Jurisdictional Annex

Village of Voorheesville

This section presents the jurisdictional annex for the Village of Voorheesville 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 contact for Albany County regarding this Jurisdictional Annex are identified as follows:

- Primary: Doug Miller | dougmiller765@gmail.com

Village Website: https://www.villageofvoorheesville.com/

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2 COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

2.1 Demographics

The 2020 Census estimated that 2,835 people live in the Village of Voorheesville. The Village of Voorheesville's population has increased by 1.6% since the 2010 Census (2,789). The median age in the Village of Voorheesville is 41.9 years and 19% of the population is over the age of 65. The median household income in the Village of Voorheesville is $94,292.

2.2 Location & Land Characteristics

The Village of Voorheesville is located in the Town of New Scotland and is a suburb of Albany. The Village of Voorheesville covers approximately 2.1 square miles. The properties within the Village of Voorheesville have a total assessed value of approximately $259,494,885 which is distributed across a variety of property classes.

The major transportation corridor in the Village of Voorheesville is New York State Route 85A, which is a loop route that connects New York State Route 85 to the Village of Voorheesville. The key water feature within the Village of Voorheesville is the Vly Creek.

2.3 Governing Body

A village mayor, deputy mayor, and three village trustees govern the Village of Voorheesville.

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.

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Table 2-1. Developments from 2018 to 2023

Project Name	Project Location	Consideration	Date
Out of the Park Softball Training Center	1 Country Side Lane (School Rd.)	Request for a special use permit to open and operate an indoor softball training center in a 3,500 sq. ft. former warehouse.	2/15/2018
Village of Voorheesville Comprehensive Plan	Village of Voorheesville	Adoption of the Village of Voorheesville Comprehensive Plan Draft (May 2018) .	6/21/2018
Tobler Variance	263 Helderberg Pkwy.	Area variance to permit installation of a 24-module, ground-mounted solar facility in the front yard.	9/20/2018
Voorheesville Temporary Moratorium	Village of Voorheesville	Moratorium to temporarily suspend certain development within the Village. The Village is in the process of finalizing a new zoning code pursuant to a recently adopted comprehensive plan. A six-month moratorium was enacted in June 2017 to enable the Village to complete its comprehensive planning process. This additional moratorium is requested to continue temporarily prohibiting development while affording the Board of Trustees sufficient additional time to finalize necessary amendments to the zoning laws.	12/20/2018
46 School Road	46 School Road	Site plan review to enable a 44' x 33' addition to an existing test building.	12/18/2019
Vly Creek Farn Coffee/Ice Cream Shop	8 Altamont Rd.	A site plan review and special use permit for the proposed seasonal ice cream and coffee shop in an existing structure	2/25/2020
Parking Lot Lighting	51 School Road	Site Plan Review for installation of 4 pole lights to illuminate parking lot	8/20/2020
106 Foundry Road Subdivision	106 Foundry Road	Two lot subdivision for the sale of one lot to the Voorheesville Rod & Gun Club along with lot line adjustment and special use permit application	3/18/2021
Adoption of Design Guidelines	Village of Voorheesville	Adoption of design guidelines for the Village of Voorheesville.	3/18/2021
Village Animal Clinic Parking Lot Expansion	70 School Road	Site plan review for expansion of the parking lot and the addition of one new LED light in the parking area.	3/18/2021

