



## SECTION 2. PLANNING PROCESS

### 2020 HMP Changes

- The sections in the 2020 HMP were realigned to increase the readability of the plan. Section 2 (formerly Section 3 in the 2015 HMP) now comprises the Planning Process section of the plan.
- All aspects of the planning process were updated for the 2020 HMP.
- The Borough of Butler opted to participate in the 2020 HMP update.
- Public outreach was enhanced to reach a broader audience by using additional media outlets (Facebook, Twitter), attending already-scheduled public events, and having multi-lingual materials (brochure, social media posts) available in both English and Spanish.
- Workshop-style meetings were held with the Planning Partnership to engage participants, using small break-out groups and large-scale poster maps to convey hazard vulnerability and assist with hazard ranking and mitigation strategy updates.

### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

This section includes a description of the planning process used to update the 2015 Morris County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved. To ensure that the plan meets requirements of the DMA 2000 and that the planning process would have the broad and effective support of the participating jurisdictions, regional and local stakeholders, and the public, an approach to the planning process and plan documentation was developed to achieve the following goals:

- The HMP will be multi-jurisdictional and consider natural and human-caused hazards facing Morris County, thereby satisfying the natural hazards mitigation planning requirements specified in the DMA 2000.
- Morris County invited all municipalities in the County to join with them in the preparation of the Morris County HMP. The County and all municipalities are participating in the HMP as indicated in Table 2-1 below.
- The HMP shall be developed following the process outlined by the DMA 2000, FEMA regulations, and prevailing FEMA and NJOEM guidance. Following this process ensures all the requirements are met and support HMP review.

**Table 2-1. Participating Morris County Jurisdictions**

Jurisdictions		
Morris County		
Boonton, Town	Jefferson, Township	Mount Olive, Township
Boonton, Township	Kinnelon, Borough	Mountain Lakes, Borough
Butler, Borough	Lincoln Park, Borough	Netcong, Borough
Chatham, Borough	Long Hill, Township	Parsippany Troy Hills, Township
Chatham, Township	Madison, Borough	Pequannock, Township
Chester, Borough	Mendham, Borough	Randolph, Township
Chester, Township	Mendham, Township	Riverdale, Borough
Denville, Township	Mine Hill, Township	Rockaway, Borough



Jurisdictions		
Dover, Town	Montville, Township	Rockaway, Township
East Hanover, Township	Morris Plains, Borough	Roxbury, Township
Florham Park, Borough	Morris, Township	Victory Gardens, Borough
Hanover, Township	Morristown, Town	Washington, Township
Harding, Township	Mount Arlington, Borough	Wharton, Borough

The Morris County HMP update was written using the best available information obtained from a wide variety of sources. Throughout the HMP update process, a concerted effort was made to gather information from local and regional agencies and staff, as well as stakeholders, federal and state agencies, and the residents of the County. The HMP Steering and Planning Committees, together called the Planning Partnership, solicited information from local agencies and individuals with specific knowledge of certain hazards and past historical events, as well as considering planning and zoning codes, ordinances, and other recent planning decisions. The hazard mitigation strategies identified in this HMP have been developed through an extensive planning process involving local, county and regional agencies, County residents and stakeholders.

This section describes the mitigation planning process, including (1) Organization of the Planning Process; (2) Stakeholder Outreach and Involvement; (3) Public Participation; (4) Integration of Existing Data, Plans, and Technical Information; (5) Integration with Existing Planning Mechanisms and Programs; and (6) Continued Public Involvement.

## 2.2 ORGANIZATION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

Many parties supported the preparation of this HMP update: County officials, municipal officials, the Steering Committee, Planning Committee, stakeholders and planning consultant. This planning process does not represent the start of hazard risk management in the County; rather it is part of an ongoing process that various State, County and local agencies and individuals have continued to embrace. A summary of the past and ongoing mitigation efforts is provided in Section 6 (Mitigation Strategy), as well as in Volume II Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes), to give an historical perspective of the County and local activities implemented to reduce vulnerability to hazards in the planning area.

This section of the HMP identifies how the planning process was organized with the many “planning partners” involved and outlines the major activities that were conducted in the development of this HMP update.

### 2.2.1 Organization of Planning Partnership

Recognizing the need to manage risk within the County, and to meet the requirements of the DMA 2000, the Morris County OEM led the update to the 2015 Morris County HMP. On June 12, 2019, Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders signed the Grantee-Subgrantee Agreement (PDMC-PL-02-NJ-2017-005) between the State of New Jersey and Morris County for funds to update the Morris County HMP. The period of performance for this grant is from August 14, 2017 and ending March 22, 2021. The County selected a contract planning consultant (Tetra Tech Inc. – Parsippany, NJ) to guide the County and participating jurisdictions through the HMP update process. A contract between Tetra Tech Inc. (Tetra Tech) and the County was executed in July 2019. Specifically, Tetra Tech, the “contract consultant”, was tasked with:

- Assisting with the organization of a Steering Committee and Planning Committee.
- Assisting with the development and implementation of a public and stakeholder outreach program.
- Data collection.



- Facilitation and attendance at meetings (Steering Committee, Planning Committee, stakeholder, public and other).
- Review and update of the hazards of concern, and hazard profiling and risk assessment.
- Assistance with the review and update of mitigation planning goals and objectives.
- Assistance with the review of progress of past mitigation strategies.
- Assistance with the screening of mitigation actions and the identification of appropriate actions.
- Assistance with the prioritization of mitigation actions.
- Authoring of the draft and final HMP documents.

In August 2019, Morris County OEM notified all municipalities within the County of the pending planning process and invited them to formally participate. Municipalities were provided with a copy of the Planning Partner Expectations and asked to formally notify the County of their intent to participate [via a Letter of Intent to Participate (LOIP)] and to identify a primary and secondary planning point of contact to serve on a Planning Committee and represent the interests of their respective community. In addition, each municipal Floodplain Administrator (FPA) was identified in the LOIP and requested to actively participate in the planning process. Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) and Appendix B (Participation Documentation) detail contributions provided by the FPA. All jurisdictions returned their LOIP; refer to Appendix B for copies of their LOIPs.

To facilitate HMP development, with support from their contract planning consultant, Morris County developed a Steering Committee to provide guidance and direction to the planning effort, and to ensure the resulting document will be embraced both politically and by the constituency within the planning area. All municipalities participating in the plan update authorized the Steering Committee to perform certain activities on their behalf, via the LOIP. Specifically, the Steering Committee was charged with:

- Providing guidance and overseeing the planning process on behalf of the general planning partnership.
- Attending and participating in Steering Committee meetings.
- Establish a timeline for completion of the plan;
- Assisting with the development and completion of certain planning elements, including:
  - Reviewing and updating the hazards of concern,
  - Developing a public and stakeholder outreach program,
  - Assuring that the data and information used in the plan update process is the best available
  - Reviewing and updating the hazard mitigation goals and objectives,
  - Identification and screening of appropriate mitigation strategies and activities; and
  - Reviewing and commenting on plan documents prior to submission to NJOEM and FEMA.
  - Ensure that the plan meets the requirements of DMA 2000 and FEMA and NJOEM guidance.

*Steering Committee (SC) is comprised of County and municipal representatives and stakeholders that guide and lead the HMP update process on behalf of the Planning Partnership.*

*Planning Committee (PC) is comprised of representatives from each participating jurisdiction (County and municipal).*

*Planning Partnership = SC + PC*

The organizational structure was successfully implemented for the 2020 HMP updated consistent with the development of the initial 2015 planning process; new Steering Committee members include representatives from the Morris County Administrator’s Office, Morris County Office of Health Management, and three local jurisdictions: Township of Lincoln Park, Township of Long Hill and Township of Pequannock (see Table 2-2). The Steering Committee provided guidance and leadership, oversight of the planning process, and acted as the point of contact for all participating jurisdictions and the various interest groups in the planning area.



**Table 2-2. Morris County Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee**

Organization	Name	Title
Morris County Department of Law and Public Safety	Cathy Burd	Assistant Director
	Armand D’Agostino	Assistant Director - retired
	Jeffrey Paul	Director - Office of Emergency Management (MCOEM)
	Keith Heimburg	Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator - Office of Emergency Management (MCOEM)
Morris County Administrator’s Office	Deena Leary	Assistant Administrator
	Larry Ragonese	County Communication and Media
Morris County Department of Planning and Public Works (MCDPPW)	Christine Marion (retired)	Planning Director, Planning and Preservation Division
	Joe Barilla	Planning Director, Planning and Preservation Division
	Virginia Michelin	Planning and Preservation Division
	Christopher Vitz	County Engineer – Engineering and Transportation Division
	Kristian McMorland	Director, Mosquito Control Division
	Michael D’Agostino	Division Head - Roads, Bridges, and Trees Division
	Chris Walker	Division Head - Building and Grounds Division
	Bob Cook (retired)	Division Head - Motor Service Center Division
	Frank Aloia	Motor Service Division
Morris County Office of Information Technology and GIS	Stephen Rice	GIS Manager, OIT/GIS
	Stuart Walter	GIS Specialist
Morris County Park Commission	Dave Helmer	Executive Director
	Timothy Rack	Manager of Safety and Compliance, MC Park Commission
	James Hutzelmann	Director of Engineering Services, MC Park Commission
Morris County Department of Employee Resources	Peter Gordon	Director - Dep’t. of Employee Risk Management Resource
Morris County Department of Human Services	Sharon Yoo	Director, Human Services
	Christine Hellyer	Human Services, Aging, Disabilities & Community Programming
Morris County Office of Health Management	Cindi Bella	Emergency Preparedness Public Health Supervisor/MRC Coordinator
	Carlos Perez	Health Officer
	Shanice Johnson	Health Risk EP
	Craig Goss	HazMat
Township of Lincoln Park	Perry Mayers	Borough Administrator
Longhill Township	Joe Kosinski	Engineer
Township of Pequannock	Jennifer McCulloch	Flood Resilience Officer

Notes: POC = Point of Contact; MC = Morris County; NFIP FPA=National Flood Insurance Program Floodplain Administrator

Each municipality received a copy of the “Planning Partner Expectations” which outlined the responsibilities of the participants and the agreement of the partners to authorize the Steering Committee to represent the jurisdiction in the completion of certain planning elements. Table 2-3 lists the current members of the Planning Partnership (Steering Committee and Planning Committee), at the time of this HMP’s publication. Please note that while Steering Committee members are also part of the overall project Planning Partnership fulfilling these responsibilities on behalf of Morris County. The Planning Partnership was collectively charged with the following:



- Represent their jurisdiction throughout the planning process.
- Assure participation of all department and functions within their jurisdiction that have a stake in mitigation (e.g., planning, engineering, code enforcement, police and emergency services, public works).
- Assist in gathering information for inclusion in the HMP update, including the use of previously developed reports and data.
- Involve your local NFIP Floodplain Administrator in the planning process.
- Solicit and encourage the participation of regional agencies, a range of stakeholders, and citizens in the plan development process;
- Report on progress of mitigation actions identified in prior or existing HMPs, as applicable.
- Report on progress of integration of prior or existing HMPs into other planning processes and municipal operations.
- Identify, develop, and prioritize appropriate mitigation initiatives.
- Support and develop a jurisdictional annex for their jurisdiction.
- Develop and author the jurisdictional annex for their jurisdiction;
- Review, amend, and approve all sections of the plan update.
- Adopt, implement, and maintain the plan update.

**Table 2-3. Morris County Hazard Mitigation Planning Partnership (Steering Committee and Planning Committee)**

Jurisdiction	Name	Title	Steering Committee
Morris County Department of Law and Public Safety	Armand D’Agostino	Assistant Director	Steering Committee
	Jeffrey Paul	Director - Office of Emergency Management (MCOEM)	Steering Committee
	Keith Heimburg	Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator - Office of Emergency Management (MCOEM)	Steering Committee
Morris County Administrator’s Office	Deena Leary	Assistant Administrator	Steering Committee
	Larry Ragonese	County Communication and Media	Steering Committee
Morris County Department of Planning and Public Works (MCDPPW)	Christine Marion (retired)	Planning Director, Planning and Preservation Division	Steering Committee
	Joe Barilla	Planning and Preservation Division	Steering Committee
	Virginia Michelin	Planning and Preservation Division	Steering Committee
	Christopher Vitz	County Engineer – Engineering and Transportation Division	Steering Committee
	Kristian McMorland	Director, Mosquito Control Division	Steering Committee
	Michael D’Agostino	Division Head - Roads, Bridges, and Trees Division	Steering Committee
	Chris Walker	Division Head - Building and Grounds Division	Steering Committee
	Bob Cook (retired)	Division Head - Motor Service Center Division	Steering Committee
	Frank Aloia	Motor Service Division	Steering Committee
Morris County Office of Information Technology and GIS	Stephen Rice	GIS Manager, OIT/GIS	Steering Committee
	Stuart Walter	GIS Specialist	Steering Committee
Morris County Park Commission	Dave Helmer	Executive Director	Steering Committee
	Timothy Rack	Manager of Safety and Compliance, MC Park Commission	Steering Committee
	James Hutzelmann	Director of Engineering Services, MC Park Commission	Steering Committee



Jurisdiction	Name	Title	Steering Committee		
Morris County Department of Employee Resources	Peter Gordon	Director - Dep't. of Employee Risk Management Resource	Steering Committee		
Morris County Department of Human Services	Sharon Yoo	Director, Human Services	Steering Committee		
	Christine Hellyer	Human Services, Aging, Disabilities & Community Programming	Steering Committee		
Morris County Office of Health Management	Cindi Bella	Emergency Preparedness Public Health Supervisor/MRC Coordinator	Steering Committee		
	Carlos Perez	Health Officer	Steering Committee		
	Shanice Johnson	Health Risk EP	Steering Committee		
	Craig Goss	HazMat	Steering Committee		
Township of Lincoln Park	Perry Mayers	Borough Administrator	Steering Committee		
Longhill Township	Joe Kosinski	Engineer	Steering Committee		
Township of Pequannock	Jennifer McCulloch	Flood Resilience Officer	Steering Committee		
Jurisdiction	Name	Title	Primary POC	Secondary POC	NFIP FPA
Morris County	Keith Heimburg	Deputy Office of Emergency Management (MCOEM)	X		
	Jeffrey Paul	Director - OEM		X	
Town of Boonton	Peter Herbert	Boonton OEM	X	-	-
	Scott Bednar	Boonton Deputy OEM	-	X	-
	TBD		-	-	X
Township of Boonton	Scott Para	OEM	X	-	-
	Bill Klingener	Coordinator		X	-
	Hank Huelsebusch	Township Engineer	-	-	X
Borough of Butler	Jim Lampmann	Borough Administrator	X	-	-
	Scott Ricker	OEM Coordinator		X	-
	Tom Boorady	Borough Engineer	-		X
Borough of Chatham	Steve Davenport	OEM Coordinator	X	-	-
	Samuel Francis	Senior Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator	-	X	-
	Vincent DeNave	Borough Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Chatham	Kevin Sullivan	OEM Coordinator	X	-	-
	John Ruschke	Township Engineer	-	X	-
	John Ruschke	Township Engineer	-	-	X
Borough of Chester	Ed Windt	OEM Coordinator	X	-	-
	Bruce Ellmann	Deputy OEM Coordinator	-	X	-
	Paul Ferriero	Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Chester	Bruce Ellmann	OEM Coordinator	X	-	-
	Robin Collins	Administrator	-	X	-
	Dorrie Fox	Planning & Zoning Administrator	-	-	X
Township of Denville	Wesley Sharples	Emergency Manager	X	-	-
	John Ruschke	Engineer	-	X	X



Jurisdiction	Name	Title	Steering Committee		
Town of Dover	Richard Cloughley	DEM Coordinator	X	-	-
	Anthony Rosario	Fire Official	-	X	-
	Greg Chontow	Construction Official	-	-	X
Township of East Hanover	Ralph Tango	Engineer	X	-	X
	Kevin Boyer	Township Engineer	-	X	-
	Carlo DiLizo	Health Department OEM	-	X	-
Township of Florham Park	Daniel Bundschuh	Sgt. Coordinate OEM	X	-	-
	Joseph Orlando	Chief of Police	-	X	-
	Kayla Kaplan	Engineering Assistant	-	-	X
Township of Hanover	Thomas Quirk	OEM Director	X	-	-
	David White	Police Department Captain	-	X	-
	Gerardo Maciera	Township Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Harding	Lorene K Wright	Assistant Administrator	X	-	-
	Robert Falzarano	Administrator	-	X	-
	Paul D. Fox	Township Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Jefferson	Ed Mangold	Police	X	-	-
	Paul Castimore	Deputy EM Coordinator	-	X	-
	Tom Mahoney	Construction/Zoning Officer	-	-	X
Borough of Kinnelon	Randell Charles	Councilman and Coordinator	X	-	-
	Jeff Bresett	Deputy Coordinator	-	X	-
	Thomas Boorady	Engineer	-	-	X
Borough of Lincoln Park	CRS Perry Mayers	Borough Administrator	X	-	-
	Sal Marino	Construction Official	-	X	X
Township of Long Hill	Shayne Daly	Emergency Management Coordinator	X	-	-
	Nancy Malool	Township Administrator	-	X	-
	Paul Ferriero	Township Engineer	-	-	X
Borough of Madison	John Rafter	OEM	X	-	-
	Robert Vogel	Engineer	-	X	X
Borough of Mendham	Gary Lynch	Captain Fire Department	X	-	-
	John Camoia	Chief of Police	-	X	-
	Paul Ferriero	Borough Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Mendham	Sarah Neibart	Township Mayor	X	-	-
	Evan Thomas	OEM Coordinator	-	X	-
	Denis Keenan	Township Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Mine Hill	Jerry Coviello	OEM Coordinator	X	-	-
	Paul M. Sterbenz	Municipal Engineer	-	X	-
	Sam Morris	Mayor/Administrator	-	-	X
Township of Montville	Nicola Marucci	Township Engineer	X	-	X
	Victor Canning	OEM - Administrator	-	X	-



Jurisdiction	Name	Title	Steering Committee		
Borough of Morris Plains	Michael Koroski	Police Sergeant	X	-	-
	Michael Rolph	Lt. Police	-	X	-
	Leon Hall	Borough Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Morris	James Slate	Township Engineer	X	-	X
	Timothy Quinn	Administrator	-	X	-
Town of Morristown	Robert Flanagan	Coordinator, OEM	X	-	-
	Darnell Richardson	Deputy Coordinator	-	X	-
	Anthony M. DeVizio	Town Engineer	-	-	X
Borough of Mount Arlington	Keith Licata	Police Chief, OEM Coordinator	X	-	-
	Edward LaBruno	Lt. Police	X	-	-
	Paul Nelson	OEM Deputy	-	X	-
	Stan Puszczyk	Borough Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Mount Olive	Andrew Tatarenko	Emergency Management Coordinator	X	-	-
	Robert Clerico	Engineer	-	-	X
Borough of Mountain Lakes	Shawn Bennett	Chief OEM	X	-	-
	Mitchell Stern	Borough Manager	-	X	-
Borough of Netcong	Wayne Anthony	Coordinator, OEM	X	-	-
	James Blesson	Police Department	-	X	-
	Ralph Blakslee	Borough Administrator	-	-	X
Township of Parsippany	John Wieners	Township Engineer	X	-	-
	Justin Lizza	Township Engineer	-	X	X
Township of Pequannock	CRS Jennifer McCulloch	Flood Resilience Officer	X	-	-
	CRS Joe Golden	Township Engineer	-	X	X
Township of Randolph	William Wagner	Coordinator, OEM	X	-	-
	Stephen Mountain	Township Manager	-	X	-
	Paul Ferrier	Township Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Riverdale	James Regeling, Jr	Fire Chief	X	-	-
	Patrick Cleary	Assistant Fire Chief - OEM	-	X	-
	Thomas Boorady	Township Engineer	-	-	X
Borough of Rockaway	Conrad Pepperman	Police Sergeant	X	-	-
	Russel Greuter	OEM Coordinator	-	X	-
	Paul Ferriero	Town Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Rockaway	Robert Scherr	Administrative Commander of the Police Department	X	-	-
	Martin McParland	Police Chief	-	X	-
	Allison Ferrante	Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Roxbury	Mike Kobylarz	Engineer, Dir of Utility, NFIP FPA	X	-	X
	Melanie Marucci	Sr. Asst. to Engineer	-	X	-
Borough of Victory Gardens	David Holeman, Jr.	Mayor, OEM Coordinator	X	-	-
	Leon Hall	Town Engineer	-	X	X
Township of Washington	Matt Lopez	OEM Coordinator	X	-	-
	Bruce Clark	Deputy OEM Coordinator	-	X	-





Jurisdiction	Name	Title	Steering Committee		
	Paul Ferriero	Township Engineer	-	-	X
Township of Wharton	Gene Caulfield	OEM Coordinator	X	-	-
	David Young	Deputy OEM	-	X	-
	Pedro Moreno	Housing and Zoning Officer	-	-	X

The jurisdictional LOIP identifies the above “Planning Partner Expectations” as serving to identify those activities comprising overall participation by jurisdictions throughout the planning process. The jurisdictions in Morris County have differing levels of capabilities and resources available to apply to the plan update process, and further have differing exposure and vulnerability to the hazard risks being considered in this plan. Morris County’s intent was to encourage participation by all-inclusive jurisdictions, and to accommodate their specific needs and limitations while still meeting the intents and purpose of plan participation. Such accommodations have included the establishment of a Steering Committee and engaging a contract consultant to assume certain elements of the planning process on behalf of the jurisdictions, and to provide additional and alternative mechanisms to meet the purposes and intent of mitigation planning.

Ultimately, jurisdictional participation is evidenced by a completed annex (chapter) of the HMP (Section 9) wherein the jurisdictions have identified their planning points of contact, evaluated their risk to the hazards of concern, identified their capabilities to effect mitigation in their community, and identified and prioritized an appropriate suite of mitigation initiatives, actions, and projects to mitigate their natural hazard risk; and eventually by the adoption of the updated plan via resolution.

Appendix B (Participation Documentation) identifies those individuals who represented their jurisdictions during this planning effort and indicates how they contributed to the planning process. This matrix is intended to give a broad overview of who attended meetings and when input was provided. All participants were encouraged to attend the Kick-off Meeting, Risk Assessment and Mitigation Action Workshop. During the planning process the planning consultant contacted each participant to offer support, explain the process, meet individually to collect updated information and to facilitate the submittal and review of critical documents.

All municipalities actively participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and have designated NFIP Floodplain Administrators (FPA). All known FPAs were informed of the planning process, were provided the opportunity to review the plan including the jurisdictional annex and provide direct input to the plan update. Local FPAs are identified in the Points of Contact and Administrative and Technical portions of the jurisdictional annexes in Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes).



### 2.2.2 Planning Activities

Members of the Planning Partnership (individually and as a whole), as well as key stakeholders, convened and/or communicated regularly to share information and participate in workshops to identify hazards; assess risks; review existing inventories of and identify new critical facilities; assist in updating and developing new mitigation goals and strategies; and provide continuity through the process to ensure that natural hazards vulnerability information and appropriate mitigation strategies were incorporated. All members of the Steering Committee and Planning Partnership had the opportunity to review the draft plan and supported interaction with other stakeholders and assisted with public involvement efforts.



Figure 2-1. November 12, 2019 Risk Assessment

A summary of committee meetings (Steering Committee and Planning Partnership) held and key milestones met during the development of the HMP update is included in Table 2-4 that also identifies which DMA 2000 requirements the activities satisfy. Documentation of meetings (e.g., agendas, sign-in sheets, meeting notes) are in Appendix C (Meeting Documentation). Table 2-4 identifies only the formal meetings held during plan development but does not reflect all planning activities conducted by individuals and groups throughout the planning process. In addition to these meetings, each jurisdiction had several individual meetings (both in person and via teleconference) to work on their jurisdictional annexes (Section 9). Further, there was a great deal of communication between the County, committee members, and the contract consultant through individual local meetings, electronic mail (email), and by phone.

After completion of the HMP update, implementation and ongoing maintenance will become a function of the Planning Partnership as described in Section 7 (Plan Maintenance). The Planning Partnership is responsible for reviewing the HMP and soliciting and considering public comment as part of the five-year mitigation plan update.



Table 2-4. Summary of Mitigation Planning Activities / Efforts

Date	DMA 2000 Requirement	Description of Activity	Participants
June 2019	1b, 2	County approves resolution to apply for FEMA mitigation planning grant	County and MCOEM
July 2019	1b, 2	County conducts procurement process for contract planning support	County and MCOEM
August 9, 2019	N/A	Pre-Kick Off Meeting with County	MCOEM and Tetra Tech
August 12, 2019	2	All municipalities invited to participate in the planning process.	MCOEM, all municipal governments
August 13, 2019	2	Morris County CRS Users Group Meeting	See Appendix C
September 4, 2019	1b, 1c, 2, 3a, 4a	<u>Steering Committee #1</u> : Review of mitigation; Review of Steering Committee guidelines; Project schedule and data request; Hazards of concern review and updated; Stakeholders identified; Outreach was discussed (social media, website, brochures); Review of goals and objectives.	See Appendix C
September 6, 2019	1b, 2	News Release issued regarding the commencement of the HMP update and announcing the first public kickoff meeting.	See Appendix D
September 10, 2019	2	Morris County Emergency Management Municipal Coordinators Meeting	See Appendix C
September 10, 2019	1b, 2, 3a-c, 3e, 4a, 4b	<u>Planning Partnership Kickoff Meeting – open to the public</u> : Importance of mitigation and HMP; Participation Requirements; Review of Steering Committee decisions on September 4; Hazards of concern identification and previous events exercise; Distribution of multi-lingual brochure materials.	See Appendix C
September 14, 2019	1b, 2	<u>Public Event – Pequannock HOEDOWN</u> – Mitigation brochures in English and Spanish were available at the Flood Resilience table for citizens to engage and discuss hazard mitigation	See Appendix D
September 26, 2019	2, 4b	FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation and Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Funding Webinar	Webinar offered to all plan participants
September 29, 2019	1b, 2	<u>Public Event – Morristown on the Green</u> : Table set up with Morris County Office of Health Management to distribute information on the HMP; Engage with residents regarding the plan and mitigation; Voting exercise for types of mitigation actions residents would like to see implemented in their community.	See Appendix C and D
September 30, 2019	1b, 2	Morris Township Police Department Citizen Police Academy – public event. MCOEM announced the commencement of the HMP update and invited <u>residents to take the citizen survey</u> .	See Appendix D
October 7, 2019	1b, 2	<u>Board of Chosen Freeholders Meeting – open to the public</u>	See Appendix D
November 7, 2019	1b, 2, 3a, 4a	<u>Steering Committee #2</u> : Project status update; Linkage procedures; Hazard ranking methodology; County hazard ranking; SWOO exercise.	See Appendix C
November 12, 2019	2, 4b, 5a	Morris County CRS Users Group Meeting and BATool <sup>SM</sup> Training to review 2015 mitigation strategy and identify new mitigation actions	See Appendix C
November 12, 2019	1b, 2, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e	<u>Planning Partnership Risk Assessment Meeting – open to the public</u> . Presentation of draft risk assessment results, hazard ranking exercise, SWOO	See Appendix C



Date	DMA 2000 Requirement	Description of Activity	Participants
		exercise for high-ranked hazards, introduction to development of problem statements.	
December 12, 2019	2, 4b, 5a	BATool <sup>SM</sup> Training to review 2015 mitigation strategy and identify new mitigation actions	See Appendix C
February 2020	4a	The Steering Committee updated the goals and objectives.	Refer to Section 6 (Mitigation Strategy)
March 3, 2020	1b, 2, 4a, 4b, 4c	<u>Planning Partnership Mitigation Strategy Workshop – open to the public</u> Review of FEMA and State mitigation strategy requirements; Problem statement development; Mitigation resources distributed including mitigation catalog and critical facility/lifeline risk assessment results; Review of Mitigation Action Worksheets; Small group breakouts to update mitigation strategy.	See Appendix C
April 21, 2020	1b, 2	Morris County distributed stakeholder surveys to collect vulnerabilities, capabilities and mitigation actions from academia, emergency services, transportation sector, utilities, hospital and health care, business/commerce and social services.	See Appendix D
September 2019 – June 2020	2, 3, 4	Individual municipal annex support meetings via in-person or virtual (teleconference)	See Appendix C
June 1, 2020	1b, 2, 3, 4	Meeting with the New Jersey Highlands Council to discuss capabilities, vulnerabilities and mitigation actions. In addition, areas of potential growth in the County as well as grant funding were discussed and captured in the plan.	New Jersey Highlands Council and Tetra Tech
June 9, 2020	1b, 2	Draft HMP posted to public project website All plan participants were notified and asked to assist with the public outreach including social media. Letters to neighboring Counties, New Jersey Highlands Council, Picatinny Arsenal were distributed,	Public and Stakeholders
July 14, 2020	1b	All jurisdictions consider public and stakeholder comments received; update the plan accordingly	All plan participants
July 21, 2020	2	HMP submitted to NJOEM and FEMA Region II	NJOEM, FEMA Region II
Upon plan approval by FEMA	1a	Plan adoption by resolution by the governing bodies of all participating municipalities	All plan participants

Note: Each number in column 2 identifies specific DMA 2000 requirements, as follows:

- 1a – Prerequisite – Adoption by the Local Governing Body
- 1b – Public Participation
- 2 – Planning Process – Documentation of the Planning Process
- 3a – Risk Assessment – Identifying Hazards
- 3b – Risk Assessment – Profiling Hazard Events
- 3c – Risk Assessment – Assessing Vulnerability: Identifying Assets
- 3d – Risk Assessment – Assessing Vulnerability: Estimating Potential Losses
- 3e – Risk Assessment – Assessing Vulnerability: Analyzing Development Trends
- 4a – Mitigation Strategy – Local Hazard Mitigation Goals
- 4b – Mitigation Strategy – Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Measures
- 4c – Mitigation Strategy – Implementation of Mitigation Measures
- 5a – Plan Maintenance Procedures – Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating the Plan
- 5b – Plan Maintenance Procedures – Implementation through Existing Programs
- 5c – Plan Maintenance Procedures – Continued Public Involvement





## 2.3 STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT

Stakeholders are the individuals, agencies, and jurisdictions that have a vested interest in the recommendations of the HMP, including all planning partners. Diligent efforts were made to assure broad regional, county and local representation in this planning process. To that end, a comprehensive list of stakeholders was developed with the support of the Planning Partnership. Stakeholder outreach was performed early on, and continually throughout the planning process. This HMP update includes information and input provided by these stakeholders where appropriate, as identified in the references.



Figure 2-2. March 3, 2020 Mitigation Strategy Workshop

This subsection discusses the various stakeholders that were invited to participate in the development of this HMP update, and how these stakeholders participated and contributed. This summary listing

cannot possibly represent the total of stakeholders that were aware of and/or contributed to this HMP update, as outreach efforts were being made, both formally and informally, throughout the process by the many planning partners involved in the effort, and documentation of all such efforts is impossible. Instead, this summary is intended to demonstrate the scope and breadth of the stakeholder outreach efforts made during the plan update process:

- All Planning Partnership meetings were open to the public and advertised via the Morris County’s website and social media platforms.
- Participated in the Morris County CRS User Groups meetings
- Attended a large public event to engage with residents and local businesses – Morristown Festival on the Green in September 2019
- Presented at the public October 2019 Board of Freeholders meeting
- Municipalities distributed printed brochures in English and Spanish
- Distributed a stakeholder survey to provide input regarding vulnerabilities, capabilities and mitigation projects.
- Posted draft plan on the Morris County OEM mitigation website and advertised using social media in Spanish and English.
- Distributed letters to regional stakeholders and neighboring counties to review the draft HMP.

### Federal Agencies

Please see Appendix B (Participation Documentation) for further details regarding federal agency participation. All responses to the stakeholder surveys may be found in Appendix D (Public and Stakeholder Outreach).

**FEMA Region II:** Provided updated planning guidance; provided summary and detailed NFIP data for planning area; conducted plan review.

**Picatunny Arsenal:** Picatunny Arsenal representatives attended the Planning Partnership kickoff meeting. In addition, they were asked to participate in the stakeholder surveys and the County sent a letter requesting their review of the draft plan.



Information regarding hazard identification and the risk assessment for this plan update were requested and received or incorporated by reference from the following agencies and organizations:

- National Climatic Data Center (NCDC)
- National Hurricane Center (NHC)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- National Weather Service (NWS)
- Storm Prediction Center (SPC)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- U.S. Census Bureau
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

### State Agencies

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**New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM):** Administered the planning grant; provided updated planning guidance; attended the August 2019 Kickoff Meeting, November 2019 Risk Assessment Meeting, and March 2020 Mitigation Strategy Workshop; worked with local jurisdictions in developing their updated mitigation strategy; consulted with individual municipalities interested in applying for 2019 FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants; and provided review of the draft HMP update.

**New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection:** Provided information regarding dams in Morris County; provided the Community Assistance Visit dates and associated NFIP information for all jurisdictions. In addition, the Bureau of Dam Safety was asked to take the stakeholder survey.

Please see Appendix B (Participation Documentation) for further details regarding state agency participation. All responses to the surveys may be found in Appendix D (Public and Stakeholder Outreach).

### County and Regional Agencies and Commissions and Non-Profits

#### County

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Several County departments were represented on the Steering Committee and actively involved in the HMP update planning process; refer to Table 2-2. As previously noted, Steering Committee members were invited to all meetings, were provided updates via email communication and invited to review the draft HMP. In addition, all County employees were emailed an announcement regarding the HMP commencement and invited to participate in the citizen survey; refer to Appendix D (Public and Stakeholder Participation).

The Morris County CRS Users Group was kept informed of the HMP update planning process. A presentation was made at the August 2019 CRS Users Group meeting to announce the commencement of the HMP update with a discussion on how CRS-participating communities can strive to maximize credits during the HMP update process. The CRS Users Group Program Coordinator was a member of the HMP Steering Committee and continued to keep the Users Group informed throughout the plan update.

#### Regional and Local Stakeholders

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All Planning Partnership meetings were announced on the Morris County HMP project website and posted on social media in English and Spanish to invite residents and stakeholders. In addition, the County and municipal representatives emailed regional and local stakeholders requesting their participation in stakeholder sector-



specific surveys to provide input on vulnerable assets, capabilities, and current/potential future mitigation projects; and invited to provide input on the draft HMP.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, questions were included that specifically targeted gaps/challenges faced from March to June 2020 in an effort to obtain additional feedback on the disease outbreak hazard and the updated mitigation strategy. Refer to Appendix C (Participation Documentation) for further details regarding regional and local stakeholder agency attendance at meetings and Appendix D for additional details on the public and stakeholder outreach, including responses received to the surveys.

### Emergency Services

The HMP commencement was discussed at the September 2019 Municipal OEM Coordinators meeting. In addition, numerous Municipal OEM Coordinators participated as points of contact for municipalities and contributed to the plan. Morris County OEM presented the HMP to the Morris Township Police Department’s Police Academy on September 30, 2019. Residents in attendance at the Academy were encouraged to participate by taking the citizen survey.

Emergency services stakeholders were contacted directly by Morris County and participating municipalities to take a stakeholder survey which included capabilities, vulnerabilities and mitigation projects/actions. The surveys were distributed to the following:

- Municipal OEM Coordinators
- New Vernon Fire Department – survey response submitted
- New Vernon First Aid
- Green Village Fire Department – survey response submitted
- Township of Hanover Police Department
- Township of Hanover Fire District 2 (Whippany Fire Company)
- Township of Hanover Fire District 3 (Cedar Knolls Fire Department)
- Township of Pequannock Police – survey response submitted
- Township of Pequannock Fire Companies 1 and 2 – survey responses submitted
- Township of Pequannock First Aid Squad – survey response submitted
- Chatham Borough Police – survey response submitted
- Chatham Borough Fire – survey response submitted
- Chatham Borough EMS – survey response submitted
- Chatham Borough OEM – survey response submitted
- Long Hill Township Police
- Long Hill First Aid Squad – survey response submitted
- Rockaway Borough Fire Marshall
- Long Hill Township Police Department – survey response submitted
- Long Hill Township First Aid Squad
- Stirling Fire Company
- Millington Fire Company – survey response submitted
- Kinnelon Emergency Management – survey response submitted
- Montville Township Fire Department – survey response submitted
- Montville Township First Aid Squad – survey response submitted
- Montville Township Police Department – survey response submitted
- Long Valley First Aid Squad – survey response submitted
- Towaco Volunteer Fire Department – survey response submitted
- Pine Brook Volunteer Fire Department – survey response submitted
- Lake Hiawatha Fire Department – survey response submitted



- Lake Parsippany Volunteer Fire Company District 3 – survey response submitted
- Parsippany Troy Hills Fire District 6 – survey response submitted
- Harding Township Police Department – survey response submitted
- Harding Township Fire District No. 3 – survey response submitted
- Roxbury Township Police Department – survey responses submitted
- Roxbury Fire/EMS Department – survey responses submitted

### Health and Social Services

The following social services providers were contacted directly by Morris County and participating municipalities to take a stakeholder survey which included the identification of specific mitigation actions/projects.

- Morris County Office of Health Management
- Morris County Department of Human Services
- Morris County American Red Cross
- Morris County Office of Temporary Assistance
- Morris County Morris Area Paratransit System (MAPS)
- Harding Township Board of Health
- Township of Hanover Public Health Nurse
- Chilton Hospital
- Township of Pequannock Health Officer – survey responses submitted
- Township of Pequannock Municipal Alliance Committee
- Library of the Chathams – survey response submitted
- Garden Terrace Nursing Home
- Montville Township Department of Social Services
- Montville Township Health Officer – survey response submitted
- Long Hill Township Medical Reserve Corps
- Long Hill Township Social Services Annex Coordinator
- Heath Village – survey response submitted
- Montville Senior House and Social Services Department – survey response submitted
- Township of Parsippany Health and Human Services – survey response submitted
- Roxbury Social Services – survey response submitted

### Utilities

Southern Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (SMCMUA) attended the March 2020 Mitigation Strategy Workshop, identified vulnerabilities and mitigation actions in the plan. In addition, SMCMUA submitted a survey response. The following utilities were contacted directly to take a stakeholder survey.

- Verizon
- PSE&G Electric
- PSE&G Gas
- Two Bridges Sewerage Authority
- JCP&L – survey response submitted
- New Jersey American Water
- Township of Hanover Sewer Authority
- Madison-Chatham Joint Meeting - Water Pollution Control Facility for Chatham and Madison
- Montville Township Water and Sewer Department – survey response submitted
- Hanover Sewerage Authority – survey response submitted
- Township of Roxbury Ajax Terrace Water Pollution Control Plant – survey response submitted





- Roxbury Water Department – survey response submitted

### Business Commerce

The Morris County Chamber of Commerce was contacted directly to take a stakeholder survey customized for the business/commerce sector. All municipalities were asked to distribute this survey to their local chambers of commerce and large employers.

- Township of Pequannock Chamber of Commerce
- Township of Pequannock Economic Development Advisory Committee
- Montville Township Chamber of Commerce – survey response received
- Long Hill Township Chamber of Commerce
- Private businesses – several submitted survey responses

### Transportation

Representatives at the following transportation and public works agencies were emailed directly and asked to take the transportation survey to provide input on capabilities, vulnerabilities and mitigation strategies.

- New Jersey Department of Transportation
- NJ Transit
- North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority
- Harding Township Public Works
- Township of Hanover Public Works
- Township of Pequannock Public Works
- Township of Pequannock Engineering
- Chatham Borough Department of Public Works – survey response submitted
- Long Hill Township Department of Public Works – survey response submitted
- Montville Township Department of Public Works – survey response submitted
- Rockaway Borough Department of Public Works
- Long Hill Township Department of Public Works
- Parsippany Department of Public Works – survey response submitted
- Roxbury Township Department of Public Works – survey response submitted

### Academia

The following academic institutions were asked to take a stakeholder survey customized for academia. In addition, all municipalities were asked to distribute this survey to their local school districts.

- Morris County Community College
- Drew University
- College of Saint Elizabeth – survey response submitted
- Centenary University – Parsippany
- Fairleigh Dickenson and Rutgers
- Rutgers University
  - Office of the State Climatologist
  - School of Planning and Public Policy
  - Climate Institute
  - Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program
- Superintendent of Schools Hanover Township Board of Education
- Superintendent of Schools Hanover Park Regional Board of Education – survey response submitted
- Township of Pequannock School Business Administrator



- Township of Pequannock Superintendent – survey response submitted
- Chatham Superintendent of Schools – survey response submitted
- Montville Township Board of Education and Public Schools – survey response submitted
- Rockaway Borough Board of Education
- Long Hill Township Board of Education – survey response submitted
- West Morris Regional High School District – survey response submitted
- Washington Township Schools – survey response submitted
- Chester Public School District – survey response submitted

### Regional Agencies and Neighboring Counties

A meeting was held with the New Jersey Highlands Council to discuss the current planning in Morris County, the funding availability and potential growth areas in the Highlands Region. Their capabilities related to hazard mitigation are summarized in Section 5 (Capability Assessment). Further, each annex summarizes planning conducted with the Highlands as well as if the community is located in the Preservation or Planning Area. The New Jersey Highlands Council also responded to the stakeholder survey and indicated they would be able to review the draft HMP when available. Their input has been integrated into the HMP update.

The following regional agencies and neighboring counties were asked to take a stakeholder survey. In addition, Morris County sent letters to each of the County OEM departments as well as the County Administrators. These letters are included in Appendix D (Public and Stakeholder Outreach). Additional participation is noted below:

- New Jersey Highlands Council – Meeting with Morris County planning consultant and survey response submitted
- Sustainable Jersey
- New Jersey Future
- Passaic County, New Jersey
- Hunterdon County, New Jersey
- Warren County, New Jersey
- Sussex County, New Jersey
- Somerset County, New Jersey
- Essex County, New Jersey
- Union County, New Jersey



## 2.4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT

In order to facilitate better coordination and communication between the Planning Partnership and citizens and to involve the public in the planning process, it was determined that meeting dates/locations will be made available to the public via the Morris County OEM website dedicated to the HMP update and social media; and the draft HMP available on the Morris County website. The participating partners also feel that community input on the HMP will increase the likelihood of hazard mitigation becoming one of the standard considerations in the evolution and growth of the County.

The Planning Partnership has made the following efforts toward public participation in the development and review of the HMP:

- The Morris County OEM created a dedicated website for this project. The website went live in August 2019 and was continuously updated throughout the planning process. The public website contains a project overview, meeting announcements, draft documents for review and comment, and a link to the citizens and stakeholder surveys; refer to Figure 2-4 for a screenshot of this public website.



Figure 2-3. 2020 HMP Multi-Lingual Brochure

Figure 2-4. Screenshots of Websites for the 2020 HMP Update





- All hazard mitigation Planning Partnership meetings that were open to the public were advertised on the Morris County website and social media (Facebook and Twitter). The social media posts were shared and distributed widely across the County; refer to Figure 2-5 for an example Facebook post by the Hanover Eagle News. Additional examples of municipal outreach are presented in Appendix D.
- The Morris County Administrator issued an Official News Release that announced the commencement of the HMP update and invited the public to attend the kickoff meeting and take the citizen survey.



Figure 2-5. Hanover Eagle Newspaper Facebook Post Announcing the Kickoff Meeting

- An on-line natural hazards preparedness citizen survey was developed to gauge household preparedness that may impact the County and to assess the level of knowledge of tools and techniques to assist in reducing risk and loss of those hazards. The questionnaire asked quantifiable questions about citizen perception of risk, knowledge of mitigation, and support of community programs. The questionnaire also asked several demographic questions to help analyze trends. The questionnaire has been available on the public website since September 2019, and further advertised on additional County and municipal websites and on printed materials in English and Spanish. Responses were collected and provided back to plan participants for consideration in the mitigation action development (228 responses in total). Appendix D summarizes public input received through the website, the online survey, and other sources.

- A hazard mitigation planning brochure was developed to inform the public of the planning process, provide local contact information, and encourage the public to review the plan and provide input. This brochure was provided to all plan participants in electronic and hard copy format to distribute in their offices and communities; refer to Figure 2-3 and Appendix D. The brochure was made available in English and Spanish.

- All plan participants were encouraged to distribute the project brochure and post the links to the project webpage and citizen survey. Refer to Figure 2-6 which illustrates the brochure in the Morris County Department of Planning & Preservation lobby. In addition, all participating municipalities were requested to advertise the availability of the project website, citizen survey and stakeholder surveys via local homepage links, and other available public announcement methods (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, email blasts). Refer to Appendix D which highlights these local efforts.



Figure 2-6. Brochure in the Morris County Department of Planning & Preservation Lobby



- Morris County attended the Morristown Festival on the Green on September 29, 2019 to share the update process with residents and local businesses; survey attendees on their preferred mitigation projects in the County; distribute materials including the citizen survey and multi-lingual brochure. Over 80 residents stopped by the mitigation table and 45 residents participated in the survey selecting their preferred mitigation project type to be implemented in the County to reduce natural hazard risk. Refer to Figure 2-7.

Figure 2-7. Resident Survey at the Morristown Festival on the Green - Preferred Mitigation Actions Types to be Implemented in the County



- Morris County residents were provided opportunity to comment on the draft HMP before submittal to FEMA. The HMP was posted on the HMP public website on June 9, 2020 for review. All jurisdictions were requested to assist with advertising the plan was posted via their websites and social media. Public comments received through July 10, 2020 were distributed to Planning Partnership for their consideration. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Morris County and Steering Committee members opted to communicate via email to consider and discuss comments received, and integrate into the plan accordingly.

Additional examples of public outreach efforts, and results of surveys distributed, are presented in Appendix D (Public and Stakeholder Outreach Documentation).



## 2.5 INCORPORATION OF EXISTING PLANS, STUDIES, REPORTS AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The Morris County HMP strives to use the best available technical information, plans, studies and reports throughout the plan process to support hazard profiling; risk and vulnerability assessment; review and evaluation of mitigation capabilities; and the identification, development and prioritization of county and local mitigation strategies.

The asset and inventory data used for the risk and vulnerability assessments is presented in the County Profile (Section 3). Details of the source of this data, along with technical information on how the data was used to develop the risk and vulnerability assessment, is presented in the Risk Assessment, specifically in Section 4.2 Methodology and Tools, as well as throughout the hazard profiles in Section 4.4. (Hazard Profiles). Further, the source of technical data and information used may be found within the References section.

Plans, reports, and other technical information were identified and provided directly by the County, participating jurisdictions, and numerous stakeholders involved in the planning effort, as well as through independent research by the planning consultant. The County and participating jurisdictions were tasked with updating the inventory of their Planning and Regulatory capabilities in Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) and providing relevant planning and regulatory documents, as applicable. Relevant documents, including plans, reports, and ordinances were reviewed to identify the following:

- Existing County and municipal capabilities.
- Needs and opportunities to develop or enhance capabilities, which may be identified within the County or local mitigation strategies.
- Mitigation-related goals or objectives considered in the review and update of the overall Goals and Objectives in Section 6 (Mitigation Strategy).
- Proposed, in-progress, or potential mitigation projects, actions, and initiatives to be incorporated into the updated County and local mitigation strategies.

The following local regulations, codes, ordinances, and plans were reviewed during this process to develop mitigation planning goals, objectives, and strategies that are consistent across local and regional planning and regulatory mechanisms to accomplish complementary and mutually supportive strategies:

- Master Plans
- Building Codes
- Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances
- NFIP Flood Damage Prevention Ordinances
- Site Plan Requirements
- Stormwater Management Plans
- Emergency Management and Response Plans
- Land Use and Open Space Plans
- Capital Plans
- New Jersey State Hazard Mitigation Plan (2019)

## 2.6 INTEGRATION WITH EXISTING PLANNING MECHANISMS AND PROGRAMS

Effective mitigation is achieved when hazard awareness and risk management approaches and strategies become an integral part of public activities and decision-making. Within the County there are many existing plans and



programs that support hazard risk management, and thus it is critical that this hazard mitigation plan integrate and coordinate with, and complement, those mechanisms.

Section 5 (Capability Assessment) provides a summary and description of the existing plans, programs, and regulatory mechanisms at all levels of government (federal, state, county, and local) that support hazard mitigation within the County. Within each jurisdictional annex in Section 9, the County and each participating jurisdiction identified how they integrated hazard risk management into their existing planning, regulatory, and operational/administrative framework (*integration capabilities*) and how they intend to promote this integration (*integration actions*).

A further summary of these continued efforts to develop and promote a comprehensive and holistic approach to hazard risk management and mitigation is presented in Section 7 (Plan Maintenance).

## 2.7 CONTINUED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Morris County and participating jurisdictions are committed to the continued involvement of the public in the hazard mitigation process. This HMP update will be made available for review on the HMP public website. Each jurisdiction’s elected official shall be responsible for receiving, tracking, and filing public comments regarding this HMP update.

A notice regarding annual updates of the plan and the location of plan copies will be publicized annually after the annual plan evaluation meeting (refer to Section 7 – Plan Maintenance) and posted on the public website at <https://oem.morriscountynj.gov/mitigation/2020-mitigation-plan-update/>.

The public will have an opportunity to comment on the HMP update as a part of the annual mitigation planning evaluation process and the next five-year mitigation plan update. The HMP Coordinator (currently Keith Heimburg, Office of Emergency Management) is responsible for coordinating the plan evaluation portion of the meeting, soliciting feedback, collecting and reviewing the comments, and ensuring their incorporation in the 5-year plan update as appropriate; however, members of the Planning Partnership will assist the HMP Coordinator. Additional meetings may also be held as deemed necessary. The purpose of these meetings would be to provide the public an opportunity to express concerns, opinions, and ideas about the HMP.

Further details regarding continued public involvement are provided in Section 7 (Plan Maintenance).

After completion of this HMP update, implementation and ongoing maintenance will continue to be a function of the Planning Partnership. The Planning Partnership will review the plan and accept public comment as part of an annual review and as part of five-year mitigation plan updates.

A notice regarding annual updates of the plan will be publicized annually after the HMP Committee’s annual evaluation and posted on the public web site.

Keith Heimburg has been identified as the ongoing County HMP Coordinator (see Section 7), and is responsible for receiving, tracking, and filing public comments regarding this HMP update. Contact information is:

Mailing Address: Morris County Office of Emergency Management  
 PO Box 900, Morristown, NJ 07960

Contact Name: Keith Heimburg

Email Address: KHeimburg@co.morris.nj.us