

MONMOUTH COUNTY CRS USERS GROUP
Meeting Notes
April 21, 2016 @ 10am, Avon-by-the-Sea Marina

1) Introductions

2) Steve Kegelman: Avon-by-the-Sea

- Steve gave a quick history of the new marina building.

3) Sea Isle City: CRS Coordinator, Neil Byrne and Mayor, Leonard Desiderio

- Neil Byrne and Mayor Desiderio discussed how they worked with FEMA to achieve a Class 5 CRS rating, saving their residents 25% on their flood insurance premiums.
- Avon asked how Sea Isle overcame problems with height restrictions when trying to comply with municipal code. Sea Isle explained that they changed their zoning to allow a height of 32' above the Design Flood Elevation (DFE) and used zoning to eliminate "bonus rooms," or areas under the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) that were assigned as storage, but being used as living space. Their new zoning code only permits crawl space below the BFE, which is what helped the City get into the CRS program. The City also said the key is for the governing body to support CRS participation.
- Jim Watt (DEP) will send Margaret Murnane Brooks (County OEM) to distribute the categories where Sea Isle City received CRS points .

4) Risk Reduction Plus Group, Inc: Tom Little, CFM/Flood Insurance Broker

- Tom Little gave a presentation on their Flood Risk Evaluator which gives quotes on flood insurance premiums and how to lower those premiums.
- For more information, visit [Risk Reduction Plus Group's](#) webpage

5) Monmouth County Division of Planning and Office of Emergency Management

- Brittany Ashman (Planning) gave a brief overview of the *Monmouth County Master Plan (exp. 2016)* and presented the Community Resiliency chapter to the group
- The **Master Plan Open House** is May 10, 2016 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Monmouth County Agricultural Building (4000 Kozloski Road, Freehold, NJ 07728). The County invites the public and stakeholders to attend for public comment and review. Visit the [Monmouth County Master Plan](#) webpage for more information.
- Mike Oppegaard (OEM) gave an update on the High Water Mark (HWM) Initiative. The County will be hosting a HWM launch event on Tuesday, June 21 2016.
- Mike O. and Chris Tucker (Manasquan) discussed the progress with the County Evacuation Mapping Initiative with County GIS (Meghan Leavey).
- Margaret Murnane Brooks (OEM) provided a list of training opportunities.

6) FEMA, Region II: Andrew Martin

- FEMA expects the updated Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) to be adopted by the end of 2017.

7) Jim Watt, NJDEP

- Announced the new towns in the State joining the CRS program.

Next CRS meeting will be July 14, 2016 @ 10am, Location: TBD