

MONMOUTH COUNTY CRS USERS GROUP

MEETING NOTES

Thursday, January 16th, 2020 @ 10am

Thompson Park Visitor Center

805 Newman Springs Road (CR 520), Lincroft, NJ

1) Welcome : Joe Barris, Monmouth County Division of Planning

- Joe thanked representatives from County municipalities, neighboring counties, State agencies and institutions, and other participants for continuing to support the group
- Introductions: See attached sign in sheet for attendees

2) Monmouth County Updates:

Bridget Neary, Monmouth County Division of Planning

- Monmouth County is officially part of the New Jersey Coastal Coalition. NJCC is still looking for municipalities in the county to join. NJCC would like to do a regional PPI for the state's northern coastal region which will be available to participating municipalities for a nominal fee.
 - FEMA/ISO is reviewing PPI proposal
- Four County towns are cycling in 2020: Hazlet, Keansburg, Bradley Beach, and Oceanport. Towns requesting mapping services from the County should contact Bridget at bridget.neary@co.monmouth.nj.us to go over the mapping request checklist.
- Quinn Ruff, MC Planning, will be updating the County's buildings GIS layer, prioritizing towns that are cycling.
- The Division of Planning would like to partner with towns interested in pursuing Activity 370 – Flood Insurance Assessment and/or Activity 540 - Drainage System Maintenance on a pilot project. Interested towns do not have to be in their cycle year to participate. Contact Bridget if interested.
- Monmouth County GIS recently released its GeoHub.
- The County is currently working on a potential grant to obtain services from Forerunner.
- County will be updating CRS Users Group webpage. Please contact Bridget with suggestions.
- Joe is now the Director of the Department of Planning and Economic Development at the County and will be sharing the County CRS Users Group responsibilities with Bridget.

Mike Oppegaard, Monmouth County Office of Emergency Management

- The County's draft Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan is currently being reviewed by the state. After acceptance/adoption, the next step will be a cost/benefit analysis.
- OEM is currently exploring options to obtain LIDAR data services from Rutgers. This would allow flood layers (up to 500 year flood) to be overlaid on street level 3D models.
- OEM recently hosted a FEMA workshop for real estate professionals on the topic of flood insurance. It was well attended and received positive feedback. The guidance document will be posted on the County's CRS Webpage.

3) Partner Updates:

Tom Herrington, Urban Coast Institute/NJ Sea Grant

- Executive Order 89 mandates the establishment of a regional resilience officer. The NJ Coastal Resilience Collaborative is exploring the idea of creating municipal resilience officers that would work with the state and county to coordinate local resilience plans. Tom polled the group asking how many municipal representatives do resilience as part of their role. The group discussed:
 - All floodplain managers do resilience, but it may not be in their title.
 - Should it be a separate role?

- There is a lot of turnover in towns and it is difficult to track who current floodplain manager is (this is not tracked).
- Floodplain manager does not have to sign off on plats or development applications. It was suggested to require floodplain manager to sign ECs.
- Contact Tom with suggestions at therring@monmouth.edu

Becky Jones and Kenya Lovill, NJDEP

- Becky Jones, NJDEP, introduced Kenya Lovill who recently joined the Division of Dam Safety and Flood Engineering
- Kenya provided the group with the Flood Insurance Study publication order form and told the group that they can contact her for more information at kenya.lovill@dep.nj.gov

Chanelle LaCross, FEMA

- Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (FDPO) review checklist - the columns, labeled a-e, on this checklist reference the level of mapping/regulations the community has/needs, as described in 44 CFR 60.3 sections a-e. Please note that this checklist is only to meet NFIP minimum requirements and that any higher standards the community is regulating to would need to be added. NJDEP's updated Model "D" Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance can be downloaded here: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/floodcontrol/modelords/modeld-bestavail.doc> This link will be posted on the County CRS webpage.
- Anyone requesting policy data from FEMA will need to complete an Information Sharing Access Agreement (ISAA) and data can only be released to the people named on the agreement. The document must be completed and signed by both the local community and the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA) in order for FEMA to share NFIP policy data that contains personally identifiable information. Contact Chanelle at chanelle.lacross@fema.dhs.gov for the form.
- Chanelle is advocating for municipal floodplain managers to have access to the software that is used by ISO for review of ECs.

