



Passaic County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update

Planning Partnership Kick-Off Meeting

February 20, 2024

While waiting for the meeting to start, please sign-in using the printed sign-in sheet.



Today's Agenda

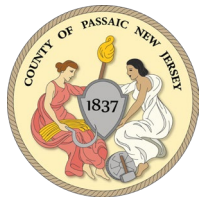
1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Hazard Mitigation Planning Overview
3. Project Organization
4. Planning Team Responsibilities
5. Planning Process Overview
6. Homework
7. Project Schedule
8. Questions/Next Steps/Wrap Up



Hazard Mitigation Overview

Mitigation planning happens before a disaster strikes. It results in safer, more resilient communities – reducing risk for the residents, businesses, and critical services in Passaic County.

Hazard Mitigation Planning Overview



- ✓ Authorized by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000
- ✓ Provides an overview of the impacts of natural hazards on communities
- ✓ Provides a roadmap to reducing the impact of these hazards
- ✓ Requires a FEMA-approved natural hazard mitigation plan to be eligible for Pre-Disaster Mitigation Funding
- ✓ 5-year updates required to maintain eligibility

- What is hazard mitigation?
- Why update the plan?
- What is the process?



What is Hazard Mitigation?

Mitigation is a sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event

-or-

Any action taken to reduce future disaster losses



“provides the blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs and resources, and local ability...” (CFR).

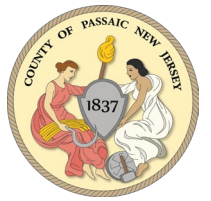
Why Update?



- The mitigation plan update will:
 - Help prepare for and mitigate hazards
 - Eligibility for pre- and post-disaster mitigation funding
 - Incorporate new FEMA requirements
- What is at risk in Passaic County?
- Which hazard do you think occurred the most since 2020?

| January 2020 – July 2023 | |
|--|-------------|
| Hazard | Occurrences |
| Blizzard | 0 |
| Extreme Cold, Cold/Wind Chill | 0 |
| Drought | 0 |
| Heat, Excessive Heat | 0 |
| Flood/Flash Flood | 14 |
| Hail | 3 |
| Heavy Rain | 0 |
| Hurricane/ Tropical Storm/ Tropical Depression | 1 |
| Lightning/ Thunderstorm | 8 |
| Tornado/Funnel Cloud | 0 |
| Wind | 2 |
| Winter Weather | 10 |
| Wildfire | 0 |
| TOTAL | 38 |

Source: NOAA NCEI Severe Weather Inventory 2023



Differences from the 2020 Planning Process

- Involvement – engaged and actively participating
- Public and stakeholder outreach
- Socially vulnerable and underserved communities
- Climate change
- Mitigation actions are needed for every hazard of concern





Project Organization

Working with individuals, agencies, neighboring jurisdictions, businesses, and other partners for a successful mitigation planning process.

Project Organization



Core Planning Team

Passaic County
Office of
Emergency
Management,
Tetra Tech



Steering Committee

Planning Partnership

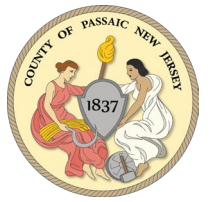


Stakeholders



New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM)

