

FIMI Stakeholders Call Held February 4, 2016 MINUTES Sent 3-6-16

Members of the FIMI Project Team on the call: NYSDEC (Sue McCormick, Andy Fera, Eric Star, Lynn Lindskoog); US Army Corps of Engineers (Anthony Ciorra, Frank Verga, Lynn Bocamazo, Robert Vohden); and Suffolk County (Gil Anderson, Gail Lolis, Bob Whalen, Diane Zielenski)

The following representatives were on the call:

- Elected Officials: none
- National Park Service: Chris Soller
- Town of Brookhaven: none
- Fire Island Emergency Services: Vern Hendrickson
- Year-Around Residents Association: Dawn Lippert
- Communities: Those who indicated they were on the call were: Mario Posillico (Saltaire); Gene Levy (Fair Harbor); Ken Cohen (Dunewood); Pete Clock and Jessie Ostrow (Lonelyville); Jay Van Cott (Atlantique); Alan Altman (Robbins Rest); Chris Dunworth (Summer Club); Don Sussman (Corneille); Peter Gelsomine (Ocean Beach); Suzy Goldhirsch and Tom Ruskin (Seaview); Karen Kee (Ocean Bay Park); Jeff DeJarnette (Point O Woods); and Jayne Robinson and John Lund (Davis Park).

Please let Sue McCormick know if anyone was omitted from this list at susan.mccormick@dec.ny.gov.

Stated purpose for the call: To provide a general update on the status of the FIMI Project in the 17 communities including technical, real estate and schedule information. Allow communities to ask questions that are related to the whole Project that all would be interested in hearing. Ensure that everyone is getting the latest and same information at the same time.

What the call is not for: Discussion of issues that are specific to a given community. Specific issues can be emailed to Sue McCormick and we will contact that community to address their specific concerns and issues.

General:

The County's FIMI website can be found at www.suffolkcountyny.gov/fimi

Please note that as the project is designed and the real estate is obtained that ALL SCHEDULES, PLANS, PROCEDURES, PROCESSES, PLACEMENT LOCATIONS, AND THE ORDER OF WORK ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. WHAT IS STATED ON A CALL OR PROVIDED IN THE MINUTES FOR A CALL CAN CHANGE AT ANY TIME.

Project overview and status: [NOTE: Some information given on the call has been updated to reflect changes in the last few weeks.]

- Status of the 8 contracts within FIMI:

Contract 1: SPCP: Dredging is ongoing. As of 3/2/16: 1,840,000 of 2,210,000 CY have been placed.

Contract 2: The contractor is done placing sand in Saltaire and the dredge has left the area but is expected back in early March. There is ~370,000 CY of sand left to be placed in RMSP. The vehicle crossover in Kismet will be completed March 7th. Beach grass planting started in Feb. at the Lighthouse and is now complete in Kismet and Saltaire. Dune crossover construction will start the week of March 7th starting at the Lighthouse and moving east. As of 2/26/16: 1,378,000 of 1,742,000 CY have been placed. (I reported 1,476,000 CY had been placed on the last call.

That was not placed quantity but dredged quantity which is always higher than what is placed.)

Question: Is it a contract violation that Great Lakes left the area before they were done?

Response: The Corps is working on it. Great Lakes intends to be back to meet their contract end date of April 1st. Great Lakes has hired a subcontractor to do the crossover work.

Contract 3A: Fair Harbor to Seaview – all aspects of work. Removal of the groins in Ocean Beach was discussed. Frank explained why the work is not a component of FIMI, but will be included in the larger FIMP report which is due out in a few months.

Contract 3B1: OBP to DP sand placement and dune crossover work.

Contract 3B2: OBP to DP civil work including relocations, deck/pool/crossover/wall removals and access to Cayuga Ave in OBP

Contract 3C: Relocation of Ocean Beach well field – deBruin is working on the design. The survey work has been completed.

Contract 3D: Relocation of Traffic Avenue water line in OBP - deBruin is working on the design and has met with the Suffolk County Water Authority.

