

1st public participation section:

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Click on the Q&A, you can type in your question we'll be able to call on our team members to be able to answer those questions as we go.

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So giving people a few seconds to raise their hand, and we'll call on you as you come in.

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I know we had a couple of questions some are a little bit more generic about the number of participants and people that have registered so we're delighted this evening that we had around 100 people register for tonight, we have close to 60 people participating on the meeting this evening. Which we're delighted about

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So very excited about that as well. So let me dive in and again post those questions again about heat and vulnerability, and let's go to the attendees, and let's start talking about getting folks involved here.

Diane Lauricella:

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That's fine. Looks like Diane. Would you like to join in the conversation?

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Live as far as my video. But you see my picture, I don't know how to do that.

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That's okay.

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But anyway, anyway, thank you so much for holding this discussion as the first of many.

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I'm an environmental consultant by trade work on public health issues.

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Both with citizens as well as companies. I'm here tonight as a citizen, having lived in normal for 37 years I lived at Village Creek and Harbor View.

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At at many points in my time in Norwalk.

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I currently do not live in South Norwalk, but I hope to move back.

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I was also on up in South Carolina, closer to the center of town for about a year and a half.

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Most recently the reason I I wanted to just mention something about the heat vulnerability which is so important is the following, there are many sources of air pollution in the areas that you mentioned especially Woodward avenue as well as Meadow Street.

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And of course, that adds to the already the problem, because I have found my friends have said that they they're they do not want to open up their windows to get some fresh air because of the pollution of both atmospheric or air pollution.

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As well from some of the sources on Woodward and Meadow and Wilson, but also from the noise caused by traffic.

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A trucks, and and that, of course, affects their homes.

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They often have to have much higher energy costs, and even then they're just moving around the hot air indoors.

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They are afraid, or don't want to open their windows when they can, when they can.

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Secondly, I wanted to make sure that we begin in our acquaintance the Board new zoning Regs, that we include green roofs, not just.

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It's very good that you have the the causation of dark roofs, but the city and those of you consultants that are helping us.

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Please, advocate for the city to include rain roofs using succulents and also lighter rooftops even for those buildings that currently stand that have dark route tops.

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They could at least, if their roof structure cannot accommodate a green roof, they could at least accommodate a white roof.

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Thank you very much.

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Great

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Thank you, Diane.

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Yeah, thank you. That's great.

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Appreciate that very helpful, good, very good comments, too.

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So Lorayne, let's let's take a break while we're ready for folks to raise their hand here and maybe join the conversation to go over to the Q.

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And a or there any

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That's absolutely yeah. This first question, there was a reference to Hurricane Sandy hitting Norwalk and Joe Schneiderland notes that the storm had been downgraded to a tropical storm when it hit Norwalk.

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This has significant applications beyond what actually happened

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Right, so we'll we'll be spending a little bit of time talking about flooding Se level rise level of storm event.

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And what that actually means, as you go through the different categories and the different what's called a 100 year or band, 500 year events and talk about some of those future conditions.

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But how each of these storms are classified, and how long, frankly, they stay over top of Norwalk as they're going through the system could have a catastrophic events, even if they're much lower level storms as well, was there. Another question really we're coming

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Looks like the next one was, how many people registered for this webinar? I think we've answered that the one beyond are you presenting this project to show how you are mitigating current heating, flooding and health risk

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Right? So tonight is really about showing us the community existing conditions and talking about the contributing facts.

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We're gonna come back at the next public meeting and showing you some alternative.

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We wanted to start with a little bit more of an open sheet of paper and get the dialogue going to make sure we understood what's happening locally, to hear it from the community first, and then we're going to be coming back again.

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Second public and proposed interventions throughout the entire area

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Great

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Okay, with, go down to the next one or developers and businesses on.

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Forward with the study, and committed to receding and acting on feedback.

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One example, a a local design firm funded by the city.

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We designed the Washington 50 building with almost 0 Tree Concert, i. E.

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They cut down all trees which were mature and lovely, and even initially loaded.

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A new fountain area with dark pstone, making the area even hotter willfully.

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Negligent.

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Right? So it's it's a good question, you know, as as things change, and I've been doing this work for about 25 years.

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There's been a lot of different initiatives over the years that would change the zoning.

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That would think about things like sustainability, affordability, sea level rise, and those types of things so as we're all getting used to planning for our future about what climate change looks like.

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Frankly, some of these are relatively new topics. The community, and to be honest through the circa program and the 3 phases of work that Lorraine talked about Connecticut it's trying to be very progressive in having these conversations.

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Me so can't talk to the specifics of Who's on board or who's not, but just know that this is currents conversation.

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It's a very well relevant conversation, and that we're using projects like this and studies like this to build the awareness what needs to go into it.

