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# Town of Petersburgh

## Jurisdictional Annex to the

MULTIJURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

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# Town of Petersburg Annex

This is the jurisdictional annex for the Town of Petersburg. 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 Petersburg

Name	Title	Contact Information
Heinz Noeding	Supervisor	Phone: 518-658-3777 Email: supervisor@petersburgh.org

## Introduction

Town of Petersburg 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 Petersburg

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Heinz Noeding	Supervisor	Town of Petersburg
Fran Rogers	Code Enforcement Officer	Town of Petersburg
John Domian	Planning Board Chairman	Petersburgh, NY
David Hewitt	Highway Superintendent	Petersburgh, NY

## Jurisdiction Profile

### Location and Land Area

The Town of Petersburg is located in eastern Rensselaer County, in the eastern part of New York State. It shares a border with the Town of Hoosick to the north, the Town of Berlin to the south, the State of Vermont to the east, and the Town of Grafton to the west.

According to the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS),<sup>1</sup> Rensselaer County has a total area of 665 square miles (1,720 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 652 square miles (1,690 km<sup>2</sup>) is land and 13 square miles (34 km<sup>2</sup>) (1.9%) is water. Of that, the Town of Petersburg has a total area of 41.62 square miles (107.78 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 41.62 square miles (107.78 km<sup>2</sup>) is land. There are no bodies of water in the town.

## Population

According to the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau's ACS Five-Year Estimates,<sup>2</sup> the population of the Town of Petersburg is estimated to be 1,368 persons. The July 1, 2023 U.S. Census population count shows the current population count at 1,368.<sup>3</sup>

## Demographics

Of a total area of 41.6 square miles according to 2024 World Population Review,<sup>4</sup> the land area is 41.6 square miles and population per square mile is 32.8 persons.

The population of the Town of Petersburg includes 47.17% males and 52.83% females.<sup>5</sup> Roughly 16.5% of the population are persons under 18 years of age, and 18.8% are persons 65 years and over according to the 2022 U.S. Census estimates. Young and old subsets of the population may have unique needs as far as 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 3.5%.<sup>6</sup> Persons not speaking English well may have trouble understanding instructions regarding disaster preparation, response, and recovery.

Of those aged 25 years and older, 78.9.5% are high school graduates or higher, and 26.5% have received their bachelor's degree or higher according to 2022 U.S. Census data.<sup>7</sup> 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 may not have prior direct experience preparing for, responding to, or recovering from a particular hazard in their daily lives.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey (ACS). 2020. "Petersburgh Town, Rensselaer County, New York." <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2020.DP05?q=petersburgh,%20new%20york>.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Census Reporter, 2025, "Town of Petersburg, Rensselaer County, New York Population", <https://censusreporter.org/profiles/06000US3608357441-petersburgh-town-rensselaer-county-ny/>

<sup>4</sup> World Population Review. "Petersburgh town, New York Population 2024." <https://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/new-york/petersburgh>.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey (ACS). "Petersburgh New York." <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1501?q=petersburgh,%20new%20york>.

From 2018 to 2022, there were 705 total households and 2.80 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 (house, apartment, mobile home, 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, shelters). The Census Bureau maintains no group quarters information 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 2022 U.S. Census Bureau ACS,<sup>8</sup> the median household income was \$77,639 and the percentage of persons in poverty was 3.7%. Lower income persons 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.

According to the 2022 U.S. Census Bureau ACS<sup>9</sup>, non-institutionalized civilians with a disability accounted for 15.4%. Persons (civilian, non-institutionalized) without health insurance was 2.0% of the population. Persons with disabilities have access and functional needs such as cognitive or mobility limitations that may 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 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 1790s from an area that was originally part of the very large Albany County. In 1807 the county reorganized.

The Town of Petersburg was settled around the middle of the eighteenth century and was part of the Manor of Rensselaerswyck. The Town of Petersburg was created in 1791 from the Town of Stephentown. Its size was diminished with the formation of other towns in the county, including the Towns of Berlin and Lansingburgh in 1806, and Grafton and Nassau in 1807.

## Governing Body

The governing body of the municipality consists of a Town Board and various departments. This council serves as the municipal/local government, performing executive functions of different natures. Members of this governing body are elected by the people.

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<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey. 2022. "Petersburgh, New York." <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1903?q=petersburgh,%20new%20york>.

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey. 2022. "Petersburgh, New York." <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1810?q=petersburgh,%20new%20york>.

## 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 work to 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. As part of this plan update, the Town of Petersburg reviewed and updated its prior feedback to reflect current conditions in the community as of early 2019.

The Town of Petersburg did not note any major residential or commercial development or any major infrastructure development planned for the next five years in the municipality. When limited development does sometimes occur, it is typically characterized by individual single-family construction on existing or subdivided lots.

