



SECTION 3. PLANNING PROCESS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This section includes a description of the planning process used to update the April 2010 “Washington County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan” (HMP, also referred herein as the “Hazard Mitigation Plan” or the “plan”), including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.

To ensure that the plan both met requirements of the DMA 2000, as well as to assure that the planning process would have the broad and effective support of the participating jurisdictions, regional and local stakeholders and the public, an approach to the planning process and plan documentation was developed to achieve the following:

- The plan will be multi-jurisdictional, with the intention of including all municipalities in the county. Washington County invited all jurisdictions in the county to join with them in the planning process. To date, 23 out of 25 municipal governments in the County participated in the 2016-2018 planning process as indicated in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1. Participating Washington County Jurisdictions

Jurisdictions	
Washington County	Town of Greenwich
Town of Argyle	Village of Greenwich
Village of Argyle	Town of Hampton
Town of Cambridge	Town of Hartford
Village of Cambridge	Town of Hebron
Town of Dresden	Village of Hudson Falls (not participating)
Town of Easton	Town of Jackson
Town of Fort Ann	Town of Kingsbury
Village of Fort Ann (not participating)	Town of Putnam
Town of Fort Edward	Town of Salem (incl. former Village)
Village of Fort Edward	Town of White Creek
Town of Granville	Town of Whitehall
Village of Granville	Village of Whitehall

- The plan will consider all natural hazards facing the area, thereby satisfying the natural hazards mitigation planning requirements specified in DMA 2000.
- The plan will be developed following the process outlined by DMA 2000, FEMA regulations, and prevailing Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (NYS DHSES) guidance. Following this process ensures that all the requirements are met and support Plan review. In addition, this Plan will meet criteria for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) and the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) programs.

The Washington County HMP update was written using the best available information obtained from a wide variety of sources. Throughout the HMP update process, a concerted effort was made to gather information from municipal and regional agencies and staff as well as stakeholders, federal and state agencies, and the residents of the county. The HMP Steering Committee solicited information from local agencies and individuals



with specific knowledge of certain natural hazards and past historical events. In addition, the committees took into consideration planning and zoning codes, ordinances, and recent land use planning decisions. The hazard mitigation strategies identified in this HMP update have been developed through an extensive planning process involving local, county and regional agencies, residents, and stakeholders.

This section of the plan describes the mitigation planning process, including (1) Organization of Planning Process; (2) Planning Activities; (3) Stakeholder Outreach and Involvement; (4) Public Outreach; and Involvement; (4) Integration of Existing Data, Plans, and Information; (5) Integration with Existing Planning Mechanisms and Programs; and (6) Continued Public Outreach.

3.2 ORGANIZATION OF PLANNING PROCESS

This section of the plan identifies how the planning process was organized with the many planning partners involved, and outlines the major activities that were conducted in the development of this HMP update.

3.2.1 Organization of Planning Partnership

Washington County applied for and was awarded a multi-jurisdictional planning grant under the 2014 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDMC-PL-02-NY-2014-001), which has supported the development of this HMP. Project management and grant administration has been the responsibility of the Washington County Department of Public Safety.

A contract planning consultant (Tetra Tech, Inc.) was tasked with:

- Assisting with the organization of a Steering Committee and municipal planning partnership;
- Assisting with the development and implementation of a public and stakeholder outreach program;
- Data collection;
- Facilitation and attendance at meetings (Steering Committee, municipal, stakeholder, public and other);
- Review and update of the hazards of concern, hazard profiling and risk assessment;
- Assistance with the review and update of mitigation planning goals and objectives;
- Assistance with the review of past mitigation strategies progress;
- Assistance with the screening of mitigation actions and the identification of appropriate actions;
- Assistance with the prioritization of mitigation actions; and
- Authoring of the draft and final plan documents.

In May 2016, the County notified all municipalities within the county of the pending planning process and invited them to formally participate. Jurisdictions were asked to formally notify the County of their intent to participate (via a Letter of Intent to Participate) and to identify planning points of contact to facilitate municipal participation and represent the interests of their respective communities. Twenty-two out of the 25 municipalities returned a Letter of Intent to Participate. The Towns of Putnam and Whitehall and the Village of Greenwich did not return their Letters of Intent to Participate. While these municipalities did not provide a Letter of Intent to Participate, they actively participated in the planning process and provided the required documentation to complete their municipal annex. See Appendix G for municipal Letters of Intent as available.

To facilitate plan development, Washington County developed a Steering Committee to provide guidance and direction to the HMP update effort, and to ensure the resulting document will be embraced both politically and by the constituency within the planning area. All municipalities participating in the plan update authorized the Steering Committee to perform certain activities on their behalf, via the Letter of Intent to participate (FEMA mitigation planning “combination model”). Specifically, the Steering Committee was charged with:



- Providing guidance and oversight of the planning process on behalf of the general planning partnership;
- Attending and participating in Steering Committee meetings;
- Assisting with the development and completion of certain planning elements, including:
 - Reviewing and updating the hazards of concern,
 - Developing a public and stakeholder outreach program,
 - Assuring that the data and information used in the plan update process is the best available
 - Reviewing and updating the hazard mitigation goals,
 - Identification and screening of appropriate mitigation strategies and activities; and
- Reviewing and commenting on plan documents prior to submission to NYS DHSES and FEMA.

The Steering Committee provided guidance and leadership, oversight of the planning process, and acted as the point of contact for all participating jurisdictions and the various interest groups in the planning area.

