



Climate Smart Planning

Kingston Waterfront Flooding Task Force

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Hudson River Estuary Program/Cornell WRI



NYS Department of Environmental Conservation



Outline

- What is Climate Smart Planning?
- How can it assist your process?
- Kingston's areas of strength
- Kingston's areas of opportunity for final recommendations



Kingston is piloting Climate Smart Planning for NYS DEC

Community Plan Checklist					
Plans, Ordinances, and Codes	Yes	No	Adoption Year	Update Frequency	Notes
Municipal Master Plan	X		1961		Kingston is currently working on a new comprehensive plan targeted to 2025. Timeline is not yet set.
Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan	X		2009	5 years	This plan is for Ulster County and is currently being updated and will be complete in 2014. The existing one implies that Kingston is not tidal.
Floodplain Management Plan		X			There is flood hazard overlay district (2009) within city zoning ordinance, sec 405-26.
Evacuation Plan		X			Ulster County has a detour evacuation route plan that mostly covers major highways. It is an annex to the county CEMP.
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	X			3 Years	Kingston is currently updating this plan.
Continuity of Operations Plan		X			



The process requires engagement from municipal decision-makers

- Mark Brown, Fire Chief
- Sue Cahill, Planning
- Julie Noble, Parks & Recreation
- Steve Noble, Parks & Recreation
- Art Snyder, Emergency Manager for UC
- Gregg Swanzey, Economic Development
- Ralph Swenson, City Engineer
- Egidio Tinti, Police Chief



This assessment can assist the Flooding Task Force in completing initial objectives

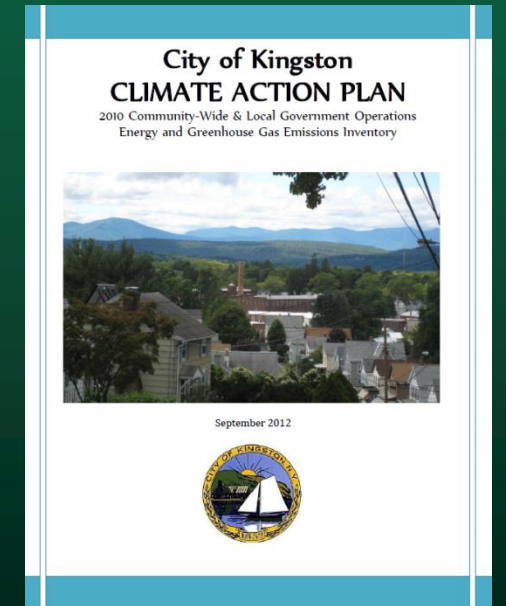
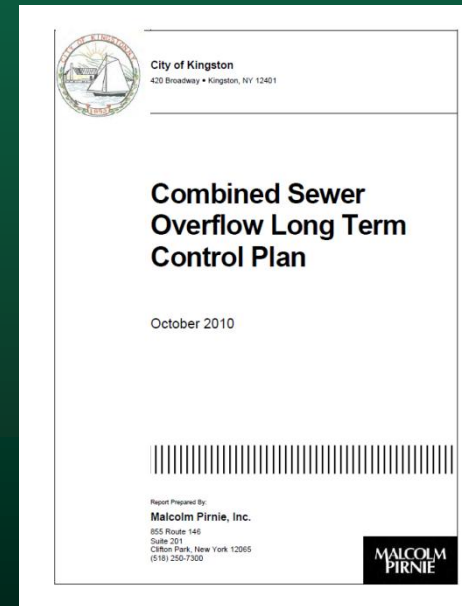
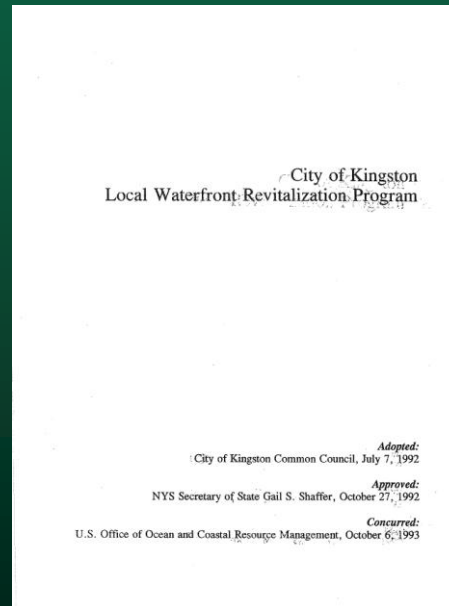
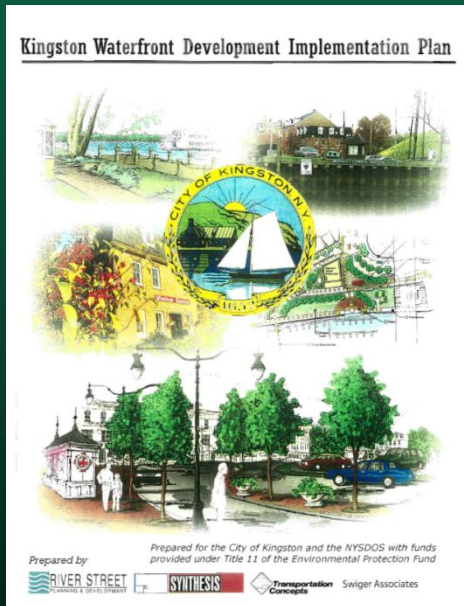
- “Identify overlaps, minimize conflicts and enhance opportunities...
- ...be cognizant of overall communication and coordination...
- ...don’t duplicate, learn from other processes.”



