

Town of Rensselaerville

This section presents the jurisdictional annex for the Town of Rensselaerville 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: John Dolce, Town Supervisor | jdolce@rensselaerville.com (518) 239-4225
- Alternate: Jason Rauf, Highway Superintendent | jrauf@rensselaerville.com (518) 239-4225

Town of Rensselaerville Website: [Rensselaerville, NY](https://www.rensselaerville.ny.us/)

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2 COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

2.1 Demographics

The 2020 Census estimated that 1,771 people live in the Town of Rensselaerville. The Town's population has decreased by 4% since the 2010 Census 1,844. The median age in the Town is 52.6 years and 30% of the population is over the age of 65. The median household income in the Town is \$85,655.

2.2 Location & Land Characteristics

The Town of Rensselaerville is located in the northern Catskill Mountains. The southern town line is the border of Greene County, and the western town boundary is the border of Schoharie County. The Town of Rensselaerville covers approximately 61.9 square miles. The properties within the Town of Rensselaerville have a total assessed value of approximately \$148,962,047, which is distributed across a variety of property classes.

Major transportation corridors in the Town of Rensselaerville include New York State Route 85 and County Route 6. Key water features within the Town are Catskill Creek, Lake Creek, Fox Creek, Tenmile Creek, Greene Kill and Eightmile Creek.

2.3 Governing Body

A town supervisor and four (4) council people govern the Town of the Rensselaerville.

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 Town. The proposals that the Town received are summarized in Table 2-1 below. Some of the proposals for the Town 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 Town 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 Town's vulnerability to the hazards identified in this HMP.

Table 2-1. Developments from 2018 to 2023

Project Name	Project Location	Consideration	Date
John Kudlack Lot Line Adjustment	17 Littner Rd., Rensselaerville	Lot line adjustment for two parcels both owned by John Kudlack. Prior to selling one parcel, an adjustment of the lot line for parcel # 135.-2-20 will accommodate an existing pond that currently spans across the lot line. This matter has been referred from the Town of Rensselaerville Planning Board to the Zoning Board of Appeals, as adjustment of the lot line will not conform with the 50 ft. yard setback requirement in the Agriculture/ Rural Residential district.	4/19/2018
Helderberg Brewery	26 County Rt. 353	Special use permit for a farm brewery branch office ("satellite taproom") in the northern-most unit of the existing building. The taproom will occupy a delineated outdoor area immediately adjacent to the unit. The taproom will market and sell its own beer and craft beverage products for on-site consumption, and will sell light food products and other agricultural products.	4/19/2018
Anna Rogers Subdivision	709 Travis Hill Rd., Preston Hollow	Request to subdivide 60 acres into two lots--Lot #1 into 19.975 acres and Lot #2 into 40.004 acres.	4/19/2018
Hostash Land Annexation	209 Cr 361 and adjacent parcel	The land annexation of 1.36 acres to be added to a an adjacent 4.08 acre lot	10/24/2019
Hallenbeck SUP	4912 Potter Hollow Rd.	Special use permit to enable housing livestock.	1/16/2020
Ronald Young / Lot Line Revision	7 Gifford Ln	A subdivision review to move lot lines on a parcel so that an entire pond is on one parcel, instead of split between two parcels.	2/25/2020
Kathryn Sikule Special Use Permit	26 Fox Creek	Special use permit to enable the property owner to use existing barns as retreat, presentation, workshop and reception venues for small groups of people.	7/16/2020
Solar Energy Law Town of Rensselaerville	N/A	Adoption of a new local law pertaining to solar energy policy	10/15/2020

