

From: Doreen <roneyco@aol.com>

Subject: Re: USGS gage: Mamaroneck River -- status?

Date: September 28, 2021 at 2:16:28 PM EDT

To: Kelly Wenstrup <kwenstrup@vomny.org>

Cc: Mayor and Board <MayorandBoard@vomny.org>, Harbor & Coastal Zone Management <hczm@vomny.org>, FloodMitigation <FloodMitigation@vomny.org>, Daniel Sarnoff <dsarnoff@vomny.org>

Kelly and all,

Perhaps at your board's direction if you so choose, more info can be found and added to your agenda on this subject from the annals of communications between and among HCZMC, Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee and the BOT.

To summarize some key points that shouldn't be missed:

- The information that was on HCZMC's 2016 agenda was merely a background primer as there is more in the presentation by usgs at HCZMC's sept 2016 meeting
- at some point previous to this presentation (maybe between April to June 2016) HCZMC voted unanimously to send a memo to the BOT advising for the need in funding and contact with USGS to install continuous flow monitoring gages ASAP. At that time army corps was funding river crest stage gages.

- The army corps 2007 plan is only based on hydrologic modeling NOT actual conditions or hydrologic data from usgs continuous flow monitoring gages. These gages were discontinued in 1989. As USGS reports, gage data is an imperative for accurate flood mapping, planning and engineering.

- The army corps 2007 plan identified that gages, a non structural approach to flooding (consistent with LWRP policy) provides an early warning system for flooding. The consultant to HCZMC, HydroQuest (last page of 3/20/16 report) identified the need for funding and long term maintenance of gages as an imperative for documenting actual hydrologic conditions in formulating decisions, also having value in flood monitoring. Also as reported in bold- **This should be advanced ASAP independent of other project aspects.**

- The information as to how gage data is utilized is in this email thread outlined below from Mr Gerard Butch's emails of May 5, and May 23, 2016.

- From my conversations with Gary Wall and Gerard Butch at that time, the cost for the gage equipment installations were 50K each (there were 2 gages). Per Mr Butch's email below on May 23, 2016 the village would've benefited from a \$0 cost for gage installations, with ONLY a \$16,700 operations and maintenance (O&M) for 2016 and adjusted for inflation thereafter.

- Given this past flood was most significant it should behoove the BOT to liaison with USGS again ASAP to reestablish placement of these gages. You might also explore a commitment for future long term funding by county state and federal agencies.

Protecting lives and property is the least our village officials can do by providing residents and emergency responders with an early flood warning system. AND there's an additional benefit. Because at the same time we gain data on ACTUAL hydrologic conditions for planning /decision making. This should make tremendous sense given Mamaroneck has been the recipient of floodwaters at the bottom of 2 watersheds for going on almost a century.

Regards,

Doreen Roney

On Sep 28, 2021, at 8:37 AM, Kelly Wenstrup <kwenstrup@vomny.org> wrote:

Thank you Doreen. I've copied Dan Sarnoff on this thread and hope that we can include this information (from your link) as backup to our work session discussion. We had nothing except a brief email requesting the gauges last evening — substantive material is much appreciated.

Kelly

On Sep 27, 2021, at 11:46 PM, Doreen <roneyco@aol.com> wrote:

Mayor Murphy, Trustees Lucas, Natchez Tafur and Weinstrup,
Tonight's work session agenda new business item C contained an August 25, 2021 email on the subject of usgs gages.

It is important for the board (and those copied) to understand that having continuous real time stream monitoring and crest stage gages in rivers provides data, two of which are mapping floodplains and issuing flood warnings to protect lives prevent property damage. This would have been crucial information for the historic flood our village just experienced.

Here is a link to the backup info on HCZMC's Sept 2016 agenda

<https://mamaroneck.novusagenda.com/agendapublic/CoverSheet.aspx?ItemID=6595&MeetingID=1224>

Below please find an email thread containing details on the 2016 missed opportunity for gages and USGS representatives contact information.

It is my sincere hope that this board will get these gages up and running for our community's good going forward.

Regards,

Doreen Roney

From: Doreen <roneyco@aol.com>

Date: August 14, 2019 at 4:06:39 PM EDT

To: jbarberio@vomny.org

Subject: Fwd: USGS gage: Mamaroneck River -- status?

Jerry,

This email has a compilation of email correspondences re usgs gages, costs at the time etc.

Regards,

Doreen Roney

Begin forwarded message:

From: Doreen <roneyco@aol.com>
Date: January 17, 2018 at 10:35:57 AM EST
To: MayorandBoard@vomny.org
Cc: Cindy Goldstein <cgg333@verizon.net>
Subject: Fwd: USGS gage: Mamaroneck River -- status?

