

Town of Shandaken

S.A.F.A.R.I. Meeting Notes

Shandaken Area Flood Assessment and Remediation Initiative

Wednesday, November 12, 2025 10:00am – 12:00am

In-Person at AWSMP Office, Shokan, NY

Or attend remotely: <https://meet.goto.com/186340189>

In Person:

Peter DiSclafani, Town of Shandaken Supervisor, CRS Coordinator

Eric Hofmeister, Town of Shandaken Highway Superintendent

Leslie Zucker, AWSMP Program Coordinator, CCEUC

Heidi Emrich, Environmental Planner, UCDOE

Max Kelly, AWSMP Watershed Educator, CCEUC

Adam Trescott, Stream Program Manager, NYCDEP

Karen Lee, Conservation Advisory Council & Comp Plan Committee member

Online:

Robert Drake, Shandaken Town Board member & Deputy Supervisor

Tasks:

- **Town:** Reach out to LaBella to add a 20-acre parcel to CWC feasibility study; ask for a geotechnical assessment as an additional task.
- **Heidi:** Connect with Tetra Tech to set a date to review final RLAA with town officials.
- **AWSMP:** Leslie to coordinate with SLR or cleaned up (final) scope for Chichester LFA for one final town review.

Town of Shandaken Floodplain Development

- Floodplain Administrator updates on assistance, permits, issues, applications, etc.
 - Peter notes that there is no new or notable floodplain development activity
 - Dutcher Rd – Landowners furnished a No Rise certificate (prepared by SLR) and have resumed their work in the floodway (tree plantings, removal of large concrete pad, modest regrading).
 - Pine Hill Wastewater Treatment Facility – Proposed Solar Array in Zone-X Shaded (500-year flood zone).
 - Peter reports the array was proposed to face away from Route 28; you would see the back of the panels.
 - Planning Board may suggest screening.
 - The array will be elevated off the ground, facing the south
 - Heidi asks about the Building and Planning office's order of operations?
 - Donna usually sees these plans before they go to the Planning Board.

CRS Program Activities Update

- Final Document Submissions are underway.

- Heidi shares that all materials were submitted 9/27/25, primarily by Tetra Tech, on the town's behalf, to the CRS ISO. Due to shutdown, it's unclear when the town will receive comments back. It is typically a 30-day process.
- The one project that is close to completion that has not yet been submitted; the RLAA. We completed the review process and the final version should be in hand any day.
 - **Heidi:** Circle back with Tetra Tech to get a date to finalize RLAA

Follow-Ups: Phoenicia Resilience, Benches and Bridges

- Update on recent funding application activities.
 - Heidi updates on WRDA; submitted by UC Planning on November 11.
 - Leslie shares that Local support and design control is important, and this project, if funded by USACE's WRDA program would be reimbursed and retain local control.
 - Leslie suggests AWSMP remains the funder for floodplain bench design and interactions with the stream
 - Leslie also reminds the committee that NYSDOT is restricted in their design standards so it will be on the town to move the floodplain benches ahead, should they so choose. Otherwise, the state would a "flood resilient" bridge, but perhaps without all the additional considerations to maximize flood reduction benefits.
 - Adam shares that a project on Steele Brook was funded with USACE match funding. USACE was reportedly hands-off. The work was siphoned through DCSWC, where DEP fronted the money. DEP was refunded by USACE later.
 - The most involvement was really when the Army Corp toured the sites a few times.
 - Side note: There may be many funding opportunities for resiliency projects. AWSMP is reviewing and refining exactly when AWSMP will support a funding application. Leslie recommends waiting until at least the 30% design phase, or well into the 60% design phase. Because you just don't know, for absolutely sure, what the project will look like, or if it will work, until you get that far. This may become a more formal policy moving forward.
 - For instance, in Pine Hill, AWSMP is involved the design process for Bonnie View 1 and Bonni View 2 projects; and based on the design phase and initial results, the Resilient NY application was pivoted from one to another; as one was proving it wouldn't have as many flood reduction benefits as originally thought based on the LFA alone.
- Further investigation for **Jay Street alternatives**
 - Heidi asks: has the town made a decision on how to move forward with Jay Street?
 - The Town of Shandaken would have to apply for additional funding
 - The committee contemplates what should be considered in that scope of work:
 - Should include at least 2 conceptual design alternatives
 - Move one of them to 30%
 - Adam: Should include an existing conditions survey
 - The firm will need to obtain landowner permission to survey.
 - Heidi would support a door knocking campaign.