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So as you're seeing these drawings here on the screen, coming back and showing what the needed interventions are.

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Zoning or public investments or strategies for the private sector to be able to do things. All of those are important

Emily Burnaman:

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Hello! Hi, everyone! I'm Emily Burnhamman. I'm a commissioner with the Norwalk Bike Walk Commission, and I'm also a resident in South Norwalk.

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I live right on Northwest Street, in the Iron Works Building, and I just wanted to quickly add to what Diane said earlier about the Green roofs.

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I think that's a really good idea, and I just wanted to mention that in the one of the buildings in my building and iron works we have garden bins on the rooftop, and I thought that was a really good idea again to get more greenery around those buildings, but I also wanted to mention because

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I do volunteer with the Norwalk Tree Alliance and restoring the tree canopy on Washington Street.

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Specifically, I know there are trees that there are trying to, you know, integrate into the street.

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There, but a lot of what we're seeing and what you've presented in your presentation here is that with the rising heat levels, these trees aren't really surviving, they're really getting, you know, damaged dehydrated.

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And they're not thriving as they should. How how can we?

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You know, accommodate and restore, and mature these trees that we're trying to plant in these, you know, growing index areas.

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How is that going to be sustainable? And you know, make that work.

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So I just wanted to bring that up as well. That's what I'm seeing in our area.

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Excellent. Thank you.

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Great, well, well, thank you for that, Emily. That's that's excellent feedback, you know a lot of the work that we do as consultants is trying to design places that'll they'll stand the test of time.

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Frankly so, understanding some of the challenges around, and irrigation are they drought resistant types of things that we're specifying and working with.

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Dpw. Departments as they have installation of tree programs for

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Things that we'd want to use during the study to go back and

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You know, understanding the specifications and what's needed to irrigate those things.

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Yes.

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Maybe it's spend a second talking about the importance of those standards as we move forward

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Yeah, it's a, it's definitely an urban area.

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That's you know. Every city has these challenges about maintaining the trees and making sure that they're getting enough water and it has a lot to do with the amount of soil that they you know they're able to grow in.

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And there's, you know, everyone is looking at new and innovative ways for urban urban canopy, nervous tree details to be put in to be installed.

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So I appreciate that that comment particularly

Donna Smirniotopoulos:

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Yes, welcome, welcome, Donna!

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Alright. Hi! Thank you. I'm glad that the previous speaker mentioned the tree canopy, because I I believe we invested in additional 1 million dollars in I was probably Arpa funds in building up the tree canopy, and what I see I I live in shorefront Park, and I

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will, walk on Water Street frequently I walk on Woodward.

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I see a lot of trees that are not doing well and they're not thriving simply because it's too hot.

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They're neglected if you. I don't know if anybody on the steering committee has done a walkthrough of Water Street.

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But what you will see is newly plant planted trees.

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They have no room to grow. I I walked by there yesterday, and somebody who tried to carve out a little more space around the trees.

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But what good does it do to plant trees, and then just walk away and assume that everything is going to go to plan.

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So I don't think we should be throwing good money after bad here, and also I just have a couple housekeeping questions.

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If you can explain what your company does, because I I'm not clear on that.

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I have a vague idea of what circa is.

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I'm not sure what aecom is. I think you're a government contractor.

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Sure.

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So you are awarded a contract to do this. I know that Hod was involved in this, and had interestingly, was also involved in sound view landing, so we took the most vulnerable population in South Northw, and they had their housing had to be rebuilt because of flooding and we put them right back in

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the flood zone, and HUD was part of that.

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So I would like if you could untangle it, and also, if there are any stakeholders who live in neighborhoods like mine, who are on the steering committee, cause I think you should have some.

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So you have, you know you have on the ground here

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Sure. Sure we well, thanks thanks for the questions and thanks for kind of doubling down on the tree issue, and you're absolutely right.

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That the maintenance part of it is very critical. So maybe what we can do is I'm not sure if Michelle or Steve, if you want to talk about city related efforts as part of this, but in terms of who we are this is great opportunity.

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I think John, or David, if you want to join in and give a sound bite about who's circus, and then we can answer like who a come is.

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And recording this whole effort. So just? Or, David, do you want to join in

John Truscinski:

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Sure, so circa is a research institute at the University, Connecticut.

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And we are, we were awarded a grant through the HUD national disaster, resilience, competition to do a regional study of Fairfield.

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The New Haven counties, and the purpose of the study was to do a vulnerability assessment and develop projects.

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Resilience, projects in vulnerable areas of the 2 counties, and we're working with across all of the state agencies and we're also working with a number of municipalities, including city of Norwalk and a com was a team that responded

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To a request for qualifications, and with selected based on those qualifications to lead this particular study.

