



EBC Climate Change Program Series

Part Three: Adaptation and Resiliency Programs at the Federal Level

Friday, April 14, 2017

Nixon Peabody LLP | Boston

AGENDA

8:00 a.m. **Welcome: Daniel Moon, President & Executive Director, EBC**



Opening Remarks
U.S. Congressman Stephen F. Lynch
Representing Massachusetts' 8th District

Program Co-Chairs - Introduction:

- Samuel Bell, Senior Hazard Mitigation Specialist, GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.
- Jessica Fosbrook, Project Manager, City of Somerville

8:25 a.m. **EPA Resiliency Programs**

- Cynthia Greene, Manager, Climate and Energy Unit
Office of Ecosystem Protection, U.S. EPA New England

8:50 a.m. **Assessment Methods for Coastal Community Resilience**

- Cate Fox-Lent, Research Civil Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

9:15 a.m. **Adapting to Weather and Climate Extremes: NOAA Efforts**

- Ellen Mecray, Regional Climate Services Director
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

9:40 a.m. **Networking Break**

10:10 a.m. **Panel Discussion**

Moderators: Samuel Bell and Jessica Fosbrook

Panelists:

- Cate Fox-Lent, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Cynthia Greene, U.S. EPA New England
- Ellen Mecray, NOAA

11:00 a.m. **Closing Remarks – Adjourn**

CONGRESSMAN LYNCH

U.S. Congressman Stephen F. Lynch

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Congressman Stephen F. Lynch was first sworn in to the United States Congress in October 2001, following the sudden passing of legendary Congressman John Joseph Moakley.

The son of Francis Lynch, an ironworker, and Anne Lynch, a postal clerk, Congressman Lynch was born and raised in the public housing projects of South Boston.

Upon graduation from South Boston High School in 1973, Congressman Lynch entered the Ironworkers Apprenticeship Program and later joined his father as a member of Boston's Ironworkers Local 7. He worked as a structural ironworker for 18 years and was eventually elected to serve as president of The Iron Workers Union, the youngest president in the history of the 2000 member union.

Congressman Lynch continued his education at Wentworth Institute of Technology on nights and weekends, earning a Bachelor's degree in Construction Management. He later received a law degree from Boston College Law School, was admitted to both the Massachusetts and New Hampshire Bar, and continued his advocacy for working people as a labor and employment attorney.

In 1994, Congressman Lynch was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives. After just fourteen months in office, he was elected to the Massachusetts State Senate in a special election. In the Senate, he served as the Chair of the Joint Committee on Commerce and Labor.

In 1999, he earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

During his career as an ironworker, Congressman Lynch worked at the General Motors Plant Framingham, Massachusetts, the General Dynamics Shipyard in Quincy, Massachusetts and the U.S. Steel Plant in Gary, Indiana, all of which were either shut down or severely curtailed due to unfair foreign trade practices. Congressman Lynch's first-hand experience in seeing the effects of plant closings on American workers and on local communities has led him to focus on efforts to improve U.S. Trade Policy and protect American jobs.

In the 114th Congress, Congressman Lynch is a member of the Financial Services Committee and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, where he serves as Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on National Security. Lynch is also a member of the Subcommittee on Government Operations.

Congressman Lynch is a co-founder of the Congressional Labor and Working Families Caucus, which was formed to protect workers' rights and educate Members of Congress on issues that impact American families.

Lynch continues to serve as co-chair of the Task Force on Anti-Terrorism and Proliferation Financing, a bipartisan Congressional panel that monitors the status of national and international efforts to track and stop the flow of funds to terrorist groups and works to strengthen our national anti-terrorist finance strategy.

He and his wife Margaret continue to live in their lifelong hometown of South Boston where they are raising their daughter Victoria and niece Crystal.

PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

Samuel Bell, Senior Hazard Mitigation Specialist
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Sam Bell is a Senior Hazard Mitigation Specialist and a Professional Planner with over 16 years of experience. Sam served as the Project Manager for the successful development of the Stratford Coastal Community Resilience Plan, and is currently the Project Manager assisting the Towns of Old Saybrook and Westport, Connecticut in developing coastal resilience plans. Mr. Bell also served as the Project Manager providing HR&A coastal regulatory and permitting guidance as a part of the December 2016 Climate Ready Boston Final Report, and is assisting the Towns of Somerset and Milford, Massachusetts in developing local FEMA multi-hazard mitigation plans.