All municipalities in the County were invited to participate in the planning process, and received a copy of the Planning Partner Expectations, outlining the responsibilities of the participants and the agreement of the partners to authorize the Steering Committee to represent the jurisdiction in the completion of certain planning elements as noted above. Within this plan, the greater universe of County and local departments, agencies and jurisdictions that formally participated in the planning process are referred to as the “planning partnership”, while the municipal government participants are referred to as the “municipal planning partnership”.

The municipal planning partnership was charged with the following:

- Represent their jurisdiction throughout the planning process;
- Assure participation of all department and functions within their community that have a stake in mitigation (e.g., planning, engineering, code enforcement, police and emergency services, public works, etc.);
- Assist in gathering information for inclusion in the plan update, including the use of previously developed reports and data;
- Support and promote the public involvement process;
- Report on progress of mitigation actions identified in prior or existing HMPs, as applicable;
- Identify, develop and prioritize appropriate mitigation initiatives;
- Report on progress of integration of prior or existing HMPs into other planning processes and municipal operations;
- Develop and author a jurisdictional annex for their jurisdiction;
- Review, amend, and approve all sections of the plan update; and
- Adopt, implement and maintain the plan update.

Table 3-2 lists the current members of the planning partnership as of the time of publication of this plan update.



Table 3-2. Washington County Hazard Mitigation Planning Partnership Members

Organization	Name	Title / Position	Planning Partnership	Steering Committee
Washington County Department of Public Safety	Jonathan Pease	Emergency Management and Hazard Mitigation Planning Coordinator		X
	Glen Gosnell	Director of Public Safety		X
	Timothy Hardy	Deputy Director of Public Safety	X	X
Washington County Administration	Chris DeBolt	County Administrator (former County Director of Planning)	X	X
Washington County Department of Public Works	Steve Haskins	Superintendent	X	X
	Todd Konifka	Deputy Superintendent	X	X
Washington County Code Enforcement	Steven Smith	Code Enforcement Officer	X	X
Washington County Soil and Water Conservation District	Corrina Aldrich	District Manager	X	X
Washington County Planning Department	Layne Darfler	Planner	X	X
Washington County Real Property Tax Service	Heather Weller	GIS Specialist	X	X
Washington County Board Of Supervisors	Robert A. Henke	Chairman		BOS Liaison
Town of Argyle	Robert (Bob) Humiston	Highway Superintendent	X	
	Robert A. Henke	Town Supervisor	X	
Village of Argyle	Wesley Clark	Mayor	X	
	Joyann Stimpson	Clerk/Treasurer	X	
	Robert A. Henke	Town Supervisor (Town of Argyle)	X	
Town of Cambridge	Jim Buckley	Highway Superintendent	X	
	Catherine (Cassie) Fedler	Town Supervisor	X	
Village of Cambridge	Matt Toleman	Public Works/DPW Superintendent	X	
	Carman Bogle	Village Mayor	X	
Town of Dresden	Richard Hobus	Highway Superintendent	X	
	George Gang	Town Supervisor	X	
Town of Easton	Daniel Shaw	Town Supervisor	X	
	Randy Moy	Councilman	X	
Town of Fort Ann	Richard Moore	Supervisor	X	
	Paul Winchell	Highway Superintendent	X	
	Mark A. Miller	Code Enforcement Officer, NFIP FPA	X	
Village of Fort Ann	Richard Foran	Mayor	X	
Town of Fort Edward	Mitchell Suprenant	Town Supervisor	X	
	Brian Brockway	Highway Superintendent	X	
Village of Fort Edward	Matthew Traver	Mayor	X	



Organization	Name	Title / Position	Planning Partnership	Steering Committee
	Bryan Etu	Highway Superintendent	X	
Town of Granville	Eric Towne	Highway Superintendent; NFIP FPA	X	
	Mark Kretzer	Water Superintendent	X	
Village of Granville	Dan Williams	Superintendent Public Works	X	
	George Johnson	Assistant Superintendent	X	
Town of Greenwich	Kellie Blake	Clerk to the Supervisor/ Bookkeeper	X	
	Sara S. Idleman	Supervisor	X	
	Dan O'Connor	Code Enforcement	X	
Village of Greenwich	Pam Fuller	Mayor	X	
Town of Hampton	Herb Sady	Highway Superintendent	X	
	Dave O'Brien	Supervisor	X	
Town of Hartford	Dan Haff	Town Supervisor	X	
	Greg Brown	Highway Superintendent	X	
	Mark A. Miller	Code Enforcement Officer	X	
Town of Hebron	Floyd Pratt	Highway Superintendent	X	
	Brian R. Campbell	Town Supervisor	X	
Village of Hudson Falls	Michael Fiorillo	Highway Superintendent	X	
	Randy Diamond	Chief of Police	X	
	John Barton	Mayor	X	
Town of Jackson	Sean Carney	Highway Superintendent	X	
	Jay B. Skellie	Town Supervisor; NFIP FPA	X	
Town of Kingsbury	Dana Hogan	Supervisor	X	
	Ross Cortese	Code Enforcement Officer	X	
Town of Putnam	John R. LaPointe	Town Supervisor	X	
	Darlene Kerr	Town Clerk	X	
Town of Salem (incl. former Village)	Seth M. Pitts	Town Supervisor	X	
	Gerald Boisclair	Highway Superintendent	X	
	Alton Knapp	NFIP FPA	X	
Town of White Creek	Robert Shay	Town Supervisor	X	
	Chris Rieben	Highway Superintendent	X	
Town of Whitehall	George Armstrong	Town Supervisor	X	
	Louis Pratt	Highway Superintendent	X	
Village of Whitehall	Kenneth Bartholomew	Mayor	X	
	Steven Brock	DPW Foreman	X	
	Peter Telisky	Compliance, NFIP FPA	X	

BOS Board of Supervisors





FPA Floodplain Administrator
NFIP National Flood Insurance Program

It is noted that the jurisdictional Letter of Intent to Participate identifies the above “Planning Partner Expectations” as serving to identify those activities comprising overall participation by jurisdictions throughout the planning process. It is recognized that the jurisdictions in Washington County have differing levels of capabilities and resources available to apply to the plan update process, and further, have differing exposure and vulnerability to the natural hazard risks being considered in this plan. It was Washington County’s intent to encourage participation by all-inclusive jurisdictions, and to accommodate their specific needs and limitations while still meeting the intents and purpose of plan update participation. Such accommodations have included the establishment of a Steering Committee, engaging a contract consultant to assume certain elements of the plan update process on behalf of the jurisdictions, and the provision of additional and alternative mechanisms to meet the purposes and intent of mitigation planning.

Ultimately, jurisdictional participation is evidenced by a completed municipal annex to the HMP (Section 9 - Annexes) wherein jurisdictions have individually identified their planning points of contact, evaluated their risk to the hazards of concern, identified their capabilities to effect mitigation in their community, and identified and prioritized an appropriate suite of mitigation initiatives, actions, and projects to mitigate their hazard risk; and eventually, by the adoption of the updated plan via resolution.

Appendix D - Participation Matrix identifies those individuals who represented the municipalities during this planning effort, and indicates how they contributed to the planning process.

It is noted that all municipalities in the county actively participate in the National Flood Insurance Program, and have a designated NFIP Floodplain Administrator (FPA). All FPAs of the participating municipalities have been informed of the planning process, reviewed the plan documents, and provided direct input to the plan update. Local FPAs are identified in the “Administrative and Technical” portion of the local Capability Assessments presented within the jurisdictional annexes in Section 9, as well as in Appendix D – Participation Matrix.

3.2.2 Planning Activities

Members of the planning partnership (individually and as a whole), as well as key stakeholders, convened and/or communicated regularly to share information and participate in workshops to identify hazards; assess risks; review existing inventories of and identify new critical facilities; assist in updating and developing new mitigation goals and strategies; and provide continuity through the process to ensure that natural hazards vulnerability information and appropriate mitigation strategies were incorporated. All members of the planning partnership, for those municipalities that participated, had the opportunity to review the draft plan and supported interaction with other stakeholders, and assisted with public involvement efforts.

A summary of planning partnership activities, including meetings held during the development of the plan, is included in Table 3-3. It also identifies which DMA 2000 requirements the activities satisfy. Documentation of meetings (agendas, sign-in sheets, minutes, etc.) may be found in Appendix B – Meeting Documentation. This summary table identifies only the formal meetings and milestone events held during the plan update process, and does not reflect the larger universe of planning activities conducted by individuals and groups throughout the planning process. In addition to these meetings, there was a great deal of communication between planning partnership members and the consultant through individual local meetings, phone and email.

After completion of the plan, implementation and ongoing maintenance will become a function of the planning partnership as described in Section 7 – Plan Maintenance. The planning partnership is responsible for reviewing the draft plan and soliciting public comment as part of an annual review and as part of the five-year mitigation plan updates.





Table 3-3. Summary of Mitigation Planning Activities / Efforts

Date	DMA 2000 Requirement	Description of Activity	Participants
August 2015	1b, 2	County awarded Post Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Planning grant	WCDPS; FEMA; NYS DHSES
March 2016		Grant Extension request submitted to NYS DHSES	County, NYS DHSES
March – May 2016	1b, 2	County conducts procurement process for contract planning support	WCDPS
May 16, 2016	1b, 1c, 2, 3a, 3b, 3c, 4a, 5c	Steering Committee Meeting #1: Discuss proposed planning process and scope of work, review project schedule; review municipal participation and formalizing via Letter of Intent to Participate (LOIP), discuss municipal Kick Off meeting and local data collection; review and discuss sources and availability of county and regional data; discuss public and stakeholder outreach efforts.	WC Project Management Team and Steering Committee; Contract Planner. See Appendix B – Meeting Documentation
May 2016	2	All municipalities invited to participate in the planning process and requested to document via a Letter of Intent to Participate.	WCDPS, all municipal governments
June 15, 2016	1b, 1c, 2, 3a, 3b, 3c, 4a	Municipal Kick-Off Meeting: Complete overview of planning process, plan participant expectations, review of hazards and hazards of concern identification, discussion of data needs and data collection process explaining all provided worksheets (hard copy and on resource CD), discussion of public and stakeholder outreach efforts	WCDPS; Municipal Representatives and stakeholders. See Appendix B - Meeting Documentation
June 2016	2	Public project website (www.washingtoncountyhmp.com), Citizen and Stakeholders surveys made available for Steering Committee review and subsequent public announcement	Steering Committee; Contract Planner; Public and Stakeholders
June 30, 2016	1b, 1c, 2, 3a-c, 3e	Local Data Collection Meeting – Towns of Cambridge, Jackson and White Creek; Village of Cambridge	See Appendix B - Meeting Documentation
July 15, 2016	1b, 1c, 2, 3a-c, 3e	County Annex Data Collection Conference Call	See Appendix B - Meeting Documentation
July 28, 2016	1b, 2, 3 (all), 4a, 4b, 5c	SC Meeting #2 - Review/finalize hazards of concern; review/update goals and objectives; review public and stakeholder outreach efforts; set date for Mitigation Strategy Workshop; review municipal progress and schedule	Steering Committee (See Appendix B - Meeting Documentation)
July – August, 2016	2	County and municipalities promote public project website, and citizen and stakeholder surveys	Steering Committee; County; municipalities and stakeholders
August 10, 2016	1b	Article in Post-Star – “Washington County Seeks Public Input on “Hazard Mitigation” Plan”, notifying the public of the project website and Citizen Survey	Public and stakeholders
August 19, 2016		Board of Supervisors Meeting: Presented project to Board of Supervisors, encouraging local participation and further public and stakeholder outreach	Washington County Board of Supervisors; Steering Committee See Appendix B - Meeting Documentation
August 20, 2016	1b	Article in Post-Star – “FEMA May Pay for Flood Prevention in Washington County”, summarizing the August 19 BOS project presentation	Public and stakeholders
Sept. 14, 2016	4b, 4c, 5b	FEMA Mitigation Workshop for all planning partners	Paul Hoole, FEMA Region II; all plan participants (see



Date	DMA 2000 Requirement	Description of Activity	Participants
			Appendix B - Meeting Documentation)
Sept. 2016 – Feb. 2017	4b, 4c, 5b	All jurisdictions update mitigation strategy, including project prioritization; and work to complete jurisdictional annexes	All plan participants with the support of the Washington County SC and contract consultant
January 2017	1b, 2	Municipalities provided summary of citizen and stakeholder survey responses, organized by community, for possible inclusion into municipal annexes	All municipalities; public and stakeholders
February 2017	1b, 2	Draft Plan sections posted to public project website as available. Communities requested to use available outreach to notify the public of the draft plan for review. Online survey provided to support draft plan review comments from the public and stakeholders - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WashingtonCountyPlanReview	Public and Stakeholders
July, 2017	1b, 2	Full Draft Plan sections posted to public project website as available. Communities requested to use available outreach to notify the public of the draft plan for review. Online survey provided to support draft plan review comments from the public and stakeholders - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WashingtonCountyPlanReview Surrounding counties advised of the draft plan for their review and input.	Public and Stakeholders
August, 2017	2	Final Draft Plan submitted to NYS DHSES / FEMA Region II	NYS DHSES/FEMA Region II
Upon plan approval by FEMA	1a	HMP adoption by resolution by the governing bodies of the County and all participating municipalities	All plan participants

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency
 NYS DHSES New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services
 SC Steering Committee
 TBD to be determined
 WC Washington County
 WCDPS Washington County Department of Public Safety

Each number in column 2 identifies specific DMA 2000 requirements, as follows:
 1a – Prerequisite – Adoption by the Local Governing Body
 1b – Public Participation
 2 – Planning Process – Documentation of the Planning Process
 3a – Risk Assessment – Identifying Hazards
 3b – Risk Assessment – Profiling Hazard Events
 3c – Risk Assessment – Assessing Vulnerability: Identifying Assets
 3d – Risk Assessment – Assessing Vulnerability: Estimating Potential Losses
 3e – Risk Assessment – Assessing Vulnerability: Analyzing Development Trends
 4a – Mitigation Strategy – Local Hazard Mitigation Goals
 4b – Mitigation Strategy – Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Measures
 4c – Mitigation Strategy – Implementation of Mitigation Measures
 5a – Plan Maintenance Procedures – Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating the Plan
 5b – Plan Maintenance Procedures – Implementation through Existing Programs
 5c – Plan Maintenance Procedures – Continued Public Involvement

3.3 STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT

This section details the outreach to, and involvement of, the many agencies, departments, organizations, non-profits, districts, authorities and other entities that have a stake in managing hazard risk and mitigation, commonly referred to as “stakeholders”.

Diligent efforts were made to assure broad regional, county, and local representation in this planning process. To that end, a comprehensive list of stakeholders was developed with the support of the Steering and Planning committees. Stakeholder outreach was performed early and throughout the planning process. In addition to





“mass media” notification efforts (e.g. social media, websites), identified stakeholders were invited to attend the kick-off meeting, while key stakeholders were requested to participate on the Steering Committee. Information and input provided by these stakeholders has been included throughout this plan where appropriate, as identified in the references.

The following is a list of the various stakeholders that were invited to participate in the development of this plan, along with a summary of how these stakeholders participated and contributed to the plan. This summary listing cannot represent the sum total of stakeholders that were aware of and/or contributed to this plan since formal and informal outreach efforts were utilized throughout the process by the many planning partners involved in the overall effort. Complete documentation of such broad-based and often locally-focused efforts is impossible. Instead, this summary is intended to demonstrate the scope and breadth of the stakeholder outreach efforts made during the planning process.

Federal Agencies

FEMA Region II: Provided updated planning guidance; provided summary and detailed NFIP data for planning area; conducted a Mitigation Strategy Workshop; conducted plan review.

State Agencies

New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (NYS DHSES: Headquarters and Region I): Administered planning grant and facilitated FEMA review; provided updated planning guidance; provided information on grant applications from County and municipalities; provided review of Draft and Final Plan.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC): Provided data and information.

New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT): Provided data and information, identified mitigation projects on state-owned infrastructure within the county.

County and Regional Departments, Agencies, Commissions and Non-Profits

Washington County Department of Public Safety (WCDPS): Provided overall project and planning grant management, served on Steering Committee, arranged and attended meetings, provided data and information, facilitated and supported public and stakeholder outreach, identified ongoing and potential mitigation projects and initiatives, reviewed draft and final plan sections.

Washington County Department of Public Works (WCDPW): Served on Steering Committee, provided data and information, reviewed progress on original mitigation strategy, identified new projects/initiatives, reviewed and provided input on draft and final plan sections.

Washington County Soil and Water Conservation District (WC SWCD): Served on Steering Committee, provided data and information, supported local data collection meetings; facilitated and supported public and stakeholder outreach, identified ongoing and potential mitigation projects and initiatives, reviewed draft and final plan sections.

Washington County Planning Department: Served on Steering Committee, provided critical data and information, identified new projects/initiatives, assisted communities with data collection and annex completion, reviewed and provided input on draft and final plan sections.

Washington County Sewer District: Identified vulnerabilities to critical infrastructure, and possible mitigation actions.



Washington County Real Property Tax Service: Provided critical property information to update general building stock for the vulnerability assessment.

Washington County Board of Supervisors: Project presented to the Board; various Board members provided direct input to the project, including potential mitigation projects and initiatives.

Washington County Code Enforcement Department: Served on Steering Committee, provided data and information, particularly in the area of county-wide code enforcement and NFIP floodplain administration; identified new projects/initiatives, reviewed and provided input on draft and final plan sections.

Washington County Sheriff's Office: Responded to stakeholder surveys; provided information for hazard profiles; identified possible mitigation actions.

Regional and Local Stakeholders

Please see Appendix D - Participation Matrix for further details regarding regional and local stakeholder agencies. The stakeholders listed below were directly contacted by Washington County to take a stakeholder survey which included the identification of specific mitigation actions/projects. Results of the surveys can be found in Appendix C - Public and Stakeholder Outreach Documents.

Academia (School districts and other academic institutions): Municipalities directly involved school district representatives in the planning process, as identified in Table 3-3 and Appendix C – Public and Stakeholder Outreach Documents. All school districts were provided the Academic Stakeholder survey and invited to provide input, while some have identified specific mitigation actions/projects included in the County or local mitigation strategies. The following have provided direct input to the planning process:

- Nothing to date

Law Enforcement: Many municipalities directly involved police and other law enforcement representatives in the planning process, as identified in Table 3-3 and Appendix C - Public and Stakeholder Outreach Documents. Further, through the Washington County Department of Public Safety, all police departments and law enforcement agencies in the County were notified of the Law Enforcement Stakeholder survey and invited to provide input, while some have identified specific mitigation actions/projects included in the County or local mitigation strategies. The following have provided direct input to the planning process:

- Whitehall Police - Completed survey (multiple responses)
- Washington County Sheriff's Office - Completed survey (multiple responses)
- Granville Police Department – Completed survey
- Washington County Department of Public Safety
- Cambridge-Greenwich Police Department - Completed survey
- New York State Police – Completed Survey

Fire Districts and Fire Departments: Many municipalities directly involved fire district/department representatives in the planning process, as identified in Table 3-3 and Appendix C - Public and Stakeholder Outreach Documents. Further the Washington County Department of Public Safety advised all Fire Districts and Fire Departments of the Fire Fighting survey and invited them to provide input. The following have provided input to the planning process:

- Hartford Volunteer Fire Company – Completed Survey
- Kingsbury Volunteer Hose Company #1 – Completed survey
- Salem Fire Department – Completed survey, multiple responses



- Granville Fire Department– Completed survey
- Wells Vol. Fire Department – Completed survey
- Easton Volunteer Fire Company – Completed survey
- Washington County Department of Public Safety – Completed survey
- Putnam Volunteer Fire Department - Completed survey
- Middle Falls Fire Department – Completed survey

Hospitals and Health-Care Facilities: The following hospitals and health-care facilities in the county were provided the Hospitals and Health-Care Stakeholder survey and invited to provide input, while some have identified specific mitigation actions/projects included in the County or local mitigation strategies. The following have provided input to the planning process:

- Nothing to date

Ambulance/Emergency Medical Services: All ambulance and emergency medical service providers in the County were provided the Ambulance/Emergency Medical Services stakeholder survey and invited to provide input, while some have identified specific mitigation actions/projects included in the County or local mitigation strategies. The following have provided input to the planning process:

- Washington County Department of Public Safety – Completed survey
- Fort Ann Rescue Squad – Completed Survey

Business and Commercial Interests: Businesses and commercial interests in the county were provided the Business and Commerce Stakeholder survey and invited to provide input, however to date no responses have been received.

Private Non-Profit Organizations: The following private non-profit organizations have provided input to the planning process:

- Nothing to date

Adirondack / Glens Falls Transportation Council: Supported the “White Creek Watershed Infrastructure Flood Vulnerability and Mitigation Assessment” study (June 2016 Draft), which identified flood vulnerabilities in the Town of Salem, and mitigation alternatives that have been incorporated into the Town’s updated mitigation strategy.

Adjacent Counties:

The County has made an effort to keep surrounding counties and municipalities apprised of the project, and allowed the opportunity to provide input to this planning process. In addition to outreach and publicity of the effort performed de-facto at regional meetings and events, the following adjacent County representatives were contacted in February 2017 to inform them about the availability of the project website, draft plan documents and surveys, and invited to provide input to the planning process. No formal comments were received from adjacent counties.

- Essex County (NY)
 - Don Janquish; Director, Essex County Emergency Services
 - Michael Blaise; Deputy Director, Essex County Emergency Services
- Warren County (NY)
 - Amy Hirsch, Deputy Director; Warren County Office of Emergency Services



- Jim Lieberum, Director; Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Saratoga County (NY)
 - Carl Zeilman, Director; Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services
 - Ed Trembley, Deputy Director/Fire Coordinator; Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services
- Rensselaer County (NY)
 - Kelly Paslow; Director, Rensselaer County Bureau of Emergency Services
 - Wayne Bonesteel; Rensselaer County Engineer

3.3.1 Public Outreach

The Steering Committee and Planning Partnership have made the following efforts toward public participation in the development and review of the Plan:

- A public project website was developed and is being maintained to facilitate communication between the Steering Committee, planning partnership, public and stakeholders (<http://www.washingtoncountyhmp.com>). The public website contains a project overview, County and local contact information, access to the citizen's survey and various stakeholder surveys, and sections of the HMP for public review and comment (see Figure 3-1).
- Visibility for the project website has been facilitated through announcements and/or links on the following:
 - Washington County Department of Public Safety website, as well as through their social media Facebook and Twitter accounts
 - Washington County Soil and Water Conservation District homepage
 - Washington County Civic Plus New Flash page
 - Participating municipalities requested to post on municipal homepages
- An on-line natural hazards preparedness citizen survey was developed to gauge household preparedness that may impact Washington County and to assess the level of knowledge of tools and techniques to assist in reducing risk and loss of those hazards (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WCCitizen>). The questionnaire asks quantifiable questions about citizen perception of risk, knowledge of mitigation, and support of community programs. The questionnaire also asks several demographic questions to help analyze trends. The questionnaire has been available on the public website since June 2016. A summary of survey results is provided in Appendix C - Public and Stakeholder Outreach Documents of this plan.
- Starting in August 2016, draft sections of the plan (as available) were posted on the project website for public review and comment. The County Communications Director distributed a press release advertising the project website and the availability of the draft plan for review and comment (see Figure 3-3). An online comment form (survey) was provided along with the draft plan sections to support the receipt and processing of public comment.
- Washington County Department of Public Safety posted regular monthly announcements about the project through their Facebook and Twitter accounts, as well as through their downloadable smartphone application.
- Washington County Department of Public Safety continued to present the project process, requests for information, and status at Public Safety meetings (September 28, Oct 25, Nov 29, Jan 24 and 30, February 9 and 28), which involve all municipalities.
- The project was presented at the August 19, 2016 Washington County Board of Supervisors meeting, which included representation from all Towns in the County, as well as local media (Post-Star).
- All participating municipalities have been encouraged to distribute press releases on the project, including links to the project webpage and citizen and stakeholder surveys. In addition, all participating



municipalities have been requested to advertise the availability of the project website via local homepage links, and other available public announcement methods (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, email blasts, etc.)

- A tri-fold brochure describing the project and providing links to the project website and main project contacts was prepared and provided to municipalities and other stakeholders for distribution. The brochure was distributed from the Washington County Soil and Water Conservation District booth at the Washington County Fair (August 2016).
- Once submitted to NYS DHSES/FEMA, the Final Plan will be available for public review and comment in the same manner and format as the Draft Plan, as well as in hard-copy format at the following as identified in Section 7 - Plan Maintenance.

Figure 3-1. Washington County HMP Webpage

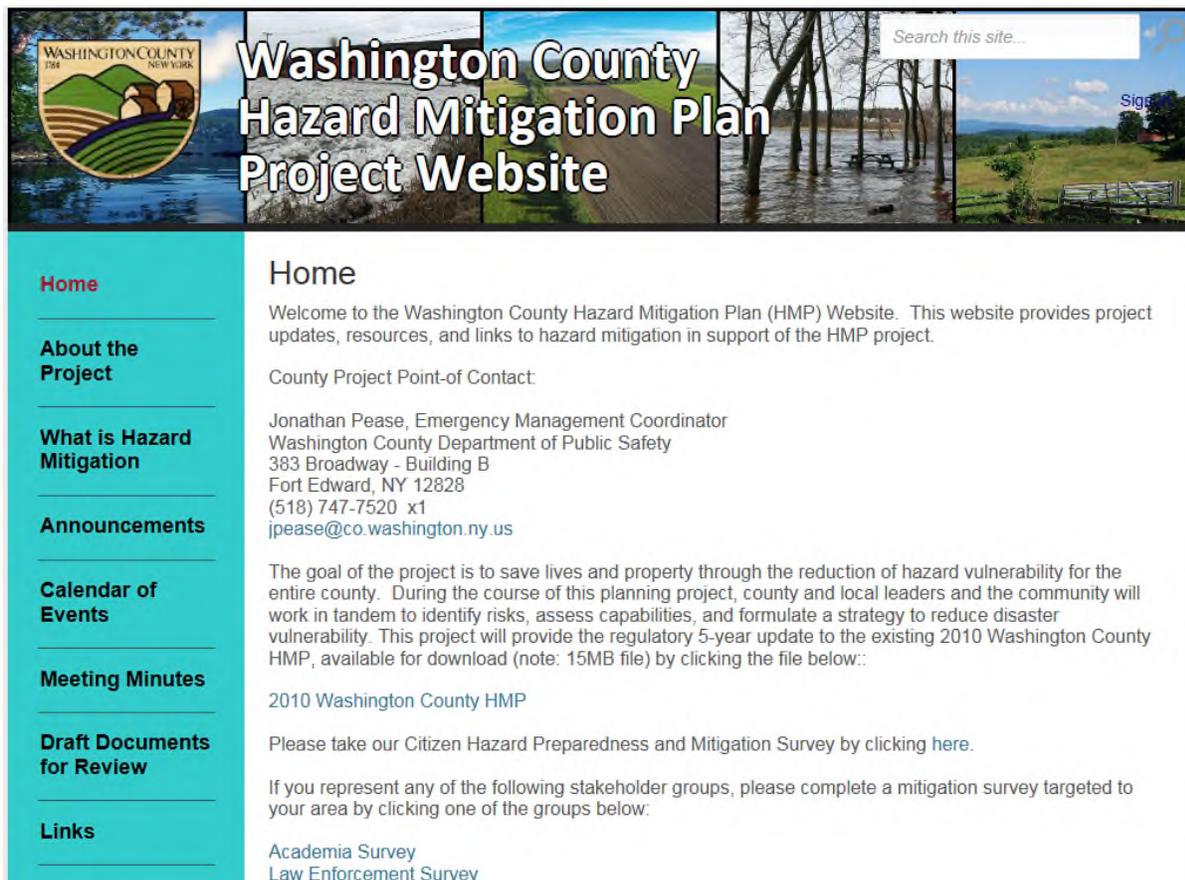




Figure 3-2. County Website Homepage and Public Safety Webpage (news announcement)

Front Page

Posted on: August 2, 2016

Washington County & Municipalities are updating our Hazard Mitigation Plan and need your help!

Washington County and its inclusive municipalities are in the process of developing a Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). This plan is required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in order to be eligible for federal grant funding for public and private mitigation projects.



The HMP provides a "blueprint" by which local governments can make coordinated, cost-effective efforts towards reducing losses from natural hazards such as flooding, severe storms, and severe winter storms. Available funding can support projects such as drainage improvements, structural elevations, and backup power for schools and critical facilities.

To find out more, review the draft plan and have the opportunity to provide input, please visit our project website at <http://www.washingtoncountyhmp.com> and take our citizen preparedness and mitigation survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WCCitizen> !

Should you have any issues with the sites / links, or questions regarding the program and update, please contact our office at (518)747-7520 or via email at publicsafety@co.washington.ny.us .



Figure 3-3. Washington County Press Release

FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION



Washington County and its inclusive municipalities are in the process of developing a Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). This plan is required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in order to be eligible for federal grant funding for public and private mitigation projects.

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Here is the direct link to the News Flash posted on our website: <http://ny-washingtoncounty.civicplus.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=393>

Thank you for your assistance!

Regards,
The Public Safety team!

Figure 3-4. Post Star Articles on Project



LOCAL

FEMA may pay for flood prevention in Washington County

KATHLEEN MOORE kmoore@poststar.com Aug 20, 2016

The Federal Emergency Management Agency may pay to make it harder for floods to hurt Washington County.

LOCAL

Washington County seeks public input on 'hazard mitigation' plan

Aug 10, 2016

FORT EDWARD — Washington County public safety leaders are preparing for natural disasters, and they want the public's input on how they are doing.





3.4 INCORPORATION OF EXISTING PLANS, STUDIES, REPORTS AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The Washington County HMP update strives to use the best available technical information, plans, studies and reports throughout the planning process to support hazard profiling; risk and vulnerability assessment; review and evaluation of mitigation capabilities; and the identification, development and prioritization of County and local mitigation strategies.

The asset and inventory data used for the risk and vulnerability assessments is presented in the County Profile (Section 4 – County Profile). Details of the source of this data, along with technical information on how the data was used to develop the risk and vulnerability assessment, is presented in the Hazard Profiling and Risk Assessment Section (Section 5 – Risk Assessment), specifically within Section 5.3 – Hazards Ranking, as well as throughout the hazard profiles in Section 5.4. Further, the source of technical data and information used may be found within the References Section.

Plans, reports and other technical information were identified and provided directly by the County, participating jurisdictions and numerous stakeholders involved in the planning effort, as well as through independent research by the planning consultant. The County and participating jurisdictions were tasked with updating the inventory of their Planning and Regulatory capabilities (see Capability Assessment section of each jurisdictional annex in Section 9), and providing relevant planning and regulatory documents as applicable. Relevant documents, including plans, reports, and ordinances were reviewed to identify:

- Existing municipal capabilities;
- Needs and opportunities to develop or enhance capabilities, which may be identified within the County or local mitigation strategies;
- Mitigation-related goals or objectives, considered in the review and update of the overall Goals [and Objectives] (see Section 6 – Mitigation Strategy);
- Proposed, in-progress, or potential mitigation projects, actions and initiatives to be incorporated into the updated County and local mitigation strategies.

The following local regulations, codes, ordinances and plans were reviewed during this process in an effort to develop mitigation planning goals and objectives and mitigation strategies that are consistent across local and regional planning and regulatory mechanisms; and thus develop complementary and mutually supportive strategies, including:

- Comprehensive/Master Plans
- Building Codes
- Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances
- NFIP Flood Damage Prevention Ordinances
- Site Plan Requirements
- Local Waterfront Revitalization Plans
- Stormwater Management Plans
- Emergency Management and Response Plans
- Land Use and Open Space Plans
- Capital Plans
- New York State Standard Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2014

A partial listing of the plans, reports and technical documents reviewed in the preparation of this plan is included in Table 3-4.