The Town of Petersburg enforces New York State (NYS) Building Codes, Local Laws for Subdivision and Site Plan Reviews to protect new development from the effects of natural hazards. The State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) is required for subdivisions. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is required for major subdivisions. Site plan review is required for land use changes.

## 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, 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
<b>Probability</b> 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%

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
	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% probability of occurrence in the next year or a recurrence interval of less than 1 year.	
<b>Potential Consequences</b> 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.	
	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.	
<b>Warning Time</b> 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	

Risk Index Factor	Degree of Risk Level		Criteria	Factor Weight for Degree of Risk Level
<b>Duration</b> 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	
<b>Spatial Extent</b> 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 Petersburg 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 Petersburg

Type of Hazard Event	Probability	Potential Consequences	Warning Time	Duration	Spatial Extent	Risk Factor Value
Drought	1	1	1	3	4	1.8
Earthquake	1	1	1	1	4	1.6
Extreme Temperatures	2	2	1	2	4	2.3
Flooding	3	2	2	2	2	2.3
Hazardous Materials	2	2	4	2	2	2.2
High Winds	3	2	2	2	4	2.7

Type of Hazard Event	Probability	Potential Consequences	Warning Time	Duration	Spatial Extent	Risk Factor Value
Hurricane-Tropical Storm	2	2	2	3	3	2.3
Landslide	2	1	4	1	1	1.6
Lightning	2	1	4	1	2	1.8
Terrorism	1	1	4	1	1	1.3
Tornado	1	1	4	1	1	1.3
Utility & Infrastructure Failure	3	2	4	2	2	2.5
Wildfire	2	1	4	1	2	1.8
Winter Storm	3	2	2	2	4	2.7

## 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 Petersburg since 2011.

Table 5: Notable Hazard Events in the Town of Petersburg Since 2011

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 Extreme Heat	None	08/12/2021	Heat indices reached 95°F–104°F across parts of the Hudson River from Albany and points southward reached 105°F–110°F.	Extreme Heat
Extreme Cold	None	02/03/2023–02/04/2023	Warming centers were opened	Arctic Cold: With extreme wind chills some squalls; temperatures ranging from -18°F to -39°F and wind gusts up to 44 mph
Flooding (Including Flooding, Dam Failure, and Ice Jams)	None	None	None	None
Hazardous Materials	None	None	None	None
High Wind	None	04/03/2024–04/05/2024	Sustained wind gusts were over 80 mph, and there was widespread area damage: downed trees, broken power lines, building roofs.	Power was out for 40–60 hours for nearly all residents in the Town of Petersburg.
Hurricane or Tropical Storm	None	None	None	None
Landslide	None	None	None	None

Type of Hazard Event	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Date(s)	Damage or Impacts	Description
Lightning	None	None	None	None
Terrorism	N/A	None	None	None
Tornado	None	None	None	None
Utility & Infrastructure Failure	N/A	13 major power outages recorded over last 13 months	None	None
Wildfire	None	None	None	None
Winter Storm (Including Ice Storm and Snowstorm)	None	12/15/2022–12/17/2022	N/A	Nor'easter with snowfall ranging from 1 in in Petersburg to 12 in in Grafton
	None	03/13/2023–03/15/2023	Downed trees and power lines with widespread power outages	Nor'easter with heavy wet snow, accumulations 31 in in Petersburg
	None	01/09/2024–01/13/2024	Sustained winds over 50 mph coupled with ice and heavy snowfall caused widespread damage: downed trees, broken power lines, roads impassable, some structure damage.	Power was off and on over a 4-day window for a total of 27 hours for nearly all residents in the Town of Petersburg.

According to the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)<sup>10</sup> at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the notable events in the Town of Petersburg since 2011 include the following:

- **July 20, 2021** – Thunderstorm Wind: A warm and humid air mass ahead of an approaching cold front brought a couple of rounds of strong to severe thunderstorms across the region, mainly along and north of Interstate 90. A few individual thunderstorms became severe across the Lake George Saratoga region during the early afternoon hours before the main line of thunderstorms progressed from west to east from the Adirondacks and Mohawk Valley to the Hudson River during the late afternoon and early evening hours. There were a couple of reports of hail, but these storms brought mostly damaging winds with downed trees and power lines, a couple of which fell onto homes or vehicles. Trees and wires were downed along Route 346 in the Town of Petersburg.
- **August 12, 2021** – Thunderstorm Wind: The continuation of a hot and humid air mass caused the development of another batch of showers and thunderstorms during the afternoon hours across eastern New York, mainly impacting the Capital District. Damaging wind gusts knocked down trees and power lines as a result. Lightning also struck a house on Old Loudonville Road in the Hamlet of Loudonville, causing a fire. A tree and wires were downed on Petersburg Junction Road near the Town of Hoosick.
- **September 7, 2023** – Thunderstorm Wind: A frontal boundary and low-pressure system located to the west and east of eastern New York was the focus for rounds of showers and thunderstorms each day September 7–9. Strong to severe thunderstorms were more widespread on September 7–8. These storms resulted in numerous reports of tree and powerline damage, as well as thousands without power and several road closures. Several trees were downed along the Route 22 corridor between Petersburg and Hoosick Falls.
- **January 9–13, 2024** – Winter Storm: Sustained winds over 50 mph coupled with ice and heavy snowfall caused widespread damage: downed trees, broken power lines, roads impassable, and some structure damage. Power was off and on over a 4-day window for a total of 27 hours for nearly all residents in the Town of Petersburg.
- **April 3–5, 2024** – High Wind: Sustained wind gusts over 80 mph, widespread area damage: downed trees, broken power lines, building roofs. Power was out for 40–60 hours for nearly all residents in the Town of Petersburg.

## 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 following

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<sup>10</sup> National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). 01/01/2011–09/30/2024. "Rensselaer County, New York." [https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/listevents.jsp?eventType=ALL&beginDate\\_mm=01&beginDate\\_dd=01&beginDate\\_yyyy=2011&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](https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/listevents.jsp?eventType=ALL&beginDate_mm=01&beginDate_dd=01&beginDate_yyyy=2011&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).

information is provided to meet federal standards. The Town of Petersburg answered the NFIP questions in Table 6 through Table 8 to the best of its ability.

Table 6: Responses on Floodplain Management from the Town of Petersburg

Question	Response
Who is the floodplain manager? Is this their primary or secondary role?	Code Enforcement Officer
Does the floodplain manager have adequate training and capacity for their role? If not, what else is needed?	Yes
How does the community enforce its floodplain rules? Does enforcement include monitoring compliance and acting to correct violations?	Petersburgh does not have floodplain rules per se. We enforce building through both Planning Board reviews and building permits issued by the Code Enforcement Officer.
When was the community's most recent Community Assistance Visit (CAV)?	N/A
Were any violations noted on the community's most recent CAV?	N/A
Is there an upcoming CAV? If no, is one needed?	N/A
When was the most recent floodplain management ordinance adopted?	No floodplain ordinance has been adopted in Petersburg.
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.	N/A
Who is responsible for permitting?	Code Enforcement Officer
How does the community issue development permits in the special flood hazard area?	Via Planning Board review and signoff and then through Code Enforcement Officer
Does the community maintain elevation certificates?	No
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)	N/A

Question	Response
How many severe repetitive loss (SRL) structures does the community have? (List number and type of structure)	N/A
Have any RL/SRL properties been mitigated since the last plan update?	N/A
Who is responsible for making substantial damage/substantial improvement determinations?	N/A
How does the substantial damage/substantial improvement process work in your community?	N/A
Is there sufficient staff and training to make substantial damage/substantial improvement determinations?	N/A
How are substantial damage/substantial improvement requirements messaged to the public before and after an event?	Any development plans before the Planning Board are noted on the town website and possibly through a public hearing, if necessary.
Have any substantially damaged/substantially improved structures been mitigated since the last plan update?	N/A
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)	N/A

Table 7: Responses on Floodplain Mapping from the Town of Petersburg

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.	N/A
When did the latest Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) become effective?	N/A
When was the latest FIRM adopted?	N/A
Is the FIRM and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report in an accessible location? How would the public get access to their flood map information?	Latest GIS floodplain mapping is available for inspection at the Planning Board room located at Town Hall.

Question	Response
Does the community use any Risk MAP products? If so, describe.	No
Does the community collect updated floodplain data or modeling? Is this shared with partners and with FEMA?	No
Other comments?	N/A

Table 8: Responses on Flood Insurance and Outreach from the Town of Petersburg

Question	Response
How does the community educate the public on floodplain management and the availability of flood insurance, in and out of the floodplain?	A letter was sent from Supervisor and Code Enforcement Officer in Summer 2024 to all property owners located within the floodplain providing NFIP information and contact details.
How does the community engage with insurance agents on flood insurance?	N/A
Does the community (or state) have flood hazard disclosure laws?	N/A
How familiar is the public with their flood insurance options?	Not familiar
How many properties have flood insurance in the community?	N/A
Are there any areas where flood insurance is lacking?	N/A
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 9 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 Petersburg.

Table 9: Critical Facilities Located in the Floodplain in the Town of Petersburg

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
Highway Garage	Highway Department: holds all highway equipment and vehicles	Town of Petersburg	No	No	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk.	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk
Petersburgh Ambulance Rescue Squad	Ambulance Station	Town of Petersburg	No	No	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk.	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk.
Petersburgh Fire District 1	Fire Station	Town of Petersburg	No	No	Its geographical location is not in a flood zone.	Structure is on grade.
Public Library (Backup Emergency Shelter)	Public library building	Town of Petersburg	No	No	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk.	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk
PVMCC Community Center (Emergency Shelter)	Community Center Hall	Town of Petersburg	No	No	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk.	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk
Town Hall	Town Hall, seat of local government including courts	Town of Petersburg	No	No	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk.	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk

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
Water District Pumphouse And Storage Tank	Pumphouse and Storage	Town of Petersburg	No	No	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk.	Its elevation minimizes flooding risk, but some of its distribution system could be exposed to flooding risk.

## Jurisdiction/Public Identified Vulnerabilities

Table 10 provides crucial information on critical facilities in the Town of Petersburg, 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 10: Vulnerable Assets in the Town of Petersburg

Vulnerable Assets	What makes this group/asset vulnerable during hazards? Have there ever been issues with recovery after an event?
<b>People</b> (residents, workers, visiting populations, and socially vulnerable populations like seniors, individuals with disabilities, lower-income individuals, etc.)	
Petersburgh is highly rural with a mountainous terrain and many residents, especially older people, who live in the hollows, which are difficult to access during severe storms.	Older residents and persons with disabilities have difficulty in accessing the town’s sole emergency shelter during extended power outages and widespread area damage. No transportation service exists to facilitate pick-ups. If the county could make funds available, we could add a simple van vehicle to our fire department or ambulance squad specifically for transportation to our emergency shelter.
<b>Structures</b> (residential, commercial, industrial, government-owned, planned capital improvement, etc.)	
We have no dams along the Little Hoosick River, but approximately 10% of the town’s homes lie within its floodplain based on recent FEMA mapping. The river occasionally overruns its banks in numerous locations, with especially vulnerable locations in the Mill Yard, Alta Vista and Broken Wheel campgrounds, and River Road. Depending on the number of campers on site at any one time, this could expose up to 400 people to sudden flooding events. Furthermore, some of the existing 14 river bridge crossings are unlikely to survive such major flood events. Following Hurricane Irene in 2011, at least one bridge had to be replaced.	The identified locations are highly vulnerable to a sudden rise in river levels given that many of the structures are located on land that is marginally elevated from the riverbank.

Vulnerable Assets	What makes this group/asset vulnerable during hazards? Have there ever been issues with recovery after an event?
<b>Economic Assets</b> (major employers, primary economic sectors, key infrastructure like telecommunications networks, etc.)	
Taconic Industries is the area’s largest private employer. While not susceptible to flooding events, it is exposed to severe power outages.	We understand Taconic lacks emergency generators sufficient to run its whole plant operations and scales back manufacturing or closes some during these extended power outages.
<b>Natural, Historic, and Cultural Resources</b> (areas of conservation, beaches, parks, critical habitats, community centers, historic places, etc.)	
N/A	
<b>Critical Facilities and Infrastructure</b> (hospitals, law enforcement, water, power, transportation systems, etc.)	
Severe power outages impact government functioning given lack of generators for each municipal building including the water district pumphouse.	Recovery has been slowed at times based on the scale of widespread damage that requires repairs to power lines, roads, and buildings.
<b>Community Activities</b> (major local events, such as festivals, or economic events, like farming or fishing)	
N/A	N/A
<b>Are there any other assets that you can think to include?</b>	
N/A	N/A

## Additional Public Involvement

As part of this 2025 plan update, the Town of Petersburg 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 11 presents the outreach activities undertaken by the Town of Petersburg for the 2025 plan update.

Table 11: Outreach Activities Undertaken by the Town of Petersburg

Activity Date	Type of Activity	Activity Details	Department and/or Staff Member
April 2024–September 2024	Survey	Survey was posted online and posted in Town Hall and across public areas like the library. HMP was also discussed at various town board meetings.	Town Supervisor’s office

## 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 12 through Table 15 provide the capabilities of the Town of Petersburg.

## Planning and Regulatory

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

Table 12: Planning and Regulatory Capabilities of the Town of Petersburg

Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances, Plans)	In Place (Y or N)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Building code	Y	Since we don't have zoning that could prevent building in flood zones, we use the Residential Building Code and Uniform Fire Prevention Code standards to ensure structures in such flood zones are built in compliance accordingly.
Zoning ordinance	N	N/A
Subdivision ordinance or regulations	Y	If the building is located in a flood plain, our local law requires a site plan review that incorporates an environmental assessment.

Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances, Plans)	In Place (Y or N)	How has or could this resource be used for hazard mitigation?
Special purpose ordinances (floodplain management, stormwater management, hillside or steep slope ordinances, wildfire ordinances, hazard setback requirements)	Y	The respective local laws govern the process for new construction or reconstruction in flood prone areas.
Growth management ordinances (also called "smart growth" or anti-sprawl programs)	N	N/A
Site plan review requirements	Y	If a proposed structure is located in a flood plain, the property owner must notify the Planning Board, which will determine if a site plan review is required. We cannot prevent building if they are in compliance with Building Code and secured necessary water and septic permits in advance of approval by Planning Board.
General, comprehensive or master plan	N	N/A
A capital improvements plan	N	N/A
An economic development plan	N	N/A
An emergency response plan	N	N/A
A post-disaster recovery plan	N	N/A
A post-disaster recovery ordinance	N	N/A
Real estate disclosure requirements	N	N/A
Other	N	N/A

## Administrative and Technical

Administrative and technical capabilities include staff and their skills.

Table 13: Administrative Capabilities of the Town of Petersburg<sup>11</sup>

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	N	N/A
Engineer(s) or professional(s) trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	Y	Code Enforcement Officer is trained and currently compliant with NY continuing education requirements. The Town Assessor is a Deputy Code Enforcement Officer, if required.
Planners or Engineer(s) with an understanding of natural and/or human-caused hazards	N	N/A
Floodplain manager	Y	Code Enforcement Officer attends mandatory trainings available in Rensselaer County on floodplain enforcement.
Surveyors	N	N/A
Staff with education or expertise to assess the community's vulnerability to hazards	N	N/A
Personnel skilled in GIS and/or HAZUS	Y	Unknown
Scientists familiar with the hazards of the community	N	N/A
Emergency manager	Y	Supervisor delegates emergency management, depending upon the type of emergency.
Grant writers	Y	Supervisor acts as town grant writer and would apply for specific grants, such as from FEMA, if requested
Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis	N	N/A

<sup>11</sup> All communities participate in the National Flood Insurance Program; as such, they are required by the regulations to have an appointed floodplain manager.

## Financial

Financial capabilities are the resources to fund mitigation actions. Talking

Table 14: Financial Capabilities of the Town of Petersburg

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	N/A
Capital improvements project funding	Don't know	N/A
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes	Any taxes have to be allocated as part of annual budget process.
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	Yes	We have a small water district that levies fees for connection and usage.
Impact fees for developments/homes	Homebuyers	N/A
Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes	Must be approved as part of annual budget process and Town Board Resolution
Incur debt through special tax and revenue bonds	Don't know	N/A
Incur debt through private activity bonds	Don't know	N/A
Withhold spending in hazard-prone areas	Don't know	N/A
State mitigation grant programs	Don't know	N/A
Other	No	N/A

## Education and Outreach

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

Table 15: Education and Outreach Capabilities of the Town of Petersburg

Education and Outreach Capability	In Place (Y/N)	Does this resource currently incorporate hazard mitigation?	Notes
Community newsletter(s)	Y	No	N/A
Hazard awareness campaigns (such as Firewise, Storm Ready, Severe Weather Awareness Week, school programs)	Y	Yes, a letter from the Supervisor and Code Enforcement Manager was sent to every homeowner whose property was identified as being in a flood zone with contact details for securing NFIP insurance.	N/A
Public meetings/events (Please describe.)	Y	We are in the process of holding a public event for individual emergency preparedness on August 27, 2024.	The Town Board has sponsored and authorized to schedule multiple such meetings, if necessary, in the future.
Emergency management listserv	N	N/A	N/A
Local news	Y	Eastwick Press will publish meeting notices for the Town of Petersburg, such as for the Emergency Preparedness Event scheduled for August 2024. Will also publish such notices on town website and Facebook page.	N/A
Distributing hard copies of notices (e.g., public libraries, door-to-door outreach)	N	N/A	N/A
Insurance disclosures/outreach	N	N/A	N/A
Organizations that represent, advocate for, or interact with underserved and vulnerable communities (Please describe.)	N	N/A	N/A
Social media (Please describe.)	Y	Town website and town Facebook page	Any notices approved by Town Board are published on approved social media sites.
Other? (Please describe.)	N	N/A	N/A

## Opportunities to Expand and/or Improve Capabilities

Table 16 presents opportunities for the Town of Petersburg to expand or improve capabilities.

