

Information requested by FMAC in meeting of Sept 21,2021

These points have been grouped into immediate need, short term need and longer-term need

Immediate need:

- 1) Re ACE project.
 - a) Has the \$100,000 contribution for the design process been made by NY State? If not, what is the projected timeline for these funds to be given? What about the County and the VOM's contributions-are any needed to begin the design phase?
 - b) The FMAC strongly recommends a meeting be held between the VOM/FMAC and the ACE to discuss design modifications which can be incorporated into the plan. The ACE engineer has told Peggy Jackson this is the time to modify the plan. The valves at the dam were not known about when the project was originally formulated. The Mason, the TOD, Brixmore had not been built. Other new construction in the VOM has transpired since the project was formulated, and the staggering financial costs of this storm will change the cost benefit ratio. The Beaver Swamp Brook area needs to be brought to light. What is the overall status of the project and have the prior "roadblocks" been removed? All of the above needs to be discussed with the ACE.
 - c) The FMAC deems an all-community meeting is necessary, but we need the above information before we hold a meeting. We need to be able to communicate updated information to the community when we hold this meeting.
- 2) Per the Army Corps engineer, whom Peggy Jackson ran into in Harbor Heights on Sept 3rd after the storm, they said all new construction in a flood zone must be built with breakaway walls. 1606 Ellis was built w a solid foundation with flood vents. The flood vents protected the home's structure, but the solid foundation created a dam effect and pushed more water north than before the home was constructed. Per Chapter 186 of the Village Code: "Residential new construction and substantial improvements shall be elevated on pilings, columns or shear walls such that at the bottom of the lowest horizontal structure member supporting the lowest elevated floor is elevated to or above two feet above base flood level so as not to impede the flow of water". This was not done in the case of 1606 Ellis and this needs to be addressed and changed.
- 3) What is the exact process for permits required when re-building from a flood loss? In the past the VOM waived all permit fees, but permits were required. Are flood stream permits required? We need to determine the exact process and communicate this to all residents ASAP.
- 4) Is renter's insurance covered under FEMA for owners displaced by the flooding in their living quarters?
- 5) Trustee Natchez has provided the BOT and the VM's office with photos of raw sewage spewing from the manhole on the Road to Nowhere into the Mamk River two days after the storm.
 - a) These photos need to be shared with the County Board of Health, the DEC and the Town of Harrison.

- b) The Town of Harrison plans to slip line the sewer lines. This will not stop the lines from overflowing into the river during large storms. The Road to Nowhere needs to be addressed once and for all. It is a flood hazard, and it is an environmental hazard.
- c) If the Town is unwilling to address these issues, can pressure be brought to bear from the County BOH and the DEC as well as our senior elected officials?
- 6) 163 Madison St. The owners were told that their home was structurally unsound and could not be lived in immediately after the storm by Code Enforcer Mountain. This committee understands the need to assess structures after they have sustained damage due to flooding, but it does not understand why a structural engineer rather than the code enforcer was not engaged to assess these properties. The owners of 163 Madison St. engaged a structural engineer who stated there was no structural damage. This causes undue stress and strain on already overburdened residents and increased financial cost. How did this happen?
- 7) There was no communication from the Village via email or robo call on Henri until after the storm had passed. Ironically the first call that came through at 9:45 suggested residents of HH and Washingtonville living along the river should consider evacuating and that another 2/3" of rain was expected. By that time the storm had passed, and the flood waters had already begun to recede. The communication during tropical storm Ida was on the other hand nothing short of sensational. We would like to recommend that the systems used during Ida become the standard of communication adopted by the VOM for all future predicted weather events.

Short Term Need

- 8) It is now time to look at cleaning out the silt behind the Mamk River Dam and making the flood valves operational again. Is there any Superfund money available to apply to de-silting the dam on the Mamk river? There are many other areas along the Mamaroneck and Sheldrake Rivers and the Beaver Swamp Brook and Guion Creek. This should also be discussed w the ACE.
- 9) No containers should be permitted in any flood zones unless they have been securely anchored in place. The food pantry's container which blocked the Anita Lane bridge was inexcusable and it has been returned to its original position and is still not secured. Further additional containers and a trailer have been placed nearby and are not secured. Surely other locations in the VOM which are not in flood zones can be used for this equipment so that it will not pose any future risk
- 10) The 911 emergency system did not work properly during the storm. We have been told that people had to call 3/4/5 times in order to speak with anyone. Could there be a back system put in place so that if the VOM staff is handling other callers' calls could be diverted to the Town so that people can get through? Could all emergency announcements be made in English and Spanish in the future?
- 11) The river gauges which were once in the Mamaroneck River have been removed. How can we arrange for them to be replaced?
- 12) After there was a death in Harbor Heights during the 2007 storm, the VOM had agreed that a fire truck/crew with first aid capacity must be parked in the Heights/Knolls during

a storm as these neighborhoods are completely cut off from rescue during the peak of a storm. This didn't happen during Ida and residents who called for rescue were told nothing could be done. There should be a policy established and followed for all significant storm events. Further, evacuation route out of Washingtonville is closed for bridge work (Old White Plains Road). The Village should have been better prepared. The Village also needs to identify "safe spots" in areas where people who are rescued can be sheltered. The shelter at Mamaroneck High School was inaccessible to those being rescued in Washingtonville. Those folks were taken to the highest point and left outside with no shelter from the storm all night long. No shelter, no blankets, no tarp to hold up over their heads. Surely there can be better advanced planning.

Longer Term Need

- 13) The 95 overpass has once again filled with silt and needs to be cleaned out.
- 14) The white/green stickers "condemning" residents' homes/businesses should be printed in Spanish as well as English. Not all residents understood the meaning of the sticker.
- 15) Has the construction of the Keith Yizar memorial been determined as of yet? This committee has strongly recommended it be built on piers so the water can run under it, and that it must be built a minimum of 2' over the base flood elevation.
- 16) What is the status of the legislation this committee submitted to the BOT more than a year ago regarding best commercial building practices in a flood zone?
- 17) What was the amount of storm water that went through the sewage treatment plant per minute at the peak of the storm?
- 18) Are there any grants or low interest loans available to help owners install check valves, French drains, generators, or other flood mitigation devices?

Suggested New Procedure:

The FMAC would also like to propose that for all commercial and residential building applications submitted to the Building Dept, and located in a flood zone, they first be referred automatically to the FMAC for our opinion before they are submitted by the Bldg. Dept to the Planning Board. We understand that we are not a land use board, but we believe we have knowledge which would be essential for the Planning Board for proper decisions to be made.