Project Name	Project Location	Consideration	Date
Kubaczek Restaurant	5046 Delaware Turnpike	Special use permit for changing the existing gallery into a restaurant and café.	1/21/2021
General Store	5033 Delaware Turnpike	Special use permit to use the existing building as a small shop carrying a limited selection pantry items, gift and takeout coffee	10/21/2021
Mulholland Variance	319 Albany Hill Road (319 CR 361)	Area variance to construct a 36' x 28' workshop.	7/21/2022
Mulholland Variance	319 Albany Hill Road (319 CR 361)	Area variance to construct a 36' x 28' workshop.	8/18/2022
DeFayette Subdivision	389 CR 361	Subdivision review to create two parcels consisting 5.22 acres and 76.23 acres from the existing 81.45 acres lot.	9/15/2022
Velvet Earth Farm	639 County Route 351, Medusa	Special use permit to allow music and arts performances in the property.	5/18/2023
Lovelace Subdivision	757 CR 351, Medusa	Minor subdivision of 18.78 acres into Lot 1 consisting 10.80 acres and Lot 2 consisting 7.98 acres.	7/20/2023
Gifford Subdivision	940 CR 403, Greenville	Minor subdivision of 20.43 acres into Lot 1 consisting 6.05 acres and Lot 2 consisting 14.38 acres.	7/20/2023
Gerken Special Use permit - Accessory Apartment	1340 County Route 351	Special use permit to create an apartment for mother-in-law above the existing garage.	9/21/2023
Gerken Special Use Permit - Major Home Occupation	1340 County Route 351	Special use permit for major home occupation in order to maintain NYS dealership license which requires a commercial property.	9/21/2023
Overbaugh Annexation	49 Marks Road, Greenville, 31 Overbaugh Ln	Annexation of 11.6 acres from the property at 31 Overbaugh Lane consisting a total of 167.80 acres to the adjacent lot at 49 Marks Road currently consisting 4.9 acres.	10/19/2023
Union Hall Project	1462 CR 351	Special use permit to restore and reopen existing building as a restaurant.	10/19/2023

Project Name	Project Location	Consideration	Date
Maranga Variance	546 Huntersland Road (546 CR 10)	Area variance to the proposed two lot minor subdivision where one of the lots does not meet the 15 acres minimum requirement.	12/21/2023

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

Year	Building Type	Units
2018	1	3
2019	1	3
2020	1	7
2021	1	9
2022	1	9
Total:		31

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

3 CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENT

3.1 Planning Mechanisms and Capabilities

The Town of Rensselaerville identified the following planning mechanisms and capabilities that can support the Town 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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highway Dept. routinely doing maintenance, but currently do not have a formalized plan. Currently do not have any maps or data on where the pipes are. Would like to develop a GIS-based asset inventory and asset management plan
Mitigation Planning Committee	No	
Mutual Aid or Shared Services Agreements	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared service agreement with Albany County Fire companies have shared service agreements Agreement with Office of Emergency Management related to Lake Myosotis and dam
Planning Board	Yes	
Zoning Board	Yes	
Other	Yes	Water and Sewer District Committee (volunteer)
Development Approvals		

Building Code	Yes	Building Code Department; Building and Zoning Code Enforcement Officer
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Evaluation		
Fire Department ISO Rating	Yes	9 for all 3 stations
Site Plan Review Requirements	Yes	Article X of Zoning Law
Other		
Funding Resources		
Authority to Levy Taxes	Yes	
Capital Improvement Project Funds	No	
Federal Funding Programs (i.e., USDA, FEMA, others)	No	Would like to pursue, but don't currently
General Obligation Bonds and/or Special Tax Bonds	Yes	Have a current bond from 2013 for the spillway improvements at the dam
Impact Fees for New Development		Have building permit fees
State Funding Programs (i.e., NYSEFC, NYSOCR, NYSDEC, others)	No	Would like to pursue, but don't currently; need to update water district system
Utility Fees (i.e., water, sewer, stormwater, gas, electric)	Yes	Water and sewer; everyone that is connected pays an annual fee
Other		
Land Use Regulations		
Density Controls	No	
Flood Insurance Rate Maps		
NFIP Participant / Floodplain Ordinance	Yes	
Hillside Development Regulations	No	Hillside Development Regulations do not typically come before the Board. A specific code section on this may be beneficial for the Board and Town to consider adopting.
Open Space Preservation	No	
Stormwater Management Regulations	Yes	No enhancements currently needed to mitigate hazards. The Planning Board requires stormwater management, and if necessary, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).
Streambank Setback Regulations	Yes	No enhancements are currently needed to mitigate hazards. Accounted for within Town Zoning Code, Article V, Section 2, it is only in the Hamlet, ARR, and RC-1. Additionally, Article XI Section 3, no fueling station shall be within 300 feet from a stream.

