

Washington St. Workgroup Minutes
Friday, August 23, 2024 at 11:00am
Hybrid: Zoom and in person at the Land Bank Office

Members Present – Matt Fee, Brooke Mohr, Allen Reinhard, Natt Lowell. Matt Fee left at 11.16. Quorum was maintained throughout. John Stackpole absent.

Present in the room – Rachael Freeman, Claire Martin, Vince Murphy, Mike Burns, Charles Johnson, Sofia Slosek.

Present online – Laura Marett, Cole Bateman, Dan Kramer, Drew Patnode, Gena Morgis, Joe Famley, John Bologna, Julia Kelly.

Packet found here: <https://nantucket-ma.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/08232024-14205>

- A. Meeting called to order at 11.03am
- (i) Agenda accepted by unanimous voice vote.

1. Call for Public Comment – no public comment.

2a. Frances Stret Beach Improvement

Laura Marett (SCAPE) presented on the Community Feedback from August 7th. There were over 110 participants between the morning and evening session.

Discussion – Access & ecology were positively received at the workshops. Recreation had mixed reactions. Members present discussed the community feedback, particularly the reaction to recreation where the community feedback was about traffic related to recreation and litter management. Responses were about how the construction phase could deal with historic material causing problems on the beach. Operation & maintenance phase could deal with litter as management will be undertaken between Department of Public Works and Land Bank.

2b. Introduction to the new team members

- Tighe & Bond – John Bologna & Cole Bateman
- Hazen and Sawyer – Dan Kramer
- Woods Hole Group (WHG) – Joe Famley
- IEC – was mentioned but did not have a representative present.

Cole Bateman discussed civil engineering and water management

Laure Marett talked about where we are in the project and next phases.

- (i) To date we did the public workshops can concept designs
- (ii) Now starting the 10-week pre-design phase
- (iii) Next 16-week schematic design – sometimes called the 30% design.

(iv) Then understanding costs.

A). Tasks on the predesign will include test pits, bore holes, talking to permitting agencies, basis of design document, orders of magnitude of costs.

B). Schematic design contextual to Nantucket. Preferred design & feedback to get to 30% with illustrative graphics and plantings. This sparked a conversation.

- Nat Lowell – help people to move houses
- Laure Marett – beyond the scope of the project; we are talking about Frances Street only; this may be possible in later phases – needs much discussion.
- Charles Johnson – could be related to stormwater
- Laura Marett – yes, but that is the long-term vision for later phases, not necessarily for now.

C). Benefit & Cost calculations.

FEMA cost calculator can be used. This is a valuable resource and can also be used in later grant applications that require these types of calculations.

D). Operation & Maintenance

Operation & Maintenance requirements were further discussed and the costs. An O&M manual with cost estimates will be produced.

E). Community Engagement.

There may be another Community Engagement event in the fall of 2024 to seek further community feedback. Vince Murphy mentioned the possibility that it could be held at the Whaling Museum again as the Museum Director expressed an interest.

F). Heart & Heartburn (pros and cons) exercise of project to date

- Vince Murphy – Neighbors seem to be coming around to the project and viewing it positively.
- Nat Lowell – Public presentation on project is important. Need more feedback and to show people what is going on
- Nat Lowell – Saltmarsh senior center and infrastructure improvement are key. We have great relationships with Great Harbor Yacht Club and Nantucket Island Resorts and should include them or brief them on this project.
- Brooke Mohr – All Parties involved is great, including the community feedback. Now we can get the project moving forward.

G). Next Steps & Calendar for the project

There will be a meeting to vet alternative in 4-6 weeks along in the pre-design phase. Early December could be a good time for the next piece of Community feedback. We could add the Stormwater project that Charles Johnson is working on to that Community feedback session. Brooke suggested inviting relevant committees (e.g., Conservation Commission, Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee, etc.) to send a representative. Before this we may also seek feedback from some committees.

Nat Lowell – Show Community different options & possible funding source.

Action item – Leah Hill to communicate between Arcadis Easy Street Project and Washinton Street Project and tell Laura Marett when Arcadis may want to have the next Community event (November/ December as possibilities) – possibly partner up with Scape again and add WHG & Chales Johnson for Stormwater.

3. Next meeting date

Laura Marett said that Scape may not have much by mid-September and could better use the time in pre-design. The agenda says September 13 as the next suggested meeting date, however, the work group decided unanimously to leave it to staff to decide the next meeting date.

4. Additional Questions, concerns, comments or future agenda items

Brooke Mohr – look to October or November to present something to Select Board. Contact Brooke about agenda item for SB.

Mike Burns – Transport – look for Federal funding from the PROTECT* grant (part of the BRIC grants, Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities) or similar.

*Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation Program

B. Meeting adjourned at 12.06.