

Branford Coastal Vulnerability ad hoc Working Group

Town of Branford, Connecticut

Paul Muniz, Tracy Everson, Jonathan Waters, Peter Hentschel (chairperson)
invited: Curt Johnson, Sharon Huttner, James Calderwood



Zoom Meeting Agenda: Tuesday, June 25, 2024, 5:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84074366061?pwd=mEf6tFW5fNigmcRz0QuGI1X6Ws72Tr.1>
Meeting ID: 840 7436 6061 Passcode: 963134 Phone 646-558-8656

- Call to Order and Roll Call
- Approval of Meeting Notes for 5/28/24
- Discuss status and next steps on the following initiatives:
 - a. CIRCA sea level monitoring and emergency notification system trials – Branford participation
 - Goal 1: to acquire new data on tidal sea level cycles and resulting road flooding.
 - Goal 2: to allow Branford to use their alert system to put out “micro-alerts” to neighborhoods.
 - Update on calls with CIRCA
 - Discussion of signage on equipment
 - Discussion of public media broadcast.
 - b. Community Reporting Network re Roadway Flooding – “MyCoast” Application
 - Goal 1: to engage the community in the photographic collection of roadway flooding data
 - Goal 2: to work with the MyCoast application software group in CA to facilitate uploading data
 - Review of prepared application
 - Discussion of testing before going public
 - Discussion of public media broadcast.
 - c. Roadway Flooding – finding solutions for the community.
 - Goal: to investigate possible resilience actions, consult with key regulatory authorities including DEEP, and determine DEEP’s response to - protecting low roadways, nuisance flooding retention walls, etc.
 - Update on recent discussion with John Lust regarding other towns who are trying this approach.
 - d. WWTP vulnerability study – status of Phase 2, preliminary design of conceptual solutions
 - Goal: to promote the “hardening” of the town’s sanitary system and treatment plan.
 - Update from Paul on the Phase II working group WPCA/CVWG meeting.
 - e. Cattle Crossing flood gate study – status report
 - Goal: to track this project and to determine how AMTRAK has responded to issues regarding flooding against their elevated track beds
 - Update from Tracy

- f. Emergency Management Services Resiliency – work with Chief Mahoney regarding key locations of road flooding which impact delivery of emergency services
Goal: to identify critical locations and research resiliency solutions to each
- Discuss ways to support Chief Mahoney’s GIS initiative.
- g. Zoning Regulation and Town Ordinance tools - PZC / CVWG joint working group - status
Goal: to determine actions to build resilience through ordinances and/or zoning regulations.
- Review of outreach to CIRCA by Sharon and Peter – possible CIRCA discussion
- h. Community Presentations – Branford River Neighborhoods presentation and possible marshland presentation
Goal to build public awareness, feedback, and public involvement.
- CVWG presentation on Branford River still pending.
 - Marshland presentation pending locating a presenter
- i. Stony Creek CV sub-group – status report
Goal: work with the SCA subgroup to initiate actual resilience projects in Stony Creek.
- Status report – no action
- j. CVWG page of Town Website - Q&A portal, Facebook page, FEMA page status report
Goal: to make our webpage more interactive and responsive to public needs regarding coastal resilience.
- Status report – no action

Peter Hentschel, Chairperson