



Subject	Meeting Minutes - Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Meeting #2b
Meeting Date	May 17, 2016
Time	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm ET
Location	Carlstadt Municipal Building, 500 Madison Street, Carlstadt, NJ 07072
Attendees	Attendee list available, <i>for internal use only</i>

- The PowerPoint slide presentation utilized at the meeting is attached to the meeting minutes (see **Attachment 1**).
- A CAG meeting packet was provided to all attendees and is also attached to the meeting minutes (see **Attachment 2**).
- The *Pre-Public* Draft Public Scoping Document (PSD) was provided to the CAG members prior to the meeting, and hard copies of this document were distributed at the meeting.
- Introductions – Linda Fisher, NJDEP Project Manager, started the meeting by reminding the CAG members to let us know if they are not getting emails and need to be added to the distribution list. She provided a brief overview of the meeting objectives, which included: (1) a review of the *Pre-Public* Draft PSD, (2) a summary of the CAG Meeting #2 break-out session results, and (3) a discussion regarding the upcoming Public Scoping Meeting and public scoping process.
- Mr. Brian Boose, AECOM NEPA Team Leader, provided a brief overview of the intent of the *Pre-Public* Draft PSD, a summary of the overall NEPA process schedule, and a detailed review of the *Pre-Public* Draft PSD contents. The *Pre-Public* Draft PSD is a roadmap of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. We are still waiting to hear from US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on when the Notice of Intent (NOI) will be released; however, we are still anticipating this to occur in late May or early June 2016.
- The *Pre-Public* Draft PSD is being provided to the CAG Members to allow the CAG Members an opportunity to provide comments prior to the rest of the public receiving a copy. We want CAG Member input as CAG Members know the history and current conditions of this project area better than anyone. If a CAG Member would like their changes/comments to be incorporated prior to the official release to the public (which will occur concurrent with the publication of the NOI in the *Federal Register* and local media), the CAG Members were requested to please provide comments by **May 24, 2016**. The CAG Members were requested to share the *Pre-Public* Draft PSD with non-attending CAG members, but not with the general public at this point.
- Please note that CAG Members will still have an opportunity to provide comments after **May 24, 2016**; comments will be received at any point prior to the official public scoping period ending.



- Mr. Boose proceeded to provide a more detailed review of the Pre-*Public* Draft PSD by going through each of the document sections, and highlighting what each of the sections contained to facilitate CAG member review. Key areas and sections were identified for the CAG Members to pay particular attention to during their review:
  - Sections 1.0 through 3.0 and 6.0 – These sections includes the history of the Project Area and the Rebuild by Design (RBD) award, an overview of the NEPA process, regulatory information, and a description of the Proposed Project and its evolution.
  - Section 4.0 – This section includes the Purpose and Need of the Proposed Project and the goals and objectives that the Proposed Project is attempting to achieve. CAG Members were instrumental in developing this information. *The CAG Members were requested to please review this section and ensure we captured information correctly.*
  - Section 5.0 – Provides the current status of the Alternatives and how they were developed.
  - Section 7.0 – This section provides an overview of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) layout and an overview of the information that will be gathered for the 21 resource areas and how they will be evaluated.
  - Section 8.0 – This section provides a summary of references considered during the development of the PSD.
- CAG Members inquired about the current status of the Citizen Outreach Plan (COP). Ms. Fisher responded that NJDEP is currently synthesizing comments received on the Draft COP, and will be responding to comments. She intends to have the Final COP posted on the website by the end of May, so that it is available prior to publication of the NOI.
- CAG Members also questioned how they will be notified when the Draft PSD has been officially released to the general public. The Draft PSD will be released in conjunction with the publication of the NOI in the *Federal Register*. NJDEP will notify CAG Members once they know the NOI publication date. In addition, the Draft PSD will be posted on the project website ([www.rbd-meadowlands.nj.gov](http://www.rbd-meadowlands.nj.gov)).
- Mr. Michael Vecchio, HDR Senior Engineer, provided a summary of the flood-prone areas within the Project Area as identified during the CAG #2 Meeting Break-out Session and from existing data obtained to date by the AECOM Team as these data pertain to Alternative 2 (Fluvial/Rain Event Drainage Improvements). Alternative 2 proposes making drainage improvements that are aimed at reducing higher frequency flooding events that are not necessarily from extreme coastal surge.
- As part of data gathering and inventory process, the AECOM Team has obtained information from the: (1) 2005 Hackensack Floodplain Mitigation Plan; (2) the CAG Meeting #2 information



and data; (3) the NJDEP ditch survey of the Project Area; (4) the Bergen County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (which discusses areas subject to chronic flooding); and (5) in-person meetings with each of the five (5) towns within the Project Area.

