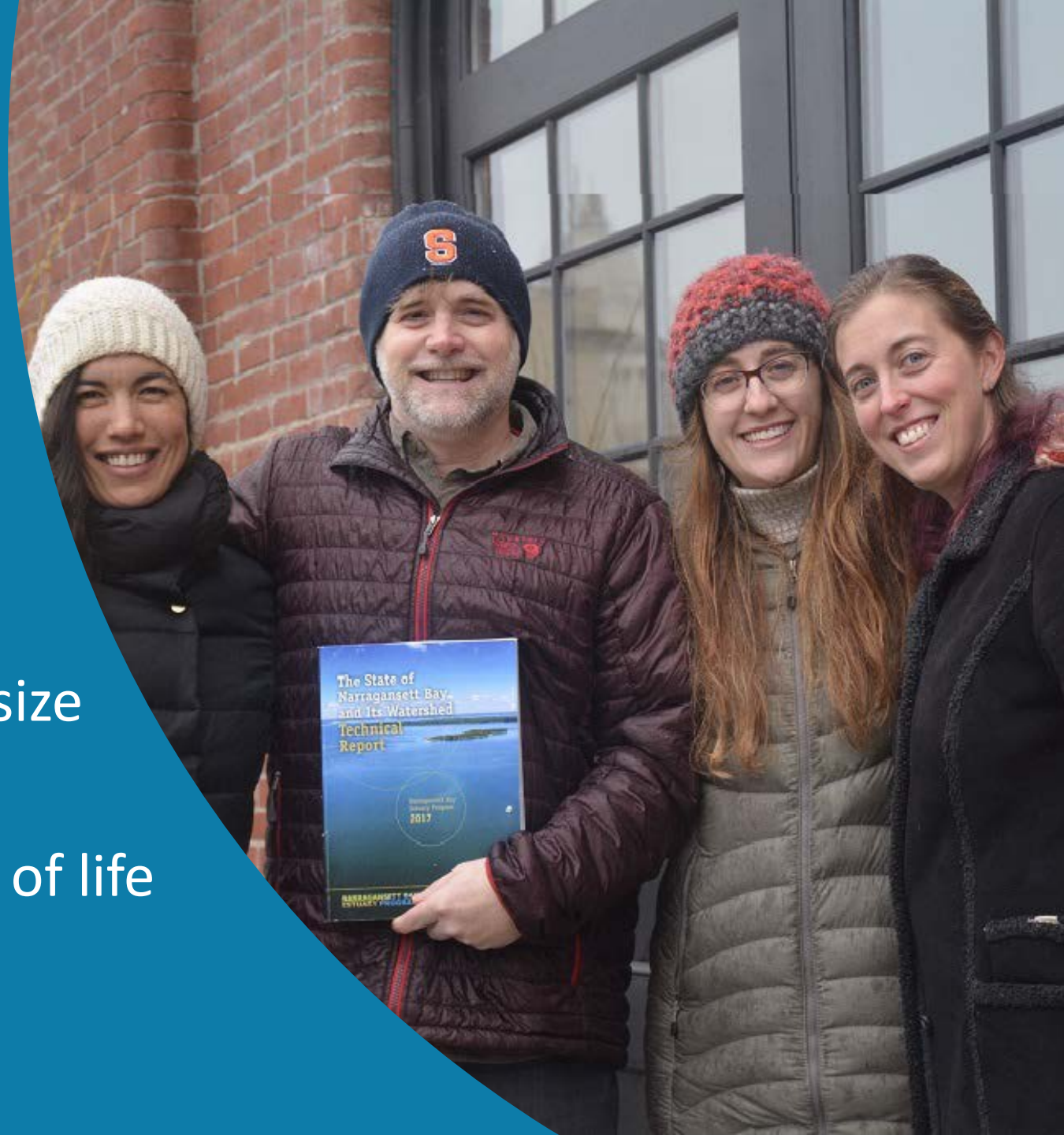


# Narragansett Bay Estuary Program

- One of 28 National Estuary Programs
- Stakeholder-led, consensus driven partnership
- Bring people together, synthesize data, and fund projects
- Water quality, wildlife, quality of life
- Hosted by NEIWPCC





# Project

- *Blackstone River—Past, Present, and Future* workshop in April 2019
- Identifying needs that move from ‘problem to solution’ viewed as a barrier to progress
- NBEP acquired EPA SNEP funding to bring local interests together over at least five (5) meetings to develop a watershed-wide needs assessment
- Goal is to identify and prioritize needs which, once addressed, can deliver more high-quality projects
- Funds available for small capacity grants and for consultants to create support documents for two priority projects
  - 6 applications for capacity funds to support the project were received and contracts expected in May



---

<http://nbep.org/projects/blackstone-needs-assessment/>

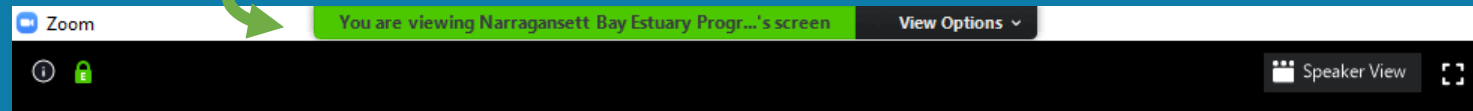
# Exercise: Process

1. Needs were collected at the March meeting within the seven (7) categories below:
  - 1) Watershed Coordination
  - 2) On-the Ground Project—Process
  - 3) On-the-Ground Projects—Specific Ideas
  - 4) Capacity-Building
  - 5) Sustainable Development
  - 6) Outreach
  - 7) Monitoring
2. We will provide a slide for each category that lists all collected needs.
3. We are going to do some voting today to begin to prioritize needs. These needs, once addressed can help move more problems to solutions in the region.
4. Each participant will get 5 votes per category. You may vote for an individual needs more than once.
5. Voting guidance provided on the next slide.

