

RESILIENT NJ RESILIENT RARITAN RIVER AND BAY COMMUNITIES

APPENDIX J:

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

August 12, 2022

SAYREVILLE

OODBRIDG

PERTH AMBO

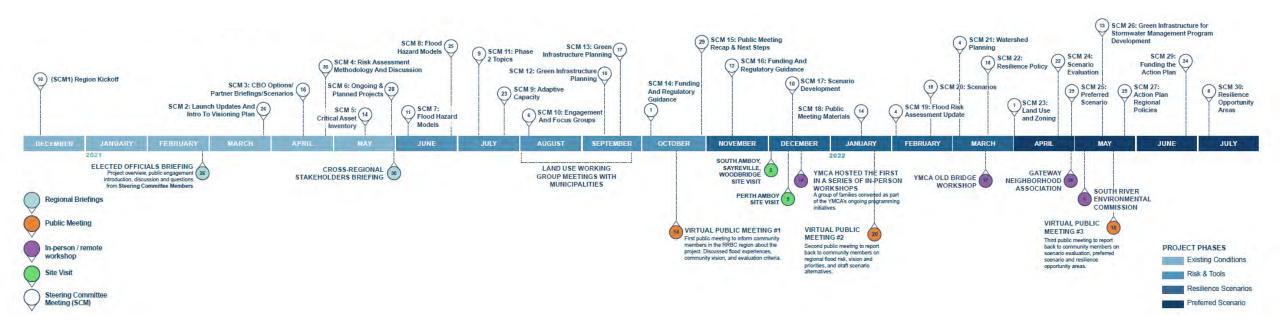
SOUTH AMBOY

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Outreach & Education Overview



- Community engagement was an essential part of the
 planning process Community members, local
 leaders, business owners, and other stakeholders in
 the RRBC region are the foremost experts on their
 communities.
- The project team actively sought community feedback during every step of developing the Action Plan, working to identify, reach out to, and incorporate feedback from diverse groups of people and voices that may have been unheard or undervalued in the past.

Throughout the RRBC engagement process, the support of the Steering Committee and the Middlesex County YMCAs has been critical for the project team in collecting valuable community feedback.

 In coordination with the Steering Committee and the YMCAs, the project team reached out to potential partner organizations the ensure the engagement effectively reached and spoke to a broader audience on a basis of mutual trust, collaboration, and joint knowledge production.



STEERING COMMITTE MEETINGS

Steering Committee Meetings

A steering committee was convened of staff from the local municipalities, Middlesex County, and the YMCAs of Middlesex County. Over the course of the project, the steering committee members have guided the project by providing feedback on project priorities, and public materials. The Steering Committee met on a bi-weekly basis to discuss different aspects of the project and provide feedback. A summary of the topics discussed during each of the 31 meeting is provided on the next slide.

Date	SC Meeting #	Date	SC Meeting #
12/10/2020	SC #1	12/10/2021	SC #17
3/26/2021	SC #2	1/14/2022	SC #18
4/16/2021	SC #3	2/4/2022	SC #19
4/30/2021	SC #4	2/17/2022	SC #20
5/14/2021	SC #5	3/4/2022	SC #21
5/28/2021	SC #6	3/18/2022	SC #22
6/11/2021	SC #7	4/1/2022	SC #23
6/25/2021	SC #8	4/22/2022	SC #24
7/9/2021	SC #9	4/26/2022	SC #25
7/23/2021	SC #10	5/13/2022	SC #26
8/6/2021	SC #11	5/26/2022	SC #27
9/10/2021	SC #12	6/10/2022	SC #28
9/17/2021	SC #13	6/24/2022	SC #29
10/1/2021	SC #14	7/8/2022	SC #30
10/29/2021	SC #15	7/22/2022	SC #31
11/12/2021	SC #16		

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS MIDDLESEX COUNTY RARITAN BAY AREA YMCA Doug Greenfeld, Mirah Becker, Laurie Sobel, John Ferguson, Lakeasha Carter, Brady Smith RARITAN VALLEY YMCA CARTERET Gina Stravic Mike Sica GATEWAY FAMILY YMCA RAHWAY OLD BRIDGE BRANCH Veena Sawant, Damian Gil Rodger Koerber PERTH AMBOY OLD BRIDGE FAMILY YMCA Tashi Vazquez, Larry Cattano, Joel Rosa Christopher Nasta, Jennifer Dunn SOUTH AMBOY YMCA OF METUCHEN EDISON. Glenn Skarzynski Gerry Gessie SAYREVILLE Kirk Miick SOUTH RIVER _

