



NY Rising Community Reconstruction Plans:

Planning to Succeed

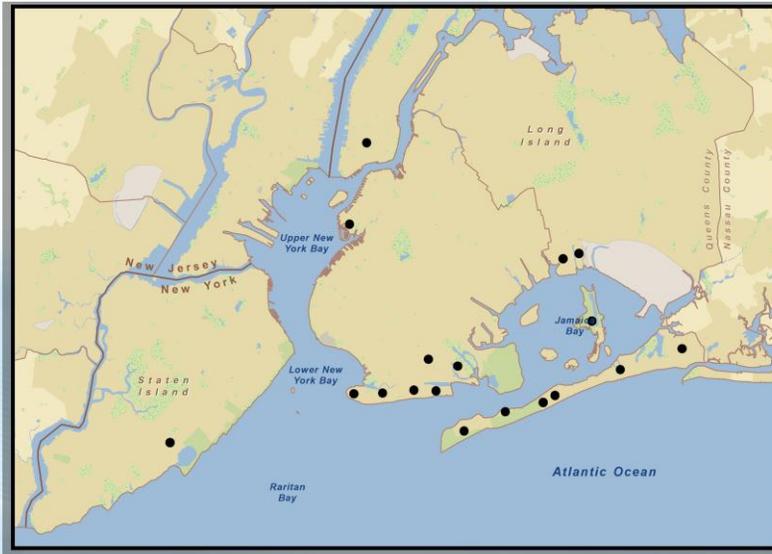
- This presentation provides an overview of what planning committee members can expect over the next 8 months as they navigate the planning process.
- The slides presented here pertain to storm-damaged communities in the coastal areas of the state (Long Island), the urban areas (New York City), and riverine communities Upstate.
- Many of these communities have been working on recovery efforts for some time.

NY Rising Communities: Coastal



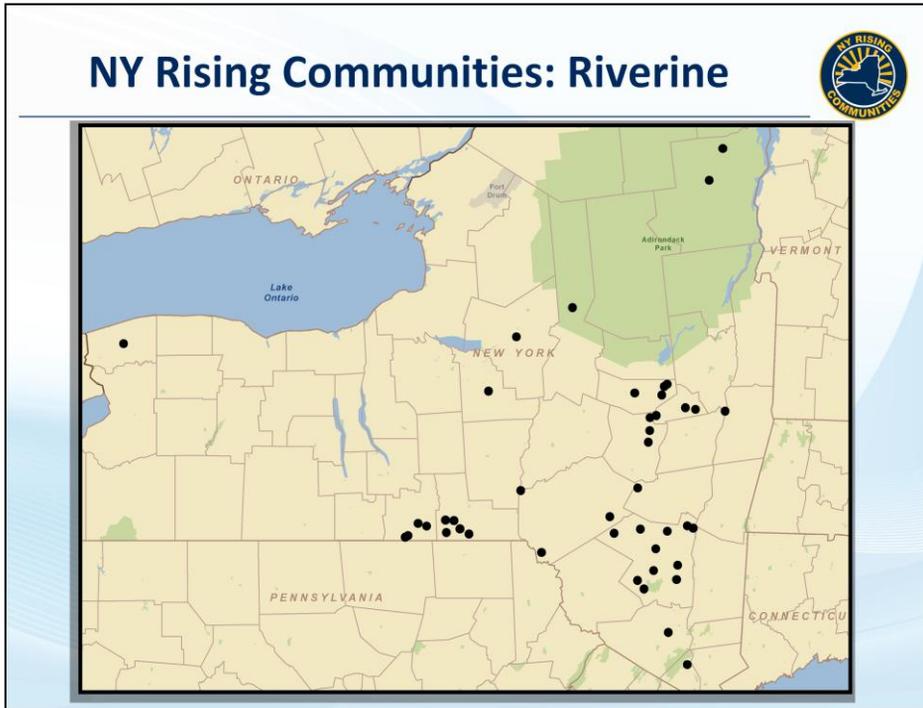
- There are two counties participating in the NY Rising Community Reconstruction program that can be characterized as coastal. They are:
 - Nassau County, which includes 31 communities spread out over 2 towns, 10 villages and 1 city; and
 - Suffolk County, which includes 10 communities spread out over 3 towns and 4 villages.

NY Rising Communities: Urban



- There are 18 urban communities in New York City participating in the program. They are:
 - 4 communities in Queens located within the area of Community Boards 10 and 14.
 - 3 communities in Brooklyn located within the area of Community Boards 6, 13, and 15.
 - 1 community in Manhattan located within the area of Community Board 1.
 - 1 community in Staten Island located within the area of Community Board 2 and 3.

NY Rising Communities: Riverine



- There are four regions participating in the NY Rising Community Reconstruction program that can be characterized as riverine. They are:
 - The Capital, North Country, and Mohawk Region, which includes 15 communities spread out over 7 counties;
 - The Hudson Valley & Catskills Region, which includes 17 communities spread out over 5 counties;
 - The Southern Tier and Central New York Region, which includes 10 communities spread out over 3 counties; and
 - Niagara County.

