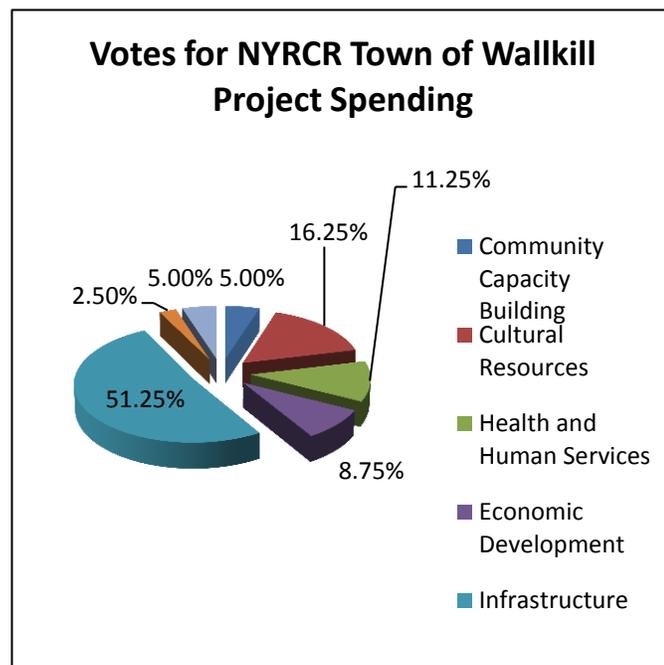
Event Synopsis

On Thursday, July 24, 2014 from 5:00PM-7:00PM the Town of Wallkill held the first of four Public Engagement Meetings (PEM) at the Town of Wallkill Town Hall Building A. Guests from the Town of Wallkill municipal government, Wallkill Committee Members, the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program Regional Lead, NYS Department of State (DOS) staff, and Tetra Tech staff were present. To reach those who were unable to come to the meeting, video recording devices in the meeting room were used to capture the meeting. The recording was made available to the community on the Wallkill town website and local television station, posted at <http://www.totalwebcasting.com/view/?id=wallkill>. Presenters for the night included Wallkill Supervisor Depew, NYSDOS representative William C. Harding, and Tetra Tech staff members Cynthia Bianco and Emily Slotnick. Public attendance at this meeting was limited to the NYRCR Town of Wallkill Committee members who attended.

Upon arrival, guests were provided with meeting materials including an agenda, comment form, NYRCR survey, name tag, and a bundle of \$1000 (10 \$100 bills) in “Wallkill Money” to use in a voting exercise gauging where attendees want NYRCR funds to be spent through this program. The planning team began the meeting with a brief presentation providing an overview and background of the NYRCR program. At the conclusion of this presentation, the consultant team asked all attendees to participate in the funding allocation voting exercise before turning the meeting over to an open house format. Attendees placed their votes by putting the Wallkill bills in any of 7 ballot boxes representing each of the 6 major recovery support functions (RSF) (community capacity building, cultural resources, health and human services, economic development, infrastructure, and housing) and Vulnerable Populations.

In total, 80 bills were used in the voting exercise. Projects that will focus on infrastructure received the most votes (41), with over 50% of the votes cast. The next highest boxes were cultural resources with 13 votes, health and human services with 9 votes, and economic development with 7 votes. Vulnerable populations and community planning and capacity building each received 4 votes while housing received 2 votes. From this exercise it is clear the people of Wallkill would like projects that focus on infrastructure, health and human services, and cultural resources.

RSF Category	# Votes Cast (% of 80 Total)
Community Capacity Building	4 (5%)
Cultural Resources	13 (16.25%)
Health and Human Services	9 (11.25%)
Economic Development	7 (8.75%)
Infrastructure	41 (51.25%)
Housing	2 (2.5%)
Vulnerable Populations	4 (5%)



These themes carried over into the breakout sessions as guests spoke with Tetra Tech staff and NYS DOS staff about

NYRCR Town of Wallkill Public Engagement Meeting #1 – July 24, 2014

Event Synopsis

their experiences during the storm events. Attendees browsed posters of the NYRCR Town of Wallkill Vision Statement, Town of Wallkill neighborhoods, and Flood Hazard Areas within the planning area, and then visited one of two tables to review maps focusing on past damage areas. Participants placed stickers on the damages maps and made notes on an adjacent piece of paper regarding where they personally experienced damage and/or where they feel something needs to be done to reduce future damage. Major topics trending through these discussions included flooding, uninterrupted provision of power, creation of jobs in the town to reduce its status as a “bedroom community”, property acquisition to use land as flood storage, and flood issues concerning specific private properties including the Time Warner property.

