

Packet information for Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee meeting on October 11, 2022.

Content.

1. Email from Jeff Carlson to possible Harbor Plan Update Committee members
2. Memo from Jeff Carlson on Harbor Plan Update Committee
3. Resilience cycle graphic
4. Letter from Nantucket Conservation Commission to Mass DEP, August 11, 2022.
5. Proposed draft letter from Select Board & CRAC in support on Conservation Commission August 11 letter

1. Email from Jeff Carlson to possible Harbor Plan Update Committee members

- a. Received Friday 9/30/2022 3:56 PM

Good afternoon,

As you may or may not know the Town has been in the process of updating the Nantucket and Madaket Harbors Action Plan. At the Select Board meeting on Wednesday the Board approved the required committee structure for the plan update committee. Please find a memo attached describing the committee. The make up from the 2009 plan is mostly unchanged with a couple of additions as recommended by our consultant and Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management. As the chairs for your respective committee or organizational directors I am respectfully requesting that your board or committee designate a representative by the end of October. If you have any questions feel free to ask and thank you all in advance. Have a nice weekend.

Thanks,

Jeff Carlson

Town of Nantucket

Natural Resources Director

131 Pleasant Street

Nantucket, MA 02554

508-228-7230

2. Memo from Jeff Carlson on Harbor Plan Update Committee

TOWN OF NANTUCKET NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

JEFF CARLSON, NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTOR
131 PLEASANT STREET
NANTUCKET, MA 02554

JCARLSON@NANTUCKET-MA.GOV
508-228-7230



MEMO

9/30/2022

From: Jeff Carlson, Natural Resources Director

Re: Harbor Plan Update Committee

The Municipal Harbor Planning Regulations (301 CMR 23.00 et seq.) establish a voluntary process under which cities and towns may develop and submit Municipal Harbor Plans to the EEA Secretary for approval. These plans serve to promote and implement a community's planning vision for their waterfront and to inform and guide state agency decisions necessary to implement such a vision. Specifically, approved Municipal Harbor Plans provide licensing guidance to DEP in making decisions pursuant to MGL Chapter 91 (c. 91) and the Waterways Regulations (310 CMR 9.00 et seq.). Approved harbor plans may establish alternative numerical and dimensional requirements (e.g., substitute provisions) to the requirements specified by the Waterways Regulations as well as specify provisions that amplify any of the discretionary requirements of these regulations.

The Town is currently in the initial stages of updating the state approved 2009 Nantucket and Madaket Harbors Action Plan with our contractor UMASS Boston's Urban Harbors Institute. As we are working on the Town's Notice to Proceed with Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management it requires the formation of a Plan Update Committee. The Select Board has adopted the below as the makeup for this committee. It has an expanded membership from the 2009 committee to include current initiatives of the Town. The Natural Resources Department as the staff liaison for this update working with Mass Coastal Zone Management and Urban Harbors Committee is proposing the following mission statement

Proposed 2022 Committee Mission Statement:

The mission of the Nantucket and Madaket Harbors Action Plan Update Committee is to update the existing plan to reflect our changing community incorporating diversity, population growth, and new challenges that our island waterways are currently experiencing. The plan will continue its focus on the improvement of equitable public access to the harbors, to foster traditional and new water dependent uses, protect natural resources, improve harbor water quality, restoration of aquatic and shoreline habitats, improve fisheries while preserving cultures and traditions for all residents. The plan will integrate coastal resiliency principles, promote adaptation to sea-level rise and

TOWN OF NANTUCKET NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

JEFF CARLSON, NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTOR
131 PLEASANT STREET
NANTUCKET, MA 02554

JCARLSON@NANTUCKET-MA.GOV
508-228-7230



changing coastal conditions. The committee will also seek to integrate existing goals and objectives from other relevant plans adopted by the Select Board and other Town agencies impacting the harbors.