Prior to joining GZA, Mr. Bell worked for FEMA and was responsible for FEMA natural hazard mitigation and disaster resiliency technical assistance to coastal communities throughout New England, including Massachusetts. Mr. Bell administered grants designed to protect critical facilities, public and private infrastructure, natural resources and historic districts in coastal and riverine environments. In Massachusetts, Sam has worked with many communities, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to identify strategies and multi-hazard mitigation solutions to protect residences and critical facilities from incurring future damages from various natural hazards including riverine and coastal flooding.

Mr. Bell's experience also includes administrative and technical supervision, training and technical assistance on Federal and State mitigation and resiliency grant programs to stakeholders throughout Connecticut to ensure compliance. Mr. Bell is currently assisting several communities in Massachusetts on hazard mitigation assistance & resiliency funding. Sam has a Bachelor Environmental Design in Planning from the University of Colorado-Boulder and a Master of Arts in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning from Tufts University.

Jessica Fosbrook, Project Manager - Utilities
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Jessica Fosbrook is the Project Manager for the Union Square/Somerville Ave stormwater separation and streetscapes restoration project for the City of Somerville, Massachusetts. She works closely with the City's transportation planners, engineers, and sustainability experts to address Somerville's legacy stormwater flooding issues in a dense urban setting. She is the main point of contact for the external consultants, utility companies, and public stakeholders.

Jessica adds value to ongoing and planned projects within the City with her extensive background in climate change adaptation and resiliency planning and implementation. Previously, she was Arup's Deputy Project Manager for New York City Transit's Eight Stations subway flooding resiliency project, which will protect stations from hurricane flooding with inundation depths around 10 feet above ground. She also was a key project member for the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) climate change adaptation pilot project, which set a framework to enable BART to review critical infrastructure, assess vulnerability to climate change, and plan and execute adaptation strategies.

Additionally, Jessica was Deputy Project Manager for a New York City DEP green infrastructure project to construct 400+ rain gardens and stormwater green streets in Queens. She's also created water strategies for developments in an arid region of the Middle East and in a former plantation in an urbanizing area of Brazil; designed a natural stormwater treatment system for Newport Beach City Hall and Park; and modeled flood risk for California High Speed Rail.

SPEAKERS

Cate Fox-Lent, Research Civil Engineer

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Cate Fox-Lent works for the Environmental R&D arm of the Corps of Engineers in Risk and Decision Sciences. As an engineer in decision science, she uses methods such as life-cycle assessment, multi-criteria decision analysis, and portfolio analysis to help the Corps assess and evaluate alternative course of action in adaptive management, dredged sediment management, asset management, resilience management and disaster response. The Risk and Decision science team develops tool and methodologies for the three major civil works business lines of navigation, flood risk reduction, and ecosystem restoration as well as for issues of sustainability and climate security in management of military installations domestically and abroad. The teams past work also include several tools for evaluation of operational and investment decisions at other federal agencies, including EPA, NOAA, CPSC, BOEM, and DOE.

Cynthia L. Greene, Manager, Energy and Climate Unit

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Cynthia Greene is the Manager of the Climate and Energy Unit at EPA New England. This unit is in the Air Branch and works on greenhouse gas reporting and mitigation, energy efficiency, clean and renewable energy and global climate change adaptation. Cynthia has worked for the agency for thirty-six years and has previously served as the Regional ozone expert, team leader for municipal solid waste and pollution prevention and Brownfields conference coordinator. Additionally, as the former leader of the internal Green Team she has worked on greening and the design of the EPA's office space at 5 Post Office Square in Boston that is an ENERGY STAR and LEED Gold certified.

Ellen L. Mecray, Regional Climate Services Director, Eastern Region

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Ellen Mecray is the NOAA Regional Climate Services Director for the Eastern Region, based in Taunton, Massachusetts. In this role, Mecray helps bring NOAA's climate information to other federal agencies as well as regional, state, and local geographies and specific sectors of importance to the eastern region. She currently works with the transportation, coastal, public health, marine fisheries, and energy sectors. Mecray is currently serving as the Federal Convening Lead Author for the Fourth National Climate Assessment, Northeast Chapter and an author on the Energy national chapter. For almost 20 years, Mecray's teaching, research, and leadership have focused on efficient, cross-sectoral collaboration among inter-and intra-agency partners. With that interest, Mecray co-chairs 2 federal partners groups in the mid-Atlantic and New England. Prior to joining NOAA, Mecray was an oceanographer with the US Geological Survey's Coastal and Marine Geology program. Her work is published in a number of research journals. Mecray holds a bachelor's degree in geology from Colgate University and a master's degree in geological oceanography from the University of Rhode Island. She lives on Cape Cod with her husband, daughter, and two golden retrievers.