



New York – New Jersey  
Harbor & Estuary Program

# CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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of the New York – New Jersey  
Harbor & Estuary Program  
[www.HarborEstuary.org](http://www.HarborEstuary.org)

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## NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

October 26, 2015  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Newark, NJ

### MINUTES

#### 1. Introductions

Rob Buchanan welcomed everyone and all attendees introduced themselves.

#### 2. CCMP Revision and Action Agenda

**Rob Pirani** discussed the role of the CAC for this process, including involvement in the listening sessions and solicited input on the format of these. The listening sessions could be geographically focused or topically focused but there should be a common format with a pre-defined set of questions. It was acknowledged that there will be overlap in regions and topics.

#### Action item:

- **HEP will distribute list of groups that should be involved in the process**
- **HEP will develop draft formats for listening sessions**
- **HEP will request input from all CAC members on the key questions and drivers for these sessions**

#### 3. Update on plastics legislation, the oyster bill and LTCP/CSO progress in NJ

**Meredith Comi** shared that there was a hearing on the microbeads ban legislation called the microbead-free waters act.

There was a bill to overturn the oyster ban in NJ which passed, but with amendments that continue to severely limit research. The CAC could send a letter to the Christie administration to voice the fact that NJ is lagging far behind other states in oyster research.

The NJ implementation of LTCPs/CSOs is progressing very well. Baykeeper is monitoring facility discharge monitoring reports (DMRs) and quarterly reports.

#### 4. Update on MS4 progress in NYC

**Shino Tanikawa** provided an update of the city's development and implementation of the new MS4 permit. The plan will take 3 years to develop and will include public involvement and education and outreach as part of the process. Roughly one-third of the city is affected by this permit.

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#### Citizens Advisory Committee Co-Chairs

Meredith Comi, NY/NJ Baykeeper ✧ [meredith@nynjbaykeeper.org](mailto:meredith@nynjbaykeeper.org) ✧ 732-888-9870  
Rob Buchanan, Village Community Boathouse ✧ [avironvoile@gmail.com](mailto:avironvoile@gmail.com) ✧ 917-656-7285

## 5. HEP updates

### a. Citizen science and litter survey project

*Ariane Giudicelli* provided an update on the citizen science pathogens indicator sampling project that will be funded in 2016 and the litter survey project that HEP is partnering with NYCDEP and PVSC on.

### b. Public access

*Kate Boicourt* presented the initial results of the public access assessment and next steps.

## 6. Report-in from CAC members and general questions

*Bart Chezar* announced that there will be an event at Bush Terminal Park on November 22<sup>nd</sup> in order to develop stewardship to help maintain and plant the area of native maritime forest.

*Lauren Elachi* briefly discussed her involvement in some projects at SCAPE, including the living breakwaters off the south shore of Staten Island, which are slated to be completed in 2019. She would like to be involved in progress on Harbor-wide restoration efforts in order to compare methodologies.

*Bob Alpern* inquired as to the status of the NY state climate risk and resiliency act.

The meeting was adjourned around 12:00 PM.

### ATTENDEES

Robert Alpern  
Kate Boicourt, NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program  
Nancy Brous, NYC Water Trail Association  
Rob Buchanan, Village Community Boathouse  
Bart Chezar, Gowanus Dredgers Canoe Club  
Meredith Comi, NY/NJ Baykeeper  
Michelle Doran-McBean, Future City Inc. (by phone)  
Lauren Elachi, SCAPE Landscape Architecture  
Maggie Flanagan, Waterfront Alliance  
Ariane Giudicelli, NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program  
Rob Laumbach, Rutgers School of Public Health  
Harvey Morginstin, Passaic River Boat Club  
Robert Pirani, NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program  
Manuel Russ, Concerned Citizens of Bensonhurst  
Clay Sherman, NJ DEP DWM  
Shino Tanikawa, NY Soil & Water Conservation District  
Nellie Tsipoura, NJ Audubon Society (by phone)  
Rick Winfield, EPA Region 2