



SECTION 3. PLANNING PROCESS

This section describes the mitigation planning process for the Cattaraugus County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Specifically, this section discusses (1) an introduction to the planning process; (2) organization of the planning process; (3) stakeholder outreach and involvement; (4) integration of existing data, plans, and technical information; (5) integration with existing planning mechanisms and programs; and (6) continued public involvement.

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This section includes a description of the planning process used to update the 2014 Cattaraugus County 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 set forth in the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) and that the planning process has 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:

- The plan is multi-jurisdictional, with the intention of including all municipalities in the county. Cattaraugus County invited all municipalities and several stakeholder organizations to join with them in the planning process. The county and its 43 local governments participated in the 2019-2020 planning process, as indicated in Table 3-1. The plan considers natural and man-made hazards of concern facing the county, thereby satisfying the natural hazard mitigation planning requirements specified in DMA 2000.
- The plan was developed following the process outlined by the DMA 2000, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulations, prevailing FEMA guidance, and the 2017 New York State (NYS) Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) hazard mitigation planning standard. Following this process ensures that all the requirements are met and supportive of the HMP review.

Table 3-1. Participating Cattaraugus County Jurisdictions

Jurisdictions		
Cattaraugus County		
Town of Allegany	Town of Freedom	Town of Olean
Village of Allegany	Village of Gowanda	Town of Otto
Town of Ashford	Town of Great Valley	Town of Perrysburg
Town of Carrollton	Town of Hinsdale	Town of Persia
Village of Cattaraugus	Town of Humphrey	Town of Portville
Town of Coldspring	Town of Ischua	Village of Portville
Town of Conewango	Town of Leon	Town of Randolph
Town of Dayton	Town of Little Valley	Town of Red House
Village of Delevan	Village of Little Valley	City of Salamanca
Town of East Otto	Town of Lyndon	Town of Salamanca
Town of Ellicottville	Town of Machias	Village of South Dayton
Village of Ellicottville	Town of Mansfield	Town of South Valley
Town of Farmersville	Town of Napoli	Town of Yorkshire
Town of Franklinville	Town of New Albion	
Village of Franklinville	City of Olean	

The Cattaraugus 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 municipal and regional agencies and staff, as well as stakeholders, federal and state agencies, and the residents



of the county. The HMP Steering Committee solicited information from local agencies and individuals with specific knowledge of certain natural hazards and past historical events. In addition, the Steering and Planning Committees took into consideration planning and zoning codes, ordinances, and recent land use planning decisions. The hazard mitigation strategies identified in this HMP update were developed through an extensive planning process involving local, county and regional agencies, residents, and stakeholders.

3.2 ORGANIZATION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

This section of the plan 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.

3.2.1 Organization of Planning Partnership

Cattaraugus County applied for and was awarded a multi-jurisdictional planning grant under the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation program, which supported the development of this multi-jurisdictional HMP update.

Project management and grant administration has been the responsibility of the Cattaraugus County Department of Public Works (DPW). A contract planning consultant (Tetra Tech, Inc., referred herein as Tetra Tech) was selected to guide the county and participating jurisdictions through the HMP update process. A contract between Tetra Tech and Cattaraugus County was executed in June 2019. Specifically, Tetra Tech was tasked with the following:

- Assistance with the organization of a Steering Committee and the Planning Partnership.
- Assistance with the development and implementation of a public and stakeholder outreach program.
- Data collection.
- Facilitation and attendance at meetings (i.e., Steering Committee, Planning Partnership, municipal, stakeholder, public, and others).
- Review and update of the hazards of concern, hazard profiling, and risk assessment.
- Assistance with the review and update of mitigation planning goals and objectives.
- Assistance with the review of past mitigation strategies progress.
- 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 plan documents.

In July 2019, Cattaraugus County notified all municipalities within the county of the pending planning process and invited them to formally participate. Jurisdictions were asked to formally notify the county of their intent to participate (via a Letter of Intent to Participate) and to identify planning POCs for facilitating municipal participation and representing the interests of their respective communities. Completed Letters of Intent to Participate are provided in Appendix B (Participation Matrix), as available.