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And I'll let the the aecom.

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Folks fill in the rest about what they do

Lorayne Black:

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Great. Thank you for that, John. Yeah. So we're we're company.

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That's frankly, it's worldwide. But we're represented in many local communities.

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But what's what's really intriguing about a project like this is having planners, landscape architects, civil engineers try to help the community and the State understand the dynamics that are happening that are contributing to these issues, plan for the future of them so this is very much a

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Planning study, that we of doing and work with communities division you own future as well and I think there's there might be able to just spend.

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So in a second, either Michelle or Steve from the city programs and the main, the funds that were spent on the tree, and I'm not sure if the sound but you like to add there

Steve Kleppin:

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Yeah, unfortunately, I don't know the answer. To that in terms of this dollar spent in with the source of those funds were but we can definitely find out and get that answer back out.

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Great

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I think we have everybody's email address, and we can provide that information as needed

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Excellent. Thank you for that, Steve. Appreciate it. Yeah, when I know all the answers tonight.

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But thank you for bringing them up, and we'll try to make sure we get those incorporated into second public meeting.

Joe Schnierlein:

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Hey, Joe!

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I'm good. Good evening. A couple of quick comments and something to think about for future planning.

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Many progressive States have decided not to build in areas of flood, and they do it for multitude of reasons.

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One is, once they start flooding, even though people may be elevated.

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You're constantly paying for repairs, your constantly paying for breakdown, and it ports first.

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Responders at risk. If they have to go in and evacuate people.

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And here we are, Norwalk doing just the opposite looking to plan Lauren Buildings that could.

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House, many, many people. And the other point I want to make is, I think, right now, a good portion of Norwalk is absolutely furious with ever source, and we're talking about green roofs, and I I totally understand why you have a green roof but if you have a green roof.

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You don't have solar panels, so there's gotta be a compromise here.

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I just want to throw that out in the process of the planning.

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Yeah. So the next one in line was from Louise Wash.

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Is there data on how changes in tree canopy affects feet in terms of what percentage canopy change is needed to bring down numbers like what we're seeing.

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What should our canopy goal be in order to bring heat down to 0?

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So no, currently has something like 15% canopy. As I remember, according to Westcog study.

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So that's that's a question that we can look at for the next.

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Our next stage, and and be able to review that

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That's right, and I think, as as Ellie pointed out here, and looking at the words that are pointing to these drawings, there's no contributing factors.

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So, knowing that tree canopy is one of many here we'll be able to come back and talk about when you intervened by doing more.

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What are some of the benefits of doing that? And how might that the drop in temperature as well?

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Ellen Peck, fw this redesign was just last 2 years, in sono, funded by city.

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I'm not I'm not sure what fw is we'll go to the next one.

Steve Hunter:

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Steve Hunter, I've observed that as a result of storms and subsequent fallen tree damage, that a real fear of trees has taken hold, and many trees have been removed.

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There has also, there are also several property management companies, such as Ive have a policy of removing all large trees when they take over property.

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Is there some way to combat this

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Great. Yeah. Again, I think it's one of those things that we can look at, too. Part of.

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It might be standards that the city has in terms of development standards.

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So when you come in to do a project in a proposal clearly, doesn't need to get your site ready.

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But our standards that could be put in place about replacing some of the tree canopy or or thinking about it.

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Maybe critically, than what's happening right now. So good good question could comment

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Well, in the city. Maybe you'll already doing this as far as assessing the the the trees themselves.

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What's the age of them? Once they get older, they, you know, are under stress, and and may suffer from some breakage so, and then coming back through and planting new ones. So

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Great, so let me, not suggest what let's move forward.

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So let's open up to the conversation again. Again. Reminder to raise your hand.

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We'd love to get some of the conversation going. Live here as well.

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We can obviously post some of your comments here, so maybe Lorayne is, you're going through those.

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We'll try to hit the ones that are about flooding in terms of the Q. And A.

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This time as well, and and we also have a resource map here as well, that we want to talk about neighborhood issues.

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Addition to these 2 2 typical zones, we'd be happy to talk about anything in this northern district as well as those 2 case study locations.

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So with that, let's start on the audio. So, Michelle, who do we have this raised her hand. You want to invite them just to must be

Laurie Jones:

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Can you hear me? Oh, Jeff! Hi! First of all, thank you so much for this amazing work.

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So I live in a community called Wilson Point, which is just west of Village Creek, and I'm just curious how you chose the border.

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We are a South Norwalk neighborhood, and we definitely, we're coastal neighborhood.

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We definitely suffer from flooding to the point that you December in that storm we could not get out of our friend Gate because of the flooding on 1 36.

