

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, January 28, 5:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88081871214?pwd=vRDxyiy88FOca83Mer0nsuQSTo2Jwu.1>

Meeting ID: 880 8187 1214, Passcode: 765306, Phone 646-558-8656

- Call to Order and Roll Call
- Approval of December Meeting Minutes
- Discuss status and next steps on the following primary ongoing 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 CIRCA’s 12/4/24 conference call with our team – notes attached
 - Review Tracy’s draft press release and “call to action” – draft attached.
 - b. Community Reporting - “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 proposed tide-gauge marker to record tide levels with flood reports
 - Need to engage more roadway monitors – discuss how to achieve
 - Review Tracy’s draft press release – is more needed regarding MyCoast or separate press release?
 - c. Roadway Flooding – finding protective solutions / tide walls.
 - Goal: to investigate possible resilience actions, consult with key regulatory authorities including DEEP, and determine DEEP’s response to - protecting low roadways from nuisance flooding by use of low retention walls, etc.
 - Update regarding meeting with John Lust and John Hoefflerle on 1/16 to discuss JL’s survey needs for his draft DEEP tide wall proposal
 - Update on request to John Hoefflerle to do additional survey point at the other 8 road flooding locations we are monitoring.
 - Update on request to the town engineer for storm sewer mapping at Montowese St and at Thimble Island Rd.
 - 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 RFQ that the WPCA/CVWG working group is developing.

- Discuss status of other initiatives:
 - a. 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.
 - Status
 - b. 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
 - Status
 - c. Community Presentations – Branford River Neighborhoods presentation and possible marshland presentation
Goal to build public awareness, feedback, and public involvement.
 - CVWG presentation on Branford River.
 - Marshland presentation
 - d. 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

Peter Hentschel, Chairperson