WOODBRIDGE Tom Flynn, Mike Gelin, Marta Darden

Art Londensky

Steve Jobin, Lauren Capaci, Brenda Crespo

WOODBRIDGE AND SOUTH AMBOY

Steering Committee Meeting Topics

SC#	Торіс	SC#	Торіс
1	 Scope and schedule of project Role & responsibilities of SC Community engagement tools & mechanisms 	8	Walkthrough of flood risk toolkit and criteria for evaluating flood risk
2	 Review of about the region report, discussion of funding opportunities (FEMA BRIC), Project website Promotional & meeting logistics coordination Establishment of CBO partner 	9	 Summer engagement planning National best practices on adaptive capacity
3	 Public launch of the project CBO partnership Scenario development process 	10	Public Engagement PlanningFocus group planning
4	 Overview and discussion on risk assessment methodology Flood modeled scenarios, development methodology, and modeling tools 	11	 Summer Engagement Planning Phase 2 – Initial Scope Public Workshop planning
5	 Asset prioritization approach Critical asset inventory and identifying critical assets 	12	 Recap of Ida Flooding Experiences Green Infrastructure for Stormwater Management
6	 Discussion of planned or ongoing resiliency projects and other major projects in each project area 	13	Public Meeting #1 Prep
7	 Overview of flood hazard models from NJDEP Status of partnership with YMCAs 	14	 Public Engagement Overview BRIC Application Discussion State Regulatory Requirements Overview

RARITAN RIVER AND BAY COMMUNITIES

Steering Committee Meeting Topics

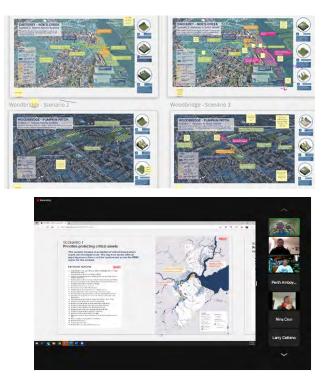
SC#	Торіс	SC#	Торіс
15	 Public Meeting Outcomes & Lessons Learned Project schedule update Community meeting coordination Implementation task update – watershed planning 	23	 Project status and schedule update Resiliency Policy – Land Use and Zoning Evaluation Process Catalytic Projects
16	 Community Meeting Planning Evacuation Routes and Service Sheds Analysis Scenario Development Update 	24	 Project status and schedule update Scenario Evaluation Preferred scenario Policy & governance recommendations
17	Public engagementFlood modeling	25	Project status and schedule updateReview of preferred scenario
18	 Public engagement plan and Jan 20th community meeting planning Scenario development and examples 	26	 Community engagement update Stormwater utility overview Regional approach & case studies
19	Preliminary flood risk assessment resultsTask 6 update	27	Outreach updateStormwater ordinances & policies
20	NJDEP Innovation Competition Presentation	28	 NJPACT Emergency Rules Action Plan – Regional Policy Watershed Planning
21	 Debrief from Innovation competition Update on Task 6 items Update on Watershed Planning 	29	Funding Overview & Framing for the Action Plan
22	 Project status and schedule update Engagement efforts update Local Codes and Ordinances Research Update 	30	Action Plan Summary
		31	Task 6.3 – Remediation of Contaminated Sites

VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Virtual Community Meetings

A series of virtual community meetings were held through each phase of the project, bringing together the project team and community members to share project updates and solicit feedback on the community's experience with flooding and solutions to address those concerns

- Resilient NJ RRBC: Virtual Community Meeting #1, October 14, 2021 5:30pm
- Resilient NJ RRBC: Virtual Community Meeting #2, January 20, 2022 6:00pm
- Resilient NJ RRBC: Virtual Community Meeting #3, May 18, 2022 6:30pm



