

A Tale of Two Communities:

Simple Steps to Starting with Adaptation

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I want to hear from you



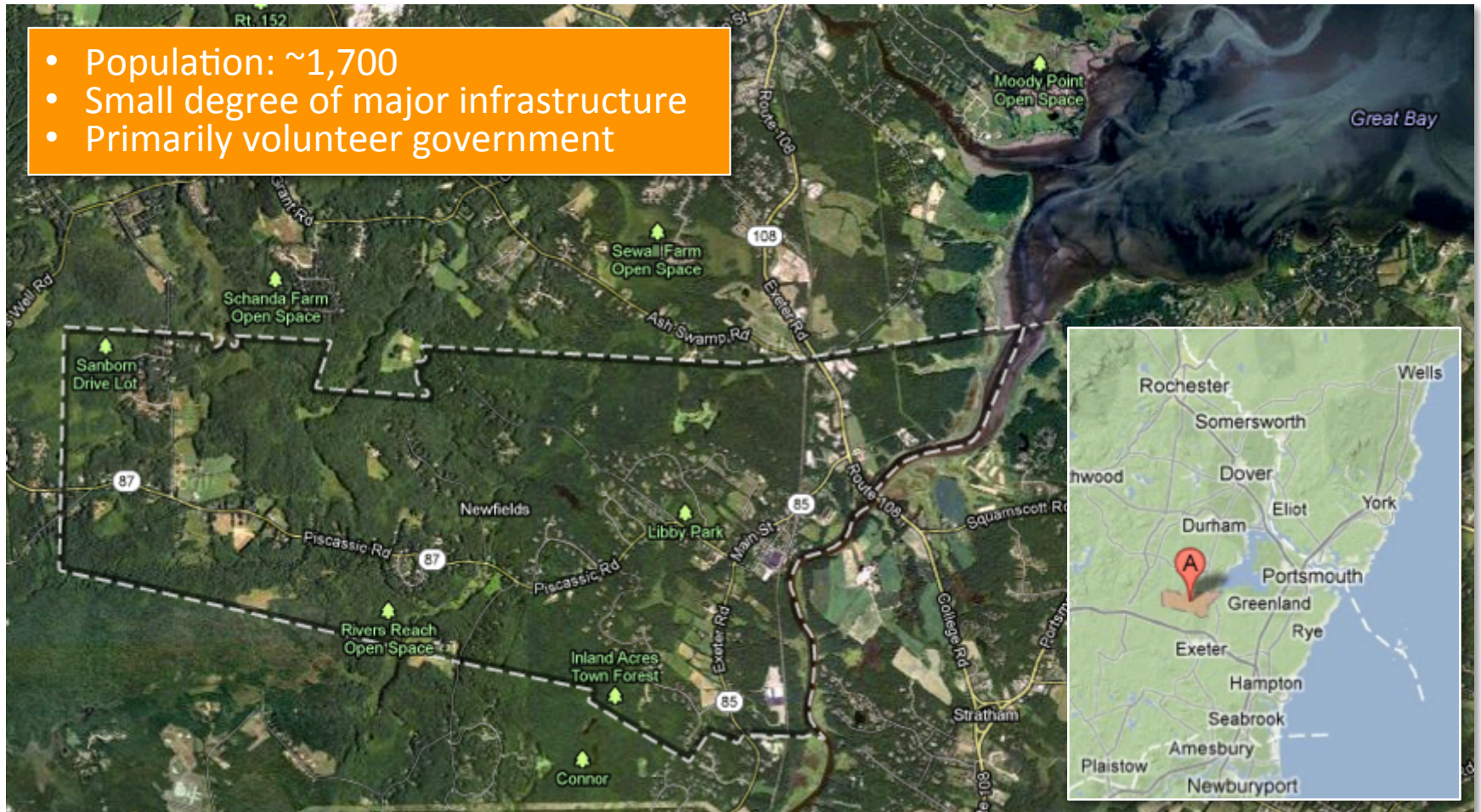
Climate impacts?



The Climate Café

Introducing Newfields, NH

- Population: ~1,700
- Small degree of major infrastructure
- Primarily volunteer government



Project timeline

January-May:

Getting started

June:

Identifying values

July-Nov.:

Action Planning

December:

Project wrap-up



NEWFIELDS, NEW HAMPSHIRE
© MICHAEL STERLING

Getting started

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Newfields Chief of Police & Emergency Management Deputy Director.

Work with local leaders.
Build relationships.
Make a list of participants.