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Project Name	Project Location	Consideration	Date
10 N.Main Microbrewery	10 N.Main St (Building #6)	Site plan review to redevelop one of the existing buildings and use it as a microbrewery and for the provisions of food.	5/20/2021
Outdoor Seating at Gracie's Kitchen	39 Voorheesville Ave	Site plan review to construct a concrete pad for an outdoor eating area.	6/17/2021
18 Moss Road frontyard setback ZB-2022-010	18 Moss Road	Area variance for relief of 15' for the frontyard setback from 50' to 35' for the future construction of a single family dwelling.	2/17/2022
Romo's Pizza Restaurant (PB-2022-018)	112 Maple Ave	Site plan review and special use permit to re-open an existing restaurant within the same building footprint.	4/22/2022
Blackbird Tavern & Bike Café	40,42, 43 Main Street	Site plan review for demolition of existing structures for future development. The Owner plans to merge 40 & 42 to build an eating and drinking establishment (Blackbird Tavern) and to build a café (Blackbird Bike Café).	5/19/2022
9 School Road Variance	9 School Road	Area variance to relieve 10' of the north sideyard setback for a new single family home.	7/21/2022
Countryside Lane Building #3	1 Countryside Ln	Site plan review for new commercial construction of a 9,600 SF building to be used for sports recreation/indoor baseball practice facility.	1/19/2023
Romo's Pizza Restaurant Expansion	112 Maple Avenue	Amendment to the existing special use permit to allow for expansion of the kitchen and to construct an elevated deck.	2/16/2023
Adoption of Local Law - Village of Voorheesville	Village of Voorheesville	Adoption of local law clarifying and revising the Village Zoning Code of 2019.	2/16/2023
Romo's Pizza Restaurant Expansion	112 Maple Avenue	Amendment to existing special use permit to allow for the expansion of dining on the second floor.	6/15/2023
Serenity Subdivision	Helderberg Pkwy	Conservation/cluster subdivision of the parcel into 11 lots.	10/19/2023

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

Year	Building Type	Units
2018	1	4
2019	1	1
2020	1	2
2021	1	1
2022	1	4
Total:		**12**

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

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3 CAPABILITIES ASSESSMENT

3.1 Planning Mechanisms and Capabilities

The Village of Voorheesville 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	
Mitigation Planning Committee	Yes	
Mutual Aid or Shared Services Agreements	Yes	Guilderland, Town of New Scotland, Altamont, and Albany County (5-Year Countywide Mutual Aid Plan developed by the County Emergency Management Office)
Planning Board	Yes	
Zoning Board	Yes	
Other		
Development Approvals		
Building Code	Yes	
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Evaluation	No	
Fire Department ISO Rating	Yes	4
Site Plan Review Requirements	Yes	
Other		
Funding Resources		
Authority to Levy Taxes	Yes	

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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?)
Capital Improvement Project Funds	Yes	
Federal Funding Programs (i.e., USDA, FEMA, others)	Yes	CHIPS, Sidewalks (not sure about the use of FEMA funding)
General Obligation Bonds and/or Special Tax Bonds	Yes	
Impact Fees for New Development	Yes	
State Funding Programs (i.e., NYSEFC, NYSOCR, NYSDEC, others)	Yes	Vly Creek (these likely relate to dredging, culvert replacements, etc.)
Utility Fees (i.e., water, sewer, stormwater, gas, electric)	Yes	Water, sewer, gas, electric
Other		
Land Use Regulations		
Density Controls	No	
Flood Insurance Rate Maps	Yes	2016 mapping update did change SFHA in the Village
NFIP Participant / Floodplain Ordinance	Yes	See "Floodplain Administrator" row below (under "Staff Positions").
Hillside Development Regulations	No	
Open Space Preservation	Yes	Achieved through zoning
Stormwater Management Regulations	Yes	Drawer 7. Land Use and Development, 5. Stormwater Management; Soil Erosion and Sediment Control
Streambank Setback Regulations	No	
Subdivision Regulations	Yes	Subdivision Ordinance
Zoning Ordinance	Yes	Includes Wellhead and Aquifer Protection Overlay Areas
Other	Yes	Flood Damage Prevention Law
Natural Resources		
Forest/Vegetation Management	No	
Stream Corridor Management	No	

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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?)
Stream Dumping Regulations	No	
Urban Forestry and Landscape Management	No	
Watershed Management	No	
Wetland Regulations	Yes	Drawer 7. Land Use and Development, 3. Freshwater Wetlands
Other	Yes	Solar Law (Article VII Section W)
Plans		
Capital Improvement Plan	No	
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	No	The Village is working on this; also have the countywide plan
Comprehensive Plan	Yes	2018
Continuity of Operations Plan	No	
Economic Development Plan	Yes	2015
Other		
Programs/Organizations		
Climate Smart Community	Yes	Registered
Local Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Response Organizations	Yes	
Local Environmental Protection Organizations	Yes	
National Weather Service StormReady Certification	No	
Outreach Programs	No	
Partnerships with private entities addressing mitigation or disaster response	No	
School Programs or Adult Educational Programs	No	
Other		Hazardous Electronic Waste Day
Staff Positions		
Civil Engineer	Yes	On an as-needed basis
Code Enforcement Officer	Yes	Steve Mason

