

County of Albany

This section presents the jurisdictional annex for the County of Albany for the 2024 Albany County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). It includes information and guidance intended to assist public and private entities in reducing losses from future natural hazard events. This jurisdictional annex focuses on actions that can be implemented prior to a natural hazard event to reduce adverse impacts to people and property; it is not intended to serve as guidance for what to do when a natural hazard event occurs or how to recover following a natural hazard event. This jurisdictional annex provides an overview of the community and its critical facilities, evaluates the community's vulnerability to various natural hazards, assesses the community's existing capability to mitigate natural hazards, and identifies actions that could be implemented to mitigate natural hazard risks and, ultimately, reduce damages to people and property resulting from natural hazard events.

1 CONTACT INFORMATION

The primary contacts for Albany County regarding this Jurisdictional Annex are identified as follows:

- Primary: Patrick Curran, Climate Policy Analyst, Office of the County Executive
 - Patrick.Curran@albanycountyny.gov
 - 518-447-5639
- Alternate: Christina Rust, Health and Mental Health Policy Analyst, Office of the County Executive
 - christina.rust@albanycountyny.gov
 - 518-447-3049

County of Albany Website: <https://www.albanycounty.com/>

2 COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

A community profile of Albany County – including geographic, climate, demographic, economic, land use, and development characteristics – is included in Section 2 of the main body of the HMP. Since the last County HMP (2018), multiple developments have progressed throughout the County. New developments that have been approved or proposed in the County are included in each municipality's jurisdictional annex. Also included in each jurisdictional annex is a list of recent building permits issued in each jurisdiction.

3 CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENT

3.1 Planning Mechanisms and Capabilities

The County of Albany identified the following planning mechanisms and capabilities that can support the County in hazard mitigation efforts. These capabilities can be used to support the mitigation strategy in several ways. For example, administrative capabilities can assist in implementing the mitigation actions as identified in the mitigation strategy. Existing building codes and land use regulations provide a foundation for mitigation planning and provide guidelines for infrastructure repair, new developments, and other actions. Educational programs may be developed further in order to more fully incorporate hazard mitigation. Table 3-1 elaborates on existing building codes, land use and development ordinances/regulations, and many other capabilities that can support hazard mitigation.

Table 3-1. Planning Mechanisms and Capabilities

Planning Mechanism	In Place? (Yes/No)	Notes (Does the plan address hazards? Can the capability be used to implement mitigation actions? When was it last updated?)
Administration		
Maintenance Programs	Yes	DPW / General Services Department
Mitigation Planning Committee	Yes	Local Emergency Planning Coalition;
Mutual Aid or Shared Services Agreements	Yes	With local municipalities
Planning Board	Yes	
Zoning Board	No	
Other		
Development Approvals		
Building Code	Yes	NYS - 2020
Fire Department ISO Rating	NA	
Site Plan Review Requirements	Yes	Subdivision Review, Rezoning, adoption/amendment of local laws/ordinances reviewed by PB
Other		
Funding Resources		
Authority to Levy Taxes	Yes	
Capital Improvement Project Funds	Yes	
Federal Funding Programs (i.e., USDA, FEMA, others)	Yes	HCR; ARPA; SHSP; CHIPS; DOT
General Obligation Bonds and/or Special Tax Bonds	Yes	

Planning Mechanism	In Place? (Yes/No)	Notes (Does the plan address hazards? Can the capability be used to implement mitigation actions? When was it last updated?)
Impact Fees for New Development	No	
State Funding Programs (i.e., NYSEFC, NYSOGR, NYSDEC, others)	Yes	DEC (WQIP, CSC); NYSERDA; OPRHP; EFC
Utility Fees (i.e., water, sewer, stormwater, gas, electric)	Yes	Sewer (wastewater, only for 8 communities);
Other		
Land Use Regulations		
Density Controls	No	Defers to local municipality
Flood Insurance Rate Maps	No	Each municipality has FIRM
NFIP Participant / Floodplain Ordinance	No	
Hillside Development Regulations	No	State or local law
Open Space Preservation	No	Hoping to develop
Stormwater Management Regulations	Yes	Signatory on Albany County Intermunicipal Agreement for Storm Water Management. Stormwater coalition.
Streambank Setback Regulations	No	Defers to state (DEC) / local regulations
Subdivision Regulations	No	Defers to local regulation / Reviewed by planning board
Zoning Ordinance	No	
Other		ACPB does not have a zoning ordinance. However, local level ordinances must be reviewed by ACPB before taking effect per GML 239.
Natural Resources		
Forest/Vegetation Management	No	Legislature set funds aside for forest preservation. In process of developing strategy.
Stream Corridor Management	No	
Stream Dumping Regulations	Yes	LOCAL LAW NO. "K" FOR 2007
Urban Forestry and Landscape Management	No	Trying to secure funding
Watershed Management	Yes	Stormwater Coalition of Albany County
Wetland Regulations	Yes	Chapter 175
Other		
Plans		
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes	
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	Yes	Sheriff's Office

Planning Mechanism	In Place? (Yes/No)	Notes (Does the plan address hazards? Can the capability be used to implement mitigation actions? When was it last updated?)
Comprehensive Plan	No	ACPB reviews comprehensive plan proposals and amendments proposed by local municipalities per GML 239. Disposition Plan.
Continuity of Operations Plan	Yes	
Economic Development Plan	Yes	Strategic Economic Development Report
Other		
Programs/Organizations		
Climate Smart Community	Yes	Bronze
Local Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Response Organizations	Yes	Sheriff's Office; American Red Cross; Local Emergency Planning Coalition; Albany County Medical Reserve Corp;
Local Environmental Protection Organizations	Yes	Environmental Advocates NY; Citizens Climate Lobby Albany Chapter; Clean and Healthy New York; People of Albany United for Safe Energy; Team Green; Clean Energy Hub;
National Weather Service StormReady Certification	Yes	County
Outreach Programs	Yes	Local Emergency Planning Coalition; Albany County Medical Reserve Corp; Sheriff's Office
Partnerships with private entities addressing mitigation or disaster response	Yes	American Red Cross;
School Programs or Adult Educational Programs	Yes	Sheriff's Office
Other		
Staff Positions		
Civil Engineer	Yes	Environmental Health; contracts with engineering firms; DGS has some engineers;
Code Enforcement Officer	Yes	Building Code Officer
Emergency Manager	Yes	Emergency Management Office (Sheriff's Office)
Floodplain Administrator	No	Defers to local municipality
Planner/GIS Coordinator	Yes	Gopika Muddappa – Senior Planner / GIS position
Other		
Technical Abilities		
Grant Writing	Yes	Grants Administrator;
Hazard Information Centers	Yes	Check with Sheriff's Office; warning center at Albany University (state run);
Hazard Warning Systems	Yes	Reverse 911; NY Alert
Other		

The County would like to expand and improve the capabilities listed in Table 3-1 in the following ways:

- More access to hazard mitigation funding
- More awareness of funding opportunities
- Better coordination between ordinances and various local, county, state, and federal agencies regarding land use regulations

Additional strategies to expand and improve hazard mitigation capabilities are detailed in Section 10 of the main body of the HMP.

3.2 Integration of Planning Efforts

The County of Albany understands the importance of considering an integrated approach when developing plans, policies, programs, and regulations. The County's current efforts and future plans to integrate Hazard Mitigation Planning into planning mechanisms are included in Section 10 of the main body of the HMP.

4 HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 Profiled Hazards

In this HMP Update, the County reviewed multiple natural hazards and determined to profile five natural hazards: flooding, severe storm, extreme temperatures, drought, and landslide. The methodology that informed the selection of these hazards is described in Section 5 of the main body of the HMP, and descriptions of each of these hazards are included in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP. For convenience, the hazard analysis criteria and results of the analysis are also presented below.