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So I would just be so appreciative if you could shift your border zone a little bit west and include our part of South Milwaukee.

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So that's it. Thank you.

Diane Lauricella:

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Alright. We have one other, I believe, Diane. Laricella again

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Hey, Diane! Welcome back!

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Yes, yeah, thank you. This this, of course, is near and dear to my heart.

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I forgot to say, also lived on Taylor Avenue.

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That was my third location, anyway, related to the flood risk.

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I was very involved when the determination was made properly.

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That Washington village had to come down and be demolished because of the constant flooding and mildew, and the structure was not embracing healthy living.

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And so I was in favor of that part of the plan.

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What I was not in favor of was the way the using federal, State and local money to place buildings in this case, mixed income development, which again, I'm in favor of, but not in favor of placing it in a near and in a park that could have instead be used to absorb flood

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Waters. I tempted my in my best.

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I know there was a lawsuit. There were all sorts of controversial discussions with the previous redevelopment agency staff.

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Moat, all of who are no longer here. There was because our Congressman was able to secure 30 million dollars, which was no small feat, and I was happy that he did that.

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I attempted to. I sat down with him in a diner, and said, You know this is not good community planning for flooding to allow buildings like we see in the slide here back within the flood zone, and that there were other places where we could move these mix use zones that were owned by

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The city like Webster Street, there were other areas around Ryan Park that could have been used in addition to it, but not on Water Street.

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Also I asked a com to take a look at a major project that seemed to have just been abandoned on Water Southwest Street, back around the 2 thousands.

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The Dpw. Was supposed to consider raising South Water Street, but it's a rumor, but because I know, as in my background there were some oil tanks in the Marina area, and they had leaked so when they started doing some digging they ran into oil, in the ground allegedly that is why

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The whole project was abandoned, and they did minor.

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Drainage improvements. Also. Some of us during the time of the Washington village debates, stated why can't we raise parts of some water street and include flood check check valves in the in the storm?

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Drain, so that water would not back up into the pipe system.

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Right.

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I really like a lot of your graphics. So it really helps explain some things related to that.

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Sure.

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And lastly, I just wanted to say that increasing, true green infrastructure is a way of absorbing the flood.

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Waters and releasing them slowly, because green infrastructure helps cool down the waters, clean up the waters, slow them down, and release them slowly back into the sound.

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So thank you so much.

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Thank you.

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Great appreciate that. Thanks for that multiple things there. I think 1 one of the interesting parts of many of the things you said is the idea of these interventions over time. Right?

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And that's partly what I love as a planner and urban designer.

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That's, you know, in my career. While I might be 30 to 40 years.

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There's only so much things that I can affect in those years, and sometimes it takes a 100 years for these things that you so the idea that you're talking about is these interventions over time when there happened, how they're funded anticipate in the future it's been frankly an

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Interesting, dynamic to watch over the last couple of decades.

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What's interesting to me about that redevelopment site that you mentioned.

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They've actually raised parts of the road in that area to deal with some of the localized flooding.

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They've done strategies like putting parking at lower levels versus habitable spaces at lower levels put in some retaining walls at the edges of building.

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So as an architectural, it's kind of interesting to see how you're dealing with those things.

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It might not be the longer term that you have envisioned, but it's interesting to see how projects are starting to deal with them on a block by block.

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So what's interesting to us about the study is that when you think about projects over time, dpw, interventions over time, you'll eventually start to attack the problem for the longer term.

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So thank you for reminding us of maybe where the city's been.

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Some of the challenges in negotiating and talking about those projects, but I think what we're doing with the study is trying to forecast the next round of investment the next round of strategies that could be deployed to kind of add to your kid apart and add to your toolbox to

01:05:37.000 --> 01:05:42.000

Attack this for the long term. So I just want to point that because this is going to be a long term strategy and probably a multi-pronged strategy, too, as well.

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So just want to take a moment to mention all of those so I really appreciate that.

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So let's go on to the next couple of people. Let's do.

Gail Balcerzak:

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So we have Gail B

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Yes, thank you. So first of all, let me echo some of the prior prior comments.

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I'm really enjoying this presentation and seeing what you're studying and how you're looking at it.

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I am not aware of anything having been done to this extent before.

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So that's super helpful for those of us who've been wondering about the direction and and what the city might be doing to take into account some of our concerns I live in Shorefront Park, and so many's the time that I've been trying to get home at the

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End of a work day, only to find Water Street completely flooded and blocked off, and and it's it's sure it's much worse for the people who live there and and have to deal with it on a regular basis.

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One question that I have is, do we know yet whether or not the city has adopted any sort of a moratorium or a, I guess?

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Slow down of new development in this area until this study is completed and the recommendations are received

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Not sure of that. I'm not sure if Steve or Michelle could answer on the development side.

