

## MEETING SUMMARY

### Niagara Orleans CLEAR Steering Committee Meeting #3

June 29, 2021 09:00-10:00



#### Attendees:

##### **SC Members**

- Katie Sommerfeldt, Manager, Orleans County Soil & Water
- 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

##### **Local Partners**

- Roy Widrig, Sea Grant

##### **State Partners**

- Chris Bauer, DOS
- Nancy Martel, DOS
- Karen Catcher, DOS
- Art Briley, NYS Parks
- David Spiering, NYS Parks

##### **Consultant Team**

- Julie Conroy, Ramboll
- Paul Romano, Ramboll
- Shaun Gannon, Ramboll
- Lisa Nagle, Elan
- Laura Lourenco, Elan

### Meeting Summary (see accompanying slides)

#### **Introduction**

##### **Meeting Goals:**

- Introduce Risk Assessment
- Begin to collect inputs for Risk Assessment

#### **Risk Assessment**

- Explanation of process, qualitative and quantitative variables (See slides)

#### **Discussion on Community Value for assets**

- **Maid of the Mist Boat** - HIGH VALUE  
most iconic tourist asset. Huge economic impact. 8-12 million people visiting the falls, large % go on this boat. This is the “hub” of a hub and spoke strategy

- Waters Street assets – MEDIUM to HIGH?
  - **South Docks** (Youngstown) - close to jet park ride. Have community clubs, youth clubs etc that use this
  - **North Docks (Youngstown)** - more secluded, also includes salmon rearing
  
- Marinas:
  - McDonough Marine – check for restaurant, gas dock.
  - Hedley Boat Company separate marina – charter boats, recreational boating, boat repair (staging area for Olcott harbor breakwater REDI project)
  - Back Bay Marina
  - Newfane town Marina

sizable fishing charters that operate out of these marinas, maybe about a dozen, contact Niagara County Sportfishing coordinator (Destination Niagara) for more information
  
- Pump - Between Hedley and McDonough Marine there is a pump that has been undercut by erosion (REDI project)
  
- Newfane Shops Boardwalk – shops and boutique
- Olcott Beach Carousel Park – Hershell carousel in there, right across street, respite area for tourists when visit beach or fishing
- Area Farms:
  - Singers Farm -
  - Baehres Farm -
  - Mayer Brothers (cidery & juices)
  - Russels U-Pick blueberries
  - Blackwood ciderworks
  
- Niagara County orchards and vineyards – SC member can follow up with a list
  
- Carlton Assets – Clustered along Oak Orchard Creek. do have erosion on banks
  
- Hydropower from the NYPA Power Project in Lewiston - economic driver for the region with low-cost power to companies in a 30-mile radius of the plant tied to thousands of jobs. *Vulnerability* to water level fluctuations may be lower since the Power Authority reservoir is completely human controlled as far as water intake
  
- Somerset - 180 acres between Somerset bottling and Baehres - between Mayer brothers and power plant (being decommissioned)

## Qs

- *Only chance for input?* - Have 38 assets provided by committee, want to give chance to discuss here today. Given low attendance, will also send around for input after meeting as well. The Public Survey also asks about community value and vulnerability

- *has there been any talk about funding tied to CLEAR plan?* No, not at this time

**Next Steps** – Finish collecting inputs to run risk assessment

1. Please send reminders about Public Survey #1 to your networks. It closes July 7<sup>th</sup>  
Copies of all outreach materials are on the website.
2. Committee Input
  - On Community Value of Community Assets
  - On locations of Socially Vulnerable Populations (confirm/comment on existing map)
3. Next meeting – tentatively August 31 11:00 am

Happy 4<sup>th</sup>!