

**Peconic Estuary Partnership
Management Committee Meeting**

February 26, 2025

10am – 12:30pm

LOCATION:

Suffolk County Community College, [121 Speonk-Riverhead Road](#), Riverhead, NY 11901

Montaukett Learning Resource Center- Library (MLRC)

Links to: [College Map](#); [Google Map](#)

Agenda:

10:00 Welcome

Management Committee Roll Call: *Sue Van Patten, Management Committee Chair*

- *Tommy John Schiavoni has stepped down as PEP Local Government Committee chair to serve in his new role in the NYS Assembly.*

Joyce Novak opened the meeting with an announcement about the vacant chair position of the local government committee in Southampton. She then conducted a roll call of management committee voting members.

Noted EPA not in attendance. See end of notes for full list of attendees.

Action: MC approve meeting minutes from October 30th, 2024

All in favor, no members abstained, none opposed- Motion Approved

10:05 National Estuary Program Update: Review of federal funding: Joyce Novak, PhD Executive Director

Joyce provided an overview of federal funding status, noting that the annual \$850,000 funds for FY25 is still under federal continuing resolution expiring March 14th. She explained that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provided \$4.5 million over five years to each of the 28 national estuary programs, with about \$2.7 million currently available.

The committee discussed work plan amendments and approvals. PEP requested management committee approval to make language changes to align with federal priorities. The FY25 work plan review included budget discussions for various projects including water quality monitoring, habitat projects, and outreach initiatives.

Briefing Materials Package:

[Link to Briefing Materials Folder](#)

October 2024, PC-MC Minutes

SBU FY2025 [Workplan](#)

SC FY2025 [Workplan](#)

FY 2025 [Budget Narrative](#)

SBU & SC [All Active Workplans](#)

***see end of agenda for all links or navigate the Data Hub**

10:20 Amendments to Active Federal Workplans

- Review Active Workplans and recommend amendments to align with current federal priorities
- Workplans to review:
 - FY 21-24 - Stony Brook University 320 funds
 - FY21-24 - Suffolk County 320 funds
 - BIL (IIJA) Years 1-3: Stony Brook University
 - BIL (IIJA) Year 2: Suffolk County

The group discussed the implications of language changes surrounding federal priorities and applauded the work done by the NEPs.

Action: Management Committee to recommend Amendments to Active Workplans

Motion Chirs Clapp, second Matt Sclafani, Motion Approved.

10:45 FY25 Workplan Review and Discussion

- Stony Brook University FY25
- Suffolk County FY25
- Investment in Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA, formerly BIL)) Workplan Y4-5

Action: Management Committee recommends approval of Stony Brook University FY25 Workplan to Policy Committee

Motion Matt Sclafani, second Cassandra Bauer , Motion Approved.

Action: Management Committee recommends approval of Suffolk County FY25 Workplan to Policy Committee

Motion Ken Zegel, second Jeremy Campbell, Motion Approved.

Action: Management Committee recommends approval of IIJA Y4-5 Workplan to Policy Committee

Motion Chris Clapp, second Cassie Bauer, Motion Approved

11:30 PEP Updates

PEP Committee Updates

- Local Government Committee, **Valerie Virgona, PEP Communication & Outreach Manager**
- Citizens Advisory Committee, **ValerieVirgona, PEP Communication & Outreach Manager**
- Technical Advisory Committee, **Matt Sclafani PhD. Chair**
- Peconic Bay Scallop Technical Review Committee, **Marissa Valasquez, Co-Chair**

PEP Active Project Updates, **Program Office**

The meeting concluded with announcements of upcoming events, including a Bay Scallop symposium on July 16th, winter water quality monitoring sessions, and a shoreline adaptation summit planned for June 5th. The Homeowner Rewards Program was highlighted, with over 70 residents participating. Final discussions included updates from Cassie Bauer on FAQ updates on living shoreline permit processes within NYDEC.

12:00 Public Portion / Additional Comments

2025 Management Committee Meeting Dates:

- ~~— Wednesday, February 26, 2025~~
- Wednesday, May 14, 2025
- Proposed Biennial Conference: TBD
- Wednesday, October 29, 2025*

Important Dates:

June 5th, 2025: Save the Date PEP Biennial: Shoreline Summit

MC Member Attendance: * indicates joined via zoom.