Table 4-1. Hazard Analysis Criteria

Score	Impact (Damage and Injuries)	Frequency	Extent	Level of Preparedness	Total Score	Overall Vulnerability
1	Minor	Rare	One or two problem areas within the County	Well Prepared	4 to 5	Low
2	Moderate	Infrequent	A significant portion of the County	Moderately Prepared	6 to 8	Moderate
3	Major	Regular	County-wide	Not Prepared	9 to 12	High

Table 4-2. Hazard Vulnerability by Event for Albany County

Hazard Event	Impact (Damage and Injuries)	Frequency of Occurrence	Extent of Impacts	Level of Preparedness	Overall Vulnerability	Jurisdiction Rank	Notes (e.g. Anticipated Future Changes)
Severe Storm (Hail, Ice Storms, Wind, Thunderstorms and Lightning, Winter Storms, Hurricane, Tropical Storms, Tornado, Power Outage)	2	3	3	2	10 – High	1	See future hazards / climate change section
Flood (Riverine, Coastal*, Urban, Flash, Ice Jam, Dam or Levee Break, Other)	3	2	2	2	9 – High	2	See future hazards / climate change section
Extreme Temperatures (Cold Wave, Heat Wave, Air Pollution Effects)	2	2	3	2	9 – High	3	See future hazards / climate change section

Hazard Event	Impact (Damage and Injuries)	Frequency of Occurrence	Extent of Impacts	Level of Preparedness	Overall Vulnerability	Jurisdiction Rank	Notes (e.g. Anticipated Future Changes)
Drought	1	1	1	3	6 – Moderate	4	See future hazards / climate change section
Landslide	1	1	1	2	5 – Low	5	See future hazards / climate change section

*Coastal Flooding includes impacts from sea level rise for parts of the County along the Hudson River.

4.2 Hazard Event History

A complete history of natural hazard events within the County – based on NOAA's Severe Storm Database – is included in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP. County-wide hazard events since the 2018 HMP Update are included in Table 4-3. County-Wide Hazard Event Records, 2018-2023. For records of more localized, municipality-specific hazard events since the 2018 HMP Update, see each municipality's jurisdictional annex.

Table 4-3. County-Wide Hazard Event Records, 2018-2023

Event Type	Date	Magnitude***	Estimated Property Damage	Estimated Crop Damage
Extreme Cold/Wind Chill*	1/1/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Cold/Wind Chill**	1/1/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Severe Winter Storm	1/4/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Extreme Cold/Wind Chill	1/5/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Cold/Wind Chill*	1/13/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Severe Winter Storm**	1/16/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Severe Winter Storm*	2/4/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Severe Winter Storm	2/7/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Severe Winter Storm	3/2/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Severe Winter Storm	3/7/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Severe Winter Storm	3/12/2018	-	\$0	\$0
High Winds**	4/4/2018	50	\$0	\$0
Severe Winter Storm	4/15/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	6/18/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	6/30/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Excessive Heat**	7/1/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Heat*	7/1/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	7/16/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	8/28/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	8/29/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	9/3/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	11/3/2018	43	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	11/10/2018	43	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather**	11/14/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	11/15/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Cold/Wind Chill*	11/22/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	12/17/2018	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	12/17/2018	41	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	12/22/2018	42	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	1/1/2019	40	\$1,000	\$0
High Wind**	1/1/2019	50	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm	1/19/2019	-	\$0	\$0

Event Type	Date	Magnitude***	Estimated Property Damage	Estimated Crop Damage
Extreme Cold/Wind Chill**	1/20/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	1/29/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Cold/Wind Chill**	1/30/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Extreme Cold/Wind Chill*	1/30/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Cold/Wind Chill*	2/1/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	2/8/2019	49	\$2,000	\$0
Winter Storm	2/12/2019	-	\$0	\$0
High Wind	2/24/2019	53	\$60,000	\$0
Winter Weather	2/27/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather*	3/22/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	4/3/2019	45	\$2,000	\$0
Strong Wind	4/9/2019	45	\$2,000	\$0
Heat**	7/19/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	10/16/2019	49	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	10/31/2019	45	\$0	\$0
High Wind	11/1/2019	50	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	11/12/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	11/23/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Heavy Snow	12/1/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	12/15/2019	45	\$0	\$0
Ice Storm*	12/29/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather**	12/29/2019	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	1/12/2020	45	\$2,000	\$0
Strong Wind	1/16/2020	40	\$2,000	\$0
Winter Weather	1/18/2020	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	2/6/2020	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	2/7/2020	45	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather*	3/23/2020	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	4/13/2020	45	\$2,000	\$0
Winter Weather*	4/17/2020	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather*	4/26/2020	-	\$0	\$0
Heat*	7/27/2020	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	7/27/2020	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	8/4/2020	45	\$2,000	\$0
Strong Wind**	8/4/2020	40	\$1,000	\$0
Heat**	8/10/2020	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather*	10/29/2020	-	\$0	\$0
Heavy Snow	12/16/2020	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather*	1/3/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather*	1/15/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	1/26/2021	-	\$0	\$0

Event Type	Date	Magnitude***	Estimated Property Damage	Estimated Crop Damage
Cold/Wind Chill	1/28/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Cold/Wind Chill*	1/29/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm	2/1/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	2/15/2021	-	\$0	\$0
High Wind**	3/1/2021	50	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	3/1/2021	42	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather**	3/1/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind**	3/12/2021	47	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind**	3/22/2021	48	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind**	3/28/2021	44	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	3/28/2021	49	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather*	4/15/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	4/30/2021	45	\$0	\$0
Heat**	6/7/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	6/21/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	6/27/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Heat	8/11/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Excessive Heat**	8/12/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	8/13/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Heat	8/26/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	12/6/2021	40	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind**	12/6/2021	38	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind**	12/11/2021	46	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	12/11/2021	40	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather**	12/18/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	12/22/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	12/22/2021	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	1/9/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Cold/Wind Chill	1/14/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather**	1/16/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm*	1/16/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Cold/Wind Chill*	1/20/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Cold/Wind Chill*	1/29/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm	2/3/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	2/17/2022	45	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind**	2/17/2022	40	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	2/19/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind**	2/19/2022	45	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	2/19/2022	35	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm	2/25/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	3/7/2022	40	\$0	\$0

Event Type	Date	Magnitude***	Estimated Property Damage	Estimated Crop Damage
Strong Wind**	3/7/2022	49	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	3/7/2022	45	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	3/9/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	3/12/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm*	4/18/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	7/20/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	7/23/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	7/28/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Heat	8/4/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Heat*	8/7/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	8/30/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather**	11/20/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	12/1/2022	40	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	12/11/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm*	12/15/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather**	12/15/2022	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind**	12/23/2022	48	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	12/23/2022	40	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather**	1/17/2023	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm	1/22/2023	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind*	2/3/2023	40	\$0	\$0
Extreme Cold/Wind Chill	2/3/2023	-	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind**	2/3/2023	46	\$1,000	\$3,000
Winter Weather	2/27/2023	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm	3/3/2023	-	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm	3/13/2023	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	7/6/2023	-	\$0	\$0
Heat**	9/5/2023	-	\$0	\$0
Total			\$77,000	\$3,000

* Represents Western Albany County (Zone)

** Represents Eastern Albany County (Zone)

*** Units for magnitude are expressed as the following: Hail: inches, High Wind: knots, Thunderstorm Wind: knots.

4.3 Floodplain Statistics

Key waterways in the County are described in Section 2 of the main body of the HMP. FEMA provides flood insurance rate maps for the municipalities in the County and GIS data on the spatial location of floodplains. The 1% annual chance (100-year) flood event area generally corresponds with areas that are at high risk of flooding, and the

0.2% annual chance (500-year) flood event area generally corresponds with areas that are at moderate risk of flooding. Out of the 533 square miles in the County, approximately 5.93% are located within the 1% annual chance flood event area and approximately 6.47% are located within 0.2% annual chance flood event area (inclusive of the 1% flood event area). The estimated number and structure value of parcels in the County that intersect mapped floodplains are summarized in Table 4-5. There are 6,047 parcels in the County located within the 1% annual chance flood event area, with an estimated total structure value of approximately \$2.3 billion. Inclusive of these parcels in the 1% annual chance flood event area, there are 7,568 parcels in the County located within the 0.2% annual chance flood event area, with an estimated total structure value of approximately \$2.6 billion. More information is included in Section 6.1 of the main body of the HMP.

Table 4-4. Summary of Areas in Floodplains*

Total Area (square miles)	Percent of Total Area in 1% Annual Chance Floodplain	Percent of Total Area in 0.2% Annual Chance Floodplain
533.0	5.93%	6.47%

* Calculated areas and percentages are informational estimates only and are not to be used for official purposes. The 0.2% annual chance floodplain in this table includes the area in the 1% annual chance floodplain.

