

Town of Shandaken

S.A.F.A.R.I. Meeting Notes

Shandaken Area Flood Assessment and Remediation Initiative

Tuesday, January 14, 2025 10:00am – 11:30 pm

In-Person at AWSMP Office, Shokan, NY

Or attend remotely: <https://meet.goto.com/186340189>

You can also dial in using your phone: +1 (408) 650-3123 - (Phone Access Code: 186-340-189)

Join online through a Google Chrome web browser: <https://meet.goto.com/186340189>

Or install the app: <https://meet.goto.com/install> | Enter Meeting ID: 186-340-189

In Attendance:

In Person:

Peter DiSclafani, Town of Shandaken
Supervisor

Eric Hofmeister, Town of Shandaken Highway
Superintendent

Leslie Zucker, AWSMP Program Manager,
CCEUC

Heidi Emrich, Environmental Planner, UCDOE

Evelyn Ellis, Deputy Director, UCDOE

Michael Madison, Deputy Director and
Emergency Manager, UC Emergency
Services

Sally Rodgers, Bard College

John Mathiesen, CWC Environmental
Engineering Specialist and Program
Manager

Adam Trescott, SMP Basin Manager, NYCDEP

Max Kelly, Watershed Educator

Remote:

Tim Koch, Lead Educator, AWSMP

Aaron Bennett, Flood Hazard Mitigation
Coordinator, NYCDEP

Melissa Mitchell, Floodplain Management
Analyst, Tetra Tech

Town of Shandaken Updates

- **Floodplain Administrator outreach, assistance, permits, issues, applications, etc.**
 - One floodplain permit application, Donna is working with them on Fox Hollow Rd.
 - Peter reports there is a proposal for a multi-unit home on lower Main Street
 - Heidi offers to help with determining base flood elevation and other requirements
 - Mt. Pleasant fill in the floodway is unresolved, taking landowner to court.
 - Church Rd. corner of the building is hanging over the stream.
 - Heidi to take a photo and reach out via email. See if they want help.
 - Mt. Pleasant resident, may be interested in buy out again, doesn't have the means to relocated himself before a potential DEP closing.

- **FEMA Swift Current Grant opportunity - update**
 - FEMA FMA Swift Current funding program funding available for structural protection measures (like home elevation, floodproofing, etc) for NFIP-insured structures only.

- Grant covers 90% of cost for Repetitive Loss Structures, and up to 100% for Severe Repetitive Loss, and 75% of the cost for other at-risk structures, that have currently have NFIP policies :
 - At last meeting, Heidi discussed considering a Planning Grant application, to better evaluate who needs what property protection measures, if they're insured, if they've had feasibility studies, etc. This will prepare the town for a future implementation grant.
 - HOWEVER, Heidi learned from NYSDHSES officials, the planning grant is not available this round for NYS sub applicants.
 - Good news is, the planned Substantial Damage Management Plan will help "tee up" a future Swift Current grant application, or identify eligible property owners for other future grant opportunities. See notes below.

CRS Activities Updates

- **RLAA, Substantial Damage Management Plan and Insurance Analysis – update**
 - **Substantial Damage Management Plan** – included in this plan will be a mapped structures, categorized as "likely not SD, likely SD and Will need review" so that in case of disaster, town officials will know where to start their assessments.
 - Plan will identify certain homes that will have qualifying markers for particular grant applications, and plan will explain why/how they qualify.
 - SDMP will also take a look at future land use, comprehensive plans, parks and rec plans, etc.
 - Can Tetra Tech pull a BCA? Melissa will check.
 - There will be a public version and redacted version (which will have some privacy data available to the town).
 - They're going to perform a complete inventory of all NFIP properties.
- CRS is a la cart. You can pick and choose what projects you'd like to do. Its highly likely Shandaken is eligible for more points than they realize. Melissa's job over this next year is to help the town capture details on activities they're already doing, in order to submit for CRS cycle verification review.
 - Melissa asks about **Activity 540**, above-ground drainage, ditches, large culverts, conveyance areas:
 - Does Shandaken have anything formal in place? Does Shandaken have anything they're already doing that meets the credit criteria? Ie. visual inspections on everything, or select know trouble spots?
 - There is no formal policy, but the town checks every road every year. In the winter, if there is a heavy rainstorm anticipated, they'll send the crew out to go check the that culverts are clear.
 - What is that trigger?
 - Usually an inch or two.
 - Are there post-event inspections?
 - Yes. The crew goes out and checks the typical problem-area roads.
 - Melissa says its 50 points. Can we "convert" this activity to default Channel Debris Maintenance? Tetra Tech will work to support submitting this action.
 - Do you have **Capital Improvement Plan**?
 - No. The town doesn't formally. But if the town has projects listed in some form of adopted plan, and they had an engineering study ready to go, then that would unlock credit.
 - Leslie mentions the MOU with AWSMP, there are plans (LFAs) that are the basis for design and implementation. Would that work for 540? It may have to be reviewed but the CRS ISO officer. CRS specifically says "in the capital improvement plan."

- It may still be worth submitting LFA / SMP projects ISO for courtesy review.
 - Do you have any local laws for “**do not dump?**” and is there signage?
 - DEP – YES!!
- **Open Space Preservation** through Acquisition and Relocation:
 - Shandaken has had some activity and recent acreage added through FBO (since last open space analysis). If we can track deed-restrictions (which we can) we can demonstrate an increase in open space preservation. = More Points possible!
- Heidi and Melissa outline the plan. Due to time constraints (the Cycle Verification Visit is due sometime probably early this year), the town should work to gather everything they can to maintain their Level 8.
 - Prioritize RLAA and make sure everything else is in order
- Then continue with Tetra Tech on CRS activities to later submit for review– for a CRS level Modification.
 - With CRS, a town can ask for a modification at any time, BUT - Two things to keep in mind:
 - FEMA applies any new or revised discount 2x / year.
 - You have to submit 6 months before the publication date.
 - So, it could take a year for the medication, and new discount to hit policies.
 - Class 6 may be in reach.

