



CITY OF GLOUCESTER
HARBOR PLAN KICK-OFF MEETING
November 15, 2021
6:00 P.M.
Remote Meeting
Richard Noonan, Chair

MINUTES

Present Harbor Plan Committee Members: Richard Noonan (Chair), John McCarthy, Tom Balf, Tessa Brown, Katie Kahl, Al Cottone

Absent HPC Members: Vito Gialcone, Tony Gross

City of Gloucester: Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken, Gregg Cademartori, Sal Di Stefano,, TJ Ciarametaro, Jill Cahill

Consultant Team: Taskina Tareen - Utile, [Zoë Mueller](#)- Utile, Matthew Littell - Utile, Jason Hellendrung - Tetra Tech, Fort Point Associates, Jamie Fay - Tetra Tech, Fort Point Associates, Nasser Brahim - Woods Hole Group, Dave Andrews - Brown, Richardson + Rowe

I. BUSINESS

- A. Welcome
- B. Overview of Harbor Planning
- C. Breakout Groups - Discussion & Activity
- D. Adjournment

II. WELCOME

1. Gregg Cademartori welcomed participants to the meeting and asked Mayor Theken to provide brief remarks.
2. Mayor Theken welcomed participants and emphasized that even if she is no longer mayor, she will continue to engage with the Municipal Harbor Plan process.

III. OVERVIEW OF HARBOR PLANNING

1. Matthew Littell of Utile began by introducing members of the consultant team.
2. Matthew then described the purpose of a Municipal Harbor Plan (MHP) Update, including the connections between the Municipal Harbor Plan and state regulations related to coastal zone management and Massachusetts tidelands policy. Matthew also introduced the study area map and the Chapter 91 program, as well as the Designated Port Area's connection to the Chapter 91 program.
3. Matthew continued to describe the process of amending the Current Gloucester MHP, as well as the outcomes of the previous MHP update (completed in 2014).
4. Taskina Tareen of Utile described the timeline for the MHP planning process and provided an overview of the five public meetings that will be held throughout the process. She also encouraged meeting participants to provide comments on the project website at any point throughout the process.
5. [Zoë Mueller](#) of Utile described existing infrastructure conditions within the DPA and an analysis of the current flood risk for the harbor. She also described vulnerable infrastructure around the harbor.

IV. BREAKOUT GROUPS - DISCUSSION & ACTIVITY

1. Meeting participants entered breakout rooms to engage in small group discussions. Notes from each breakout room are posted on the Gloucester MHP website.
2. After returning to the main meeting room, breakout group facilitators reported the main topics that were discussed in their groups.
 - a. Matthew Littell reported that his group discussed the harbor cove, underutilized parcels, creative uses for existing developments, enhancing traditional marine uses as a way to leverage additional tourism, and using city-owned assets to promote innovation in the fishing industry.
 - b. Gregg Cademartori reported that his group discussed prioritization of activities, the importance of climate change, and differing visions for the harbor. One vision was focused on the status of traditional water-dependent industries and one vision was focused on the opportunities for new uses that could support the vitality of the harbor as a whole.
 - c. Tom Balf reported that his group discussed the balance between tourism, climate change, and traditional industries.
 - d. Rick Noonan reported that his group discussed lighting on the commercial harborfront, maintaining marine industrial uses, recreational boats, mixed-use and supporting uses along the waterfront
 - e. John McCarthy reported that his group discussed the I4C2 project, Rogers Street open space, lack of open space along the waterfront, enforcement of the DPA, investment in younger fishermen, attracting investment that uses the deep-water port, larger employers on the waterfront, and active year-round waterfront uses.
3. Gregg Cademartori asked participants to send feedback about the meeting to the City.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

1. John McCarthy makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded.
2. Roll Call:
 - a. Rick Noonan - Yes
 - b. Tom Balf - Yes
 - c. John McCarthy - Yes
 - d. Katherine Kahl - Yes
 - e. Tessa Brown - Yes
 - f. *NOTE: Al Cottone was not present for the roll call*