Table 4-5. Estimated Number and Structure Value of Parcels within Mapped Floodplains

Property Class	Number of Parcels in 1% Annual Chance Floodplain	Approx. Structure Value* in 1% Annual Chance Floodplain	Number of Parcels in 0.2% Annual Chance Floodplain**	Approx. Structure Value* in 0.2% Annual Chance Floodplain**
Unclassified	26	\$323,351	28	\$323,351
Agricultural	124	\$10,314,760	126	\$10,451,960
Residential	3174	\$392,071,454	4071	\$476,836,564
Vacant	1582	\$2,489,612	1786	\$2,667,212
Commercial	678	\$780,509,306	1013	\$895,588,376
Recreation and Entertainment	67	\$24,389,408	87	\$26,624,708
Community Services	136	\$467,764,159	175	\$486,841,109
Industrial	42	\$186,074,170	54	\$198,587,170
Public Services	125	\$482,718,397	134	\$483,899,098
Parks and Open Space	93	\$1,881,200	94	\$1,881,200
Total	6047	\$2,348,535,817	7568	\$2,583,700,748

*Structure Value for each parcel was estimated by subtracting Land Assessed Value from Total Assessed Value. If the entire parcel or a subset of the parcel was contained within the

floodplain, the structure on that parcel was included regardless of the structure's location on the parcel.

*** The 0.2% Annual Chance Floodplain in this table includes the area in the 1% Annual Chance Floodplain.*

4.4 National Flood Insurance Program

Information on NFIP for the County is provided in Section 8.4 of the main body of the HMP. All 18 municipalities within Albany County participate in the NFIP. FIRMs are available via FEMA's Flood Map Service Center (<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>). Digital FIRM data is also available for Albany County via FEMA's National Flood Hazard Layer Viewer, which was referenced during the development of this annex. Information from this digital FIRM data was incorporated into this Hazard Mitigation Plan where appropriate (for example, when identifying which critical facilities are located in the floodplain).

The County will continue to comply with the NFIP by enforcing floodplain management requirements and regulating new development in special flood hazard areas, among other required duties. Staff capabilities to implement the NFIP and local floodplain regulations are listed in Section 4.4 of this annex.

According to NFIP claims data provided by FEMA, there are 34 repetitive loss properties in Albany County, including 5 severe repetitive loss properties. Repetitive loss properties are properties that have had at least two paid flood losses of more than \$1,000 each in any 10-year period since 1978. Additional information is provided in Section 6.1 of the main body of the HMP.

4.5 Considerations for Future Hazards

The County does not anticipate substantial future land use changes that would influence the impact of natural hazards on the community. However, climate change is noted as a concern, as it is expected to increase the frequency and severity of many of the County's natural hazards, including flooding, drought, some severe storms, extreme heat, and landslides. Additional information about future potential impacts and the relation to climate change is included in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

5 ASSETS AND VULNERABILITIES

5.1 Critical Facilities

FEMA defines a critical facility as one that provides services and functions essential to a community, especially during and after a disaster. Critical facilities should remain accessible and functional before, during and after disasters. Additionally, critical facilities include those that requires a special emergency response in the event of hazardous incidents, such as buildings that store hazardous materials. Examples of

critical facilities include community lifelines, such as fire departments, EMS services, police stations, water and wastewater services, medical facilities, highway garages, and hazardous materials. They also include facilities such as County offices, schools, and senior centers. In the hazard mitigation planning process, each jurisdiction ultimately decided which facilities they consider to be critical facilities for their community.

Table 5-1 denotes the name, type, and location of the critical facilities within Albany County that the County has jurisdiction over, along with any particular vulnerabilities of note. More information about hazard vulnerability, including a tool for understanding the vulnerability of community assets to events of varying magnitudes, is included in Section 8 of the main body of the HMP. Additional vulnerabilities by location are assessed in the HAZUS analysis, included in the appendices of the HMP. Additional information about critical facilities is included in Section 7 of the main body of the HMP. A list of critical facilities (and high hazard potential dams where applicable) within each jurisdiction is included in each jurisdictional annex, along with information about their protection to 1% and 0.2% annual chance flood events.

Table 5-1. Critical Facilities

[Table redacted due to sensitive content]

Per 2022 NYS Hazard Mitigation Planning Standards, jurisdictions must identify all of their critical facilities, determine the facilities' exposure to a 1% and 0.2% annual chance flood event, and document if the facilities are protected to a 0.2% annual chance flood event or previous worst case flood event (whichever is greater). For facilities that do not meet this level of protection, the jurisdiction must either include an action to meet or exceed this criterion or explain why it is not feasible to do so.

As indicated in Table 5-1, it is unknown whether several of the County's critical facilities are protected to a 0.2% annual chance (500-year) flood event or previous worst case flood event (whichever is greater). The County has included an action in Section 7 related to these critical facilities. Section 9 of the main body of the HMP provides additional detail on how the County and local municipalities may assess critical facilities' level of protection to the 1% and 0.2% annual chance flood event.

5.2 High Hazard Potential Dams

According to the NYSDEC Division of Water Bureau and Flood Protection and Dam Safety, there are four hazard classifications of dams in New York State. A High Hazard Potential Dam is a dam located in an area where dam failure may cause loss of human life; serious damage to homes, industrial, or commercial buildings; essential public utilities; main highways or railroads; and will cause extensive economic loss.

The County of Albany has 15 high hazard potential dams located in the County, as detailed in Section 7 of the main body of the HMP. High Hazard Potential Dams can be an asset as well as pose risks to the County and to neighboring Counties. Additional information about high hazard potential dams and their impacts is included in Sections 6 and 7 of the main body of the HMP.

5.3 Additional Jurisdiction/Public Identified Vulnerabilities

In addition to critical facilities, it is important to take a holistic approach to identifying assets in the jurisdiction and how they may be vulnerable to the hazards identified in the HMP. Examples of other assets considered include:

- People (residents, workers, visiting populations, and socially vulnerable populations like seniors, individuals with disabilities, lower-income individuals, etc.)
- Other structures (community centers, historic places, planned capital improvement)
- Economic assets (major employers, primary economic sectors, key infrastructure like telecommunications networks)
- Natural, historic, and cultural resources (areas of conservation, beaches, parks, critical habitats)
- Critical facilities and infrastructure (hospitals, law enforcement, water, power)
- Community activities (major local events such as festivals or economic events like farming or fishing)

Information about additional County assets, including high hazard potential dams, is included in Section 7 of the main body of the HMP.

6 SUMMARY OF HAZARD IMPACTS AND VULNERABILITIES

Below is a summary of the County's vulnerability to each hazard, which is also described in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP. A summary of vulnerability, including County priorities, is provided in Section 8 of the main body of the HMP.

6.1 Flood

The County has ranked their overall vulnerability to a flood event as high, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to County representatives, flood events occur infrequently in the County and affect a significant portion of the jurisdiction, causing major damage. The County feels they are moderately prepared for flood events.

Information on flood event records (Section 4.2 of this annex), high hazard potential dams (Section 5.2), floodplain statistics (Section 4.3), and participation in the NFIP (Section 4.4) are described above, illustrating the impact of flooding on critical facilities

and other structures. Additional impacts to the County from flood events are described in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

Future vulnerability to flood events is determined by many factors, such as climate change, land use, and population changes, as well as the implementation of mitigation and adaptation strategies. Climate change is expected to increase the County's future vulnerability to flood events. These trends are further described in Section 4.1 of this annex and in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

6.2 Severe Storm

The County has ranked their overall vulnerability to severe storm events as high, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to County representatives, severe storms occur regularly in the County and affect the entire jurisdiction, causing moderate damage. The County feels they are moderately prepared for severe storm events.

Records of severe storm events are described in Section 4.2 of this annex. Impacts to the County from severe storm events are described in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

Future vulnerability to severe storm events is determined by many factors, such as climate change, land use, and population changes, as well as the implementation of mitigation and adaptation strategies. Climate change is expected to change the types of severe storm events that the County is vulnerable to, likely making the County more vulnerable to severe thunderstorm, windstorm, and hail events and less vulnerable to heavy snow, ice storms, winter storms, and winter weather. These trends are further described in Section 4.1 of this annex and in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

6.3 Drought

Albany County has ranked their overall vulnerability to drought events as moderate, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to County representatives, drought events occur rarely in the jurisdiction and affect one or two problem areas within the jurisdiction, causing minor damage. The County feels they are not prepared for drought events.

Impacts to the County from drought events are described in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

Future vulnerability to drought events is determined by many factors, such as climate change, land use, and population changes, as well as the implementation of mitigation and adaptation strategies. Climate change is expected to increase the County's future vulnerability to drought events. These trends are further described in Section 4.1 of this annex and in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

6.4 Extreme Temperatures

The County of Albany has ranked their overall vulnerability to an extreme temperature event as high, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to County representatives, extreme temperature events occur infrequently in the jurisdiction and affect the entire jurisdiction, causing moderate damage. The County feels they are moderately prepared for extreme temperature events.

