



Herkimer County
Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
Meeting Notes



Purpose of Meeting:	Planning Partnership Meeting
Location of Meeting:	Hybrid In-person and Teleconference Teams Meeting
Date of Meeting:	February 27, 2023, 2:00 pm – 3:01 pm

Attendees:

John Raymond	Director, Herkimer County Emergency Services
Rodney Denslow*	Tractor Supply
Dominic Frank*	Town of Herkimer
Richard Bronner*	Town of Stark
Chester Syzmanski*	City of Little Falls
Stephanie Toye*	Deputy Superintendent, Herkimer County Highway Dept.
Mishele Spaman*	Town of Frankfort
Marvin Jones	Village of Cold Brook
Peter Rovazzi*	Town of German Flatts
Gerald Pedersen*	NYSDHSES
Betsy Parmerter*	NYSDHSES
Jim Wilkinson*	NYSDHSES
Beth O'Reilly*	Planning Manager, Mitigation, NYSDHSES
Cynthia Addonizio-Bianco*	Tetra Tech

Agenda Summary: Purpose to provide a project status update and the preliminary municipal level hazards of concern relative risk rankings; to obtain input or adjustments of the rankings to incorporate local data.

Item No.	Description	Action item(s):
1	<p>Opening Remarks/Progress Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting started at 2:05 pm Mr. John Raymond, Director of Emergency Services of Herkimer County welcomed participants and noted the importance of the hazard mitigation plan in its role to reduce risks to natural hazard events. Cynthia Addonizio-Bianco, Tetra Tech (Tt), provided an overview of key agenda items as well as a progress update as summarized in the attached PowerPoint presentation. 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"> The county and Tt reminded the planning partners to document any time spent to attend HMP meetings, to provide input, or to provide information to their constituencies to ensure their 	



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	<p>efforts are included in the documentation to comply with grant requirements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public HMP website(https://www.herkimercountynyhmp.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. 	
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 ○ Extreme Temperatures - Low ○ Drought – Medium ○ Flood - High ○ Dam Failure - Medium ○ Infestation - Low ○ Severe Storm (Windstorm, Thunderstorm, Hail, Tornado) – High ○ Severe Winter Storm (Heavy Snow, Blizzards, Ice Storms) - Medium ○ Wildfire - Medium <p>The county ranks indicate the calculated regional risk rather than the highest municipal risk. The planning partnership was tasked to review the information provided in the presentation (see attached) to prepare to adjust their municipal ranks to reflect local conditions. Tt will email risk ranking worksheets to each of the planning partners to adjust or validate the hazard ranks and provide information regarding problem areas to help identify mitigation projects and to prepare for the Mitigation Workshop on March 27th. The completed worksheets are due on or before March 21st by email to Tt.</p> <p>The Town of Herkimer noted that there is a dam owned by a private firm in the West Canada that is connected to a non-operating hyrdo plant for potential inclusion in the plan. Tt noted that the dam will be included in the dam failure profile in the plan.</p>	<p>Worksheets to be distributed by Tetra Tech to Planning Partnership members for return by March 21st.</p>
4	<p>Upcoming Meeting Mitigation Strategy Workshop – March 27,2023 <i>(Optional for Steering Committee members not affiliated with a municipality.)</i></p>	



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5	Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to engage the public• Begin working with the municipalities to develop mitigation strategy/actions: March 2023 Mitigation Strategy Workshop with FEMA and NYSDHSES – March 27, 2023	
10	Conclusion - The meeting concluded at 3:01 pm	