

# Rebecca Martin Consulting Report

February, 2024

The Hudson River Source Water Protection Coordinator (as consultant) will carry out the goals of the Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council (Hudson 7).

## Goals and Results

- **Organizational**
  - Scheduled weekly one-on-one meetings with Hudson 7 Chairman Mayor Gary Bassett;
  - Organized and prepared all materials for monthly Hudson 7 meetings;
- **Goal 1: Create a 501c3**
  - Coordinated communications with Hudson 7 lawyer re: its organizational structure;
  - Tracked all legal fees for payment through Dutchess County;
  - Coordinated organizational structure committee meetings;
  - Continued to research potential organizational models for the committee's ongoing 501c3 for discussion;
  - Developed a memorandum of the Hudson 7 organizational structure process work from March, 2023 - present
  - Developed a worksheet for the Hudson 7 organizational structure committee to compare the five options committee members have identified that include: Continue as a Joint Municipal Board pursuant to the intermunicipal agreement; Establish a separate Not-for-Profit Corporation and seek to establish 501(c)(3) tax exempt status; Establish a separate 501(c)(3) and maintain the existing; Work with a Fiscal Sponsor, or; work within the Joint Water Board (JWB) structure.
- **Goal 2: Establish Policies & Procedures with the Hudson 7 Executive team**
  - Continue the process of organizing the Hudson 7 files and mapping document;
  - Continue to update the Hudson 7 motions document that tracks motions and approval from 2018 - 2024;
  - Outreach to Ecode to provide options for the Hudson 7 council.
- **Goal 3: Develop a strategy for maintaining sustainable funding streams for operation and development expenses**
  - Worked with the organizational structure committee to outline the Hudson 7's unique work in order to shore up its municipal and county grant funding sources in the future.
- **Goal 4: Become an important resource for Hudson 7 drinking water operators**
  - Advanced the creation of a Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Committee to discuss a Water Operators Appreciation Week in May, 2024 and to update existing shared services documents;
  - Coordinated Hudson 7 Suggestions to Water Treatment Operators for TDI/CHPE - DRAFT EM&CP Segment 19B, that included the Hudson River Public Water Supply Protection and Contingency Plan
  - Submitted letter to the state urging Governor Hochul not to cut Clean Water Infrastructure and Hudson River funding, and instead commit at least \$600 million for the Clean Water Infrastructure Act in the SFY 2024-25 budget

- [Developed document](#) to track Hudson 7 Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (DWSRF and CWSRF IUP)
- **Goal 5: Education**
  - Updated the Hudson 7 blog "[Hudson 7 Highlights](#)" with a monthly post
  - Advanced Hudson 7 FAQs to provide a history on the council's project work.
- **Goal 6: Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2)**
  - Attended DWSP2 committee meetings.
- **Goal 7: Salt Front Study**
  - No activity in February
- **Goal 8: Maintain watchdog role on key issues threatening water quality**
  - Submitted letter to NYSDEC re: concerns of "forever chemical" discharges to the Hudson River by the proposed Saratoga Biochar Solutions, LLC proposal
- **Goal 8a: CHPE Committee**
  - Provided coordination and support for the development of suggestions for Water Treatment Plant operators for the Environmental Management and Construction Plan (EM&CP) / segment 19D and Public Water Supply Protection and Contingency Plan.
- **Goal 8b: Lower Esopus Creek Committee**
  - Attended Riverkeeper's debrief call to discuss matters of the Ashokan Release Work Group (ARWG).
  - Coordinated with Hudson 7 Technical Advisor (Engineering) to develop concerns regarding flooding and water quality impacts.
- **Goal 8c: Anchorages Committee**
  - No activity in February

#### Notable Timely Next Steps

1. Anticipate the CHPE EM&CP/Segment 19B Public Comment period in March or April;
2. Anticipate the upcoming Hudson River PCB draft third FYR public comment process;
3. Work with Riverkeeper and Hudson 7 Anchorage Committee to learn more about Regulated Navigation Areas (RNA) and drinking water;
4. Ongoing Hudson 7 organizational structure committee meetings;
5. Support the Hudson 7 DWSP2 committee in their efforts to create a source water protection map for the Hudson 7 drinking watershed;
6. Design Hudson 7 FAQ;
7. Assist technical advisors in their project work and advocacy;
8. Meet with the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Committee to discuss a Water Operators Appreciation Week in May, 2024 and update existing shared services documents.