Impacts to the County from extreme temperature events are described in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

Future vulnerability to extreme temperature events is determined by many factors, such as climate change, land use, and population changes, as well as the implementation of mitigation and adaptation strategies. Climate change is expected to increase the County's future vulnerability to extreme heat events and decrease its vulnerability to extreme cold events. These trends are further described in Section 4.1 of this annex and in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

6.5 Landslide

The County of Albany has ranked their overall vulnerability to a landslide event as low, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to County representatives, landslide events occur rarely in the jurisdiction and affect one or two problem areas within the jurisdiction, causing minor damage. The County feels they are moderately prepared for landslide events.

Impacts to the County from landslide events are described in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

Future vulnerability to landslide events is determined by many factors, such as climate change, land use, and population changes, as well as the implementation of mitigation and adaptation strategies. For example, underlying conditions that impact landslides, such as bedrock stability and heavy rain events, are influenced by climate-related trends, such as temperature increases and extreme precipitation events. These trends are further described in Section 4.1 of this annex and in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

6.6 Jurisdictional Priorities

Taking into account the identified natural hazards, potential impacts, assets, and vulnerabilities identified above, key vulnerabilities and priorities to be addressed in this HMP were identified for the County. These are identified in Section 8 of the main body of the HMP. The County did not identify any changes in priorities since the 2018 HMP Update. Changes in municipal priorities since the 2018 update are identified in each municipal annex, and the corresponding annexes incorporate those changes. Updated jurisdictional priorities and public priorities, based on jurisdictional interviews

and public feedback, were discussed with the County's Executive Steering Committee for the HMP, and plan revisions were considered and made accordingly. Populations in the County who may be more vulnerable to hazards are identified in Section 2 of the main body of the HMP, and ways that they were considered in the plan are identified in Section 3 of the main body of the HMP, as well as in Appendix C.

6.7 Additional Impacts

Additional impacts of the hazards are summarized in the problem descriptions in the County's past and new mitigation actions, as described in the following sections.

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7 MITIGATION STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION

7.1 Past, Completed, and Ongoing Initiatives

The County proposed 22 mitigation actions in the 2018 Albany County HMP Update. The status of each action is summarized below. 5 of these actions were re-included in the 2024 HMP Update.

Table 7-1. Status of 2018 Mitigation Actions

#	Name	Description	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead Agency	Status (Completed, In Progress, No Progress, Discontinued)	Carried into 2024 HMP Update? (Yes/No)	Notes
01	Garage Flooding Mitigation, MVP Arena	Create a "reverse speed-bump", a curb with a slight depression (1 or 2 inches) along its length, extending from the parking lot entrance across the access to the loading dock. (Beaver Street Entrance)	Flood	Department of Public Works	Completed	No	

#	Name	Description	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead Agency	Status (Completed, In Progress, No Progress, Discontinued)	Carried into 2024 HMP Update? (Yes/No)	Notes
02	Albany County Colonie DPW Substation Asset Protection Flood Preparedness Plan	Develop a plan to move critical assets (equipment/machinery, tanks/chemicals, etc.) to higher ground when the likelihood of an extreme flood is identified. Planning should include identification of assets (vehicles, equipment, tanks, etc.) to be temporarily relocated, the specific secure location to which they will be moved, how the movement will take place for items such as tanks or heavy machinery that require specialized equipment; and what conditions will trigger the deployment of the response plan.	Flood	Department of Public Works	In Progress	No	
03	Berne DPW Substation/County Route 2 ditch repair	Accumulated sediment that is compromising the capacity of the ditch shall be removed. Immediately following, stone lining shall be added along both sides of the road to stabilize neighboring slopes, preventing erosion of material into the ditch and resultant loss of capacity.	Flood, Landslide	Department of Public Works	Completed	No	

#	Name	Description	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead Agency	Status (Completed, In Progress, No Progress, Discontinued)	Carried into 2024 HMP Update? (Yes/No)	Notes
04	Reduce and minimize widespread flooding in valley of CR 9 and CR 1 along the Switzkill and Fox Creek during heavy runoff.	Develop a plan to systematically address problems in the stream channel that create risks to property and safety	Flood	Not specified	Completed	No	
05	Reduce flooding recurrence from undersized culverts at Church Road (southern of two intersections with CR 1).	Determine the best approach for culvert repair/replacement	Flood	Not specified	Completed	No	
06	Prevent future flooding from causing property loss and cutting off a seasonal community by Warners Lake from highway access, due to culvert clogging on CR 252 near NYS Rte 157A.	Determine the best approach for culvert repair or replacement and evaluate other/additional flood prevention options.	Flood	Not specified	Completed	No	Retaining wall; overflow system installed

#	Name	Description	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead Agency	Status (Completed, In Progress, No Progress, Discontinued)	Carried into 2024 HMP Update? (Yes/No)	Notes
07	Resolve erosion and risk of road damage from undersized and misaligned culvert that carries a tributary of Basic Creek on CR 401 at intersection with CR 414.	Determine the best approach for culvert repair or replacement.	Flood, Landslide	Not specified	Completed	No	The pipe has been upsized.
08	Address problems caused by overtopping of the CR 404 causeway at Basic Creek Reservoir.	Develop a plan to mitigate and minimize traffic impacts and resulting emergency response risks. Has been closed recently due to flooding. Elevate road as possible action.	Flood	Not specified	No progress	Yes	
09	Resolve flooding and obstruction of culvert pipes at the CR405 crossing of Eightmile Creek.	Determine the best approach for culvert repair or replacement.	Flood	Not specified	No Progress	Yes	
10	Address or mitigate flooding due to inefficient function of an existing pair of culvert pipes located at crossing of Hannacrois Creek by CR 412 just south of Berne/Westerlo line.	Determine the best option for culvert repair or replacement and stream routing.	Flood	Not specified	In progress	No	Construction to begin in May 2024

#	Name	Description	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead Agency	Status (Completed, In Progress, No Progress, Discontinued)	Carried into 2024 HMP Update? (Yes/No)	Notes
11	Address or mitigate flooding from an undersized and misaligned culvert located at crossing of Hannacrois Creek by CR 412 near Udell Road.	Determine the best option for culvert repair or replacement.	Flood	Not specified	Completed	No	
12	Address/mitigate flooding and erosion from undersized and deteriorated culvert crossing located at crossing of Hannacrois Creek by CR 412 near Slade Hill Road.	Determine the best option for culvert repair and replacement.	Flood, Landslide	Not specified	In progress	No	Construction to begin in May 2024
13	Address risks to life, safety and property from flooding of the Normanskill at CR 203 (Johnston Rd).	Develop and implement an appropriate flood response plan. For County, issue is below Solar View.	Flood	Not specified	Completed	No	Plans in place, pipe and drainage was added
14	Address repeated flooding and erosion in valley of Fox Creek along CR 352.	Develop a solution to remedy the worst property loss and prevent risk to life/safety.	Flood, Landslide	Not specified	In Progress	Yes	Town is still interested in purchasing properties

#	Name	Description	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead Agency	Status (Completed, In Progress, No Progress, Discontinued)	Carried into 2024 HMP Update? (Yes/No)	Notes
15	Resolve flooding and erosion problems from undersized and improperly positioned culvert at CR 353 crossing of tributary to Crystal Lake Creek near Gulf Rd.	Determine the best approach for culvert repair or replacement and bank stabilization.	Flood, Landslide	Not specified	Completed	No	
16	Address risk of an oil or chemical spill contaminating the Alcove Reservoir water supply.	Develop a rapid response plan to remediate any spill so as to prevent entry of contaminants to the reservoir.	Oil Spill	Not specified	Completed	No	See CEMP (Haz Mat section)
17	Address risk of an oil or chemical spill contaminating the Basic Creek Reservoir water supply.	Develop a rapid response plan to remediate any spill so as to prevent entry of contaminants to the reservoir.	Oil Spill	Not specified	Completed	No	See CEMP (Haz Mat section)
18	Remove or remediate risks to the structural integrity of property at the directly adjacent Ann Lee Pond and Shaker Heritage sites.	Identify the best option(s) to systematically ensure site stability.	Flood	Not specified	Completed	No	

#	Name	Description	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead Agency	Status (Completed, In Progress, No Progress, Discontinued)	Carried into 2024 HMP Update? (Yes/No)	Notes
19	Address repeated flooding of private property resulting from partial obstruction of the culvert crossing at CR55 over the Vloman Kill.	Determine the best plan to remove obstruction of the easternmost of three culvert barrels.	Flood	Not specified	Completed	Yes	
20	Remove risk of a sudden failure of Triangle Lake outlet at CR 10.	Replace/rehabilitate the outlet structure so that it is stable.	Flood	Not specified	Completed	No	
21	Address possible failure of a critical scour-vulnerable bridge.	Determine the best alternative for bridge repair or replacement. Connected with Plank Road project.	Flood	Not specified	In Progress	Yes	
22	Address hazard presented by deterioration of Bozenkill Road bridge over railroad tracks.	Develop plan for bridge repair or replacement for Bozenkill Road.	Severe Storm, Flood, Earthquake	Not specified	Completed	No	This was regarding Bozenkill Road.

