

Sea Level Adaptation Working Group (SLAWG)
Meeting Minutes
Date: 1/11/2010
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Attendees: Mike Nugent (OOB), Jay Chace (Scarborough), Lucy LaCasse (Scarborough), Bob Hamblen (Saco), Ken Buechs (Biddeford), Steve Zeeman (Biddeford), JT Lockman (SMRPC), Peter Slovinsky (MGS)

Review of Vulnerability Assessment

The vulnerability assessment report was submitted to councils for review. Scarborough: Meet with Scarborough Council on workshop level on 2/2/2011; OOB: will be presented to the OOB council in February session; Saco: the vulnerability assessment was presented at workshop – is scheduled for next Tuesday (2/17 at 7 pm) council meeting. Particular questions or issues including budgetary constraints have been addressed. Biddeford: nothing has been heard from the Biddeford City Council to-date; monies have already been appropriated for Biddeford.

State Planning Office liked the initial vulnerability report, but wanted some revisions in terms of scientific terminology and including grant numbers on the report.

Vulnerability Assessment Next Steps

- Can do depth analysis using GIS and can incorporate USACE flood depth analyses correlating with percentage of damage of a structure (JT handed out a document from the USACE National Economic Development Manuals)
- Discussion on feasibility and value of doing a depth impact analysis of the cost of impacts – could be done in conjunction with an action such as elevation a percentage of structures to inform ordinances, etc.; most communities use VISION datasets (Scarborough may not); may require some legwork to complete the effort. Each community will check to see whether or not VISION is utilized.
- We might be getting ahead of ourselves by looking at this right away; such an analysis can be undertaken in very specific identified “problem” areas. Such detail might then be required at this level at this point (a bit early in the process).
- Utilities have not been included at this point yet – this should be looked at and included in the analysis in the future.
- Could potentially have GIS students at UNE do such an analysis or to set up the databases to support such an effort at a later time? An applications GIS course is being taught this semester; Steve will check on this at UNE.
- It is possible that FEMA might be interested in such data in the future? Note: FEMA RISKMAP process is being discussed in OOB in the near future (January 20 at City Hall, 2 – 4 pm).
- One of the pieces of data that needs to be understood better is the economic impact of roads being flooded and impacted – how is this quantified? Should get a handle to help prioritize this. Infrastructure is listed as one of the next steps identified in the assessment. Some limited data was received from public works departments from the partner communities. Pete will contact Charlie Hebson at

- Maine DOT to find out some guidance on how MEDOT deals with this issue.
This could get DOT to work on state roads in the towns.
- Also need to specify the impacts to wetlands and adjacent uplands.
 - Process...we discussed the four next steps section of the assessment report (p. 9-10). We can use some of the data from the initial assessment to help prioritize some of the neighborhoods to do secondary, more in-depth assessments of residential impacts.
 - Still need to determine how we might address some impacts along the open coast.
 - Pete provided a presentation on the MGS Beach Scoring System and how the system has developed to a certain point. The group decided that it would be helpful to pursue. We also discussed how sea level rise might be integrated into the system, i.e., into the FEMA v-zone elevations? We could do a certain kind of overlay of datasets and cull out the areas that have the most number of vulnerability layers that exist in certain areas. Could use something similar to the scoring system to develop a decision matrix that will enable SLAWG to help pinpoint vulnerability priority areas.
 - NEEFC Sam Merrill contact in terms of COAST. Will be valuable to include that with our efforts. An opportunity to bring him in will be coming up.

The meeting ended at 6:00 pm.

The next meeting is on Friday, January 28, 2011 at 8:30 am at the Saco Transportation Center.

Minutes by P. Slovinsky, MGS.