

Town of Shandaken

S.A.F.A.R.I. Meeting NOTES

Shandaken Area Flood Assessment and Remediation Initiative

Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:00am - 12:00pm

In-Person at AWSMP Office, Shokan, NY

Remotely: <https://meet.goto.com/186340189>

In Attendance:

In Person

Peter DiSclafani, Shandaken Town Supervisor
Eric Hoffmeister, Shandaken Highway Superintendent
Leslie Zucker, Program Leader, AWSMP
Adam Doan, Stream Project Manager, AWSMP
Heidi Emrich, Environmental Planner, UCDOE
Tim Koch, Lead Educator, AWSMP
Max Kelly, Watershed Educator, AWSMP
John Mathiesen, Environmental Engineering Specialist, CWC
Adam Trescott, Project Manager, Stream Management Program, NYCDEP
Andrew Emrich, Sr. Engineer, UC DPW

Virtual

Kevin VanBlarcum, Shandaken Deputy Supervisor
Aaron Bennett, Deputy Chief, NYCDEP
Watershed Lands & Community Planning
David Burns, Project Manager, NYCDEP

Town of Shandaken Updates

- Floodplain Administrator outreach, assistance, permits, issues, etc
 - Several committee members received correspondence regarding a proposal for three cabins on stilts on Grey Way. CWC responded (cc'd all of us) that this is a dangerous place to build, and its not surprising that you're not able to find an engineer. Landowner even reached out to Bailey Sawyer at DEC. Peter is having Zoning look at it too.
 - Provide education?
 - Aaron: has pictures of water rescues from that location from 2005 and 2011. There should be a car in the tree.
 - CWC money may have been used to remove the cabins after Irene.
 - Aaron- since we're talking about this area... the houses on Dutcher Road that are for sale – It appears they were substantially improved within the last few years, not elevated (no flood mitigation measures).
 - One other request was a simple permit, re: boiler installation.

Feasibility Studies

- Town Hall & Highway Garage complex relocation feasibility study application – update
 - CWC, John updates the group re: relocation feasibility study, the original application was “tabled” based on “lack of information” plus CWC didn't want to fund something if Shandaken didn't have enough allocated funds to actually move to construction.
 - Heidi to assist town in getting revised grant application in.
 - Group looks at Glenbrook Park and contemplates feasibility. There is a parcel off Rudy Frank Road that is available (\$25,000). The owner appears willing to sell 5.13-2-30 to town for leach field, if the extra space is needed. A lot line adjustment would be ideal.

- John Matheisen suggests the town obtain something in writing from the landowner, include as an attachment and mention this in the revised application.

SMIP Funding & Program Follow-Up

- Updates on project priorities for planning purposes
 - How much does Shandaken want to “bite off?” Leslie summarizes:
 - Shandaken is undertaking the ongoing Bridge Street Bridge project. Does the town want to look at design and feasibility for enhanced floodplain bench, also given the modelled results from a future Main Street Bridge replacement, does the town want to update the Phoenicia LFA (for funding this year?)
 - Pine Hill LFA Project 2, Bonnie View Avenue between Station Road and Mill Street
 - Still waiting to hear from SLR for survey, looking for their opinion of bridge sizing (original LFA suggested 50 feet)
 - Eric to follow-up with Mark Carabetta, SLR
 - LFA implementation projects can be funded any time.
 - AWSMP can fund the design
 - CWC could potentially fund the construction
 - Pine Hill Area 6, Lower Main Street over Birch Creek; Eric was going to revisit the sites and double-check his priorities, the results:
 - Academy and Elm are actually higher priority, Lower Main Street super structure is actually in pretty good shape.
 - Academy overtops during a ten-year flood
 - Elm Street (Alton Creek Project)
 - Big Indian and Oliverea LFA or Chichester LFA
 - In a previous meeting the committee agreed to wait on a Chichester LFA, and do Chichester with Phoenicia LFA update in 2025
 - Does Shandaken want to do a Big Indian and Oliverea LFA now?
 - If so, AWSMP may have to check with DEP re: re-allocating funds, as AWSMP will likely fund another municipality’s LFA this year.
 - Next SMIP funding round for everything else, due June 30, 2023.

