

Project Name: Coastal Lakeshore Economy and Resiliency Initiative
Date: November 17th, 2021
Meeting: Jefferson- St. Lawrence Region- Steering Committee #8
Attachments: Presentation

1. Welcome

Attendees were named with their affiliations on Zoom.

2. Project Updates and Timeline

EDR Team updated the committee on the project's current and remaining tasks:

- Review and comment on project profiles including implementation, potential partners, and possible challenges
- Distribute draft CLEAR plan-Tuesday, November 23 for review (Community Profiles will be incorporated into final CLEAR Plan)
- Hold open review session to discuss comments on draft Plan with SC members- Dec. 8th (10 am-12 pm). A link to the Zoom will be distributed, no need to preregister.
- Draft CLEAR Plan review period closes Friday, December 10th
- Finalize CLEAR Plan by the end of 2021 for communities to accept in early 2022

3. Project Profile Discussion

Draft project profiles were distributed to the SC on November 15th. The major agenda topic for SC#8 was discussion of the profiles.

Sam Gordon (EDR) led discussion of feedback received to date, including the importance of making projects specific at the local level, and ensuring that community needs are met. The need for capacity building and funding sources/strategies is a common thread.

Comments and Discussion:

- Opportunities to expand on a current REDI project to include additional shoreline protection
 - REDI project added stone and riprap to increase road elevation, but limited consideration of potential habitat impacts
 - Consultant team will contact the Jefferson County Highway Department for further details on the project
- Multiple comments received from both SC members and participants in PW3 regarding the recommendation for a Regional Resiliency Circuit Rider, the Consultant Team will investigate potential funding mechanisms
- NYSDOS plans to meet with community leaders to discuss additional training and staff members to support project efforts (including technical assistance)

- Resiliency Revolving Fund received positive feedback from SC members. EDR will continue to discuss with stakeholders. Comments:
 - Loan part of project is less favorable or realistic to many community members
 - Grant programs, unlike loan programs are normally oversubscribed
 - Limitation of grants are that it is normally a one-time allotment of money
- Next steps Jefferson and St. Lawrence County officials (including planning, IDA, DANC and EFC representatives among others) meet to review potential grant and loan programs and what has been effective.

4. Round Robin Wrap-Up

Sharon Anderson (EcoLogic) led a round-robin discussion; members of the stakeholder committee were asked to comment on two questions:

1. Your experience with CLEAR
2. What will you do next to support and implement new projects?

Comments:

- This project has stood out positively from the other current and past projects in the area
- Community and stakeholder committee involvement has been very low and disappointing
 - One reason may be virtual overload: too many other invitations
- Very useful that communities down the road have references to create new projects or change zoning laws
- Having a local circuit rider position may help the disconnect between local communities and the “NYS” label

5. Next Steps and Reminder of Important Dates

- Draft CLEAR Plan will be distributed Tuesday, November 23rd for review
- Office Hours (to discuss SC comments on draft final plan): Dec. 8th 10 am-12 pm
- Deadline for final comments: Dec. 10th
- Final Plan ready in early 2022 for acceptance
- Continue to check CLEAR website (www.northcountryCLEAR.com) for updates

6. Thank You!

Consultant team thanked the stakeholder committee for all their work and involvement in creating the CLEAR Plan.

Copies To: Jefferson- St. Lawrence Region CLEAR Steering Committee members and associates, and project team

Meeting notes were prepared by Liz Moran and Jasmine James of EcoLogic. If there are any discrepancies, please notify our office within three business days of receipt