



Town of Brunswick

Jurisdictional Annex to the

MULTIJURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

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Town of Brunswick Annex

This is the jurisdictional annex for the Town of Brunswick. The jurisdiction’s governing body passed a formal resolution to participate in updating this multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan (HMP). A copy of its resolution is maintained at the local government offices and at the Rensselaer County Bureau of Public Safety.

Contact Information

Table 1: Contact Information for the Town of Brunswick

Name	Title	Contact Information
Philip Herrington	Town Supervisor	Phone: 518-279-3461 Email: pherrington@townofbrunswick.org
Michael McDonald	Building Department Director	Email: mmcdonald@townofbrunswick.org
Pat Poletto	Assistant to the Town Supervisor	Email: poletto@townofbrunswick.org
William Bradley	Town Superintendent	Email: wbradley@townofbrunswick.org

Introduction

The Town of Brunswick has a fully integrated approach to hazard mitigation planning and program implementation. Table 2 lists the participants in the 2024 process for updating the HMP.

Table 2: Participants in the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for the Town of Brunswick

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Michael McDonald	Building Department Director	Brunswick

Jurisdiction Profile

Location and Land Area

The Town of Brunswick is located in northwest Rensselaer County, in the eastern part of New York State. It shares a border with Schaghticoke and Pittstown to the north, Poestenkill and North Greenbush to the south, Grafton to the east, and Troy to the west.

According to the 2020 U.S. Census,¹ Rensselaer County has a total area of 665 square miles (1,720 km²), of which 652 square miles (1,690 km²) is land and 13 square miles (34 km²) (1.9%) is water. Of that, the Town of Brunswick has a total area of 44.63 square miles (115.85 km²), of which 44.35 square miles (114.86 km²) of it is land and 0.28 square miles (0.73 km²) of it is water.

Population

According to the 2024 World Population Review, the population of the Town of Brunswick is estimated to be 12,419.²

Demographics

The total area of the Town of Brunswick is 44.63 square miles according to 2023 U.S. Census data, but with the land area at 44.35 square miles, the population per square mile is 283.7 persons.³

The population includes 105.5 males per 100 females (all ages). Persons under 18 years of age make up 19.0% of the population, and persons 65 years of age and over make up 18.4%.⁴ Young and old subsets of the population might have unique needs regarding care requirements and potential cognitive and/or mobility limitations before, during, and after a disaster.

The portion of the population who speak a language other than English is 5.8%. People who do not speak English well might have trouble understanding instructions regarding disaster preparation, response, and recovery.

¹ United States Census Bureau, 2025. "QuickFacts Town of Brunswick, Rensselaer County, New York, ." <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/rensselaercountynewyork,US/PST045223>.

² World Population Review, 2025 "Brunswick Town, New York Population", <https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/new-york/brunswick>

³ United States Census Bureau, 2025. "QuickFacts Town of Brunswick, Rensselaer County, New York, ." <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/rensselaercountynewyork,US/PST045223>.

⁴ Ibid.

Of those 25 years and older, 95.2% are high school graduates or higher, and 41.0% have received their bachelor's degree or higher.⁵ Higher education can help enhance skills associated with cognition and evaluation of risk. Higher education can, therefore, foster an overall improved perception of risk, particularly where individuals might not have prior direct experience preparing for, responding to, or recovering from a particular hazard in their daily lives.

In 2022, there were 5,176 total households and 2.42 persons per household. Persons living alone sometimes have less of a direct social circle for support before, during, and after a disaster.

The U.S. Census Bureau classifies all people not living in housing units (houses, apartments, mobile homes, rented rooms) as living in group quarters. The two types of group quarters are institutional (correctional facilities, nursing homes, mental hospitals) and non-institutional (college dormitories, military barracks, group homes, missions, and shelters). The U.S. Census Bureau maintains no information on group quarters for this municipality. The needs of persons living in group quarters are unique, and residents are likely to have access and functional needs and unique care requirements before, during, and after a disaster.

According to the 2022 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS),⁶ the median household income for the Town of Brunswick was \$109,630, and the percentage of people in poverty was 4.3%. Lower-income people have limited financial resources to draw from in both a pre- and post-disaster scenario and are likely to require support as they prepare for and recover from hazard events.

Non-institutionalized civilians with a disability accounted for 12.5%, and people with a disability over aged 65 to 74 accounted for 28.7%. The total percentage of persons (civilian, non-institutionalized) without health insurance is 2.0%. Persons with disabilities have access and functional needs, such as cognitive or mobility limitations, that might put them at greater risk before, during, and after a hazard event.

Brief History

The area that is now Rensselaer County was inhabited by the Algonquian-speaking Mohican Indian tribe at the time of European encounter. Kiliaen van Rensselaer, a Dutch jeweler and merchant, purchased the area in 1630 as part of the Dutch colony of New Netherland. The land passed from English rule (1664) to Dutch control (1673), then back to English rule (1674), until American independence in 1776. Rensselaer County was created in the 1790s from an area that was initially part of the extensive Albany County. In 1807, the county reorganized.⁷

The town of Brunswick was originally settled in the early eighteenth century. During its history, it had been part of Albany County, Rensselaerswyck, and Troy, before its incorporation in 1807. The present territory

⁵ United States. Census Bureau, 2025. "QuickFacts Town of Brunswick, Rensselaer County, New York, ." <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/rensselaercountynewyork,US/PST045223>.

