New England Coastal Resilience Workshop
Agenda & Details
October 14, 2023

Location:
Lincoln Field Building at Brown University
Room 120
180 Thayer Street, Providence RI 02912

Description: This Workshop is designed to enhance connections, foster collaboration, and promote action regarding collective approaches to coastal resilience in the New England region. Critically, we aim to generate valuable feedback to guide the potential evolution of future regional efforts and action plans.

Preparation Details: We invite participants to plan to pause from using phones or laptops to remain present through each conversation and session.

- Participants - Come Prepared for Dialogue: Use our live participant details resource to learn more about the attending participants and speakers and plan to come with questions and conversation.
- Parking: Street parking is available on nearby streets including George Street and Brown Street. A Visitor Parking Lot is available at Power Street Parking Garage at 111 Power Street.
- Attire: Business casual - be comfortable!
- Refreshments: A light breakfast and lunch, along with coffee and water will be provided. An optional post-convening celebration will be held at the Rooftop at the Providence 100 Dorrance St, Providence, RI 02903
- Optional Celebratory Happy Hour: We will gather after the Workshop for continued conversation at the Rooftop at the Providence at 100 Dorrance St, Providence, RI 02903

Agenda:
9:15-9:45 - Registration, Networking, Light Breakfast

9:45 - 10 - Welcome, Goals and Agenda for the Day with Center for Sea Rise Solutions Founder, Janelle Kellman, including a land acknowledgement, introduction of collaborators and workshop goals

10 - 10:10 - Introduction of the EPSCOR Grant and Vision of Collaboration with Dr. Emanuele Di Lorenzo and Sarah Lummis, Brown University

10:15 - 10:25 - Opening Keynote with Mayor Smiley of Providence, featuring examples of coastal resilience policies and efforts in Providence

10:25 - 11:10 - Connections Deep Dive with participants, featuring facilitated introductions and questions and answers. Participants will identify actionable next steps with new and familiar connections at the Workshop.

11:10 - 11:55 - Seaside Chat on Regional Roadmaps for Community Capacity Building and Coastal Adaptation, focusing on Rhode Island with Jennifer West, Coastal Training Program Coordinator at the The Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Austin Becker, Professor, Marine Affairs at University of Rhode Island, Lauren Carson, Rhode Island State Representative and moderated by Sheila Dormody, Chief of Policy and Resiliency for Providence

Description: This conversation will explore the intricate processes of implementing coastal resilient strategies in Rhode Island - both successful and unsuccessful, highlighting the lessons learned along the way. From the ports of the state to the coastal communities and national estuaries, we will uncover innovative methodologies for strengthening community engagement across the New England region while amplifying unique and essential coastal resilience work in Rhode Island.

This is an interactive session with questions from the participants and answers from the speakers. Please come prepared with questions for the speakers.

12 - 12:30 - Small Group Debrief: Identify Key Learnings & Action Steps from the Seaside Chat

Participants will be pre-assigned a table (Small Group 1) for this session; table assignments will be shared at registration.

12:30 - 1:30 - Networking Lunch

Reminder: Move to new pre-assigned table (Small Group 2) after lunch.

1:30 PM - 2:30 - Collaboration Exploration - Solving for Regional Challenges featuring Ian Dombrowski, Program Coordinator at the Southeast New England Program and Gayle Bowness, Municipal Climate Action Program Manager at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute

Description: Expanding our focus outside of Rhode Island, this session will uncover challenges and opportunities in unlocking federal funding and grants along with engagement strategies in rural communities. Each speaker will provide a short talk highlighting a challenge for action. Participants will solve for these challenges at their pre-assigned tables and share their results with the group. The goals are to amplify current tools and resources available and to develop different pathways of action.

2:30 - 4 PM - Discovery Breakouts: Building Regional Collaboration and Effective Tools & Resources facilitated by the Center for Sea Rise Solutions Team

Description: How might regional collaboration be enhanced in New England? What tools and resources are most essential for the region? This session will include multiple breakouts and ideation sessions to generate feedback on regional collaboration.

4 - 4:15 - Closing Remarks with Senator Marc Pacheco, Dean of the Massachusetts State Senate, featuring an international lens on alliance-based approaches to coastal resilience.

4:15 - 4:20 - Call to Action with Senator Reed

4:15 - 4:30 - Thanks and Next Steps with the Center for Sea Rise Solutions and New England Community-Driven Coastal Climate Research & Solutions Hub Teams

4:30 - Onward - Optional Celebratory Happy Hour at Rooftop at the Providence at 100 Dorrance St, Providence, RI 02903