*Get a **mix** of people
to the table!*

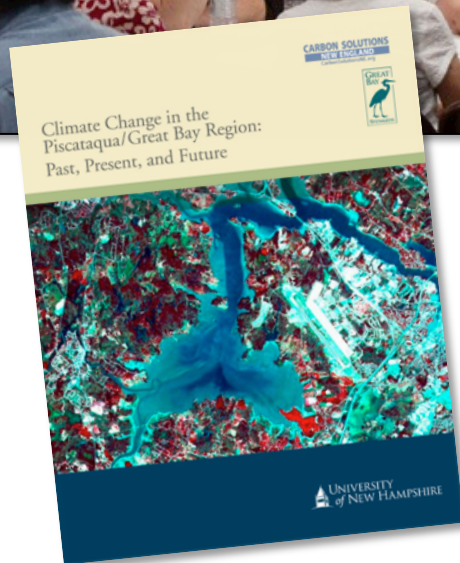
Identifying values

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Dinner, climate change presentation, and discussion.

Talkin' 'bout vulnerabilities

How could _____ (people, infrastructure, or natural resources) be impacted by *more flooding, extreme heat, and more frequent or intense storms*?



What actions can be taken to address these impacts?

Result: Focus Areas for Action

Stormwater
Management



Emergency
Preparedness



Workgroups get stuff done!



Action Planning

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SAMPLE

Focus Area #1: Stormwater Management

Actions	People	Costs	Timeframe	Notes
<i>Outcome #1: A web-based map of stormwater infrastructure that is easy to access and update.</i>				
1. Inventory the <i>location, capacity, and condition</i> of stormwater infrastructure. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact UNH Civil Engineering Department about student volunteer project Look into NH Coastal Program funding, New England Grassroots Environment Fund, and others 	Planning board PB Chair Coastal Adaptation Workgroup	None to low	Spring 2013	There are several options for obtaining this information: (a) Incorporate as a CIP action, (b) pursue through volunteer collection, (c) Hire a contractor
...

How has the Climate Café been used in other communities?

PREPARING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE IN RYE

GAINING INSIGHTS AND CHARTING A COURSE

Introducing Rye, NH



- Population: 5,200
- Extensive wetlands and beaches
- Primarily volunteer government

The Climate Café – A Starting Point

Workshop #1 – The Climate Café

Climate change presentation, question & answer, small group discussion, prioritization



Workshop #2 – What Tools Are Available?

Overview of planning and regulatory tools for adaptation (e.g., master plan, zoning, subdivision and site plan).



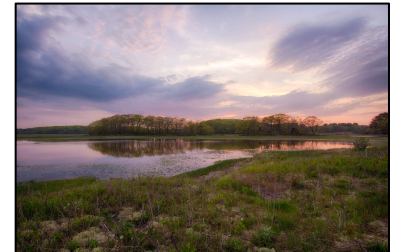
Workshop #3 – A Field Trip to Rye's Salt Marshes

Learning how salt marshes protect Rye from storm surge, and how sea-level rise affects salt marshes.