Table 16: Opportunities to Expand and/or Improve the Capabilities of the Town of Petersburg

Capability Type	Opportunity to Expand and/or Improve
Planning and Regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Petersburgh does not have zoning. Regulations rely on passing relevant local laws or state codes. Additional local laws are proposed on an as needed basis but require community and Town Board support before enactment.</li> </ul>
Administrative and Technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FEMA flood plain maps have been updated as of 2018. Rely on Code Enforcement Officer to ensure the new construction is in compliance with current Building Codes.</li> </ul>
Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The community has never used FEMA emergency funding. If required, then the Supervisor would prepare grant application and submit.</li> </ul>
Education and Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2024, Supervisor and Code Enforcement Officer sent out a "what is and how to access" NFIP insurance letter to all property owners whose properties were identified as being all or partially in a flood zone per the most recent FEMA 2018 flood zone map. The same letter will be sent out each year thereafter as part of a general information campaign.</li> </ul>

## Mitigation Strategy

Table 17 presents details about the 2019 mitigation actions. Table 18 presents the actions in the 2025 update, and Table 19 shows the prioritization of the mitigation actions.

Table 17: Status of Actions for the Town of Petersburg in 2019<sup>12</sup>

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
1	Generators for Town Buildings *NEW*	Petersburg has a population of Nineteen percent of the town’s population is either under the age of 5 or over the age of 65. This age group tends to be more vulnerable during hazard events. Town buildings are good locations to shelter residents, but it is imperative that power is maintained at each facility, particularly when heat is required during the winter months. In addition, this allows for improved continuity of operations of critical town services for its residents.	This project is currently in an exploratory phase. Generators would be placed at Petersburg Veterans Memorial Community Center to provide a place for safe harbor and Control Center. This will provide us with a building that will be able to act as a control facility in case of a natural disaster occurs or people need to seek a safe place.	Town Supervisor	Action is ongoing; carry over to 2025 plan update.
2	Tree Service for Dead Trees *NEW*	Dead trees pose a hazard to roads, structures, and people. Dead trees are more likely to fall during snowstorms, ice	The town would like to arrange for a tree service to clear dead trees. This will help to keep the roads clear, reduce wildfire fuel	Town Supervisor	No longer relevant.

<sup>12</sup> 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
		<p>storms, and high wind events. Dead trees increase wildfire risk by providing dry fuel. The vast majority of land in Petersburg is forested with heavy fuels and areas of steep slopes that can facilitate the spread of wildfires. Dead trees also can cause power outages when they fall in whole or in part on power lines. Roadways blocked by trees can impact emergency service response times.</p>	<p>loading, reduce the likelihood of power outages caused by fallen trees, and reduce the frequency of trees falling on roadways.</p>		
3	<p>Flood Risk Awareness and Mitigation Project *NEW*</p>	<p>Petersburgh has only 5 National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies with an insured value of \$890,700. However, there are 27 structures in the 100-year floodplain with an estimated replacement cost value of \$6,170,000 for 100-year flood event damages (an average replacement cost value of about \$228,000 for each of the 27 structures on the floodplain). Owners of the 22 structures without flood insurance could</p>	<p>Phase 1 – The town will conduct an outreach program specifically to the property owners of structures in the floodplain to be sure that they are aware of their risks, and the availability of flood insurance. The town will provide information about flood mitigation measures and assess homeowner interest in mitigation projects that may be eligible project types for federal funding. Phase 2 – The town will provide administrative support to</p>	<p>Floodplain Manager</p>	<p>Action is in progress, carry over to 2025 plan update</p>

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
		be particularly vulnerable during a 100-year flood event as the costs to rebuild could exceed their ability to pay.	homeowners by submitting grant applications under FEMA funding streams where the homeowner is not an eligible direct sub-applicant.		
4	Landslide Mitigation Project *NEW*	The Town of Petersburg has many areas of steep slopes and terrain that supports the formation of landslides. Mapping shows large areas of high landslide incidence/ susceptibility in Petersburg. Landslides have been documented in the past and are possible in the future.	Create comprehensive geological mapping of areas prone to landslides and rockslides. Locally identify and map specific areas of potential slope failure and limit future development in these areas. (*Perhaps using the methodology used ~year 2008 in the City of Schenectady*)	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Board	No longer relevant.
5	Public Awareness Program (2011 P-CL-1)	Uneducated public. Residents could benefit from additional information on hazards, risks, and hazard mitigation measures they can take on their own properties to reduce damages and improve resident safety before, during, and after a hazard event.	Series of public meetings to discuss hazard mitigation planning. Public awareness program on hazards, prevention, and mitigation: 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	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Board	Completed August 2024

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
			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 (incorporating as much free information as possible from the FEMA Publications Warehouse and other appropriate sources) (public education).		
6	Land Use Regulation Update (2011 P-CL-2)	Communities are safer and more resilient when new construction and substantial improvements take into account the latest information on hazard vulnerabilities and measures to reduce risk.	Ongoing land use regulations to foster better hazard mitigation planning. Land use regulation amendments to continue proper land use hazard mitigation practices. Code update: 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 or amend the codes and ordinances as applicable (prevention).	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Board	Action is ongoing, carry over to 2025 plan update

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
7	Code Enforcement Training (2011 P-CL-3)	There can be a loss of institutional knowledge with staff changes. Even when staff is the same, continual training improves local capabilities and allows officials to better regulate activities in hazard areas to protect lives and property.	Training. Enforcement of NYS and Local Building Codes with Continual CEO training (prevention).	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Code Enforcement Officer	Code enforcement training is an ongoing effort.
8	Hazard Mitigation Planning (HMP) Incorporated in Village Comprehensive Plan (2011 P-CL-4)	Lack of hazard mitigation plan as part of the town comprehensive plan. A long-term vision for the community that does not take into account hazard areas can put lives and property at risk. Taking into account natural hazards and hazard mitigation measures can make the community more resilient.	Review hazard mitigation plans and incorporate into town 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 Board	Action is ongoing; carry over to 2025 plan update.
9	Attend County-Led Mitigation Planning and Zoning Workshops (2011 P-CL-5)	When municipal staff are not armed with information on zoning and planning issues that sometimes arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation, they may make decisions that don't foster community resiliency.	Attend county-led periodic workshops for municipalities regarding zoning and planning issues that arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation (prevention).	County-led action item. CPG Member, Town Board	Regularly attend meetings.

Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Project Lead/ Department and Position Title	Status Update
10	Update Floodplain Management Ordinance per New FEMA Regulations (As Needed) (2011 P-NFIP-1)	Outdated ordinances mean that a community is not regulating to the latest codes and standards or hazard information, and that does not foster community resiliency.	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to comply with latest FEMA regulations.	CPG Member, Town Board, Town Supervisor and Floodplain Manager	Action is ongoing; carry over to 2025 plan update.
11	Designate a Floodplain Administrator (2011 P-NFIP-2)	Staff changes	Designate/install a specific person to be the municipality's Floodplain Administrator.	CPG Member, Town Board, Town Supervisor and Floodplain Manager	Completed. Floodplain administrator is actively engaged in training.
12	Staff Training in NFIP (2011 P-NFIP-3)	Communities are safer when their floodplain management ordinances are administered properly.	Add/train sufficient members of staff to adequately enforce NFIP regulations and floodplain management ordinances.	CPG Member, Town Board, Town Supervisor	Action is ongoing; carry over to 2025 plan update.
13	Update Floodplain Management Ordinance when New Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) Are Issued (2011 P-NFIP-4)	Outdated ordinances mean that a community is not regulating to the latest codes and standards or hazard information, and that does not foster community resiliency.	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to be consistent with potential future new FIRMs.	CPG Member, Town Board, Town Supervisor and Floodplain Manager	Under consideration for additional local laws.

Table 18: Proposed 2025 Mitigation Actions for the Town of Petersburg<sup>13</sup>

Project #	Project Name	Action Worksheet (Yes/No)	Goal/Objective Being Met	Hazard to Be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Description of Responsibilities and Partners	Related to CF?	EHP Issue	Estimated Timeline	Lead Agency	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
1	Generators for Critical Facilities	No	Improve capabilities.	Utility and infrastructure failure	Severe storms (wind, lightning, and snow) coupled with NYSEG's end-of-line power grid design and lack of redundancy connections results in the town being adversely and disproportionately impacted by power outages that often extend beyond 24 hours. As a result, until recently, most town facilities were offline. With the generators installed, town facilities can operate under emergency conditions.	Four of the five municipal properties now have generators installed or in the process of being installed with the last property (Town Hall) scheduled to have a generator installed by February 2025. We have tackled this issue by appropriating funds from our annual budget process over the last two years and for 2025.	Part of the historical challenge for the town was that no one within local government was responsible for facilities maintenance and improvements. Starting in 2023, the Town Board created a new position, Facilities Manager, who has direct responsibility for requesting and implementing facilities upgrades including reroofing, installing generators, and safety changes. As a result, a building upgrade program has been set up for each of the five facilities, and vendors are being hired to install the various upgrade projects appropriated through the annual budget process.	No	No	Final completion should occur by February 2025.	Town	\$60,000	The town-owned facilities, including water pumphouse, highway garage, community shelter, and Town Hall, can now remain fully operational during a power outage event.	BRIC, HMGP	High
2	River Bridge Assessment	No	Protect existing assets.	Utility and infrastructure failure	At least 3 of the 10 bridges have weight limitations of 10 tons or less. Unfortunately, a fully loaded fire tanker truck or fully loaded highway plow truck will exceed this weight limitation. In addition, several of these bridges maybe susceptible to undermining the sidewall foundations during flooding events. Hence, these particular bridges maybe susceptible to collapse.	The town has 10 road or rail bridges across the two rivers within Petersburg. The town does not have the engineering capabilities to assess the structural integrity of these bridges, many of which are over 75 years old. The county and/or the state needs to assume this responsibility. The NYSDOT did perform bridge inspections during summer 2024, but no report has been issued yet to the respective towns. Hence, no identified solutions are known or being requested at this time.	NYS DOT undertook bridge inspections during summer 2024.	Yes	Yes, especially if a bridge collapse occurred. The worst environmental issue would be a collapse the rail bridge that is used twice a day by a local railroad operator.	Awaiting the NYSDOT report to assess what projects, if any will be required in the future. 3-5 years.	NYSDOT and town	Unknown	Unknown	BRIC, HMGP	High