Design & Implementation Project Updates

- Design & Feasibility Phoenicia Bridge Street Bridge Project - UC DPW (partly funded by AWSMP)
 - Soil borings are happening right now and stream survey will be happening over the next month. Conceptual drawings will be delivered after that.
 - There will be a resolution with UC Legislature so that the railroad tracks can be removed.
 - Peter spoke to LaBella, trying to acquire information on the water main (previously designed by Chazen, now LaBella); County really needs that info in order to design the waterline replacement. Peter will try LaBella again.
 - Re: Landowners: wait until we have conceptual drawing
 - Peragine: according to UCDPW, these land owners are not at all interested in any sort of alternative that relocates station road through their property. They are amenable to having retaining walls along their property
 - Is there significantly greater flood reduction benefits between Alternative 2 and Alternative 3?
 - The group discusses the various levels of benefits
 - Andrew asks about the earmarked funding? Has anyone heard anything further?

- David Burns reports the funding is definitely allocated. DEP is going to prepare a separate contract with UCSWC.
 - The project has to have a pretty big flood mitigation component to keep it eligible to receive this funding.
 - Timing? David thinks it'll likely take up to a year to get the contract done.
 - The funding will be up to 8 million. It is guaranteed, earmarked just for this project.
 - Is there a way to go between Alternative 2 vs. Alternative 3?
 - Andrew says that's tricky because of how the bridge abutments layout with the street intersections, etc.
 - Next steps: Conceptual designs between Alternatives 2 and 3 (2a and 3a, if additional alternatives are or can be developed).
 - What happens if the cost of the project are more than 8 million? The county can apply to CWC for remaining funds.
- Mount Tremper Bridge LOMR updates, if any (funded by AWSMP)
 - Information has FINALLY been received from DOT. Its not the final as-built grading plan but it's the final as-built bridge and final proposed grading plan which seems very consistent with field observations.
 - Pine Hill LFA Project Area 2 updates
 - Waiting for SLR for survey

Stream Restoration Project Updates

- Elk Bushkill
 - Hoping to get to 100% design this week. Waiting to submit a floodplain development permit to town.
 - Will announce RFP soon.
 - SWPPP and other permits are all under review.
- McKenley Hollow (funded by AWSMP)
 - Waiting on SLR; they should have completed the survey and drone flight. Upstream landowners are ready to go and waiting for more information.

Stream Access & Recreation

- Mt. Tremper Park
 - Had their first meeting outlining logistics
 - Tasks, Aaron (as a resident) and Max (AWSMP) were both there
 - Wednesday, June 28th at the Rock Cut parcel, to do a site visit 7pm.

Partner Updates

- AWSMP
 - Upcoming Ashokan Watershed Conference July 28th and July 29
 - The 28th, Emerson: Bill Nechamen, NFIP codes / Building Codes – free for all municipal officials
 - The 29th, Bearsville Theater will be a landowner “get to know your watershed” day
 - October will be “Post Flood Emergency Stream Intervention Training” 2-day training

- CWC
 - Phoenicia Fire Dept Tank Anchoring (several tanks)– application approved.
- NYCDEP
 - Brief discussion about Stucki, an FBO property
 - Reese still isn't quite done its demo yet.
 - Waiting on NYSEG to get that pole out of there.
 - Damiana and Van Baren are likely to close next month.
- Ulster County (Planning, Emergency Services, DPW, DOE)
 - Creekside Dr project is ongoing. DPW is actively working on the retaining wall; poured 2/3 of footing.
 - Need to relocate access road.
 - 4 weeks of work before they can open up the road.
 - Aaron asks, did it turn into a bigger project than they thought?
 - Verizon delayed due to fiber-optic.
 - DPW had to install 200 linear feet of temporary sheeting as well, just to create the access road.
 - Glenbrook bridge will be replaced next. (It'll be closed, with no temporary bridge). That project will take about 5 weeks to complete and is due to be completed this summer some time.
 - UCMJHMP
 - UC will soon be announcing dates for in-person meetings with towns to being preparing action items.

Other:

- Shandaken – other update on Pine Hill Stormwater
 - Town is getting ready to meet with CWC and DEP and SLR in Pine Hill to discuss options.
 - Eric asks if its possible to do a land swap with NYSDEC? Believes there may be a DEC parcel that could work for stormwater treatment and detention down off Lake Road. Perhaps Sage/Shurter property for a state parcel in Pine Hill?
 - John from CWC recommends reaching out to Tom Snow
- Comp Plan – Shandaken will be looking for input from partner organizations. They're meeting the 2nd Monday of every month.

Approve Notes / Adjourn

- Notes from previous meeting approved. Heidi to send notes to Joyce

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 11th, 2023 @ 10:00am