Table 3-4. Record Review (Municipalities) - Record of the review of existing programs, policies, and technical documents for participating jurisdictions (all)

Existing plan, program or technical documents	Date	Jurisdictional Applicability
Village of Cambridge, New York Comprehensive Plan	2004	Cambridge (V)
Village of Cambridge, Washington County, New York Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	March 1, 2004	Cambridge (V)
Flood Resilience in the Lake Champlain Basin and Upper Richelieu River	2013	Countywide
Floodplain Management Area-Wide Compliance Document	October 2013	Countywide
Soil Survey of Washington County, New York	September 1975	Countywide
Washington County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan	April 6, 2010	Countywide
Washington County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	April 27, 2016	Countywide
Washington County Empire Zone Development Plan	March 2008	Countywide
Washington County, New York Data Book	2008	Countywide
White Creek Watershed Infrastructure Flood Vulnerability and Mitigation Assessment DRAFT	June 3, 2016	Countywide
Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan	February 2014	Dresden (T), Fort Ann (T), Putman (T)
Village of Fort Edward Master Plan	2006	Fort Edward (V)
Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan for the Town of Granville	April 2012	Granville (T)
Village of Granville Comprehensive Plan	2003	Granville (V)
Village of Granville Mettowee River Waterfront Revitalization Strategy	December 20, 2010	Granville (V)
Town of Greenwich Comprehensive Plan	December 14, 2004	Greenwich (T)
Village of Greenwich Vision Planning	2009	Greenwich (V)
Village of Greenwich: Vision Planning (Strategic Areas Map)	2009	Greenwich (V)
Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan for the Town of Hartford	2012	Hartford (T)
Hartford, New York Comprehensive Plan	September 8, 2010	Hartford (T)
Draft of a Comprehensive Plan for the Growth and Preservation of the Town of Jackson, New York	March 4, 2014	Jackson (T)
Project Work Plan for DEC/ESD Grant Application Post-Hurricane Irene, Tropical Storm Lee Restoration White Creek, Salem, NY	April 9, 2012	Salem (T)
Salem, New York Agriculture and Farm Viability Plan	2011	Salem (T)
Town of White Creek Comprehensive Plan	December 2011	White Creek (T)
Village of Whitehall Local Waterfront Revitalization Program	2005	Whitehall (V)
Washington County Hazardous Materials Plan	December 2005	Washington County
Lake Champlain Watershed Water Quality Management Planning – Roadside Erosion Assessment and Inventory	2012	Dresden (T), Fort Ann (T), Granville (T), Hampton (T), Hartford (T), Kingsbury (T), Putnam (T), Whitehall (T)

Notes:

* = *this document may or may not include all jurisdictions*



3.5 INTEGRATION WITH EXISTING PLANNING MECHANISMS AND PROGRAMS

Effective mitigation is achieved when hazard awareness and risk management approaches and strategies become an integral part of public activities and decision-making. Within the county there are many existing plans and programs that support hazard risk management, and thus it is critical that this hazard mitigation plan integrate and coordinate with, and complement, those existing plans and programs.

The “Capability Assessment” section of Section 6 - Mitigation Strategy provides a summary and description of the existing plans, programs and regulatory mechanisms at all levels of government (Federal, State, County and local) that support hazard mitigation within the county. Within each jurisdictional annex in Chapter 9, the County and each participating jurisdiction have identified how they have integrated hazard risk management into their existing planning, regulatory and operational/administrative framework (“integration capabilities”) and how they intend to promote this integration (“integration actions”).

A further summary of these continued efforts to develop and promote a comprehensive and holistic approach to hazard risk management and mitigation is presented in Section 7 – Plan Maintenance.

3.6 CONTINUED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Washington County and participating jurisdictions are committed to the continued involvement of the public in the hazard mitigation process. This Plan update will be posted on-line (currently at <http://www.washingtoncountyhmp.com>), and municipalities will be encouraged to maintain links to the plan website. Further, the County will make hard copies of the Plan available for review at public locations as identified on the public plan website.

A notice regarding annual updates of the plan and the location of plan copies will be publicized annually after the Planning Committee’s annual evaluation and posted on the public website (currently <http://www.washingtoncountyhmp.com>).

Each jurisdiction’s governing body shall be responsible for receiving, tracking, and filing public comments regarding this plan.

The public will have an opportunity to comment on the plan as a part of the annual mitigation planning evaluation process and the next five-year mitigation plan update. The HMP Coordinator (currently Mr. Glen Gosnell of the Washington County Department of Public Safety) is responsible for coordinating the plan evaluation portion of the meeting, soliciting feedback, collecting and reviewing the comments, and ensuring their incorporation in the 5-year plan update as appropriate; however, members of the Planning Committee will assist the HMP Coordinator. Additional meetings may also be held as deemed necessary by the Planning Committee. The purpose of these meetings would be to provide the public an opportunity to express concerns, opinions, and ideas about the plan.

Further details regarding continued public involvement are provided in Section 7 – Plan Maintenance.

After completion of this plan, implementation and ongoing maintenance will continue to be a function of the Planning Committee. The Planning Committee will review the plan and accept public comment as part of an annual review and as part of five-year mitigation plan updates.

A notice regarding annual updates of the plan and the location of plan copies will be publicized annually after the HMP Committee’s annual evaluation and posted on the public web site.



Mr. Glen Gosnell of the Washington County Department of Public Safety has been identified as the ongoing Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan Coordinator (see Section 7 – Plan Maintenance), and is responsible for receiving, tracking, and filing public comments regarding this plan. Contact information is:

Mr. Glen Gosnell, ENP, Director of Emergency Management

Washington County Department of Public Safety
383 Broadway - Building B
Fort Edward, NY 12828

ggosnell@co.washington.ny.us

(518) 747-7520, x3