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If there's any status of development or any moratoriums are in place

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No, there are none.

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Great. Thank you. Yeah. Was there part 2 to your question. Just wanna make sure before we move on

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Well, no, it would just, it would seem to me that folks on this phone call who have the ability to influence that decision ought to take that into account.

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If we're doing all of this work to see how we can remedy some of these issues that are being studied.

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I don't think we want to go changing the landscape while the study is still in progress, which seemed to me to be a waste of time and energy.

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So I I think you know, as a resident in these areas, I I would certainly like to see some consideration being given to the fact that while the study is ongoing, it, it would probably be a good idea to at least slow down any pro proposed additional development

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Great. Thank you. Appreciate that. Gail.

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Michelle, what do we have next

Katherine Snedaker:

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We have Katherine Snee, Decker.

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Very good. That's a hard last name. So I've lived for the last 30 years in this slide.

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Actually the bigger slide I live 27 years in Harbor View.

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I live 4 years in Shorefront Park, and I'm now on Halfland, in water, so I have a 30 year perspective of this, and Water Street is called Water Street because it's floods, and honestly, you can't stop stupid, and they put they put the largest sign up that said

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Don't cross the flood waters. You can actually stand there and yell at people not to drive through salt water, and they're still going to do it.

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So that's really about the city putting out containers to try to deal with that.

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But people still drive around the big, the big areas. This situation, I think, is gaining interest because wealthier people have moved in.

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Certainly after I lost part of my house, and Ser Hurricane Irene, I lost the 8 out of the house for 8 months, rebuilding Hurricane Sandy, say about probably over half of the community, has changed, and there are wealthier houses wealthier people wealthier cars so I do

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Think that there is some push for that, and like making changes.

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But we sort of always lived with the flood conditions. The thing that really concerns me is that we're now looking at putting the new South Norwalk School on Meadow Street in a flood zone.

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And why are we building a school? And in an area that floods on a Sunday day?

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And I have pictures of all these areas flooding with high tide hind, you know, full moon, high tide, sunny days.

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So there's like a tide issue. There's a moon issue.

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There's a flooding that doesn't even have to do with storms.

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It's just those combinations. So I just hope that that this all you know now we're going to ask kids to walk through flood zones.

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So it's that Meadow Street section kind of on the edge of where you're looking.

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Miss

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But that really is affected by all of that, and I don't think the sound view did anything but protect its own people.

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There's nothing about making that road better in what they did.

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The roads. Not any higher people, and the more people put up barricades, there have been beams built in hardware view.

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There have been things that have been built by homeowners to try to make their land safer, and sometimes it makes it worse because it keeps the water in.

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Great

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So it's a great place to live. 11. Thanks for

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Right.

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30 30 years in counting. That's great. I appreciate the the local feedback where that's what tonight's about.

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We just want to hear what the issues are, and how it really works and thinks

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Yes.

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But those 2 sections you picked are very different. Section one, flood on a sunny day.

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Yeah.

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Right.

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You rarely ever get water on Part 2, so I have pictures and video right now of the slide, one happening, people driving cars and getting stuck.

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Once you get to Section 2, you're out of water.

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Okay.

01:11:44.000 --> 01:11:45.000
No water there. Thanks

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Great. Thank you. Okay, so let's go to. I think Donna is next upon mistake. And then I want to try to get in 2 or 3 of the Q&A, and then we're going to move on to the central section next

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Sure. Bring over donna

Donna Smirniotopoulos:

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Hi! Thank you for letting me speak again. I asked a question in the chat window.

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I don't know if it was answered, and I realized it's probably not in the purview of the steering committee to look into this, but I do believe and and Kathryn Sedcker was my neighbor here in front, but to her point about signs I actually do think we

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Need signs on Water Street that people are driving in a flood zone.

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It may be this is not. Maybe this will be part of your recommendations, but this seems to be a pretty soft.

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Ask, this is low hanging fruit. If we put signs out so that people know even on a dry, sunny day, that that they're driving in a flood.

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So, and then secondary to that, if there it would be some sort of a a system where people trying to exit, we, we have a problem with egress and ingress here in these neighborhoods, as I'm sure you know from your research on a practical level, you're looking at long-term

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Solutions. We need something now to help us, and so I think, between signs and some sort of you know, using first responders or Dpw.

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To set up detours, so that when we make that right turn onto Water Street, we know before we make the turn that we're not going to be able to pass through, and you probably now again from your studies and your photography that it is a blind turn and so you know if you're trying to

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together, to Westport, Connecticut, and you're the the shortest way is Water Street, and it's not passable.

