

Village of Altamont

This section presents the jurisdictional annex for the Village of Altamont 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.

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1 CONTACT INFORMATION

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

- Primary: Kerry Dineen, Mayor
 - mayordineen@gmail.com
 - (518) 861-8554
- Alternate: Larry Adams, Acting Superintendent of Public Works
 - waterpipe99@hotmail.com
 - (518) 861-6913

Village of Altamont Website: <https://www.altamontvillage.org/>

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2 COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

2.1 Demographics

The 2020 Census estimated that 1,675 people live in the Village of Altamont. The Village of Altamont's population has decreased by 2.6% since the 2010 Census (1,720). The median age in the Village of Altamont is 42.8 years, and 22.2% of the population is over the age of 65. The median household income in the Village of Altamont is \$80,583.

2.2 Location & Land Characteristics

The Village of Altamont is located in the central northwest region of the Town of Guilderland, near its border to the Town of Knox. The Village of Altamont covers approximately 1.27 square miles. The properties within the Village of Altamont have a total assessed value of approximately \$172,886,500, which is distributed across a variety of property classes.

Major transportation corridors in the Village of Altamont include three state highways – Routes 397, 156, and 146. The highways run through the Village, connecting it to the City of Albany, and the Village of Voorheesville in the south. The key water feature within the Village of Altamont is the Bozen Kill stream.

2.3 Governing Body

A mayor and four trustees govern the Village of Altamont.

2.4 Recent and Anticipated Future Development

According to a review of 239 Referrals since the last County HMP (2018), several new developments have been approved or proposed within the Village. The proposals that the Village received are summarized in Table 2-1 below. Some of the proposals for the Village may be located in the 0.1% or 0.2% annual chance flood event area, but this was not specified in the proposal. Additionally, building permits that have been issued for the Village between 2018 to 2022 are summarized in Table 2-2 below, based on data from the Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC). These developments may affect the Village's vulnerability to the hazards identified in this HMP.

Table 2-1. Developments from 2018 to 2023

Project Name	Project Location	Consideration	Date
Local Law #1 of 2023 - Keeping of Chickens	Village of Altamont	Adoption of local law to permit the raising of chickens within the Village of Altamont under specific conditions.	9/21/2023
CM Fox Living Solutions LLC Major Subdivision	139 Western Ave	Site plan review and subdivision review for the development of 11 residential lots. Area variance for the Lots 5,6,7 and 8 for the required road frontage.	1/19/2023
Fence Variance	157 Bozenkill Road	Area variance for the installation of six foot tall fencing the front yard.	8/17/2023
Fanuele Variance	36 Sanford Place	Use variance to allow the homeowner to store the enclosed trailer in his driveway next to his garage.	4/20/2023
Village of Altamont Local Law	Village of Altamont	A local law to abolish the existing Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals to create a new Zoning Board of Appeals for the Village of Altamont.	3/17/2022
Village of Altamont Local Law	Village of Altamont	Adoption of a local law to abolish the existing Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals and to create a new Zoning Board of Appeals for the Village of Altamont.	1/20/2022
Chickens in Altamont	101 Bozenkill Road, Altamont	Use variance to house six (6) hens on their property to use for egg production for the family. Currently, this is not allowed under local law.	2/17/2022
Village of Altamont - Local Law - Introductory Version No. 2	Village of Altamont	Adoption of local law to abolish the existing Village of Altamont Planning Board and create a new Zoning Board of Appeals that would exercise the same powers and duties as the current Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board. The local law has been revised since it was first referred to change the new ZBA to a five member board with two alternates.	2/17/2022
Hoarders Honeypot, LLC	996 Altamont Blvd	Special use permit to open a storefront with in-store sales, online sales and computer repair in the former Altamont Auto Parts Store location.	6/16/2022
SUP for In-Law Apartments	167 Maple Avenue	Special use permit to add accessory dwelling for in-law apartment on site of existing disrepair garage.	5/19/2022