Tyler Ardron, Risk Reduction Plus Group update on Risk Rating 2.0 & Flood Reform Act

- Risk Reduction Plus Group was a sponsor of the FEMA workshop for real estate professionals on the topic of flood insurance. The workshop was a success and they hope to hold another in the future.
- The NFIP has been extended until September 2020.
- Risk Rating 2.0 has been pushed back to October 2021
- If interested in opportunities for outreach points for Activity 330 contact Tyler at tardron@riskreductionplus.com

Joseph Ruggeri, NJDEP/NJAFM

- The NJAFM conference will be held on October 27-29, 2020 at the Hard Rock Hotel in Atlantic City. Last year's conference had 450 attendees.
- The NJDEP/NJAFM training grant from FEMA through OEM will be expiring soon. There is one training left under the grant in Ocean County on January 23, 2020 and February 21, 2020 with the CFM exam to follow. Sign up at njafm.org

Mike DiGiulio, Morris County

- Morris County's next CRS Users group meeting will be held at 9:00am on February 18th, 2020 at the Lincoln Park Municipal Building

Amy Fread, Middlesex County

- Middlesex County is working on sharing new GIS data and updating their GIS portal

4) Guest Presentation: Meghan Leavey, GIS Services Manager, Monmouth County Division of Planning: Monmouth County NJ GeoHub

The Monmouth County Division of Planning recently launched the Monmouth County NJ GeoHub website, a community engagement platform that allows residents to download Geographic Information System (GIS) data and explore web maps and applications offered by the County. Featured GIS content includes interactive web maps and applications to find information about County's services and resources as well as interactive story maps to learn more about the County's history and culture. Open data download for authoritative GIS sets and external GIS data resources are also available on the GeoHub website. For more information about the Monmouth County NJ GeoHub website, go to <https://gis-monmouthnj.opendata.arcgis.com/> or email gis@co.monmouth.nj.us. This link will be posted on the County CRS webpage.

5) Guest Presentation: Dan Rizza, Program on Sea Level Rise Manager, Climate Central

Dan discussed Climate Central's Surging Seas/CRS Tools and guide. Climate Central worked to identify the many ways the Surging Seas web tool could be used to support activities that receive CRS credit/points within the CRS program through conversations with local CRS coordinators and implementers, and with FEMA CRS representatives. The guide provides step-by-step instructions on how to access information and downloads from the Surging Seas web tool that could be utilized within specific CRS activities in FEMA's 2017 CRS Coordinator's Manual. The guide and overview of how to use the tools is available at <https://sealevel.climatecentral.org/crs> This link will be posted on the County CRS webpage. Dan also recommended several other resources that may be of interest to the group:

- ASFPM CRS Green Guide: Features best practices and case studies derived from interviews with CRS communities earning top-scores for CRS elements that preserve or enhance the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains. <https://www.floodsciencecenter.org/products/crs-community-resilience/>
- The Nature Conservancy's Community Rating System Explorer: This app allows planners to more effectively visualize OSP (Open Space Preservation) opportunities, explore unprotected parcels to protect for the future, and engage decision makers to influence land management. To learn more about The Nature Conservancy's CRS efforts read their pdf on Coastal Resilience and the Community Rating System. <http://coastalresilience.org/project/community-rating-system-explorer/>
https://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/Marine/crr/library/Documents/CRS_factsheet_4_18_17.pdf
- NOAA's How to Map Open Space for Community Rating System Credit and companion GIS Workflow: These self-guided resources detail the process for mapping and calculating credits for

preserved open space in seven easy to follow steps, with links to helpful data, information sources, and job aids. <https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/crs.html>

6) Announcements:

- 1/31/2020 – Deadline for towns to notify FEMA of intent to adopt the preliminary FIRMs or wait until the coastal study is complete. See attached FEMA Coastal Restudy Newsletter and notification letter from FEMA.
- NJAFM Conference, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City, October 27-29, 2020
- Ocean Fun Day sponsored by the NJ Sea Grant Consortium, May 16-17, 2020
- Upcoming CRS Webinars www.CRSResources.org/training (CRS Webpage)
 - No live webinars will be presented in January, February, or March of 2020
- Floodplain Management Training and CFM Exam dates posted.
NJAFM Training Schedule: <http://www.njafm.org/calendar>

Thank you to Monmouth County Parks System for the meeting space!

**The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 16, 2020, at 10am; Location TBD
Please contact Bridget for location suggestions**