

TOWN OF ESOPUS
ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES – May 15, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Ellison, Chairman
Susan Barbarisi
Susan Leiching
Don Carragher

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Laurie Sheridan
Cynthia McVay
Karen Helgers

ALSO PRESENT:

Supervisor Shannon Harris
Confidential Secretary Karen Winkle-Gorsline
Town Councilman Jared Geuss
Legislator Laura Petit
Dan Valentine, Tighe & Bond
Building Inspector Salvatore Morello, III,
Outreach Coordinator Alex Dean

Stormwater Task Force

Chairman Mark Ellison commenced the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:30 p.m. and introduced Dan Valentine and Ryan Morrison of Tighe & Bond who thereafter provided a power point presentation detailing their field studies and assessments. (Annexed hereto and made a part hereof). Various members of the community were present and some had taken part in the discussions with Dan Valentine during the site visits. Harry VanVliet recounted his property issues relative to poor drainage. Supervisor Harris emphasized that the existing infrastructures have been in place for a long time and although frustrating not to be able to get immediate assistance in certain circumstances, it was progress to be able to have the Town conduct the study and prioritize areas in need. The Town is striving to budget over time to address troubles and encourage individuals to reach out to the Highway Department as well. Jared Geuss inquired as to what the next step would be. Dan Valentine responded that they would now be putting together the Capital Improvement Plan. Supervisor Harris recommended that if Tighe & Bond met with Highway Superintendent Cafaldo, they may want to have Town Board present as well.

Chairman Ellison announced that the next meeting of the Stormwater Task Force would be on June 19, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting concluded at 6:21 p. m.

Regular Business of Environmental Board – Commenced at 7:02 p.m.

Old Business:

Michael Creeden was introduced as a person with interest in becoming a member and provided a brief background history of his experience in stormwater treatment devices. Introductions went around the table with Alex Dean providing his card and explanation of his duties as Outreach Coordinator with the Town of Esopus.

Chairman called for a Motion to approve the Minutes. Upon Motion of Susan Leiching, seconded by Susan Barbarisi, the minutes were approved 4-0 as corrected.

Membership Status: Mark noted that there were two (2) positions available on the Environmental Board with the resignation of Francesca Sansone and read her letter to the members.

UC Environmental Management Council update: Laura Petit provided an update relative to Ulster County plastic bag ban and what process would be. A marketer had been hired to put together a comprehensive pamphlet and get the information out. Ulster County Legislature was next putting forth a draft resolution to ban or require request for use of single use straws.

CPC Update: Hamlet meetings in Esopus and Rifton were held to capture additional concerns of residents of the Hamlets which may not have been captured previously and adoption date of CPC had been extended until June.

Earth Day Re-usable Bag Distribution Summary: Mark Ellison, Susan Barbarisi, Kathy Quick and Susan Leiching were stationed at the Library to distribute approximately 115 re-usable bags. Small pine trees were also distributed.

New Business:

Carex Frankii Survey (aka Frank's Sedge) to take place in July and to identify rare plant being monitored by the NYS DEC. Last year a possible increase seemed to have taken place. The survey needs to be done prior to the Right-of-way of gas line being mowed. Mark Ellison bringing paperwork to June meeting to show what is required to be completed for the survey.

Compost Campaign – Laura Petit may be conducting campaign and noted that this was actually an “actions step” to earn points for the CSC. The thought was to provide “Composting 101” workshop and providing a compost bin for individuals participating. They were looking to purchase 35 bins to distribute at a workshop location to be determined.

Mark Ellison provided Natural Resource Inventory created by Ingrid Haeckel which qualified for points under PE 6.17. Interns from Cornell University had conducted survey in 2016 (referenced in the Comprehensive Plan) which qualified for CSC certification points.

Climate Smart Task Force – Commenced at 8:00 p.m.

CSTF Chair Don Carragher had asked everyone to visit the Climate Smart Communities website to review and familiarize themselves with navigating same. The Climate Smart Communities Certification Action Checklist was circulated and shared with Michael Creeden for review and determination as to what items had been completed. Don Carragher noted that this was a work in progress and does change periodically. He noted that this task force was responsible for looking at the certification process for the CSC matrix and points to take action on. He asked that members take on task(s) of interest to them. Laura Petit needed to obtain access to portal previously available to Stephanie Irwin to allow her to be able to enter data as provided by members. Members pulled out actions in the checklist which they would collect information on.