To facilitate plan development, Cattaraugus County developed a Steering Committee to provide guidance and direction to the HMP update effort and to ensure the resulting document will be embraced politically by the constituency within the planning area (Table 3-2). All municipalities participating in the plan update authorized the Steering Committee to perform certain activities on their behalf, via the Letter of Intent to Participate. Specifically, the Steering Committee was charged with the following:

- Providing guidance and oversight of the planning process on behalf of the general planning partnership.
- Attending and participating in Steering Committee meetings.



- 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 are the best available.
 - Reviewing and updating the hazard mitigation goals.
 - Identifying and screening of appropriate mitigation strategies and activities.
- Reviewing and commenting on plan documents prior to submission to NYS DHSES and FEMA.

The Steering Committee provided guidance and leadership, oversaw the planning process, and acted as the point of contact for all participating jurisdictions and the various interest groups in the county. Steering Committee members are listed in Table 3-2 below.

Table 3-2. Cattaraugus County Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee Members

Name	Title	Affiliation
Jack Searles	County Administrator	Cattaraugus County
Christopher Baker	Director of Emergency Services	Cattaraugus County Emergency Services
Crystal Abers	Director of Economic Development, Planning, and Tourism	Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning, and Tourism
Mark C. Burr	Director of Engineering	Cattaraugus County DPW
Kathleen M. Ellis	Commissioner of Public Works	Cattaraugus County DPW
Naomi Gennings	National Incident Management System (NIMS) Coordinator	Cattaraugus County Emergency Services
Michael Prinino	Deputy Commissioner	Cattaraugus County Department of Public Works (DPW)
Kimberly A. Merrill	Secretary to the Commissioner of Public Works	Cattaraugus County DPW

Each municipality received a copy of the Planning Partner Expectations, outlining 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 as noted above. Table 3-3 lists the current municipal members of the Planning Partnership at the time of this HMP’s publication. It is noted that the Steering Committee members also are part of the overall project Planning Partnership, fulfilling these responsibilities on behalf of Cattaraugus County.

The planning partnership (Steering and Committee and participating jurisdictions) were charged with the following responsibilities:

- 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.
- Support and promote the public involvement process.
- Report on progress of mitigation actions identified in prior or existing HMPs, as applicable.
- Identify, develop, and prioritize appropriate mitigation initiatives.
- Report on progress of integration of prior or existing HMPs into other planning processes and municipal operations.
- Support and develop a jurisdictional annex for their jurisdiction.
- Review, amend, and approve all sections of the plan update.



- Adopt, implement, and maintain the plan update.

Table 3-3. Cattaraugus County Hazard Mitigation Planning Partnership Members

Jurisdiction	Primary Point of Contact	Title	Alternate Point of Contact	Title
Cattaraugus County	Kimberly A. Merrill	Secretary to the Commissioner of Public Works	Naomi Gennings	NIMS Coordinator
Allegany (T)	John Moshier	Highway Superintendent	Jim Hitchcock	Supervisor
Allegany (V)	Frank Snyder	Public Works Superintendent	John Helgager	Code Enforcement Officer
Ashford (T)	Tim Engels	Highway Superintendent	John Pfeffer	Supervisor
Carrollton (T)	Michael Fox	Highway Superintendent	Barry Shields	Deputy Highway Superintendent
Cattaraugus (V)	Jonathan Wolfe	Highway Superintendent	Tom Patterson	Deputy Highway Superintendent
Coldspring (T)	Tina Hyde	Supervisor	Ronald Brooks	Highway Superintendent
Conewango (T)	Bryan Farmer	Highway Superintendent	Scott Patterson	Deputy Highway Superintendent
Dayton (T)	Angelina Mardino-Miller	Supervisor	Stephen Raiport	Emergency Manager
Delevan (V)	Chris Lexer	Code Enforcement Officer	Daren Smith	Public Works Superintendent
East Otto (T)	Thomas Benz	Highway Superintendent	Ann Rugg	Town Supervisor
Ellicottville (T)	Ben Slotman	Town Engineer	Thomas Scharf	Highway Superintendent
Ellicottville (V)	Ben Slotman	Town Engineer	Mark Chudy	Superintendent of Public Works
Farmersville (T)	Donna Vickman	Councilwoman	Barry Tingue	Highway Superintendent
Franklinville (T)	Terry McClory	Highway Superintendent	Lorrie Fisher	Deputy Supervisor
Franklinville (V)	Cary Hatch	Superintendent of Public Works	Patti Sage	Village Clerk/Treasurer/RMO
Freedom (T)	James Haggerty	Highway Supervisor	Randy Lester	Supervisor
Gowanda (V)	Carol Sheibley	Deputy Mayor	Nicholas Crassi	Disaster Coordinator
Great Valley (T)	Daniel Brown	Supervisor	Richard Rinko	Code Officer
Hinsdale (T)	Jeff VanDeCar	Town Supervisor	Ted Mascho	Highway Superintendent
Humphrey (T)	Jason Pearl	Highway Superintendent	Carrie Childs	Supervisor
Ischua (T)	Jeff Goodyear	Supervisor	Richard Michael	Highway Superintendent
Leon (T)	Joel Fiebelkorn	Highway Superintendent	Fred Filock	Supervisor
Little Valley (T)	Sue Koch	Clerk	Thomas J. Crouse	Highway Superintendent
Little Valley (V)	Bob Young	Public Works Superintendent	Kory Gross	Streets Superintendent
Lyndon (T)	George Schneider	Highway Superintendent	Frank Puglisi	Clerk
Machias (T)	Tim Byroads	Highway Superintendent	Stephen Cornwall	Supervisor
Mansfield (T)	Bradley D. Hurley	Highway Superintendent	Robert C. Keis Sr	Town Supervisor
Napoli (T)	Dale Blood	Highway Superintendent	Joe Winsor	Supervisor
New Albion (T)	David Rupp	Highway Supervisor	Sherry Rupp	Town Clerk
Olean (C)	Bob Ring	Public Works Director	Tim Richardson	Fire Chief
Olean (T)	Patrick Zink	Highway Superintendent	Annette Parker	Supervisor



Jurisdiction	Primary Point of Contact	Title	Alternate Point of Contact	Title
Otto (T)	Robert Barber	Superintendent of Highways	Ron Wasmund	Supervisor
Perrysburg (T)	Daniel Stang	Highway Superintendent	Dave Heckman	Code Enforcement
Persia (T)	Daniel Ackley	Highway Superintendent	John T. Walgus	Supervisor
Portville (T)	John Krist	Code Enforcement	Tim Emley	Supervisor
Portville (V)	Anthony Evans	Mayor	John Krist	Code Enforcement
Randolph (T)	Cody Uhl	Highway Superintendent	Dave Heckman	Code Enforcement
Red House (T)	Tamara Booth	Town Supervisor	Brian Booth	Superintendent of Highways
Salamanca (C)	Jim Nelligan	Salamanca City DPW	Robert Carpenter	Superintendent of Public Works
Salamanca (T)	Tim Jackson	Supervisor	Shelley Bryant	Town Clerk
South Dayton (V)	Jim Pryll	Highway	Scott Kerr	Mayor
South Valley (T)	Heather Lamberson	Supervisor	Mary Ruth	Clerk
Yorkshire (T)	Chris Lexer	Highway Superintendent	Marcia Spencer	Supervisor

Notes: (C) = City (T) = Town (V) = Village

The jurisdictional Letter of Intent to Participate identifies the above Planning Partner Expectations as serving to identify those activities comprising overall participation by jurisdictions throughout the planning process. The jurisdictions in Cattaraugus 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 natural hazard risks being considered in this plan. Cattaraugus County’s intent was to encourage all-inclusive participation by jurisdictions and to accommodate their specific needs and limitations while still meeting the intents and purpose of plan update participation. Such accommodations have included the establishment of a Steering Committee, engaging a contract consultant to assume certain elements of the plan update process on behalf of the jurisdictions, and the provision of additional and alternative mechanisms to meet the purposes and intent of mitigation planning.

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

Appendix B (Participation Matrix) identifies those individuals who represented the municipalities during this planning effort and indicates how they contributed to the planning process.

All 43 of the municipalities in Cattaraugus County actively participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and have a designated NFIP Floodplain Administrator (FPA). All known FPAs were informed of the planning process, reviewed the plan documents, and provided 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.

3.2.2 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, supported interaction with other stakeholders, and assisted with public involvement efforts.

Table 3-4 provides a summary of Steering Committee and Planning Partnership meetings held, highlights key milestones met during the development of the HMP update, and identifies which DMA 2000 requirements the activities satisfy. Documentation of meetings (e.g., agendas, sign-in sheets, minutes) are in Appendix C (Meeting Documentation). Table 3-4 identifies only the formal meetings held during plan development and does not reflect the planning activities conducted by individuals and groups throughout the planning process. In addition to these meetings, there was a great deal of communication between the county, committee members, and the contract consultant through individual local meetings, electronic mail (e-mail), and by phone.

After completion of the HMP update, implementation and ongoing maintenance will become a function of the planning partnership (Steering Committee and 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 3-4 below summarizes a list of mitigation planning activities and meetings and their respective participants. A more detailed list of participants for each meeting is provided in Appendix B (Participation Matrix) and Appendix C (Meeting Documentation).

Table 3-4. Summary of Mitigation Planning Activities / Efforts

Date	DMA 2000 Requirement	Description of Activity	Participants
July 24, 2019	1b, 2	Steering Committee Kick-Off Meeting (Data Collection, Hazards of Concern Identification, Public Outreach Strategy)	Cattaraugus County, Consultant
November 7, 2019	1b, 2, 3a	Planning Partnership Kick-Off Meeting (Municipal Kick-Off Meeting and Planning Overview)	Cattaraugus County, Ashford (T), Delevan (V), Hinsdale (T), Leon (T), Mansfield (T), Napoli (T), New Albion (T), Olean (T), Persia (T), Portville (V), Randolph (T), Salamanca (T), Yorkshire (T), Ellicottville Central Schools, Olean General Hospital, Pioneer Central School District, New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (NYS DHSES), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Consultant
January 15-17, 2020	1b, 2, 3a, 4a, 4b, 4c	Local Support Meetings (Discuss information gathering worksheets, municipal problem areas, status of past mitigation actions)	Cattaraugus County, Ashford (T), Dayton (T), Delevan (V), East Otto (T), Ellicottville (T), Leon (T), Little Valley (T), Little Valley (V), Machias (T), Mansfield (T), Otto (T), Perrysburg (T), Persia (T), Randolph (T), Red House (T), South Dayton (V), Yorkshire (T), New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (NYS DHSES)
August 18, 2020	2, 4a	Steering Committee Meeting (Review of goals and objectives)	Cattaraugus County, Consultant
September 3, 2020	1b, 2, 3, 4b	Risk Assessment Review Meeting (Presentation of risk assessment overview, development of hazard problem statements by community)	Cattaraugus County, Allegany (V), Ashford (T), Coldspring (T), Ellicottville (T), Farmersville (T), Franklinville (T), Gowanda (V), Hinsdale (T), Ischua (T), Leon (T), Little Valley (T), Little Valley (V), Mansfield (T), Napoli (T), New Albion (T), Olean (C), Otto (T), Persia (T), Portville (V), Randolph (T), South Valley (T), NYS DHSES, Consultant



Date	DMA 2000 Requirement	Description of Activity	Participants
September 21-29, 2020	2, 4a, 4b, 4c	Mitigation Strategy Workshops (Review goals and objectives, develop mitigation actions based on problem statements)	Cattaraugus County, Allegany (T), Allegany (V), Carrollton (T), Cattaraugus (V), Conewango (T), Dayton (T), Delevan (V), East Otto (T), Ellicottville (T), Ellicottville (V), Farmersville (T), Franklinville (T), Franklinville (V), Freedom (T), Gowanda (V), Hinsdale (T), Humphrey (T), Leon (T), Little Valley (T), Little Valley (V), Lyndon (T), Machias (T), Mansfield (T), Napoli (T), New Albion (T), Olean (C), Olean (T), Otto (T), Perrysburg (T), Persia (T), Portville (T), Portville (V), Randolph (T), Salamanca (C), Salamanca (T), South Dayton (V), Yorkshire (T), Consultant
November 19, 2020	1b, 2, 3, 4, 5	Draft Plan Review Meeting (Receive comments from the public on the draft plan)	Cattaraugus County, Dayton (T), East Otto (T), Ellicottville (T), Ellicottville (V), Gowanda (V), Leon (T), Little Valley (T), Little Valley (V), Mansfield (T), Olean (C), Persia (T), Portville (T), NYS DHSES, FEMA Region II, Consultant
December 9, 2020	1a, 1b, 2, 3, 4, 5	Final Plan Review Meeting (Present the updated HMP for adoption by the county)	Cattaraugus County

Note: (C) = City (T) = Town (V) = Village TBD = to be determined.

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

3.3 STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT

Stakeholders are the individuals, agencies, and jurisdictions that have a vested interest in the recommendations of the hazard mitigation plan, including all planning partners.

Diligent efforts were made to ensure 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 Steering Committee and Planning Partnership. Stakeholder outreach was performed early and throughout the planning process. This HMP update includes information and input provided by these stakeholders where appropriate, as identified in the references.

The following is a list of the various stakeholders that were invited to participate in the development of this plan, along with a summary of how these stakeholders participated and contributed. This summary listing does not represent the total of stakeholders that were aware of and 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.





3.3.1 Federal Agencies

FEMA Region II: Provided updated planning guidance, provided summary and detailed data from the NFIP (including repetitive loss information), and conducted plan review.

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

- National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)
- 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

3.3.2 State Agencies

NYS DHSES: Administered planning grant and facilitated FEMA review, provided updated planning guidance, and provided review of draft and final HMP.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC): Provided data and information.

3.3.3 Cattaraugus County Departments

Several county departments were represented on the Steering Committee and involved in the HMP update planning process. Appendix B (Participation Matrix) provides further details regarding regional and local stakeholder agencies. All responses to the stakeholder surveys are in Appendix D (Public and Stakeholder Outreach).

Cattaraugus County Administrator: The County Administrator coordinates the daily operations of the county. The Administrator is directly responsible to the Legislature and performs the functions of a chief administrative officer on behalf of the Legislature, with the Legislature retaining final administrative authority. The County Administrator attended the Steering Committee Kickoff Meeting.

Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning, and Tourism: The mission of the Department of Economic Development, Planning, and Tourism is to work to improve all of the county's communities by retaining and expanding employment, providing planning assistance to municipal governments, encouraging investment by the private sector, fostering entrepreneurship, and promoting the county as a tourism destination, with the goal of building a healthy tax base that supports the services required by the county's residents. Staff from the department attended the Planning Partnership Kickoff Meeting, Risk Assessment Review Meeting, and Mitigation Strategy Workshop, and provided information at each meeting.

Cattaraugus County Department of Public Works: The Department of Public Works maintains the county's roads, bridges, culverts, and drainage infrastructure. It undertakes snowplowing, paving, surface treatment, ditching, and pothole patching, and has a capital projects program for major road improvements, culvert and bridge replacements/rehabs, and buildings and grounds projects. It receives millions of dollars for capital improvements and other projects under the Consolidated Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) and other funding programs. The Department of Public Works staff served on the Steering Committee from the beginning of the planning process. With the COVID-19 pandemic, Public Works staff took over leading the Steering



Committee from Emergency Services. Public Works staff worked with county and municipal officials to collect the information required, schedule and attend meetings, and review documents.

Cattaraugus County Emergency Services: Cattaraugus County Emergency Services is designated to coordinate all emergency management activities, including mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery input. The primary responsibilities of Emergency Services include emergency planning and management, fire service and emergency medical services (EMS) coordination, and training first responders.

The Director of Emergency Services/County Fire Coordinator and NIMS Coordinator both served on the Steering Committee throughout the planning process. Emergency Services provided data including information regarding temporary housing and evacuation routes, facilitated jurisdictional and agency outreach, reviewed sections of the plan, and contributed to the mitigation strategy. Emergency Services staff met with municipal officials in January 2020 to assist them in completing required documentation and answering questions.

Cattaraugus County Office of Real Property and GIS Services: This office coordinates training and activities of property assessors, maintains tax maps, and records deeds. It maintains geographic information system (GIS) data that was used in the HMP update. The GIS Coordinator provided various GIS data sets.

3.3.4 Regional and Local Stakeholders

Appendix B (Participation Matrix) provides further details regarding regional and local stakeholder agencies.

Stakeholder Surveys

The stakeholder groups listed below were directly contacted by Cattaraugus County to take a stakeholder survey, which included the identification of specific mitigation strategies; attend meetings of the Planning Partnership; and review the draft HMP.

- Academia – all schools and school districts in the county
- Businesses and commercial industries
- All state, county, and local emergency service providers (police, fire, EMS)
- Hospitals and healthcare facilities located in Cattaraugus County
- All state, county, and local highway and public works departments
- Utility providers in the county

Results of the surveys are in Appendix D (Public and Stakeholder Outreach). Feedback was reviewed by the Steering Committee and planning partnership and integrated where appropriate in the plan. Of all of the groups surveyed, the only survey responses received by the county were from emergency services organizations: the Allegany Police Department and the New York State Police Zone 3. Neither organization reported being impacted by previous hazard events, and reported that their facilities can withstand hazard impacts. Both reported that they believed that the county and municipal capabilities were adequate to address hazard vulnerability.

Meeting Participation

The following stakeholders were represented at one or more meetings of the Planning Partnership, and provided information for inclusion in the HMP:

- Ellicottville Central Schools
- Pioneer Central School District
- Olean General Hospital



3.3.5 Adjacent Counties

Cattaraugus County has tried to keep surrounding counties and municipalities apprised of the project and allowed the opportunity to provide input to this planning process. Specifically, the following adjoining and nearby county representatives were contacted in July 2019 to inform them about the availability of the project website, draft plan documents, and surveys; and to invite them to provide input to the planning process.

- Allegany County, New York
- Chautauqua County, New York
- Erie County, New York
- McKean County, Pennsylvania
- Warren County, Pennsylvania
- Wyoming County, New York

Documentation of the outreach to neighboring counties was not maintained, as the outreach was informal. For instance, the county's contracted consultant's project manager discussed the planning effort and any issues that crossed county borders with emergency management staff from Allegany County, Chautauqua County, Erie County, and Wyoming County, New York at the 2020 New York State Emergency Management Association Conference. He also discussed the plan with the (now former) director of the Warren County, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency during meetings of Pennsylvania's emergency management association. In addition, the county's contracted consultant had recently updated, or was currently updating, the HMPs of Allegany, Erie, and Wyoming Counties, so regional issues were incorporated based on previous analysis.

3.3.6 Public Outreach

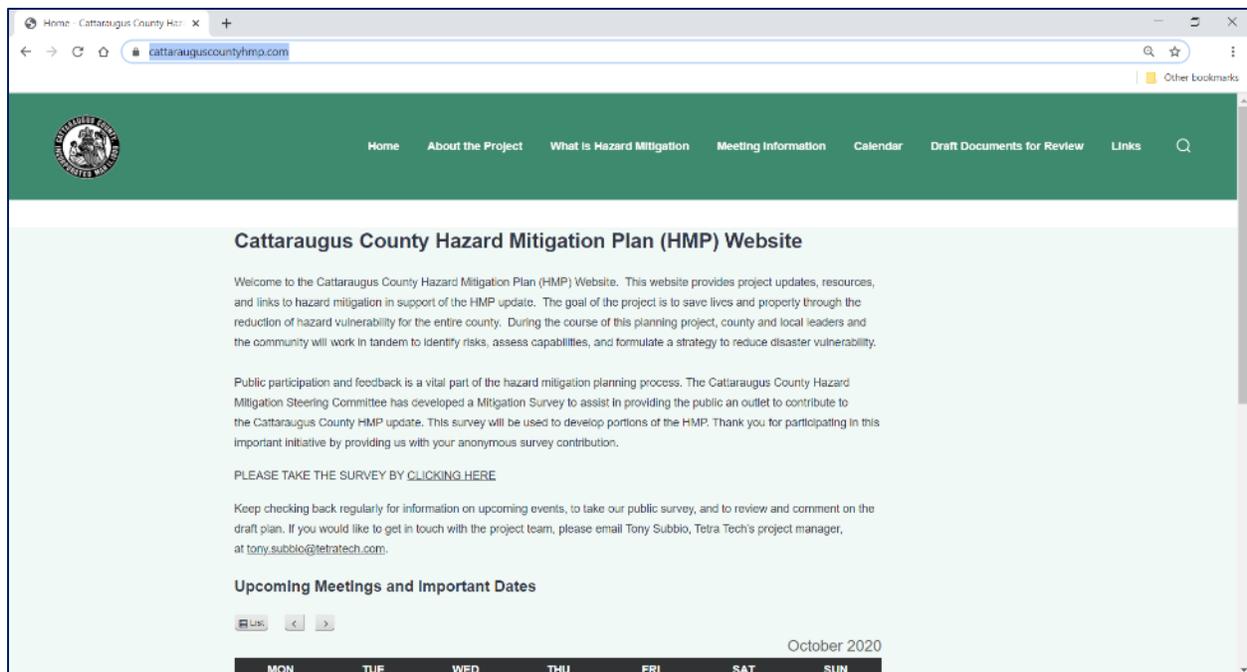
The Steering Committee and Planning Partnership made the following efforts toward public participation in the development and review of the HMP:

- A public project website was developed and is being maintained to facilitate communication between the Steering Committee, planning partnership, public, and stakeholders. The public website provides a project overview, county and local contact information, access to the citizen's survey and various stakeholder surveys, and sections of the HMP for public review and comment. Figure 3-1 provides a screenshot of the current website homepage. (<https://www.cattarauguscountyhmp.com/>).
- All hazard mitigation planning meetings that were open to the public were advertised on the Cattaraugus County website. Examples are included in Appendix D.
- An online hazards preparedness citizen survey was developed to gauge household preparedness relevant to hazards in Cattaraugus County and to assess the level of knowledge of tools and techniques to assist in reducing risk and loss of those hazards. The questionnaire asks quantifiable questions about citizen perception of risk, knowledge of mitigation, and support of community programs, as well as several demographic questions to help analyze trends. The questionnaire was posted on the county public website in August 2019 and was available for over 1 year to facilitate public input garnering nearly 80 responses. The survey results were sorted by municipality and provided to the Steering Committee and Planning Partnership members to support mitigation strategy development. The county's contracted consultant's planners used the information from survey responses to identify problems and problem areas in each jurisdiction, and develop implementable mitigation actions to address them. Responses were received from individuals in 31 of the county's municipalities. A summary of survey results is provided in Appendix D (Public and Stakeholder Outreach). Results for each municipality are described in the jurisdictional annexes (Section 9). Key aspects of those results include the following:
 - Respondents were most concerned about flooding, severe storms, and severe winter storms.



- The television or radio news, Internet, and social media are the platforms that the most respondents use to obtain information concerning a disaster.
- Several individuals reported having purchased a backup generator for their homes.
- Only about 20 percent of respondents reported their homes being impacted by a hazard event.
- Of the 10 respondents who reported that their home is in the floodplain, only three maintain flood insurance. Six respondents reported that they were not located in the floodplain but do maintain flood insurance.
- Thirty-seven respondents identified areas that are prone to hazard impacts, with flooding being the most-reported hazard.
- Approximately 40 percent of respondents did not think that their municipalities were doing enough to prevent or mitigate the effects of hazards.
- Cost is the primary reason that respondents had not mitigated their properties from hazard impacts.
- All participating municipalities were encouraged to distribute a project brochure and post the links to the project webpage and citizen and stakeholder surveys. In addition, all participating municipalities were requested to advertise the availability of the project website via local homepage links, and other available public announcement methods (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, e-mail blasts), though none did.
- Starting in October 2020, draft sections of the plan were posted on the project website for public review and comment. In addition, links were provided to the participating jurisdictions to post on their respective websites. The Department of Public Works also developed posters for municipalities to use as advertising of the Risk Assessment Review Meeting and Plan Draft Review Meeting.
- Once approved by NYS DHSES/FEMA, the final HMP will be available on the county and municipal websites.

Figure 3-1. Cattaraugus County HMP Website Homepage





3.4 INCORPORATION OF EXISTING PLANS, STUDIES, REPORTS AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The Cattaraugus County HMP update strives to use the best-available technical information, plans, studies, and reports throughout the planning 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 are presented in Section 4, County Profile. Details of the source of this data, along with technical information on how the data was used to develop the risk and vulnerability assessment, are presented in Section 5, Hazard Profiling and Risk Assessment Section, specifically within Section 5.3, Data and Methodology, as well as throughout the hazard profiles in Section 5.4, Hazard Profiles. Further, the source of technical data and information used can be found within Volume I under *References*.

