



Meeting Summary

Yonkers Planning Committee Meeting #3

August 5, 2014 3-5 pm

Grinton I. Will Library

1500 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers

Attendance:

Yonkers NYRCR Committee – Steven Brown, Kathy Graves, Jagdish Mistry, Leon Nanton, Nancy Ruiz (representing Kerry Smith), Paul Summerfield, Renee Toback

Elected Officials – Rachel Estroff (representing State Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer), Representative from Senator George Latimer

GOSR – Suzanne Barclay (Regional Lead)

Consultant Team – Nanette Bourne (AKRF), Jim Nash (AKRF), Jackie Hakes (MJE), Sarah Quandt (MJE)

Members of the Public – Jessa Cruz, Mike Lepre (City of Yonkers Engineering Dept.)

Welcome and Introductions

Presenter: Suzanne Barclay

Rick Magder and Gail O'Rourke have been confirmed as Co-Chairs of the Yonkers Committee.

Old Business

Agenda Item: Review Public Engagement #1

Presenter: Nanette Bourne

Nanette summarized what we heard from the first Public Engagement meeting.

Agenda Item: Review and Finalize Vision and Goals

Presenter: Nanette Bourne

The Committee reviewed the revised draft for the Vision and Goals, which had been updated to include feedback from the first Public Engagement. The Committee then decided on a set of edits that would result in a final version of the Vision and Goals. Changes discussed included:

- Must mention "Flood Mitigation" up front
- Goals: add importance of the flooding effects from actions in upstream municipalities. Also need to add "maintain and upgrade infrastructure"
- Add finding additional funding sources outside the \$3 M CDBG-DR funding

Action Items

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Incorporate Committee comments into Final Vision	Consultant Team	Aug 8

Agenda Item: **Review Critical Issues**

Presenter: Nanette Bourne

The Committee reviewed the draft Critical Issues that were developed at the last meeting and commented on by the public. Changes discussed included:

- Add the importance of seeking, securing, and tracking funding for flood mitigation; develop and improve capacity to seek grants
- Add importance of preventing development in the floodplain
- Concern expressed that FEMA awards based on economic loss – therefore more affluent communities receiving the funding (with loss of real estate value being the metric used)

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Incorporate Committee comments into Draft Critical Issues	Consultant Team	Aug 8

Agenda Item: **Discuss Asset Inventory**

Presenter: Jackie Hakes

The Committee reviewed the updates to the asset inventory that resulted from public input at the first Public Engagement. Jackie walked the Committee through an additional series of Yonkers assets that were gathered together from a variety of databases and other sources based on research by the consultant team. The Committee reviewed the refined asset inventory list and maps, and provided feedback on the community value of assets – a way of ranking the assets’ importance to the community recovery process.

The Committee will review the full asset list as homework, and provide their comments before the next Committee Meeting.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Review full asset list and provide feedback	Committee Members	Aug 19th

New Business

Agenda Item: **Discuss Needs and Opportunities**

Presenter: Nanette Bourne

Nanette introduced the Needs and Opportunities analysis and walked the Committee through the six Recovery Support Functions, and gave examples of Yonkers’ needs and opportunities relevant to each category, resulting in a preliminary list. Nanette asked the Committee to complete as homework the **NYRCR Yonkers Planning Committee Needs and Opportunities Worksheet** (to be emailed to Committee following the Committee meeting). The Committee requested a copy of the presentation be emailed to assist in their homework.

Agenda Item: **Potential Projects**

Presenter: Nanette Bourne

The Committee reviewed preliminary categories of projects based on prior discussions at the first two Committee meetings and the first Public Engagement. The status of existing projects and studies was discussed, and a focus was placed on soliciting new projects in the following four categories: green infrastructure,

engineering, communication/education, and land use/ policy. The Committee discussed the list and contributed some additional ideas. New project ideas included:

- Seawall to keep river water out of Sewage Treatment Plant
- Dredging of culverts under the MNR tracks
- Project to ease access to Sprain Brook for maintenance crews (sound walls currently block access)
- Scout Field project could worsen flooding downstream

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Incorporate Committee comments into Draft Projects List	Consultant Team	Aug 8

Agenda Item: **Looking Ahead** Presenter: Nanette Bourne

The next Committee Meeting will be held on August 19th at the Grinton I. Will Library, and going forward the Committee will alternate meetings at the Riverfront Library and the Will Library (on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month). The second Public Engagement Event will be held the week of September 8th, and it was determined that it should take place on the City’s West Side. The St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, of which Gail O’Rourke is a member, was suggested as a good meeting location. The precise date and time are to be determined.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Confirm location, date and time for 2nd PE meeting	Consultant/State Team	ASAP
