

# Branford Coastal Vulnerability ad hoc Working Group

February 24, 2020

**Special Meeting**

5:00pm, Basement Conference Room, Town Hall

Meeting Minutes

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TOWN OF BRANFORD  
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call: Present: Hentschel, Muniz, Hanlon, Waters, Erlanger, Smith  
Absent: Ells, Everson, Bryson  
Guests: John Truscinski, CIRCA; Jennifer O'Donnell, UConn/CIRCA;  
James O'Donnell, CIRCA
3. Presentation / Discussion with John Truscinski, CFM, Director of Resilience Planning, CIRCA (Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation) Established 2014. Discussion:  
  
Resilient Connecticut involves Planning, Technical Support, Capacity Building (including cost-benefit analysis), Engagement  
  
Considerations include adapting structures and infrastructure to withstand occasional flooding;  
  
Strategies include implementation of "shared risk communities"  
  
Current SLR modelling confirms expected 20" sea level rise by 2050  
  
CIRCA has abundant sea level and climate data and projection tools that can be used in interpretation of conditions and decision making – GIS based.  
  
CIRCA will share GIS data-sets with Branford for overlay into our system – further discussion on this to follow.  
  
CIRCA is a data warehouse with data analyst capacity  
  
Decisions might incorporate consideration of social vulnerability, built environment, etc.  
  
"Lifeline vulnerability" mapping can indicate effects of coastal vulnerability on vital municipal functions and behaviors in town. The CVWG can refine this mapped data and share it with CIRCA for incorporation into the GIS format.
4. Discussion and consideration of a request that the Administration increase the annual fund-contribution to Branford's Coast Resiliency Fund in the upcoming Budget proposal to \$500K.  
  
A Motion to send a request from the CVWG to the First Selectman and Finance Director recommending an increase in the proposed budget allocation for 20-21 to \$500K was made by Muniz, seconded by Erlanger, All in favor.  
  
Discussion of establishing future annual allocations to the fund based on a set % of overall Town + Education budget