Committee Members:

2009 Committee - actual	2022 Committee - adopted
Harbor & Shellfish Advisory Board	Harbor & Shellfish Advisory Board
Nantucket Marine Trades Assoc.	Nantucket Marine Trades Assoc. – if active or similar organization
NP&EDC	NP&EDC
ConCom	ConCom
Marine & Coastal Resources Department	Nantucket Islands Land Bank
At-Large	Coastal Resiliency Advisory Committee
At-Large	At-Large
	At-Large
	At-Large

Currently it is anticipated for the committee to meet monthly, and the update is anticipated to take about one year. The day and time of meetings is not yet set and will be determined at the first meeting of the committee. If you could provide the designated representative from your organization back to Jeff Carlson at jcarlson@nantucket-ma.gov by October 31, 2022 it would be appreciated. If there are questions or concerns, please contact me and I will be happy to address them.

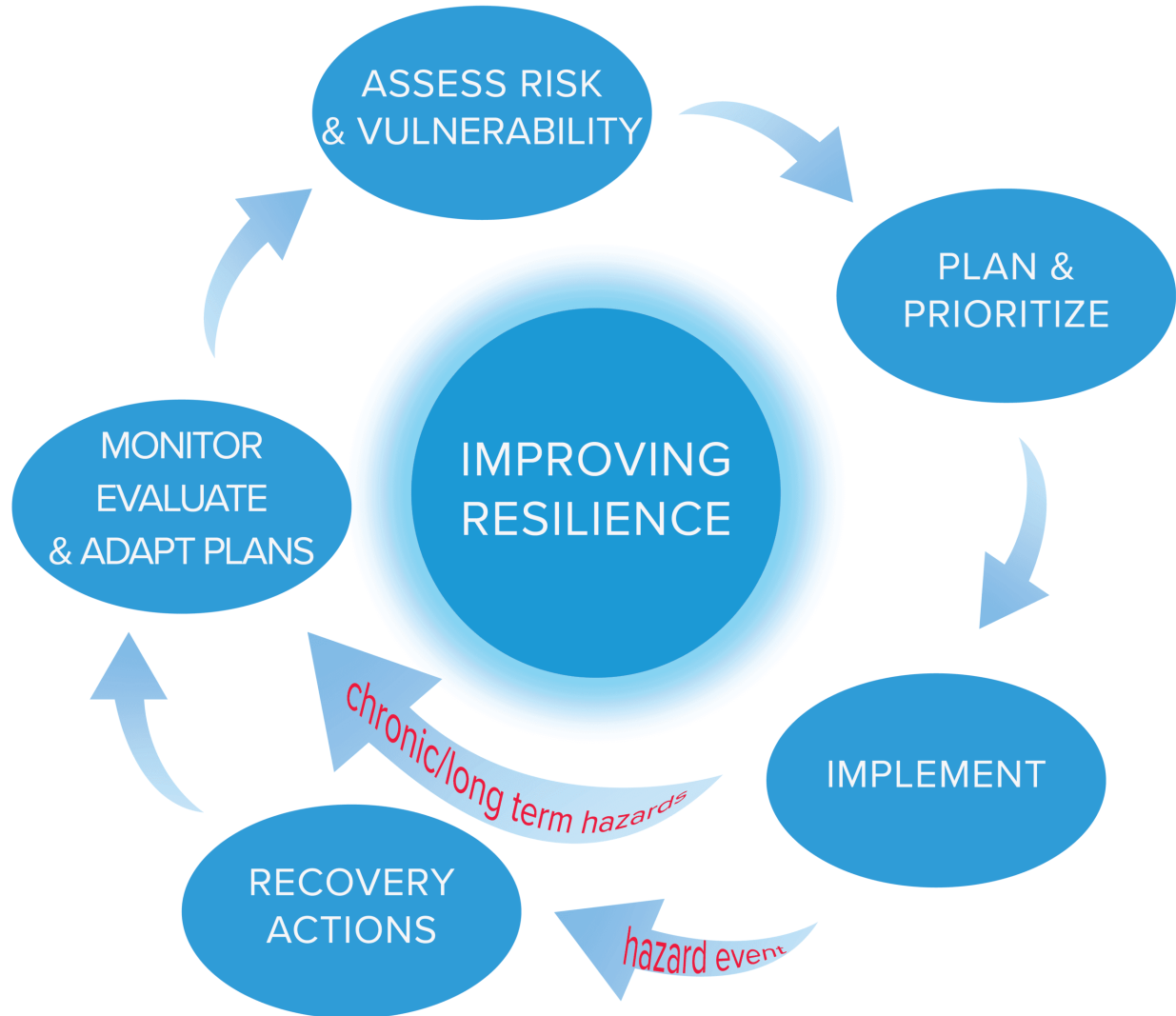
Copies of the current Nantucket and Madaket Harbors Action Plan can be found at: <https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/10269/Nantucket-and-Madaket-Harbors-Action-Plan-PDF>

Thank you for your attention to this important plan update.