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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?)
Emergency Manager	Yes	Douglas Miller, Public Safety Commissioner
Floodplain Administrator	Yes	Frank Fazio
Planner/GIS Coordinator	No	The Village typically works with the County to access these services when needed
Other		
Technical Abilities		
Grant Writing	Yes	This responsibility is typically distributed across Village staff depending on topic. Board members and consultants also assist with grant writing.
Hazard Information Centers	Yes	Flood Maps
Hazard Warning Systems	Yes	Fire Siren, 911 - The County has reverse 911, which the dispatch center is in the process of upgrading this technology to allow for a more robust distribution of information - ipaws (integrated public alert & warning system) – if in a geographic target area, will get a message to your cell phone during an emergency – this is available to the public now.
Other		

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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:

- The Village is currently exploring the establishment of a new Public Safety Commissioner. This will improve hazard planning, response, and recovery.
- The development approval process is led by the Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector (Steve Mason). There is already great communication and collaboration in place.
- Joint collaboration with the Village, Town, and County happens on a regular basis. This coordination is important for planning for, responding to, and recovering from natural hazard events. It is also cost-effective -- everyone knows their own limitations.
- Increase public awareness about the availability of IPAWS to increase use

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 Voorheesville 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 Voorheesville 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.

The Village has also included a mitigation action in the mitigation strategy to review and update municipal regulations to incorporate hazard mitigation.

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 Voorheesville has chosen to profile the same hazards as the County. No hazards were omitted and there were no additional hazards identified as unique and specific to the Village of Voorheesville.

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.

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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*

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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)	3	2	1	1	7 – moderate	1	
Drought	1	1	3	1	6 – moderate	4	
Severe Storm (Hail, Ice Storms, Wind, Thunderstorms and Lightning, Winter Storms, Hurricane, Tropical Storms, Tornado, Power Outage)	1	2	2	1	6 – moderate	2	
Extreme Temperatures (Cold Wave, Heat Wave, Air Pollution Effects)	1	1	3	1	6 – moderate	3	
Landslide	1	1	1	1	4 – low	5	

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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
Flood	12/25/2020	-	0	0
Hail	8/13/2021	1	0	0
Thunderstorm/Wind	9/13/2022	45	$1,000	0
Flash Flood	7/18/2023	-	$10,000	0
Total			**$11,000**	**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: 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 2.1 square miles in the Village, approximately 8.53% are located within the 1% annual chance flood event area and approximately 9.54% 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 144 parcels in the Village located within the 1% annual chance flood event area, with an estimated total structure value of $26,338,274. Inclusive of these parcels in the 1% annual chance flood event area, there are 148 parcels in the Village located within the 0.2% annual chance flood event area, with an estimated total structure value of $26,622,374.

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*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
2.1	8.53%	9.54%

** 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	0	$ -	0	$ -
Residential	84	$ 14,115,539	86	$ 14,368,939
Vacant	25	$ 65,900	25	$ 65,900
Commercial	19	$ 2,751,600	19	$ 2,751,600
Recreation and Entertainment	3	$ 42,800	4	$ 71,200
Community Services	9	$ 7,349,500	9	$ 7,349,500
Industrial	0	$ -	0	$ -
Public Services	3	$ -	4	$ 2,015,235
Parks and Open Space	0	$ 2,012,935	0	$ -
Total	**144**	**$ 26,338,274**	**148**	**$ 26,622,374**

**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

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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 Voorheesville currently participates in the NFIP (community ID 360015A), 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 Village's local law governing floodplain development and NFIP compliance is located in Drawer 7. Land Use and Development. 2. Flood Damage Prevention. 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 are 0 repetitive loss properties in the Village of Voorheesville. 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.

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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 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 Village of Voorheesville, 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 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.

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The Village of Voorheesville has no high-hazard potential dams (HHPDs) located in the municipality. However, the Town of New Scotland's Vly Reservoir Dam is a high hazard potential dam, and if it breached in a catastrophic event, the entire Village would be impacted.

