

# Branford Coastal Vulnerability ad hoc Working Group

Town of Branford, Connecticut

Paul Muniz, Tracy Everson, Jonathan Waters, Peter Hentschel (chairperson)  
invited: Curt Johnson, Sharon Huttner



Zoom Meeting Agenda: Tuesday, April 23, 2024, 5:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82640262450?pwd=aWtvM09lS3JoVlhEVG9FNWlLWXhsQT09>  
Meeting ID: 826 4026 2450 Passcode: 501380 Phone 646-558-8656

*Wai S. Huttner*  
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

2024 APR 22 A 8:50

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- Call to Order and Roll Call
- Approval of Meeting Notes for 3/26/24
- Discuss status and next steps on the following initiatives:
  - a. CIRCA sea level monitoring and emergency notification system trials – Branford participation
    - Goal 1: to acquire new data on tidal sea level cycles and resulting road flooding.
    - Goal 2: to allow Branford to use their alert system to put out "micro-alerts" to neighborhoods.
      - Review of meeting with First Selectman and Jim Finch regarding expenses
      - Review of meeting with John Hoefflerle regarding station locations
  - b. Community Reporting Network re Roadway Flooding – "MyCoast" Application
    - Goal 1: to engage the community in the photographic collection of roadway flooding data
    - Goal 2: to work with the MyCoast application software group in CA to facilitate uploading data
      - Review of meeting with First Selectman and Jim Finch regarding expenses
  - c. Emergency Management Services Resiliency – work with Chief Mahoney regarding key locations of road flooding which impact delivery of emergency services
    - Goal: to identify critical locations and research resiliency solutions to each
      - Discuss next steps in supporting Chief Mahoney's GIS initiative.
  - d. Roadway Flooding – finding solutions for the community
    - Goal: to investigate possible resilience actions, consult with key regulatory authorities including DEEP, and determine DEEP's response to - protecting low roadways, nuisance flooding retention walls, etc.
      - Report of discussion with John Lust regarding approach to DEEP to determine their areas of concern. This will give us guidance on how to address other areas on concern in Branford
  - e. Zoning Regulation and Town Ordinance tools - PZC / CVWG joint working group - status
    - Goal: to determine actions to build resilience through ordinances and/or zoning regulations.
      - Building community agreement regarding the goals of increasing regulation of coastline development.
  - f. Community Presentations – Branford River Neighborhoods presentation status report and possible recording of Sara Crosby's current marshland studies in Branford
    - Goal to build public awareness, feedback, and public involvement.
      - Report on email from Sara Crosby regarding her Blackstone Library Presentation
      - CVWG presentation on Branford River still pending.

- g. WWTP vulnerability study – status of Phase 2, preliminary design of conceptual solutions  
Goal: to promote the “hardening” of the town’s sanitary system and treatment plan.
  - Update from Paul on the Phase II working group WPCA/CVWG just established.
  
- h. Cattle Crossing flood gate study – status report  
Goal: to track this project and to determine how AMTRAK has responded to issues regarding flooding against their elevated track beds
  - Update from Tracy
  
- i. Stony Creek CV sub-group – status report  
Goal: work with the SCA subgroup to initiate actual resilience projects in Stony Creek.
  - Update from Peter
  
- j. Approaches to resilience by other towns and states – Status of calls to these towns  
Goal: to determine if other towns have taken innovative steps to resilience.
  - On hold
  
- k. CVWG page of Town Website - Q&A portal, Facebook page, FEMA page status report  
Goal: to make our webpage more interactive and responsive to public needs regarding coastal resilience.
  - No Progress

Peter Hentschel, Chairperson