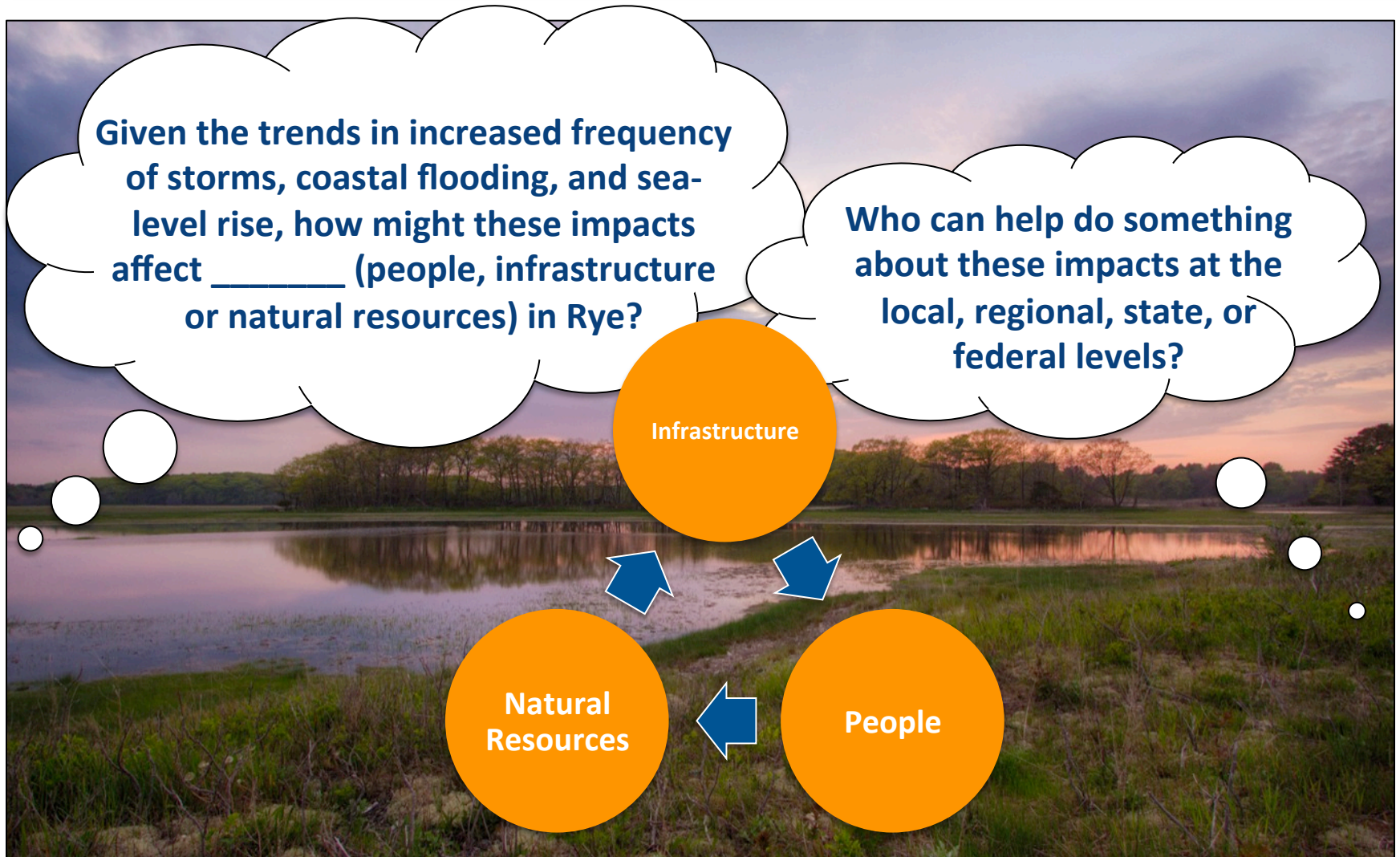


Workshop #4 – Transitioning into Next Steps

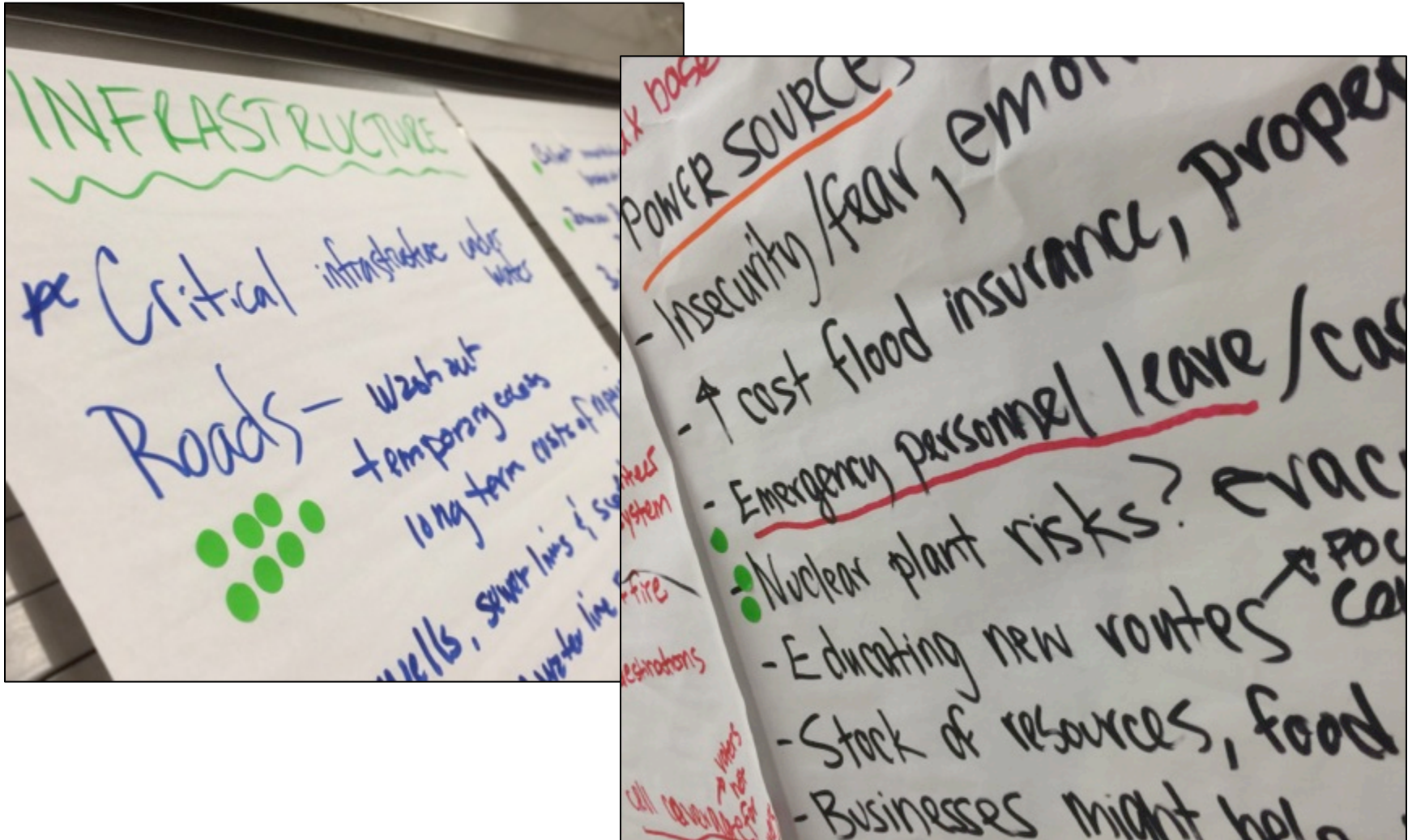
Connecting the local "Preparing for Climate Change in Rye" project into an upcoming regional project.