Planning Partnership Role and Responsibilities

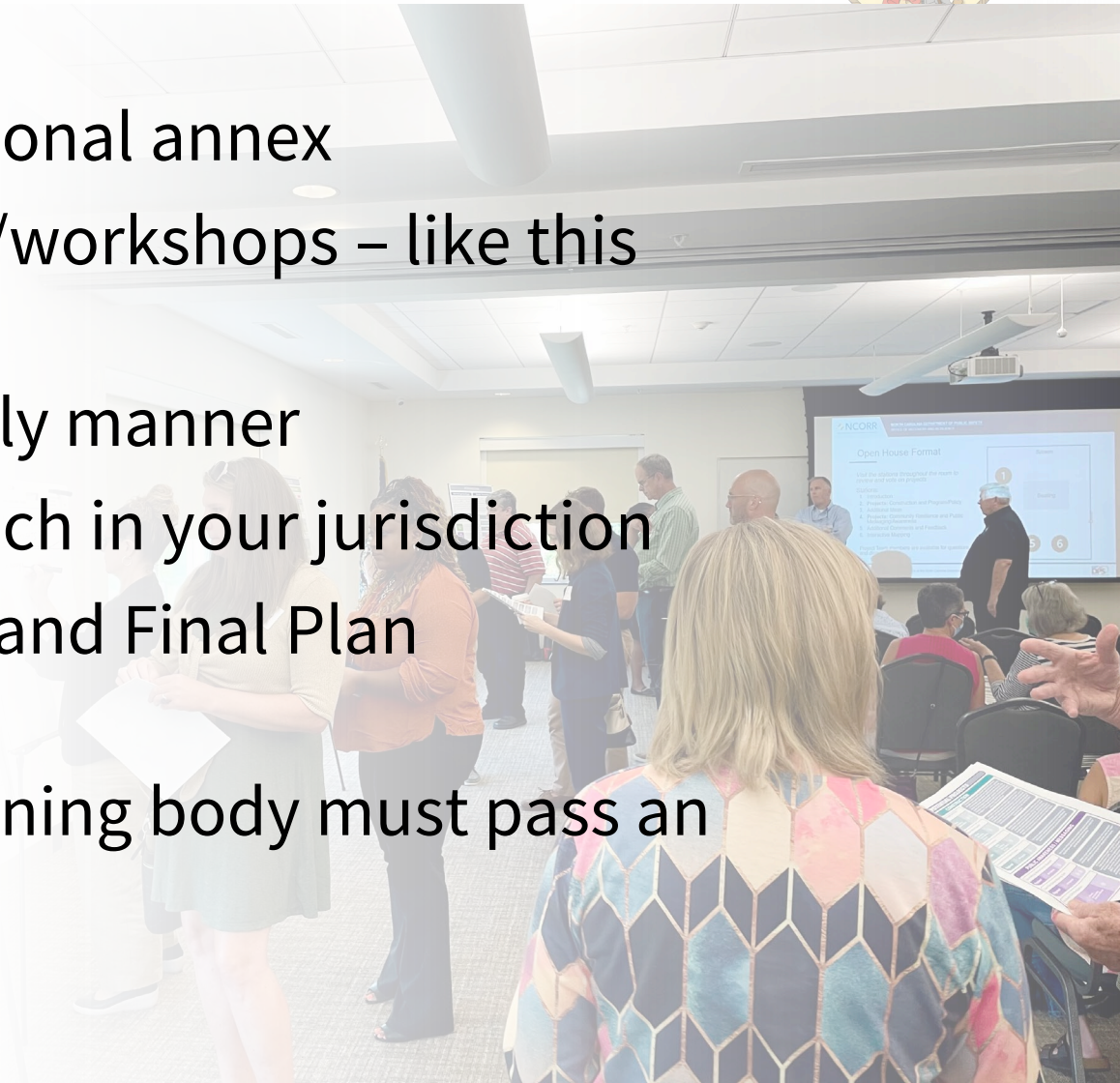


- Actively participate throughout the process –
 - Coordinate and facilitate local efforts
 - Attend meetings
 - Provide information and feedback (e.g., complete municipal worksheets)
 - Involve the public and community stakeholders in the planning process
 - Identify mitigation actions for your community
 - Adopt the plan
 - Implement the plan and monitor its progress
- Provide your points of contact to the County and confirm you will be participating in the 2025 process



How Do You Participate?

- Assist with the update of your jurisdictional annex
- Attend Planning Partnership meetings/workshops – like this one!
- Provide data and information in a timely manner
- Support public and stakeholder outreach in your jurisdiction
- Review and provide feedback on Draft and Final Plan documents
- Facilitate the adoption process – governing body must pass an Adoption Resolution
- Implement and Maintain the Plan





