

# Environment, Energy & Climate



## BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft

Committee Chair: Erika Pierce

800 Michaelan Office Bldg.  
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor  
White Plains, NY 10601  
[www.westchesterlegislators.com](http://www.westchesterlegislators.com)

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Tuesday, February 1, 2022

4:00 PM

Committee Room

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### CALL TO ORDER

Joint with Public Safety and Public Works & Transportation committees

*The County Board met pursuant to Chapter 417 of New York State Laws of 2021, allowing public bodies to meet and take action without permitting in-person public access to meetings and authorizes such meetings and public hearings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided the public has the ability to view or listen and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed. To access the meeting, please visit: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com>.*

*With a quorum present, Chair Pierce called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.*

*Others in attendance: BOL: Legislators: Catherine Borgia and Terry Clements; Legislators (Remote): Mary Jane Shimsky, Margaret Cunzio, Jose Alvarado, and Tyrae Woodson-Samuels; Committee Coordinators: Jill Axelrod and James Silverberg; DES: Richard Wishnie, Susan Spear, Dennis Delborgo, and Dan Olmoz; Planning Dept: David Kvinge*

**Present:** Committee Chair Pierce, Legislator Williams Johnson and Borgia

**Absent:** Legislator Tubiolo

**Remote:** Committee Vice-Chair Barr and Legislator Parker

### MINUTES APPROVAL

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 minutes

On motion of Legislator Williams Johnson, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Barr, the minutes were approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Committee Chair Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Barr, Legislator Parker and Legislator Williams Johnson

**Absent:** Legislator Tubiolo

### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

#### 2022-34      RESO - Env. Res. - Westchester County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Guests: DES: Deputy Commissioner Susan Spear and Dan Olmoz, Office of Emergency Management, PLANNING: Assistant Commissioner David Kvinge

*Deputy Commissioner Spear discussed the plan. She noted that the plan was created by a partnership between the County and the municipalities, and was funded through a federal grant. She said that this is an update of the prior plan from 2015, and allowed us to develop a*

*practical and resilient mitigation strategy. The plan serves as a prerequisite for municipalities and the County to apply for many state and federal funding opportunities. She advised that the draft plan has been submitted to the State and FEMA, and we have conditional approval from both. We need approval from the municipalities and the Board of Legislators.*

*Legislator Shimsky expressed concern that the plan does not contain priorities and action suggestions, and asked if that will be in a subsequent study. Ms. Spear said this is the overreaching strategy and plan, and each community and the County will develop their own mitigation projects that then become eligible for funding. Legislator Shimsky said that we will need to have a conversation about priorities, how we are setting them, and how we will move forward with them before we move into capital project approval.*

*Legislator Shimsky noted that some respondents said they don't understand the plan or what they are supposed to do in an emergency, and we need to see what the participation rate was for the stakeholders we reached out to begin with. Mr. Olmoz said he will ask TetraTech, the consultant who produced the document, to get an evaluation of that.*

*Legislator Shimsky asked why that the lists of tree inventories and flood studies did not incorporate the stormwater management reports which are mentioned elsewhere in the report. Assistant Commissioner Kvinge said he will check with TetraTech.*

*Legislator Pierce asked how we use the plan going forward to figure out the best way to use our tax dollars to support our communities in the years ahead. Deputy Commissioner Spear said the plan is the basis for developing the next steps, to help think about which are the most severe hazards, where are they, and what are some strategies for building resilience and assisting with mitigation.*

*Legislator Pierce asked what the timeline looks like. Commissioner Kvinge said we don't have much time because applicants for certain federal and state funding must have an approved plan. The plan does not commit the County to any mitigation strategy.*

*Legislator Shimsky said she was willing to vote the items out of committee conditioned on the correction of typos and receipt of the requested information on the response rates and outreach issues.*

On motion of Legislator Williams Johnson, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Barr, the above item was signed by committee to the Board of Legislators committee, due back on 2/7/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Committee Chair Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Barr, Legislator Parker and Legislator Williams Johnson

**Absent:** Legislator Tubiolo

[2022-35](#)

**ACT - Westchester County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Guests: DES: Deputy Commissioner Susan Spear and Dan Olmoz, Office of Emergency Management, PLANNING: Assistant Commissioner David Kvinge

See discussion of ID 2022-34 above.

On motion of Legislator Williams Johnson, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Barr, the above item was signed by committee to the Board of Legislators committee, due back on 2/7/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Committee Chair Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Barr, Legislator Parker, Legislator Williams Johnson and Borgia

**Absent:** Legislator Tubiolo

## II. OTHER BUSINESS

## III. RECEIVE & FILE

## ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Committee Vice-Chair Barr, seconded by Borgia, the Committee adjourned at 5:09 p.m. by the following vote:

**Aye:** Committee Chair Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Barr, Legislator Parker, Legislator Williams Johnson and Borgia

**Absent:** Legislator Tubiolo

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