Meeting Notes Inland Communities Working Group

November 14, 2014

Related to the meeting of the NH Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission – Great Bay Inland Working Group held on Friday, November 14, 2014, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon in conference room D at the NH Department of Environmental Services, Portsmouth Regional Office, Pease International Tradeport, 222 International Drive, Suite 175, Portsmouth, NH 03801, (603-559-1500)

Attendees:

Sherry	Godlewski	Alt	<Sherry.Godlewski@des.nh.gov>,	NH Dept. of Environmental Services
James	Houle		<james.houle@unh.edu>,	UNHSC
Richard	Huber	Alt	<huber@acm.org>,	Town of Exeter
Peter	Kinner		<peter.kinner@unh.edu>,	Vice-Chair Town of Greenland, NH
Chris	Muns		<chrismuns@chrismuns.net>,	Representative - District 21
Kyle	Pimental		<kpimental@strafford.org>,	Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Cory	Riley		<Cory.riley@wildlife.nh.gov>,	NH Fish & Game, Great Bay NERR
Roger	Stephenson		<r-stephenson @comcast.net>,	Stratham

Draft Agenda:

1. Introduction – Peter Kinner, Vice Chair
2. Revise/Accept Minutes from the October meeting
3. Work Plan Materials
   a. Goal 1 Scientific Advisory Panel recommendations
   b. Goal 2 Public Private Infrastructure Categories
      - General Category Agreement
      - Town Specific Approach
4. Adaptive Strategies Approach
   a. FEMA Approach
   b. Other organization?
5. Discussion of Community Input
6. Engaging Other Communities (Cliff/Julie/others)
7. Update on Implementing Regulations
8. Action Items
9. Next Meeting
10. Other Business / Adjourn

Introduction:

The draft minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Many of our background tasks have been accomplished.
Next we need to brainstorm recommendations based on the sources and address gap analysis. The FEMA documents Mitigation Ideas is a good place to start. We can also utilize other documents to help develop our recommendations. It was decided to use our time in this meeting trying to fill in the template.

Originally the work plan outlined tasks. The idea was that the tasks would lead groups through exploring background information so that we could generate draft recommendations. The template was intended to walk people through some questions related to recommendations. We considered the addition of columns to the template that had been proposed and we decided to perhaps consider risk identification and severity concern as information to be added at the end of the process of filling out a line on the template. These issues relate to how a local town might address a particular strategy.

Template/Goals development

1. We need to make a recommendation regarding: how frequently the scientific literature should be reviewed by whom? Is there a memo to be filed? What would be the expected impact on the program?
   We reached consensus that a two-year interval was appropriate. Further attention is needed by the Commission to resolve the specifics.
2. We proceeded down the template spreadsheet proposing strategies to meet the goals.
   For each strategy we brainstormed to fill in the:
   - Actions Required
   - Responsible Entity
   - Impact on Goal (low, medium, high)
   - Cost to Implement (low, medium, high)
   - Ease of Implementation (easy, medium, difficult)
   - Who will be impacted by this recommendation?
   - When does this need to be done (now, soon, later)

Goals and categories:

Goal 1: Sound science-based planning assumptions about future coastal hazards in NH relating to sea level rise, coastal storm surge, and storm-related flooding are understood, established and adopted.

Goal 2: Public and private infrastructure, natural resources, economic and cultural assets that are vulnerable to sea level rise and other coastal hazards are identified and the scope of that vulnerability is understood.

Categories of Infrastructure:

Safety facilities
Administrative / other facilities
Utilities (water/sewage/electrical/other)
Roads

Bridges
Culverts / water conveyances
Buildings (structures and codes)
Homes and Citizen Properties
Drainage and flood capacity
Flood structures
Other

Recreation
Buildings
Fields / trails

Natural Resources
Wetlands
Buffers
Vegetation management
Important natural features
Floodplains
Open space

Economic Assets

Cultural resources
Buildings
Historical sites
Other sites

Goal 3: Adaptation strategies are identified that will enable state and coastal municipalities to effectively protect and sustain current and future state and municipal infrastructure.

Strategies considered:

Note:
Detailed complete results of this effort to fill in the template were captured in a spreadsheet produced during the meeting. The spreadsheet will be made available soon.

For Goal 1: Sound science-based planning assumptions about future coastal hazards in NH relating to sea level rise, coastal storm surge, and storm-related flooding are understood, established and adopted.

Strategy: Create the Science Advisory Report
Strategy: Disseminate report results
Strategy: Review science literature every two years

For Goal 2: Public and private infrastructure, natural resources, economic and cultural assets that are vulnerable to sea level rise and other coastal hazards are identified and the scope of that vulnerability is understood.

Strategy: Identify facilities that are vulnerable
Strategy: Repeat "Tides and Storms" input to hazard mitigation plans ($80K) for all inland communities
    Also repeat Cameron Wake's project ($3K)
    Kyle to apply for grant (deadline 12/11/14)
    May partner with Rockingham County
Strategy: For natural resource actions reference:
    Wildlife Action Plan (WAP)
    Natural Wetlands Inventory (NWI)
    Coastal Land Protection Plan (CELP[?])
    Ecosystem Services Evaluation Tool (INVEST[?]) see Kristen Howard[?]
Strategy: Define watershed management regionally with state coordination
Strategy: Define evacuation routes regionally with state coordination
Strategy: For cultural resources:
    Consult with Edna & Mary Kate
    Use the State Warehouse for GIS at UNH
        GRANITE and its new visual interface COASTAL VIEWER

For Goal 3: Adaptation strategies are identified that will enable state and coastal municipalities to effectively protect and sustain current and future state and municipal infrastructure.

Strategy: Draw from FEMA Mitigation Strategies listed
Additional Goal 3 Strategies: … **Proposed for homework for next meeting**

NOTE- do we need watershed management units, more regional or state coordination-

NOTE- we may want to look at Granite Future Plan recommendations (look at regional plans)

NOTE- PREP, Water Sustainability Commission Chair, and a facilitator type are starting a new initiative "NH Lives on Water". Follow up to commission report

ACTION ITEMS:

Cory will fill out draft recommendations from Georgetown Climate Toolkit, Kyle will look at Durham and Dover

NEXT MEETINGS:
11/21/14 8:00-10:00 AM
12/19/14 8:00-10:00 AM before the full commission meeting 10:00-Noon