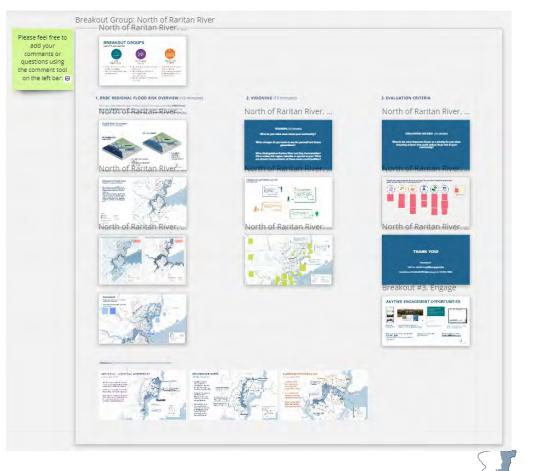


Resilient NJ RRBC: Virtual Community Meeting #1

October 14, 2021, 5:30pm – 7pm. Live American Sign Language and Spanish interpretation.

The project team gave a presentation on the goals of the project and shared information about flood risk and community members joined breakout sessions to discuss how flooding affects daily life in your community, their long-term goals for their community, and the factors we should considering when evaluating potential resiliency strategies.

All feedback received was compiled on a virtual board. A summary of the meeting, as well as a recording and copy of the presentation were included on the RNJ RRBC project website.



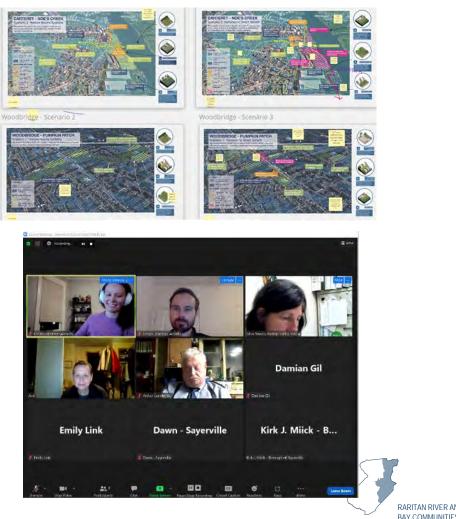


Resilient NJ RRBC: Virtual Community Meeting #2

January 20, 2022, 6pm – 7:30pm. Live American Sign Language and Spanish interpretation.

The second Community Meeting was held on January 20th to advance the regional resilience action plan to reduce flood risks in Raritan River and Bay Communities. The project team gave a presentation on flood risk and potential scenarios for flood risk reduction and community members joined breakout sessions to discuss what areas at risk of flooding they are most concerned about, issues beyond flooding they would like to address, and the types of actions they would like to see to reduce flood risk.

All feedback received was compiled on a virtual board. A summary of the meeting, as well as a recording and copy of the presentation were included on the RNJ RRBC project website.



Resilient NJ RRBC: Virtual Community Meeting #3

May 18, 2022, 6pm – 7:30pm. Live American Sign Language and Spanish interpretation.

The third Community Meeting was held on May 18th to advance the regional resilience action plan to reduce flood risks in Raritan River and Bay Communities. The project team gave a presentation on our progress so far and introduced the preferred scenario, which will form the basis of the action plan. Community members joined breakout sessions to discuss the physical and non-physical (i.e., policy, program and outreach) solutions being proposed to address flooding and offered their feedback on what to prioritize and additional ways to reduce flooding and address other concerns in their communities.

A summary of the meeting, as well as a recording and copy of the presentation were included on the RNJ RRBC project website.

Do these actions address your community's flood risk and other needs? Is there anything we're missing that you want to see included in this plan? What actions do you think are the most important to prioritize? Why? Other areas you're concerned about we haven't covered?

BREAKOUT GROUP DISCUSSION TOPICS



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Website & Surveys

- The project website was actively maintained to share deliverables of reports, data sources, and community meeting recordings.
- The website includes links toe surveys that anyone can access to share their feedback on the deliverables, flooding concerns, or any other concerns or questions they may have.



Share thoughts through the website: www.resilient.nj.gov/rrbc

Resilient NJ - Raritan River and Bay Communities - Vision and Priorities (individual form)

To Naminst Ni project will devised flood risk and training boldwars ha the Raman Nies and Day Communities, the Instank Herm Anthony South Antings Calments September South News Cell Bridge and Windchklops. The regist in Standard on specification of MICET, and the Day The Immedipatives, Modelaces County and the Lower an NamiNetwork Partnership community based organization.