3. Resilience cycle graphic

a. Focus on recover

The Resilience Cycle



4. **Letter from Nantucket Conservation Commission to Mass DEP, August 11, 2022.**

TOWN OF NANTUCKET CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ASHLEY ERISMAN, CHAIR
131 PLEASANT STREET
NANTUCKET, MA 02554

CONCOM@NANTUCKET-MA.GOV
508-228-7230



August 11, 2022

MassDEP Waterways Program
1 Winter Street
5th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Chapter 91 Compliance Questions and Request for Inspections

Based on a unanimous vote (6-0) at the August 11, 2022 meeting of the Nantucket Conservation Commission, the local regulatory body charged with upholding the protections of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Nantucket Wetland Regulations, I as chair was authorized to provide this letter requesting assistance from the MassDEP Waterways program. The Commission understands that they have no control over the Chapter 91 license process and compliance but want to help insure that decisions that are being made are consistent with the policies and procedures of MassDEP Waterways.

The Commission has been receiving applications for repairs to existing Coastal Engineering Structures like bulkheads and groins over the past years and are seeking some guidance on how these structures are viewed under the Chapter 91 licensing process. Specifically, when these structures were licensed the on the ground conditions were surveyed and placed on plans. As time has passed waterlines have moved landward and resource areas changed with waterlines now against structures during most every tide cycle and cutting off reliable public access. Is there a trigger for an inspection against the Chapter 91 license where a remedy to this situation may be required? Does the license allow for reconstruction even with the original permit conditions no longer existing? As an example whether the original structure being protected is no longer present or that the resource areas have changed. How are these situations addressed?

The Commissions hope is that MassDEP waterways could work with the Commission's staff at the Town of Nantucket Natural Resources Department to assess the existing licensed structures and determine if action needs to be taken or if MassDEP Waterways determines these structures to be in compliance with the existing license and conditions. As climate change and sea-level rise continue to impact Massachusetts coastlines having clear guidance on how these types of

TOWN OF NANTUCKET CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ASHLEY ERISMAN, CHAIR
131 PLEASANT STREET
NANTUCKET, MA 02554

CONCOM@NANTUCKET-MA.GOV

508-228-7230



situations are viewed is of critical importance. This will allow for local regulations to incorporate these important goals of continued public access in a manner consistent with state regulations and policies.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ashley Erisman, Chair
Nantucket Conservation Commission

5. Proposed draft letter from Select Board & CRAC in support on Conservation Commission August 11 letter

October **XX**, 2022

MassDEP Waterways Program
1 Winter St, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

RE: Chapter 91 Compliance Questions and Request for Inspection

The Select Board of the Town of Nantucket and its Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee are writing to join and support the request dated August 11, 2022 from the Nantucket Conservation Commission for assistance from the MassDEP Waterways program to ensure that decisions made locally are consistent with the policies and procedures of MassDEP Waterways.

The Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee delivered a Coastal Resilience Plan (CRP) to the Select Board, which adopted it on January 12th, 2022. The CRP recommends measures to increase resilience on Nantucket as its coast is increasingly impacted by the effects of climate change, including erosion, flooding, and sea level rise.

Resilience measures may include (1) further coastal engineering structures as well as (2) maintenance of existing coastal engineering structures such as town owned coastal structures. Maintaining public access over time as coastal conditions change will be an important component of any new design.

Having clear guidelines so that local plans and regulations will be consistent with state policy is essential as the Town moves forward with projects to modify coastal environments to increase resilience.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Jason Bridges, Chair

Nantucket Select Board

Mary Longacre, Chair

Nantucket Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee