

4th Annual LIS Partnership Sustainable & Resilient Communities Workshop



LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP



Session 2 – Using Nature-Based Solutions for Resilience: A Panel Discussion on Common Challenges & Strategies for Success

Panelists:



Suzanne Boyle, RLA is an award-winning Principal Landscape Architect at NV5 with more than 25 years of experience advancing sustainable and nature-based design solutions. Her work spans urban parks, waterfronts, and community landscapes, integrating ecological restoration and climate resilience into every project. With a foundation in landscape construction, Susanne emphasizes practical, implementable design that endures. Her award-winning projects have been featured in publications including *Green Roofs in Sustainable Landscape Design*. A former lecturer at the New York Botanical Garden School, she continues to advocate for landscape architecture as a leading force in sustainable and resilient community design.



Alan Cohn is Senior Policy and Science Advisor to the Deputy Commissioner of Sustainability at the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. Alan's focus has been on preparing water systems for climate change and population growth through partnerships and financial incentives to protect communities and optimize infrastructure. Alan represents New York City as the Staff Chair of the Water Utility Climate Alliance, a group of 12 large utilities which provide leadership and collaboration on climate change issues affecting the country's water agencies.



Dr. Kathleen Fallon has been working as the Marine District Coastal Processes and Hazards Specialist with New York Sea Grant since 2017. In her role, she works with various stakeholders including residents and municipal officials to address issues they are experiencing from coastal flooding and erosion. While with Sea Grant, she has been working to advance the awareness of nature-based solutions and address challenges to implementing these features.



Amy Motzny is the Director of Integrated Water Management at the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYC DEP) where she supports sustainability and resiliency initiatives. She holds a Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of Michigan and has more than 15 years of professional experience working in water resource management across public, private, and non-profit sectors. Her portfolio at NYC DEP includes leading agency efforts around demand management and conservation, supporting planning and engagement on Cloudburst, and she is currently project manager for the Tibbetts Brook Daylighting Project in the Bronx.



John Truscinski, CFM is a community planner with experience helping coastal and inland communities develop strategies to respond to the growing impacts of sea-level rise, coastal and riverine flooding, and climate change. In 2018 John became Director of Resilience Planning at the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) at the University of Connecticut. In this role he manages the Resilient Connecticut planning and technical assistance program, which provides support to communities in developing a resilience project pipeline for Connecticut. Prior to joining CIRCA John worked with The Nature Conservancy in New Jersey, as Coastal Resilience Manager, leading a state-wide effort to incorporate living shorelines, marsh restoration, and ecosystem-based climate adaptation strategies into coastal community planning efforts. John holds a Master's degree in Sustainability Management from Columbia University and is a board member of the Connecticut Association of Flood Managers.