7.2 New Mitigation Actions

In addition to the actions carried over from the 2018 HMP, the County identified new mitigation actions for inclusion in the 2024 HMP Update, in conjunction with the project team. First, a list of actions was brainstormed based on the capabilities, hazard identification, impacts, and vulnerabilities described above. This included consideration to the ways that the County could expand and improve the identified capabilities to achieve mitigation, as described in Section 3 of this annex and in Section 10.3 of the main body of the HMP. Then, a more comprehensive range of actions were evaluated

as described in Section 9.3 of the main body of the HMP. Finally, actions that tied in most closely with the vulnerabilities identified by the County were selected for inclusion in the HMP.

The County proposed 25 new mitigation actions to be included in the 2024 HMP update. These actions are included in the table below, and described in more detail in the Mitigation Action – Review spreadsheet (Appendix I). Note that in the table, CF = Critical Facility and EHP = Environmental and Historic Preservation. These actions also help address climate change in the County, since many of the hazards profiled in this HMP may be worsened by climate change. The effects of climate change on these hazards are described in Section 6 of this annex, as well as in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

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Table 7-2. New Mitigation Actions*

Project #	Project Name	Goal/Objective being Met	Hazard to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Lead Agency	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority from Ranking Tool	Survey Rank
County Albany MH1	Energy Resiliency Study	G1, G2, G5	Severe Storm, Flooding	Electrical infrastructure (e.g., substations) is vulnerable to flooding, which can be a particular risk during severe storm events. Transmission infrastructure is at or nearing capacity.	Via an Energy Resiliency Study: Elevate, harden, or relocate electric facilities (substations) that are vulnerable to flooding. Explore opportunities to implement microgrids and/or distributed renewable energy systems in strategic areas to ensure power is available to support critical services during emergencies and power outages. Identify areas where transmission infrastructure is at or nearing capacity and upgrade to enable the interconnection of distributed renewable energy generation.	Yes	Potentially	3-5 Years	DPW; DGS; Planning;	High	An Energy Resiliency Study ensures continuous support for critical services during emergencies, reduces outage risks, and promotes sustainable energy solutions.	FEMA BRIC, FEMA HMGP, NYS HM RLF, DOS Smart Growth, NYS CSC, NYSDEC Urban and Community Forestry Grants	Medium	5
County Albany MH2	Communications and Broadband Resiliency Study	G2, G5	Severe Storm, Flooding	There is critical communications infrastructure vulnerable to flooding. Communications infrastructure is at risk of going down during severe storms / flooding.	Conduct a detailed communications and broadband resiliency study. The purposes of this study are to 1) identify critical communications infrastructure vulnerable to flooding and upgrade or relocate it, 2) consider microgrids to provide reliable access to power when the grid is down, and 3) evaluate the potential for back-up communications systems (e.g., line-of-site technologies, such as microwave link) to provide critical communications connectivity if the broader system is disrupted.	Yes	No	3-5 Years	DPW; DGS; Planning;	High	Communications and Broadband Resiliency Study ensures reliable connectivity by upgrading or relocating vulnerable infrastructure, implementing microgrids, and exploring backup systems like microwave links enhancing communication reliability during disruptions, safeguarding critical services and community safety.	FEMA BRIC, FEMA HMGP, NYS HM RLF, DOS Smart Growth, NYS CSC, NYSDEC Urban and Community Forestry Grants	Medium	1
County Albany F1	Purchase First Street Foundation's Flood Factor Data	G1, G5, G6	Flooding	Property owners (homes and businesses) are not aware of the risk of flooding at their property or the actions they can take to mitigate flooding.	Purchase First Street Foundation's Flood Factor Data. With this software, the County can provide property-level data quantifying flood risks and projections of flood hazards 30 years into the future. The County may host municipal training and incorporate the dataset into the County's decision-making process, among any other related actions.	No	No	1 Year	County Executive; DPW; GIS Coordinator;	Medium	This enables informed decision-making, targeted mitigation efforts, and effective training for municipalities, ultimately enhancing community safety and resilience against flooding hazards.	County Budget	High	18
County Albany MH3	County-wide Culvert Analysis and Upgrades	G2, G6	Severe Storm, Flooding	The county has culverts that are in disrepair and undersized, posing a risk for failure in the future. Potential failures could cause flooding, and would be more likely to occur during severe storms.	Conduct a County-wide Culvert Analysis. The County can proactively identify culverts for replacement or repair that are undersized for current and future climate conditions – thus posing the greatest risk for failure – and prioritize these culverts for right-sizing based on future precipitation models.	No	No	3-5 Years	DPW; GIS Coordinator; Planning	High	A County-wide Culvert Analysis ensures infrastructure resilience, minimizes flood damage, and enhances community safety by accommodating future precipitation patterns.	FEMA BRIC, FEMA HMGP, NYS HM RLF, DOS Smart Growth, NYS CSC, NYSDEC Urban and Community Forestry Grants	Medium	7
County Albany MH4	County-wide Transportation Vulnerability Assessment	G2, G5, G6	All Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, Drought)	Regional transportation system can be vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including flooding, extreme heat, severe storms, landslides, and drought.	Conduct a County-wide Transportation Vulnerability Assessment to assess roads, transit routes and stops, bridges, and other transportation assets to quantify climate-related risks and identify and prioritize infrastructure improvements based on risk exposure and the criticality of each asset to the county-wide transportation network.	No	No	1-3 Years	DPW; Planning	High	A County-wide Transportation Vulnerability Assessment enhances transportation network resilience, ensures critical route functionality, and protects community connectivity during adverse weather events.	FEMA EMPG, DOT SS4A, DOT HSIP	Medium	2
County Albany MH5	Build out the Network of Rain and Stream Gauges	G1, G3, G5	Severe Storm, Flooding	There are opportunities for the County to improve its advanced warning system regarding flash flood events, which can be used for both short-term hazard information and long-term planning. These flash flood events are more likely to occur during severe storms.	An expanded network of rain and stream gauges can provide real-time information about rainfall and stream conditions in the county and can be used to provide advance-warning to residents about potential flash flood events. Data collected from the network can also help municipalities understand how climate change is impacting their communities, model future flooding events, and make more informed decisions about future land use and development.	No	No	3-5 Years	Building / Codes; County Executive	High	This action enhances public safety, and aids municipalities in understanding climate impacts. This data supports better flood modeling, informed land use decisions, and proactive community planning.	FEMA BRIC, FEMA HMGP, FEMA FMA, NYS HM RLF, EPA Smart Growth Support, EPA Greening America's Communities, WQIP, EFC GIGP, DOS Smart Growth, NYS CSC, DASNY State and Municipal Facilities Program, NYSDOT CHIPS, NYSEFC CWSRF	Medium	14
County Albany MH6	Recommendations in the County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan	G3, G6	Flooding, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures	Farming in the county faces increasing pressures of development and climate change. Flooding, severe storms, and extreme temperatures are particularly impactful on the agricultural sector.	Implement recommendations in the County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan, including: 1) Encourage and/or incentivize towns to adopt policies to reduce loss of large blocks of Prime and Productive soils as well as soils of statewide importance, 2) Improve participation in existing farmland conservation programs, 3) Create a Critical Farm Program, 4) Create a county-wide lease of development rights program, 5) Provide land transition options for retiring farmers, 6) Support the development of a regional information exchange and disaster preparedness program. 7) Recognize and support infrastructure and businesses that are critical to supporting local agriculture, 8) Expand agriculture-related workforce and development opportunities.	No	Potentially	1-3 Years	DPW; Sheriff's Office; Parks & Rec; Economic Development & Conservation	Medium	This action will decrease the vulnerability of County's agricultural sector to natural hazards by strengthening the sector overall and its ability to withstand natural hazards like floods, extreme temperatures, and severe storms. This action preserves prime farmland, boosts conservation program participation, and supports retiring farmers. It strengthens local agriculture infrastructure, fosters regional cooperation, and expands workforce opportunities, ensuring the sustainability and growth of Albany County's agricultural sector.	US HMGP, US BRIC, CRF, EPA EJSG, US CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF, FEMA EMPG, WaterSMART Drought Response Program	Medium	10
County Albany MH7	Create an Agricultural Resiliency Program	G1, G3, G6	All Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, Drought)	Farmers are vulnerable to climate stressors like flooding, drought, heat stress, and invasive species. Many agricultural fields are also vulnerable to landslides and severe storm events.	Create a program that will provide assistance to farmers in proactively preparing for and recovering from climate events (such as flooding, severe storms, extreme temperatures, landslides, and drought) and in adopting practices that will help make their farms and operations more resilient.	No	Potentially	1-3 Years	County Executive; Soil & Water;	Medium	Creating an Agricultural Resiliency Program assists farmers in adapting to climate events, enhancing recovery efforts, and adopting sustainable practices. This initiative strengthens farm operations, ensures food security, and promotes long-term agricultural sustainability in Albany County.	US HMGP, US BRIC, CRF, EPA EJSG, US CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF, FEMA EMPG,	Medium	12