		<p>Section 8 no light industry use shall be within 100 feet from a stream.</p> <p>Section 9 Junkyards, not within 300 feet.</p> <p>Section 10 slaughterhouses not within 100 feet.</p> <p>Section 26 no farm breweries within 100 feet.</p>
Subdivision Regulations	Yes	No enhancements currently needed to mitigate hazards. Subdivision regulations are established and last updated in 2007. All applications undergo thorough review in accordance with the Town of Rensselaerville Subdivision Regulations (V5 October 2007, adopted December 19, 2007) which is inclusive of SEQR and other reviews/referrals (i.e. Albany County Planning Board) where necessary.
Zoning Ordinance	Yes	
Other	Yes	Flood Damage Prevention (Local Law No. 2 of 2015)
• Natural Resources		
Forest/Vegetation Management	No	
Stream Corridor Management	No	
Stream Dumping Regulations	No	
Urban Forestry and Landscape Management	No	
Watershed Management	No	
Wetland Regulations	Yes	Article VII Section 16
Other	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erosion and Sedimentation Control (Zoning Law Article VII Section 2) Solar Energy Law (Local Law No. 1 of 2021)
Plans		
Capital Improvement Plan	No	
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	No	The Town does not have their own emergency management plan. They utilize the County's plan.
Comprehensive Plan	Yes	Updated in 2007
Continuity of Operations Plan	No	
Economic Development Plan	No	
Other	Yes	The Town does have an emergency action plan for Sodus dam.
Programs/Organizations		

Climate Smart Community	No	Not part of DEC, but participating in the NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities program
Local Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Response Organizations	No	None identified specific to the Town. The County has the Sheriff's Office; American Red Cross; Local Emergency Planning Coalition; and Albany County Medical Reserve Corp.
Local Environmental Protection Organizations	Yes	Huyck Preserve
National Weather Service StormReady Certification	No	
Outreach Programs	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facebook and website • Water District email list for sending out boil alerts and other notices
Partnerships with private entities addressing mitigation or disaster response		
School Programs or Adult Educational Programs	Yes	Work with the library; recently opened an annex in the public safety building to allow for library expansion
Other		
Staff Positions		
Civil Engineer	No	On an as-needed basis
Code Enforcement Officer	Yes	Timothy Lippert
Emergency Manager	Yes	Brian Wood, Emergency Management Coordinator
Floodplain Administrator		Timothy Lippert, Code Enforcement Officer
Planner/GIS Coordinator	No	Do not currently have, but would like to expand
Other		
Technical Abilities		
Grant Writing	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use consultant (Sustainable Growth) • Staff, as needed (e.g., Jason Rauf has written some for the highway dept)
Hazard Information Centers	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email for announcing snow emergency in H. of Rensselaerville • Website and Facebook
Hazard Warning Systems	Yes	All three fire districts have a whistle/siren
Other		

The Town'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 Town should review Table 3-1 when completing updates to the Comprehensive Plan and amendments to the Zoning Code. As part of this review, the Town 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 Town would like to expand and improve the capabilities listed in Table 3-1 in the following ways:

- The Town would like to increase grant writing and administration capacity.
- The Town would like to have planner/GIS coordinator support.
- The Town would like more comprehensive and far-reaching procedures and outreach programs.
- The Town is interested in a formal Emergency Action Plan for Lake Myosotis and the dam.
- The Town would like to increase capacity to secure state/federal funds.
- The Town would like to coordinate with their Planning Board to discuss the development review processes and potential improvements (e.g., zoning regulation updates) to mitigate hazards.

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 Town of Rensselaerville understands the importance of considering an integrated approach when developing municipal plans, policies, programs, and regulations. The Town 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 Town Council 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 Town of Rensselaerville 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.

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 Town of Rensselaerville has opted to add the following hazards to their annex. Town representatives gave the following reasons for this inclusion:

- Wildfires – Added because the Town experiences wildfires.

Aside from the exception listed above, the Town of Rensselaerville profiled the same hazards as Albany County. The hazard analysis criteria used to evaluate the Town'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)	2	3	2	2	9 – High	2	
Drought	1	1	1	2	5 – Low	5	
Severe Storm (Hail, Ice Storms, Wind, Thunderstorms and Lightning, Winter Storms, Hurricane, Tropical Storms, Tornado, Power Outage)	3	2	3	2	10 - High	1	
Extreme Temperatures (Cold Wave, Heat Wave, Air Pollution Effects)	1	2	3	2	8 – Moderate	3	
Landslide	1	1	3	2	7 – Moderate	4	
Other: Wildfire	1	1	3	2	7 – Moderate	4	Additional Hazard Added

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 Town. These records informed the development of mitigation actions by demonstrating which hazards have historically had the greatest impact on the Town.

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

Event Type	Date	Magnitude	Estimated Property Damage	Estimated Crop Damage
Thunderstorm/Wind	7/29/2019	50	\$0	\$0
Thunderstorm Wind	5/15/2020	46	\$1,000	\$0
Thunderstorm Wind	10/7/2020	50	\$0	\$0
Thunderstorm Wind	3/7/2022	48	\$1,000	\$0
Thunderstorm/Wind	3/7/2022	50	\$0	\$0
Thunderstorm/Wind	5/16/2022	50	\$0	\$0
Total			\$0	\$0

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

4.3 Floodplain Statistics

Key water features in the Town 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 61.9 square miles in the Town, approximately 2.6% are located within the 1% annual chance flood event area and approximately 2.6% 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 343 parcels in the Town located within the 1% annual chance flood event area, with an estimated total structure value of \$13,807,905. Inclusive of these parcels in the 1% annual chance flood event area, there are also 343 parcels in the Town located within the 0.2% annual chance flood event area, with an estimated total structure value of \$13,807,905.

Table 4-4. Summary of Areas in Floodplains*

Total Area of Jurisdiction	Percent of Total Area	
	100-Year Floodplain	500-Year Floodplain
61.9	2.6%	2.6%

* 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	1	\$ -	1	\$ -
Agricultural	2	\$ 38,100	2	\$ 38,100
Residential	209	\$ 12,844,115	209	\$ 12,844,115
Vacant	101	\$ 259,990	101	\$ 259,990
Commercial	7	\$ 448,800	7	\$ 448,800
Recreation and Entertainment	0	\$ -	0	\$ -
Community Services	5	\$ 100,800	5	\$ 100,800
Industrial	0	\$ -	0	\$ -
Public Services	0	\$ -	0	\$ -
Parks and Open Space	18	\$ 116,100	18	\$ 116,100
Total	343	\$ 13,807,905	343	\$ 13,807,905

*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 Town of Rensselaerville currently participates in the NFIP (community ID 360014A), and its current FIRM(s) became effective on 03/16/15. 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 Town's local law governing floodplain development and NFIP compliance is located in Local Law #2 of 2015 - Flood Damage Prevention. The Town 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 are 0 repetitive loss properties in the Town of Rensselaerville. 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 Town were identified during the hazard mitigation planning process. 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.

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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 Town of Rensselaerville, 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, it is unknown whether several of the Town'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 Town 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 Town of Rensselaerville has 1 high hazard potential dam located in the municipality: Myosotis Lake Dam. Information on this dam is included in Table 5-2. High Hazard Potential Dams can be an asset as well as pose risks to the jurisdiction and neighboring jurisdictions. Additional information about high hazard potential dams and their impacts is included in Sections 6 and 7 of the main body of the HMP.

Table 5-2. High Hazard Potential Dams in the Town of Rensselaerville

Dam Name	Federal ID	Owner	Year Completed	Construction Type	Primary Purpose	Date of Last EAP Revision
Myosotis Lake Dam	NY00670	EDMUND NILES HUYCK PRESERVE, INC.	1933	Rockfill	Recreation	1/10/2023

Source: National Inventory of Dams (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2023), NYSDEC Foil Request (NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, 2024)

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:

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

Aside from critical facilities listed in Table 5-1, the Town of Rensselaerville has identified the following additional assets for consideration in hazard mitigation planning and included the following notes:

Table 5-3. Additional Assets

[Table redacted due to sensitive content]

6 SUMMARY OF HAZARD IMPACTS AND VULNERABILITIES

6.1 Flood

The Town of Rensselaerville has ranked their overall vulnerability to flood events as high, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to Town representatives, flood events occur regularly in the jurisdiction and affect a significant portion of the jurisdiction, causing moderate damage. The Town 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 Town is particularly concerned about the impacts of flooding on every home in the path of Ten Mile Creek and the hamlet of Preston Hollow.

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 Town'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 Town of Rensselaerville has ranked their overall vulnerability to severe storm events as high, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to Town representatives, severe storms occur infrequently in the jurisdiction and affect the entire jurisdiction, causing major damage. The Town 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 Town from severe storm events include fallen trees from severe winds, which can damage overhead utility lines, resulting in power outages. 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 Town's critical infrastructure or primary transportation routes would be particularly impactful to residents. According to the Town, storms can have an especially damaging impact on every home in the path of Ten Mile Creek and the hamlet of Preston Hollow.

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 Town is vulnerable to, likely making the Town 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 Town of Rensselaerville has ranked their overall vulnerability to drought events as low, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to Town representatives, drought events occur rarely in the jurisdiction and affect one or two problem areas within the jurisdiction, causing minor damage. The Town feels they are moderately prepared for drought events.