Project Name	Project Location	Consideration	Date
Building Addition - Jeff Thomas	187 Main Street, Altamont, NY	Amendment to zoning ordinance/local law for accepting sketch plan for Altamont Corners Shopping Plaza expansion, classifying the action as a Type II action under SEQRA.	4/15/2021
Amendment to SUP	187 Main Street	Amendment of local law for Special Use Permit modification to allow outdoor music and entertainment to the proposed expansion of existing restaurant.	6/17/2021
Jeff Thomas - Building Addition	187 Main St	Special use permit for construction of a 1,490 sf single story building addition to an existing multi-tenant building.	3/18/2021
Troy Miller Subdivision Review	130 Main Street	The proposed action is to split the existing two (2) family parcel and subdividing it for a single family building.	3/18/2021
John Donato Apartments	996 Altamont Blvd	Special use permit to convert existing building into three (3) apartments.	5/20/2021
Bozenkill Road Subdivision	Bozenkill Road	Subdivision review to divide the parcel into four (4) lots of which three (3) lots are proposed to be developed as Single-Family residences.	5/20/2021
Stewart's Shop Redevelopment Project	1001 Altamont Boulevard / 109 Helderberg Ave.	A special use permit and site plan review to enable the combination of the parcels and demolition of an existing house.	4/16/2020
Stewart's Shop Redevelopment	1001 Altamont Blvd. / 109 Helderberg Ave.	Three area variances to enable the redevelopment of a Stewart's. The property owner seeks a variance to enable encroachment within a front yard setback, rear setback, and to exceed a minimum lot size.	2/25/2020
Enterprise Consulting & Cellco	23 Agawam Lane	Construction of a 120' Telecommunication tower & related equipment on property leased from the Village of Altamont	1/17/2019
Bozenkill road Subdivision	Bozenkill Road, Altamont	Subdivision Review - Project includes the land subdivision of the main 23.87 acre parcel into 4 lots. 3 new lots will be developed as single family residences, totaling 1.42 acres. The remaining 22.45 acre lot to the north, will remain undeveloped. The 3 residential lots range in acreage from .46 acre to .50 acre and will be served by public water and sanitary sewer services.	3/21/2019

Project Name	Project Location	Consideration	Date
Stewart's Shop Zoning Review	107-109 Helderberg Ave.	Review of a previously adopted rezone.	8/15/2019
Altamont Zoning - Bozenkill	Bozenkill Annexation	Amendment to update the Village of Altamont zoning law to address the Bozenkill annexation.	6/20/2019
Altamont Zoning - chickens	Entire Village	Amendment to Altamont Zoning Law to regulate the keeping of chickens.	6/20/2019
Rose Setback Variance	160 Western Ave.	Request for a 1 ft. side yard setback variance to construct an attached deck.	10/18/2018
107-109 Helderberg Ave. Rezone	107-109 Helderberg Ave.	Request to rezone the parcel adjoining the existing Stewart's Shop at 1001 Altamont Blvd. from Single Family Residential (R-10) to Central Business District (CBD).	11/15/2018
Mountainview Prosthetics	124 Maple Ave. Extension	Special use permit for the operation of a prosthetics fabrication business.	8/16/2018
Donato Apartments	996 Altamont Blvd.	Special use permit for the construction of two additional apartments in the rear of a mixed-use building that currently houses two businesses and two apartments.	4/19/2018

Table 2-2. Building Permit Issuance (2018 to 2022)

Year	Building Type	Units
2021	1	2
Total:		2

Data Source: Capital District Regional Planning Commission (<https://cdrpc.org/data/housing>)

3 CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENT

3.1 Planning Mechanisms and Capabilities

The Village of Altamont identified the following planning mechanisms and capabilities that can support the Village 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 which can support hazard mitigation.

