

# Steering Committee #3



Coastal Lakeshore Economy and Resiliency Initiative

<b>Project Name</b>	Coastal Lakeshore Economy and Resiliency Initiative
<b>Date:</b>	June 16, 2021
<b>Meeting:</b>	Jefferson – St. Lawrence Region – Steering Committee #3
<b>Attachments</b>	Presentation, Google Jamboard

## 1. Introduction of Project Team

EDR (prime consultant): Jane Rice, Sam Gordon, Erica Tauzer

EcoLogic (subcontractor to EDR): Liz Moran, Sharon Anderson, Michelle McGinnis

Cameron Engineering (subcontractor to EDR): Michael Keane, Andrew Martini, David Tepper

NYS Department of State: Karen Catcher, Nancy Martel, Chris Bauer

Participants in attendance were named with their affiliations on Zoom.

## 2. Look and Listen Tour Summary

The project team summarized key themes and concepts (below in *italic*) from the Look and Listen Tour. The SC was invited to elaborate on the themes and note any missing key concepts.

- *Natural Systems and Shoreline Protection*
  - *Restore and preserve natural areas (wetlands, barrier beaches, invasive species control)*
  - Comment: Natural systems have evolved to be resilient to changing environmental conditions. Shoreline protection has historically been hardening shorelines. Over the past 100 years, collective understanding of shoreline protection and resiliency is shifting and there is movement away from hard (engineering) approaches to shoreline protection. There is a confusion within our communities on effective strategies to increase shoreline resiliency.
  - Comment (communication theme): Need to include education –identify what shoreline protection really is. I run into a lot of people who don't understand the value of wetlands and assume that the IJC is completely to blame for all water level issues. It's not only important to identify where the public can get the information, but the broader context of what resiliency really means.
  - Comment: Potentially separate natural systems from shoreline protection. Instead of shoreline protection – how do we ensure that our shorelines remain dynamic.
- *Public Safety Infrastructure*
  - *Identify emergency road networks, maintain and protect, state of good repair*
- *Communication*
  - *Create information sharing networks for informing year-round and seasonal residents regarding programs, strategies, incentives, etc. for implementing resiliency measures*
- *Resilient Infrastructure*

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- *Design boat launches and docks to function at variable water levels – for recreation and commercial activities*
- *Wastewater infrastructure (public sewers vs private septic systems)*
- *Resilient Design*
  - *Guide development and preservation of properties within the risk area (LWRPs, zoning, voluntary programs)*
- *Economic Resources and Tourism*
  - *Dredge critical channels to allow boat access to inland waterbodies*
    - *Comment: This can be a hot topic with moving sediment and legacy chemicals.*
      - *Comment: Concern was more about ensuring access to water, particularly from a tourism perspective*
      - *Comment: Sounds to me like it refers to the channel at Sandy Pond, which technically is not in Jefferson County but a tip of North Sandy Pond is within Jefferson County. Community desire – dredging is a challenge where the piping plovers are breeding. It would be helpful for this regional plan to point out the need for annual dredging and decisions regarding placement/reuse of dredge material*
  - *Accessibility of boat launches*
- *Diverse Communities*
  - *Natural, physical, and economic environments*

### 3. Public Workshop

The first public workshop is scheduled for June 29, at 6 PM. To register, go to [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkdOuhqzsiGNULy\\_m9z29MUFUbfXFyldk](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkdOuhqzsiGNULy_m9z29MUFUbfXFyldk).

The project team shared their plans for the first public workshop. The objective of the first workshop is to introduce CLEAR to the public and gather input on the risks so that we can further refine the themes and concepts that contribute to resiliency. At the beginning of the meeting, we will be polling participants (draft questions below). A PowerPoint presentation will be used to guide the public through an explanation of the CLEAR program, geographical area of interest, goals, deliverables, and roles and responsibilities of those involved. After that, we will introduce the risk equation and ask participants to use a collaborative tool called a Google JamBoard and identify risks, hazards, vulnerabilities, and exposure within their communities. Participants will be put into breakout rooms to help participants work with the JamBoard.

*Poll Question #1: We wanted to ask the same question we gave in the first steering committee which was: rank your communities preparedness (1-10) to respond to an extreme water event.*

*Comment: I like the graphic. I want to make a point about the poll rating system, I don't feel that there is a lot of value in that, not until they have more information. Sometimes we don't know what*

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we don't know. If you look back at our meeting minutes, the SC rated 5-7. My concern is that we need to start from a place of common understanding. Don't want to build ourselves up and think that we are more resilient than we are.

Comment: Maybe it's more of a simple yes or no question: Do you think your community is resilient?

Comment: I don't want to put the definition before them initially. Would like to understand their own perception/interpretation of resiliency. What do folks think resiliency is? Later in the breakout room, why do they think they're resilient.

Comment: Weave in the sense that resiliency is also "preparedness". There's not much personal responsibility tied to the idea of preparedness/resiliency, it's more, what is my community going to do to fix it. There must be an element of personal engagement for this.

*Poll Question #2: Tell us about yourself, check all that apply: seasonal vs fulltime resident/business owner, owner of rental properties, work in a shoreline community, frequent visitor, personally affected by 2017/2019 flooding, municipal official.*

Comment: It could be useful to differentiate fulltime vs owner of rental properties.

Comment: Presumably, everyone will have been affected by the 2017/2019 flooding, what type of data are we trying to glean from that portion. Is there a way to get more valuable info there? There are different levels of impact – direct physical damage vs operationally impacted.

### 4. Stakeholder Meetings

SC members were reminded that we will be reaching out to stakeholder groups as we work through the CLEAR initiative, and that having their presence at community meetings would be helpful. SC members were invited to a [Google Jamboard](#) to brainstorm stakeholders within the region.

Comment: Add municipal officials as a potential stakeholder group.

Comment: The majority of our lakeshore is owned by private residents. Need to figure out the best way to communicate to private lakeshore residents. Need to make sure we communicate with the groups that actually reside on the lakeshore.

Comment: Addition to stakeholder group: public campgrounds, fishing associations

Comment: Additional stakeholder, St Lawrence County Environmental Management Council

### 5. Next Steps

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**CLEAR**

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SC members were encouraged to participate and advertise the public workshop by posting on their respective websites, social media, emailing at least 5 contacts, and sharing at other meetings. Draft language for sharing the public workshop will be provided in a follow-up email.

Our next SC meeting will be **July 21, 2021, 10 AM**.

**Copies To: All members of the Cayuga-Oswego CLEAR Steering Committee, Consultant Team, and NYSDOS representatives.**

*Meeting notes were prepared by Michelle McGinnis of EcoLogic. If there are any discrepancies, please notify our office within three business days of receipt*