



**VILLAGE OF DOBBS FERRY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**WORKSHOP MEETING AGENDA**

**MEETING DATE:** March 14, 2023

**AGENDA ITEM SECTION:** Discussion

**AGENDA ITEM NO. :** 1

**AGENDA ITEM:**

Mid-Hudson Community Resiliency Plan Update

**ITEM BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:**

1. Memorandum dated March 8, 2023 from Valerie Monastra/Village Consulting Planner to Mayor Rossillo and the Board of Trustees



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Rossillo and Members of the Village Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Valerie Monastra, AICP

**Re:** Mid-Hudson Regional Community Resilience Planning

**DATE:** March 8, 2023

**CC:** Richard Leins, Interim Village Administrator  
Lori Lee Dickson Esq., Village Attorney

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The Village of Dobbs Ferry, in collaboration with four other municipalities and Pace University Land Use Law Center ("the Center"), received a grant from the Department of State in 2020 for Pace University Land Use Law Center to facilitate a community planning process to develop a resiliency assessment and prepare local waterfront revitalization program resiliency components. Tiffany Zezula from Pace University will be in attendance at Tuesday's meeting to discuss the project with the Board.

### Grant Scope of Work

Grant Description: The Center will undertake an evaluation of the communities' existing Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) efforts, local plans, and resiliency issues and barriers. The Center will work with participating municipalities to conduct resiliency assessments, identify and prioritize strategies for waterfront revitalization and coastal resilience, and develop resiliency components that help implement these strategies.

#### Task 1: Establish Advisory Committees

Establish advisory committees to oversee all aspects of the project in cooperation with the Center. The committee shall be representative of relevant departments and boards.

#### Task 2: RISE Assessment with Spatial Analysis

The Center will develop a draft resiliency assessment using the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)/Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [Resilience Implementation and Strategic Enhancements \(RISE\) Local Assessment Tool](#). RISE helps communities approach hazards and risks comprehensively by identifying weaknesses, as well as strengths, in existing Comprehensive Plan and LWRP and laws and helping communities achieve desired outcomes that improve resiliency. The Center will work with the committee to review and finalize the RISE assessment.

The main purpose of the Rise Tool will be to identify the location and content of quantitative and spatial data sources that could be used for future resiliency planning initiatives that might unfold as part of Comprehensive Plan updates, LWRP and rezoning studies. In order to help illustrate the relevance of these

tools to future planning and to establish priority strategies, a broad range of maps will be presented in a slide deck along with brief narrative explanations of each map's core findings. These maps, focused mainly on coastal risks and environmental attributes, will be imported from a range of sources including the DOS Geographic Information Gateway, Westchester County GIS, and other federal sources such as the FEMA Flood Map Service Center. Original mapping and data analysis will be beyond the scope of this task. However, the project team will contact NYSDOS to ensure that the top-level and most easily accessible information from the agency's various mapping resources and tools (including those for Coastal and Riverine Risk Assessment) are represented in the slide deck.

#### **Task 3: Issues, Opportunities and Goals**

Using the RISE Local Assessment Tool approach, the Center will work with the committee to identify and prioritize issues, opportunities, and goals for both waterfront revitalization and coastal resilience.

#### **Task 4: Community Engagement Workshops**

The Center will conduct at least one community engagement workshop in the community to solicit public input on the prioritized issues, opportunities, and goals.

#### **Task 5: Strategy Development**

Based on the RISE assessments and prioritized issues, opportunities, and goals for waterfront revitalization and coastal resilience, the Center will research and develop relevant strategies to increase resilience and to customize the RISE local assessment tool. The Center will work with the committee to review and finalize the draft strategies, including whether the comprehensive plan or LWRP need to be updated.

#### **Task 6: Draft and Final Resiliency Components**

The Center, will develop a component focused on resiliency. The resiliency component will include the assessment and prioritized planning goals and objectives appropriate for the community with implementing strategies including identifying if LWRP and Comprehensive Plan need to be updated in their entirety.

#### **Next Steps**

The Village Board will need to work on identifying a committee to assist Pace with this project. I will be assisting with the coordination of the process with Pace and the Village to ensure that the product will help the Village in its sustainability efforts and better position itself for grant funding to undertake a Comprehensive Plan. I recommend that the Village Board consider developing a committee with representatives from the Village Board, Planning Board, Conservation Advisory Board, and Sustainability Task Force. If the Board chooses to include additional members from other local committees or residents, it is recommended that the committee is no larger than 10-12 people.