

New Bern Resiliency Public Meeting 1 Q&A

1. What examples of other cities or regions that have successfully mitigated are we turning to for guidance?

Lisa stated there are a number of historic cities that have dealt with this issue. Charleston, SC developed its design guidelines to address what is becoming annual flooding events, as well as tidal flooding, similar to what we experienced in Annapolis, MD. St. Augustine, FL has a public policy toolkit, which we can build upon and develop for New Bern. We can look at how we can regulate and incentivize the adaptation of buildings. Nantucket, MA is developing design guidelines to elevate its historic buildings and better manage flooding with their properties. But, it doesn't always have to be about the historic buildings; many buildings and neighborhoods that were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s can apply the same adaptation strategies applied to historic buildings. For New Bern, we're looking at communities that have been successful in putting hazard mitigation and resiliency plans in place that incorporate historic properties. We respect the need for a full set of tools to be made available for planning for future resilience.

Mike stated he worked with the City of Elizabeth City, NC on a flood mitigation and more resilient waterfront master plan. He has also worked with a number of communities in eastern NC following Hurricane Matthew with the resilient redevelopment planning initiative that followed that event. We can bring neighboring knowledge into this project which will help sections of the plan to develop. We're open to additional partners as stakeholders for future engagement.

2. A call participant mentioned there is a group that was formed in New Bern after Hurricane Florence called "CARE", which stands for "Citizens Advocating Resiliency and Community Education". The call participant would like for the planning team to get in touch with CARE as they represent leaders from various organizations and would be beneficial stakeholders.

3. There was a request for more information on the background and credentials of the speaking team.

Mike has been doing hazard mitigation planning for 20 years. Mike started in state government and has worked for two different state governments including the State of North Carolina. Mike is currently working at Moffat & Nichol, his third private sector firm, doing mitigation planning. Hazard mitigation has been Mike's full-time job for 20 years in some shape, form or fashion whether it's been on the planning side, grants management, and different types of planning that ties in with hazard mitigation. Mike has lived in North Carolina for 20 years and has worked with multiple communities throughout the state.

Lisa has been in the field for 30 years and worked in both public and private sectors. She has worked for three private sector firms and started her career in historic preservation running a statewide nonprofit preservation group in Oregon. Lisa found her way to the National Trust for

Historic Preservation in Washington, DC. and she has spent the last 27 years living in the DC area. Lisa served as the state historic preservation officer for the District of Columbia, and also wore the duplicate hat of the local preservation chief for the District and most recently, for the City of Annapolis, MD. Lisa has worked in private property redevelopment doing military housing around the country and working on projects like Pearl Harbor and the US Air Force Academy. Lisa has seen the issue of disaster and how it can impact historic resources and entire communities. The last 10 years, starting in Annapolis, MD, Lisa focused her efforts on the intersect between historic preservation and resilience and addressing issues of disaster management and preparation in historic communities. Lisa has worked in National Historic Landmark cities, like Annapolis, St. Augustine and Nantucket and is looking forward to this work in New Bern, NC.

Amanda is an urban designer, with a background in real estate development, architecture and planning. Amanda's 10-year career had opportunities to work on international, national and state waterfront projects. Sea level rise and resiliency have been causes of concern. Amanda's graduate thesis project looked at how rising tides could affect the City of Philadelphia's waterfront. She appreciates looking to historical precedents and how cities can hopefully pivot to a suitable future for waterfront cities that are getting bombarded by storms. Waterfront destination planning is embedded in Amanda's career DNA. Amanda worked with Mike on the City of Elizabeth City. We had a chance to present this project as a case study at APA-VA, APA-NC, and were slated to present at APA-Nationals but due to COVID, we weren't able to present. Our team's passions and expertise are in this line of work and we're excited to work with the City of New Bern on this meaningful project.

4. How will this planning be integrated into the New Bern Urban Design plan and the Redevelopment Plan that has been developed?

Mike stated the team has done an extensive literature review, where we've examined all previous plans for the City of New Bern as well as regional and state level documents. We've been identifying these documents for areas where they address flood risk and flood mitigation, where they provide opportunities to support these efforts, as well as opportunities to address any disincentives. We're looking for opportunities as we review to integrate what we do as part of this process. We would highlight recommendations as part of this plan to go to the appropriate departments and planning committees (local, regional, etc.) so that they can in turn integrate this information for risk mitigation and potential mitigation solutions into future revisions of their planning documents.

5. Is Stanley White included in this process on Chapman Street?

Colleen stated Stanley White is located in an area that frequently floods. This is one of the goals of this initiative, to look at areas that are repeatedly suffering during disaster events.

Wholeheartedly the answer is absolutely. When we are looking at the flood vulnerability assessment, we're looking at the entire community and surrounding area. We'll look at hot

spots and hazard occurrences. We're not ruling out any areas. We're looking at where the flood risk is across the community in terms of high, moderate, and lower risks.

6. Can the group describe in more detail what stakeholder involvement looks like when developing a resiliency plan?

There are two things in terms of tonight's material: there is public involvement and there is stakeholder involvement. When we engage stakeholders, these are groups for example with data sets that we need to explore and integrate into our assessment. They may be responsible for other studies. They may have valuable historical information. The stakeholders tend to be departments and agencies and members of the academic community. They may be at a level for helping with plan writing and technical review of some of the draft products that will be developed. Stakeholders are also members of the public. We come up with goals and objectives through these processes. In the Community Values exercise, we come up with priorities for preservation and adaptation. Stakeholders really are a double check and can help the planning team develop these goals and objectives. They play a very important role and are involved throughout the process. They represent the voices of the community. We'll work with our partners; the federal and state agencies that will provide funding for these initiatives to be implemented. The community members are so important to be part of the recovery process in the event of a disaster. Once we identify these potential mitigation solutions, we'll look at implementing the solutions the community decides to move forward with which will require funding. If you involve the agencies that provide the funding, if they've been more involved in the process, this can help as the process moves forward which can result in a successful implementation.