Table 3-1. Planning Mechanisms & 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 preventative measures
Mitigation Planning Committee	No	
Mutual Aid or Shared Services Agreements	Yes	w/ TOG, T/O New Scotland, T/O Knox, V/O Voorheesville Agreement with Albany County Stormwater Coalition
Planning Board	No	
Zoning Board	Yes	
Other		
Development Approvals		
Building Code	Yes	2020 NYS Uniform Code
Fire Department ISO Rating	Yes	5
Site Plan Review Requirements	Yes	Yes, Alt. Zoning
Other		
Funding Resources		
Authority to Levy Taxes	Yes	
Capital Improvement Project Funds	Yes	Sewer/water

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?)
Federal Funding Programs (i.e., USDA, FEMA, others)	No	
General Obligation Bonds and/or Special Tax Bonds	Yes	
Impact Fees for New Development	Yes	
State Funding Programs (i.e., NYSEFC, NYSOGR, NYSDEC, others)	Yes	Sewer and STP, well
Utility Fees (i.e., water, sewer, stormwater, gas, electric)	Yes	Water and sewer tax twice per year
Other		
Land Use Regulations		
Density Controls	Yes	Village has a zoning map that identifies density for each section of Village
Flood Insurance Rate Maps	Yes	
NFIP Participant / Floodplain Ordinance	Yes	See "Floodplain Administrator" row below (under "Staff Positions")
Hillside Development Regulations	No	
Open Space Preservation	Yes	
Stormwater Management Regulations	Yes	Chapter 308: Stormwater Management, Signatory on Albany County Intermunicipal Agreement for Storm Water Management
Streambank Setback Regulations	No	
Subdivision Regulations	Yes	
Zoning Ordinance	Yes	
Other	Yes	Flood Damage Prevention (Chapter 355-13)
Natural Resources		
Forest/Vegetation Management	No	
Stream Corridor Management	No	
Stream Dumping Regulations	No	
Urban Forestry and Landscape Management	No	
Watershed Management	No	

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?)
Wetland Regulations	No	
Other	Yes	Community Choice Aggregation Program (Chapter 160)
Plans		
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes	
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	Yes	Water/Dam Failure
Comprehensive Plan	Yes	2006; Revision in progress as of April 2024
Continuity of Operations Plan	Yes	Water
Economic Development Plan	No	
Other		
Programs/Organizations		
Climate Smart Community	Yes	
Local Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Response Organizations	No	
Local Environmental Protection Organizations	No	
National Weather Service StormReady Certification	No	
Outreach Programs	Yes	MS4 Stormwater Keep creeks, culverts clear (less flooding)
Partnerships with private entities addressing mitigation or disaster response	No	
School Programs or Adult Educational Programs	No	
Other		
Staff Positions		
Civil Engineer	No	No staff engineer, but work with several firms depending on project
Code Enforcement Officer	Yes	Part-time
Emergency Manager	Yes	Full-time; DPW Staff

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?)
Floodplain Administrator	Yes	Full-time: Building and Zoning Enforcement Officer (Gary Goss)
Planner/GIS Coordinator	No	
Other		
Technical Abilities		
Grant Writing	No	Village contracts out for grant writing
Hazard Information Centers	No	
Hazard Warning Systems	Yes	Village has Nixle – alert system; residents receive as text message or emails.
Other		

The Village's HMP update will be incorporated into and referenced by future updates of the plans, policies, ordinances, programs, studies, and reports listed in Table 3-1. In particular, the Village should review Table 3-1 when completing updates to the Comprehensive Plan and amendments to the Zoning Code. As part of this review, the Village may strategize opportunities for building the hazard mitigation mechanisms and capabilities currently marked "No" in the table (where feasible) by designating lead agencies in charge of closing such gaps, connecting with partners and technical support resources, establishing a timeline and next steps, estimating costs, and applying for grant funding when necessary. In an update to the Comprehensive Plan, this process may result in the development and inclusion of detailed proposed action items and implementation frameworks that address gaps in hazard mitigation mechanisms and capabilities. In an amendment to the Zoning Code, this process may result in the modification of existing laws or the drafting and adoption of new laws to address gaps in hazard mitigation mechanisms and capabilities.