~~**Chair: Sue Van Patten**, Watershed Section B, Section Chief, NYS LINAP Coordinator (NYSDEC, Division of Water)~~

~~**Vice-Chair Lisa Broughton**, Water Quality and Energy Director (Suffolk County Dept of Economic Development and Planning)~~

Cassie Bauer, Bureau Chief, Marine Habitat (NYSDEC, Division of Marine Resources)

Jeremy Campbell, South Shore Estuary Reserve Director (NYS Department of State)

***Ken Zegel**, PE, Chief - Office of Ecology (Suffolk County Dept of Health)

***Corey Humphrey**, District Manager (SC Soil and Water Conservation District)

Catherine Stark Office Representative & Ann Welker(in person), (Suffolk County Legislators, Districts 1 and 2)

TBD (Chair of PEP Local Government Committee)

Matt Sclafani, PhD, Cornell Cooperative Extension (Chair, Technical Advisory Committee)

Chris Clapp, (Vice-Chair, Citizens Advisory Committee)

~~**Paul Shepson Represented by *Chris Gobler**~~ Dean SoMAS, Stony Brook University (Host representative)

Shavonne Smith, Environmental Director, Shinnecock Environmental Department (Shinnecock Indian Nation Representative)

Cate Rogers, East Hampton(Local Government Representative)

~~**Elizabeth Butler**, Watershed and Estuary Protection Section Supervisor (EPA) // Vote proxied to *Michael Flood as acting section supervisor~~

Additional in-person attendees: Joyce Novak (PEP), Jade Blennau (PEP), Rachel Friedman

Zoom participants*:

Josh Halsey (PLT), Kathleen Fallon (NYSG), Christopher Gobler (SBU & Representing Paul Shepson), Lynn Mendelman (AMI)

*See following page for active work plans links

<u>Active Workplans w. 320 Funding:</u>	
SC FY 21	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/05226381-0046-45d6-8c4c-d477913ccad1/resource/e1727ca0-69e5-4ed2-bfc1-6dea0fcb8e8a/download/pep-fy21-sc-workplan_amended_feb2025.pdf
SBU FY 21	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/05226381-0046-45d6-8c4c-d477913ccad1/resource/f66b22c2-bf46-460b-a3b-2e1e67d445e0/download/pep-stony-brook-fy21_amended_feb2025.pdf
SC FY 22	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/9a2013be-af73-4f92-a554-8f48e0f43de8/resource/c14b5a58-d732-49f3-b986-1c2f440005f2/download/pep-fy22-sc-workplan_amended_feb2025.pdf
SBU FY 22	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/9a2013be-af73-4f92-a554-8f48e0f43de8/resource/9b0668c1-c563-4440-a761-57a1fd61ef1b/download/pep-fy22-stony-brook-workplan_amended_feb2025.pdf
SC FY 23	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/60caf97b-87ea-48ce-add3-ad705276c348/resource/1aaa8306-a185-4dcd-8d8c-0992adf1ced8/download/pep-fy23-sc-workplan_amended_feb2025.pdf
SBU FY 23	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/60caf97b-87ea-48ce-add3-ad705276c348/resource/c83bb8cc-ad4e-45fa-b7bd-8f1deb97119b/download/pep-fy2023-stony-brook-workplan_final-1.pdf
SC FY 24	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/8e2a1c27-90ad-42cf-9b0d-7b10edb99378/resource/ecdeb1fe-260f-4f41-8610-6d6762487b2e/download/sc-pepfy24-workplan_revised2025.pdf
SBU FY 24	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/8e2a1c27-90ad-42cf-9b0d-7b10edb99378/resource/846852a1-e403-4c48-b8c3-61ebcf4c7319/download/pepfy-24_sbu_workplan_amended_feb2025-2.pdf

SC FY25	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/en/dataset/fy-workplans/resource/1327adf2-bb12-45c9-b9ba-d795cfb44a2c
SBU FY25	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/en/dataset/fy-workplans/resource/43237744-7973-4c33-8b4e-2a4c118dd3ce
Active Workplans w. BIL- IIJA Funding	
BIL 22 / IIJA Y1 - SBU	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/00d708a7-0dbc-47e5-a20e-dde1f33184ba/resource/1e316c92-f311-46c2-949e-d91a71831af7/download/amended-2-7-25-pep-bil22-workplan_approved-10-12-22.docx.pdf
BIL 23 / IIJA Y2 - SBU	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/00d708a7-0dbc-47e5-a20e-dde1f33184ba/resource/38b81efd-2552-4ad9-8ac8-89b93eb7009d/download/amended-2-7-25-pep-bil23-sb_workplan_approved.docx-1.pdf
BIL 23 / IIJA Y2 - SC	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/00d708a7-0dbc-47e5-a20e-dde1f33184ba/resource/0ce85514-b4b3-4563-a2cf-454df992e749/download/pep-bil23-workplan_suffolk-final.pdf
BIL Y3 / IIJA Y3 - SBU	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/dataset/00d708a7-0dbc-47e5-a20e-dde1f33184ba/resource/ca90c1f8-cc02-4ecd-bee0-cdf4c884be0b/download/amended-2-10-25pep-bil-y3-workplan_final.docx.pdf
IIJA Y4-5 - SC	https://data.gss.stonybrook.edu/en/dataset/iija-workplans/resource/31954fd0-db38-4943-af46-052f2d0c4482