- Mr. Vecchio walked the meeting attendees through each of the town maps (i.e., maps that included the above data for each town) in the following order: Carlstadt, Moonachie, Little Ferry, and Teterboro. While maps were available for discussion at the meeting for South Hackensack, a detailed discussion of these maps was not conducted because no data was collected during the CAG Meeting #2 Break-out Session. Mr. Vecchio will follow-up with representatives of South Hackensack in-person.
- Mr. Vecchio provided a brief overview of the maps. The blue areas represent the flood prone areas identified in the 2005 Plan, red dots represent regular rainfall events, yellow dots depict heavy rainfall events, green dots include major storm events, and blue dots include other areas of flooding concern. The numbers on each of the dots refer to the tables found in the CAG #2 Meeting Minutes.
- The goal of this inventory and data gathering exercise is to identify approximately 20 to 25 areas to examine more closely in developing Alternative 2; these areas will be spread out over the five towns. Alternative 2 does not represent one specific improvement; it will include a number of improvements. This inventory exercise will allow us to identify what data is still current, and what data is no longer valid because it has been mitigated already (e.g., through installation of a pump station).
- By collecting this data and overlaying it all together on the map, the AECOM Team is able to begin to identify specific areas for more detailed analysis. The AECOM Team will examine what the flooding problems are, what is causing these problems, what solutions could be proposed, and how each proposed solution would remedy existing issues (potentially in multiple locations).
- The following questions were posed by CAG Members:
  - Will HDR use local topographic and bathymetric data in their analyses?  
*Response:* Yes, analyses will be performed using a combination of LIDAR and field survey data.
  - The East and West Riser tide gates in Moonachie have needed to be cleaned and maintained for months. Finding the responsible entity to clean the tide gates has proven difficult. How do we find the proper agency to clean these gates?  
*Response:* Bergen County Mosquito Commission is the responsible entity. Although these tide gates need to be cleaned, funding for the RBD Meadowlands Flood Protection Project is



solely for the construction of new structures. Operations and Maintenance (O&M) will be required for any new projects in accordance with RBD funding requirements. However, O&M for old projects/structures is not something for which the RBD funding can be used. If old, existing structures are undersized or broken, it is possible they could be replaced using RBD funds. For example, a number of pump stations have been identified as a concern, indicating they are undersized and in need being replaced with a larger structure(s).

- Losen Slote is in need of dredging; it is the main hydrology issue in Little Ferry. It is our understanding this work cannot be done due to NJDEP permit approvals. What can be done to get these ditches cleaned?

*Response:* Unfortunately, this falls under O&M and cannot be done using RBD funds. Attendees recommended additional, more in-depth contact with Bergen County to resolve this issue.

- Are you considering the conversion of the historic ditches into wetlands to mitigate excess stormwater?

*Response:* The AECOM Team will examine all feasible options. We will certainly look into the potential for incorporating bioswales and other green infrastructure features to help manage storm water in the Project Area.

- CAG Members wanted to make sure NJDEP and the AECOM Team were aware of the American Dream Project to the south of the Project Area and along the Hackensack River, and suggested contacting them to coordinate storm water management efforts. AECOM confirmed this potential.
- Mr. Boose provided a brief overview of the public scoping process and opened up the floor to CAG Members again to provide recommendations/suggestions on venues for the upcoming Public Scoping Meeting (i.e., anticipated to occur in mid-June) and methods for getting the word out to the public. The following ideas are a summary of those provided during this meeting and the previous CAG Meeting #2:
  - Venue suggestions included: Vineyard Church (Teterboro), St. Margaret's Church, TJ Sokol Hall (Little Ferry), and school gymnasiums (if school is out of session).
  - Use of the NIXEL system for calls, texts, and emails.
  - Use of town websites.
  - Use of existing signage in front of public buildings.
  - Placement of flyers around each of the five towns at Senior Centers, Firehouses, and in school backpacks. Flyers should be in English, Spanish, and Korean.
  - Use of Facebook to connect with those individuals of limited mobility (i.e., offer to mail copies of documents to them through this site).





- Ms. Alexis Taylor, NJDEP Outreach Team Leader, conveyed to the group that she is here to help get the word out, and to please email her with suggestions. She reminded the group that a dedicated email address at [rbd-meadowlands@dep.nj.gov](mailto:rbd-meadowlands@dep.nj.gov) will be used to receive all public input throughout the duration of the Project. She can provide hard copy handouts of flyers to CAG Members if CAG Members would assist in distributing them. CAG Members discussed identifying one person per town to assist with this effort; they will coordinate directly with Ms. Taylor.
- Ms. Linda Fisher reminded the group of the following: (1) CAG #2 Meeting Minutes are currently posted on the project website; (2) the CAG #2B Meeting Minutes will be available in five days for CAG Member review; and (3) **CAG Member review and comments are needed on the *Pre-Public Draft Scoping Document* by **May 24, 2016**.**

Based on the closing discussion, it was determined that the next CAG Meeting (mid-July) should cover the following topics: (1) outcome of the public scoping process and Public Scoping Meeting (mid-June), (2) discussion of what we learned, and (3) development of screening criteria/metrics to evaluate initial alternatives.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm ET.