Planning Process Overview

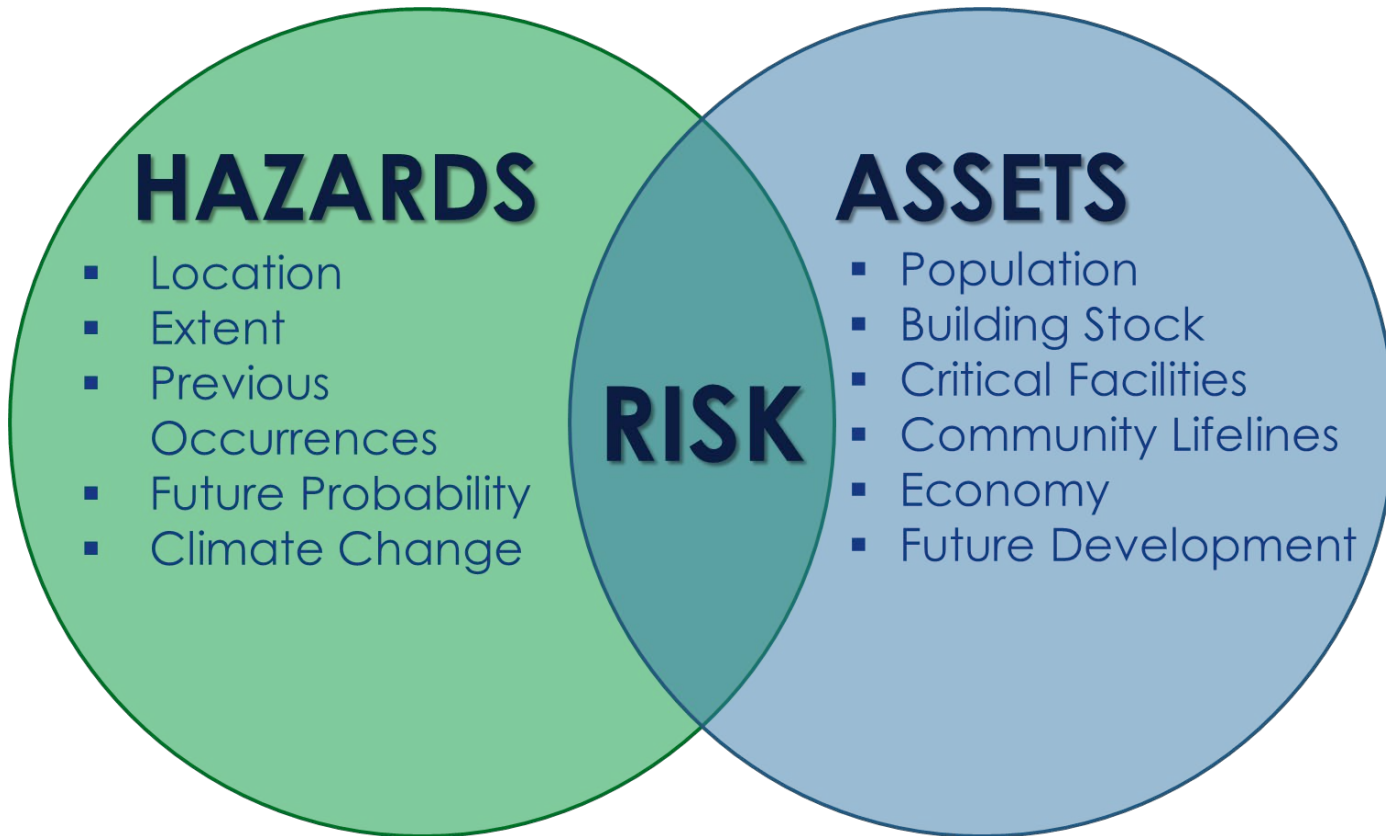
A well-defined planning process is essential to the success of Passaic County's HMP Update.



Planning Process Overview



Update Risk Assessment



- Update Assets
- Examine Previous Impacts
- Analyze Risks
- Review with Steering Committee
- Risk Assessment Meeting

Hazards of Concern



Coastal Storm



Dam Failure



Drought



Earthquake



Extreme Temperature



Flood



Geological



Severe Weather



Severe Winter Weather



Wildfire





Critical Facilities and Community Lifelines

- **Critical Facilities** provide essential services to the community, especially before, during, and after a disaster.
- **Community Lifelines** provide services that allow continuity of operations of critical business and government functions, and crucial to health and safety of residents.
- **Critical facilities will be distributed later this winter for review.**

A lifeline enables the continuous operation of **critical government** and **business functions** as is essential to **human health** and **safety** or **economic security**.

Critical Facilities and Community Lifelines



Safety and Security

- Correctional
- Dam
- Daycare
- EOC
- Fire/EMS
- Government / Municipal Hall
- Historic Sites
- Library
- Military
- Police
- School



