



Watersheds and Embayments Work Group Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 25, 2019: 11:30am-3:30pm

Attendees: Mark Parker, CT DEEP; Casey Personius, NYSDEC; Leah O’Neill, EPA; Eric Swenson, HHPC; Holly Drinkuth, CAC; Mark Tedesco, EPA/LISO; Tracy Brown, STS; Nikki Tachiki, EPA/LISO; Nicholas Calderon, TNC; Richard Friesner, NEIWPCC; Jim Ammerman, LISS/NEIWPCC; Jimena Pérez, LISS/NYSG; Emma Gildesgame, NEIWPCC; Robert Burg, NEIWPCC/LISS; Kelly Streich, CTDEEP; Peter Linderoth, STS; Julia Socrates, NYSDEC; Victoria O’Neill, NYSDEC/ NEIWPCC/LISS; Nancy Seligson, CAC; Heather Johnson, FOB, Sue Van Patten, NYSDEC

Site Tour and Lunch:

Tour of Green Infrastructure at Mamaroneck Town Center

By Nancy Seligson

The meeting started with a site tour and lunch that overlapped with the LISS Climate Change and Sentinel Monitoring Work Group that occurred in the morning.

Nancy Seligson gave a tour and information session about the green infrastructure project at the Town of Mamaroneck. As part of a LIS Futures Fund funded project the Town of Mamaroneck installed porous pavement, permeable pavers, rain gardens, and rain barrels to improve water quality of stormwater runoff into Mamaroneck Harbor. Nancy answered questions about the process and commented that the project was well received by patrons and maintenance has been relatively simple.

The two workgroups had lunch with a beautiful view of the Mamaroneck Harbor from Harbor Island Park.

Insert Picture:

Presentation:

Unified Water Study – Monitoring Water Quality in Long Island Sound Embayments

By Peter Linderoth

Peter Linderoth presented on Save The Sound’s Long Island Sound Report Card (open water) and Unified Water Study (embayments). The LIS open water, water quality showed significant improvement between the report card released in 2007 and 2017. The Unified Water Study (UWS) is a collaboration of many community water monitoring groups that fulfil the gap of monitoring water quality in the LIS embayments. Groups do a minimum of Tier 1 monitoring which includes dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll a, turbidity, temperature, salinity, and qualitative macrophytes. Additionally, some groups also monitor continuous dissolved oxygen, quantitative macrophytes, and nutrient data (tier 2). The UWS currently has 22 monitoring groups monitoring 37 tier 1 and 13 tier 2 embayments.

Discussion:

LISS 2-day Management Committee Guidance Document Review

Casey Personius and Mark Parker led a discussion and revision of the WEWG guidance document that was created in support of the upcoming 2-day management committee meeting. There was a lot of useful discussion that culminated in the revision of the WEWG priorities and Implementation Action recommendations (attached below). A huge thanks to all for your thoughtful input and participation.



Watersheds and Embayments Work Group (WEWG)

Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assist and advise the LISS Management Committee in prioritizing WW Implementation Actions (IA's) from 2015 CCMP ➤ Promote and provide technical support to WQ projects with emphasis on watershed pollution sources. ➤ Provide platform for discussion on relevant WQ topics ➤ Assist the LISS in meeting NPS mitigation goals 		
2015 CCMP Implementation Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced point Source N loads in both states. <u>2017 ET reached!</u> • NPS tracking tool is in beginning stages of development • Investments in OSWTS innovation and tracking • LINAP in NY, CTDEEP's 2nd Generation N Management initiative and EPA's N reduction strategy • Embayment monitoring by UWS • Release of Suffolk County SWP 		
Current Focus	<p>Previously the WEWG decided to focus on 4 priority Implementation Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW – 9, 10, 11 and 31 		
FY 2020 Needs	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Cont'd Support:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS tracking tool • WQ Monitoring: UWS, USGS, CT DEEP, UCONN, IEC • OSWTS innovations (facilitate public beach upgrades?) • Conservation acquisitions, easements and restoration • Subwatershed planning • Complete modeling efforts • LISSFF and Research grants • GI showcase projects </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Gap Support:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS load reduction: public outreach on NPS and fertilizers • Support for sound-wide OSWTS upgrades/ replacements. • CT pilot of OSWTS installation, oversight and management. • LIS marine debris reduction plan • Coastal resiliency implementation (LISSFF focus) & training on BMP's • Point Source reduction in NYC & data collection in East River </td> </tr> </table>	<p><u>Cont'd Support:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS tracking tool • WQ Monitoring: UWS, USGS, CT DEEP, UCONN, IEC • OSWTS innovations (facilitate public beach upgrades?) • Conservation acquisitions, easements and restoration • Subwatershed planning • Complete modeling efforts • LISSFF and Research grants • GI showcase projects 	<p><u>Gap Support:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS load reduction: public outreach on NPS and fertilizers • Support for sound-wide OSWTS upgrades/ replacements. • CT pilot of OSWTS installation, oversight and management. • LIS marine debris reduction plan • Coastal resiliency implementation (LISSFF focus) & training on BMP's • Point Source reduction in NYC & data collection in East River
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2020 CCMP Update IA Priorities	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Consider Prioritizing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW – 13: Develop watershed management plans • WW – 23: Contaminant and nutrient remediation (including WW-20) • WW – 26: Assess emerging and legacy contaminants, microplastics, in LIS. </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Consider Deprioritizing:</u> (maintain current actions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW – 4: N-removal at WWTF. • WW – 6: 2000 DO TMDL; Nitrogen reduction efforts seem to have taken alternate form. </td> </tr> </table>	<p><u>Consider Prioritizing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW – 13: Develop watershed management plans • WW – 23: Contaminant and nutrient remediation (including WW-20) • WW – 26: Assess emerging and legacy contaminants, microplastics, in LIS. 	<p><u>Consider Deprioritizing:</u> (maintain current actions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW – 4: N-removal at WWTF. • WW – 6: 2000 DO TMDL; Nitrogen reduction efforts seem to have taken alternate form.
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Areas Needing MC Attention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subwatershed management planning has made great strides. Plans need to continue to be made and current plans need to be implemented. (WW – 13) • Support for implementation and tracking of local coastal resiliency plans is needed. 		