

Nantucket Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee (CRAC)
Tuesday, March 24, 2026
Via Zoom

*Meetings are audio- and video-recorded

Members present: Gary Beller, Liz Phelps, Peter Brace, Doug Rose, Tim Braine, Emily Junkins, Joanna Roche, Matt Fee, Hillary Hedges Rayport, Sarah Bois

Members Absent: Christy Kickham

Staff present: Leah Hill

Scheduled Speakers: Laura Marett (SCAPE), Jessy Rojas (SCAPE), Daniel Berdichevsky(SCAPE), Devon McKaye (Arcadis), Trevor Johnson (Arcadis),

Members of the public: Art Gasbarro, D. Anne Atherton, JohnCarl McGrady

Recording available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A7eL_haujDY

Packet available here: <https://nantucketma.portal.civicclerk.com/event/24213/files/agenda/34447>

1. Call to order

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Peter Brace

2. Meeting announcements

- Script for remotely conducting Open Meetings, read by Chair
- The meeting is being audio/visually recorded

3. Public comment on topics not on the agenda

- No public comments

4. Approval of minutes

- January 13, 2026 and January 27, 2026 minutes approved after brief discussion of details.

5. Presentation and discussion on the Town's Island-wide Strategic Retreat and Relocation Program by SCAPE

- Presentation made by Laura Marett, Devon McKaye
- Comments and questions discussed:
 - Should there be a short term reaction strategy for emergency situations while plan is being created? Building dept. Health dept. ConCom etc
 - House moving companies should be encouraged to participate in planning
 - Need more detail on the regulatory agencies involved
 - Present some typical examples of properties and how things might play out.
 - Concern that the process of densifying the island will leave enough property to move houses to
 - State rules and insurance rules are not keeping up and there will need to be advocacy to remedy
 - Relocation opportunities in Nantucket may be different than elsewhere, like conservation land; house moving is more common here; generally progressive mind set; Nantucket could become a leader; need a toolkit with several options for incentives

- Need to be prepared for homeowners to be suspicious about town's intentions and frame the discussion accordingly
 - Timing of meetings should take into account when people are on island
 - Given the value of property on Nantucket, financial incentives will be important to people
 - Raising roads will be trigger points for many
 - Only 4% of Nantucket is undeveloped which will be a difficult issue
 - Might be important to have estimated costs for house moves available
 - Should work on a vision for the land conservancies and how they might all participate
 - Need to present in language that laymen can understand and minimize industry jargon
 - Part of goals should be to remove regulatory barriers and provide options
 - Triggers for retreat will vary according to many factors and will be tricky to define
 - Is meeting notification aimed at general public or vulnerable areas or both?
 - Should there be a government entity that would be responsible for determining when triggers are hit?
 - There was no public comment
6. Overview of the Natural Resources Department's grant submission to ECO-OneStop
 - Leah explained the new grant procedures with the State, called ECO-OneStop
 - She explained the two applications being made: Madaket Beach Erosion Mitigation project; Numerical Modeling study of Cotue and the Haulover
 - There were no questions or public comments
 7. Reminder to send in community outreach social media content asap
 8. Ask the committee about any public meetings and events happening the week of April 13, 2026
 - No comments
 9. Discussion off committee members' resiliency goals, issues and concerns for 2026
 - Might be worth examining which projects might not deserve much focus
 10. Committee members coastal resilience recommendations to the Select Board to be discussed at a future meeting
 - No comments
 11. New Business, Committee & Natural Resources Dept reports from Planning Board, Conservations Commission, Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board, Select Board, Advisory Committee of Non-Voting Taxpayers, and other committee members.
 - MA Coastal Relocation Conference March 10 at UMass Boston...Leah reported on it
 - 2026 Coastal Conference April 13-14 In Hyannis...Leah asked if anyone was planning to attend
 - Gary commented on how complicated the Bluff situation is and suggested that someone give an update later
 - No public comment

9. Discussion of upcoming meeting dates and future meeting topics

- Next meeting: April 14, 2026 at 10am

10. Motion to Adjourn

- Voted unanimously to adjourn