NEXT ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING: June 19, 2019

The meeting ended at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, May 29, 2019

Approved: June 19, 2019

Lisa Mance, Board Secretary



ESOPUS STORMWATER ASSESSMENT AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Stormwater Task Force Meeting – May 15, 2019

Dan Valentine, PE, Tighe & Bond

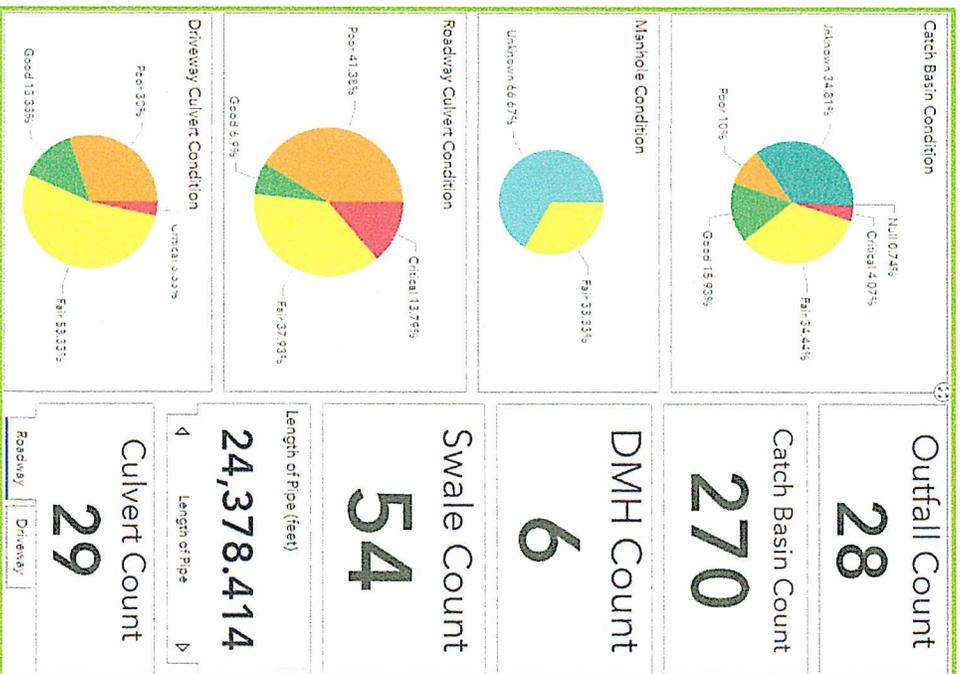
Ryan Morrison, Tighe & Bond

AGENDA

- **Drainage System Inventory**
- **Reported Flooding Area Assessment**
- **What could cause a recent increase on flooding?**
- **Flooding Assessment – Next Steps**
- **Priorities for Capital Improvement Plan**