Food, Hydration, Shelter

- Shelter
- Grocery Stores
- Food Distribution Centers



Health and Medical

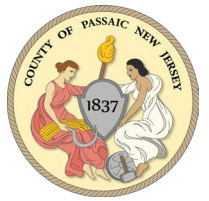
- Medical
- Senior Care Facilities



Energy

- Electric Substation
- Power Lines

Critical Facilities and Community Lifelines



Communications

- Communication Towers



Transportation

- Airport
- County Roads
- State Highways
- Light Rail
- Intermodal Transit



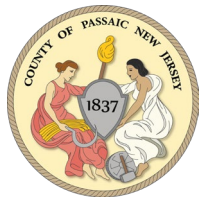
Hazardous Materials

- Tier Facilities
- Chemical



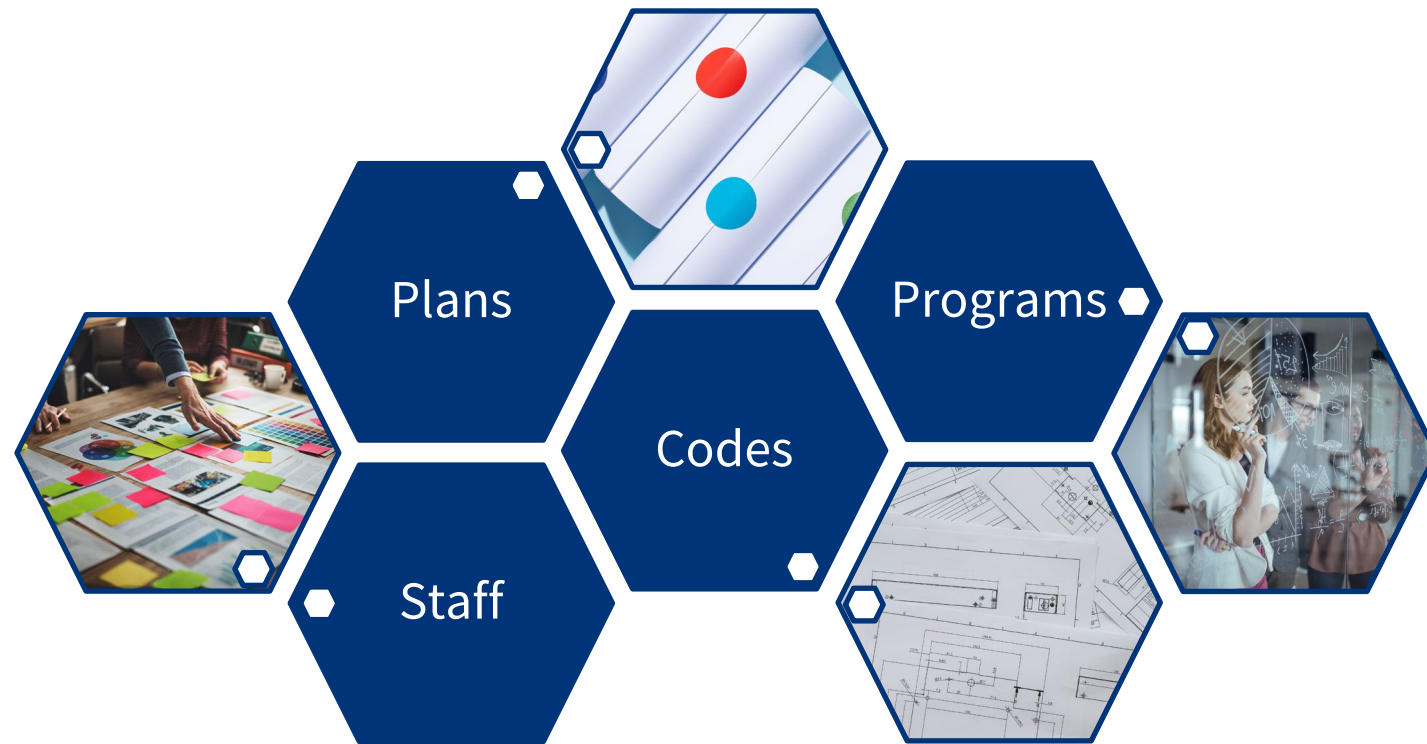
Water Systems

- Potable Pump Station
- Wastewater Pump
- Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Water Tower
- Potable Well

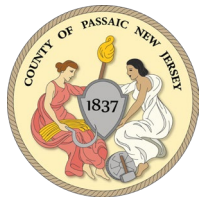


Capability Assessment

- Capabilities
 - What does your jurisdiction use to reduce risk to hazards?



Mitigation Strategy



- Goals
 - What outcomes do you want to achieve?
- Actions
 - What specific actions will be taken to reduce hazard risk?
- Action Plan
 - How will the actions be prioritized and implemented?