The Climate Café



The Climate Café



The Climate Café

Result: A Summary of Local Concerns

PREPARING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE IN RYE GAINING INSIGHTS AND CHARTING A COURSE

Summary of group discussions from Project Kick-off
April 1, 2014 6:30-8:30pm – Rye Junior High School

How was this summary made?

The number in parenthesis is the number of sticky dots or "votes" the item received at the April 1st meeting. The "votes" were combined into broader categories, shown in bold. In some cases, the category was a topic identified by participant and received votes in addition to the bulleted items. For additional context, bulleted items without a "vote" are included that were related to that category.

(11) Freshwater resources

- Water supply on 1A and public health (6)
- Water quality, supply, and aquifer (3)
- Erosion of freshwater streams
- Salinity affecting fish and salt water intrusion

(8) Impacts to Salt Marshes

- (5) More runoff into marshes coupled with increase in impervious surface, more contamination
- (1) Upland changes to marsh and wetlands
- (1) Increase wetlands flooding
- (1) Marshes may flood and change over time
- People pressure on existing natural resources
- Marsh buffer change and limitation
- One participant indicated that of Rye's approximately 36 square miles of land there are about 24 square miles are marsh, which is a resource for Rye.

(7) Roads (Wash outs, temporary loss of access, long term costs of repair)

- (1) Beach Club road flooding
- Bridge Impacts (both State and locally controlled bridges)
- Marsh Road inundation.

(6) Public Health

- (6) Public health resulting from septic issues

(5) Sea walls

- (3) Incoming tides undermining earthen berms (shale piles) tidal drainage that accommodates the changing tides.
- (1) Damage to Shale Piles, sea walls and earthen berms
- (1) Jenness Beach impacts, degradation of the seawalls
- Rye Harbor infrastructure—the jetty/sea walls: the improvement of the jetty in light of sea level rise...potentially raising it; possible harbor dredging

- Earthen berms are damaged by tidal activity and storms

(4) Stormwater management

- (2) Water runoff intensity
- (1) Pollution
- Stormwater management infrastructure currently stressed; Increased upland flooding due to clogged stormwater devices.
- Culvert inundation, especially the Eel Pond culvert; Eel Pond to harbor drainage system is ineffective.

(4) Beach erosion

- Changes in recreational use of beaches – will we lose them or will they move?
- Changes in shoreline habitat, shifting of sand bars
- Harbor

(4) Economic loss

- (1) Seafood, shellfish – fewer available, harder to reach, increased \$
- Fishing industry
- Business might help but Rye has less of a business community
- Less beach, fewer tourists?
- Tax base and flooding, loss of access, taxes (increase)

(3) Nuclear plant risks? Evacuations

(1) Already poor cell coverage (voters not for towers)

(1) Food supply (increase? Decrease?)

Take-home points

- Get started today! Begin with local knowledge and values.
- Demystify climate change -- put it into local words.
- Involve everybody.
- Is the Climate Café right for my community?
 - Low cost
 - Starting point



Questions?