\*\*Mr. Vecchio remained after the general meeting; he provided CAG Members an opportunity to provide additional information on flood prone areas that were not captured during the original CAG Meeting #2 Break-out Session.

**Attachment 1. Power Point Slide Presentation (as delivered)**



**Citizen Advisory Group (CAG)  
Meeting #2B**

**Scoping/Data Gathering Meeting , Part II**

**REBUILD BY DESIGN MEADOWLANDS FLOOD  
PROTECTION PROJECT**

**Boroughs of Little Ferry, Moonachie, Carlstadt, and  
Teterboro, and the Township of South Hackensack**

**BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**May 17, 2016**

## Agenda

- 1** *Project Status Review and Meeting Objectives*
- 2** *Review and Discuss Draft Public Scoping Document*
- 3** *Review Results from CAG Meeting #2 Breakout Session*
- 4** *Discuss Upcoming Public Scoping Process and Meeting*
- 5** *Next Steps*
- 6** *Questions and Answers/Closure*



**1****Project Status Review and Meeting Objectives**

**Linda Fisher, NJDEP Project Manager**

▪ **Meeting Objectives:**

- Review “Pre-Public Release” Draft Public Scoping Document
- Review Results of CAG Meeting #2 Break-Out Session
- Discuss Upcoming Public Scoping Meeting and Public Scoping Process



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**2****Draft Public Scoping Document**

**Brian W. Boose, AECOM NEPA Team Leader**

- Status of the Public Scoping Document
- Detailed Review of “Pre-Public Release” Draft Public Scoping Document Content



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## 2 Draft Public Scoping Document

### Resource Areas Evaluated

- Land Use and Land Use Planning
- Visual Quality/Aesthetics
- Socioeconomics and Community/Population and Housing
- Environmental Justice
- Cultural and Historic Resources
- Transportation and Circulation
- Noise
- Air Quality
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG)
- Global Climate Change
- Recreation
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Public Services
- Biological Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Hydrology and Flooding
- Water Resources, Water Quality, and Waters of the U.S.
- Coastal Zone Management
- Hazardous and Hazardous Materials
- Mineral and Energy Resources
- Agricultural Resources and Prime Farmlands

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## 3 CAG Meeting #2 Break-Out Session Results

### Michael Vecchio, HDR Senior Water Resources Engineer

- Summarize input received from CAG (CAG Meeting #2)
  - Existing infrastructure mapping
  - Flood-prone areas within each town
- Summarize data obtained by HDR related to flood-prone areas within each town, and potential causes
- Compare CAG input and existing data obtained to date
- Discuss path forward concerning use and application of these data

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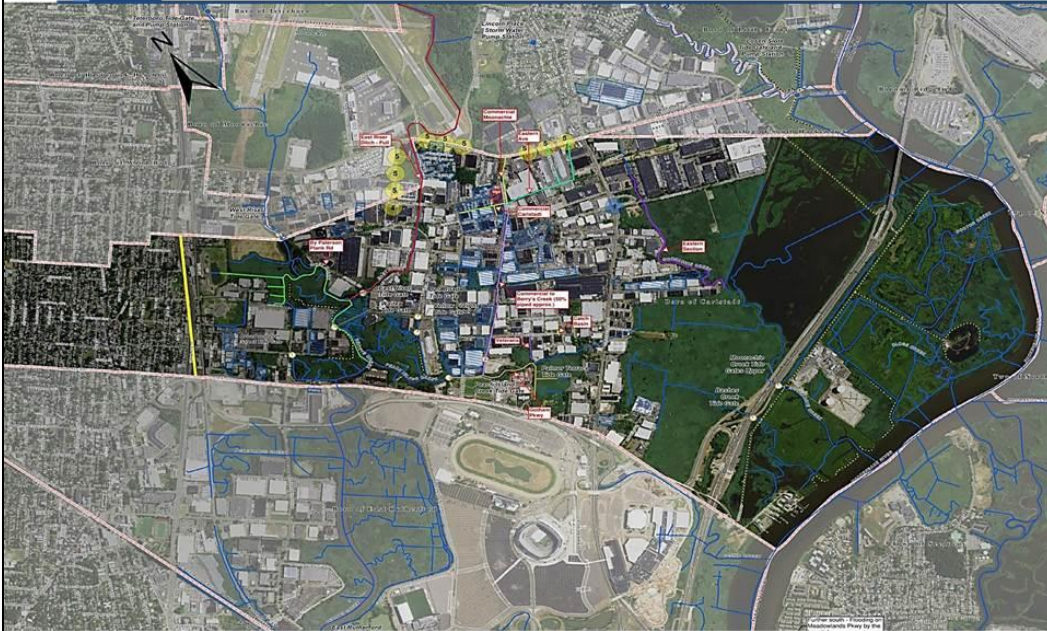


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## CAG Meeting #2 Workshop Results: Carlstadt



