

Agenda Coast Smart Council Quarter 2 Meeting May 29, 2024 | 12:30pm - 1 :30pm

Maryland Department of Natural Resources
580 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401
Room C-1

Or

Meeting link: <https://meet.google.com/iid-intk-ckw>

Or dial: (US) +1 408-909-8912 PIN: 805 679 696#

I. **Welcome, Introductions & Review of Agenda** **12:30 - 12:35**

Secretary Kurtz (DNR), will open the meeting, call roll, introduce new appointees and review the agenda.

- a. Action: Member approval of Nov 29, 2023 Meeting Minutes via vote
- b. Materials: [DRAFT_Feb_28_CSC Meeting_Notes](#)

House of Representatives	Delegate Stein x
DBM	Jason Wardrup x
MDE	Matt Rowe – jim george covering
DGS	Spyros Papadimas - present
MDP	Jill Lemke - present
MDOT	Shawn Kiernan - allison b covering
Commerce	John Papavasiliou - present
CAC	Erik Fisher - Kate c covering
MDEM	Jesse Delph - x
MDEM	Vanessa Calaban - x
University System of Maryland	Dr. Bill Dennison - present
Treasurer's Office	Dereck E. Davis - x
Charles County Government	Beth Groth - x
Somerset County Government	Mary Phillips - present
Stantec Inc.	Rebecca Aiken - present
UMD Civil and Environmental Engineering	Greg Baecher - present (late)
Crisfield Government	Mayor Darlene Taylor - present (late)

Meeting started at 12:34, Sec. Kurtz announced quorum at 12:36

No questions about meeting notes

Motion from Mary Phillips to move and second from Bill Dennison

II. **SB299 Recap**

12:35 - 12:45

Dylan Behler (DNR), will go over the recently passed SB299 and what it entails for the Coast Smart Council.

- a. Action: Informative talk
- b. Materials: None

Dylan started with an introduction of his position as the legislative director. This year was a really successful year – put forward 11 departmentals, CAC put forward 2 departmentals. All but one passed – looking forward to continuing into the next year.

SB299 - CoastSmart Council duties and authority

1. Codified the categorical exemptions that are a current practice of the council
2. Gave regulatory authority to the Secretary of DNR recommend regulations for adoption
 - a. Can set guardrails and elevate the program

There was a lot of work initially about CoastSmart, but it died down in the pandemic years. There are a lot of new legislators who are working on CoastSmart and why it's critical for the state's investments in capital projects. Looking forward to the next legislative session we will be focusing on resiliency and adaptation – this council will be very important for moving this forward in the next legislative session.

Q: What is the process after a regulation is brought up? – Dylan Taillie

A: Bill itself provides recommendation authority to Sec. Kurtz, once a bill is approved it goes to the AELR committee → can be adopted 45 days after

-We want to make sure we get consensus from the Council itself before it moves forward

Sec Kurtz: looking forward to moving forward with resiliency legislation. How can we continue to strengthen the Council and broadly expand resiliency work throughout the state. Please send ideas to Ryland Taylor first.

III. **Maryland Historical Trust Climate Considerations**

12:45 - 1:10

The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT, part of the Maryland Department of Planning) assists local governments in planning for historic and cultural resources and has developed guidance to help planners trying to balance resilience goals with historic preservation and cultural resource conservation. MHT also awards financial incentives and consults on state/federal projects affecting these properties in climate-impacted areas. This presentation will go over MHT's roles that intersect with Coast Smart, identify some of the key policy issues related to preservation and climate adaptation, and provide an overview of guidance materials available for use.

- c. Action: Informative talk
- d. Materials: Slides to be presented

Historical buildings are exempt from the CoastSmart siting and design criteria, but to the maximum extent possible should still factor in climate resiliency.

Nell Ziehl from MDP:MHT presenting

- Historical buildings
- Struggles with historic preservation and climate change
- [Weather it together program](#)