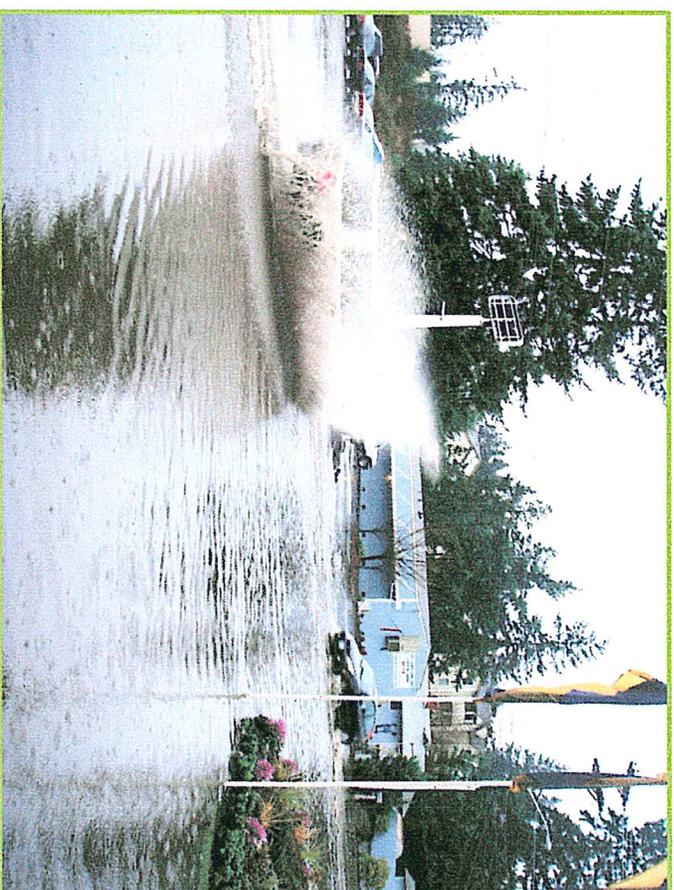
DRAINAGE SYSTEM INVENTORY

- **Purpose of Inventory**
 - What stormwater infrastructure does the Town have?
 - How is the system connected?
 - What is the condition?
- **Condition Assessment**
 - Good
 - Fair
 - Poor
 - Critical
- **GIS System Development**
 - Field Data Collection
 - Digitize Record Drawings (State Owned)
- **2-3 days of field work remaining**



REPORTED FLOODING AREA ASSESSMENT

- **Flooding Assessment Field Work Occurred on 4/29, 5/3, 5/8, & 5/13**
 - 43 flooding locations were visited
 - >33 residents discussed in person
- **Visual Assessment of Issues**
- **Resident Input**
- **General Types of Issues**
 - High Groundwater
 - Critical or Poor Pipe Condition
 - Potential Pipe/Culvert Capacity
 - Structural Limitations
 - No Sumps
 - Shallow Swales
- **What could cause a increase of flooding?**

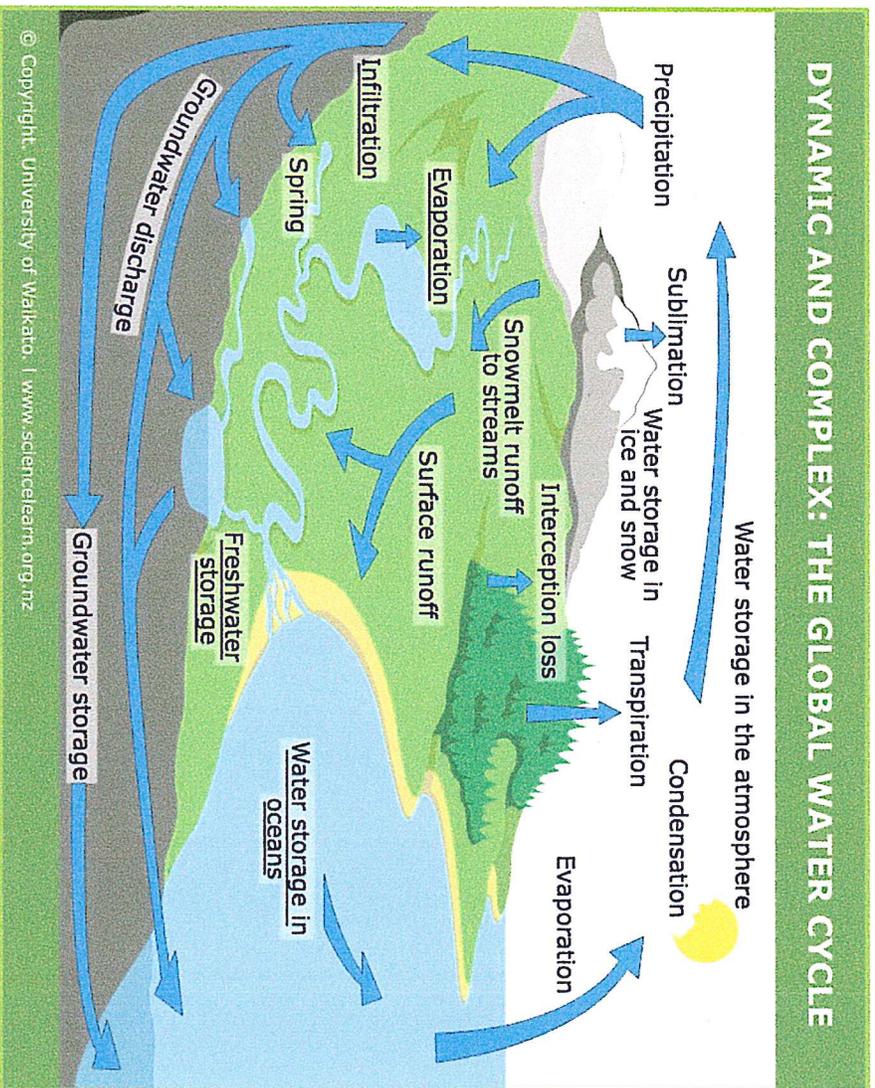


HYDROLOGIC CYCLE REVIEW

↑ Increased impervious cover (pavement, roofs, etc.)