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You don't know until you're already on it, so I think there are some very inexpensive, doable solutions that the city can embrace, and I think, with your recommendation, they would embrace and not have to wait for the study to complete before they start doing it so that we can

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Experience some relief here. Thank you for your time.

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Thank you, donna. Appreciate that, and I think in the Q.

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And a David, that I see that you want to maybe answer one or 2 of these.

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They're so happy to maybe check off a couple of those as well

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Yeah, I've been trying to keep up with with them, Jeffrey, and I think I I've got a few that are left over that I that the city would need to to address.

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There. There are 2 that relate back to previous discussions, and then there are a couple that relate to flooding

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Great, so are there any that we'd like to answer, live?

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Or do you want to continue to do that? In the chat from the Q. A.

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I don't know. I I it's hard for me to tell it.

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Yeah.

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Okay. That's why no worries

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I'm I'm happy to to type the responses into the questions.

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If you want

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Right? Yeah. So for those that are looking in, go back to your your questions.

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We're actually typing in some of the answer as well as answer that as well.

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So, Lorraine, any on this subject to the like to point out a couple of questions

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Yeah, yeah, there's a. There's one question here, or statement from **Joe Schinierlein.**

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A concern is not only how people get in and out of an area, but also what washes ashore, such as vessels and dots depending on the depth of the water, and when these can slam into building expenses as well as other other vessels so I think that

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That's it. That's a good point that hasn't been

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Yes.

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Were there others Lorraine or those the big ones

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We've got one from John Pinto.

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Future planning in the city has not adequately considered or demonstrated an understanding of the State's Coastal Metal Management Act and the Municipal Coastal Program

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Great. Thank you for that comment.

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And oh! And then we have an anonymous attendee with the steering committee.

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Suggest posting signs in the flood zone? This question was not answered.

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Live.

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Right, or whether we can do that or yeah, it's it's a great question.

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We'll obviously look into a lot of these things. So thanks for that suggestion, we'll take a look at it, and it's typical that these types of studies, while they are long-term, we're doing them for a reason to be able to to make actions out of them so the whole idea is

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this is one step, but this. We want this to be a very actionable plan that might need some time.

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Did raise money and get things into place, but also having champions and sponsors, will move these different projects forward.

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So we always look for those interim steps that while you're waiting for time or for money to show up, what are the things you can do for shorter dollars and highly implementable things to help out in the short term, so love those comments as well, alright so any other major ones before we move on because

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it'll be great to go down same same exact topic, same exact issues.

2nd Public Participation section:

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So just like last time. Let's raise the hands. Let's get the Q.

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And a going here as well, and we can talk about this both in terms of the whole district.

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This kind of central zone, as well as general topics that are happening as well as what's happening.

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With these 3 specific typicals that we've looked at here as well.

Rasheemah Richardson:

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Rushima! Welcome!

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Rushima. Hi! Thank you. I live on Meadow Street, and right across from Cns grocery store and we don't have a problem with flooding.

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We never flood. It's a down the block by Water Street that always flood.

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It never comes to our area.

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Well, that's actually very helpful feedbacks for us to hear, too.

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Yeah, that's great.

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But also as a reminder on the on the bottom of a lot of these drawings that you see here.

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So we're anticipating a certain event anticipating a certain level of sea level rise in 2050.

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So while that's good news, that it's not happening today, we're also looking to our future to understand what happens with some of these potential climate change impacts in the future.

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So but it's helpful to hear the existing conditions today.

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Super helpful.

Diane Lauricella:

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So Diane

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Alright, thank you. These were very interesting. 3 examples.

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Just a general. 2 general comments. The first is, I agree with what Donna S.

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Said about making sure we have some short-term solutions.

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First, I agree with Laurie Jones and some others.

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Lanelle Jones, that please consider extending this study to include, even beyond West, even beyond Wilson Point, if possible, I think it would be a shame not to.

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But my main comment is, in the area of Metro Street again.

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Remember, I'm an environmental hazardous waste, professional as the water is rising, or should we have a flood of vet, which we will have?

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We're lucky we missed it last year, but we were just we just lucked out that Sandy changed was downgraded and and it was on the outgoing tide.

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My understanding is so we we can't, of course, depend on luck, and that's we need to include in this study the possibility of increasing the enforcement so that all of the industrial can and commercial concerns on Woodward and meadow and wilson have containerized

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And cleaned up their outdoor and indoor buildings of of contaminations, so that when and not when, but or if not, if, but when we have a storm event that that doesn't spread that contamination or material into the name the residential neighborhoods number 2 consider

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Please, increased and strategic raising of roads.

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I used to live at Village Creek and Harvard View, and maybe there needs to be some thought at which I hope you will suggest, so that we can begin deciding finances and that is where shall we raise the road so people have egress, in case they must rem remove themselves, from their

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Community temporarily. But we need to strategically raise some roads that do flood regularly, even at times, with ha!