The Town is particularly concerned about the impacts of drought on every home in the path of Ten Mile Creek and the Hamlet of Preston Hollow.

Some, but not all, residents of the Town of Rensselaerville are served by a public water supply. Residents who rely on private wells may be especially susceptible to low water yields during a drought, as well as water quality issues. Additionally, agricultural operators would experience significant impacts from drought, especially if they rely on natural rain events, rainwater collection, and healthy soils for crop maintenance and livestock care. The public water supply, and certain critical facilities (e.g. Rensselaerville water treatment facility) could be susceptible to impacts during a drought due to low water yields, particularly if a back-up water supply has not been formally established.

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 Town'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 Town of Rensselaerville has ranked their overall vulnerability to extreme temperature events as moderate, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to Town representatives, extreme temperature events occur infrequently in the jurisdiction and affect the entire jurisdiction, causing minor damage. The Town feels they are moderately 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. Approximately 3.8% of the population in the Town is under 5 years old, and 30% of the population is over 65 years old. Approximately 22.7% of the residents of the Town 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 4.7% of the Town's population is below the poverty level. Many residents within these populations are at a higher risk of being In particular, the Town is concerned about the impacts of extreme temperature events on every home in the path of Ten Mile Creek and the Hamlet of Preston Hollow.

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

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

Landslides can impact the structural integrity of buildings, roads, and other infrastructure in the Town. They can also impact transportation flow and the provision of supplies, can degrade the natural environment, and have the potential to cause injury and death. The Town is particularly concerned about the impacts of landslides on every home in the path of Ten Mile Creek and the hamlet of Preston Hollow.

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 Wildfire

The Town of Rensselaerville has ranked their overall vulnerability to wildfire events as moderate, as indicated in

Table 4-2. According to Town representatives, wildfire events occur rarely in the jurisdiction, cause minor damage, but the extent a wildfire's impacts can be Town-wide. The Town feels they are currently moderately prepared for wildfire events.

Wildfires are especially dangerous when they occur in the wildland-urban interface. They can burn anything from vegetation and crops to buildings and structures. Wildfires can also decrease the structural integrity of infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, due to the heat. Smoke from wildfires can have serious health consequences, especially for people with preexisting health conditions and other vulnerable populations as described in Section **Error! Reference source not found.**¹ Officials from the Town of Rensselaerville recalled a wildfire, which occurred in the recent past and was difficult to manage. Therefore, the Town would like to mitigate future wildfires.

Future vulnerability to wildfire 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 not likely to greatly increase the risk of wildfires in New York State, according to the New York State Climate Impacts Assessment, and the probability of wildfires is expected to remain very low even under high-emissions scenarios.² However, climate change is projected to increase the risk of wildfires and the duration of the wildfire season elsewhere in North America, leading to increased risks of smoke and air pollution in New York State. Future land management decisions, such as regulations regarding when and where burning is allowed, may have a greater impact on the probability of future wildfire events.

6.7 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 Town.

Top concerns about hazard mitigation in the Town included:

- **Severe storms:** Heavy rainfall is a big challenge for drainage infrastructure and highway infrastructure.
- **Warmer winters:** The lack of a deep winter freeze is leading to the rapid degradation of subbase and road infrastructure, especially dirt roads. The increase in freeze-thaw cycles during the winter is also speeding up roadway deterioration.
- **Flooding:** Flooding concerns include the following:
 - The Town has a dam at relatively high elevation just above the Hamlet of Rensselaerville. The dam provides water to the water district filtration

¹ Source: New York State Hazard Mitigation Plan (2023): <https://mitigateny.org>

² <https://nysclimateimpacts.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Assessment-ch2-NYS-changing-climate-01-09-24.pdf>

plant, which provides drinking water for a community of about 80 homes. However, if the dam failed it would be catastrophic.

- The Hamlet of Preston Hollow, located along Catskill Creek, experienced significant flooding during Hurricane Irene.
- DEC is considering removal of the Widlund Pond Dam. There has been some scouring of the dyke. But nothing has happened yet so this is still a risk.
- **Wildfires:** There was a wildfire a few years ago in the Town that was difficult to manage.
- **Drought:** Have had experiences in the past where low lake levels led to negative impacts to drinking water supply (e.g., algal blooms in Lake Myosotis)
- **Dumping waste tires:** This is a Town-wide issue. Tires are often dumped near culvert pipes, which can clog culverts and lead to flooding.