- Hazard mitigation, disaster response and recovery, climate response for their historic communities
- Historically focused on flooding
 - Showed a map of a bathtub model that highlighted sea level rise risk (map picture on lower eastern shore)
- Federally funded (grant funded)
- [Statewide preservation plan](#) recommends returning capacity to the weather it together program – there is a huge need for this in communities
- Derived from City of Annapolis SLR planning project → one of the first projects in the country to take climate adaptation into account
- Looking for funding and resources to help communities do that work
- Developed guidance documents
 - Geared towards planners, typically preservation planners, but anyone involved in resiliency planning and preservation
 - Mitigation options are still useful, there was an attempt to prioritize NBS
 - These guidance documents need to be updated – were produced 2015-2018?
- Other guidance documents at the federal and state level have historically focused more on individual properties and are based in disaster response and recovery
- Federal agencies are involved in providing outreach and training
 - NPS has issued guidance on flood adaptation
- Preservation policies and programs protect historic character, integrity
 - There are different definitions for historic resources
 - FEMA and NPS use diff. Definitions
 - Climate change demands more aggressive interventions
 - Use of non historic materials – sometimes this is the only way to save a building
- Have to make changes that go well beyond the recommendations and solutions that have been identified in the past
- Our local communities are not currently empowered to the level that they could be
- Some communities have started to use the guidance documents
 - The Ellicott City Watershed Master Plan → good example of evaluating and protecting historic properties
 - Fells Point
- Key opportunities include:
 - Legacies of adaptation in communities
 - Cultural heritage = nexus, focal point for conversation
 - How can we leverage this to move forward in the future?
 - Can help communities process the experience of loss
 - Overlap with arts, humanities, religious/spiritual heritage
 - Need for equity in prioritization
 - Manage change
- MHT administers different capital funding programs, though unfortunately many of them do not have climate change explicitly stated or noted.
- MHT Categorical exemption
 - If we are exempting the properties, we aren't actually adapting them
 - There are a lot of equity issues associated with the “euro-centric” approach to adaptation
 - The African American Heritage Program is co-administered, but
- There are lots of opportunities for coordination

- Maryland Resiliency Partnership
- Flood Awareness Month
- State Hazard Mitigation Plan
- NextGen

Q: What types of conversations and official/unofficial conversations are happening about incorporating equity into funding decisions? – Kate C

A: justice and equity working group that is staff led that is analyzing the programs currently. There have already been some administrative changes that have been made. Historic tax credit program → where is this being used?

Q: As you are working with communities, what are your thoughts and goals and planning timelines for the future? How are the different zones being established? – Rebecca Aiken

A: 30 year timeframe based on the Annapolis experience... people can wrap their heads around the mortgage experience... helping people understand what the impacts are 30 years from now is really helpful. Crisfield reached out asking for numbers and maps.

Q: Mayor Taylor asked if slides will be available? A: yes!

Q: Do we have SLR flood inundation maps for ~2040. for Dorchester in particular? – Jim George

A: Dylan referenced the [2023 SLR projections](#) and will be providing an answer over email. Look at the 2023 SLR projections and then go to the NOAA SLR viewer to look at Dorchester specifically – 1ft might be the most similar for 2040.

Using the cambridge tide gauge:

Year	5th percentile	50th percentile (High tolerance for flood risk)	83rd percentile (Medium tolerance for flood risk)	83rd-95th percentile with additional ice loss (Low tolerance for flood risk)
2040	0.50	0.92	1.20	1.3

IV. Coast Smart Training/Website Update

1:10 - 1:25

Ryland Taylor (DNR) will walk members through a reorganization of the Coast Smart Council website and its affiliated pages including the development of a training page.

- e. Action: Informative talk, members will discuss the layout of the Coast Smart website and the inclusion of training materials
- f. Materials: Miro Board to be presented

Ryland shared a screenshot of what the current CoastSmart Council website looks like. Ryland is proposing a website update to provide more educational and training information as a way for people to get a CoastSmart 101 training. This will be helpful for new staff and turnover.

- Current website vs new website
- New website
 - Adds an introductory CoastSmart video
 - Removes the right hand side bar

- Adds ability to click on buttons so that you can see the membership, screening forms, meeting times
- Below there will be tabs for new trainings
 - What is CoastSmart? History, first law, updates, guidelines, important definitions, how is the structure defined? Likely will be in PPT format
 - How to determine when to use CRAB? This will be a screen recording walking people through the CRAB layer
 - Alternate processes → waivers
 - Exemptions → this will be a video that looks at what the exemptions are
 - Examples or case studies → These will be shared in the future
 - FAQs
- These will appear as drop downs

Q: Will this website be accessible on a tablet or mobile device? A: this is a top priority from our web team. Council approval before the website is live will be available. Response: this is a good beta testing opportunity.

V. Public Comment, Updates, & Next Steps

1:25 - 1:30

Next Meeting: August 28, 2024 12:30-1:30

No public comments or questions

Updates:

- Website link will be coming out soon for testing
- We welcome ideas and training updates and opportunities
- Regulatory ideas can be sent to Sec. Kurtz

Attendees:

31 online, 13 in person

1. [Emily Vainieri -DNR-](#)
2. Sophie Allan
3. [Jackie Specht -DNR-](#)
4. [Jennifer Raulin -DNR-](#)
5. [Dylan Taillie -DNR-](#)
6. Christine Burns
7. Robert Allan
8. [Jillian Seagraves -DNR-](#)
9. Secretary [Josh Kurtz -DNR-](#)
10. [Ryland Taylor -DNR-](#)
11. Kate Vogel
12. [Dylan Behler -DNR-](#)
13. [Laura Canton -DNR-](#)