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Full moon, as Miss Sedecker said, Thank you very much.

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Thank you.

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Great. Thank you to you. I appreciate that. Yeah. And the idea of you know, planning for infrastructure versus education and awareness for property understand? These events are going to happen. So what are you doing to making sure you're some of those contemporary other associated risks?

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If it does happen. Unfortunately, so thanks for that, appreciate it.

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So let's go to the I think, to the Q. A.

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Yeah, with that, and we've got some questions. Here. We have one from an anonymous attendee.

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Catch basins and storm drains in the study area are often filled with debris, including seagrass and rubbish, cigarette butts, cans, bottles, other refuse.

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It's been nearly 3 weeks since the last major flood in this area and the housing authorities sound view landing.

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Has still not been cleared of degree. Would it be possible to encourage those who manage or own local properties, to remove trash and debris before it becomes the source of the next

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Good point.

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Great, you very good comment. They get back up on what we're just saying as well

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Right.

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Was there others, Loren here? Or is that okay?

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Yeah, couple more. Catherine, Seneca said, for videos on January for January second, 2,022 of Water Street flooding.

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So that was, I think. And then Louise Washer asked, Are there ex examples of cities requiring planting other than grass to manage flooding on existing commercial properties?

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Ordinances that require trees and shrubs. Does that exist anywhere

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Great. Yeah. So what's interesting is the idea of what's called storm water management.

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So when there's a storm, and when there's water, and how you manage that water both on your site or when it gets into a city or town system, a lot of communities are trying to rethink some of those stormwater standards, how they perform to try to really improve the situation both from a quantity like how much

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Water, but also from a quality perspective. So the idea of things that are getting caught in the system and maybe contaminating things for lack of a better word, trying to opt the abilities for quantity and for quality, and I think you'd find if you went around the United States different States and different towns looking

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To improve some of their standards and understanding that this is a long-term issue, that we're gonna have to deal with in terms of how our stormware systems work.

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So I think part of this would be working with Michelle and with Steve and other departments.

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In the city to see if they have. You know, long storm water, goals, and objectives that might be applied both on private property as well as to the own systems, that the city has as well so great great question

3rd Public Participation Section:

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Great thanks for that Ali. So I think we've got the routine down here as well, so people can raise their hands type into the Q. And A.

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And I'm going to go to the larger map here because it's again.

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It's very different. Knowing that we're getting a little bit further removed.

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Having the different water resources around these pieces of roadway infrastructure.

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It's it's a very different issue. That's to the south here as well.

Lindsay Zelson:

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Welcome, Lindsey

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Hi! How are you? I join late. So my apologies.

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If this has already been discussed, but and then past flooding discussion that I attended at City Hall one time a couple of years ago, there was discussion of a pumping station on Lawrence Street that is no longer operational.

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Has that been discussed, or is there any opportunity to like, reactivate that or repeat it?

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Or is it even useful at this point? Because we know what exists?

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And it's a little frustrating to know what exists, and it's not helping us

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Great I'm looking to Michelle and Steve.

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I'm not sure about the status that, or maybe even Megan, if we know about any of those related facilities from the Stormwater pumping that's something we can come back to if we don't know.

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The answer, as well

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Thank you.

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Yeah, yeah, I'm not sure about that. We'd probably have to look into it further and get back to you

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Okay. Thank you.

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Yeah, but great for bringing up. No, thank you. Appreciate it.

Joe Schnierlein:

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We have Joe Schnierlein

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Thank you, Michelle. Couple of points. I was a school teacher for 33 and a half years, and the students I had that were from Harvard View

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Probably 5 or 6 times a year at least. Add the excuse that they couldn't make it to school on time, because the right going into Harvard View was flooded, and it did not have to be a storm.

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So as previously mentioned by other speakers, this would be a prime candidate to try and raise the road.

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The other point is, people are talking about signage. Once upon a time in Norwalk they had signs up that certain parts of Norwalk flooded.

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I heard unofficially from real estate agents that they should be taken down because it's affecting values of homes, and Iically I traveled a fair field shortly after I saw him come down here, and they had them up and basically I talked to some of the politicians in

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Fairfield. They said they had them up to protect the citizens, because if somebody's moving into this area from outside the area they don't understand this area.

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And this past year all of us in Connecticut had a great migration from New York State, so they don't know what areas flood and what areas don't.

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And I wish I could say I could trust the real estate agents to point that out, but I was looking for a house at that time, and one real estate agent took me down to Harvard view and said, You know, here's a prime candidate.

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It's within your, your, your budget, and I looked at her, and I said, And does this area flight?

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And she's oh, no! And I pointed to the waterline on the side of the house, halfway up the door.