The online survey website, Survey Monkey, is used by Tetra Tech during this round of New York Rising to further collect information and engage with residents from Wallkill regarding the impacts of Hurricanes Irene, Sandy, and Tropical Storm Lee. Questions asked include their residency in Wallkill, hardship experienced during the storms (roadway closure, power outage, property damage, etc). Up to the date of the first Public Engagement Meeting, twelve (12) surveys were completed and received. Of those received, ten (10) respondents were full-time residents of Wallkill, one (1) was a business owner, and one (1) was a second-home property owner. Top concerns noted in the surveys included lengthy utility service interruption (7 respondents), and impassible roads (6). Inability to access essential services and inadequate information about how to access recovery services and assistance each had two (2) responses. Six (6) respondents answered the open-ended component of the survey and unanimously believe maintaining clean sewers and drains will reduce the risk of flooding during future storm events.



Meeting Notes

Public Engagement Meeting #1

July 24, 2014 pm

Town of Wallkill Town Hall, Building A

Wallkill, NY

Attendance:

Town of Wallkill Committee:

Frank LoSauro
Robert Beemer
Sal Lucido
Neil Meyer
Jeff Hutchinson

Town of Wallkill

Dan Depew, Supervisor
Lou Ingrassia, Jr., Commissioner of Public Works
Ralph Carr, Councilman Ward 1, 1st Deputy Supervisor

New York State Dept. of State:

Lisa Melville
William C. Harding

New York Rising Community Reconstruction Program

Lori DuBord

Public

None

Tetra Tech, Inc.:

Emily Slotnick
Cynthia Bianco
Becca Eith

Agenda Item: Welcome and Introductions

Presenter: D. Depew, W.C. Harding, C. Bianco, E. Slotnick

Summary of Discussion:

1. Meeting materials were distributed to attendees along with an explanation of the voting exercise to take place at the end of the presentation.
2. Supervisor Dan Depew welcomed the public and briefly described the purpose of the public meeting as well as the intent of the NY Rising Program. He also explained that the meeting was being recorded for later broadcast on the Town's local public access television channel, and that future NYRCR Town of Wallkill public engagement meetings will be broadcast live on that channel.
3. Supervisor Dan Depew introduced Cynthia Bianco who stated the intent of the meeting was to discuss damages experienced during the recent storms (Hurricane Irene, Tropical Storm Lee, Superstorm Sandy, storms from the summer of 2013, and others) and to review the accomplishments of the Planning Committee to date. Cynthia Bianco explained that being part of New York Rising is a unique opportunity to positively affect the future of Wallkill. Establishing a new plan based on previous damages, strong science, and with excellent public input will lead to success.
4. The Committee members introduced themselves and stated which communities within Wallkill they resided.
5. Emily Slotnick, the Community Manager, spoke next and introduced the NYS Department of State and the New York Rising personnel present. She also mentioned that this is the first of four public engagement meetings and each one would show the progress of the Plan.

Decision/Motions/Votes: N.A.

Action Items: NA

Summary of Discussion:

1. William C. Harding from NYS Department of State explained that end of this planning process, there will be a plan in place created by the people of Wallkill. The plan will tell the story of Wallkill's trials and tribulations during recent disasters and how to recover. There will be a series of projects created that will make Wallkill more resilient. Projects may be more than the allotted \$3 million, and that is ok. William C. Harding spoke about the importance of having more projects than money to ensure that if one project falls through, there is a project to take its place.
2. Emily Slotnick began guiding the public through the PowerPoint presentation. Emphasizing the significance of receiving CDBG-DR funding, Emily Slotnick discussed the flexibility of CDBG-DR funding and its support of projects to remediate and reduce future disaster-related damages. The projects created for this plan will make Wallkill more resilient both economically and physically. Strong public input in critical throughout the planning process. An important concept discussed was the communities that make up Wallkill. Many who live in Wallkill are unsure where the boundaries are as most residents have Middletown mailing addresses and associate more with their communities than the Town of Wallkill.
3. The presentation provided information on the plan's time frame, expectations and goals for the Committee, the Risk Assessment, HEC RAS modeling, and the draft vision statement.

Action Items: N/A

Summary of Discussion:

1. Tetra Tech provided an opportunity for attendees to cast votes for the projects types that participants felt needed the most attention in their community with the use of play money in ballot boxes marked with these general categories: Infrastructure, housing, economic development, health and social services, natural and cultural resources, and community capacity building.
2. 80 votes total were cast. Overwhelmingly, project's that will focus on infrastructure received 41 votes, over 50% of the votes cast. The next highest boxes were cultural resources with 13 votes, health and human services with 9 votes, and economic development with 7 votes. Vulnerable populations and community planning and capacity building each received 4 votes, while housing received 2 votes. From this exercise it is clear the people of Wallkill would like projects that focus on infrastructure, health and human services, and cultural resources.
3. Committee members, TT staff, and NYS DOS staff spoke with the public about their experiences during the storm events. Community members went to one of two tables to review maps focusing on damage areas, risk area, and location maps to write down where they personally experienced damage or feel something needs to be done to reduce future damage. Flooding, uninterrupted provision of power,