⁶ United States Census Bureau, 2025, "American Community Survey Brunswick, New York." <https://data.census.gov/all/tables?q=Brunswick%20new%20york>.

⁷ 2020 Rensselaer County Hazard Mitigation Plan, "Town of Brunswick Annex-Brief History",

of Brunswick was initially a part of the town of Troy. The growing importance of the prospective city and its requirements led to a separation of Troy from its rural parts: today's Brunswick and Grafton.⁸

Governing Body

The municipality's governing body consists of a Town Supervisor, four Town Board members, and other elected officials. This council serves as the county's municipal/local government, performing various executive functions. The people elect members of this governing body.

Growth and Development Trends

Performing an assessment of growth and development trends is one step of a hazard mitigation plan update. This look into the future is important because development in hazard areas could put more people and property in harm's way and, in turn, could increase potential disaster-related damage and losses at a time when the mitigation plan's purpose is to reduce the potential for damage from natural disasters.

An evaluation of growth and development trends was undertaken by each participating jurisdiction as part of the development of the initial plan in 2011 and updated in 2020. The Town of Brunswick has reported no changes in development since the 2020 plan.

The Town of Brunswick did not note significant residential or commercial development, or any major infrastructure development planned for the municipality for the next five years. From 2011 to 2018, higher-density residential development has been approved in areas of the Town of Brunswick where public water and public sewers are available (i.e., NYS Route 7, NYS Route 142). Limited commercial development occurs along the NYS Route 7 corridor (i.e., Capital Communications Federal Credit Union branch). Elsewhere in the Town of Brunswick, limited single-family residential development follows along existing roadways. Very few residential projects include the construction of new roads. The new development was characterized by more light commercial development along the Route 7 corridor (promoted by the town's new comprehensive plan).

The Town of Brunswick enforces NY State Regulations, 1988 Land Use Regulations (currently under review) to protect new development from the effects of natural hazards.

Hazard Identification

The Calculated Priority Risk Index (CPRI) is a comprehensive assessment tool used to evaluate and prioritize risks in a given context. It considers various factors, such as probability, impact, and urgency, to determine the level of risk associated with particular events or situations. By considering these variables, the CPRI helps organizations and individuals make informed decisions about risk management and mitigation strategies. It provides a systematic approach to identifying and addressing potential issues,

⁸ IBID

allowing for more efficient allocation of resources and proactive risk prevention. With the CPRI, stakeholders can prioritize their focus on the most critical risks, leading to more effective risk management and, ultimately, better outcomes. Table 3 shows the factors for calculating the CPRI.

Table 3: Factors in the Calculated Priority Risk Index

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
Probability What is the likelihood of the hazard occurring?	1	Unlikely	Less than 1% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of greater than every 100 years.	30%
	2	Occasional	1%–10% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of 11–100 years.	
	3	Likely	11%–90% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of 1–10 years.	
	4	Highly Likely	91%–100% percent probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of less than 1 year.	
Potential Consequences What will be the overall impact in terms of injuries, damage, death, continuity of operations, and environmental and economic impacts?	1	Negligible	Very few injuries, if any. Only minor property damage and minimal disruption of quality of life. Temporary shutdown of critical facilities.	30%
	2	Limited	Minor injuries only. More than 10% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for more than one day.	
	3	Critical	Multiple deaths/injuries possible. More than 25% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities more than one week.	

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
	4	Catastrophic	High number of deaths/injuries possible. More than 50% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for 30 days or more.	
Warning Time How long will be there be between when it is recognized the hazard is approaching and when the hazard will begin to affect the community?	1	Self-defined	More than 24 hours	10%
	2	Self-defined	12–24 hours	
	3	Self-defined	6–12 hours	
	4	Self-defined	Less than 6 hours	
Duration What is the length of time the hazard will remain active, including how long emergency operations will need to continue after the hazard event?	1	Brief	Up to 6 hours	10%
	2	Intermediate	Up to one day	
	3	Extended	Up to one week	
	4	Prolonged	More than one week	
Spatial Extent How large of an area could be impacted by a hazard event? Are impacts localized or regional?	1	Negligible	Less than 1% of area affected	20%
	2	Small	1%–25% of area affected	
	3	Moderate	25%–50% of area affected	
	4	Large	Greater than 50% of area affected	

RISK FACTOR EQUATION

$$RF \text{ Value} = [(Probability \times .30) + (Magnitude \times .30) + (Onset \times .10) + (Duration \times .10) + (Frequency \times .20)]$$

Table 4 presents the CPRI for the Town of Brunswick with respect to the different hazards the jurisdiction might experience.

Table 4: Types of Hazard Events with Calculated Priority Risk Index for the Town of Brunswick

Type of Hazard Event	Probability	Potential Consequences	Warning Time	Duration	Spatial Extent	Risk Factor Value
Drought	1	1	1	4	4	1.9
Earthquake	1	1	4	1	4	1.3
Extreme Temperature	2	1	1	3	4	2.1
Flooding	2	1	2	2	2	1.7
Hazardous Materials	1	1	4	2	1	1.4
High Winds	2	2	2	2	1	1.8
Hurricane or Tropical Storm	2	2	1	2	2	1.9
Landslide	2	2	4	1	1	1.9
Lightning	4	2	4	1	1	2.8
Terrorism	1	1	4	1	1	1.3
Tornado	2	1	4	1	1	1.6
Utility & Infrastructure Failure	2	3	4	1	1	2.2
Wildfire	1	1	4	3	2	1.7
Winter Storm	4	2	1	3	3	2.8
Other?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Hazard Event History

Understanding hazard event histories is crucial for effective risk management. Analyzing past events allows us to identify trends, patterns, and recurring risk factors. This knowledge enables us to better prepare for and mitigate the impact of future hazards. Examining hazard event histories provides valuable insights to inform decision-making and help prioritize resources for risk prevention and response efforts.

Table 5 lists some of the more notable events in the Town of Brunswick since 2019.

Table 5: Notable Hazard Events in the Town of Brunswick Since 2019

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (If Applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
Drought	None	None	None	None
Earthquake	None	04/05/2024	No reported impacts	Earthquake with epicenter in NJ, felt in some parts of the county
Extreme Temperature	None	07/20/2019	Heat index values in the 100°F–110°F range in the warmest spots of the Hudson Valley.	Extreme Heat
		08/12/2021	Heat indices reached 95°F–104°F degrees across parts of the Hudson River from Albany and points southward reaching 105°F–110°.	Extreme Heat
		01/20/2019	Cold weather prompted the closing of schools and the opening of warming shelters across the region.	Extreme Cold: Wind chills fell to -20° to -40° degrees below freezing across most of the region.
		01/30/2019	The wind chills prompted many schools to close or delay opening, and there were several reports of water main breaks due to the cold.	Extreme Cold: Wind chills fell to 15 to 35 degrees below zero.
		02/03/2023–02/04/2023	Warming centers were opened.	Arctic Cold: With extreme wind chills, some squalls, temperatures ranging from -18° to -39° degrees below freezing, and wind gusts up to 44 mph

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (If Applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
Flooding (Including Flooding, Dam Failure, and Ice Jams)	None	07/14/2021	State of emergency (SOE) declared. Many roads and bridges washed out and minor damage to many homes and businesses, damage estimates in \$200,000 in Brunswick.	Heavy flash flooding: 2–5 in of rain fell in 2 hrs.
Hazardous Materials	None	None	None	None
High Wind	None	06/26/2019	All lanes were closed due to a downed tree on Route 2E/W in the town of Brunswick between Brunswick Sportsman Club Road and Palitsch Road.	Thunderstorm Wind: Strong to severe thunderstorms developed, resulting in numerous reports of trees and wires down.
		12/25/2020	Scattered trees downed, road closures, tree damage, damage to structures, evacuations	High Wind: Gusty winds accompanied the event with gusts reaching 40 to 60 mph, especially across the mid-Hudson Valley and Taconics, with 60 mph gust recorded in Brunswick.
		07/14/2021	SOE declared. Some of the storms also produced wind damage with reports of trees and wires down in Center Brunswick.	Thunderstorm Wind
		06/21/2024	A couple of wires were downed in the vicinity of North Troy and Brunswick.	Thunderstorm Wind
Hurricane or Tropical Storm	None	None	None	None
Landslide	None	None	None	None
Lightning	None	None	None	None

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (If Applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
Terrorism	None	None	None	None
Tornado	None	None	None	None
Utility & Infrastructure Failure	None	02/04/2022	N/A	16" Water Main Break: Town of Brunswick Rt-278 and Rt-2
Wildfire	None	None	None	None
Winter Storm (Including Ice Storm and Snowstorm)	None	12/16/2020–12/17/2020	Trees and power lines were downed from weight of snow.	Snowfall in Rensselaer County ranging from 17.3 in to 26 in
		12/15/2022–12/17/2022	N/A	Nor'easter: Snowfall ranging from 1 in to 12 in
		03/13/2023–03/15/2023	There were downed trees and power lines with widespread power outages.	Nor'easter: Heavy wet snow, accumulations from 12 in to 31 in
		03/22/2024–03/23/2024	SOE declared due to significant power outages throughout county. Many trees and powerlines were downed, leading to many road closures throughout county.	Long period of rain, followed by freezing rain and sleet and then freezing temperatures; up to 0.5 in ice and snow accumulations, ranging from 4 in to 11.5 in

According to the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA),⁹ the notable events in the Town of Brunswick since 2019 include the following:

- July 14, 2021** – Flash Flood: Slow-moving thunderstorms over Rensselaer County during the afternoon resulted in two to five inches of rainfall over two to three hours over central and southern portions of the county. The runoff from the rainfall washed out or destroyed numerous roads and bridges, some of which would take weeks to months to reconstruct. Damages to roads and bridges totaled around \$3 million, according to county officials. The Rensselaer County Executive declared a state of emergency and urged no unnecessary travel after the storms. Governor Hochul requested a Physical Disaster Declaration from the Small Business Administration, citing major damage to 18 homes and 9 businesses totaling \$1.895 million, and minor damage to 281 homes and 14 businesses totaling \$2.3 million. Some flash flooding extended into the northern portion of Columbia County as well. Some of the storms also produced wind damage with reports of trees and wires down in Center Brunswick. There were several reports of roads flooded or washed out in the Brunswick area, including Moonlawn Road. This event caused \$200,000 in property damage in the Town of Brunswick.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Summary

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) program that provides flood insurance to millions of policyholders across the country. The Town of Brunswick has participated in FEMA’s NFIP since June 4, 1980 (see Table 6).

Table 6: NFIP Data for Town of Brunswick

Initial FHBM Identified	Initial FIRM Identified	Current Effective Map Date	Tribal, yes or no?	Regular/ Emergency Date	CSR Entry Date
11/12/1976	06/04/1980	12/06/2000	No	06/04/1980	N/A

The following information is provided to meet federal standards. The Town of Brunswick answered the NFIP questions in Table 7 through Table 9 to the best of its ability.

⁹ National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). “Storm Events Database, Rensselaer County, New York.” https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/listevents.jsp?eventType=ALL&beginDate_mm=01&beginDate_dd=01&beginDate_yyyy=2020&endDate_mm=09&endDate_dd=30&endDate_yyyy=2024&county=RENSELAER%3A83&hailfilter=0.00&tornfilter=0&windfilter=000&sort=DT&submitbutton=Search&statefips=36%2CNEW+YORK.

Table 7: Responses on Floodplain Management from the Town of Brunswick

Question	Response
Who is the floodplain manager? Is this their primary or secondary role?	Building Dept Secondary Building and Code Inspector
Does the floodplain manager have adequate training and capacity for their role? If not, what else is needed?	No, more access to adequate software is needed
How does the community enforce its floodplain rules? Does enforcement include monitoring compliance and acting to correct violations?	None
When was the community’s most recent Community Assistance Visit (CAV)?	2014
Were any violations noted on the community’s most recent CAV?	No
Is there an upcoming CAV? If no, is one needed?	No
When was the most recent floodplain management ordinance adopted?	11/01/2004
Does your community participate in the Community Rating System (CRS)? If so, describe the steps the community has taken to achieve the CRS goals.	No
Does the community’s floodplain management ordinance include any higher standards? If so, please list.	No
Who is responsible for permitting?	Town
How does the community issue development permits in the special flood hazard area?	Application system and approval required.
Does the community maintain elevation certificates?	Yes
Does the community track the number of buildings in the special flood hazard area? If yes, are there any trends?	No
How many repetitive loss (RL) structures does the community have? (List number and type of structure)	1
How many severe repetitive loss (SRL) structures does the community have? (List number and type of structure)	0

Question	Response
Have any RL/SRL properties been mitigated since the last plan update?	0
Who is responsible for making substantial damage/substantial improvement determinations?	Building Department
How does the substantial damage/substantial improvement process work in your community?	Permit Application Process
Is there sufficient staff and training to make substantial damage/substantial improvement determinations?	No, insufficient staff and training
How are substantial damage/substantial improvement requirements messaged to the public before and after an event?	N/A
Have any substantially damaged/substantially improved structures been mitigated since the last plan update?	None
How will the community remain in compliance with the NFIP moving forward? (Simply stating "the community will continue to comply with the NFIP" will not meet FEMA's planning requirements.)	Community will continue to remain in compliance through continued training and increased public education efforts.

Table 8: Responses on Floodplain Mapping from the Town of Brunswick

Question	Response
How does the community support map change requests? This could be requests during the Risk MAP process or through Letters of Map Amendment or Revision.	Zoning Review, Submission of Loma to building department for review
When did the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) become effective?	06/04/1980
When was the latest FIRM adopted?	06/04/1980
Is the FIRM and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report in an accessible location? How would the public get access to their flood map information?	Building Department FEMA
Does the community use any Risk MAP products? If so, describe.	FEMA

Question	Response
Does the community collect updated floodplain data or modeling? Is this shared with partners and with FEMA?	No
Other comments?	N/A

Table 9: Responses on Flood Insurance and Outreach from the Town of Brunswick

Question	Response
How does the community educate the public on floodplain management and the availability of flood insurance, in and out of the floodplain?	Website
How does the community engage with insurance agents on flood insurance?	No
Does the community (or state) have flood hazard disclosure laws?	No
How familiar is the public with their flood insurance options?	Unfamiliar
How many properties have flood insurance in the community?	0
Are there any areas where flood insurance is lacking?	No
Other comments?	N/A

Critical Facilities Information

The following information is provided to meet standard F1. Identifying critical facilities in flood-prone areas is crucial for effective emergency planning and risk management. By understanding the potential impact of flooding on these facilities, local authorities can develop proactive strategies to mitigate risks and ensure the safety and functionality of these important assets during flood events. This information is valuable for decision-making and prioritizing resources for emergency response and preparedness efforts. Table 10 lists the critical facilities (emergency facilities, critical infrastructure and utilities, and other key facilities, as presented in Risk Assessment) that are in the floodplain in the Town of Brunswick.

Table 10: Critical Facilities Located in the Floodplain in the [Jurisdiction Name]

Critical Facility	Type of Facility	Jurisdiction	1% Chance? Zone AE	0.2% Chance? Zone X (Shaded)	How has this facility been protected from flooding?	Feasibility of Mitigating the Flood Risk
BOVL - George Washington School	School	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A
Brunswick Volunteer Fire Company	Fire Station	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A
Center Brunswick Volunteer Fire House	Fire Station	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A
Eagle Mills Fire District	Fire Station	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A
Mountain View Fire Company	Fire Station	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A
New York State Police Troop G Zone 1	Police Station	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A
Tamarac Elementary Middle High School	Waste Water	Town of Brunswick	Yes	No	Elevated	N/A
Tamarac Elementary School	School	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A
Tamarac Middle School High School	School	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A
Unnamed	Bus	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A
Unnamed	Bus	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A

Critical Facility	Type of Facility	Jurisdiction	1% Chance? Zone AE	0.2% Chance? Zone X (Shaded)	How has this facility been protected from flooding?	Feasibility of Mitigating the Flood Risk
Unnamed	Bus	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A
WNYT Ch 13	Communications	Town of Brunswick	No	No	N/A	N/A

Jurisdiction/Public Identified Vulnerabilities

Table 11 provides crucial information on critical facilities in the Town of Brunswick, highlighting the town’s vulnerability to identified hazards. It outlines the susceptibility of assets to damage from the identified hazards, offering valuable insights into their potential impact on these essential facilities. By understanding the risks to these assets, local authorities can develop proactive strategies to mitigate the vulnerabilities and ensure the safety and functionality of these important assets during hazard events. This data is invaluable for decision-making and prioritizing resources for emergency response and preparedness efforts, ultimately contributing to more effective risk management and building the resilience of the community.

Table 11: Vulnerable Assets in the Town of Brunswick

Vulnerable Assets	What makes this group/asset vulnerable during hazards? Have there ever been issues with recovery after an event?
People (residents, workers, visiting populations, and socially vulnerable populations like seniors, individuals with disabilities, lower-income individuals, etc.)	
The American Red Cross of Rensselaer Brunswick Center	Physically and mentally disabled patients
Rouse Senior Living	N/A
Structures (residential, commercial, industrial, government-owned, planned capital improvement, etc.)	
Hannaford off Rt 7	Major grocery store for the area that is at the bottom of a basin-like area
Economic Assets (major employers, primary economic sectors, key infrastructure like telecommunications networks, etc.)	
N/A	N/A
Natural, Historic, and Cultural Resources (areas of conservation, beaches, parks, critical habitats, community centers, historic places, etc.)	
N/A	N/A
Critical Facilities and Infrastructure (hospitals, law enforcement, water, power, transportation systems, etc.)	
N/A	N/A
Community Activities (major local events, such as festivals, or economic events, like farming or fishing)	
N/A	N/A
Are there any other assets that you can think to include?	
N/A	N/A

Additional Public Involvement

As part of this 2025 plan update, the Town of Brunswick undertook various activities to (a) alert the public and other stakeholders to the fact that the HMP Planning Committee was developing the update and (b) provide the public and other stakeholders with a forum to ask questions and submit comments and suggestions on the process. Table 12 presents the outreach activities undertaken by the Town of Brunswick for the 2025 plan update.

Table 12: Outreach Activities Undertaken by the Town of Brunswick

Activity Date	Type of Activity	Activity Details	Department and/or Staff Member
April 2024–September 2024	Survey	Survey was posted on website and social media, flyers were posted in Town hall, library, and some Stewart’s Shops.	Town Supervisor

Capabilities Assessment

Local mitigation capabilities are essential for reducing the impact of hazards on communities. Local authorities can effectively mitigate hazards by leveraging existing authorities, policies, programs, and resources. These capabilities encompass a range of strategies, such as land use planning, building codes and enforcement, public education and outreach, infrastructure protection, and natural resource protection. Through collaboration with various stakeholders, including emergency management agencies, public works departments, and environmental organizations, local communities can implement comprehensive mitigation efforts to minimize the impact of disasters. Table 13 through Table 16 provide the capabilities of the Town of Brunswick.

Planning and Regulatory

Planning and regulatory capabilities are the plans, policies, codes, and ordinances that prevent and reduce the impacts of hazards.

Table 13: Planning and Regulatory Capabilities of the Town of Brunswick

Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances, Plans)	In Place (Y or N)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Building code	Y	Our current local law addresses this.

Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances, Plans)	In Place (Y or N)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Zoning ordinance	Y	Our current zoning law addresses this.
Subdivision ordinance or regulations	Y	Our current zoning law addresses this.
Special purpose ordinances (floodplain management, stormwater management, hillside or steep slope ordinances, wildfire ordinances, hazard setback requirements)	Y	Our current Zoning Law and Local law addresses this.
Growth management ordinances (also called "smart growth" or anti-sprawl programs)	N	N/A
Site plan review requirements	Y	Planning Board reviews site plan for approval.
General, comprehensive or master plan	Y	Will control development characteristics
A capital improvements plan	N	N/A
An economic development plan	N	N/A
An emergency response plan	Y	Used to address hazard management and mitigation
A post-disaster recovery plan	Y	Procedures done as required.
A post-disaster recovery ordinance	N	N/A
Real estate disclosure requirements	N	N/A
Other	N	N/A

Administrative and Technical

Table 14: Administrative Capabilities of the Town of Brunswick

Staff / Personnel Resources	Available (Y or N)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Planner(s) or engineer(s) with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Y	Approval of land development with most significantly, stormwater management considerations
Engineer(s) or professional(s) trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	Y	Identification of potential hazards and steps to mitigate
Planners or Engineer(s) with an understanding of natural and/or human-caused hazards	Y	Identification of hazards to be addressed during design and construction, or identified post-construction for resolution
Floodplain manager	Y ¹⁰	Seeking to proactively identify hazard areas and minimize potential impact through approval and inspection process
Surveyors	N	N/A
Staff with education or expertise to assess the community's vulnerability to hazards	Y	Review policies and update as required to minimize potential impact of hazards.
Personnel skilled in GIS and/or HAZUS	Y	Water department has some GIS and can be supplemented by county.
Scientists familiar with the hazards of the community	N	N/A
Emergency manager	N	N/A
Grant writers	N	N/A
Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis	N	N/A

Financial

Financial capabilities are the resources to fund mitigation actions.

¹⁰ All communities participate in the National Flood Insurance Program; as such, they are required by the regulations to have an appointed floodplain manager.

Table 15: Financial Capabilities of the Town of Brunswick

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to Use (Yes/No/Don't Know)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Don't know	Unsure
Capital improvements project funding	Yes	Used to improve infrastructure and other items that aid in hazard reduction
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes	Taxes or fees used to fund programs associated with hazard reduction or mitigation
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	Yes	Used to fund Utilities Department maintenance of infrastructure items
Impact fees for homebuyers or developers for new developments/homes	Yes	Fees in several categories collected for new units to be applied to various fund accounts for mitigation of hazards
Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes	Used to fund programs to reduce or mitigate hazards
Incur debt through special tax and revenue bonds	Yes	Used to fund programs to reduce or mitigate hazards
Incur debt through private activity bonds	Yes	Used to fund programs to reduce or mitigate hazards
Withhold spending in hazard-prone areas	Yes	Manage risk through financial measures
State mitigation grant programs	Yes	When applied
Other	N/A	N/A

Education and Outreach

Education and outreach capabilities are programs and methods that could communicate about and encourage risk reduction.

Table 16: Education and Outreach Capabilities of the Town of Brunswick

Education and Outreach Capability	In Place (Y/N)	Does this resource currently incorporate hazard mitigation?	Notes
Community newsletter(s)	Y	Can if necessary	None
Hazard awareness campaigns (such as Firewise, Storm Ready, Severe Weather Awareness Week, school programs)	N	N/A	None
Public meetings/events (Please describe.)	Y	Can if necessary	None
Emergency management listserv	N	N/A	None
Local news	N	N/A	None
Distributing hard copies of notices (e.g., public libraries, door-to-door outreach)	Y	Can if necessary	None
Insurance disclosures/outreach	N	N/A	None
Organizations that represent, advocate for, or interact with underserved and vulnerable communities (Please describe.)	American Red Cross	Yes	None
Social media (Please describe.)	Facebook	Can if necessary	None
Other? (Please describe.)	Town website	Can if necessary	None

Opportunities to Expand and/or Improve Capabilities

Table 17 presents opportunities for the Town of Brunswick to expand or improve capabilities.

Table 17: Opportunities to Expand and/or Improve the Capabilities of the Town of Brunswick

Capability Type	Opportunity to Expand and/or Improve
Planning and Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs and policies need to be reviewed. • Up-to-date information needs to be incorporated into any review that considers current hazards and potential climate change hazards. • New flood hazard information is needed; past data is out of date.
Administrative and Technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff could use more training and technology for floodplain management.

Capability Type	Opportunity to Expand and/or Improve
Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are limited funds available within the town to reduce hazards and purchase properties that may be in hazard areas. • Funds for hazard mitigation should not be tied to the 2% tax cap threshold.
Education and Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public education campaign is needed to inform the citizenry of actions that the town and public need to take to mitigate hazards around them and to reduce the cost of hazards and reduce recovery time.

Mitigation Strategy

Table 18 presents details about the 2019 mitigation actions. Table 19 presents the actions in the 2025 update, and Table 20 shows the prioritization of the mitigation actions.

Table 18: Status of Actions for the Town of Brunswick in 2019¹¹

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
1	Resolve safety issues with the town dam for the town reservoir (2011 BR-1)	Relieve pressure on retaining wall and repair cracks in the spillway.	Increase the slope of the retaining wall and reconstruct the spillway. Install a new gate house and new valve to drain the reservoir.	Supervisor	In progress, continues to be a viable action for 2025
2	Public awareness program on hazards, prevention, and mitigation (2011 BR-CL-1)	Public unaware of hazard mitigation	Public awareness program on hazards, prevention, and mitigation: The county will maintain a hazard mitigation and mitigation planning web presence (local municipal websites to link up to this site, if they haven't already done so); all participating jurisdictions to support preparation of a joint annual hazard mitigation and mitigation planning fact sheet and its distribution; periodic discussion of hazard mitigation and the mitigation plan at other	County Lead	No progress, continues to be a viable action for 2025

¹¹ Projects related to Critical Facilities (CF) must protect the facility to the 500-year event or worst damage scenario, whichever is greater.

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
			regular local meetings; use of annual flyers, newsletters, advertisements, or radio/TV announcements at the discretion of each jurisdiction (incorporating as much free information as possible from the FEMA Publications Warehouse and other appropriate sources) (public education).		
3	Code Update (2011 BR-CL-2)	Update town codes to meet changing regulations.	Review existing local codes and ordinances against the identified hazards to determine whether there need to be any amendments to address identified hazards and, where a need is identified, modify/amend the codes/ordinances as applicable (prevention).	County-led action item. Core Planning Group (CPG) Member Town Supervisor	Some progress, continues to be a viable action for 2025
4	Code enforcement (2011 BR-CL-3)	Enforce NYS and Local Building Codes with Continual CEO training (prevention).	Send building codes and storm water staff to training.	County-led action item. CPG Member Town Supervisor	Does continuous training, continues to be a viable action for 2025
5	Comprehensive Plan (2011 BR-CL-4)	Review comprehensive plan.	Ensure that local comprehensive plans incorporate natural disaster mitigation techniques through a courtesy review of draft plans by the county	County-led action item. CPG Member Town Supervisor	No progress, continues to be a viable action for 2025

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
			planning department (prevention).		
6	Workshop Hazard Prevention (2011 BR-CL-5)	Potential hazards may not be addressed in planning and zoning.	Hold periodic workshops for municipalities regarding zoning and planning issues that arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation (prevention).	Town Supervisor	No progress, continues to be a viable action for 2025
7	Floodplain Ordinance (2011 BR-NFIP-1)	Update/revise the floodplain management ordinance to comply with the latest FEMA regulations.	Ordinance is dated 1993. The town is reviewing the ordinance and working on the update.	Town Supervisor Manager	No progress, FEMA is updating maps, continues to be a viable action for 2025
8	Deepkill & NYS Rt7 *NEW*	Flooding around a culvert on Deepkill Rd	New culvert will ensure flooding does not occur and harm Deepkill Rd and NYS Rt. 7.	Highway Superintendent	Changes have been made, no longer necessary
9	White Church Lane *NEW*	Pre-existing failing culvert causing flooding and erosion to residents downstream	Replace failing culvert and secure sides of the stream to prevent flooding.	Highway Superintendent	No progress as this is a state highway
10	Pennyroyal Lane *NEW*	Preexisting conditions causing flooding to 6 residences	Replace culvert and stabilize creek banks to prevent flooding.	Highway Superintendent	Continues to be a viable action for 2025
11	South Road *NEW*	Flooding has occurred, washing out the ditches and parts of the road.	The project is to install new ditches and culverts to slow the water down and divert some to nearby wetlands.	Highway Superintendent	Some progress, check dams have been installed and there is ongoing maintenance

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
12	Mitigation of Repetitive Loss Properties (RLPs) *NEW*	Brunswick has one NFIP RLP.	The town will support property owners who wish to undertake flood mitigation on private property.	Town Supervisor and Floodplain Manager	No progress, continues to be a viable action for 2025

Table 19: Proposed 2025 Mitigation Actions for the Town of Brunswick¹²

Project #	Project Name	Action Worksheet (Yes/No)	Goal/ Objective Being Met	Hazard to Be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Lead Agency	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
1	Resolve safety issues with town dam for town reservoir	No	Protect existing assets.	Flooding	Relieve pressure on retaining wall and repair cracks in spillway.	Increase the slope of the retaining wall and reconstruct the spillway. Install new gate house and new valve to drain the reservoir.	Town Supervisor	No	No	2–4 years	\$500,000	Prevents future property damage and potential injury	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	High
2	Public awareness program on hazards, prevention, and mitigation	No	Increase public awareness.	Drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, hazardous materials, high winds, hurricane/ tropical storms, landslide, lightning, terrorism, tornado, utility, and infrastructure failure, wildfire, winter storms	Public unaware of hazard mitigation	Public awareness program on hazards, prevention, and mitigation: The county will maintain a hazard mitigation and mitigation planning web presence (local municipal websites to link up to this site, if they haven't already done so); all participating jurisdictions to support preparation of a joint annual hazard mitigation and mitigation planning fact sheet and its distribution; periodic discussion of hazard mitigation and the mitigation plan at other regular local meetings; use of annual flyers, newsletters, advertisements, or radio/TV announcements at the discretion of each jurisdiction	County Lead	No	No	1–2 years	<\$100,000	Empowers public to incorporate mitigation efforts ultimately reducing long term expenses from hazards	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	Medium

