

MEETING SUMMARY

Wayne County CLEAR Steering Committee Meeting #6

November 10, 2021 10:00-11:30



Attendees:

SC Members

- Brian Pincelli, Director, Wayne County Planning Department
- David McDowell, Mayor, Village of Sodus Point
- Lynn Chatfield, Supervisor, Town of Wolcott
- Lindsey Gerstenslager, District Manager, Wayne County Soil & Water Conservation District
- David Klein, Senior Field Representative, The Nature Conservancy
- David McDowell, Mayor, Village of Sodus Point
- Frank Robusto, Supervisor, Town of Ontario
- Kristy Fowler, Manager, Pier 53 Fowler Marinas and restaurant
- Tom Hart, Eastern Lake Ontario Dunes Coalition

State Partners

- Chris Bauer, DOS
- Nancy Martel, DOS
- Karen Catcher, DOS
- Tom Haley, DEC

Consultant Team

- Paul Romano, Ramboll
- Kadir Goz, Ramboll
- Laura Lourenco, Elan
- Lisa Nagle, Elan

Partners & Observers

- Ryan Thomas
- Rewa Phansalkar
- Mary Austerman, NYSea Grant

Meeting Summary (see accompanying slides)

Discussion on Proposed Resilience Actions

Resilience Scenario #1: Include Climate Resilience in all regional and local planning efforts

Strategy 1.1 - Develop building guidelines and land development regulations (e.g., zoning) that address lake shore changes and flooding

- CEHA ordinances might have a larger impact e.g Sodus Point
- Add to list: **CEHA Cookbook** – on how to interpret and enforce

Strategy 1.2 - Develop building guidelines and land development regulations (e.g., zoning) that address lake shore changes and flooding

- **gap in open space plans is consideration of natural coastline areas** – understanding sources of sediment, tension of shoreline protection vs need to leave open space

Strategy 1.3: Prepare targeted land use studies to determine highest, best, and smartest use for vacant parcels

- already have a lot of state owned / managed areas in Wayne Co. Need better coordination with local communities - could review how a state entity can cooperate with local govt to meet local needs, better cooperation, responsibility sharing - **multi-level governance land use strategy / intermunicipal agreement** (need to address roadblock of general municipal law)

Resilience Scenario #2: Coordinate Resilience Efforts across Municipal Boundaries

Strategy 2.1: Create a regional climate resilience committee

- Good to have a **coordinator, barrier is funding** for the position - though have local buy-in on value of this person, might find local funding if can get seed money from CFA. Also need to be able to reform regulations to allow them to actually implement their ideas. Sea Grant follow up.

Strategy 2.2: Create regional resilience funding mechanisms for repair/relocation of critical infrastructure

- like idea - fed govt has something like this, need to get all the buzz words in here so eligible for different funds – e.g. EPA uses **different language** (not 'resiliency')

Resilience Scenario #3 – Educate residents and visitors about resilience responsibilities

Strategy 3.1: Focus educational programming within socially vulnerable populations

- Already have a lot of outreach. This could be a continuation of existing programs. Or maybe there is a new angle / hook. **Members to consider how this could be useful.** also ask local leaders how effective current outreach is.

Strategy 3.2: Conduct educational programs with County residents and visitors

- no comment

Resilience Scenario #4 – Protect and Restore Ecosystem Services and Cultural resources

Strategy 4.1 Incorporate nature based solutions (including to protect property, beaches, bluffs and nearshore resources) for shoreline protection

- Need to better understand Lake Ontario shoreline sediment flows, feeder locations before suggest actions that could lead to maladaptation.
- **Build on Baird study findings** – info on transport and sources, but gaps on flows from mechanically placed sediment, no modeling of lake extremes.
- **USACE updated this study**, but not downscaled enough (km scale, not m scale) tp pinpoint locations.
- **If doing another study, model a better baseline**: do over a period of time with high water, low water, ice conditions etc to build a base to model conditions and behavior under 2014 plan.

- Additional policy: Should be policy to use **low water as opportunity for ecosystem-based adaptation**. Can identify some locations more readily (e.g. wind catchments, western side of bays/outlets). Best source for understanding conditions is **USACE triple bathymetric lidar**. (not topo lidar). 2018 flight, with 2019 release. 2021 coming up, need to get on their Great Lakes location list. Every 3 years good.
- **NOAA and DOS standards** useful in different ways, use both.
- Have not seen success yet with **living shorelines** in bluff areas. Also some policy barriers to local shorelines. Would help get local buy-in if had a **successful demonstration project at a state park** (e.g. chimney bluffs, beechwood) to address shoreline hazards, based on findings of shoreline study.

Strategy 4.2: Preserve historic and cultural assets for future generations

- demo project for historic/cultural resource could be **Chimney Bluffs** as described above.
- **Outlets of Tributaries** - also interest to protect activities / uses of tributaries. Outlets being blocked, limited traditional and recreational uses. Barrier in REDI was defining what the action to be taken was, need help with this – **can refer to recent SWCD proposal**

Selection of Demonstration Profiles

Draft list based on discussion to be narrowed down to 2-3:

Living

- CEHA Cookbook
- Review/Prepare Open Space Plan
- Review/Prepare LWRP
- Multi- level governance land use strategy (to be defined)
- Regional Capacity Building (e.g., Regional Resilience Coordinator)
- Resiliency Revolving Fund (name tbd)
- Community risk & vulnerability workshop
- Establish framework for educational programs
- Educational Signage
- Shoreline sediment and performance study
- Natural Shoreline demo project (e.g. Chimney Bluffs, based on above)
- Outlets of Tributaries - ecosystem assessment

Low on time, will send around mentimeter poll for committee to pick preferred actions to profile

Next Steps

1. Mentimeter poll on actions to profile
2. follow ups from this meeting to refine projects
3. public event Nov 18th
4. document drafts being posted to SC area as become available
5. Dec 16th SC7 – discuss draft CLEAR plan