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)

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

Table 5-2. Additional Assets

[Table redacted due to sensitive content]

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6 SUMMARY OF HAZARD IMPACTS AND VULNERABILITIES

6.1 Flood

The Village of Voorheesville ranked their overall vulnerability to flood events as moderate, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to Village representatives, flood events occur infrequently in the jurisdiction and affect one or two problem areas within the jurisdiction, causing major damage. The Village feels they are prepared for flood events, but not catastrophic 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 schools, public water supply, and keeping fire/EMS open.

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 Voorheesville has ranked their overall vulnerability to severe storm events as moderate, as indicated in Table 4-2. According to Village representatives, severe storms occur infrequently in the jurisdiction and affect a significant portion of the Village, causing minor damage. The Village feels they are well prepared for severe storm events, but not catastrophic 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. 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. According to the Village, storms can have an especially damaging impact on the schools and power grid.

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.

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6.3 Drought

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

The Village of Voorheesville is served by a public water supply. This water supply, and certain critical facilities (e.g. fire houses, school, and municipal buildings) 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. 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 Voorheesville 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 Voorheesville, there is Census data available for the Town of New Scotland. In the Town of New Scotland, approximately 3.3% of the population is under 5 years old, and 20.7% of the population is over 65 years old. Approximately 9.7% of the residents of the Town of New Scotland 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 6.5% of the Town of New Scotland'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 particular, the Village is concerned about the impacts of extreme temperature events on schools, as their staff and students are vulnerable to natural hazards. Serendipity Day Care and two senior housing locations within the Village are also locations of vulnerable populations.

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

DRAFT

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

Landslides can impact the structural integrity of buildings, roads, and other infrastructure in the Village. 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.

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

6.6 Jurisdictional Priorities

Taking into account the identified natural hazards, potential impacts, assets, and vulnerabilities identified above, key vulnerabilities and priorities to be addressed in this HMP were identified for the Village.

Top concerns about hazard mitigation in the Village included:

- Flooding
- Severe storms
- Extreme temperatures

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

- Schools and their staff and students are vulnerable to natural hazards and are one of the Village's main concerns.
- Serendipity Day Care and two senior housing locations within the Village are also locations of vulnerable populations

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:

- None identified

DRAFT

6.7 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.

DRAFT

7 MITIGATION STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION

7.1 Past, Completed, and Ongoing Initiatives

The Village had proposed seven 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.

DRAFT

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
Stormwater Inflow and Infiltration mitigation in the sewer system		Flooding; Extreme Storms	Village of Voorheesville	Discontinued	No	A generator has been installed to provide back-up power.
Installation of permanent Water Treatment Plant Generator	Permanent generator needed.	All Hazards	Village of Voorheesville	In Progress	Yes	
Install backup generator at St. Matthews Church	As a shelter for evacuees the church should have a generator. Evacuation site for Voorheesville Elementary School.	All Hazards	St Matthews Church	No Progress	Yes	This has not been completed
Develop Village Emergency Response Plan and Public Education and Outreach Program	Being developed	All Hazards	Village of Voorheesville	In progress	Yes	The Village sends an annual letter to the community providing information about emergency notifications

DRAFT

Name	Description	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead Agency	Status (Completed, In Progress, No Progress, Discontinued)	Carried into 2024 HMP Update? (Yes/No)	Notes
Develop emergency access road to Salem Hills through Swift Road Park	To provide an emergency route for people living along Salem Hills in case of a train incident or if a flood blocks access near St. Matthews.	Flooding; Extreme Storms	Village of Voorheesville and Town of New Scotland	In progress	Yes	Remains a discussion between Village and Town. Funding is the main obstacle.

7.2 New Mitigation Actions

In addition to the actions carried over from the 2018 HMP, the Village of Voorheesville 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.