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

- The Hamlet of Preston Hollow, on average, has a lower income level than other hamlets in the Town. It is also in the floodplain of Catskill Creek.
- Every home in the path of Ten Mile Creek is vulnerable if there was a catastrophic failure (all homes/properties are listed in the Emergency Action Plan for the Town of Rensselaerville related to the Myosotis Dam)

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

- Wildfire mitigation and management

6.8 Additional Impacts

Additional impacts of the hazards are summarized in the problem descriptions in the Town'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 Town did not participate in the 2018 Albany County HMP Update, and therefore had zero (0) proposed mitigation actions in 2018.

7.2 New Mitigation Actions

In addition to the actions carried over from the 2018 HMP, the Town of Rensselaerville 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 Town 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 Town 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 Town, 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 7-1. 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
TrennselaervilleF1	Vulnerability Assessment and Flood Protection for Critical Facilities	G1, G2, G3, G6	Flood	Some of the Town's critical facilities are not protected against the 0.2% chance flood event or previous worst case flood event, while others need assessment to determine their level of protection. This leaves these facilities vulnerable to becoming inoperable during flood events.	Conduct vulnerability assessments for the critical facilities identified in the Town'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	1-3 years	Town of Rensselaerville Building Department with assistance from Albany County	High	This action would reduce the vulnerability of critical facilities to flood events.	US HMGP, US BRIC, US Flood Mitigation Assistance, US HUD CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF	High
TrennselaervilleMH1	Increase Resilience at Municipal Facilities and Key Assets	G1, G2, G3, 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 Town of Rensselaerville 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	Town of Rensselaerville Building Department with assistance from Albany County	High	This action would reduce the vulnerability of the community's critical facilities to natural hazards including floods and severe storms.	US HMGP, US BRIC, US HUD CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF	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
T Rensselaerville MH 2	Fox Creek Road Flood Mitigation	G1, G2, G3, G6	Multiple Hazards (Flooding, Severe Storms)	Due to its proximity to Fox Creek, Fox Creek Road (County Route 352) frequently floods during storm events. This flooding can cause hazardous conditions for those traveling along Fox Creek Road.	Work with the County as necessary to assist as they implement flood mitigation strategies along Fox Creek Road. These strategies may include the following: 1) Assess the capacity of BIN 3301500 to handle increased anticipated flows, 2) Investigate the single barrel culvert (owned by Albany County) between BIN 3301400 and BIN 3301500 for adequate capacity and replace if found to be a constricting point, 3) Replace the twin barrel culvert downstream of the single barrel culvert, 4) Identify an alternate route (detour) to preserve mobility in the event that Fox Creek Road is flooded and inaccessible, 5) Employ watershed management techniques to ensure impervious cover in the watershed remains low (currently 8%), 6) Additional actions as deemed necessary for flood mitigation purposes.	No	Potentially	3-5 years	Albany County with support from Town of Rensselaerville Highway Department	High	This action would reduce flood hazards and improve public safety along Fox Creek Road. This action would also help Fox Creek Road stay open and accessible during future storm events.	US HMGP, US BRIC, US HUD CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF	Medium
T Rensselaerville MH 3	Drought and Wildfire Education Campaign	G3, G6	Multiple Hazards (Drought, Wildfire)	Although rare, droughts do occur in the Town and can threaten livestock, cause crop damage, create water quality problems for residents who rely on private wells, and increase the likelihood of wildfire.	Implement a public education campaign that encourages residents to implement water conservation practices, raises awareness of when such water conservation measures should be taken, and provides strategies for mitigating wildfire risks during periods of drought (e.g., burn bans, creating defensible space around homes). The campaign would also encourage adoption of climate resilient practices, such as water storage to prepare for future drought events.	No	No	6 months-1 year	SWCD with assistance from the National Weather Service	Low	Residents and farmers will be equipped to implement behavioral and operational changes that conserve water, mitigate wildfires, and reduce the overall impact of drought.	US BRIC, EPA EJSG, SWCD, HMGP Post Fire	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
T Rensselaerville MH 4	Support the growth of volunteer fire departments	G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6	Multiple Hazards (Wildfire, Severe Storms, Flood)	Volunteer fire departments provide critical fire and emergency response services throughout the Town. However, the Town experiences challenges maintaining and supporting its volunteer fire department due to limited budgets and retention issues.	Working with volunteer fire fighters and Town staff, develop and implement a program to train and recruit volunteer fire fighters. Part of this program should also include the development of a financial strategy to ensure adequate funding is available on an annual basis for volunteer fire departments.	No	No	6 months-1 year	Rensselaerville Town Board with support from Albany County	Medium	This action will increase the capacity of the Town's volunteer fire departments to respond to and mitigate the impacts of natural hazards, including wildfire, flood, and severe storms.	US BRIC, HMGP, HMGP Post Fire, NYS HM RLF	Medium