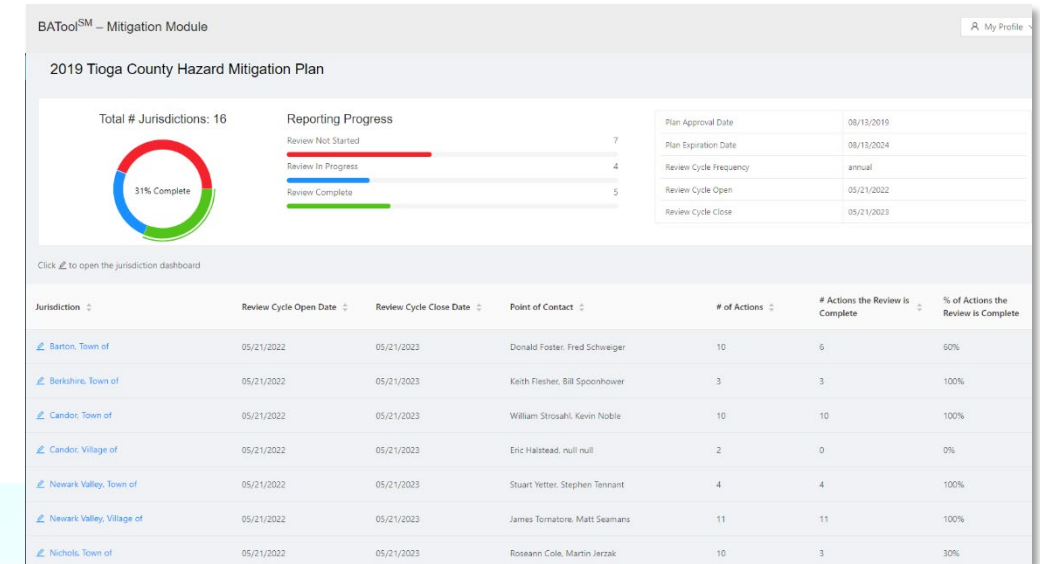


Review Your Previous Mitigation Strategy

BAToolSM Program



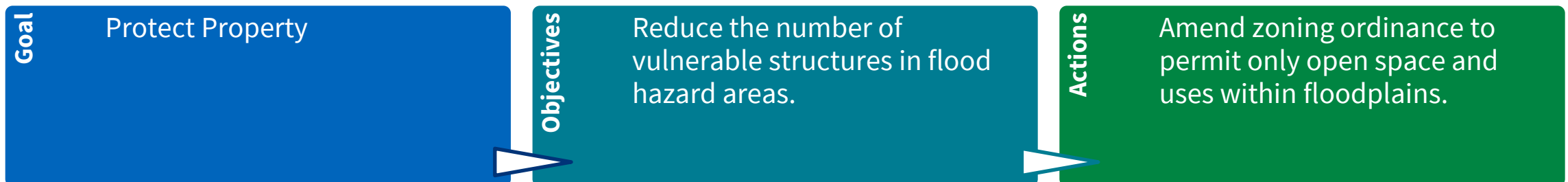
- Update the 2020 mitigation actions through the BAToolSM – less paperwork!
- Refresher training for planning partners
- Populate potential 2025 mitigation actions



Goals and Objectives – Review and Update



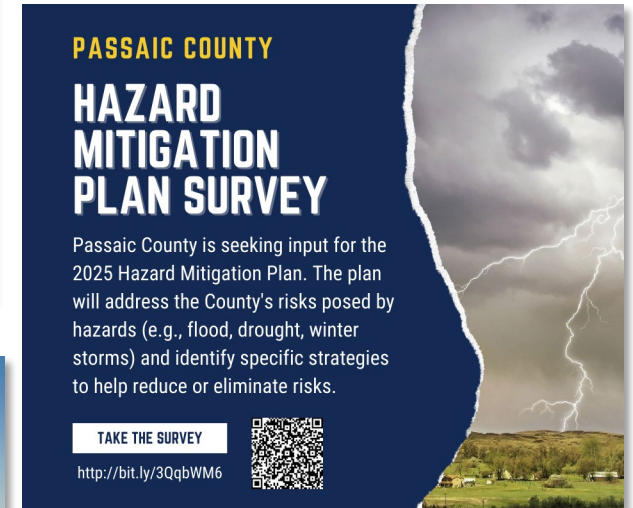
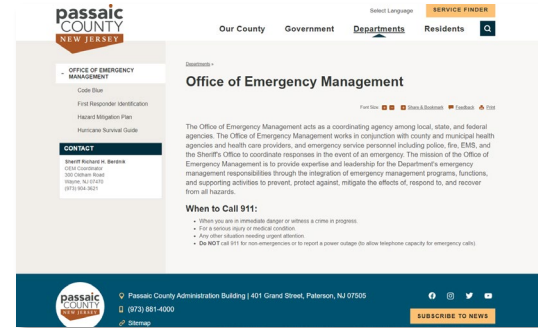
| Goal Number | 2020 Goal | Modify, Add, or Remove? |
|-------------------|---|-------------------------|
| G-1 | Protect Life | |
| G-2 | Protect Property | |
| G-3 | Increase Public Preparedness and Awareness | |
| G-4 | Develop and Maintain an Understanding of Risks from Hazards | |
| G-5 | Enhance County and Local Mitigation Capabilities to Reduce Hazard Vulnerability | |
| G-6 | Support Continuity of Operations Pre-, During, and Post-Hazard Events | |
| Additional Goals? | | |



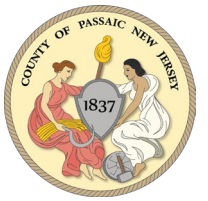


Public Outreach Strategy

- Public Outreach Toolkit
 - Social media templates and posts
 - Press release templates
 - Printable materials
- Surveys
 - Stakeholders
 - Neighboring communities
 - Public
- County Website
- StoryMap