Contract 3E: Demolition contract

- Dune crossovers: Status of 3A: Done.

Status of 3B: The Corps is currently conducting topographic surveys of each crossover location. (Beach surveys have been completed.) Once we have that information (early April), Andy will reach out to community leaders to start discussions on crossover locations and sizes. I have received inquiries about the standard design sizes and whether a community can request something different. The Team has decided that a few more “standard” designs can be accommodated. Andy will reach out to each community to see what their preferences are. We will be adding the following at a minimum:

Non-ADA Crossovers: 5 foot wide walking width with 5 foot walking width for stairs on both ends.

Non-ADA Crossovers and ADA Crossovers: 6 foot wide walking width with 6 foot walking width for stairs on both ends and on the switchbacks and ramps that are sloped to meet existing elevation. Landing platforms will be 6 feet wide by 5 feet long.

- Mobi-mats: will be used between dune crossover demolition and reconstruction to allow foot traffic across the new dune.

- General engineering: The proposal for the construction of the new water mains and the revised access to Cayuga Ave in Ocean Bay Park have been approved by the Corps and assigned to deBruin. Engineering work has begun. The proposal for the Ocean Beach well field relocation is still being developed.

- Engineering for 3A: Plans and specs are complete for the 4 deck removals, 1 septic removal, 1 house demolition and 1 house relocation. Permits have been obtained and appraisals approved for the 4 decks. We do not have the permits for the septic removal and house relocation. The variance application for the house relocation has been approved by DEC. The permit for the septic work is being worked on with Suffolk County Health Dept. The Corps contractor will do all of the removal, demolition and relocation work.

- Engineering for 3B: Suffolk County's engineer has visited all parcels and completed their site inspections. The preliminary plans for modifications or relocations of decks, pools, houses and septic are complete. Meetings and conference calls with owners have begun with the Fire Island Pines owners. Requests to meet are currently being extended to Davis Park owners. If the owners are in agreement, the plans will then begin going through the approval process with the DEC, Corps and Town. Once they are in their final stage, permits will be applied for.

We do not have a sequence for the work in the other contracts (#3C, 3D, 3E) yet as we are concentrating on getting Contract #3A to bid as soon as possible.

- Status of the Corps plans and specs for Contract 3A: 99% complete.

Question: Can local contractors bid on these contracts?

Response: The contracts are unrestricted, but the contractors need to meet the qualifications and be bonded. They can be a large or small business. If they have done other federal work, it is likely they will be able to bid on this.

Question: What contract challenges do we face?

Response: We need to make the plans and specs sturdy so they are easily understood and are standardized to minimize issues. We work to avoid those situations.

Real estate update:

- Kismet and Saltaire: Complete.

- Status of RE in 3A: The initial EDPL filing was made February 3rd with 45 parcels in it. They were all vested by the Court on February 24th. The one fee also closed on the 24th. The second EDPL filing was made, requisite publications and postings are complete and it is returnable before the Court on March 16th. We anticipate all required real estate for 3A will be done by the end of March.

- Status of RE in 3B: Appraisals are rolling in for those parcels where no engineering work is required. As the County completes their review, they are being forwarded to the Corps for approval. Once approved, offers will be made.

Note: Many of the fee acquisitions in Ocean Bay Park are being represented by condemnation counsel. Of those, five have jumped to voluntary actions which means we now have more voluntary actions than EDPL.

Schedule update: ALL SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. – It is impossible to predict all possible issues that may arise that could change the schedule.

Contract 3A:

Corps pre-advertises (a notification that a contract is coming out) DONE March 4, 2016

County obtains all real estate by end of March

NYS certify real estate to the Corps end of March

Corps advertises the contract for bid after real estate is certified

Corps opens bids late April

Corps awards contract in May

Work starts June depending on contractor's equipment schedule

Question: Why do you have to wait until after real estate is certified to advertise the contract? Response: We can't presume the outcome of the EDPL parcels in advance of the court's decision and therefore have to have all the EDPL actions complete prior to bidding the work.

