



Warren County
Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
Meeting Notes



Purpose of Meeting:	Planning Partnership Meeting
Location of Meeting:	Virtual Teams Meeting
Date of Meeting:	February 15, 2023, 10:00 am

Attendees:

Jim Lieberum	Warren County SWCD, District Manager, HM Coordinator
Jessica Leerkes*	Engineer, Town of Chester
Dan Barusch*	Town/Village Lake George, Planner
Dave Duell*	Town of Queensbury Highway Superintendent
Mark DeMers	Deputy Highway Superintendent
Craig Leggett*	Supervisor, Town of Chester
Debra Runyan*	Town of Thurman Supervisor
Tammie DeLorenzo*	Assistant to the County Administrator, Warren County
Michael Geraci*	Supervisor, Town of Horicon
Frank E. Thomas*	Supervisor, Town of Stoney Creek
Khristopher Kassay	Town of Lake Luzerne
Erin Putney	Town of Lake Luzerne, Zoning Officer
Laura Moore*	Planner, Town of Queensbury
Westfall, Josh*	Planner, Town of Bolton
James Hull	Code Enforcement Officer, Town of Warrensburg
Mike Dunkley	Deputy Highway Superintendent, Town of Johnsbury
Ernie Dunkley	Safety Officer, Town of Johnsbury
Keith Lanfear	Superintendent of Public Works, Village of Lake George
William Norton	Superintendent, Water & Sewer, City of Glens Falls
John Strough	Supervisor, Town of Queensbury
Cynthia Addonizio-Bianco	Tetra Tech, Inc.

Agenda Summary: Purpose to provide a project status update and the preliminary municipal level hazards of concern relative risk rankings; to prepare the Planning Partners to review municipal rankings and adjust as necessary to take into account local data or undocumented issues.

Item No.	Description	Action item(s):
1	<p>Opening Remarks/Progress Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting started at 10:05 am Cynthia Addonizio-Bianco, Tetra Tech (Tt), welcomed participants and noted the key agenda items and she provided a progress update as summarized in the attached PowerPoint presentation. Warren County (Jim Lieberum, Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District) provided an overview of the importance of the plan in identifying projects to reduce risk and encouraged municipal 	



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	<p>teams supporting the plan to include public works, fire department, emergency management, and law enforcement staff to provide information on past events and problem areas to support the development mitigation projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process continues to be on track for plan submittal to FEMA in August 2023. • The majority of data to support the hazard mitigation plan (HMP) development has been received, with the receipt of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) data pending processing by FEMA. 	
2	<p>In-Kind Services Tracking/Outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tt reminded committee members to document any time spent to attend HMP meetings, to provide input, or to provide information to their constituencies to ensure their efforts are included in the documentation to comply with grant requirements. • Warren County reminded municipalities to submit documentation of in-kind hours to support the obligations related to the planning grant funding. • The public HMP website (https://www.warrencountynewyorkhmp.com) has been updated with meeting dates and meeting documentation. The public draft will be located on this site for public review. • Surveys to target the public, neighboring counties, agencies, and businesses have been distributed and will be used to provide additional input to the plan to support the identification of mitigation actions. 	<p>Action: All staff to submit documentation of hours spent supporting the mitigation planning process, including hours spent to provide data, review documents, provide updates to communities.</p>
3	<p>Risk Assessment Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tt reviewed the methodology to calculate the relative risk of the county’s identified hazards of concern and shared the preliminary risk rankings. The ranks of Low, Medium, and High for each hazard will serve as a guide in identifying impactful mitigation actions to reduce damages and increase resilience. After review and adjustment by the core group, the preliminary county level ranks are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Disease Outbreak (including Covid-19, influenza, and tick-borne illnesses) - Medium ○ Earthquake - Medium ○ Extreme Temperatures - Medium ○ Flood - High ○ Dams Failure - High ○ Infestation - Medium ○ Severe Storm (Windstorm, Thunderstorm, Hail, Tornado) – High ○ Severe Winter Storm (Heavy Snow, Blizzards, Ice Storms) - High ○ Wildfire - High <p>The county ranks indicate the highest municipal risk rather than the calculated regional risk. The Steering Committee was tasked to review the information provided in the presentation (see attached) to provide</p>	



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	<p>any additional input to revisit and potentially further adjust the rankings.</p> <p>Discussion included clarification that vulnerability assessment included only projected damages to general building stock and not potential infrastructure damages which are not modeled in Hazus-MH. These damages are an example of why the rankings should be adjusted, in particular, the flood ranking as it should include the risk posed by unmapped, localized flood areas evidenced by washouts and culvert failures.</p> <p>The public sharing of dam inundation areas was also discussed and will be addressed by Emergency Services staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It will distribute municipal specific rankings of the hazard of concern to the Planning Partnership the week of 2/20/23. The Planning Partnership to review and adjust ranks for the hazards of concern to incorporate local hazard history and undocumented data, if necessary.	
6	<p>Upcoming Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mitigation Strategy Workshop – March 15, 2023.	
7	<p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update municipal level risk ranking as necessary• Address data gaps in municipal annexes• Continue to engage the public• Develop mitigation strategy/actions: February 2023• Mitigation Strategy Workshop with FEMA and NYSDHSES – March 15, 2023	
7	<p>Conclusion - The meeting concluded at 10:55 am.</p>	