T Rensselaerville MH 5	Upgrade Roadways to Address Surface Degradation and Drainage Issues	G1, G2, G3, G5, G6	Multiple Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperatures)	The Town has a large network of unpaved roads, which are degrading due to a lack of deep, sustained freeze and more frequent freeze/thaw cycles in the winter. Furthermore, several roads in the Town are adjacent to waterways and experience drainage issues which can exacerbate flooding during severe storms.	Identify and prioritize improvements to roadways to address drainage issues and mitigate roadway deterioration due to lack of sustained winter freezes. Improvements may include drainage infrastructure upgrades (see TRensselaervilleMH8 for more information), stabilizing streambanks along roadways, establishing alternate evacuation routes in the event a roadway is inaccessible during a natural disaster, and upgrading roadway subbase and surfacing to mitigate impacts of warm winter temperatures and frequent freeze/thaw cycles.	Yes	Potentially	3-5 years	Town of Rensselaerville Highway Superintendent with assistance from Albany County	High	This action would enhance the integrity of the Town's road network, helping to ensure important access and evacuation routes are available in the event of an emergency.	US CDBG-MIT, US HMGP, US Flood Mitigation Assistance, NYS HM RLF, US BRIC, DOT BIL Grants, USGS Landslides Hazards 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
T 6	Lake Myosotis Dam Vulnerability Assessment and Improvements	G2, G1, G3, G5, G6	Multiple Hazards (Drought, Flood, Severe Storm)	Lake Myosotis provides drinking water for approximately 80 households in the Hamlet of Rensselaerville. The lake's level is controlled by the Lake Myosotis Dam, which is currently experiencing erosion near the outlet pipe. If the Lake Myosotis Dam failed, it would impact the Hamlets of Rensselaerville and Medusa and highway infrastructure. Furthermore, the Town has experienced droughts in the past that caused low lake levels, which in turn resulted in algal blooms and negatively impacted drinking water quality.	Conduct a vulnerability assessment for Lake Myosotis and the dam to identify necessary improvements to mitigate dam failure and preserve water quality and then implement the recommended improvements. This vulnerability assessment should take a watershed-based approach, including the consideration of soil conservation measures to reduce erosion and sediment inflow into the reservoir and the exploration of opportunities to strategically manage the levels in Lake Myosotis to provide flood storage capacity. As part of the vulnerability assessment, a funding strategy to implement the proposed improvements should also be developed; currently, approximately 80 households in Rensselaerville's water district bear the cost of any upgrades at Lake Myosotis. Finally, this action should also include the development of an emergency action plan for the Lake Myosotis Dam to ensure the Town is prepared for a possible failure event.	Yes	Potentially	3-5 years	Rensselaerville Water District with support from Huyck Preserve, Albany County, and NYS DEC	High	This action would help preserve the integrity of the Lake Myosotis dam, protect drinking water quality, and increase the Town's preparedness in the event of a dam failure.	US HMGP, US BRIC, US HUD CDBG-MIT, USDA Rural Development Water & Waste Disposal Loan/Grant Program, NYS HM RLF, DEC WQIP, EFC WIIA,	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
T Rensselaerville MH 7	Develop a Debris Management Plan	G1, G2, G3, G6	Multiple Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm)	Dumping and debris generated by high winds and severe storms can block drainage infrastructure (e.g., culverts) and create flood hazards. For example, the Town noted tires and other trash are often dumped in or near waterways, which blocks culverts.	Develop and implement a debris management plan to address the impacts of trash and other debris that blocks waterways and drainage infrastructure in order to mitigate flood hazards.	Yes	No	1-3 years	Town of Rensselaerville Highway Superintendent with assistance from SWCD and/or Albany County	Medium	This action would reduce the impacts of severe storms and mitigate flood hazards by proactively removing debris from and adjacent to waterways.	US HMGP, US BRIC, US HUD CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF	High
T Rensselaerville MH 8	Upgrade Culverts on Town roads	G1, G2, G3, G6	Multiple Hazards (Flooding, Severe Storms)	Intense rain events frequently overwhelm current roadway infrastructure and create flooding.	Identify under-sized culverts that are the source of localized flooding. Upgrade these under-sized culverts to culverts with larger hydraulic openings to prepare for larger, more intense rain events and reduce flooding. Culvert replacements should also consider ecological connectivity and preserve the stream/creek bed wherever possible.	Yes	Potentially	1-3 years	Town of Rensselaerville Highway Superintendent	High	This action would reduce the flooding along Town roads by upgrading under-sized culverts.	US HMGP, US BRIC, US HUD CDBG-MIT, NYS HM RLF	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
TrennselaervilleD1	Establish a Back-Up and Emergency Water Supply	G1, G3	Drought	Rensselaerville's Water District provides drinking water from Lake Myosotis for approximately 80 households in the Hamlet of Rensselaerville. With increasing instances of drought, water supply and quality in Lake Myosotis may be negatively impacted. All other Town residents rely on private wells for drinking water. Similar to Lake Myosotis, more frequent instances of drought may also negatively impact water supply and quality in private drinking wells.	Establish a back-up water supply to ensure all Town residents have access to clean drinking water when water from Lake Myosotis or private wells is not potable. This action includes providing support for ongoing efforts to update the water treatment facility, as well as exploring back-up water supply sources, including back-up drinking water wells and potentially installing a spigot at the water filtration plant so clean drinking water can be extracted easily in an emergency.	Yes	No	1-3 years	Rensselaerville Water District with support from Albany County and NYS DEC	High	This action would ensure continuous public access to potable drinking water during droughts and other emergencies.	US HMGP, US BRIC, US HUD CDBG-MIT, USDA WEP, USDA Rural Development Water & Waste Disposal Loan/Grant Program, NYS HM RLF, DEC WQIP, EFC WIIA, EFC Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	High