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## CAG Meeting #2 Workshop Results: Moonachie



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## CAG Meeting #2 Workshop Results: Little Ferry



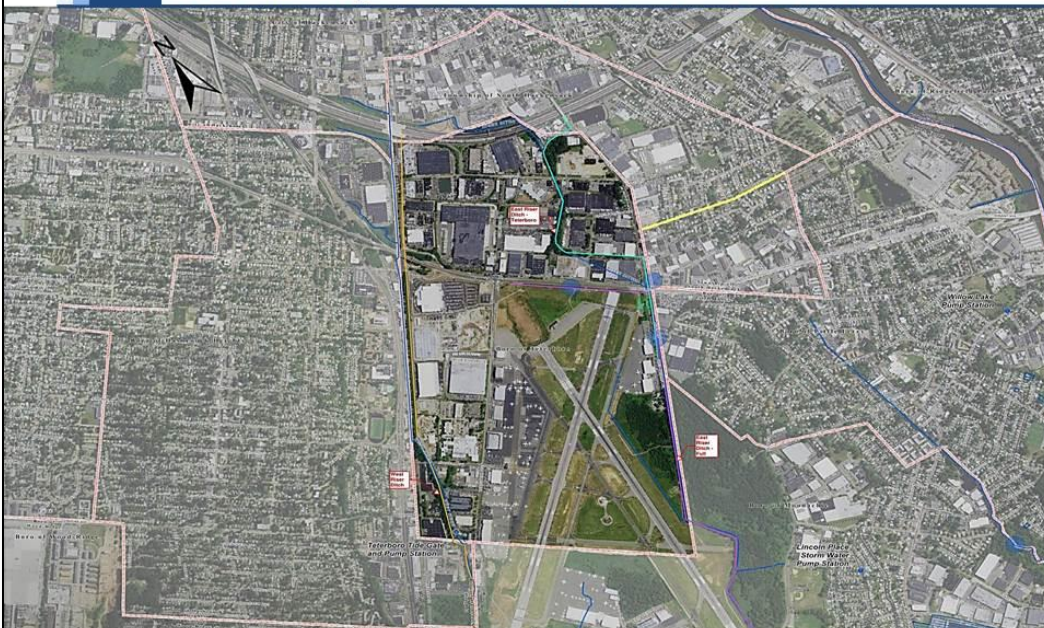
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## CAG Meeting #2 Workshop Results: Teterboro



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## Public Scoping Preparations

**Brian W. Boose, AECOM NEPA Team Leader**

- Status of Notice of Intent
- Overview of Public Scoping Process
- Discuss Public Scoping Meeting venue and logistics



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## Next Steps

**Linda Fisher, NJDEP Project Manager**

### NJDEP/AECOM Upcoming Activities

- Prepare Meeting Summary for this meeting
- Continue developing:
  - Initial Alternatives
  - Feasibility Study
  - Draft Public Scoping Document
- Prepare for Public Scoping Period and Public Meeting
- Implement "Public Involvement Guidelines" Document, including website, newsletter, etc.
- Publish the Notice of Intent in Late May/Early June 2016



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**CAG – Call to Action**

- Review and comment on Meeting Summary for this meeting
- Share information from this Meeting with friends and neighbors
- Educate constituents on the project and NEPA Process
- Build interest in the Project
- Assist in disseminating information concerning the Public Scoping Process and Meeting
- Review the “Pre-Public Release” Draft Public Scoping Document and provide comments by **May 24, 2016**
- Continue obtaining information, ideas, and potential concerns from constituents

**Critical Schedule Dates (approximate)**

- **Late May – early June** – Publish NOI
- **At NOI Publication** – Make Available Draft Public Scoping Document
- **Mid-June** – Public Scoping Meeting (tentative)
- **Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>** – CAG Meeting #3 – Screening Criteria/Metrics (tentative)
- **Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>** – CAG Meeting #4 – Alternatives Screening (tentative)
- **Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>** – CAG Meeting #5 – Alternatives Analysis (tentative)



## Key Contact Information and Communication

Name	Affiliation
Alyson Beha	HUD Region II Senior Regional Planner
Linda Fisher	NJDEP Project Team Manager
Alexis Taylor	NJDEP Outreach Team Leader
Christopher Benosky	AECOM – Project Manager
Garrett Avery	AECOM – Deputy Project Manager
Brian Beckenbaugh	AECOM – Outreach
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The NJDEP will be the key agency responsible for receiving, publicly distributing (including via the CAG), and coordinating all information relative to this NEPA process

## Questions and Answers

### Open Group Discussion

- Additional thoughts on the Break-Out Session from CAG Meeting #2
- Questions on Public Scoping Meeting and Process
- Next CAG Meeting logistics
- Other concerns and ideas