Consider integrating key opportunities in final recommendations to the city



Kingston has many strengths in terms of planning

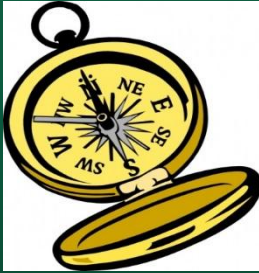


Multiple activities illustrate Kingston's commitment to its waterfront

- Kingston Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (2012)
- Stormwater Ordinance and Flood Overlay Zone
- Waterfront Brownfield Opportunity Area Study (2010)
- Tidal Rondout Creek Watershed Management Plan (in process)
- East Strand Street Flooding and Stormwater Management Analysis (in process)
- Harbor Management Plan (in process)
- Natural Resources Inventory / Open Space Plan (in process)
- Parks & Rec Master Plan (in process)
- GEIS for Brownfields along the Rondout (in process)
- Hudson Landing AVR Promenade - \$5.8M cost (NYS funding of \$1.2 M)
- Waterfront Rail Refurbishment Grant
- WWTP FEMA Sandy Mitigation ~\$2M



Three areas of opportunities for Kingston to incorporate flood-preparedness



Planning



Zoning, building codes and regulation



Outreach and collaboration





Shorter term opportunities for Kingston Planning

- Set goal for flood resilience in the Kingston 2025 Plan & more
- Incorporate climate resilience into dept. capital improvements
- Incorporate findings into plans in process





Shorter term opportunities for Kingston **Planning**

- Add sea-level rise and emergency debris removal to new CEMP
- Finalize the Stormwater Management Plan
- Use Rondout stream gauge





Shorter term opportunities for Kingston Zoning, building codes, and regulation

- Revise zoning in Kingston 2025
- Reduce the impact of increasing flood insurance rates





Shorter term opportunities for Kingston **Outreach and collaboration**

- Share risk assessments and findings
- Take advantage of training and tools
- Improve public outreach
- Consider installing more high-water-mark signs





Long-term opportunities for Kingston **Planning**

- Create a city-wide Capital Improvement Plan
- Develop mitigation priorities for all flood-prone areas
- Incorporate flood risks into asset management





Long-term opportunities for Kingston **Planning**

- Identify areas city-wide for adaptation of assets
- Support a new economic development plan or strategy
- Support an organizational framework to assess damage





Long-term opportunities for Kingston **Zoning, building codes, and regulation**

- Revise local building codes to increase flood resilience
- Require property owners to improve flood resilience above FEMA





Long-term opportunities for Kingston
Outreach and collaboration

- Ensure city staff understand the risks fully
- Collaborate to improve ability to plan for coastal hazards



Thank
you.

Libby Murphy

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