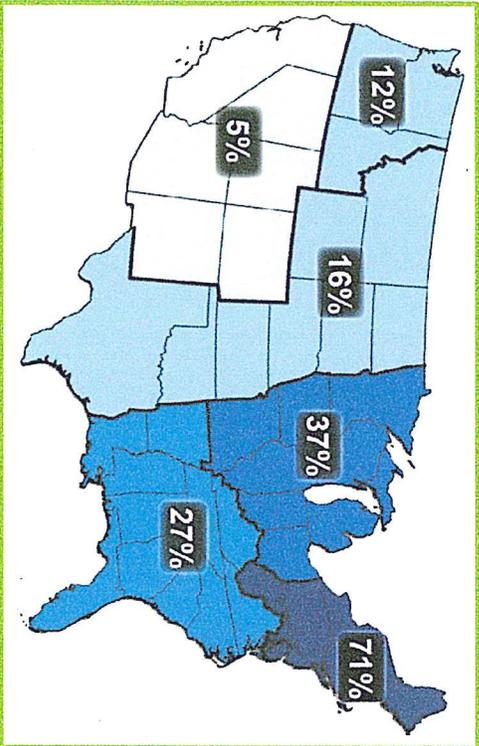
↑ Increased stormwater runoff

↑ Increased flooding



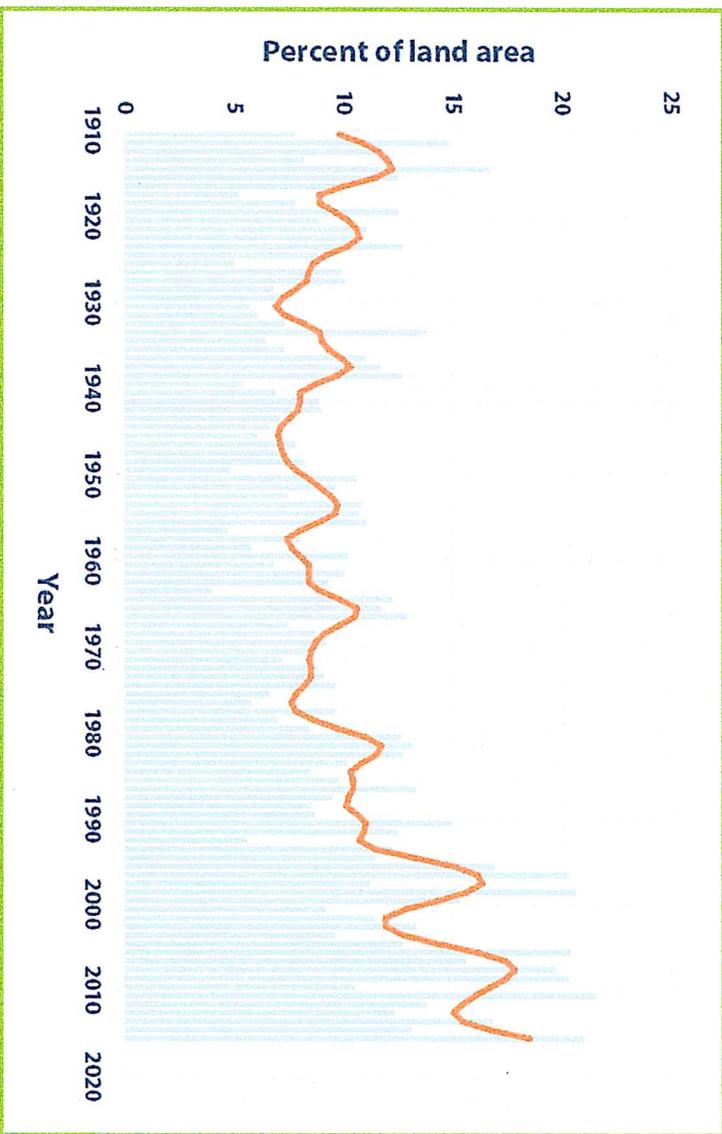
INCREASED PRECIPITATION

Percent Increase in Amount of Rainfall Occurring in Heaviest 1% of Daily Precipitation Events 1958-2012



Source: Walsh et al., 2014: Chapter 2: Our Changing Climate. Climate Change Impacts in the United States: The Third National Climate Assessment, J. M. Meillo, T. C. Richmond, and G. W. Yohe, Eds., U.S. Global Change Research Program, 19-67. doi:10.7930/J0KWM5CXT.