Mayor Murphy, and Trustees Lucas, Potok, Tafur, and Waitt,

Last night one of your items discussed at work session was hazard mitigation, flooding and emergency preparedness. On this score, I wish to share information for our village's toolbox. As a result of last year's discussions at meetings-HCZMC liaison with flood mitigation advisory committee -I contacted USGS for more information on stream gages.

Stream gages provide; real time continuous flow monitoring, flood data, and as army corps of engineers reported in their risk management study -a non structural approach to provide an early warning system for flooding.

HCZMC had a representative from USGS speak at our September 2016 meeting, should you wish to review this

At this point in time there are NO stream gages/continuous monitoring in the Mamaroneck river, therefore no real time data to evaluate what is happening. Past gages were located downstream of the dam at Windfield Ave and downstream of Halstead Ave bridge.

Below are past emails with information sent from USGS to the village with detailed info from last year on gages/ costs/ and USGS contact information.

Regards,
Doreen Roney

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Wall, Gary" <grwall@usgs.gov>
Date: July 19, 2016 at 10:57:25 AM EDT
To: Doreen <roneyco@aol.com>, Cindy Goldstein <cgg333@verizon.net>
Subject: Fwd: USGS gage: Mamaroneck River -- status?

Doreen and Cindy - Looks like the streamgage is not going to happen. I'm questioning if my September presentation is necessary - let me know.

Thanks,
Gary

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Richard Slingerland <RSlingerland@vomny.org>
Date: Tue, Jul 19, 2016 at 10:45 AM
Subject: RE: USGS gage: Mamaroneck River -- status?
To: "Butch, Gerard" <gkbutch@usgs.gov>

Cc: Hernane DeAlmeida <HDeAlmeida@vomny.org>, Daniel Sarnoff <dsarnoff@vomny.org>, Greg Cutler <gcutler@vomny.org>, William Coon <wcoon@usgs.gov>, "Cosby, Matthew G NAN" <Matthew.G.Cosby@usace.army.mil>, Gary Wall <grwall@usgs.gov>

Dear Jerry:

Thank you for your follow-up e-mail.

Unfortunately, while I was interested in pursuing this program, the annual expense of the program is not something the village would be able to fund at this time.

I appreciate being offered the opportunity, but am sorry we are not able to move forward with it.

Very truly yours,

Rich

Richard Slingerland

Village Manager

Village of Mamaroneck

Village Hall

123 Mamaroneck Avenue

Mamaroneck, NY 10543

Phone: 914-777-7703

Fax: 914-777-7760

From: Butch, Gerard [mailto:gkbutch@usgs.gov]

Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2016 10:29 AM

To: Richard Slingerland <RSlingerland@vomny.org>

Cc: Hernane DeAlmeida <HDeAlmeida@vomny.org>; Daniel Sarnoff <dsarnoff@vomny.org>; Greg Cutler <gcutler@vomny.org>; William Coon <wcoon@usgs.gov>; Cosby, Matthew G NAN <Matthew.G.Cosby@usace.army.mil>; Gary Wall <grwall@usgs.gov>; Gerard Butch <gkbutch@usgs.gov>

Subject: Re: USGS gage: Mamaroneck River -- status?

Hello Richard,

Is there still interest to fund a real-time streamgage on Mamaroneck River at Mamaroneck after the June 6, 2016 Board meeting? The USGS is moving forward to discontinue the two crest-stage gages along the Mamaroneck River that were previously funded by USACE .

Jerry

On Mon, May 23, 2016 at 5:53 PM, Butch, Gerard <gkbutch@usgs.gov> wrote:

Hello Richard,

This is to confirm the annual O&M cost is \$16,700/yr for the Mamaroneck R at Mamaroneck, NY (01301000) station located at Halstead Avenue to provide real-time continuous stage and discharge. In FY 2016, the O&M would be prorated based on the number of months of continuous operation. Unfortunately, there are no matching funds available at this time. However, USGS is willing to install the station at \$0 cost to the Village. For planning purposes, future O&M costs would need to be indexed for inflation. Gary Wall and Bill Coon can provide you additional information regarding flood-inundation mapping that could be developed based on this station (cc'd above).

Please note, the upstream crest-stage gage on the Mamaroneck R at Winfield Ave will also be discontinued very shortly if USACE funding is not available.

Sincerely,

Jerry

Butch

Gerard K. Butch

U.S. Geological Survey

Supervisory Hydrologist

425 Jordan Road

Troy, NY 12180

voice: (518) 285-5673

fax: (518) 285-5601

gkbutch@usgs.gov

[NYWSC Webpage](#)

On Mon, May 23, 2016 at 7:45 AM, Richard Slingerland <RSlingerland@vomny.org> wrote:

>

> Dear Gerard:

>

> Good morning.

> I'm following up on this to have an item on our Board Meeting agenda for the June 6, 2016 Board Work Session related to an agreement – please confirm cost of \$16,700/yr., unless there is any matching funds available that could reduce the annual cost to the Village. I think we also have an interest in the inundation mapping and information.