<sup>13</sup> 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	Description of Responsibilities and Partners	Related to CF?	EHP Issue	Estimated Timeline	Lead Agency	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
3	Land Use Regulation Enforcement Program	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	The rural nature of the community can attract residents who believe they can do whatever with their properties. The Code Enforcement Officer enforces building code standards and local law regulations including pursuit in local courts, if necessary.	The town does not have zoning restrictions but enforces land use standards per the New York State Building Code standards and all local laws. The Code Enforcement Officer and the Planning Board try to be vigilant by communicating with the public in advance, and by identifying projects and working with property owners to secure appropriate permits in advance from either the town or the county (water and septic).	Town	No	No	1-3 years	Town Planning Board and Code Enforcement Officer	<\$100,000	Town of Petersburg	BRIC, HMGP	Medium
4	Code Enforcement Training	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	In the past, local officials may not have been as well trained or current on building standards and land use regulations.	Town officials involved in land and building regulations need to be trained to current standards. The Town Board regularly requires members of the Planning Board and the Code Enforcement Officer to be current on NYS requirements and will pay for such off-site training if necessary	The Code Enforcement Officer and the Planning Board members need to take the initiative on identifying which training is required annually.	No	Yes, part of the Planning Board process is a State Environmental Quality Review Act assessment.	1-3 years	Town	<\$100,000	Town of Petersburg	Budget reimbursement from the Town Board for training, equipment, or resources, if requested. BRIC, HMGP	Low
5	Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Incorporated Within a Future Comprehensive Plan	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	Town officials have never organized a community led initiative to develop a Comprehensive Plan.	The town has an HMP but does not have a Comprehensive Plan. The town needs to develop a long term vision through a Comprehensive Plan incorporating an HMP.	Town Board, working with other town officials and members of the community, need to create, sponsor, and fund a workshop process with the goal of creating a Comprehensive Plan	Yes	Yes	1 year	Town	<\$100,000	Unknown	BRIC, HMGP	Medium

Project #	Project Name	Action Worksheet (Yes/No)	Goal/ Objective Being Met	Hazard to Be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Description of Responsibilities and Partners	Related to CF?	EHP Issue	Estimated Timeline	Lead Agency	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority
6	Update Floodplain Ordinances	No	Protect existing assets.	Flooding	Local floodplain maps were outdated until the 2018 FEMA Flood Risk Report. But such recent mapping does not include tributary creeks to the Little Hoosick River. No new floodplain local laws have been enacted since 1987. General resistance within the community to updating local laws. Community preference seems more focused on flood control than implementing floodplain mitigation strategies.	Update floodplain mapping and provide information to the public. Update local laws to limit new buildings along the river. Investigate if the 2018 mapping can be further enhanced with an analysis of flooding risk along tributary creeks. If the town could convince residents that floodplain mitigation strategies and techniques should be adopted along the Little Hoosick River instead of rebuilding failing debris dams from the 1950s, then updating ordinances and local laws would be more likely.	Planning Board and Town	No	No	1-3 years	Town	<\$100,000	Unknown	Budget reimbursement from the Town Board may be possible depending on the expected cost for map updates. The cost of incorporating flooding mitigation techniques on the local river instead of rebuilding debris dams is unknown and would entail local property owner consent before any construction projects could be implemented. BRIC, HMGP, FMA,	Low
7	Conduct Study on Appropriate Flood Mitigation Strategies Along Little Hoosick River and Tributaries	No	Protect existing assets.	Educate local population on deploying flood mitigation strategies instead of trying flood control strategies through rebuilding debris dams	Public resistance to new local laws for flood mitigation. Preference of many is to rebuild debris dams for flood control. Challenge is that flood control does not work and is no longer financially feasible.	Given current public resistance to introducing flood mitigation techniques, a third-party study by an environmental engineer outlining what is permissible and what is financially feasible may help win over existing public resistance.	The town working with NYSDEC and county engineers and approved third-party consultants.	No	No	1-3 years	NYS DEC	<\$100,000	Unknown	BRIC, HMGP, FMA	Medium-

Table 19: Mitigation Action Prioritization

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