

HAMPTON COASTAL HAZARDS ADAPTATION TEAM (CHAT)

May 2023 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.

- Mr. Bachand – Hampton Town Planner
 - First Master Implementation Committee meeting is scheduled for June 28th at 7 pm in the Board of Selectmen Meeting Room.
 - At the upcoming Hampton Garden Club Plant sale (May 20th), have a table presenting information on the new Master Plan.
 - Flood Smart Committee, with support from the Rockingham Planning Commission, met in May to discuss potential floodplain ordinance revisions. A follow-up survey to help steer future meetings is in development. The next meeting is June 15th.
- Mr. Bassett - Resident Representative
 - May 1st – flooding on Gentian and Greene Streets linked to a storm where the water from the Road and King’s Highway could not drain.
 - On May 1 and May 8, the high tide readings at the Hampton Tide gauge were 1–2 feet higher than the NOAA predicted high tide heights.
 - May 5 through May 9, the tides were over 10 ft. Flooding becomes a concern when tides are over 10 feet, but severe flooding occurs when tides are 11 to 12 feet.
 - May 8th – no storm event, classic sunny day flooding event.
 - NHDES continues to test the water quality of flood waters. More data need for trend analysis, but some samples have elevated bacteria levels.
- Ms. Hale (Hampton DPW Director)
 - Met with NHDES to work through the grant scope and next steps for the new King’s Highway drainage system project. This project timeline extends into 2024; it is not a shovel-ready project. Before construction can begin, there is a lot of behind the scene work, such as finalizing the grant award, completing final designs, and contractor bidding.
 - NHDES CP, led by Kevin Lucey, applied for an “America the Beautiful Challenge” grant which would take the salt marsh ditch mitigation project through implementation if selected.
- Ms. O’Brien (Conservation Commission/CHAT Facebook Team)
 - Facebook is up and running but needs more material.
 - Looking for other Facebook pages that can link to it to help increase visibility.
- Ms. Kravitz – Hampton Beach Area Commission
 - HBAC Master Plan Update
 - HBAC’s consultant, GEI, presented the resilience concepts on April 27 and toured three beach areas. There were 60 people in attendance.

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- On May 23rd, HBAC will host a public hearing at Hampton Academy on the first draft of the Master Plan update. The draft materials will be posted and accessible from the Town's website.
- The HBAC will meet on May 25th to further review and comment on the draft chapter. The final plan will be completed on June 30.
- Ms. Howard (NHDES Coastal Program)
 - Reminder - the Coastal Resilience Grant period is open, and applications are due by May 26th.