>

> Please note the following information, as requested:

>

> Listed below is the information that our Administrative Officer would need to set-up a cooperative agreement.

>

- > 1. Agency Village of Mamaroneck, NY
- > 2. contact Richard Slingerland, Village Manager
- > 3. phone/fax Main phone: 914-777-7703; Direct phone: 914-777-7706; Fax: 914-777-7760
- > 4. Tax ID 13-6007303
- > 5. address 123 Mamaroneck Avenue, Village Hall at The Regatta, Mamaroneck, NY 10543
- > 6. period of agreement (can be up to 5 years) 5 years
- > 7. billing frequency (typically quarterly) Quarterly
- >
- > Please let me know if you have any other questions or need further information from me.
- >
- > Richard Slingerland
- > Village Manager
- > Village of Mamaroneck
- > Village Hall
- > 123 Mamaroneck Avenue
- > Mamaroneck, NY 10543
- > Main Phone: 914-777-7703
- > Direct phone: 914-777-7706
- > Fax: 914-777-7760

From: Butch, Gerard [mailto:gkbutch@usgs.gov]

Sent: Thursday, May 05, 2016 4:11 PM

To: Richard Slingerland <RSlingerland@vomny.org>

Cc: Cosby, Matthew G NAN <Matthew.G.Cosby@usace.army.mil>; Hernane DeAlmeida <HDeAlmeida@vomny.org>; Daniel Sarnoff <dsarnoff@vomny.org>; Greg Cutler <gcutler@vomny.org>; William Coon <wcoon@usgs.gov>; Gerard Butch <gkbutch@usgs.gov>

Subject: USGS gage: Mamaroneck River -- cost-estimate

Hello Mr. Slingerland,

The cost for the Mamaroneck R at Mamaroneck, NY (01301000) station located at Halstead Avenue to monitor continuous stage and discharge is \$15,000. The work would include a 2-ft x 3-ft shelter, data logger, stage sensor, solar panel, GOES antenna, misc supplies, travel, and labor. In addition, the operation and maintenance (O&M) cost would be about \$16,700/yr (FY 2017 dollars). Note, in FY 2016 the O&M would be prorated based on the number of months of continuous operation. All future maintenance, repairs, and instrument upgrades would be covered under the annual O&M costs. For planning purposes, future O&M costs would need to be indexed for inflation. Although there are no Federal funds available in 2016, the NYWSC may be able to provide up to 20% of the O&M cost for FY 2017, depending on the availability of Federal funds. The above costs also apply to the upstream station, Mamaroneck R at Winfield Ave, NY (01300800). Additional information regarding USGS streamgage operation and maintenance costs can be found at: (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2010/3025/pdf/fs2010-3025.pdf>).

USGS has a robust Nationwide network with redundant satellite telemetry downlinks and mirrored internet gateways across the Nation. When flooding occurs, USGS deploys crews to measure the impact, make sure the streamgages are operating correctly, and works closely with the National Weather Service to provide for flood warning at their flood forecast points. Near real-time stage and discharge data at 15-minute intervals would be available about every 1 hour (20 minutes during high flows) at:

(http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ny/nwis/current?type=sw&group_key=basin_cd&search_site_no_station_nm=). USGS real-time streamgages can also send an email or text message to alert you when the Mamaroneck River level that you specify is reached (or any real-time parameter measured at a site). It will also alert you when there are equipment issues (<http://water.usgs.gov/wateralert/>).

Listed below is the information that our Administrative Officer would need to set-up a cooperative agreement.

1. Agency
2. contact
3. phone/fax
4. Tax ID
5. address
6. period of agreement (can be up to 5 years)
7. billing frequency (typically quarterly)

Finally, if you wish to receive additional information regarding flood-inundation mapping that the USGS can provide, please contact Bill Coon, Surface-water Specialist (cc'd above). Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,
--Jerry Butch

Gerard K. Butch

U.S. Geological Survey

Supervisory Hydrologist

425 Jordan Road

Troy, NY 12180

voice: (518) 285-5673

fax: (518) 285-5601

gkbutch@usgs.gov

[NYWSC Webpage](#)

On Wed, May 4, 2016 at 5:29 PM, Richard Slingerland <RSlingerland@vomny.org> wrote:

Dear Mr. Butch:

It is my understanding that the USGS location in Mamaroneck may be discontinued, but that there may be a partnership possibility between the Village and the USGS to keep it operational.

Please advise if and what may be involved in this matter.

Thank you in advance,

Richard Slingerland

Village Manager

Village of Mamaroneck

Village Hall

123 Mamaroneck Avenue

Mamaroneck, NY 10543

Main Phone: 914-777-7703

Direct phone: 914-777-7706

Fax: 914-777-7760