Project #	Project Name	Goal/Objective being Met	Hazard to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Lead Agency	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority from Ranking Tool	Survey Rank
County Albany ET1	Increase Resilience to Extreme Temperature Events	G1, G5, G6	Extreme Temperatures	Local municipalities lack resources / facilities to support their communities during extreme temperature events.	Implement strategies to increase resilience to extreme temperature events, including: 1) Provide financial support to expand the capacity of existing facilities to serve as cooling and warming centers. 2) Identify and define criteria for new locations of cooling and warming centers. 3) Provide financial assistance to increase resilience of individual households. 4) Provide financial assistance to increase resilience of multi-family households. 5) Invest in public space improvements that increase access to parks, expand the urban forest, and encourage community gathering. 6) Plan for transportation to and from cooling and warming centers. 7) Improve communication of heat and cold advisories in targeted neighborhoods. 8) Train local volunteers and community leaders.	Yes	Potentially	1-3 Years	County Executive; Soil & Water;	High	Increasing resilience to extreme temperature events enhances community well-being, household resilience, and public space improvements. Improved communication and transportation ensure accessibility, while training empowers local volunteers and leaders to support vulnerable populations effectively.	US HMGP, US BRIC, US HUD, NYS HM RLF	Medium	15
County Albany MH8	Resilient Homes Program	G1, G6	Flooding, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures	Homes in the county are at risk of high winds, flooding, and extreme temperatures.	A "Resilient Homes Program" can provide educational, technical, and financial resources to assist home and property owners in implementing strategies to improve climate resilience, like installing green infrastructure and using sustainable building retrofitting techniques to mitigate flood, heat, and wind risks.	No	Potentially	1-3 Years	Social Services;	High	This initiative fosters safer, more sustainable communities, mitigating flood and heat risks for homes and properties in Albany County.	BRIC, FMA, NYS HM RLF, EPA EJSG, USDA HPG, EDA Disaster Recovery, EFC GIGP, NYS CSC	Medium	17
County Albany MH9	County-wide Open Space Plan	G1, G3, G6	Flooding, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures	The county faces increasing pressures of development which can create more impervious surfaces and heat islands. This can lead to increased flooding, especially during severe storm events, and more extreme heat.	Develop a County-wide Open Space Plan that would identify existing open space areas to preserve and strategic parcels that could be acquired to create open space in high-value areas, including around drinking water sources, in flood-prone areas, and in highly urbanized watersheds.	No	Potentially	1-3 Years	Social Services; local housing organizations	High	This action safeguards drinking water sources, reduces flood risks, and enhances urban watershed resilience, promoting community health and environmental sustainability.	BRIC, FMA, HMGP, USFWS NCWCG, NFWF NCRF, EPA's Greening America's Communities program, EPA EFC GIGP, NYS DOS Smart Growth program, USGS Landslides Hazards Program, Hudson River Estuary Program, NYS EPF, Hudson River Estuary Program	Medium	13
County Albany MH10	Sea Level Rise Resilience Planning	G1, G2, G5, G6	Flooding, Severe Storm	Due to the county's proximity along the Hudson River it can be impacted by sea-level rise, causing flood events especially during severe storms.	Resilience plans should be developed for the Albany County Water Purification District's North and South Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs) to identify and implement mitigation measures that address the challenges presented by sea level rise and enable these facilities to continue functioning effectively even under conditions of higher Hudson River levels and more extreme storm events.	No	No	3-5 Years	County Executive; Planning; Economic Development & Conservation; County Legislature (funding source)	High	This action ensures the effectiveness of wastewater treatment plants despite higher river levels and extreme storms. This proactive approach safeguards water infrastructure, minimizes environmental risks, and ensures continued service provision for Albany County residents.	FEMA BRIC, FEMA HMGP, FEMA FMA, NYS HM RLF, USFWS NCWCG, NFWF NCRF, WQIP, EFC GIGP, DOS Smart Growth, NYS CSC, DASNY State and Municipal Facilities Program, NYSDOT CHIPS, NYSEFC CWSRF	Medium	21
County Albany MH11	Climate Justice Corps Network	G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6	All Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, Drought)	The County is vulnerable to natural hazards such as Floods, Severe Storms, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, and Drought. The County has opportunities to increase residents' participation in mitigating these events, and developing a workforce that can help.	Create a youth-based Climate Justice Corps and workforce development program for supporting and implementing climate-smart resiliency strategies, like green infrastructure, tree planting, and sustainable building techniques. This Climate Justice Corps could be a county-wide network with local groups in participating communities and neighborhoods. According to the Albany County Climate Resiliency Plan, a Climate Justice Corps is one "that is rooted in local communities, prioritizes inclusion and participation in decision-making processes, and builds local capacity." The Climate Justice Corps should help improve the County's resilience to natural hazards including flooding, severe storms, extreme temperatures, landslides, and drought.	No	No	1-3 Years	Water Purification District; (funding EFC, DEC)	High	In addition to making the County more resilient to natural hazards, this initiative empowers young people to implement green infrastructure, tree planting, and sustainable building techniques, fostering resilience and environmental stewardship in Albany County.	FEMA BRIC, FEMA HMGP, FEMA FMA, NYS HM RLF, EPA Smart Growth Support	Medium	20
County Albany F2	Support Municipal Participation in FEMA's CRS Program	G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6	Flood	Local municipalities in Albany County may lack the capacity to apply for and participate in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS), which could help municipalities become more resilient to flooding.	Encourage municipal participation in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS) program by providing technical assistance to help interested municipalities apply for, maintain, and advance their participation in CRS. The CRS program is a voluntary, incentive-based program that recognizes, encourages, and rewards local floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum standards of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).	No	No	1-3 Years	County Executive Office; Workforce/ Economic Development	Medium	By exceeding NFIP standards, municipalities receive recognition and rewards, leading to improved flood resilience and reduced insurance costs for residents in Albany County.	FEMA BRIC, FEMA HMGP, FEMA FMA, NYS HM RLF, EPA Smart Growth Support	Medium	16