Plan Adoption & Integration



- Implementing your HMP...
 - Integration –
 - Link to local planning efforts
 - Hazard mitigation principles into your comprehensive or master plan
 - Interagency coordination
 - Projects/Actions –
 - Explore funding options to complete projects
 - Develop grant applications
 - Implement the projects



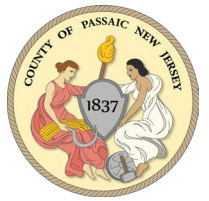


Homework

Each jurisdiction will need to review and submit information on previous events, capabilities, NFIP administration, recent development, and previous actions.

Homework sheets are due March 15.

Worksheet A: Previous Events



Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update
Passaic County, New Jersey
Worksheet A – Hazard Event History

**Please send all electronic Word versions by March 15, 2024:
Chris Huch, Tetra Tech | chris.huch@tetratech.com**

Municipality: _____

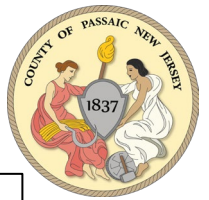
Name and Title of Individual Completing Worksheet: _____

Passaic County has frequently experienced natural hazard events. Please complete the table below to summarize specific loss and damages experienced during hazard events since the last hazard mitigation plan update (2020). Information already populated in the table below is based on County-wide events that resulted in significant damages and losses.

Please update the table to provide a summary of local impacts to the listed events AND note other local hazard events that resulted in damages, closures, or other impacts.

| Dates of Event | Event Type (Disaster Declaration if applicable) | County Designated? | Summary of Event | Municipal Summary of Closures, Damages, and Losses |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------|--|--|
| January 20, 2020 – May 11, 2023 | Covid-19 Pandemic (EM-3451-NJ, DR-4488-NJ) | Yes | As of September 26, 2023, Passaic County accounted for 7,530 positive cases of COVID-19, and 32 reported deaths (State of New Jersey, 2023). | |
| September 1-3, 2021 | Remnants of Hurricane Ida (EM-3573-NJ, DR-4614-NJ) | Yes | The remnants of Hurricane Ida produced heavy rainfall and riverine and flash floods. Rainfall totals exceed 3 inches in parts of County; 4 water rescues occurred due to flash flooding. | |

Worksheet B: Capability Assessment



Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update
Passaic County, New Jersey
Worksheet B – Capability Assessment

Please send all electronic Word versions by March 15, 2024:
Chris Huch, Tetra Tech | chris.huch@tetratech.com

Municipality: _____

Name and Title of Individual Completing Worksheet: _____

Who can assist with completing these tables: Municipal Planner, Clerk, Code Official, Administrator, Chief Fiscal Officer.

Planning and Regulatory Capability

Please complete the following table to summarize the regulatory tools that are available to your community, what is present in the jurisdiction, and code citation and date. For existing regulatory tools, note how it reduces risk to hazards or how it could be updated to better integrate hazard mitigation concepts to reduce risk.

Table 1. Planning and Regulatory Capability

| | Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No) | Code Citation and Date (code chapter, name of plan, date of plan) | Authority (local, county, state, federal) | Individual / Department / Agency Responsible |
|--|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Codes, Ordinances, & Regulations | | | | |
| Building Code | | | | |
| How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? | | | | |
| Consider the following: | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the building code have provisions to strengthen or elevate construction to withstand hazard forces? Are there building codes in place that meet or exceed those outlined in the National Flood Insurance Program's guidelines for safe building practices? Do existing building codes include development standards for withstanding storm surge, wind damage, earthquakes, or other relevant natural hazards? | | | | |
| Zoning/Land Use Code | | | | |
| How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? | | | | |
| Consider the following: | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the zoning ordinance conform to the comprehensive plan in terms of discouraging development or redevelopment within natural hazard areas? Does the ordinance contain natural hazard overlay zones that set conditions for land use within such zones? Does the ordinance prohibit development within, or filling of, wetlands, floodways, and floodplains? Is a zoning code in place to encourage resilient development through density bonuses for projects outside of natural hazard areas? Do rezoning procedures recognize natural hazard areas as limits on zoning changes that allow greater intensity or density of use? If applicable, is there a wildland-urban interface development code in place to prohibit or limit development in high wildfire risk areas? | | | | |
| Subdivision Code | | | | |
| How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? | | | | |
| Consider the following: | | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do the subdivision regulations restrict the subdivision of land within or next to natural hazard areas? Do the regulations provide for conservation subdivisions or cluster subdivisions to conserve environmental resources? | | | | |



Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update
Passaic County, New Jersey
Worksheet B – Capability Assessment