NY Rising Communities Team



7 Region Leads



Laura Munafo - Nassau County
Vanessa Lockel – Suffolk County
Claudia Filomena – New York City
Chelsea Muller – New York City
Sarah Crowell – Capital/North Country/Mohawk Valley
Lori DuBord – Catskills/Hudson River Valley
Julie Sweet – Southern Tier/Central New York

30 State Planning Experts



9 Planning Firms



- The NY Rising Community Reconstruction team in each region will consist of one or two region leads, planning experts working for the NYS Department of State or NYS Department of Transportation, and 9 planning firms.
- Each Region Lead will be out and about in the community representing the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program. The Region Leads and areas they are working in are:
 - Laura Munafo - Nassau County
 - Vanessa Lockel – Suffolk County
 - Claudia Filomena – New York City
 - Chelsea Muller – New York City
 - Sarah Crowell – Capital/North Country/Mohawk Valley
 - Lori DuBord – Catskills/Hudson River Valley
 - Julie Sweet – Southern Tier/Central New York
- There are several planning experts from the Department of State and Department of Transportation who will help you navigate the planning process. They will provide expertise throughout the process and work with the planning firms as your plan comes together.
- The final members of the team that committees will work with are the planning firms. Each of the firms has a team of people, including experts from other firms, who will be working to meet community recovery planning needs. Firms will conduct the research, writing, public engagement, cost estimates, and other aspects of the plan.
- The planning firms include :
 - Perkins Eastman
 - URS
 - Ecology & Environment
 - Jacobs
 - AKRF
 - Arup
 - HR&A
 - TetraTech
 - Parsons



- New York State will provide extensive support to make sure NY Rising Communities are successful.
- The State is engaging the planning firms to work with communities and has set clear expectations of the minimum work required of them. While planning committees do not need to issue RFPs (Requests for Proposals), deal with contracts, or process payment claims; the committee's role will be providing the Planning Firms with direction and confirming that the documents they develop reflect the input received from the public and the decisions made as a committee.
- In addition to 30+ planners, other state staff will serve as functional experts. This means that, for example, if a sewer or water supply issue arises, staff from the Environmental Facilities Corporation or Department of Health will be called on for technical assistance.
- The State team will also help planning committees reach out to local and regional organizations which can play a role in community resilience planning and reconstruction.
- A suggested timeline and discussion topics have been provided to help committees think through all the contents of the plan. The timeframes are designed to help committees complete their plan on time, if not early.
- The last piece of the planning assistance puzzle is training. A series of sessions will be set up to help committees understand and prepare for key steps in the planning process. Most of these sessions will be provided by webinar, which will allow planning committee members to view them at a time and location that is convenient.
 - For example, we will have a session to explain what projects and actions are eligible for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery funding.
 - This fall, we will have a series of training sessions to help you understand options available for innovative management measures. We have some ideas of what to present, but will be looking for input from planning committees on what they would like to hear about. Examples of innovative approaches we could explore include living shorelines, restoring tourism, green infrastructure, zoning for sea level rise, and engineered shore protection.



- The planning process is anticipated to take 8 months or less, followed by implementation of the plans.
- As part of the process, we will help integrate and build upon plans you already have in place, and help develop implementation actions for aspects of the plans relating to community resilience and reconstruction.
- The first major milestone will be completion of a conceptual plan by the end of October 2013. Your conceptual plan should focus on innovative strategies and key projects to transform your community into an economically strong and resilient part of New York.
- The next phase will be to develop the final plan, specifying projects and actions that can be implemented through local and state action. The final plan will include the final set of innovative strategies and transformative projects and actions, and an implementation schedule to ensure the plan doesn't gather dust on a shelf.
- Following the planning phase, the NY Rising Community Reconstruction program will assist communities in implementing their plans.
- While the timeline looks linear, the implementation process for some projects will begin before the final plan is in place, while others may not begin until well after.
- Using this planning period to develop concrete, well-thought out implementation schedules will allow your community to increase its resilience and economic growth immediately and over the long term.

Plans Tailored to Community Needs



The planning process in each community will be an expression of its specific needs, reflecting:

- Existing plans and planning activities
- A timeline tailored for the convenience of the community
- Public engagement strategies
- Support for subcommittees
- Specialized planning needs

- Let's take a moment to talk about how the planning process will play out in your community.
- Our planning experts, with committee co-chairs, will tailor an approach for the planning firms to follow that will lead to the development of the necessary plan components, as well as address specific planning needs of the community.
- This approach, known as a “work plan”, will consider the planning that has already occurred and seek to fill gaps to ensure a solid, implementable reconstruction plan.
- Within the parameters of the 8 month timeframe, the work plan will establish predictable meeting dates tailored for the convenience of the community.
- It will also spell out what will be done to support any subcommittees such as those directed at vision, public engagement, and implementation.
- Specialized planning needs, such as stream corridor planning or an analysis of potential wetlands construction, may be articulated in the work plan to guide the work of the planning firms.

