



Building Community Resiliency

HOW DO WE MAKE IT HAPPEN?

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Leadership Critical



- Elected officials important but staff leadership key.
- Staff must “have religion” – new thinking must permeate all we do on behalf of our communities.
- Local “Sustainability Committees” can only do so much – need staff committed support.

CEO Needs to Take the Lead



- CEO's passion and commitment required.
- Essential to assemble internal cross-functional work team
- In Hanover's case: Public Works, Police, Fire, Planning, Zoning, Building, Health and Administration
- Must all row in the same direction.
- No departmental "silo thinking" allowed.
- Department staff must "get religion" – paying lip service will NOT suffice.

Education of Officials



- Elected officials and volunteer board members – educate early and often.
- Incorporate the resiliency piece in everything they touch regarding infrastructure, services, resources, budgeting and planning.
- Cost-benefit analysis is key to bring the non-believers under the tent.

Gathering Community Support



- Infrastructure investment – right-sizing, updating, replacing, reinforcing
- Energy efficiency and cost-benefit analysis
- Neighborhood education
- Planning Board education
- Institution education
- Developer & Contractor education
- Business community education – Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Business Associations

Why Seek Resiliency – The Argument

1. Reduce potential for injury and death
2. Mitigate infrastructure risk
3. Sound investment – cost-benefit works
4. Protect the environment
5. Insure more rapid storm recovery
6. Advance sustainability goals
7. Reduce dependence on foreign energy
8. In Hanover – because revenge is sweet; never underestimate value of timing!

