

2nd ANNUAL JOINT MONMOUTH-OCEAN COUNTIES CRS USERS GROUP 07/11/19 Meeting Notes

Meeting was held at Thompson Park, 805 Newman Springs Road, Lincroft, NJ at 10:00 a.m.

1) Welcome and Introductions: Welcomes from Joe Barris, Monmouth County Division of Planning and Mark Villinger, Ocean County Planning Department. See attached sign in sheet for attendees.

2) County Updates

Monmouth

- Joe is working on getting CECs credits for Monmouth County CRS User Group meetings so its important to sign in as proof that you attended meetings.
- Bridget Neary, Monmouth County Division of Planning, presented the “Monmouth County CRS Assistance Program Mapping Request Checklist”. The checklist was created to streamline the data collection process for mapping activities and to assist towns in achieving more points for mapping and analysis components of their CRS activities. To request maps or discuss mapping needs, ideas, and procedures for your community contact bridget.neary@co.monmouth.nj.us. Other county CRS User Groups are invited contact Bridget to discuss procedures and methods used in the mapping component of the Monmouth County CRS Assistance Program.
- Planning staff attended the most recent New Jersey Coastal Coalition (NJCC) meeting. Tom Quirk of the Coalition will be presenting to the Monmouth County Planning Board on July 17th. Tom is offering to establish a regional PPI (Program for Public Information) for northern coastal counties (Ocean, Monmouth, and Middlesex) if he can get at least 10 communities join the NJCC.
- Monmouth County will be displaying flood information brochures at the Monmouth County Fair on July 24th-28th. All Monmouth County CRS communities will get credit for this action.
- The last of the municipal outreach meetings for the Monmouth County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan were held last week with Aberdeen being the final.

Ocean

- John Kirwin, Ocean County OEM, discussed the Ocean County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan expired in May and the updated plan is currently being reviewed by FEMA. A conference call with FEMA, NJOEM, Ocean County OEM, and the Ocean County Planning Department is scheduled for July 12th to discuss and address FEMA’s comments. The plan is anticipated to be accepted and adopted in the coming weeks. For communities that are due for their cycle review, Ocean County and FEMA are aware of the gap and will work to ensure that those towns continue to get CRS points for the adoption of the plan.
- Mark Villinger discussed opportunities for Ocean County through the New Jersey Coastal Coalition (of which they are members). The County and NJCC are currently looking into potential locations for installing flood cameras.

3) Partner Updates

- Garrett Byma, ISO/CRS Specialist - Garrett is on vacation. No update.
- Rebecca ‘Becky’ Jones, NJDEP - Becky discussed the 5 common mistakes that ISO’s have been identifying on ECs:

1. Wrong map number
2. Wrong Version number
3. Wrong Building Number
4. No discussion of mechanical equipment elevations in comments
5. No product specifications attached to the Elevation Certificate when engineered vents are used

Items 1 – 3 (and anything in Sections A and B) can be fixed by the Flood Plain Administrator by using an EC Correction form, putting it on the Municipality’s Letterhead, and attaching it to the EC. This form can be found at https://crsresources.org/files/300/310_ec_correction_form.docm

There was discussion about training for support staff such as surveyors, which Becky encouraged. A suggestion was made to offer EC training for surveyors at professional conferences and to offer CECs. She noted that the current NFIP and EC training is funded by an OEM grant that will expire at the end of the year and that staff should take advantage of the course offerings now. The course schedule is available on the NJAFM website.

<http://www.njafm.org/calendar> Becky also noted that there will soon be a new EC form that includes a section for vent information.

- Chanelle LaCross and Maryanne Luhrs, FEMA – Chanelle discussed the EC review process. An EC correction form is available on the CRS resource webpage. The form can be attached to the original EC. It is best to attach this form prior to the EC review. In addition to correcting the mistakes on the ECs reviewed, if less than 90% of ECs reviewed are correct a new sample will be requested and the process will start over. Chanelle also noted that FEMA’s EMI (Emergency Management Institute) website also has many resources. <https://training.fema.gov/emi.aspx> . FEMA is also working on “Community Snapshots” which will provide 10 years of flood insurance information to communities.
- Lisa Auermuller, Jacque Cousteau Estuarine Research Reserve (JCERR) – Floodmapper 3.0 will be released soon. New features will include repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss areas at the census block level and the use of the total water level approach. Lisa also informed the group that the NOAA Digital Coast Partnership is developing a guidebook for their CRS tool. Lisa asked that comments on the guidebook and tool be sent to her and she will relay them.
- Camille Graham, Risk Reduction Plus Group – Camille gave an update on Risk Rating 2.0 & Flood Reform Act. Rates will be released in April 2020 and will no longer be based on historical flooding, but actual risk. Communities will still benefit from the CRS program. ECs will not be required for initial ratings. The group discussed rate increases and it was established that rates are not anticipated to increase beyond current cap percentages and FEMA confirmed that there has been no talk of increasing fees on policies. It was also noted that legislation has been introduced to reduce fees on policies.

4) Reminders/Announcements

- Registration is open for the NJAFM conference, October 15-17, 2019 at the Hard Rock Hotel in Atlantic City. <https://www.njafmconference.org/>
- NJDEP is accepting comments for the FRAMES project until August 10, 2019. For more information or to submit a comment visit tworiversonefuture.nj.gov
- Specialized CRS Training sponsored by NJAFM TBA (to be announced)

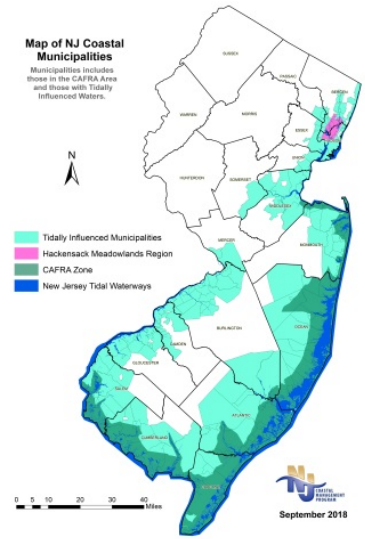
- Upcoming CRS Webinars www.CRSResources.org/training (CRS Webpage)
 - ✓ July 16-Developing a Repetitive Loss Area
 - ✓ July 17-Activity 610: Flood Warning Response

5) Workshop:

NJDEP: New Jersey Coastal Resiliency Plan Overview, Outreach, & Workshop

The Coastal Resilience Plan is the first step for the NJDEP to evaluate how its policies and programs allow for local, regional and state response to climate change within the coastal zone. The plan will guide policies, regulations, resource allocation and funding in the coastal zone to: reduce the impacts of coastal hazards; increase resilience for structures, infrastructure systems, environmental resources, and coastal communities; address the needs of socially vulnerable populations; and attract equitable and sustainable investment.

- Dave Rosenblatt, Chief Resilience Officer
- Nick Angarone, Bureau Chief
- Jessica Jahre, Planning Lead, Coastal Resilience Plan
- Becky Hill, Principle Environmental Specialist
- Kelly Pflicke, Senior Planner
- Michael Kolber, Planner
- Kate White, Communications Coordinator
 - ✓ Joe and Mark will upload the presentation, workshop materials, and a summary of the workshop findings (when available) to the CRS Users Group web page.



The next Ocean County CRS User Group meeting will be held on Thursday, September 19th at Ocean County OEM, Berkeley Township

No October meeting for the Monmouth County CRS User Group - NJAFM Conference