**Attachment 2. CAG Meeting Packet #2B (provided as handout at meeting)**





# **CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #2B PACKET**

**Scoping/Data Gathering Meeting, Part II**

## **REBUILD BY DESIGN MEADOWLANDS FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT**

**Boroughs of Little Ferry, Moonachie, Carlstadt, and Teterboro,  
and the Township of South Hackensack**

**BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**May 17, 2016**

**Prepared By**

**AECOM**



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## List of Acronyms

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CAG	Citizen Advisory Group
CDBG-DR	Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ESC	Executive Steering Committee
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NJDEP	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOI	Notice of Intent
OSC	Outreach Subcommittee
ROD	Record of Decision

# Agenda

## **Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) Meeting #2B Scoping/Data Gathering CAG Meeting, Part II**

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**6-8 PM May 17, 2016**

**Carlstadt Municipal Building  
500 Madison Street  
Carlstadt, NJ 07072**

- **Welcome**
- **Project Status Review and Meeting Objectives** – Linda Fisher, Project Team Manager, Rebuild by Design Meadowlands Flood Protection Project, NJDEP
  - Draft Citizen Outreach Plan, comment period ended May 6, 2016
  - *Pre-Public* Draft Public Scoping Document
  - CAG Meeting #2 Break-Out Session Results by Town
  - Upcoming Public Scoping Meeting and Public Scoping Process
- **Review / Discussion of Draft Public Scoping Document** - Brian W. Boose, NEPA Project Manager, AECOM
  - Breakdown of Scoping Document Content to Facilitate CAG Member Review
- **CAG Meeting #2 Break-Out Session Results** – Michael Vecchio, Senior Water Resources Engineer, HDR
  - Summary of Flood-Prone Areas by Town
  - Comparison of Findings and Existing Data Obtained to Date
- **Discuss Upcoming Public Scoping Meeting** – Brian W. Boose, NEPA Project Manager, AECOM
  - Review Details of Public Scoping Meeting and Scoping Process
  - Determine / Discuss Public Scoping Meeting Venue and Logistics
- **Next Steps**
- **Q&A/Closure**

## 1.0 Power Point Presentation

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**Citizen Advisory Group (CAG)  
Meeting #2B  
Scoping/Data Gathering Meeting , Part II****REBUILD BY DESIGN MEADOWLANDS FLOOD  
PROTECTION PROJECT****Boroughs of Little Ferry, Moonachie, Carlstadt, and  
Teterboro, and the Township of South Hackensack****BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY****May 17, 2016**

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**1****Project Status Review and Meeting Objectives**

**Linda Fisher, NJDEP Project Manager**

▪ **Meeting Objectives:**

- Review “Pre-Public Release” Draft Public Scoping Document
- Review Results of CAG Meeting #2 Break-Out Session
- Discuss Upcoming Public Scoping Meeting and Public Scoping Process

**2****Draft Public Scoping Document**

**Brian W. Boose, AECOM NEPA Team Leader**

- Status of the Public Scoping Document
- Detailed Review of “Pre-Public Release” Draft Public Scoping Document Content

**2****Draft Public Scoping Document****Resource Areas Evaluated**

- Land Use and Land Use Planning
- Visual Quality/Aesthetics
- Socioeconomics and Community/Population and Housing
- Environmental Justice
- Cultural and Historic Resources
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- Noise
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- Coastal Zone Management
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- Agricultural Resources and Prime Farmlands

**3****CAG Meeting #2 Break-Out Session Results****Michael Vecchio, HDR Senior Water Resources Engineer**

- Summarize input received from CAG (CAG Meeting #2)
  - Existing infrastructure mapping
  - Flood-prone areas within each town
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- Compare CAG input and existing data obtained to date
- Discuss path forward concerning use and application of these data



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## CAG Meeting #2 Workshop Results: Carlstadt

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## CAG Meeting #2 Workshop Results: Moonachie

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### CAG Meeting #2 Workshop Results: Little Ferry



