WHAT DOES ADAPTATION LOOK LIKE?

KEVIN GEIGER, AICP CFM
SENIOR PLANNER, TWO RIVERS-OTTAUQUECHEE REGIONAL COMMISSION
STAYING OUT OF THE WAY

- Flood Regulations
- FEMA Flood Maps
STAYING OUT OF THE WAY

- Riverine Erosion Regulations
- River Corridors
- Simple Stream Setbacks
GETTING OUT OF THE WAY
(BEST BAD OPTION)

Flood Buyouts

- 75% $ - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- 25% $ - Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR)
- 150 properties
- About 30 Million Dollars
PROS/CONS OF BUYOUTS

PROS
• Permanent Risk Reduction for Owner
• Less Financial Loss
• Increased Flood Channel
• No Future Responder Threat
• Better Water Quality

CONS
• Loss of Tax Base
• Long Process
• Paperwork Nightmare
• Only Funded During Disasters
Removal of fuel tanks as part of site assessment and cleanup and site with erosion control going into place on final grade.
CULVERTS, GO BIG OR GODOWN THE BROOK

ONE OF THE MAIN THREATS OF CLIMATE CHANGE TO TOWNS IS FLOODS OVERWHELMING DRAINAGE STRUCTURES

• HMGP FUNDABLE WITH DATA
• OTHER FUNDING SOURCES
• NEEDS LOCAL MATCH
CAPITAL BUDGETING

Basic Tool to Meet Future Needs With Steady Funding

Annual Spending vs Capital Reserve Funding

[Graph showing annual spending compared to capital reserve funding over 10 years]
Title 24 § 4430

- “(a) A capital budget shall list and describe the capital projects to be undertaken during the coming fiscal year, the estimated cost of those projects, and the proposed method of financing. A capital program is a plan of capital projects proposed to be undertaken during each of the following five years, the estimated cost of those projects, and the proposed method of financing.”

We suggest going out to ten years to help smooth costs.
CRAWL BEFORE YOU RUN

• Start simple
• Add a few things each year
• Don’t sweat the dinky stuff (<$5,000)
• Good project for Planning Commission in “off” years
• Delegate parts to relevant departments
• Auditors or Budget Committee can help out
• Can operate on a cash basis from annual appropriations or be sustained through reserve accounts that help to levelize costs
EXAMPLE

MANY ROAD PROJECTS WITH VARIOUS COSTS CAN BE SPREAD ACROSS YEARS SUCH THAT THE ANNUAL COST IS ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT.

THEN A ROUND FIGURE THAT WILL HIT MOST OF THAT COST CAN BE PUT IN THE BUDGET.

THIS ANSWERS THE “HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH THAT?” ISSUE.

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