Project #	Project Name	Goal/Objective being Met	Hazard to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Lead Agency	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority from Ranking Tool	Survey Rank
County Albany MH12	Increase County Capacity to Support Resilience Efforts	G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6	All Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, Drought)	The County is vulnerable to natural hazards such as Floods, Severe Storms, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, and Drought. However, the County could improve its capabilities to support resilience efforts to reduce the risk and vulnerability from these hazards.	Implement actions to increase the County's capacity to support resilience efforts to reduce risk and vulnerability from natural hazards such as flooding, severe storms, extreme temperatures, landslides, and drought. Actions include: 1) Create a Director of Sustainability position 2) Review County processes and policies for opportunities to incorporate resilience 3) Establish a Capital Region Sustainability Council 4) Share climate risk assessment data across departments 5) Use this data to inform design of future capital projects. 6) Planning scenario activities 7) Support municipalities in obtaining funding for climate resilience 8) Host an annual climate change conference 9) Create a new Department or expand existing Departments to focus on building resilience. 10) Offer permit review, planning, and other shared services to municipalities. 11) Provide climate resilience trainings for municipalities, community groups, and other interested entities. 12) Implement an ongoing public outreach campaign. 13) Set policy goals, develop strategies to achieve these goals, and identify key investments.	No	No	3-5 Years	County Executive Office;	High	Through dedicated positions, shared data, and collaborative efforts, Albany County fosters community engagement, facilitates funding, and implements strategies to address climate challenges effectively, ensuring long-term resilience and well-being.	DASNY State and Municipal Facilities Program, US HMGP, US BRIC, NYS HM RLF, NYS CSC, FEMA EOC Grant Program	Medium	19
County Albany F3	CR 404 causeway at Basic Creek Reservoir	G1, G5, G6	Flood	There is sometimes overtopping of the CR 404 causeway at Basic Creek Reservoir, which causes problems such as road closure due to flooding.	Develop a plan to mitigate and minimize traffic impacts and resulting emergency response risks. This may include elevating the road as a possible action.	No	No	1-3 Years	Public Works	High	Elevating the road mitigates flooding impacts, ensuring continuous access and safe passage, enhancing community resilience along Basic Creek Reservoir in Albany County. Developing a plan to minimize traffic impacts helps reduce the impact on residents, commuters, and others.	FEMA BRIC, FEMA HMGP, NYS HM RLF, DOS Smart Growth, NYS CSC, NYSDEC Urban and Community Forestry Grants	Medium	3
County Albany F4	Culvert upsizing: CR405 crossing of Eightmile Creek	G1, G2, G5, G6	Flood	Flooding occurs at the culvert pipes at the CR405 crossing of Eightmile Creek.	Determine the best approach for culvert repair and upgrades at the CR405 crossing of Eightmile Creek, then implement this approach.	No	No	1-3 Years	Public Works	High	Improving culverts at CR405 crossing enhances water flow, reducing flood risks and road damage. This proactive approach ensures safer transportation routes, minimizes infrastructure disruptions, and enhances community resilience in Albany County.	US HMGP, US Flood Mitigation Assistance, NYS HM RLF, US BRIC, DOT BIL Grants	Medium	4
County Albany F5	Flooding and erosion study: Valley of Fox Creek along CR 352	G1, G2, G5, G6	Flood	There has been repeated flooding and erosion in valley of Fox Creek along CR 352.	Conduct a study to resolve flooding and erosion issues in the valley of Fox Creek along CR 352, especially below Solar View. Then implement the recommendations of this study as feasible.	No	No	1-3 Years	Public Works	High	Addressing flooding and erosion issues along CR 352 benefits infrastructure and community safety. By studying and resolving these challenges, Albany County ensures improved road stability, reduced flood risks, and enhanced resilience in the Fox Creek valley.	US HMGP, US Flood Mitigation Assistance, NYS HM RLF, US BRIC, DOT BIL Grants	Medium	8
County Albany F6	Study of flooding at CR55 over the Vloman Kill	G1, G2, G5, G6	Flood	There has been repeated flooding of private property resulting from partial obstruction of the culvert crossing at CR55 over the Vloman Kill.	Conduct a study that determines the best option(s) to systematically ensure site stability at CR55 over the Vloman Kill. Then implement the recommendations of this study as feasible.	No	No	1-3 Years	Public Works	High	Conducting a study for site stability at CR55 over the Vloman Kill ensures infrastructure resilience and public safety. Identifying optimal solutions safeguards against erosion and instability, enhancing road reliability and community well-being in Albany County.	US HMGP, US Flood Mitigation Assistance, NYS HM RLF, US BRIC, DOT BIL Grants	Medium	9
County Albany F7	Vulnerability Assessment and Flood Protection for Critical Facilities	G1, G2, G5, G6	Flood	Some of the County's critical facilities may not be protected against the 0.2% chance flood event or previous worst case flood event. This leaves these facilities vulnerable to becoming inoperable during flood events..	Conduct vulnerability assessments for the critical facilities identified in the County's annex to this HMP update, to determine their level of protection against a 0.2% chance flood event (or previous worst case flood, if greater than the 0.2% chance flood), where unknown. If/when funding is available, protect any unprotected facilities to an 0.2% chance flood event (or previous worst case flood event, if applicable), through engineering design, building retrofits, or other measures, as necessary and feasible. These facilities are identified in Table 5-1 of the jurisdictional annex. Additionally, as resources allow, partner with municipalities to assist them in assessing municipal buildings and properties for resilient retrofit opportunities and resilient site improvements.	Yes	Potentially	3-5 years	County Executive	High	This action would reduce the vulnerability of critical facilities to flood events.	DASNY State and Municipal Facilities Program, US HMGP, US BRIC, US Flood Mitigation Assistance, US HUD CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF, NYS CSC, FEMA EOC Grant Program	Medium	N/A

Project #	Project Name	Goal/Objective being Met	Hazard to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Lead Agency	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority from Ranking Tool	Survey Rank
County Albany MH13	Increase Resilience at Municipal Facilities	G2, G5, G6	All Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, Drought)	Municipal facilities throughout the county are vulnerable to floods, severe storms, extreme temperatures, and landslides, as detailed in the Albany County Climate Resiliency Plan.	Partner with municipalities, as resources allow, to assist them in assessing municipal buildings and properties for resilient retrofit opportunities and resilient site improvements. This may include, but is not limited to, action items detailed in the Albany County Climate Resiliency Plan page 180-197, such as: 1) Assess municipal buildings for resilient retrofit opportunities, 2) Assess municipal properties for resilient site improvements, and 3) Assess climate risks and identify proactive solutions for climate resilience at a local level. Particular facilities of interest may include, but are not limited to, the ones listed in the Climate Resiliency Plan (Chapter 3 and pages 180-197), as well as the ones listed in the Critical Facilities section of each jurisdictional annex. Additionally, as resources allow, assess County-owned buildings and properties in the same manner.	Yes	Potentially	3-5 Years	County Executive	High	Enhances structural durability, reduces maintenance costs, and ensures continuity of services during extreme weather events, thereby protecting public assets and promoting community safety.	DASNY State and Municipal Facilities Program, US HMGP, US BRIC, US Flood Mitigation Assistance, US HUD CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF, NYS CSC, FEMA EOC Grant Program	Medium	N/A
County Albany MH14	Public Information Campaign	G1, G2, G6	All Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, Drought)	In the Albany HMP Public Input Survey, respondents expressed a desire for better communication and public education about hazards. Topics emphasized included where to go in the event of an evacuation and how to evacuate, as well as what to do, available resources, and how to prepare. They also expressed a desire for resources to floodproof and stormproof homes, including funding and information. Flooding, severe storms, and extreme temperatures were emphasized in particular.	Conduct a public information campaign to educate residents about what to do in the event of a flood, severe storm, drought, landslide, and extreme temperature event. As part of the campaign, publish a map of where to go during an evacuation, how to evacuate, and transportation services available. Include other topics described in the Albany HMP Public Input Survey (Question 10), such as funding and informational resources to floodproof and stormproof homes, and additional ways that residents can prepare for hazard events. Utilize common methods of receiving public information, such as text alerts, social media, TV, word of mouth, radio, and/or public message boards (see the Albany HMP Public Input Survey Question 9).	No	No	1-3 years	County Executive. Partner with Department for Aging; Department for Children, Youth, and Families; Cornell Cooperative Extension; Department of Health; Department of Social Services; Sheriff's Office	Low	A public information campaign reduces the vulnerability of residents to floods, severe storms, droughts, landslides, and extreme temperature events, because they will be better able to prepare for and respond to these hazards.	US HMGP, US BRIC, EPA EJSG, NYS HM RLF, FEMA EMPG, USDA HPG, NYS CSC	High	N/A
County Albany MH15	Social Vulnerability Assessment and Risk Reduction Strategy	G1, G2, G6	All Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, Drought)	Many respondents in the Albany HMP Public Input Survey expressed concern about the impact of hazards on vulnerable populations, especially older adults.	Partner with social service agencies, emergency managers, community organizations, and the public to further assess impacts of hazards on vulnerable populations and potential actions to reduce risk. Implement actions as feasible. Emphasize older adults, and as feasible, include residents in frequently flooded areas, low-income families and residents, people with disabilities or health issues, children & parents with young kids, or others. Ensure that these populations are centered in the conversations. See Albany HMP Public Input Survey (Question 6), Jurisdictional Annexes (Section 6.5), and Albany County Climate Analysis (Vulnerability and Flooding section of https://arog.is/1PObHP) for further information about frequently flooded areas and vulnerable populations. Conduct a holistic assessments including all hazards in the HMP (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, Drought), prioritizing the hazards that most affect these populations.	No	No	1-3 years	County Executive. Partner with Department for Aging; Department for Children, Youth, and Families; Cornell Cooperative Extension; Department of Health; Department of Social Services; Sheriff's Office; emergency managers; community organizations serving vulnerable populations (e.g. faith organizations, nonprofits, schools, assisted living facilities, etc.)	Medium	A vulnerability assessment and subsequent actions to address vulnerabilities will reduce the impact that floods, severe storms, droughts, landslides, and extreme temperature events have on vulnerable populations in the County.	US HMGP, US BRIC, EPA EJSG, NYS HM RLF, FEMA EMPG, USDA HPG, NYS CSC	High	N/A
County Albany MH16	Emergency Services Collaboration and Resources	G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6	All Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, Drought)	Some respondents in the Albany HMP Public Input Survey expressed a desire for more resources and coordination among municipalities regarding emergency services (e.g. more funding, personnel, training, radio communications, consolidation, inclusion in planning).	Host a meeting among municipal emergency services personnel to assess resource and coordination needs and potential solutions. Then explore funding sources and models in other Counties and implement solutions as feasible.	No	No	1-3 years	Albany County Sheriff's Office. Partner with municipal emergency service, fire, and DPW departments. Partner with County Executive; County DPW (e.g. Planning and Land Use); Department of Economic Development, Conservation and Planning; SWCD; and Cornell Cooperative Extension as desired.	Medium	Increasing coordination between municipal emergency services will allow for better preparation and response to hazards, thereby decreasing the vulnerability of residents to hazards.	FEMA EMPG, USDA/NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program, USGS Landslides Hazards Program, CDBG Public Infrastructure and Community Planning	High	N/A