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 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:

- Comprehensive/Master Plans
- Building Codes
- Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances
- NFIP Flood Damage Prevention Ordinances
- Site Plan Requirements
- Local Waterfront Revitalization Plans
- Stormwater Management Plans
- Emergency Management and Response Plans
- Land Use and Open Space Plans
- Capital Plans
- New York State Standard Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2019

A listing of the plans, reports, and technical documents reviewed in the preparation of this plan is included in Table 3-5.



Table 3-5. Record Review (Municipalities)

Existing Plan, Program, or Technical Documents	Date	Jurisdictional Applicability
Vision 2025 Comprehensive Plan - Moving Cattaraugus County Forward	12/2015	Cattaraugus County
Cattaraugus County Land Use Plan	2000	Cattaraugus County
Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan	03/28/07	Cattaraugus County
Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan	2014	Cattaraugus County
Local Laws Providing for the Administration and Enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code	2006-2008	Town of Allegany, Village of Allegany, Town of Ashford, Town of Conewango, Village of Delevan, Town of East Otto, Town of Ellicottville, Village of Ellicottville, Town of Farmersville, Town of Franklinville, Town of Great Valley, Town of Hinsdale, Town of Humphrey, Town of Ischua, Town of Leon, Village of Little Valley, Town of Lyndon, Town of New Albion, Town of Perrysburg, Town of Persia, Town of Portville, Town of Randolph, Town of Salamanca, Town of South Valley, Town of Yorkshire
Local Laws to provide for the administration and enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code and the State Energy Conservation Construction Code	2011-2019	Village of Cattaraugus, Town of Coldspring
Local Laws on Flood Damage Prevention	1998-2019	Town of Conewango, Town of Ellicottville, Village of Gowanda, Town of Great Valley, Town of Napoli, Town of Olean, Town of Randolph, Town of Yorkshire
Local Comprehensive/Master Plans	2005-2019	Town of Allegany, Town of Ashford, Town of Carrollton, Town of Ellicottville, Village of Ellicottville, City of Olean, Town of Portville, Town of Randolph, Town of Yorkshire
Local Property Maintenance Codes	2003-2014	Town of Great Valley, Town of Humphrey, Village of Little Valley
Local Subdivision Regulations	1997-2012	Village of Allegany, Town of East Otto, Town of Ellicottville
Local Zoning Laws/Regulations	1984-2019	Town of Allegany, Village of Allegany, Town of Allegany, Town of Carrollton, Village of Cattaraugus, Town of East Otto, Town of Ellicottville, Village of Ellicottville, Town of Franklinville, Town of Great Valley, Village of Little Valley, Town of Mansfield, Town of New Albion, Town of Olean, City of Olean, Town of Otto, Town of Perrysburg, Town of Persia, Town of Portville, Town of Randolph, City of Salamanca, Town of Yorkshire

3.5 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. Cattaraugus County has many existing plans and programs that support hazard risk management; therefore, it is critical that this HMP integrate, coordinate with, and complement those existing plans and programs.

The Capability Assessment subsection of Section 6, Mitigation Strategy, 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.

3.6 CONTINUED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Cattaraugus County and participating jurisdictions are committed to the continued involvement of the public in the hazard mitigation process. This HMP update will be posted online at <https://www.cattco.org/oes/safety-and-preparedness/hazard-mitigation> and municipalities will be encouraged to maintain links to the plan website. Further, the county will make hard copies of the HMP available for review at public locations as identified on the website.

A notice regarding annual updates of the plan and the location of plan copies will be publicized annually after the Planning Partnership's annual evaluation and posted on the public website at <https://www.cattco.org/oes/safety-and-preparedness/hazard-mitigation>.

Each jurisdiction's governing body shall be responsible for receiving, tracking, and filing public comments regarding this plan.

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

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

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

A notice regarding annual updates of the plan and the location of plan copies will be publicized annually after the HMP Committee's annual evaluation and posted on the public website.

Ms. Kimberly A. Merrill is identified as the Cattaraugus County HMP Coordinator in Section 7, Plan Maintenance, and is responsible for receiving, tracking, and filing public comments regarding this plan. Contact information is:

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