Furthermore, the Village 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 on land use regulations and decisions

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 Village of Altamont understands the importance of considering an integrated approach when developing municipal plans, policies, programs, and regulations. The Village intends to reference the 2024 Albany County HMP as part of the process for future updates to the plans, policies, programs, and regulations listed in Table 3-1, above, and for creating new regulations as applicable. This may include adding hazard mitigation as an agenda item at Village Board meetings where local laws are being developed or updated, including hazard mitigation considerations in any templates used to make new laws, adopting an ordinance that all new local laws need to consider hazard mitigation if applicable, or simply making local officials aware of the need to consider hazard mitigation in any plan updates. Additionally, the Village of Altamont may use the local laws assessment (included in Section 4 of the main body of the HMP) to reference hazard mitigation related regulations that other jurisdictions in the County have adopted, and consider implementing similar regulations if desired.

All of these actions will help expand and improve upon these existing capabilities so that they reduce risk and better support hazard mitigation.

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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, drought, extreme temperatures, and landslide. Descriptions of each of these hazards are included in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

The Village of Altamont has opted to exclude the following hazards from their annex. Village representatives gave the following reasons for this exclusion:

- Landslide – Excluded because the Village has not experienced a landslide in recent history (at least the last few decades), and does not view it as a concern.

Aside from the exception listed above, the Village of Altamont profiled the same hazards as Albany County. The Village also noted the following:

- In extreme cold, the Village does have a shelter already.
- In extreme heat, neighbors look out for each other, senior housing is air conditioned, and there is a community pool that is sometimes open for extra hours during extreme heat.

The hazard analysis criteria used to evaluate the Village's vulnerability to each natural hazard are summarized in Table 4-1, and the results are presented in Table 4-2. All rankings were completed subjectively, with the guidelines detailed in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1. Hazard Analysis Criteria

Score	Impact (Damage to property, crops, people)	Frequency*	Extent	Level of Preparedness	Total Score	Overall Vulnerability
1	Minor	Rare	One or two problem areas within the jurisdiction	Well Prepared	4 to 5	Low
2	Moderate	Infrequent	A significant portion of the jurisdiction	Moderately Prepared	6 to 8	Moderate
3	Major	Regular	The entire jurisdiction	Not Prepared	9 to 12	High

*Frequency is defined roughly as follows:

- Rare – Every 15 years or less
- Infrequent: Less than once a year but greater than once every 15 years
- Regular: Approximately yearly or multiple times a year

Table 4-2. Hazard Vulnerability by Event

Hazard Event	Impact (Damage to property, crops, people, etc.)	Frequency of Occurrence	Extent of Impacts	Level of Preparedness	Overall Vulnerability	Jurisdiction Rank*	Notes (Anticipated Future Changes)
Flooding (Riverine, Coastal, Urban, Flash, Ice Jam, Dam or Levee Break, Other)	1	2	1	2	6 – Moderate	1	See below
Drought	1	1	2	1	5 – Low	4	See below
Severe Storm (Hail, Ice Storms, Wind, Thunderstorms and Lightning, Winter Storms, Hurricane, Tropical Storms, Tornado, Power Outage)	1	3	3	2	9 – High	2	See below

Hazard Event	Impact (Damage to property, crops, people, etc.)	Frequency of Occurrence	Extent of Impacts	Level of Preparedness	Overall Vulnerability	Jurisdiction Rank*	Notes (Anticipated Future Changes)
Extreme Temperatures (Cold Wave, Heat Wave, Air Pollution Effects)	1	1	3	1	6 – Moderate	3	See below
Landslide**	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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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. The following is a subset of events that occurred specifically within the Village. These records informed the development of mitigation actions by demonstrating which hazards have historically had the greatest impact on the Village.