- Leslie can draft a scope for the proposal (present and review at future SAFARI meeting; Friday).
- Remaining Phoenicia Additional Modelling funds are allocated for:
 - Comp Plan Coordination meeting
 - DOT coordination Meeting
- There is not enough funding in the Phoenicia Additional Modelling contract to include Jay Street Alternative.

Chichester

- The committee discusses this generally. The town is still interested in moving through this process; Leslie has been verifying costs and details and refining the scope and budget with SLR.
 - The study should start in early spring
 - Leslie will ask SLR to make final clarifications / changes on their proposal so all expectations are clear
 - Town will then submit application for ASWMP for SMIP funding

Town Hall & Highway Complex Relocation - Updates

- Progress report on **Local Gov't Efficiency Grant** (NYSDOS \$40,000 award, \$80,000 project).
 - Heidi shares that she's working on refining the scope with stakeholders to be furnished to the state, in order to begin contracting process at the County.
- Progress report on potential relocation "swap" parcel?
 - Mid-October, meeting with DEC, DEP, Town and other stakeholders was held virtually.
 - DEC: there is a path forward to file a deed correction
 - Would require AGs office to approve.
 - Tom Snow indicated this action would need to be included in the Water Supply Permit.
 - Robert was going to attend the next CWT building to gain some insight from CWT attorney on process from this end.
- Progress report on 20-acre parcel, Big Indian (adj. Golf Course Rd).
 - Robert spoke to John M (CWC) quickly on Friday, asking, "what are the steps for CWC to purchase on the town's half?"
 - John responded that purchase would require a feasibility study on that parcel.
 - There may be some amount of money still available under that grant, so Robert will work to get this 20-acre parcel added to the existing study.
 - John, at the time, wasn't able to confirm how much money, so whatever the difference would be, would have to be covered by the town.
 - Robert and Peter think that there's no need to get the Phase 1 or Phase 2 environmental assessment.
 - Robert: hire them for the required feasibility study (through CWC) and town fund the rest

- Also hire Labella to ALSO do the soil (geotechnical study) for building feasibility.
- Peter will reach back out to Seth to start this study
- The committee suggests asking Aaron B – when is the right time to put submit the application?
 - Would CWC reimburse if the town purchased first?
- Heidi offers to draft initial application for purchase

New York City Funded Flood Buy-Out Program

- Updates on participating parcels [Plank Rd. parcels, Main St. & Bridge St.]
- Heidi shares:
 - Main Street parcel is underway. An appraisal has been completed. DEP has not made an offer yet.
 - Plank Road residential parcel – Heidi asks if the town has reviewed DEP’s note about the driveway and their interpretation of the deeded road maintenance requirements.
 - Peter responds that the town attorney has interpreted the deed differently and is not concerned with moving this forward with future town ownership.
 - Plank Road commercial parcel – site visit has been conducted. Waiting for the owner to give the go ahead for Heidi to work on a report and draft resolution to provide to the town.
 - Bridge Street commercial parcel – owner has not reached out.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

- The committee sets a date to conduct the annual review of this plan for December 3 after the CRS meeting, at 11am. Annual Review helps the town maintain CRS credit in this activity.
 - **UC Overall Plan** can be found [here](#).
 - **Shandaken Annex** can be found [here](#).
 - **Annual Updating Tool (Batool)** can be found [here](#).

Partner Updates

- **AWSMP**
 - Leslie shares that we have a new staff member, Program Education Lead – Sally Rodgers!
 - Sally was most previously the Ulster County Emergency Services Climate Corp intern – turned Fellow, based on her excellent work in the Hazard Mitigation Plan and County Emergency Management Plan.
- **CWC**
- **NYCDEP**
 - Aaron shares that any day now, DEP is expecting the DEC to post their draft Water Withdrawal (supply) Permit application.
- **Ulster County (Planning, Emergency Services, DPW, DOE)**
- **Shandaken CAC**
 - Karen shares that Shandaken Prepares series has been successful.

- They've done flood risk, Fire risk, and next personal preparedness.
- Looking to do a full Disaster Preparedness PE9 Campaign with CCEUC in 2026.
- The CAC is working on Community Solar
- Next on the horizon – compost!

Review Notes

Adjourn

Next Meeting:

moved to December 10, 2025