Table 3. Administrative and Technical Capabilities

| Resources | Available? (Yes/No) | Comments (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation) |
|--|---------------------|--|
| Administrative Capability | | |
| Planning Board | | |
| Zoning Board of Adjustment | | |
| Planning Department | | |
| Mitigation Planning Committee | | |
| Environmental Board/Commission | | |
| Open Space Board/Committee | | |
| Economic Development Commission/Committee | | |
| Public Works/Highway Department | | |
| Construction/Building/Code Enforcement Department | | |
| Emergency Management/Public Safety Department | | |
| Maintenance programs to reduce risk (stormwater maintenance, tree trimming, etc.) | | |
| Mutual aid agreements | | |
| Human Resources Manual e.g., Do any job descriptions specifically include identifying or implementing mitigation projects or other efforts to reduce natural hazard risk? | | |
| Other | | |
| Technical/Staffing Capability | | |
| Planners or engineers with knowledge of land development and land management practices | | |
| Engineers or professionals trained in building or infrastructure construction practices | | |
| Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural hazards | | |
| Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis | | |
| Professionals trained in conducting damage assessments | | |
| Personnel skilled or trained in GIS and/or Hazards United States (HAZUS) – Multi-Hazards (MH) applications | | |
| Staff that work with socially vulnerable populations or underserved communities | | |
| Environmental scientist familiar with natural hazards | | |
| Surveyor(s) | | |
| Emergency Manager | | |
| Grant writer(s) | | |
| Resilience Officer | | |

Consider the following:

- Are data and maps from the HMP used to support documentation in grant applications?

Worksheet C: NFIP Administration



Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update
Passaic County, New Jersey
Worksheet C – NFIP Summary

Please send all electronic Word versions by March 15, 2024:

Chris Huch, Tetra Tech | chris.huch@tetratech.com

Municipality: _____

Name and Title of Individual Completing Worksheet: _____

Who can assist with completing this table: NFIP Floodplain Administrator – as identified by role/title in your Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.



| NFIP Topic | Comments |
|---|----------|
| Flood Vulnerability Summary | |
| Describe areas prone to flooding in your jurisdiction. | |
| Do you maintain a list of properties that have been damaged by flooding? | |
| Do you maintain a list of property owners interested in flood mitigation? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many homeowners and/or business owners are interested in mitigation (elevation or acquisition)? | |
| Are any RiskMAP projects currently underway in your jurisdiction? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If so, state what projects are underway. | |
| How do you make Substantial Damage determinations? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many were declared for recent events in your jurisdiction? | |
| How many properties have been mitigated (elevation or acquisition) in your jurisdiction? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If there are mitigated properties, how were the projects funded? | |
| Do your flood hazard maps adequately address the flood risk within your jurisdiction? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If not, state why. | |
| NFIP Compliance | |
| What local department is responsible for floodplain management? | |
| Are any certified floodplain managers on staff in your jurisdiction? | |



Worksheet D: Previous Mitigation Actions



Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update
Passaic County, New Jersey
Worksheet D – Previous Mitigation Actions

Please send all electronic Word versions by March 15, 2024:
Chris Huch, Tetra Tech | chris.huch@tetrattech.com

Municipality: _____

Name/Title of Individual Completing Worksheet: _____

STATUS OF PREVIOUS MITIGATION ACTIONS

Review the mitigation actions your jurisdiction identified in the previous HMP by providing a brief narrative. Begin by providing a status update for each action listed in your last annex:

- **IN PROGRESS:** Started but not complete
- **ONGOING CAPABILITY:** An action you now complete on a regular basis (maintenance, annual outreach, etc.). These actions will be included in your capabilities moving forward.
- **NO PROGRESS:** Not started
- **COMPLETE:** Finished!

Actions that are COMPLETE or ONGOING will not be carried forward. Indicate if NO PROGRESS or IN PROGRESS actions should be carried forward!

| | | | What is the status? (e.g., In Progress, No Progress, Ongoing Capability, or Completed) | If you did not complete the action, should the action be included in the 2025 HMP (i.e., there is still a need, this is still a priority)? | | |
|-----------|---------|-------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Project # | Project | Responsible Party | Provide details including the funding source, cost, phases completed, obstacles to progress, etc. | Yes/No | If Yes, please describe the original problem (i.e., hazard, location, historic losses), any updates to the action needed. | Hazard(s) of Concern addressed (refer to the hazards on page 1) |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Worksheet E: New Development



Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update
Passaic County, New Jersey
Worksheet E – Building Permits and New Development

Please send all electronic Word versions by March 15, 2024:

Chris Huch, Tetra Tech | chris.huch@tetratech.com

Municipality: _____

Name and Title of Individual Completing Worksheet: _____

Who can assist with completing these tables: The Building Department, Planning Department, and NFIP Floodplain Administrator

In the first table, please identify the number of building permits issued for new construction since 2019. Include the number of permits issued for construction located in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) (e.g., 1% flood area). If your jurisdiction does not have the ability to differentiate between permit types, please list the total number of permits and indicate "N/A" (not applicable) for the permit sub-types.

| Type of Development | 2020 | | 2021 | | 2022 | | 2023 | |
|--|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|
| | Total | Within SFHA | Total | Within SFHA | Total | Within SFHA | Total | Within SFHA |
| Number of Building Permits for New Construction Issued Since the previous HMP* (total/within regulatory floodplain) | | | | | | | | |
| Single Family | | | | | | | | |
| Multi-Family | | | | | | | | |
| Other (commercial, mixed-use, etc.) | | | | | | | | |
| Total Permits Issued | | | | | | | | |

SFHA Special Flood Hazard Area (1% annual chance flood event)

* Only location-specific hazard zones or vulnerabilities identified.

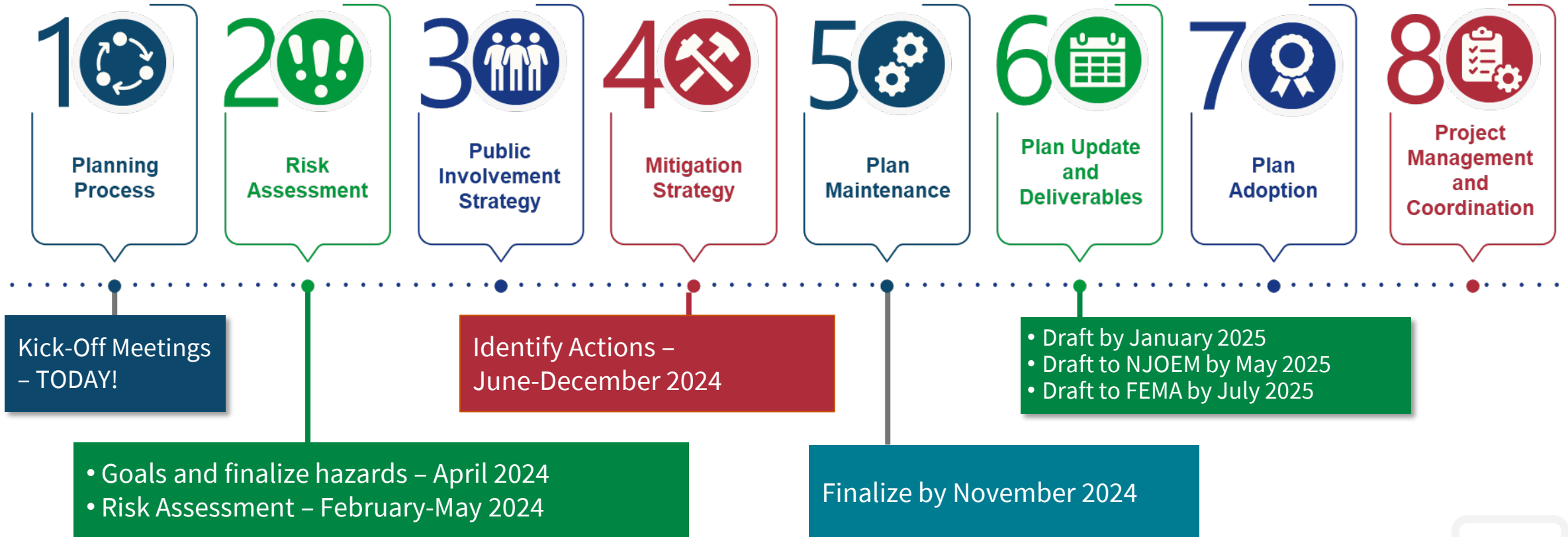


Project Schedule

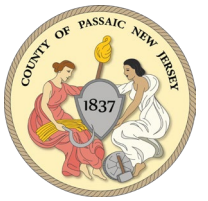
Upcoming meetings and key milestones throughout the HMP update process



Schedule



Next Steps



- Provide your Points of Contact
- Complete and submit homework worksheets by March 15
 - Previous Events
 - Capability Assessment
 - NFIP Administration
 - New Development
 - Previous Actions
- UPCOMING: Provide edits on critical facilities





Questions?

Passaic County Project Contact

Maria Dombayci, Office of Emergency Management
(973) 904-3621 | mariado@passaiccountynj.org

Tetra Tech Project Manager

Chris Huch, CFM
(973) 630-8357 | chris.huch@tetrattech.com

Thank
You!