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

Event Type	Date	Magnitude	Estimated Property Damage	Estimated Crop Damage
Hail	6/5/2020	1	0	
Total			0	

Note: The table above lists only the hazard events that were recorded as occurring specifically within the Village. For records of County-wide hazard events, see the Albany County Annex. Units for magnitude are expressed as the following: Hail: inches, High Wind: knots, Thunderstorm Wind: knots.

4.3 Floodplain Statistics

Key water features in the Village are described in Section 2.2 of this annex. FEMA provides flood insurance rate maps for the municipality 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 1.2 square miles in the Village, approximately 10.22% are located within the 1% annual chance flood event area and approximately 10.24% 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 municipality that intersect mapped floodplains are summarized in Table 4-5. There are 140 parcels in the Village located within the 1% annual chance flood event area, with an estimated total structure value of \$28,269,200. The same parcels are located within the 0.2% annual chance flood event area, with the same estimated total structure value.

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
1.2	10.22%	10.24%

* 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	2	\$0	2	\$0
Agricultural	0	\$0	0	\$0
Residential	108	\$20,675,500	108	\$20,675,500
Vacant	10	\$0	10	\$0
Commercial	6	\$2,150,000	6	\$2,150,000
Recreation and Entertainment	3	\$697,300	3	\$697,300
Community Services	7	\$4,278,500	7	\$4,278,500
Industrial	0	\$0	0	\$0
Public Services	2	\$467,900	2	\$467,900
Parks and Open Space	2	\$0	2	\$0
Total	140	\$28,269,200	140	\$28,269,200

*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

Long-term mitigation of potential flood impacts can be best achieved through comprehensive floodplain management regulations and enforcement at a local level. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), regulated by FEMA, aims to reduce the impact of flooding on private and public structures by providing affordable insurance for property owners. The program encourages local jurisdictions to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations in order to mitigate the potential effects of flooding on new and existing infrastructure (<https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance>).

Communities that participate in the NFIP adopt floodplain ordinances. If an insured structure incurs damage costs that are over 50% of its market value, the owner must

comply with the local floodplain regulations when repairing or rebuilding the structure. A structure could be rebuilt at a higher elevation, or it could be acquired and demolished by the municipality or relocated outside of the floodplain. Insured structures that are located within floodplains identified on FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) may receive payments for structure and content losses if impacted by a flood event.

The NFIP and other flood mitigation actions are important for the protection of public and private property and public safety. Flood mitigation is valuable to communities because it:

1. Creates safer environments by reducing loss of life and decreasing property damage;
2. Allows individuals to minimize post-flood disaster disruptions and to recover quicker (homes built to NFIP standards generally experience less damage from flood events, and when damage does occur, the flood insurance program protects the homeowner's investment); and
3. Lessens the financial impacts on individuals, communities, and other involved parties (<https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance>).

The Village of Altamont currently participates in the NFIP (community ID 360002A) and its current FIRM(s) became effective on 3/16/15. 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 Village's local law governing floodplain development and NFIP compliance is located in Chapter 355, Article III, § 355-13. Flood damage protection. The Village 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 Table 3-1 of this annex.

According to NFIP claims data provided by FEMA, there is 1 repetitive loss property in the Village of Altamont. 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.

4.5 Considerations for Future Hazards

No concerns about future changes in hazard impacts specific to the Village were identified during the hazard mitigation planning process. The Village noted that the Village is mostly built out, so the land use within the Village will not undergo significant changes. The effects of climate change and other factors on future hazard events in Albany County are covered in more detail 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 Town halls, 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 the Village of Altamont, and any particular vulnerabilities of note. More information about hazard vulnerability, including the vulnerability of community assets to natural hazard events, 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.

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 **Error! Reference source not found.**, it is unknown whether several of the Village'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 Village has included an action in Section 7.2: New Mitigation Actions 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 Village of Altamont does not have any high hazard potential dams located within the municipal boundaries. However, the Village is the owner of Altamont Main Reservoir Dam (federal ID NY00126), which is a high hazard potential dam located in the Town of Knox.