DRAFT

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
VVoorheesvilleF1	Vulnerability Assessment and Flood Protection for Critical Facilities	G1, G2, G3, G6	Flood	Some of the Village'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 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	Village of Voorheesville Building Department with Support 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

DRAFT

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
VVoorheesvilleMH1	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 Village 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	Village of Voorheesville Building Department	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

DRAFT

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
VVoorheesvilleMH2	Upgrade Community Facilities to Serve as Cooling/Warming Stations	G1, G5, G6	Multiple Hazards (Flood, Severe Storm, Extreme Temperature)	During extreme temperature events, floods, and severe storm events, there are several facilities that could serve as warming/cooling centers or emergency shelters in the Village. However, not all of these facilities have generators to supply power in the event of an outage, such Serendipity Daycare and other faith/service groups. This limits the Village's ability to provide shelter and heat/cooling during natural disasters.	While the Village has one towable generator, purchasing or leasing additional mobile generators would increase the number of community facilities that can serve as cooling/warming stations or emergency shelters during natural disasters. If the use of a mobile generator is infeasible at a particular site, purchase a standby generator for that site as needed.	Yes	Potentially	1-3 years	Village of Voorheesville Building Department	Medium	This action would increase the Village's ability to provide shelter and heat/cooling during extreme temperature events, severe storms, and floods.	US CDBG-MIT, US HMGP, NYS HM RLF	High
VVoorheesvilleL1	Landslide Mitigation Assessment for Problem Areas	G2, G5, G6	Landslide	While landslides are rare, the Village experiences impacts from landslides in a few problem areas.	Conduct an investigation of the most suitable methods to stabilize slopes in areas where public infrastructure and/or private property is exposed to landslide risks in the Village. This may include measures like buttressing existing slopes, increasing vegetation to stabilize slopes, upgrading drainage systems, and/or other measures as identified by the investigation.	No	Potentially	1-3 years	Village of Voorheesville Public Works	Medium	This action would identify feasible strategies for reducing the risk of landslides and related impacts on the Village's infrastructure and private property.	US HMGP, US BRIC, NYS HM RLF, USGS Landslides Hazards Program	Low

DRAFT

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
VVoorheesvilleD1	Drought Education Campaign	G3, G6	Drought	Although rare, droughts do occur in the Village and can threaten livestock, cause crop damage, and cause water quality problems for residents who rely on private wells.	Implement a public education campaign that encourages residents to implement water conservation practices and raises awareness of when such water conservation measures should be taken. Moreover, the campaign would encourage farm operations to adopt climate resilient practices, such as water storage (e.g., cisterns to collect rain water).	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 and reduce the overall impact of drought.	CRF, US BRIC, EPA EJSG	Medium
VVoorheesvilleF2	Intermunicipal Water Storage Feasibility Study	G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6	Flood	Flooding is an issue in the municipality, as described in the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment section of the municipality's annex. Additional water storage areas upstream of the municipality may present an opportunity to reduce flood risk.	Explore the potential for intermunicipal agreements for water storage areas upstream of the Village, as described in the "Bethlehem and Voorheesville Case Study" section of the Albany County Climate Analysis (https://arcg.is/1PObHP).	No	Potentially	3-5 years	Village of Voorheesville Public Works	High	If additional water storage areas were identified, this would reduce the risk of flooding in the municipality.	FEMA HMGP, FEMA BRIC, NYS HM RLF, US CDBG-MIT, FEMA Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), USDA/NRCS EWPP, NYS CSC, DASNY State and Municipal Facilities Program, NYSEFC CWSRF, NFWF NCRF, DOT BIL	Medium

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

DRAFT

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
VVoorheesvilleF1	Vulnerability Assessment and Flood Protection for Critical Facilities	1	3	3	3	10	High
VVoorheesvilleMH1	Increase Resilience at Municipal Facilities and Key Assets	3	2	2	2	9	Medium
VVoorheesvilleMH2	Upgrade Community Facilities to Serve as Cooling/Warming Stations	3	2	2	3	10	High
VVoorheesvilleL1	Landslide Mitigation Assessment for Problem Areas	1	2	2	1	6	Low
VVoorheesvilleD1	Drought Education Campaign	1	3	3	2	9	Medium

DRAFT

Mitigation Action ID	Mitigation Action Name	Ability to Increase Resilience	Economic Feasibility	Low Environmental Impact	Ability to Implement	Total Score	Priority
VVoorheesvilleF2	Intermunicipal Water Storage Feasibility Study	3	1	2	2	8	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.

DRAFT

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.

DRAFT

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 Voorheesville 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. See below:

- Community-wide information distribution about iPaws, reverse 911 and other emergency communications systems
- Article(s) in the local newspaper
- Village sends a letter to every Village residence once a year and some general information about the hazard mitigation plan could be included in this newsletter

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