

## **January 24, 2022 Meeting Notes**

### **Stormwater and Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee**

Attendees: Donnie Bowen, Lauren Kabler, Gary Koopman, Jay Loveless, Luke Johnson, Carola Wilson, Elana VanOudenaren, Larry Jaworski, Dave Damalouji, Tom Litke

#### Discussion Items

#### **1. Update on October 2021 Nor'easter Storm/Flood Repairs**

- a. The repairs to the main pier have been completed by the Town's Department of Public Works (DPW).
- b. The repairs to the boardwalk from Hatch's Corner to 7<sup>th</sup> Street (i.e., replacing missing/damaged rails, stiles, and walkway boards) have been largely completed. Remaining items: installing new top railing boards, and rebuilding several of the flower beds situated between the boardwalk and homes).
- c. The flower bed repair will include installing a silt curtain and additional foundation stones to mitigate erosion.
- d. After consultation with its insurance carriers, the Town determined it was more cost effective to have the DPW crew complete repairs to the main pier and hire a contractor for the rest.
- e. The repairs are expected to be completed—and that portion of the boardwalk reopened—within the next two weeks.

#### **2. Presentation from Tom Litke of Common Resilience Partners (see presentation attached).**

- a. Common Resilience Partners is a local firm with a 25-year history of collaborating with communities to improve environmental, health and business conditions.
- b. The firm's expertise is "lending a hand" to communities to:
  - i. Identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and risks associated with various community plans/projects;
  - ii. Identify state, federal, or foundational support for these efforts;
  - iii. Serve as a "grant strategist" in pursuing opportunities most likely to deliver benefits; and
  - iv. Provide greater consistency in grant management thereby increasing likelihood of success.
- c. Mr. Litke recently presented to the Town Council on his firm's capabilities. The Town Council and the DPW are currently working to:
  - i. Rank the Town's capital projects (including those related to storm and flood issues); and
  - ii. Grant permission for Mr. Litke to act on the Town's behalf in identifying federal, state, or foundational sources to support those projects.

### **3. Comprehensive Flood Action Plan (Phase II) RFP Reboot**

- a. The issues with the mapping component of the Comprehensive Flood Action Plan RFP that required temporary suspension of the bidding (see December 13, 2021 Status Report) have been resolved.
  - i. The Statement of Work (SOW) with the DNR-required mapping vendor—Eastern Region Shore Regional GIS Cooperative (ESRGC)—was reworked to narrow the scope and cost (see attached “Flood Analysis and Mapping” from ESRGC).
  - ii. ESRGC will deliver analysis that shows current day risks with sea-level rise and how that will change between 2030, 2050, and 2100.
  - iii. The data products and visualizations produced will be easily accessible.
  - iv. Completion of the mapping component is tentatively set for March 25, 2022.
- b. Concurrent with resolution of the mapping component, the RFP has been updated.
  - i. Language was added to provide information regarding the DNR grant (e.g., payment schedule, timing, etc.) for prospective bidders.
  - ii. Several additional platforms have been identified when it comes to advertising the revised RFP, e.g., Maryland Municipal League and E-Maryland Marketplace.
- c. Reposting the RFP is planned within the next two weeks.
- d. To accommodate the change outlined above, the contract with the DNR was amended to provide a no-cost extension for the grant to June 30, 2023.

### **4. Update on 5th Street Pump Upgrade**

- a. DPW has provided all required information to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to qualify for the \$95K grant<sup>1</sup>.
- b. Sherwood Logan—the firm that was low bid on supplying the new stormwater pumps—remains at the ready to supply the pumps per the original RFP.
- c. Donnie reports the MDE has several follow-up questions regarding the Town’s bidding process and other procedural details.
- d. While there is no clear indication of when the process will be completed, Donnie reports our contact at the MDE has been accessible and helpful.

### **5. New Grant Activity**

- a. The SFMAC and the Town are currently working on three grant applications to the MDE’s “Comprehensive Flood Management Grant Program”:
  - i. Enhancing the rock revetement along Atlantic Avenue and the adjoining portion of the boardwalk;
  - ii. Constructing a new pump station at the intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Atlantic Ave.
  - iii. Boosting the pumping capacity at the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Pump Station.
- b. Deadline for submission is January 31, 2022.

---

<sup>1</sup> In 2021 Town issued an RFP for two new stormwater pumps and a control panel with plans to self-install. The Sherwood Logan company delivered the low bid on the pumps and the Town was set to purchase in 3Q21. A grant for \$95K in stormwater mitigation funds subsequently became available thanks to Senator Jackson’s input to the MDE. Work on the upgrade has been suspended pending approval of this grant. The grant is contingent upon MDE’s approval of the project’s engineering plans and associated control panel. The Town contracted with the Clark/Azar firm to complete the documents required for submission.

## **6. Other**

- a. The Education and Engagement Plan has been updated and distributed for committee review/comments.
- b. Lauren proposed a restructuring of committee roles and responsibilities to boost members' engagement and contributions.
  - i. There would be subject matter experts assigned to core areas of engineering/technical, grants, bids, flood response/recovery, education/outreach, messaging/marketing.
  - ii. Members were very much in favor of the proposal and would communicate with Donnie and Lauren about which area(s) they would prefer to serve.