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)

The Village of Altamont has not identified any specific additional assets aside from critical facilities listed in Table 5-1, but has taken the above example assets into consideration during the development of this annex.

6 SUMMARY OF HAZARD IMPACTS AND VULNERABILITIES

6.1 Flood

The Village of Altamont has ranked their overall vulnerability to flood events as moderate, as indicated in Table 4-2, although the Village ranked flooding as their number one priority out of the natural hazards profiled. According to Village representatives, flood events occur infrequently in the jurisdiction and affect one or two problem areas within the jurisdiction, causing minor damage. The Village 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. The Village is particularly concerned about the impacts of flooding on Schoharie Plank Road, Euclid Avenue, Lincoln Avenue, and Sand Street.

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 Village'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 Village of Altamont has ranked their overall vulnerability to severe storm events as high, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to Village representatives, severe storms occur regularly in the jurisdiction and affect the entire jurisdiction, causing minor damage. The Village 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 Village from severe storm events include fallen trees from severe winds, which can damage overhead utility lines, resulting in power outages, as well as cause road closures. These events are likely to result in damages to private and public infrastructure and property. In addition, during severe winter storm events, roadway safety is a primary concern and impacts the safety of residents and operation of critical facilities. Damages to the Village's critical infrastructure or primary transportation routes would be particularly impactful to residents.

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 Village is vulnerable to, likely making the Village 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

The Village of Altamont has ranked their overall vulnerability to drought events as low, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to Village representatives, drought events occur rarely in the jurisdiction and affect a significant portion of the jurisdiction, causing minor damage. The Village feels they are well prepared for drought events.

The Village of Altamont is particularly concerned about the impacts of drought on water wells. The Village is served by a public water supply. This water supply, and certain critical facilities (e.g. Altamont Public Works Department and Wastewater Treatment Plant, as well as the two water pump stations) could be susceptible to impacts during a drought due to low water yields. Additionally, any residents who rely on private wells would also be susceptible to the impacts from a drought due to low water yields.

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 Village'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 Village of Altamont has ranked their overall vulnerability to extreme temperature events as moderate, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to Village representatives, extreme temperature events occur rarely in the jurisdiction and affect the entire jurisdiction, causing minor damage. The Village feels they are well prepared for extreme temperature events.

Extreme temperature events tend to have greater impacts on vulnerable populations, including older adults (over 65 years), young children (under 5 years), individuals with health complications, and individuals who cannot afford to sufficiently heat or cool their homes. While there is no Census data available for the Village of Altamont, there is Census data available for the Town of Guilderland. In the Town of Guilderland, approximately 4.9% of the population is under 5 years old, and 18.8% of the population is over 65 years old. Approximately 8.4% of the residents of the Town of Guilderland have a disability (excluding any institutionalized residents and active-duty military members) some of whom have health problems that make them more vulnerable to extreme heat or cold. Approximately 5.2% of the Town of Guilderland's population is below the poverty level. Many residents within these populations are at a higher risk of being impacted by extreme temperature events.

In extreme cold, the Village has a shelter that residents can go to. In extreme heat, neighbors look out for each other, the senior housing facility is air conditioned, and there is a community pool that is sometimes open for extended hours during extreme heat.

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 Village'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 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 Village.

Top concerns about hazard mitigation in the Village included:

- There is a possibility of flooding in certain areas, because of flooding from culverts and water coming from Helderberg Mountains (Village is at the base of the mountains). Currently, the fire department will pump some basements in large storms. Many houses in the Village are old (from the 1800s) and so are particularly affected by flooding.

The following populations were identified as being particularly vulnerable to hazards:

- Schoharie Plank Road, Euclid Avenue, Lincoln Avenue, Sand Street have flood issues

The plan was revised to reflect the following changes in community priorities since the 2018 HMP Update:

- The Village has not identified any changes in priorities since the 2018 HMP Update.

