

Washington St. Workgroup Minutes
Friday, July 12, 2024 at 11:00am
Hybrid: Zoom and in person at the Land Bank Office

Members present: Nat Lowell, Brooke Mohr, Matt Fee

Members absent: Allen Reinhard, John Stackpole

Staff present: Vince Murphy, Leah Hill, Jesse Bell, Laura Marrett and Gena Morgis (SCAPE), Emma Kantola

Packet here: https://nantucket-ma.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_07122024-14055

A. CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. May not exceed 3 minutes per speaker.

2. WASHINGTON STREET FRAMEWORK PLAN-PHASE 1 CATALYTIC PROJECT

2. Discuss and approve project name

- Based off the conversation from the last meeting, Scape suggested the vision will be called the Washington Street Resilience Framework and the near-term project will be called the Francis Street Beach Improvement Project, and all materials and messaging will have these names. The workgroup approved (3-0)

2. Approve project goals

- Based off previous conversations around goals, SCAPE read through them:
 - Environmental: Improve capacity of natural ecosystems to adapt to sea level rise and reduce adverse impacts to them; Absorb, buffer, embrace and manage water
 - Group decided to remove embrace
 - Social: Reduce flood risk to cultural and community assets; Create public universally accessible waterfront experiences to people; Engage in dialogue with community members about climate risks and adaptation pathways
 - Operational: Reduce flood risk to sustain the long-term use of Washington Street; Enhance transportation infrastructure critical to local economies; develop feasible, adaptable, maintainable, permittable solutions; Clearly communicate economic benefits and anticipated project costs
 - Group had a discussion about a bike path and that transportation is more than just trucking. Nat Lowell suggested adding in multi-modal and adding safety. Brooke said that economy seems duplicated.
 - Revised goal: Enhance multimodal transportation infrastructure critical to mobility and safety
- All goals were approved with the suggested edits (3-0)

2. Review and discuss updated project website

- Goal of this discussion is to finalize the project webpages before any abutter and community meeting. Scape went through the draft webpages and will keep working on the text. Matt suggested the webpages should not be too technical and should be easy to understand. Cecil suggested removing the map of the full Washington St. Resilience Framework vision showing homes removed and the group decided to put both maps on the website for now. Scape will produce a graphic showing a web of stakeholders. Emma suggested that we change the flow of the website because there is a lot of content. Next step is to set up a meeting with SCAPE, Emma Kantola and Florencia Rullo to discuss the website flow.

2. Discuss and approve direct abutter notice

- Leah showed the draft abutter letter that Florencia designed, and the map will include just Francis St. Beach project area. Cecil suggested changing the picture to not include flooding but a beautiful view that feels more optimistic. Discussion over the content and word smithing occurred. Scape brought up pictures to use including drone images, use of the space, and the Washington St. shoreline. The group liked the picture that has the kayaks. Scape will send over 2 pictures and Florencia Rullo, the Town's Communications Manager, will decide which picture works for the space.
- Motion by Brooke to approve the letter with any further review by the remaining members of the workgroup. Fee seconded it. Approved 3-0

*Workgroup meeting closed due to loss of quorum and reopened as a business meeting at 11:25am.

- Discussion on abutter meeting location which could include Greater Light, the trailer, or 4 Fairgrounds. Greater Light was preferred.
- A QR code will have a Spanish translation on the letter.

2. Discuss the upcoming focus group meeting with direct abutters

- This will be put on the next meeting's agenda.

2. Review and give input on the community open house flyer

- Discussion about the photo Florencia Rullo put is too depressing and should be a bit happier. Suggested it should have cars driving through water instead and be a real Nantucket picture. Leah explained the plans for the community open house for August 7, 2024.

3. NEXT MEETING: Friday, July 26, 2024

4. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, OR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

B. ADJOURNMENT