

Town of Leland
Resilient Coastal Communities Program
Community Action Team Meeting #3
December 6, 2021 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

Attendees	Email	Affiliation
Mackenzie Todd	mackenzie.todd@ncdenr.gov	NC Division of Coastal Management
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Debbie Willis	dkwillis8@gmail.com	Town of Leland
Barnes Sutton	bsutton@townofleland.com	Town of Leland
Pat Batleman	pbatleman@townofleland.com	Town of Leland
Matt Kirkland	mkirkland@townofleland.com	Town of Leland
Niel Brooks	nbrooks@townofleland.com	Town of Leland
Bob Walker	bwalker@h2goonline.com	H2Go
Lauren Kolodij	laurenk@nccoast.org	NC Coastal Federation
Abby Lorenzo	Aibgail.Lorenzo@wilmingtonnc.gov	WMPO
Cayla Cothron	cdothro@ncsu.edu	NC Sea Grant
Kat Hoenke	kat@southeastaquatics.net	Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership
Mike Robinson	mrobinson@moffattnichol.com	Moffatt & Nichol
Dawn York	dyork@moffattnichol.com	Moffatt & Nichol
Ayse Karanci	akaranci@moffatt&nichol.com	Moffatt & Nichol
Amanda Zullo	azullo@moffattnichol.com	Moffatt & Nichol
Rachel Baker	rbaker@moffattnichol.com	Moffatt & Nichol
Not in Attendance	Email	Affiliation
Dawn Friedman	dfriedman@townofleland.com	Town of Leland
Wyatt Richardson	wrichardson@townofleland.com	Town of Leland
Kemp Burdette	kemp@cfrw.us	Cape Fear River Watch

Word of welcome from Dawn York – Community Action Team meeting to discuss the Resilient Coastal Communities Program (RCCP) for the Town of Leland.

Roll Call

- Participants listed above.

The Resilient Coastal Communities Program team, led by Moffatt & Nichol, with technical support from the NC Division of Coastal Management, presented an overview of the scope of the program and next steps. Presentation is provided with the meeting summary.

Review of Vision and Goals (Mike Robinson)

- Presentation of Vision Statement
 - To promote the health, safety, and overall well-being of the residents, visitors, and patrons of Leland by creating a more resilient community, particularly regarding floodplain and stormwater management, sheltering and evacuation, data and research, transportation and infrastructure, community planning, communication, economy, and the environment.
 - From John Grimes: Can we delete the word “sheltering”? The County is responsible for sheltering, that is a State and County function.
- Presentation of Goal Statements
 - The themes that were captured are: Floodplain and Stormwater Management, Sheltering and Evacuation, Data and Research, Transportation and Infrastructure, Plans, Policies, and Ordinances, Communication, Economics, and Environmental.
 - Full goal statements provided in copy of presentation.
- Team has captured everything from the CAT.

Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (Ayse Karanci)

- We used the CDC Social Vulnerability Index which ranks census blocks against one another, looking at socioeconomic status, household composition, minority status and language, and housing and transportation.
- Group discussion on buildings in the CAT Vulnerability Index exercise.
 - Two proposed fire stations are still in the design process and those should be represented in the vulnerability index table.
 - Another asset that seems to be missing from this index table is anything pertaining to senior living facilities/nursing homes/senior care apartments. Those can be added as part of this assessment.
 - A concern when looking at this map/table is the assessment stops right at the Town boundaries, and it does not expand to a broader level. It is understood that we have to focus on what lies inside the Town, but we still see impacts from what goes on right outside the Town boundaries. Everything north of Town Creek impacts the Town of Leland but we need to figure out where to draw the line for including facilities in this assessment.
 - The only facilities that are listed as having exposures are Station 52, the Puddle Jumpers Forest, Childcare Network, Excel Learning Center, Leland Public Library, H2GO Office, and the NC State Government Adult Probation and Parole.
 - It doesn't exist yet, but Liberty continuing care facility will exist soon. Exposure of Town Hall and Community Center should be similar since they're adjacent to one another. Assisted living facilities including this one should be included with Education and Day Cares for the category of Institutional facilities.
 - It would also be beneficial to also include the lift stations that are within the floodplain, since there are a few of them.
 - Question from Abby Lorenzo: Is there a way to factor in the roadway network that provides access to and from the critical facilities?
 - Answer from Ayse Karanci: That will be included in the sensitivity score.
 - From Dawn York: are there any roadways in particular that you are referring to think should be included?

- From Abby Lorenzo: Just in general, it's a critical thing to be aware of as we are looking at these natural hazards. Access is important and knowing that something is of a higher risk could be important to the Town for planning purposes.
- From Debbie Willis: Does the MPO have a plan that goes along with what we are doing in Leland? That matches the roadways with what we are saying in this assessment?
 - From Abby Lorenzo: We don't have one at a regional level, but we have been supporting our members in these local efforts. During the development of the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Hurricane Florence occurred and there were a lot of discussions that followed that had influence over policies in this adaptive plan. This plan recognizes that as we move forward, we need to recognize the vulnerability of projects to flooding as they are being designed and implemented.
- From Debbie Willis: I wonder if this should be another criteria for the data-drive projects being used.
 - From Abby Lorenzo: Yes, it was. However, at the time of evaluation when looking at these resiliency factors, we did not have all the same technology and resources we do today.

Project Planning (Rachel Baker)

- Rachel presented on several project ideas derived from previous CAT discussions as well as Town of Leland previous efforts, programs, plans and ordinances:
 - Baldwin Drive Stormwater Management
 - Sturgeon Creek Watershed
 - Demolition/ FEMA Buyout Feasibility Studies
 - Emergency Fuel Preparedness
 - Future Land Use Plans/Policies/ Ordinances
 - Highway 133 Flood Mitigation
 - Old Fayetteville Road Flood Mitigation
 - Education and Outreach Programs
 - Lanvale Trace Stormwater Wetland
 - Low Country Boulevard Culvert Enhancements
 - Magnolia Greens Stormwater Solutions
 - Mallory Creek Drive Drainage Plan
 - Lift Station #14 Relocation
- From Dawn York: The scope of Phase 2, based on the RCCP Handbook, is to identify the highest priority projects to move forward into the future funding phase.
- These project ideas were identified from conversations from previous CAT meetings, as well as a ride-around with Adrianna. These project ideas are preliminary, these are not set in stone moving forward.
- From Adrianna: I am concerned that these projects have already been talked about and there are not many new ideas. For example, Lanvale Trace has been taken care of and is not an issue anymore. For example, roadways adjacent to lift stations that are lower in elevation that may cause issues getting to these lift stations.
- From Lauren Kolodij: I know NCDOT is really changing their approach and design manual to stormwater management and putting it at the forefront of projects instead of at the end, they might be worth talking to about some of these potential combined projects.

Have you all looked at the long-term Capital Improvement Plan and upcoming projects for consideration to see if there are any opportunities for including retrofits? I also know the town is really proactive in implementing permeable parking lots in parks, NCDOT might be worth reaching out to for securing funding for potential parks and recreation projects that involve permeable parking lots.

- From Adrianna: That's a good idea, and we are in the process of continually updating our Capital Improvement Plan. The other thing is maybe we can investigate our stream bank stabilization since we have multiple parks that are adjacent to waterways.

Project Planning and Prioritization (Mike Robinson)

- STAPLEE Criteria is a tool for us to work with that provides a framework of certain questions. By ranking the projects against one another, we can decipher which ones rank highest.
 - Range is 1-5. The positive response gets the higher number.
 - We request the community's input on these projects.

RCCP Funding Updates (Mackenzie Todd)

- DCM has received additional funding and will be continuing this program.
- Phase 3 will fund the engineering and design of a prioritized project, with an estimated total of \$40K for each project.
- Phase 4 is anticipated to be posted late summer/early fall 2022.

Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership (Kat Hoenke)

- The Southeast Aquatic Connectivity Program
- SARP developed a tool for communities to use: connectivity.sarpdata.com
- Inventory of barriers (dams, road crossings, waterfalls) is fed into the tool.
- Proposed structures (looked at Sturgeon Creek and beyond), want to align with town's priorities
- The inventory then goes into the prioritization tool
- Selecting watersheds will help leverage RCCP and work to ID potential projects in the future for phase 3 or 4 funding.

Next Steps for Team and CAT members (Dawn York)

- Complete vulnerability scoring and ranking for critical assets
- Finalize Risk & Vulnerability Assessment
- Prioritize projects and complete project portfolio
- Compile Resilience Strategy and submit to NCDCM and Town
- Homework assignments provided by M&N team