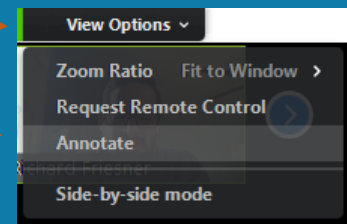
# Exercise: Voting Guidance

After NBEP shares the screen...

1. Move your mouse to the top of your screen. You should see this green bar

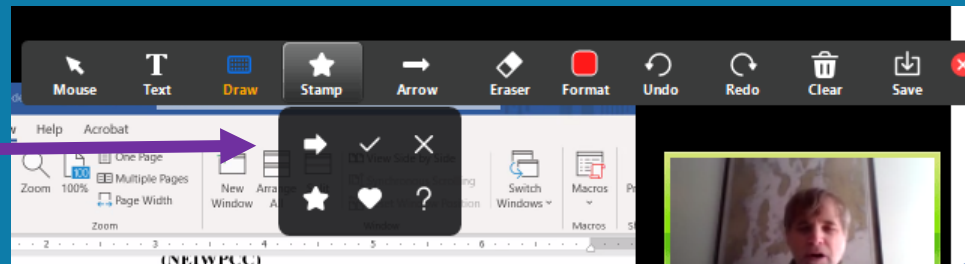


2. Click on "View Options"



3. Click on "Annotate"

This menu opens



4. Click "Stamp"

5. Click the star shape.

6. You are now ready to vote! Click on your screen next to the need you want to vote for and a star will appear. Note that your clicker is now "activated" so you don't need to go back through the process above to click again.

7. If you have ANY difficulty voting, you can post of your votes in the Chat box.

# 1) Watershed Coordination

Need	Votes
1. Develop New Partnerships.	
2. Create Regional Network.	
3. Create and Maintain Information Clearinghouse.	
4. Assist Municipalities with Communication.	
5. Pursue More Coordinated Outreach.	
6. Better Understand and Respond to FEMA Map Changes.	

## 2) On-the-Ground Projects—Process

Need	Votes
1. Identify Project Ideas.	
2. Address Permitting Barriers.	
3. Prioritize Projects.	
4. Acquire More Project Funding.	
5. Revise Regulations.	

### 3) On-the-Ground Projects—Specific Project Ideas

Need	Votes
1. Install fish ladders on lower four Blackstone dams.	
2. Prioritize culvert replacement.	
3. Finish interstate bike path.	
4. Provide ongoing stewardship for bike path.	
5. Grafton Lake ripple sediment delta removal.	
6. Turn Cumberland dump into recreation space.	
7. Poor Farm Brook dam removal.	
8. Install urban tree canopy cover	
9. Protect priority farmlands/open space parcels.	
10. Install greater public access on river main stem.	



## (4) Capacity-Building

Need	Votes
1. More Staff Capacity at Municipal Government.	
2. More Operational Staff at NGOs.	
3. More Reliable Long-Term Capacity Funding.	
4. Greater Technical Assistance to Municipalities	
5. Maximize Existing Capacity.	
6. Re-energize All Those Who Care About the Blackstone to Create New Champions.	

# (5) Sustainable Development

Need	Votes
1. Pursue Local Land Use Ordinance Reform.	
2. Maximize Implementation of MVP/MRP Programs.	
3. Pursue Natural Solutions to Water and Habitat Issues.	
4. Ensure Install of Erosion Control on Active Projects.	
5. Maintain Existing Infrastructure/BMPs.	
6. Access Existing Wastewater Capacity.	
7. Create More Sustainable Water Supply.	
8. Address Affordable Housing Shortage.	
9. Pursue Brownfields Redevelopment.	
10. More Transportation Planning.	
11. Ensure Responsible Renewable Energy Siting.	
12. Encourage Composting.	
13. Offer Public Recognition for Smart Design/Development	

## (6) Monitoring

Need	Votes
1. Prioritize Monitoring That Can Inform Local Decisions and Actions.	
2. Address Specific Known Monitoring Gaps.	
3. Obtain More Funding for Volunteer Monitoring Programs.	
4. Increase State and Federal Monitoring Efforts.	
5. Increase Quality and Quantity of External Data Sharing.	
6. Increase Public Awareness of Watershed Conditions.	

# (7) Outreach

Need	Votes
1. Empower Greater Community Participation in Decision-Making.	
2. Pursued Targeted Expansion of Outreach to New Interests.	
3. Augment Existing Youth Education.	
4. Install Simple Education Signage.	
5. Release More Compelling, Inspiring, and Targeted Messaging.	