Community Reconstruction Plans



Source: <http://blog.loving-long-island.com/2007/01/28/long-island-sunrise/>

- Plans coming out of the NY Rising Community Reconstruction program should reflect more than just building back what was there before the storm – it should reflect a vision of what the community could be, while improving its resilience to future storms.
- Planning committees are charged with developing implementable plans to increase the long-term resilience of their communities, with additional economic development co-benefits. The plans are an investment – done right, they will make communities safer and stronger, increase prosperity, improve the quality of life, and drive innovation and competition.
- Planning committees are encouraged to think big, and identify the transformative and innovative actions needed to become resilient and grow their economy.

Contents of a Reconstruction Plan



- Each Reconstruction Plan will provide a vision for the community, an analysis of assets at risk, an assessment of needs and opportunities, strategies to address those needs and opportunities, and measures to implement those strategies.
 - The guidance document (which can be found on the program website at http://nysandyhelp.ny.gov/sites/default/files/documents/DG0636_20130425_2PM_CRZ_Guidance.pdf) provides details about plan contents. Appendix 1 outlines the plan sections.
- The plan will provide the context for redevelopment, addressing the damage that past storms caused and the key issues facing the community and the region.
- The projects selected should be based, in part, on a serious examination of the assets that are at risk and the measures that can be taken to address those risks. For example, a building that has to be rebuilt or substantially repaired after every significant flood should be considered for elevation, modification, or relocation.
- A NY Rising Community Reconstruction plan should include a prioritized list of transformative projects and actions that will be considered for funding with local, state, federal and private resources. Those priorities should be based, in part, on a cost-benefit analysis as well as community values.
- Each plan should include an implementation schedule that considers what actions or projects should be undertaken immediately, in the short-term, in a few years, and over the long-term.

Six Key Strategy Areas



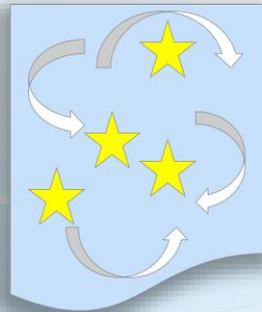
- Economic Development
- Health & Social Services
- Housing
- Infrastructure
- Natural & Cultural Resources
- Community Planning & Capacity Building

- The strategies in the plan will address six key components:
 - Economic development, which focuses on returning business activities to a state of health and developing new economic opportunities that result in a sustainable and economically strong community.
 - Changes necessary to more quickly restore health and social services, such as public health and health care facilities, and essential social service needs.
 - Housing needs, with an emphasis on housing stock considered most at risk.
 - Infrastructure Investments that would be effective both in rebuilding capabilities lost during the storm and in providing economic development and job creation.
 - Natural resources and how they can be used to mitigate flooding risks and offer economic co-benefits such as tourism, and how cultural resources can be better protected.
 - Community planning and capacity building, which addresses the community's ability both to implement storm recovery activities and to plan how to mitigate the effects of future storms.
- Additional details on each of these topics is available in the guidance document.
- One way to describe the plan communities are being asked to develop is to say, at its core, that it will recognize that increasing community resilience is an economic opportunity.

Incorporating Regional Issues & Solutions



- Planning should include consideration of existing regional plans
- Coordinate with Regional Economic Development Councils to hold forums on regional issues and opportunities
- Address regional issues in local NY Rising Community Plans



- NY Rising Community planning should include consideration of existing regional plans, such as plans of the Regional Economic Development Council, county hazard mitigation plans, and watershed plans.
 - Planning firms will research applicable regional plans and summarize relevant points. Committee members, county planning staff, and regional organizations are encouraged to inform the firms of plans that should be considered
- Planning committees are encouraged to coordinate with Regional Economic Development Councils to hold forums on regional economic issues and opportunities.
- Planning Committees should address regional issues relevant to their areas in their final plans.

What's Next



Committee Meeting #1: Hitting the Ground Running

Suggested discussion topics:

- Geographic Scope of Plan
- Meeting Schedule
- Introduction of Committee Members
- Community Vision
- Public Outreach Strategy
- Assets to be Inventoried
- Regional Issues

- The first planning committee meetings will be soon. Our team will work with the committee Co-Chairs to position you to hit the ground running.
- We've developed a suggested list of discussion topics to help you lay a foundation for tasks to come later in the planning process. Those tasks include:
 - Establishing a meeting schedule to provide some predictability for committee members.
 - Getting to know other members of the committee. Many members may know each other, but others may be new faces that need familiarizing and introduction to the group.
 - Provide initial thoughts on community vision, which can be fleshed out by a subcommittee and brought up again for discussion at subsequent meetings.
 - Begin development of a public outreach strategy. Preliminary discussions can guide the planning firm and a public the community.
 - The planning committee should provide some guidance to the planning firm that will be conducting your asset inventory. At the first meeting, committee members may be asked to review an initial list of assets and to identify what is missing.
 - Beginning an ongoing discussion of regional recovery issues. These discussions will help guide other organizations in revising their plans to address resiliency issues; and will help planning committees think about issues that may require multi-municipal or region-wide solutions.