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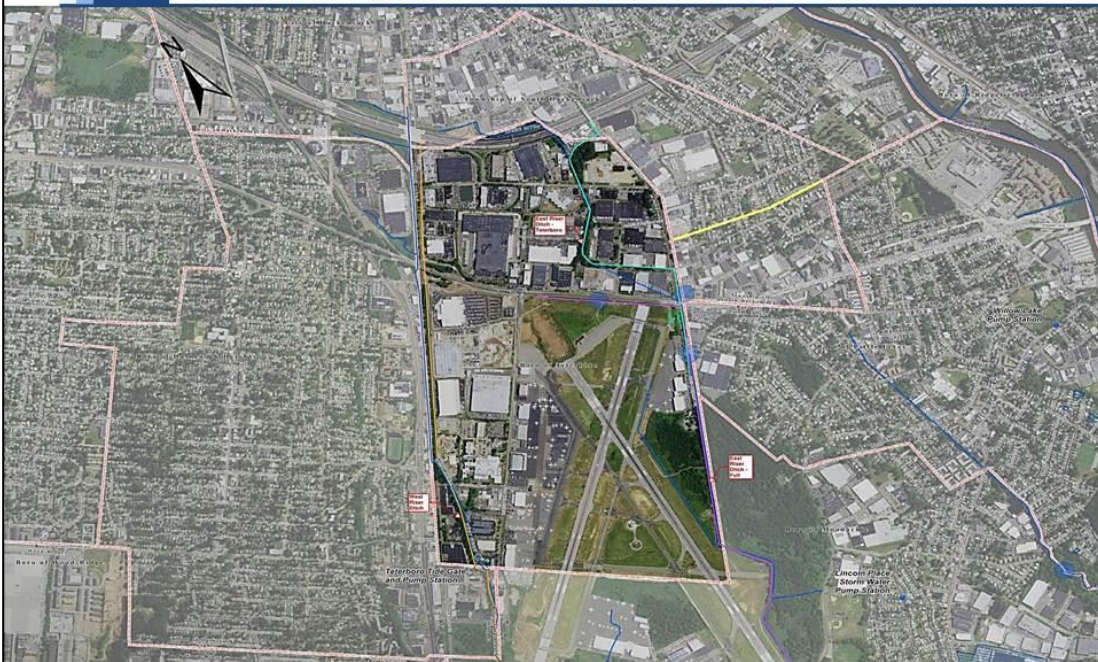


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### CAG Meeting #2 Workshop Results: Teterboro



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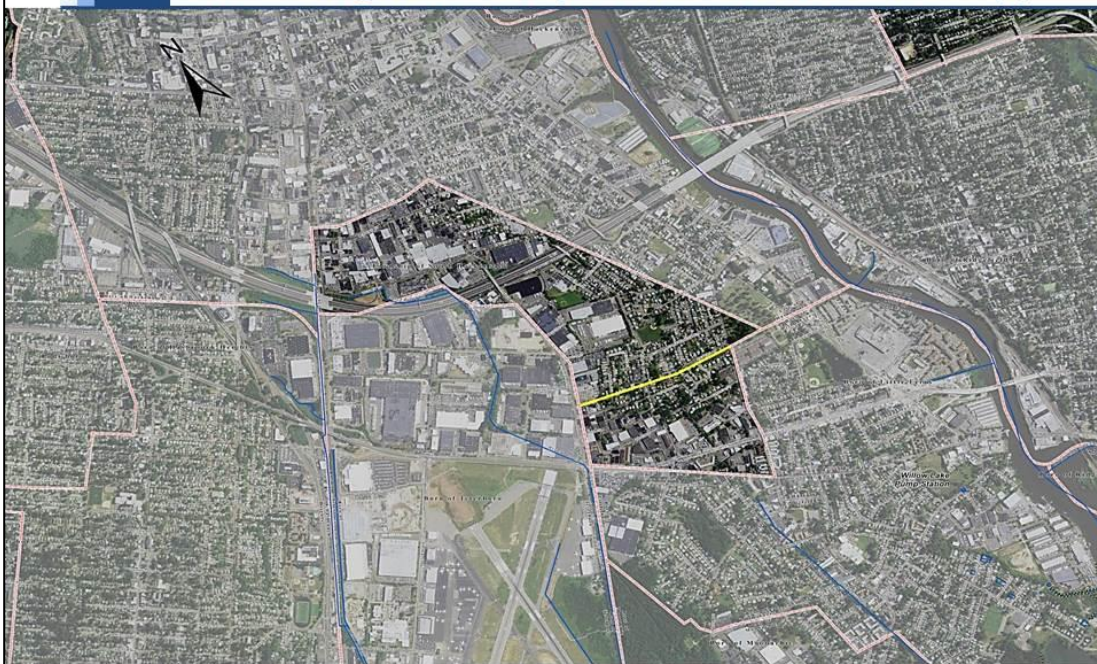
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## CAG Meeting #2 Workshop Results: South Hackensack (1)

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## CAG Meeting #2 Workshop Results: South Hackensack (2)

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## 4 Public Scoping Preparations

### **Brian W. Boose, AECOM NEPA Team Leader**

- Status of Notice of Intent
- Overview of Public Scoping Process
- Discuss Public Scoping Meeting venue and logistics

## 4 Next Steps

### **Linda Fisher, NJDEP Project Manager**

#### **NJDEP/AECOM Upcoming Activities**

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## 5 Next Steps

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**6****Questions and Answers****Open Group Discussion**