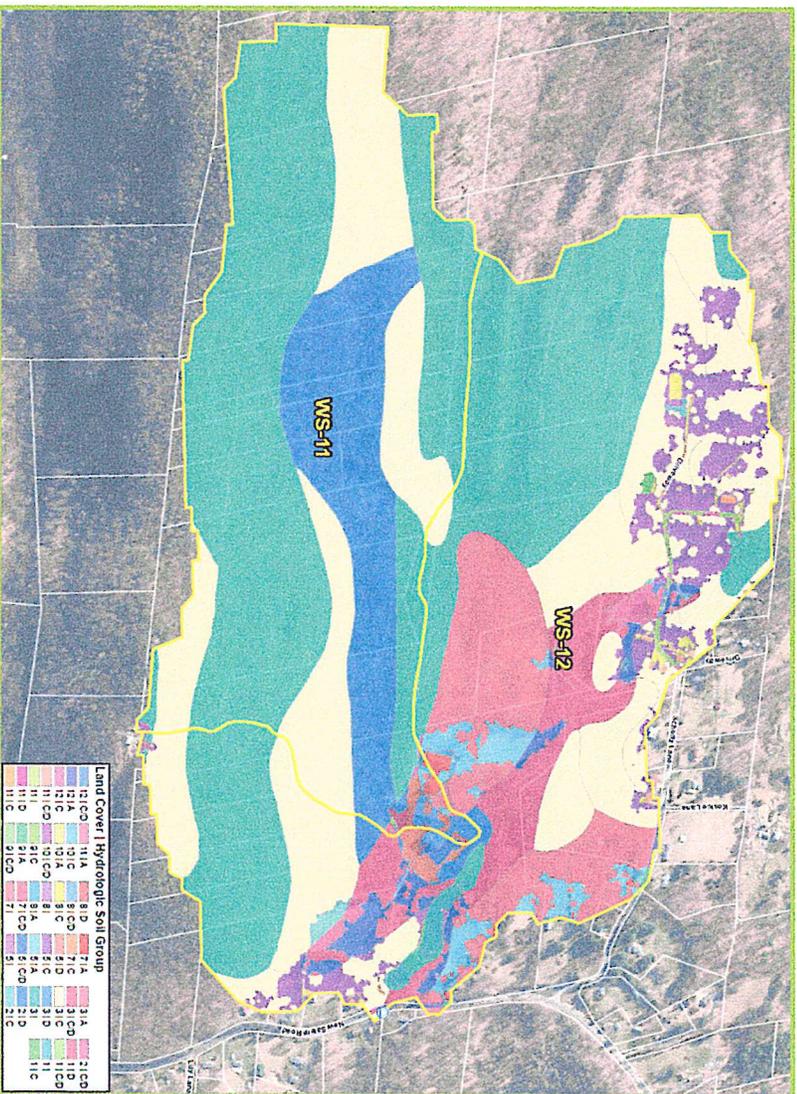
Extreme One-Day Precipitation Events in the Contiguous 48 States 1910-2015



Source: NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). 2016. U.S. Climate Extremes Index. Accessed January 2016. www.ncdc.noaa.gov/extremes/cei

FLOODING ASSESSMENT – NEXT STEPS

- **Recommendations**
 - Reviewed draft with Mike this week
 - Finalize recommendations over the next week
- **Easement Review**
 - Land Records search
 - Resident documentation of a Town drainage easement on their property
- **Prioritization**
- **Capacity Analysis**
 - Analyze watershed and provide the Town with pipe sizing criteria for 6 locations.



PRIORITIES FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- **Public Safety**
- **Major Property Damage**
- **Critical Condition Pipes/Structures**
- **Town Owned Drainage Facilities**
- **Formalized Easements for “Off-Road” Drainage**
- **Impacts Multiple Property**

