VECAN Conference 12/6/14

Waterbury, Vermont:

A Case Study in Local Flood Resiliency Projects

On August 28, 2011
Tropical Storm Irene,
290 miles wide, swept
up the East Coast and
across Vermont
dropping up to 11
inches of water.



I was the chair of the select board....

...and led our longterm recovery efforts

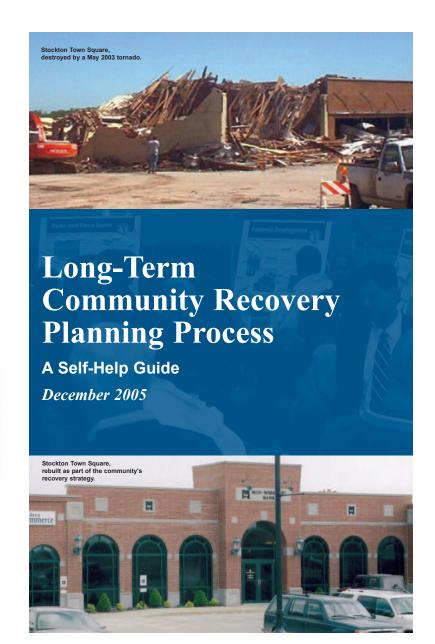




In November 2011, three months after Tropical Storm Irene, Waterbury initiated planning for Long Term Community Recovery.



Waterbury received support from FEMA to conduct a long-term planning process, available to any community in this self-help guide.



Waterbury LTCR Projects 2012

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The final plan included 22 projects in six sector areas.

Each
project had
its own
project
champion
and
institutional
partner.

Community members voted on the projects and the select board and trustees ranked them.

	Low Flood Recovery Value	Medium Flood Recovery Value	High Flood Recovery Value
High Community Interest	Little River Connector Trail (76)	Bike/Ped Wayfinding Trail (111) Arts Center (77)	New muni offices & library (162) Housing (140) Business Resource Ctr (90) Flood study (83) Sewer pump station (77) 51 So. Main Street Village police hqtrs.
Medium Community Interest	Food System Dvlp (68) Dac Rowe Field (54)	Image Building (60) Distributed Energy (58) Ctr for Resilient Tech (54)	Emergency Generators (56)
Low Community Interest	Transportation (45) Recreation Director (34) Recreation Master Plan (24)	Municipal Staff/Econ Dvlp (28)	Human Servs. & Childcare (44)



Emergency Power Program

The Town and Village obtained:

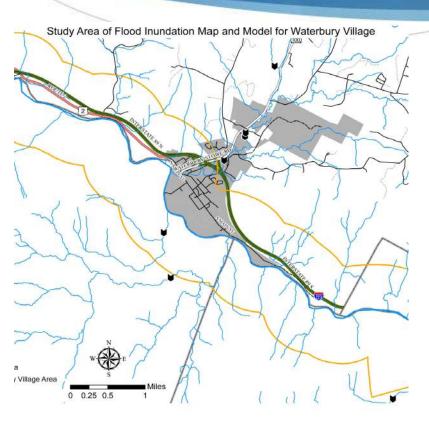


- ♦ \$46,000 HMGP grant for emergency shelter generator (\$46,000 match from town budget)
- ▶ \$115,000 State CDBG-DR to flood proof wastewater pump station



Flood studies

The Regional Planning Commission helped with:



- \$30,000 flood plain study funded by Town, State and utility (3-way split)
- \$3 million HMGP application to connect flood plains
- \$100,000 LiDAR mapping study funded by State CDBG-DR



Flood studies

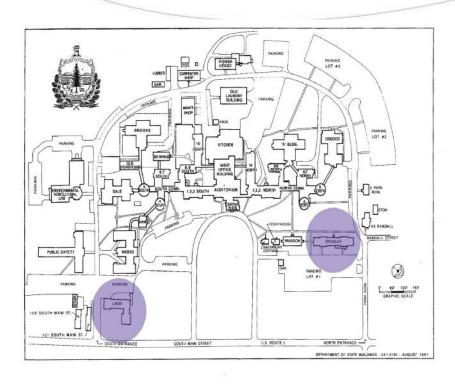


Town, with support of regional planning commission, sought:

- \$500,000 (est.) HMGP pilot program to elevate 5 residences in flood plain, submitted by town in November 2013. Still waiting for response.
- ▶ \$30,000 Vermont Ecosystem Restoration Grant to map the fluvial erosion hazard zone.
- Lake Champlain Basin Grant to study cost-effectiveness of flood resiliency, won by local consultant Milone & MacBroom.



Affordable Housing Development



Central Vermont Community Land Trust championed a 27unit affordable housing project in building formerly part of State Office Complex.

- \$650,000 VHCB
- \$400,000 Local money
- \$950,000 CDBG-DR grant
- Federal tax credits



Childcare Center



Waterbury's Hunger Mountain Childcare Center led a project to re-develop property at State Office Complex that it had formerly leased.

• \$450,000 State CDBG-DR grant



Construct New Municipal Complex





- \$4 million bond vote passed in March 2014 (after a failed vote in June 2013) for new municipal offices and expanded library.
- ♦ \$1 million State CDBG-DR grant will help supplement these funds.



Recreation Programs



Town advocated for recreation and transportation alternatives:

- ▶ \$18,000 town budget for part-time recreation director.
- ♦ \$30,000 State CDBG-DR grant to study feasibility of mountain bike connection trail.



Assistant Municipal Planner



To expand capacity, the town also sought:

- Long term recovery director, funded by \$118,000 EDA grant (18 month duration).
- ♦ VISTA volunteer who could assist town planner with grant applications and flood mapping projects. (3 year duration, local cost \$7,000 per year).

Irene became an opportunity for improvement:

- Smart growth in downtown areas
- Emergency preparedness
- Floodplain connectivity