

Sea Level Adaptation Working Group (SLAWG)

Meeting Minutes

Date: 5/9/2011

8:30 – 10:00 am

Attendees Steve Zeeman (Biddeford), Lucy LaCasse (Scarborough), Jay Chace (Scarborough), Jim Walker (Old Orchard Beach), JT Lockman (SMRPC), Peter Slovinsky (MGS)

Any final input on Action Plan or the Vulnerability Assessment?

- What will Councils be doing with the Action Plan/Vulnerability Assessment? It is being provided as an informational document that is the background for all forthcoming work from SLAWG.
- Action Plan and Assessment will be submitted to councils this week under cover letter.

Discussion of CoreLogic and SWIPA Reports

- CoreLogic report showed a large discrepancy between the mapped FEMA flood zones and surge zones from hurricanes in the majority of the communities.
- SWIPA report on higher sea level predictions due to glacial/ice sheet melt.
- May 12-13 meeting in Portland by Portland Society of Architects to discuss sea level impacts in Portland.
- GMRI session on surge impacts with John Cannon from NWS Thursday evening May 12.

Identification of Low Hanging Fruit (LHF) Steps

- How are we going to prioritize projects?
- Floodplain ordinances and shoreland zoning (e.g., common method for determining using LIDAR). Shoreland zoning resource protection zone (250 ft) needs to have some educational component to help explain clarification of accurate methods for mapping the shoreland zone boundary and what would be allowed, etc.
 - Scarborough ordinance says text governs and that maps are advisory only.
 - Kennebunkport case resulted in map/text for shoreland zoning needing to be relatively accurate.
 - What is the actual process for updating the maps? Official shoreland zoning map might need to be approved by the planning board, clerk, and adopted by the council. **SLAWG could produce a report that recommends how a town should go about updating the shoreland zoning maps using LIDAR data.**
- **Approaching public works and emergency coordinators in communities depending on potential flood depths and where roads may become impassable. No regulatory review or change required.**
- Should be aware of road construction projects in each community – need to talk to managers and planners could be aware of capital improvement projects. *SLAWG can offer to make data and report available to the communities for use in capital*

improvement planning efforts. Need to engage multiple levels, i.e., PACTs Maine DOT funding for projects (Carl Eppich at GPCOG). How does our work not get lost in translation with these groups? **Need to schedule meetings with public works directors and PACTs; separate meetings with public works directors and then PACTs. Would need to develop a smaller report focusing on potential road impacts to communities only with links to larger reporting efforts.**

- Need to pinpoint what projects the OOB funding (\$1.6-1.8M bond issue) on road improvement projects is slated for from previous funding. *Jim will follow up on this.*
- **Could start the discussions on intra-town work** on the Milone-McBroom report results between Scarborough and Old Orchard Beach. May want to wait on this and show some actionable results first. May want to initiate discussion with IF&W and other players into discussion on Bayley's dam. Scarborough Comp plan does identify Snow Canning culvert as a priority.
- **Railroad bridge for the Downeaster Rail Line** was identified as a structure that goes underwater. May want to at least make them aware of the potential impacts.
- **Need to engage the folks that manage the New Salt Road tide gate** to garner lessons learned on management. *Pete will look for the study that looks at GPR studies and historic inlet migration at Goosefare Brook.*

The meeting ended at 10:15 am. The next meeting is on Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 4:30 pm at Saco City Hall. Minutes by P. Slovinsky, MGS.