¹² BRIC = Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, DEC = Department of Environmental Conservation, FMA = Flood Mitigation Assistance, HMGP = Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, NYSDOT = New York State Department of Transportation

Project #	Project Name	Action Worksheet (Yes/No)	Goal/ Objective Being Met	Hazard to Be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Lead Agency	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
						(incorporating as much free information as possible from the FEMA Publications Warehouse and other appropriate sources) (public education).								
3	Code Update	No	Promote resilient new development.	Drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, hazardous materials, high winds, hurricane/ tropical storms, landslide, lightning, terrorism, tornado, utility, and infrastructure failure, wildfire, winter storms	Update town codes to meet changing regulations.	Review existing local codes and ordinances against the identified hazards to determine whether there need to be any amendments to address identified hazards and, where a need is identified, modify/amend the codes/ordinances as applicable (prevention).	County-led action item. CPG Member Town Supervisor	No	No	2–3 years	<\$100,000	Promotes smart development practices and reducing future costs	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	Low
4	Code enforcement	No	Promote resilient new development.	Drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, hazardous materials, high winds, hurricane/ tropical storms, landslide, lightning, terrorism, tornado, utility, and infrastructure failure, wildfire, winter storms	Enforce NYS and Local Building Codes with Continual CEO training (prevention).	Send building codes and storm water staff to training.	County-led action item. CPG Member Town Supervisor	No	No	2–3 years	<\$100,000	Promotes smart development practices and reducing future costs	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	Medium

Project #	Project Name	Action Worksheet (Yes/No)	Goal/ Objective Being Met	Hazard to Be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Lead Agency	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
5	Comprehensive Plan	No	Improve capabilities.	Drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, hazardous materials, high winds, hurricane/ tropical storms, landslide, lightning, terrorism, tornado, utility, and infrastructure failure, wildfire, winter storms	Review comprehensive plan.	Ensure that local comprehensive plans incorporate natural disaster mitigation techniques through a courtesy review of draft plans by the County Planning Department (prevention).	County-led action item. CPG Member Town Supervisor	No	No	2–3 years	<\$100,000	Promotes smart development practices and reducing future costs	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	Medium
6	Workshop Hazard Prevention	No	Improve capabilities.	Drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, hazardous materials, high winds, hurricane/ tropical storms, landslide, lightning, terrorism, tornado, utility, and infrastructure failure, wildfire, winter storms	Potential hazards may not be addressed in planning and zoning.	Hold periodic workshops for municipalities regarding zoning and planning issues that arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation (prevention).	Town Supervisor	No	No	1–2 years	<\$100,000	Promotes smart development practices and reducing future costs	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	Medium
7	Floodplain Ordinance	No	Promote resilient new development.	Flooding	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to comply with the latest FEMA regulations.	Ordinance is dated 1993. The town is reviewing the ordinance and working on update.	Town Supervisor Manager	No	No	2–3 years	<\$100,000	Promotes smart development practices and reducing future costs	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	Low
8	White Church Lane	No	Protect existing assets.	Flooding	Pre-existing failing culvert	Replace failing culvert and secure	Highway Superintendent	No	No	1–2 years	<\$100,000	Prevents potential	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	High

Project #	Project Name	Action Worksheet (Yes/No)	Goal/ Objective Being Met	Hazard to Be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Lead Agency	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
					causing flooding and erosion to residents down stream	sides of stream to prevent flooding						injury and delay of emergency services		
9	Pennyroyal Lane	No	Protect existing assets.	Flooding	Preexisting condition causing flooding to 6 residences	Replace culvert and stabilize creek banks to prevent flooding.	Highway Superintendent	No	No	1–2 years	<\$100,000	Prevents potential injury and delay of emergency services	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	High
10	South Road	No	Protect existing assets.	Flooding	Flooding has occurred washing out the ditches and parts of the road.	Project is to install new ditches and culverts to slow the water down and divert some to nearby wetlands.	Highway Superintendent	No	No	1–2 years	<\$100,000	Prevents potential injury and delay of emergency services	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	High
11	Mitigation of Repetitive Loss Properties (RLPs)	No	Protect existing assets.	Flooding	Brunswick has one NFIP RLP.	The town will support property owners who wish to undertake flood mitigation on private property.	Town Supervisor and Floodplain Manager.	No	No	2–3 years	<\$100,000	Prevents damage and loss of property	HMGP, BRIC, FMA	Low

Table 20: Mitigation Action Prioritization

Action #	Social	Technical	Administrative	Political	Legal	Economic	Environmental	Priority
1	3	2	3	4	3	3	3	High
2	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	Medium
3	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	Low
4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	Medium
5	4	3	2	3	3	3	4	Medium
6	3	4	4	3	3	3	3	Medium
7	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	Low
8	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	High
9	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	High
10	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	High
11	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	Low