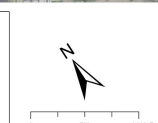
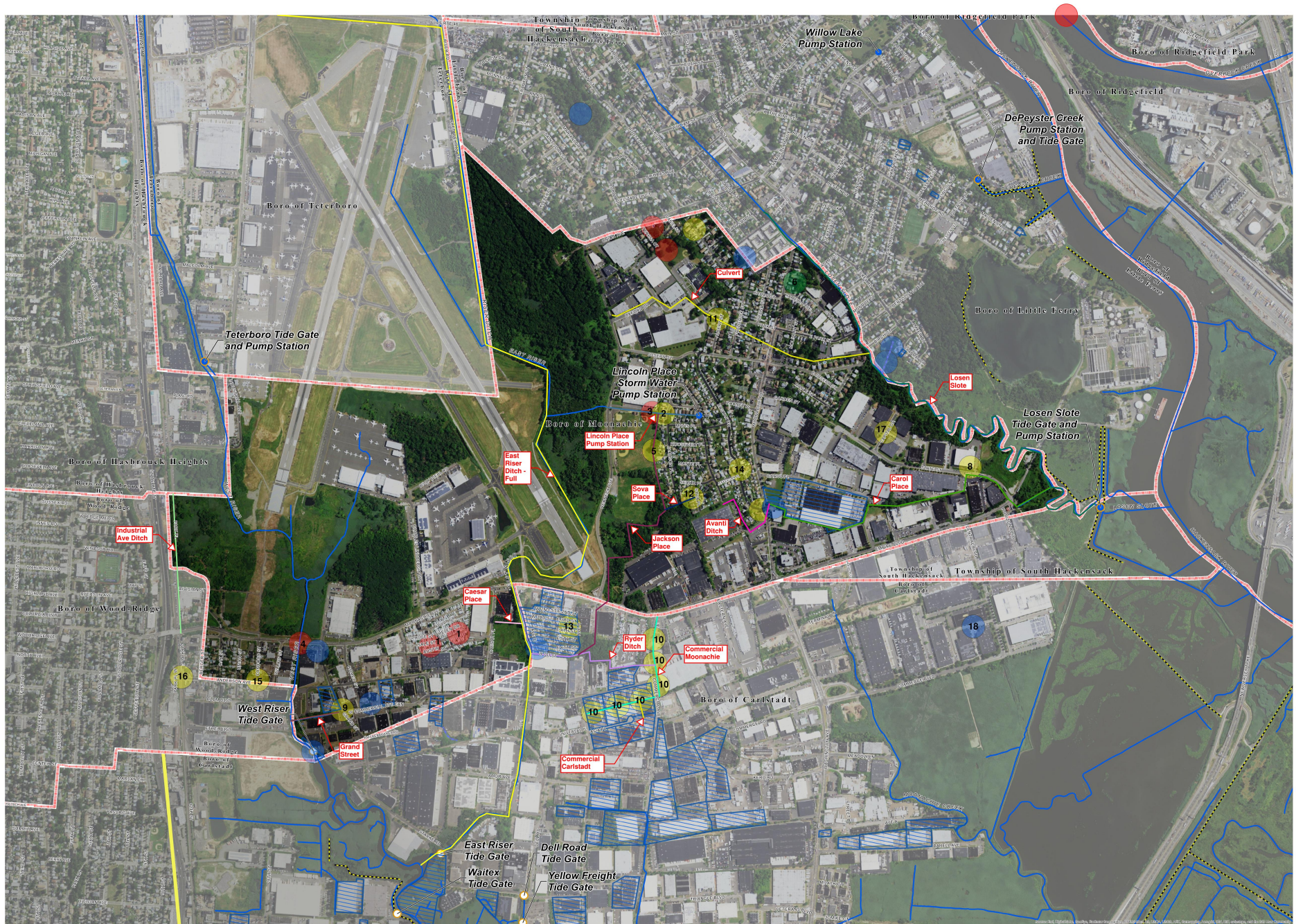
- Additional thoughts on the Break-Out Session from CAG Meeting #2
- Questions on Public Scoping Meeting and Process
- Next CAG Meeting logistics
- Other concerns and ideas

## 2.0 Municipality Exhibits from HDR



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**REBUILD BY DESIGN: MEADOWLANDS FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT**

**BORO OF MOONACHIE**

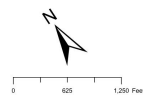
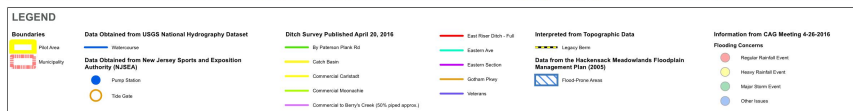
**FIGURE 1**

CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING



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**REBUILD BY DESIGN: MEADOWLANDS FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT**  
**BORO OF CARLSTADT**  
**FIGURE 2**  
**CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING**

DATE: 5/3/2016



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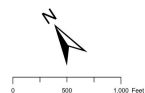
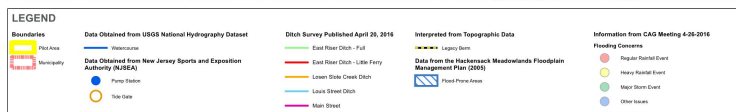






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## REBUILD BY DESIGN: MEADOWLANDS FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT