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So I know I can't trust everybody to give you the right information.

01:39:05.000 --> 01:39:14.000

So maybe the city can. That's it.

01:39:14.000 --> 01:39:20.000

Great. Thank you. Appreciate those comments, too. Very helpful.

Jody Proct:

01:39:28.000 --> 01:39:32.000

Hi! Jody! Welcome

01:39:43.000 --> 01:40:00.000

Hi! Hi! Alright! I am actually the person at the City Hall meeting that Lindsay spoke about that brought up the the the publication on the corner of Woodward and Lawrence Meadow Street does not typically Flood due to Storm Surge, but because of

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Overflowing storm drains, and that non-working pun station.

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I've had conversations with. People in planning and zoning that are on this call right now, and they've said flat out that it is not in the plans to be repaired.

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It's it's it's incredibly disappointing to live in a neighborhood where we all have to pay flood insurance.

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A lot of money in flood insurance, where? Where we know this problem could be fits.

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But you know we all we live here, and we know that there's there's, you know, flooding when there's storm surge and storms.

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But when the water is coming up from the storm dreams and a non working, and there's a pump station that doesn't work that can resolve a lot of these issues.

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It's incredibly frustrating, and I feel like if this study is going to exist, that non-working pump station must be a topic of discussion.

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There's no question about it.

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Great

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And I just you know I I just I've been, you know, this has been going on for years.

01:41:03.000 --> 01:41:07.000

This is not something that that I've been talking to the city about overnight.

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It's been happening for years, and is really, it's just very disappointing

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Well, Jodie, appreciate you bringing it up and confirming that.

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And I love it. When multiple conversations get connected enough in the meeting like this.

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But as partly what hopefully you saw in Megan's presentation.

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We realized that there's an important factor of the stormwater systems and the sizing of the pipes, and where the water can or can't flow, so appreciate you bringing that up tonight.

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And I'm sure members of our team and put them on list to to double back on and check it on. So I really appreciate it

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Thank you.

01:41:41.000 --> 01:41:44.000

Great, Michelle

01:41:44.000 --> 01:41:52.000

So we have Diane

01:41:52.000 --> 01:41:53.000

Yeah.

01:41:53.000 --> 01:41:54.000

Thank you. This whole evening has been great. Look forward to future meetings like this.

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I just wanted to add that the the relationship of raising of roads strategically, I am assuming.

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But maybe I should not assume that there needs to be study of the off-site effects of raising roads to especially down gradient and side gradient neighbors.

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I forgot to mention that there have been not only rumors, but consumers.

01:42:24.000 --> 01:42:26.000

Back at the previous slide, about the north study zone. About Water Street.

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But this would apply to this area as well is when and if roads are raised, especially with sound view landing.

01:42:38.000 --> 01:42:44.000

Yes, they took care of their own, and they got a lot of federal, State and local money to help with that.

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But other places that did get flooded with Sandy, and this was again we were lucky, but that is Concord Street Calvary Baptist Church, very, very concerned that with the sound view landing, drainage work there did not seem to be also study of the side gradient and downgrading

01:43:04.000 --> 01:43:06.000

effects of that drainage work. We can't, you know, and you all know what we can't do piecemeal.

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I save myself only this is a great study now to do holistic whole of government approach to our problems.

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Thank you so much for the evening.

01:43:21.000 --> 01:43:22.000

Thank you again

01:43:22.000 --> 01:43:23.000

Great thing. You appreciate that. Yeah, so obviously, you think the cause and effect factor.

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So if you're solving a solution here, does it push a problem somewhere else?

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So knowing that it's hard when you're pushing major pieces of water around.

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What are those implications but I totally understand the question and the concern.

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So appreciate that

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Okay. So Lorraine, yeah, the rain. You want to jump in on some Q. A.

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Jump. Yeah, sure, that's that. We have a comment from Katherine Sedeker.

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You should superimpose, toxic way sites in the areas on your map.

01:43:53.000 --> 01:43:58.000

That's it. Great comment, Jennifer Butler, for what?

01:43:58.000 --> 01:44:12.000

It's work longshore was never land. It's Landfill Harbor View was an island

01:44:12.000 --> 01:44:20.000

Let's see.

01:44:20.000 --> 01:44:25.000

Again Katherine, we're extremely worried about flooding in this project.

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Oh, anonymous sent attendee! What's going on with the And Street Pump station?

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No, it's out of the study area. But the pump stations seem to be an ongoing problem.

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With that, and that's well we have at the moment.

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Great. Thank you for that, Laurie

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Let's have missed one that would relate to flood

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Okay, so like, last, call for comments that people wanna mention because we have literally about 5 more minutes to close out for the evening.