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
T Rensselaerville L 1	Landslide Education	G1, G2, G3, G6	Landslide	The Town is concerned about the impacts of landslides on homes in the path of Ten Mile Creek and the hamlet of Preston Hollow.	Educate residents and businesses in the path of Ten Mile Creek and the hamlet of Preston Hollow about how to mitigate the risk and impacts of landslides on private properties, how to prepare, what to do if a landslide does occur, and who to contact. Use the Landslide Preparedness guide from USGS and Ready.gov as a starting point: https://www.usgs.gov/programs/landslide-hazards/landslide-preparedness and https://www.ready.gov/landslides-debris-flow . Education may occur through mailings, online posts, public meeting(s), or other methods.	No	No	6 months-1 year	Town of Rensselaerville Highway Department	Low	This action would reduce the risk and vulnerability of residents to landslides.	US HMGP, US BRIC, NYS HMR, USGS Landslides Hazards Program, EJSC	High

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

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7.3 Mitigation Action Prioritization

Each of the Town’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 7-2.

Table 7-2. 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
TRensselaervilleF1	Vulnerability Assessment and Flood Protection for Critical Facilities	1	3	3	3	10	High
TRensselaervilleMH1	Increase Resilience at Municipal Facilities and Key Assets	3	2	2	2	9	Medium
TRensselaervilleMH2	Fox Creek Road Flood Mitigation	3	2	2	2	9	Medium
TRensselaervilleMH3	Drought and Wildfire Education Campaign	1	3	3	2	9	Medium
TRensselaervilleMH4	Support the growth of volunteer fire departments	2	2	3	2	9	Medium

Mitigation Action ID	Mitigation Action Name	Ability to Increase Resilience	Economic Feasibility	Low Environmental Impact	Ability to Implement	Total Score	Priority
TRensselaervilleMH5	Upgrade Roadways to Address Surface Degradation and Drainage Issues	2	1	2	2	7	Medium
TRensselaervilleMH6	Lake Myosotis Dam Vulnerability Assessment and Improvements	3	1	2	3	9	Medium
TRensselaervilleMH7	Develop a Debris Management Plan	2	3	3	2	10	High
TRensselaervilleMH8	Upgrade Culverts on Town roads	3	2	2	2	9	Medium
TRensselaervilleD1	Establish a Back-Up and Emergency Water Supply	3	2	2	3	10	High
TRensselaervilleL1	Landslide Education	2	3	3	2	10	High

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.

7.4 Mitigation Action Implementation and Administration

The Town's new mitigation actions will be implemented and administered via the lead agencies listed in Table 7-1 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 Town of Rensselaerville 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 Town Council meetings and by offering opportunities for members of the public to participate in the implementation of relevant mitigation actions.

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