BORO OF LITTLE FERRY

FIGURE 4

CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING



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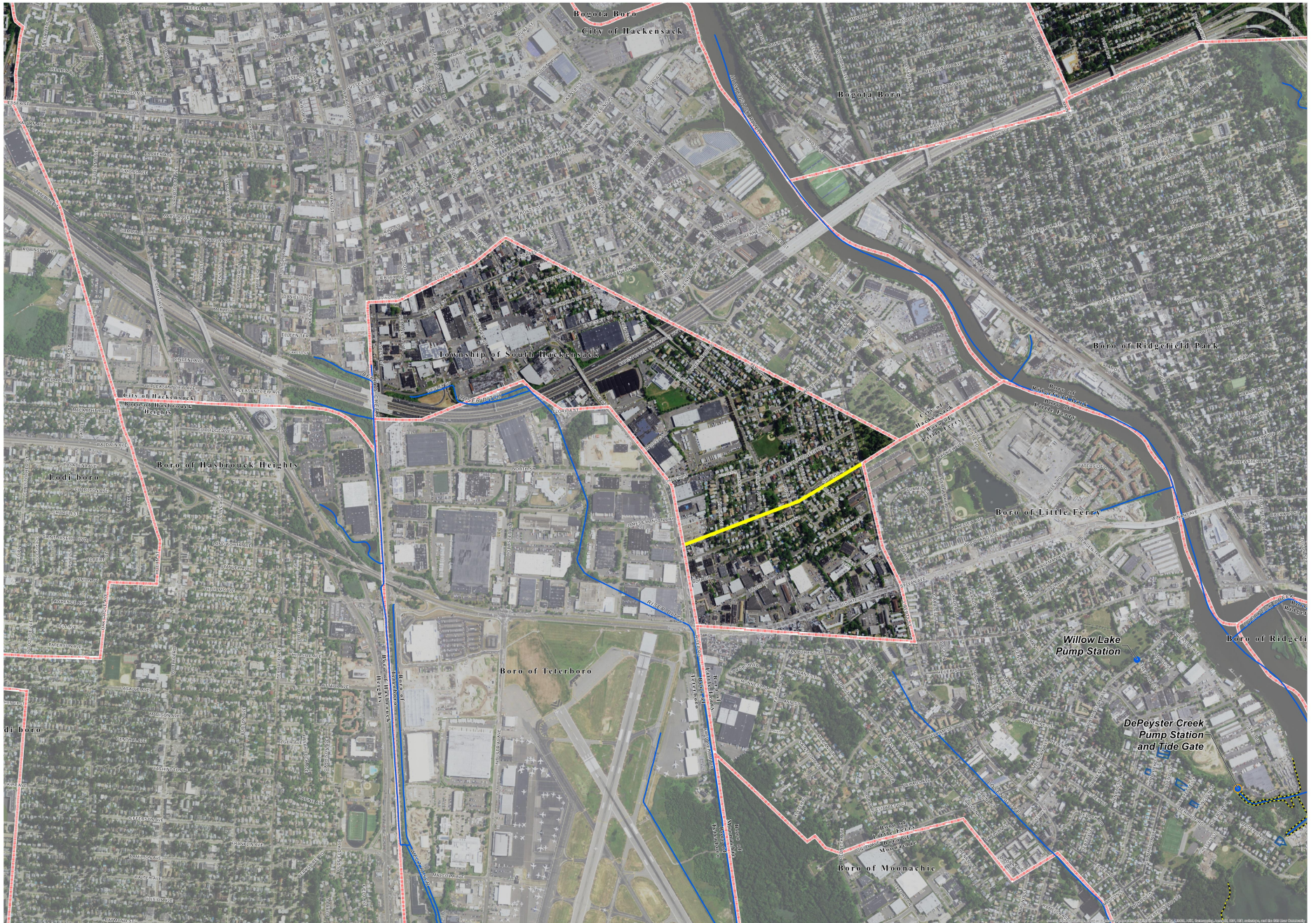


**REBUILD BY DESIGN: MEADOWLANDS FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT**  
**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HACKENSACK**  
**FIGURE 5**



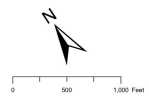
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**LEGEND**

<p><b>Boundaries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plot Area</li> <li>Municipality</li> </ul>	<p><b>Data Obtained from USGS National Hydrography Dataset</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watercourse</li> </ul>	<p><b>Interpreted from Topographic Data</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Levee Dam</li> <li>Flooded Areas</li> </ul>	<p><b>Information from CAG Meeting 4-28-2016</b></p> <p><b>Flooding Concerns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular Flood Event</li> <li>Heavy Flood Event</li> <li>Major Flood Event</li> <li>Other Issues</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pump Station</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pump Station</li> <li>Tide Gate</li> </ul>			



**REBUILD BY DESIGN: MEADOWLANDS FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT**  
**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH HACKENSACK**  
**FIGURE 6**  
 CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP MEETING



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### 3.0 Personal Notes

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, leaving small margins at the top and bottom. There are no vertical margin lines, and the page is completely blank except for the lines themselves.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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