Project #	Project Name	Goal/Objective being Met	Hazard to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	Related to CF?	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Lead Agency	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority from Ranking Tool	Survey Rank
County Albany MH17	Partnerships with Neighboring Communities	G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6	Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures	Floods, severe storms, and extreme temperatures are prevalent in the County. Some respondents in the Albany HMP Neighboring Communities Survey expressed a desire to assist with sheltering as needed (for example, for severe storms and extreme temperatures), and ideas for potential projects related to flooding and severe storms. Additionally, participants at the Floodplain Management Roundtable expressed the desire for intermunicipal agreements to mitigate flooding due to upstream water storage issues.	Partner with neighboring communities for additional hazard mitigation projects related to flooding and severe storms. Some ideas listed in the Neighboring Communities Survey include the following (to be explored and implemented as applicable): 1) Coordinate additional sheltering capacity as needed (e.g. Birchwood Elementary School and Mohonasen School in Schenectady County, locations in Saratoga County). 2) Work together with University at Albany for stormwater resilience planning. 3) Work with Schoharie County and relevant municipalities on a Catskill Creek project on the border of the towns of Broome and Rensselaerville, and a project on Fox Creek on the border of the towns of Wright and Knox. 4) Work with Schenectady County on monitoring the Mohawk river for flooding. Additionally, the County would like to undertake the following actions: 5) Assist municipalities in coordinating intermunicipal agreements to mitigate flooding in Albany County due to upstream water storage issues. This may involve a drainage maintenance study or other watershed study to identify problem areas and potential solutions. Utilize the Albany County Climate Analysis (https://arcg.is/1PObHP) as needed. 6) Other actions as needed to address flooding, severe storms, and extreme temperatures at a regional level.	Potentially	Potentially	3-5 years	County Executive, partnering with DPW and Sheriff's Office	Medium	Partnering with neighboring communities can help reduce the impact of severe storms and flooding and make sure that adequate sheltering capacity is provided for severe storms and extreme temperatures.	FEMA HMGP, FEMA BRIC, NYS HM RLF, US CDBG-MIT, FEMA Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), USDA/NRCS EWPP, NYS CSC, DASNY State and Municipal Facilities Program, NYSEFC CWSRF, NFWF NCRF, DOT BIL	Medium	N/A

*Note: CF = Critical Facility, EHP = Environmental and Historic Preservation.

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7.3 Mitigation Action Prioritization

Each of the County's proposed mitigation actions were evaluated and prioritized according to the criteria and process listed in Section 9.3 of the main body of the HMP. This includes a cost-benefit review of the proposed actions. The results are included in the "Priority" columns in Table 7-2 and Table 7-3, and the full scoring is documented in Table 7-3.

In addition, County departments were invited to participate in a survey to rank each of the proposed mitigation actions (as of April 2024) from 1 to 5 stars, with 1 being low priority and 5 being high priority. Five individuals participated in this survey, the results of which are included in the "Survey Rank" columns in Section 7.3 of the County annex. These two tools, in addition to availability of funding and lead agencies, may be utilized by the County to determine which proposed mitigation actions to address in the near-term.

Table 7-3. New Mitigation Action Prioritization

Mitigation Action ID	Mitigation Action Name	Ability to Increase Resilience	Economic Feasibility	Low Environmental Impact	Ability to Implement	Total Score	Priority	Survey Rank
County Albany MH1	Energy Resiliency Study	3	1	2	2	8	Medium	5
County Albany MH2	Communications and Broadband Resiliency Study	3	1	2	2	8	Medium	1
County Albany F1	Purchase First Street Foundation's Flood Factor Data	2	2	3	3	10	High	18
County Albany MH3	County-wide Culvert Analysis and Upgrades	3	1	2	2	8	Medium	7
County Albany MH4	County-wide Transportation Vulnerability Assessment	3	1	2	2	8	Medium	2
County Albany MH5	Build out the Network of Rain and Stream Gauges	2	1	3	2	8	Medium	14

Mitigation Action ID	Mitigation Action Name	Ability to Increase Resilience	Economic Feasibility	Low Environmental Impact	Ability to Implement	Total Score	Priority	Survey Rank
County Albany MH6	Recommendations in the County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan	2	2	2	2	8	Medium	10
County Albany MH7	Create an Agricultural Resiliency Program	3	2	2	2	9	Medium	12
County Albany ET1	Increase Resilience to Extreme Temperature Events	2	1	3	2	8	Medium	15
County Albany MH8	Resilient Homes Program	2	1	3	2	8	Medium	17
County Albany MH9	County-wide Open Space Plan	2	1	3	2	8	Medium	13
County Albany MH10	Sea Level Rise Resilience Planning	2	1	2	2	7	Medium	21
County Albany MH11	Climate Justice Corps Network	2	1	3	2	8	Medium	20
County Albany F2	Support Municipal Participation in FEMA's CRS Program	2	2	2	2	8	Medium	16
County Albany MH12	Increase County Capacity to Support Resilience Efforts	2	1	3	2	8	Medium	19
County Albany F3	CR 404 causeway at Basic Creek Reservoir	3	1	2	2	8	Medium	3
County Albany F4	Culvert upsizing: CR405 crossing of Eightmile Creek	3	1	2	3	9	Medium	4
County Albany F5	Flooding and erosion study: Valley of Fox Creek along CR 352	2	1	2	2	7	Medium	8

Mitigation Action ID	Mitigation Action Name	Ability to Increase Resilience	Economic Feasibility	Low Environmental Impact	Ability to Implement	Total Score	Priority	Survey Rank
County Albany F6	Study of flooding at CR55 over the Vroman Kill	2	1	2	2	7	Medium	9
County Albany F7	Vulnerability Assessment and Flood Protection for Critical Facilities	2	1	2	2	7	Medium	N/A
County Albany MH13	Increase Resilience at Municipal Facilities	3	1	2	2	8	Medium	N/A
County Albany MH14	Public Information Campaign	3	3	3	3	12	High	N/A
County Albany MH15	Social Vulnerability Assessment and Risk Reduction Strategy	3	2	3	3	11	High	N/A
County Albany MH16	Emergency Services Collaboration and Resources	3	3	3	2	11	High	N/A
County Albany MH17	Partnerships with Neighboring Communities	2	2	3	2	9	Medium	N/A

Note: Feasibility/effectiveness is rated as follows: 1 = Poor, 2 = Moderate, 3 = Good; Priority is determined as follows based on total score: 4-6 = Low, 7-9 = Medium, 10-12 = High. The Survey Rank column represents how the action ranked in a prioritization survey as described above. In this column, N/A indicates an action that was not included in the County survey, as these actions were added after the survey closed. Some actions were deleted or reconfigured after the survey closed, which is why the Survey Rank column does not contain all integers 1 through 25.

7.4 Mitigation Action Implementation and Administration

The County's new mitigation actions will be implemented and administered via the lead agencies listed in Table 7-2 of this annex, using the timeframes, prioritization, and funding sources in Sections 7.2 and 7.3 as a guide. Further details about implementation of mitigation actions for all jurisdictions in Albany County, as well as a description of funding sources, are described in Sections 9 and 10 of the main body of the HMP.

8 ADDITIONAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public input was solicited to guide the development of the HMP through two public information meetings and a community survey. A summary of the findings of these outreach activities can be found in Section 3 of the main body of the HMP. The County will continue to seek public participation in hazard mitigation planning after HMP approval, as described in Section 10.4 of the main body of the HMP.

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