Additional concerns that the Village would like addressed in the plan include:

- The stream has not been dredged in over 20 years. Parts of storm sewer system are underwater; this would be helped by dredging, because the pipes that are currently underwater would no longer be underwater if the stream were dredged.
- The Village would like to obtain generators for lift station (water station) and one well site.

6.6 Additional Impacts

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

7 MITIGATION STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION

7.1 Past, Completed, and Ongoing Initiatives

The Village had proposed 5 mitigation actions in the 2018 Albany County HMP Update. The status of each action is summarized below, along with the Village’s decision about whether to include the action in the 2024 HMP Update. Any revisions to actions proposed in 2018 are indicated below.

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
Brandle Road Well Site Drainage	Adding a larger culvert and re-directing drainage away from the well site	Flooding	Department of Public Works Superintendent	Completed	No	
Main Dam/Spillway	Reduce spillway dam height to reduce hydraulic pressure in the event of over topping and replace spillway well	Flooding	Department of Public Works Superintendent	Completed	No	
Replace Alt. Blvd. Lift Station Controls	Replace Alt. Blvd. Lift Station Controls	Flooding	Not specified	Completed	No	
Fly Creek Cleaning	Problem: Current stormwater system empties into the creek, but some pipes are currently underwater. Solution: Dredge Fly Creek so that the pipes are no longer underwater and to ensure that stormwater system works properly. This would provide long-term mitigation benefits over a couple decades.	Flooding	Department of Public Works	No Progress	Yes (with added details)	*This is a priority for the Village

Name	Description	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead Agency	Status (Completed, In Progress, No Progress, Discontinued)	Carried into 2024 HMP Update? (Yes/No)	Notes
Brandle Rd culvert Re-Sleeve	Brandle Rd culvert Re-Sleeve	Flooding	Not specified	Completed	No	

7.2 New Mitigation Actions

In addition to the actions carried over from the 2018 HMP, the Village of Altamont 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 Village could expand and improve the identified capabilities to achieve mitigation, as described in Section 3 of this annex. Then, a more comprehensive range of actions were evaluated as described in Section 9 of the main body of the HMP. Finally, actions that tied in most closely with the vulnerabilities identified by the Village were selected for inclusion in the HMP. These actions are included in the table below. (Note that in the table, CF = Critical Facility, EHP = Environmental and Historic Preservation.) The actions also help address climate change in the Village, 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 4.1 and Section 6 of this annex, as well as in Section 6 of the main body of the HMP.

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
V Altamont F1	Increase Drainage Capabilities	G1, G2, G6	Flood	There are some areas of the Village that flood periodically, including Sand Street, which has a stormwater drainage issue.	Add drainage capabilities to Sand Street to reduce flooding. This would include adding additional pipes for Sand Street and directing the water into the existing stormwater system. Furthermore, investigate whether additional drainage infrastructure is needed in other areas of the Village (such as Schoharie Plank Road, Euclid Avenue, and Lincoln Avenue), and install this infrastructure if deemed necessary and feasible.	No	Potentially	1-3 years	DPW	Medium	This action would reduce the risk of flooding on roads such as Sand Street.	US CDBG-MIT, US HMGP, US Flood Mitigation Assistance, NYS HM RLF, US BRIC, DOT BIL Grants	High
V Altamont S1	Funds for Tree Maintenance	G1, G2, G6	Severe Storm	Trees and branches can fall on power lines, roads, or buildings during severe storm events.	Put money aside in budget for tree maintenance, to mitigate the impact that windstorms, rain, and snowstorms have on trees, power lines, roads, and buildings.	No	No	1 year	DPW	Medium	This action would reduce the impact that windstorms, rain, and snowstorms have on trees, power lines, roads, and buildings.	US CDBG-MIT, US HMGP, NYS HM RLF, NYSDEC Urban and Community Forestry Grants, NYSDEC Trees for Tribes Program	High
V Altamont S2	Additional Generators	G1, G2, G5, G6	Severe Storm	The Brandle Road lift station and the Gun Club Road Well site do not have generators, leaving them vulnerable to be compromised during a severe storm event.	Obtain generators for Brandle Road lift station (sanitary sewer station) and Gun Club Road Well site, in order to keep these facilities in operation during a severe storm event.	Yes	No	1-3 years	DPW	Medium	This action would allow the lift station and well site to stay open during severe storms and provide needed services.	US CDBG-MIT, US HMGP, NYS HM RLF, WQIP, NYS CWSRF	Medium

