"Flipchart Transcripts," from group discussions at Project Kick-off
July 17, 2014 | 6:00-8:30pm – Seabrook Library

The project kick-off involved a climate change presentation and three small group discussions (people, infrastructure, and natural resources). Participants brainstormed concerns about climate change impacts to their towns, which were recorded on large flipcharts and posted around the room. **The content below is a transcription of said flipcharts.** *At the end of the evening, participants from the three towns used sticky dots to indicate what they felt were priority issues. The numbers in parentheses are the number of sticky dots or "votes" placed by participants on each item indicating concerns either for their community (H for Hampton, HF for Hampton Falls, S for Seabrook) or as something for "all three towns" to work on together (3 for All Three Towns).*

Natural Resources

Question 1 - Given the trends in increased frequency of storms, coastal flooding, and sea-level rise, how might these impacts affect NATURAL RESOURCES in the three towns?

- Beach erosion (H=3)
- Ocean
- Drinking water/salt water intrusion/compromised wells (H=2)
- Marine life/fisheries (ALL=1)
- Loss of wetlands/marsh (H=2)(HF=3)(ALL=3)
- Shifts in native species/trees
- Shifts in invasive species
- Ecological change from salt water surge
- Changes in stream flow/flooding houses (H=1)
- Bring in tourism (H=1)(ALL=1)
- People as a natural resource/impact of leadership on natural resources
- Clean air
- Increase in pollution with increase in impervious surfaces
- Dunes – loss of flood protection
- Economic impact on the resource (ALL=1)

- Barrier beaches/system (ALL=1)
    - Loss of flood protection (H=1)
- Evacuation routes
- Boating channels
- Impacts of catastrophic events on natural resources (nuclear power plant)
- Damage to homes from increased moisture
- Impacts on well being/quality of life
- Flooding in the…
    - Taylor river
    - Hampton harbor
- Expansion of summer recreation
- Loss of winter recreation
- Degraded nursery areas
    - Marsh/beach nesting birds
- Water table rising
- Change in habitat
- Loss of agriculture/ gardening form inland flooding/drought
- Distribution of historical pollutants

Question 2 – What concerns would be advantageous for the three towns to work on together?

- Restoration of natural features/barriers
- Funding
- Drinking water/desalinization plant (ALL=1)
- Pressure the state to maintain structure that support wetlands (H=5)(HF=1)(ALL=7)
- Rail trail – connecting people with natural resources
- Educate people on how to minimize damage (H=1)
- Common mitigation strategies (solar)
- Protection of marsh & dunes & barrier islands (H=1)(HF=1)(S=2)(ALL=4)
- Work together around common features (Taylor River for example)
- Consistent regulations (H=1)(ALL=5)
- Prioritize what is most valuable (H=1)(ALL=3)

Infrastructure

Question 1 - Given the trends in increased frequency of storms, coastal flooding, and sea-level rise, how might these impacts affect INFRASTRUCTURE in the three towns?

- Maintenance Sizing and tides gates – free flow
- Road height of 1 & 1A (H=2)
- Evacuation rt. 286
- Hampton fire house and police station
- Hampton and Seabrook waste water treatment plant (ALL=1)
- Seabrook school
- Pump stations
- Nuclear power plant?
- Hampton and Seabrook tax base as infrastructure (48% housing tax value)
- Direction of surge
- Back of marsh
  - Drainage in marsh maintenance
- Beach and associated infrastructure
- Seawalls at north beach (H=2)
- Street and stormwater runoff – Hampton beach
- 30 ft Seabrook height restriction (S=1)
- Hampton pavilion, Half shell – state park
- Seabrook pump station pipe under 286 (sewage discharge)
- State maintenance pressure
- Utilities – Cables, energy, poles (ALL=1)
- Sewage pipes decay – High St.
- Winter flood/freezing roads

Question 2 – What concerns would be advantageous for the three towns to work on together?

- Hazard mitigation (H=1)(ALL=1)
- Communication (H=1)
- Building Codes (HF=2)(S=3)(ALL=1)
- Zoning (ALL=3)
- Share wastewater treatment long term
- Evacuation plan (S=1)
  - Modify for weather
- Shared bridges (3=1)
  - Hampton to Hampton falls
- Inter-municipal agreements (ALL=4)
- County lead – zoning and agreements (ALL=1)
- Hold state accountable for Hampton park
- DOT maintenance of road/bridges (HF=1)(H=1)
- State agency coordination (H=3)(ALL=3)
  - Hampton area commission, DRED, DOT, PDA, DES
- Power outages – routing traffic (ALL=1)
- Towle farm bridge
- MS4 Permit Coordination –SWA
- Consistency – strategies and implementation
- Work together!
- Consequences of action on neighbors/other towns
- Assign evacuation endpoints

People

Question 1 - Given the trends in increased frequency of storms, coastal flooding, and sea-level rise, how might these impacts affect PEOPLE in the three towns?

- Recreation along coast = main economy (down) (H=1)
- Real estate values (up arrow and down arrow)
    - Fewer people to pay the taxes
- Costs of floods
- Risks to homes (H=2)(S=1)
- Social divisions between coast and inland
- Inability to evacuate (H=1)
- Impact on town budgets (H=3)(S=1)
- Salt Water intrusion/freshwater near coasts/marshes (ALL=1)(H=1)
- Could lose water treatment plant
- Increase in diseases – insects and mosquitoes

- Dealing with increased energy coasts
- Perception of lesser quality of life
- More difficult to finance property
- Increased cost to tax payers and insurance (H=1)
    - Lead to permanent evacuation from beach
- More people (young) will leave (arrow pointing to inset bullet directly above)
- Heat affecting vulnerable populations
- Quality of life issues
- Loss of income
- As they become aware of the issues will change behaviors
- Diets will change (seafood)

Question 2 – What concerns would be advantageous for the three towns to work on together?

- Increase education of school kids
- Evacuation plans and emergency shelters (ALL=2)
- Consistency in regulations (HF=1)
    - Stormwater (ALL=1)
- Better communication between towns and Massachusetts
- Outreach, education resources for adults (H=1)(ALL=2)
- Funding to work as a group – more strength as a group (ALL=5)
- Education to reduce carbon footprint
- Community incentive program such as generators
- Communication between department of public works in all 3 towns

- Regional facilities (e.g. sewer, water, d.p.w.) (ALL=1)
    - Combine d.p.w., water, sewer
- Cooperate with state – state not maintaining infrastructure (i.e. drainage) they installed 30 years ago (H=2) (ALL=1)
- No evacuation road signs at beach
- Towns identify and share common ordinances (and info?) for consistency and efficiency