



Public Safety

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final

Committee Chair: Terry Clements

800 Michaelan Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

4:00 PM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committees on Public Works & Transportation and Environment, Energy & Climate

The County Board will meet 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 Clements called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 4:00 PM Minutes

On motion of Legislator Pierce, seconded by Legislator Barr, the minutes were approved. The motion carried unanimously.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[RES-2022-8](#) **RESO - Env. Res. - Westchester County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

AN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOLUTION determining that there will be no significant adverse impact on the environment from the adoption of a multi-jurisdictional, multi-hazard mitigation plan known as the Westchester County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & CLIMATE AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION

Joint with PW&T and EE&C.

Guests: Deputy Commissioner Susan Spear and Dan Olmoz, Office of Emergency Management- DES

Assistant Commissioner David Kvinge- PLANNING

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 Alvarado, seconded by Legislator Pierce, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Legislator Johnson and Committee Vice-Chair Smith

[ACT-2022-6](#) **ACT - Westchester County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to adopt a new multi-jurisdictional, multi-hazard mitigation plan known as the Westchester County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & CLIMATE AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION.

Joint with PW&T and EE&C.

Guests: Deputy Commissioner Susan Spear and Dan Olmoz, Office of Emergency Management- DES

Assistant Commissioner David Kvinge- PLANNING

Please refer to item #1.

On motion of Legislator Alvarado, seconded by Legislator Pierce, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Legislator Johnson and Committee Vice-Chair Smith

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Pierce, seconded by Legislator Borgia, the Committee adjourned at 5:04 PM.