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
V Altamont D1	Drought Education Program	G1, G3, G6	Drought	If a drought occurs, the Village's water wells could experience low water levels.	Educate the public on how they can conserve water. This can be included in the Village's late spring newsletter. The Village does currently have a backup water supply.	No	No	1 year	DPW, Village Office	Low	This action would reduce the demand on public water supplies, reducing the risk and severity of drought.	US HMGP, US BRIC, EPA EJSG, US CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF, FEMA EMPG, WaterSMART Drought Response Program	High
V Altamont ET1	Extreme Temperature Education Program	G1, G5	Extreme Temperatures	Extreme temperatures sometimes affect the Village. Although the Village has taken many steps to prepare, there are some residents who may not know all the ways they can keep themselves safe.	Place educational materials about extreme cold or heat created by County in a publicly accessible place(s), such as the Village office. Additionally, if an extreme temperatures event is imminent, put notices on Village website to direct people to places they can go and how to stay safe.	No	No	1 year	Village Office	Low	This action would help residents know how to stay safe during extreme temperatures.	US HMGP, US BRIC, EPA EJSG, US CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF, FEMA EMPG, NYS CSC	Medium

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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
V Altamont F2	Vulnerability Assessment and Flood Protection for Critical Facilities	G1, G2, G5, G6	Flood	Some of the Village'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 Village'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.	Yes	Potentially	3-5 years	Building Department	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

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
V Altamont MH1	Increase Resilience at Municipal Facilities and Key Assets	G1, G2, G5, G6	Multiple Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm)	According to Albany County's Climate Resiliency Plan, several municipal facilities throughout the County are vulnerable to natural hazards such as flooding and severe storms, especially older buildings and buildings that serve vulnerable populations. Some Village of Altamont facilities may fall into this category.	Partner with Albany County to assess additional opportunities to increase resilience at critical facilities and other key assets. 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 the jurisdictional annex.	Yes	Potentially	3-5 years	Building Department	High	This action would reduce the vulnerability of the community's critical facilities to natural hazards including floods and severe storms.	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

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

7.3 Mitigation Action Prioritization

Each of the Village's proposed mitigation actions were evaluated and prioritized according to the criteria listed in Section 9 of the main body of the HMP. This includes a cost-benefit review of the proposed actions. The results are included in Table 7-3.

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
V Altamont F1	Increase Drainage Capabilities	3	2	2	3	10	High
V Altamont S1	Funds for Tree Maintenance	3	2	3	3	11	High
V Altamont S2	Additional Generators	3	2	2	2	9	Medium
V Altamont D1	Drought Education Program	2	3	3	3	11	High
V Altamont ET1	Extreme Temperature Education Program	2	3	3	3	11	Medium*
V Altamont F2	Vulnerability Assessment and Flood Protection for Critical Facilities	2	1	2	2	7	Medium
V Altamont MH1	Increase Resilience at Municipal Facilities and Key Assets	2	1	2	2	7	Medium

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 Village has ranked this action as medium rather than high, due to Village priorities.

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7.4 Mitigation Action Implementation and Administration

The Village'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.

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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 Village of Altamont may continue to seek public participation in hazard mitigation planning after HMP approval by including discussion of the HMP as an agenda item at public Village Board meetings and by offering opportunities for members of the public to participate in the implementation of relevant mitigation actions.

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