

Urban Waters Federal Partnership: Delaware River Location Monthly Workgroup Call
Tuesday, February 15th, 2022 from 11am-12pm on Zoom

1. Introductions (11:00-11:15) – Erica Rossetti (PDE), Haley Burns (PDE), Sarah Beganskas (DRBC), Chris Anderson (PWD), Zach Nemec (PA SeaGrant), Sarah Bouboulis (PDE), Simeon Hahn (NOAA), Frank McLaughlin (NJDEP), Irene Purdy (EPA Region II), Kate Hutelmyer (PDE), Marc Virgilio (USFWS), Roberto Frugone (HUD)
2. Housing Webinar Debrief (11:15-11:20) – Erica
 - Erica shared synopsis and feedback survey results
3. UWFP Delaware River Location Letter of Support Template (11:20-11:35)
 - Erica shared letter of support template
 - Please review and send Erica any edits, especially the federal agency disclaimer language, by our next meeting
 - The group would like to have requests for letters of support brought to the group whenever possible
 - Irene suggested considering what it looks like when we reject a letter of support
 - Irene will ask other regional UWFP coordinators their experience with letters of support
 - Discussion to be continued
4. New: Project Wish List (11:35-11:50)
 - https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OTeSNWd1dMBkeeayz-2g5WMNyYHL1Hpx9YHWq2oYe_M/edit?usp=sharing
 - If you have additional projects in the Urban Waters location that need support, please let Erica know to have it added to the list.
 - Kathy shared that PDE has applied for BIL funds (expected \$25,000) to help support these projects and also has some National Estuary Program money (\$12,000) to support these projects. This list will be useful for identifying programs and projects that PDE can support. Easiest for PDE to buy materials or services directly rather than give organizations money. \$ will be split evenly between each of the four cities.
 - Erica to work on a one-pager explaining to community organizations how they can access these funds through Urban Waters
 - Kathy also added that we as a group should think about how much \$ we may want for these projects in years 2-5 so that we can be proactive and show specific projects we want to work on.
5. Other: news, upcoming events, opportunities, resources, needs, stories (11:50-12:00) – All
 - Federal Update – Erica
 - i. Urban Waters Learning Network has transferred from Basecamp to a new platform called Mobilize. If you are already signed up you will have gotten an email from Renee Mazurek. Let Erica know if you have questions about this.
 - ii. EPA recently helped the UWFP San Antonio ambassador to create a water equity map for their city (by HUC-12) overlapping 300 indicators to show social and environmental vulnerabilities. Erica and others would like to explore the

idea of creating a water equity map. EPA and the San Antonio ambassador have offered to present to the group once the final report is complete. **References:**

<https://www.rivernetwork.org/integrated-water-management-planning-equity/> and <https://www.sanantonio.gov/Equity/Initiatives/Atlas>

iii. Upcoming events:

1. ICL *Better Practices for Facilitating and Coordinating Multi-Stakeholder Collaboratives*

- a. Session 1: Feb 16, 1-2:30pm
- b. Session 2: Mar 2, 1-2:30pm
- c. Register: https://rivernetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtdOquqDMoHdeqqxWnYFDuTWxPrR6_vZi-

2. River Network and WaterNow Alliance doing a trust building support initiative for water utilities and community organizations. Applications are due February 28th. <https://www.rivernetwork.org/trust-building-support-initiative-applications-open-now/>

3. River Network: *River Rally* (June 4-7 in Washington DC) Registration open: <https://www.rivernetwork.org/connect-learn/river-rally/river-rally-registration/>

4. Upcoming 3-part public training on the *State Revolving Funds*: “The Fundamentals of SRF Administration & Influencing Equitable Infrastructure in Your Community”
<https://www.rivernetwork.org/events/the-fundamentals-of-srf-administration-influencing-equitable-infrastructure-in-your-community/>

- a. SRF 101: March 2, 1-3pm
- b. Influencing SRF implementation: March 29, 1-2:30pm
- c. SRFs and Affordability: April 21, 1-2:30pm
- d. Ask Erica or EPA for the presentation about the SRF

• NOAA Update - Simeon

- i. B-WET has expanded into Delaware. Jerry Kauffman will be taking the lead along with DE SeaGrant to bring watershed education to a mix of schools in Wilmington around the Brandywine River. Includes public and private schools.
- ii. Simeon is trying to identify funding opportunities
- iii. Simeon is retiring at the end of April and has identified a NOAA colleague who has mostly worked in the Passaic and Bronx areas but will be expanding her reach and could be involved in this location

• Irene shared that the Bronx and Harlem Rivers location has a new ambassador to reach out to

6. Next Meeting Date Selection – All

- Proposed: Third Tuesdays of the Month from 11-12. (March 15, 2022)