Please suit this form to provide poor feedback down And you color any set commany and your reason for your community, I have or any other feedback you may have, Wh will use this feedback to called downayment of an accors plan to address feedback. These you have poor input!

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ently seen or expansioned (booking) Where have you seen flooding in th disquirpart you?	

Complete the survey



In-Person Workshops: Old Bridge Community Meeting

March 17, 2022, 6:30pm – 8pm. An in-person community meeting was held at the Old Bridge YMCA with community members to discuss flood risk and improvements needed in Old Bridge to reduce flooding

Community members and project team members gathered at the Old Bridge YMCA to discuss the project and the below questions:

WHAT AREAS AND PLACES AT RISK FROM FLOODING ARE YOU MOST CONCERNED ABOUT?

WHAT ADDITIONAL ISSUES BEYOND FLOODING SHOULD WE SEEK TO ADDRESS?

WHAT IS THE PROJECT DOING IN OLD BRIDGE TO BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY?

A summary of the meeting is included on RNJ RRBC project website.



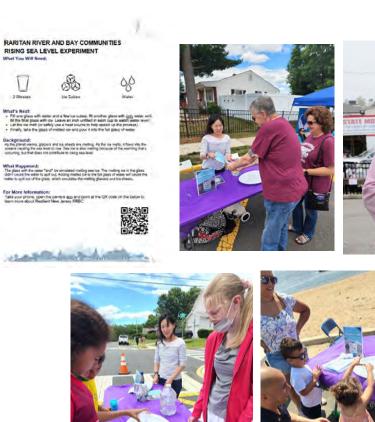




Tabling

The project team set up a table at numerous community events throughout the region, including festivals, movie nights and concerts, and other events that brought out large numbers of community members. At these events, the project team spoke with community members about their experiences with flooding, shared project information, and led activities with community youth to help them understand flash flooding, sea level rise, and storm surge. Events attended included:

- South Amboy, Healthy Kids Day
- Raritan Bay, Healthy Kids Day
- South River Day •
- Perth Amboy, City of Water Day













"Meeting in a Box" Presentation

The project team prepared a "meeting in a box" presentation for more targeted, small group outreach. This presentation gave an overview of flooding, its impacts, and solutions to address flood risk and other community concerns. This presentation was used throughout the region to talk to smaller groups, gain feedback on their experiences with flooding and generate interest and involvement with the project.

The team presented to a local neighborhood association in Perth Amboy, the Gateway Neighborhood Association, a middle school weather club at McGinnis Middle School in Perth Amboy, and at local YMCAs. **MY VISION FOR MY COMMUNITY'S FUTURE** Draw, sketch, write about, or photograph your vision for the future as the region adapts to rising flood risk... then snap a picture of the drawing or of yourself with the drawing and sharel w culd wild want to see in the much change but it safet from flooding. I would still want not cheaper housing and small busines areas. bussines areas SHARE YOUR WORK WITH US! On social media: @ResilientRRBC | Hashtag: #ResilientN Email to ResilientRRBC@dep.nj.gov ad the Irys app to pr



Handing out Flyers

Flyers were developed to notify community members in the region about the project and provide access to the project website for more information. These flyers were posted in various community spaces and handed out in high traffic areas throughout the region.





Conozca su riesgo de inundación

Explore los pasos que está tomando Resilient New Jersey Raritan River and Bay Communities para reducir el riesgo y las formas en que puede ayudar



According to a study by Rutgers University, about 600,000 New Jerseyans are living within 10 feet of the high tide level

Know Your Flood Risk

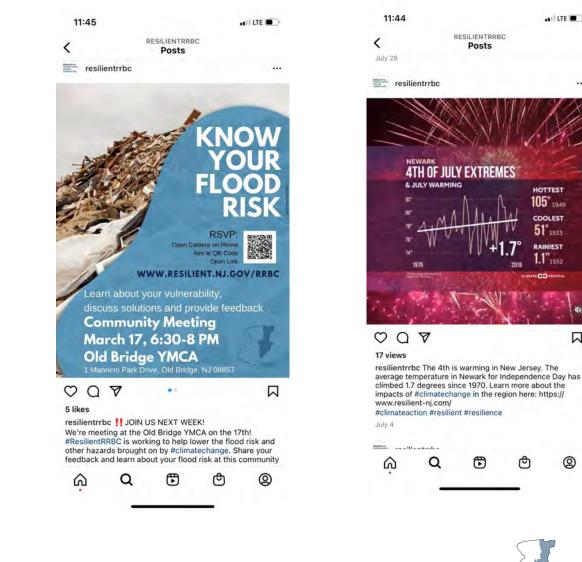
Explore the steps Resilient New Jersey Raritan River and Bay Communities is taking to lower the risk and the ways you can help