Contract 3B: No schedule at the moment because the engineering and appraisal work in 3B is ten-fold that of 3A and there is a long way to go.

Contract 3C, 3D and 3E: no schedule until engineering work is done

Reponses to Questions from January 14th call that were not provided in the minutes:

There was a question regarding irrigation systems for the new dune. The Corps will not be installing irrigations systems. DEC has never received a permit application for an irrigation system in the dune even though we know they exist. A concern we have is that they could promote the use of non-native species which require fresh water to survive.

Non-native species may also promote the use of fertilizers. Irrigation systems that are applied for as a stand-alone system would be prohibited by CEHA regulations and therefore would have to go to variance. If it was a component of a larger dune restoration program, it *may* be considered a permissible item as dune restoration is a permissible activity.

There was a request for the dune crossover structure plans sheets, both pedestrian and vehicle. The Corps is revising these designs based on comment and review and they will be sent to the Stakeholders as soon as they are completed.

Questions: Please keep questions to those that relate to the entire Project. Please email community specific questions to Sue McCormick. If we can't answer a question on the call, we will try to answer it in the minutes; if not, then on the next call. There will be typed minutes of the call so all have the same information in writing which will be distributed as quickly as we can.

Question #1: The Great Lakes dredge has left and the new vehicle crossover at Kismet needs to be done as people are driving over the new dune. Can snow fencing be put up to demark the crossover area? The internal traffic is terrible.

Response #1: Yes. They Corps put up sand fencing to preserve the dune.

Question #2: When will the beach front be open to traffic? Can you put a Mobi-mat over the vehicle crossover?

Response #2: We are waiting for Great Lakes to tell us when they will have their subcontractors lined up to start the work. The crossover will be gravel with geotextile under it with split rail fencing along the sides like Westhampton Dunes has. A Mobi-mat would not be appropriate. UPDATE: The vehicle crossover will be completed March 7th and open to traffic.

Question #3: There is an issue with the Ocean Beach groins. They are so exposed that traffic cannot pass them on the beach, it has to take the internal route. Will the Corps fix the problem and remove the groins?

Response #3: The removal of the groins is not an authorized part of the FIMI project. This work is authorized for the larger FIMP project. The FIMP report is due out in a few months.

Question #4: The Mobi-mats look like a good idea, however they cannot be placed perpendicular to the dune as it would be too steep. Can they be angled to accommodate the grades?

Response #4: Yes. The process will be: removal of existing crossover structure, placement of sand, install Mobi-mat, remove Mobi-mat and build new crossover. The specification is being prepared that will outline this process for the contractor. The Mobi-mats will be placed at an angle to limit the grades.

Question #5: Will house relocations be done over the summer? Is it OK to plan to rent for the summer?

Response #5: No, first we will have to certify real estate for Contract #3B which will not happen until fall, then a contract will have to be awarded before the work can begin. It is OK to plan to rent for the summer.

Question #6: We have a lot of questions about the easements. When will we get answers?

Response #6: As soon as we get approved appraisals, the offers will go out and owners will be able to call their County acquisition agent.

Question #7: Why are there going to be concrete footings on the seaward side of the dune crossover structures? It seems like they would be a hazard and subject to erosion.

Response #7: The Corps is changing the design. The footings will be made of wood.

Question #8: Why is FEMA not coming back?

Response #8: Once the Project Partnership Agreement was executed between the Corps and State, this became a Corps project and as such is no longer eligible for FEMA funding. Communities cannot “double-dip” in the federal money pot.

Question #9: Has the Corps done any current profiles on the beach in Davis Park? Matt Miner from the Town of Brookhaven is looking for the information.

Response #9: There may have been some in the winter of 2014-15. Additionally, the Corps surveyor has just recently completed all the profiles for Contract #3B. Matt and Lynn B. have connected and information has been exchanged.