# Town of Shandaken
# S.A.F.A.R.I. Meeting NOTES

Shandaken Area Flood Assessment and Remediation Initiative

**Tuesday, September 8, 2026 10:00am – 12:00pm**

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## Attendance:

Babs Mansfield, Shandaken Supervisor (online)
Eric Hofmeister, Shandaken Highway Superintendent
Sally Rodgers, AWSMP Education Program Manager, CCEUC
Max Kelly, AWSMP Stream Educator, CCEUC
Eric Lane, Flood Hazard Mitigation Implementation Program Manager, CWC (online)
Aaron Bennett, Flood Hazard Mitigation Coordinator, NYCDEP
Andrew Emrich, Senior Engineer, Ulster County Department of Public Works
Peter Speck, Senior Service Hydrology, National Weather Service
Francis Piscopo, Ulster County Emergency Management (online)
Heidi Emrich, Deputy Chief of Watershed Lands and Community Planning NYCDEP

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## Town of Shandaken Floodplain Development

- Floodplain Administration updates
  - Rob Stanley resigned as floodplain administrator on Friday.
    - Floodplain development permits will be on hold until a new person is able to review them. Rob did work through the backlog of old permits.
  - Eric Hawkins will be new Code Enforcement Officer and will begin soon. The new CEO is new but seems interested in learning more.
    - Phil Mones is a planning board member and is currently handling floodplain administration, some limitations on permitting ability given history on planning board
  - Short discussion regarding what happens when there is not a floodplain administrator for the town. Typically, floodplain development permits just fall through the cracks. CEO can identify if project is in a floodplain and set aside until new FPA
  - Babs asked about potential individuals who can fill in part time to help the town on floodplain administration. Aaron mentioned that in other towns, one person manages floodplain development for multiple towns in Greene County. Aaron to share contact information for potential contacts to reach out to.
    - Babs asked if it would be a conflict of interest to have someone from DEP work for the town as a FPA. Aaron will look into this.

## Town Hall & Highway Complex Relocation Updates

- **Local Gov't Efficiency Grant** Planning Project
- 25-Acre "Golf Course Rd" parcel (presently Kramer)
  - Babs awaiting the report. She believes that the report is complete but just waiting on a copy.
  - Babs has talked with some wetland delineators and believes there are more than three buildable acres that Labella indicated. Current town hall complex is less than three acres currently.
  - After Babs receives the report, the town is going to hire a wetland delineator up to date on the most recent 2023 regulations.

## Phoenicia Flood Risk Reduction Project(s)

- Bridge Street Bridge
    - Received red flag from DOT. Currently has 20-ton limit. DOT will establish a new load rating for the bridge.
    - Resolution for the contract/funding for Stantec was pulled. Andrew is going to find out more details about implications of this.
- DOT Coordination
    - Next step is to find a contact at DOT Planning and Design to continue conversations towards 214 flood mitigation solutions.

## FEMA-Initiated LOMR Update

- No updates since last meeting. Next meeting is October 23, 10 AM. Aaron will forward the invitation to Babs.

## CRS Coordination

- The town officially is a level 7! Insurance discount went from 10% to 15% for those in the SFHA. Shandaken is now tied for best rating in NYC Watershed!
    - To qualify for levels 6 and below building code grading schedule must be met.
- The town will have a September 30 recertification meeting

## NYC-Funded Flood Buy Outs

- 38 Main Street
    - No update
- Firelight
    - Aaron indicated that there is an issue that DEP is working through internally.
- 27 Station Road
    - No update
- Black Bear Campground
    - Sally is going to conduct a site visit.

## Partner Updates

- **AWSMP**
    - Understanding Floodways training on Thursday
    - September 24, SEQR training at this office
- **CWC**
    - On Tuesday, CWC authorized the Emergency Stream Debris Removal Program. Shandaken and towns in Greene County.
        - CWC will reimburse costs up to a maximum of 10,000 per property.
        - Eric indicated next step would be to coordinate a site visit with Eric, Bobby, Aaron or someone from DEP (could end up being Adam Trescott).
            - Get an idea on cost.
        - Then Application before the board
        - Max brough up concerns about getting work done before permit window closes on September 30.
- **Ulster County (Planning, Emergency Services, DPW, DOE)**
    - UCDPW working through WQIP grant for rail explorers sheeting. Received grant for design. Will go out for consultants this winter.

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## NOAA National Weather Service Flood Inundation Products (11-12:30)

- Peter Speck, Senior Service Hydrologist, presented NWS Flood Inundation Products. **An unlisted video is available with a recording from the presentation on the AWSMP YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/o2HRSYuxK_I**
- Albany was one of the first weather services available with this product. By the end of this

month, the service will be available for CONUS.

- Static Flood Inundation Mapping is available for the Esopus Creek from Boiceville to Phoenicia.
    - https://water.noaa.gov/gauges/mtrn6#hg=official
    - Click Activate MTRN6 Categorical FIM (CatFIM) under Gauge Location
- Dynamic Flood Inundation Mapping
    - Max created a quick start guide on how to use these products and that is attached to the notes.
    - Dynamic FIM because it changes with what model you select and actual conditions / updated analysis
    - Peter is also able to provide the past 14-day inundation extent analysis if requested. AWSMP could ground truth the analysis to refine the models.
    - Dynamic FIM does consider bridge geometry. The group noticed some inaccuracies and Peter will look into this.
    - USGS has a FIM in Prattsville and Delhi. USGS will be building out this network. USGS information has depth information where NWS does not. NWS is going to add this to future iterations of their mapping.
    - The NWS Model does not use FEMA maps – not a concern with LOMR
    - AWSMP Can share information with NWS for projects (Such as Oliverea road raise and 28 bridge).
    - To add Allaben into the network and add prediction services would require USGS to establish cross sections and refine rating curve.

- **NEXT SAFARI**
    - **October 13, 2026**