Social Media Campaign

The project team has maintained an active social media presence on Facebook and Instagram. Regular project updates, announcements for meetings, and information on flood risk and climate change were shared throughout the social media channels to increase project awareness and engagement.





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Postcards & Permanent Signage

Postcards were developed and shared with each of the municipalities involved with RRBC. These postcards contain local details on the impacts of future flooding and were included in both English and Spanish. The postcards also contained a barcode to scan to the project website for more information.

The team also developed permanent signage to communicate future flood risk by showing the depth of flooding that occurred during Sandy in certain locations compared

FUTURE FLOOD RISK

This area experienced devastating flooding during Hurricane Sandy. What's being done to make the area more resilient against future storms and climate change?

Resilient New Jersey is partnership between NJ Department of Environmental Protection and Middlesex County communities, including Woodbridge. These communities have experienced flooding for decades, from major storms to heavy rainfall events and stormwater flooding. The RNJ Raritan River and Bay Communities created a roadmap to reduce flood risk and increase resilience to help the region survive and thrive.

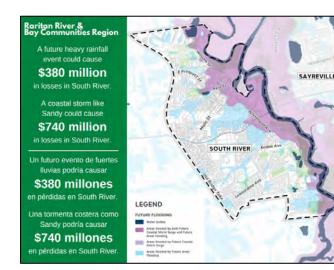
FUTURE COASTAL STORM

Woodbridge and the surrounding region will experience more intense storms and flooding due to climate change. In a future, Sandy-like event, this area could see around 7 feet of flooding, resulting in \$960 million in losses. - Future storms will be worsened by expected 2.4 feet of sea level rise. 4,400 buildings could be impacted 20,000 people exposed to this future storm event in the area

SANDY 10/29/2012

On October 30, 2012, Hurricane Sandy caused extensive flooding and damage to this neighborhood. Since then, over 160 homes have been purchased with plans to be demolished through NJDEP's Blue Acre program. Around 4 feet of flooding occurred during Sandy.

> LEARN MORE AT: WWW.RESILIENT.NJ.GOV/RRBC



The Resilient NJ Raritan River and Bay Communities program aims to develop a roadmap to address flooding in the municipalities of Carteret, Old Bridge, Perth Amboy, South Amboy, Sayreville, South River, and Woodbridge This joint effort between the municipalities, the **New Jersey Department of Environmental** Protection (NJDEP), Middlesex County and local YMCAs provides an opportunity for the area to become more resilient and improve the quality of life for its more than 300,000 residents. El programa Resilient NJ Raritan River and Bay Communities tiene como objetivo desarrollar una hoja de ruta para abordar las inundaciones en los municipios de Carteret, Old Bridge, Perth Amboy, South Amboy, Sayreville, South River y Woodbridge. Este esfuerzo conjunto entre los

municipios, el Departamento de Protección Ambiental de Nuevo Jersey (NDEP), el condado de Middlesez, las YMCA locales y brinda una oportunidad para que el área se vuelva más resistente y mejore la calidad de vida de sus más de 300.000 residentes.

Know Your Risk. Scan Here: www.result.ry.gov/ttc Resilient New Jersey



BAY COMMUNITIES

VIDEO SERIES

A series of educational videos on flood risk and ways to mitigate risk that will be shared on video screens at the YMCA and on social media.

Video 1: What causes flooding in our region?

- Defining terms: Tidal Flooding, Coastal Storm Surge Rainfall Flooding
- How climate change and rising sea level will increase the risk of flooding

Video 2: Flood Risk and Resilience Planning

- NJ Flood Mapper Explainer
- What makes a community resilient?
- Why is building a resilient community important?

Video 3: What you can do to prepare for and plan for flooding?

- Ways to lower flood risk
- Flood insurance explainer

Local Interviews from RRBC Steering Committee members, including the YMCA, Middlesex County, and Woodbridge.

