The Passaic River Coalition has been working with Little Falls for many years for solutions to the flooding of the Passaic River. Through Blue Acres funding and other sources and partnerships, Little Falls has created a riverfront park where residential homes once stood.

The removal of residential homes that consistently flooded for decades is a long process. For some years, guest speaker and attorney John Veteri has spearheaded this Little Falls waterfront project for the Coalition, which contends that natural preservation and use of banks of the Passaic contributes greatly to flood mitigation. Veteri will review the process and elaborate on its challenges and hurdles. Working with banks, Blue Acres, municipal and county officials and residents to build this fundamental change of land use requires much diligence, persistence and time. He will cover legal, bank and FEMA obstacles encountered, resident concerns, demolition issues and costs plus engaging corporate participation to create a riverfront park. From a hand-on experience with this project, he also will point out legislation changes that are sorely needed to improve Blue Acres process and implementation.

Mr. Veteri will be joined by the Mayor of Little Falls in open forum of how this project is ongoing and successful in Little Falls.