Town Hall & Highway Complex Relocation Updates

- **Location options, update and discussion**
 - Considerations for Town Hall Relocation at Phoenicia School
 - Ulster County is supporting Town Hall relocation to the school.
 - The town board has reached out to the school district, but they haven’t yet heard from the school board.
 - There would be no Emergency Operations Center (EOC) planned for this location.
 - Considerations for Town Highway, EOC & other facilities co-located with Ulster County DPW annex?
 - Ulster County is interest in pursuing Local Gov’t Efficiency planning Grant to develop a comprehensive plan to co-locate the Ulster County Highway Garage with Shandaken Highway Garage (and other uses)
 - Grant due January 24. County is assembling, with Heidi working on the Narrative. She will coordinate with town. The County could be the lead applicant.
 - Town supports this.
 - The Town Wish-list:
 - Space for police, for ambulance, EOC, highway garage, mechanic space, wash bay, local EOC (County can use as their base too), UCART storage (Ulster County Animal Rescue Team – pre-stage equipment)
 - Leslie asks, where are the swift water rescue boats stored?
 - Mt. Tremper Company 3.
 - Mike mentions, if a storm is anticipated, UC Division of Emergency Management will station them strategically in advance.
- **NYCDEP Progress report on potential relocation “swap” parcel?**
 - There is no update on this. The group reminds DEP staff that we’re looking to see if the DEC conservation easement is able to be withdrawn/rescinded, so that a potential subdivision could occur on the property. We need to know if this is even possible.
- **Other Relocation Prospects, Golf Course Road:**
 - Peter has looked at, and sent a request to a landowner, on Golf Course Road, would

they be interested in Selling? One of their parcels is for sale. This would be a larger, adjacent vacant parcel. This one is not currently for sale. Would they be interested in selling to the town / county?

Partner Updates

- **AWSMP**

- Max, AWSMP is going to be sending out Scholarship announcement soon.
 - NYSFSMA conference, CFM exam fee, other courses including EMI 0273 Floodplain Management through NFIP 4-day course, Introduction to Arc GIS pro.
 - Mike states we can bring EMI 0273 here to Ulster County, if there are already certified trainers in the state (there are)! Serve the Hudson Valley!
- **Flood Disaster Assistance Workshop 2/20/25** (snow/rain date 2/27/25)
 - County-wide, ½ day program (similar to post-flood intervention). Will include a lengthy Q&A.
 - To be held at SUNY Ulster. Will be offering continuing education credits.
- **Floodplain Administrator Basic Training, April 8-9, 2025**
 - April 8-9. Free training. 2-days, meals included. Geographically limited to West-of-Hudson. Not a CFM review course / it's a "teach to the realities of job" type course.
 - Will offer CFM Credits and Code Enforcement credits.
- **NYSFSMA – Annual Conference April 22-24**, Ithaca Downtown Conference Center
 - AWSMP will do the restration
- **SMIP Grant funding round: January 28 deadline with March 11.**
 - Next will run may to June.
- SMIP Project Updates:
 - FEMA is going to issue an LOMR for 15 miles upstream of Ashokan Reservoir. SLR is on hold for now, until we know more about what may be needed from them.
 - Eric is going to apply for Fox Hollow bridge replacement and channel stabilization
 - Need to do design review on McKenley hollow.
 - Eric: has concerns about the way the riprap is designed.
- County pushing SLR to furnish Bridge Street bridge report

- **CWC**

- Not that much going on right now.
- Pine Hill Stormwater Project. Rachel is back to work.
 - Peter has been in touch with Rachel (CWC) recently. This project is JUST for treating stormwater in the parking lot.
 - Would CWC help with conveyance down the street?
 - John: put together a plan and submit an application for total funding. John says "shoot for the moon!"
- Sage-Shurter and Kirpatrick in Mt. Tremper. Those demolitions are done. Contractor still need to go back and touch up the properties.
- Damiana and Van Baren. Tweedie won the bid. Board Approved. This will move to contract, and hopefully start demo by the end of the month. There may be a lane closure associated with this work since the sites are tight against the road. DEP approved adjacent site for staging.

- **NYCDEP**

- DEP has an RFP out for Broadstreet Hollow Stream Restoration / Turbidity project.
 - Design.
 - 3 firms have submitted proposals
 - Construction for 2026.
- Hollow Tree Brook – turbidity reduction project. New landowner is on board. The project was on pause at 60% design. Speeding up the project to try and move to construction this year. Possibly.
- DOT conversation re: 214. FALL?
 - Chichester LFA will have started. Large coordination meeting with DOT, Emergency Service / Ulster County to support.
- **Ulster County (Planning, Emergency Services, DPW, DOE)**
 - Ulster County Hazard Mitigation Plan – Progress Reporting Tool (BaTool) – Training in Early February
 - <https://www.tbatool.org/login> (Heidi to send login information)
 - Can input annual County FHM Plan actions – note any progress
 - Full plan was adopted in September after FEMA review
 - Municipalities can generate annual reports that can be posted online, submit to County that submits to NYS
 - Helps to maintain CRS points – CRS annual progress report

Review Notes
Adjourn

Next Meeting: February 11 @ 10am