

MEETING SUMMARY

Niagara Orleans CLEAR Steering Committee Meeting #1

May 25, 2021 10:00-11:00



Attendees:

SC Members

- Bruce Newell, Town Board, Town of Kendall
- James Bensley, Director, Orleans County Planning Dep
- Jason Haremza, Senior Planner, Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
- Michael Casale, Commissioner, Niagara County Center for Economic Development
 - with Ben Bidell, Niagara County Center for Economic Development
- Steve Broderick, Supervisor, Town of Lewiston
- Duffy Johnson, Supervisor, Town of Porter
- *David Reckahn*, for Mark Seider, District Engineer, Niagara County Soil and Water
- Timothy Horanburg, Town Supervisor, Town of Newfane

State Partners

- Chris Bauer, DOS
- Nancy Martel, DOS
- Karen Catcher, DOS
- Karis Manning, DEC
- Beth Geldard, DEC
- Art Briley, NYS Parks

Consultant Team

- Julie Conroy, Ramboll
- Paul Romano, Ramboll
- Kadir Goz, Ramboll
- Shaun Gannon, Ramboll
- Anthony Eallonardo, Ramboll
- Lisa Nagle, Elan
- Laura Lourenco, Elan

Meeting Materials

- Agenda
- Updated asset map
- Regional thematic maps – These high resolution reference maps show land use, infrastructure, and natural & community resources.

Meeting Summary (see accompanying slides)

Introduction

Meeting Goals:

- Continue asset discussion to create final *draft* asset list to inform risk assessment
- Discuss committee's input on the public engagement plan and get feedback on the format for public event #1

Asset Inventory

- Next step in the planning process is the risk assessment tool
- Will consider short and long-term risks and impacts from changing lake and climatic conditions
- Shoreline erosion has positive and negative impacts – natural processes redistribute silt to create and maintain shoreline beaches and protective features. But some areas will continue to lose sediment that will not be replenished (see red and yellow areas on map).
 - Orleans Co Planning can share 1 foot lidar contour data
- Asset maps and lists have been updated after look and listen tour (see slides, L&L meeting summary, and maps in SC area)
- Can share excel file list as well
- Anything to add?
 - No further assets
 - Q: Should we break down individual assets into components – e.g. a marina area into docks, piers, restaurant, etc?
 - A: not at this time. may break out individual items as an asset if needed during the risk assessment, could circle back with committee members for input at that time.
 - We will start to move forward with this draft list. Will have chances to refine. If think of anything else, please email the team.

Public Engagement

- Reviewed responses to SC Questionnaire
- Included good suggestions for outreach, venues, tools, etc
- also suggestion to use CLEAR as opportunity to engage different state agencies to encourage a consistent approaches / practices / standards from planning to implementation
- Some communities have had success with online engagement
- In other places, concern that online only engagement would not be accessible for some communities and audiences
- Follow up polls:

"Most of my community could access an online survey" (either on a computer, phone, or other device)

- Yes - Town of Porter, Town of Kendall, Niagara County Center for Economic Development, DEC
- Unsure - Neighbor Works Community Partners Niagara Falls, Niagara County Soil and Water, Orleans County Planning, NYS Parks,

"Cellular phone access/reception is a concern for my community"

- Agree – Orleans Co.
- Somewhat Agree – Kendall, Porter, NCSW, DEC
- Disagree – NCCED, NYS Parks, NWCP Niagara Falls

"Internet access is a concern for my community"

- Agree – Orleans Co., NYS Parks, DEC
- Somewhat Agree – NCCED

- Unsure - NCSW
- Disagree – Kendall, Porter, NWCP Niagara Falls,

"I could arrange for hard copies of materials on CLEAR (e.g. flyers, postcards) to be printed and distributed in my community"

- Yes –Kendall, NWCP Niagara Falls, NCSW, NYS Parks
- Maybe - Porter, Orleans Co, DEC

"I could organize brief in-person or online presentations on CLEAR in my community"

- Yes – Porter, Neighbor Works Community Partners Niagara Falls
- Maybe - Town of Kendall, Niagara County Soil and Water, DEC

- Overview of proposed plan for Public Event #1 (see slide)
 - Live presentation (to be recorded and posted online)
 - Online and offline (sms) survey options
 - Flyers and presentation materials
 - No comments on plan, will move forward as proposed, considering responses to poll above
 - Outreach suggestions:
 - Porter
 - recall that waterfront communities had a lot of meetings with active attendance, could request email listserv from those meetings
 - lots of assets on the list are businesses – publicize engagement opps through the businesses –
 - Distribute to congregations in Niagara (personal outreach) and Yates town Park (lots of farms around there) to reach e.g. Mennonite and Amish populations. Personal approach more effective, through congregation leaders.
 - Will ask if could put a box in the park to collect written responses

Next Steps:

- Public Engagement #1 – publicize, launch
- Doodle poll to set time for Steering Committee meeting #2 on June 29th
- Risk Assessment