

Good morning Mayors and Officials,

NJDEP is undergoing a rulemaking process for our public access rules. To meet the requirements of N.J.S.A. 13:1D-150 et seq., DEP is proposing to amend rules governing when and how public access to tidal waters and their shorelines is required under the Coastal Zone Management Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:7, and incorporate new rules for public access into the Flood Hazard Area Control Act, N.J.A.C. 7:13.

To date, we've held four stakeholder meetings. Given the importance of public access to communities throughout the state, we are sharing this information directly with our local government partners to seek their comment. Attached is the PowerPoint that was shared at the stakeholder meetings. In addition, audio of the previous stakeholder meetings can be found here:
<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/workgroups/past.html>.

While the public and all interested parties will have opportunity to comment after the proposed rule is published, we wanted to get your feedback specifically during the rule formation process. Please see the attached PowerPoint and listen to the accompanying audio. We then ask you send us your thoughts, feedback and suggestions as we undertake the rule writing process. Comments should be sent to Kim Springer, kim.springer@dep.nj.gov, no later than close of business **Friday, October 4, 2019**. Please include "Public Access" in the subject line of your email.

Again, this will not be the only opportunity to comment on this rule, but we are seeking your input during the early stages. We look forward to receiving your thoughts and commentary. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.