

HAMPTON COASTAL HAZARDS & ADAPTATION TEAM (CHAT)

FEBRUARY 2022 MEMBER UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

A summary of updates and announcements relevant to flooding, coastal hazards, and coastal planning intended to be shared with Hampton boards, commissions, committees, departments, and the public. Visit <http://shea4nh.org/coastal-hazards-adaptation-team-chat/> for information about CHAT.

- The Town continues the [Master Plan update](#) with a community conversation series. After a productive meeting on Natural Resources, one final event is planned for February 25th at 3pm. This discussion will focus on Town Facilities and Resources.
- Speaking with their neighbor and CHAT resident representative Tom Bassett, residents have expressed a range of feelings in response to flooding and seeing photos of January flooding in the Greene St-Meadow Pond-Gentian Rd neighborhood. Surprise, desire to advocate for change, feeling of despondence, and frustration over working on flood mitigation for decades with no results were among the sentiments expressed.
- SHEA and the Rockingham Planning Commission had a productive meeting with the Seabrook Planning Board to consider creating a group similar to CHAT to address coastal resilience issues in Seabrook.
- Direct technical assistance is being offered to communities and partners through the [Flood Smart Seacoast Project](#). The focus of the assistance is on applying coastal flood risk guidance, drafting floodplain regulations, and scoping mitigation projects. Proposals for technical assistance are due May 4th and projects can begin the first week of May.
- Conservation Coordinator Brianna O'Brien has received calls from residents asking about what the Town is doing for flood resilience and about specific projects in town. There is interest in resources for residents about funding options and education to prepare for the future.
- Recent flood events have spurred Conservation Commission discussions about increasing public awareness. Two suggestions on how to increase public outreach during potential flooding events are:
 - Post a list of areas that flood during high tides or weather events on Town websites
 - Place signage in the areas that flood to let people know there is a flood risk. An LED sign that can light up to alert people when there is active flooding was suggested.
- The NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup (NHCAW) is wrapping up a multi-faceted project called Path to Resilience. One of the outputs of this project is a video timeline of projects that have been implemented in Hampton. This [video](#) is available on the Town's website under 'news/updates' to view and share with anyone interested in knowing what the Town is doing to increase resilience.
- DPW consultants continue their work on the design of the King's Highway Flood Mitigation and Ditch Mitigation Projects.
- DPW has reviewed the recently released Critical Flood Risk Infrastructure Grant Program and is compiling the required information to request permission and apply for grants related to the

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Construction of the King's Highway Flood Mitigation Design as well as other projects that may be eligible. This grant does not have any match requirement.

CHAT's mission is to evaluate, assist, support, educate, and advise on current and future coastal flooding adaptation strategies for the Town.

CHAT is comprised of representatives from boards and commissions in Hampton, Town of Hampton staff, Hampton Beach Area Commission, Hampton Beach Village District, the Seabrook-Hamptons Estuary Alliance (SHEA), and resident representatives. CHAT is supported by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program and a meeting coordinator and administered by SHEA.