5.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Planning Process & Involvement

This appendix documents the process initiated by the Washington County Office of Emergency Management (WCOEM) for the 2023 mitigation plan update. It includes copies of meeting minutes, survey responses, and relevant correspondence (e.g., outreach to neighboring jurisdictions, etc.).

PLANNING MEETINGS

WASHINGTON COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN
2023 UPDATE
KICK-OFF MEETING

Date: August 3, 2022
Time: 2:30 p.m. EDT (Duration: XXX)
Location: Google Meet Web Conferencing
Attendees: Tom Brown, WCOEM Director
Brian Lowman, WCOEM Emergency Management Specialist
Cody Swope, WCOEM Emergency Management Specialist
Jeff Harvey, JHC

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Planning Committee

- Municipal representatives (see list from Cody)
    - Others? - Just municipalities

Participation Generally / Other Recommended Sectors

- Economic development / industry
    - Chamber of commerce - county
    - Visit Greater Hagerstown
- Higher education
    - Community college (on the ground in WashCo)
- Advocacy groups
    - Community Action Council (CAC)
    - Homeless Coalition (consists of homeless shelters) - send to Chairman of Coalition, possibly bring up in a membership meeting
- Community lifeline representatives (i.e., safety & security, food/water/shelter, health & medical, energy, communications, transportation, hazmat)
    - Columbia Gas
    - Antietam Broadband - internet/cable (company name?)

    - Hagerstown City Light or First Energy
    - Health department vs. hospital (Meredith)

Social Vulnerability Indicators

- We have the latest CDC SVI - 2018.
- Does the county have locally-specific data more recent than what is available from the U.S. Census Bureau, CDC, etc.?
    - Population
    - Housing units
    - Persons below poverty estimate
    - Civilian unemployed estimate
    - Per capita income estimate
    - Persons w/ no HS diploma estimate
    - Persons aged 65 or older
    - Civilian noninstitutionalized population w/ a disability estimate
    - And others…
        - *I can send the data table from the CDC SVI if it would be helpful.*

Have an outstanding GIS department in Washington County -

Miscellaneous

Worked closely with the local health department during Covid and formed a good working relationship with them - extended stakeholder approach

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #1
MINUTES

Date: September 14, 2022
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Duration: 90 minutes
Location: 100 West Washington Street
2nd Floor Conference Room
Hagerstown, MD 21740

On Wednesday, September 14, 2022, the Washington County Office of Emergency Management convened a steering committee to guide an update to the *Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan.* The steering committee met at 11:00 a.m. in the second-floor conference room of the Washington County Government Administrative Building in Hagerstown, Maryland. The meeting lasted approximately 90 minutes.

To open the discussion, the county's consultant provided an overview of the hazard mitigation planning process, to include the regulatory driver, planning process, and plan review process. The consultant also reviewed what steering committee membership would mean (e.g., serve as a liaison to municipalities or departments, answer questions regarding municipalities or departments, provide strategic direction for the overall update, etc.). No one from the committee voiced additional questions.

The first content item of the meeting was to discuss the goals for the updated mitigation plan. The consultant provided a handout listing the goals and objectives from the 2018 version of the plan along with a discussion of how the previous committee derived the goals. The previous goals included the following.

1. Maintain and enhance Washington County's jurisdictions' capability to continuously make Washington County less vulnerable to hazards.
2. Build local officials' and public support for and increase understanding of hazard mitigation actions to reduce vulnerability to all hazards.

3. Protect existing and future properties and infrastructure from all hazards that could affect Washington County.
4. Promote sustainable development to improve the quality of life by minimizing the impacts of hazards.

Committee members expressed an interest in projects that support sustainability, whether that be from an environmental perspective, an infrastructure/economic perspective, etc. Put differently, can mitigation projects not only reduce risk, but also contribute to a more resilient community? Members also discussed the need for this update to capture the changing nature of events like severe storms. Infrastructure systems, particularly stormwater systems, were not designed for the types of impacts communities see today. In Hagerstown, for example, the brick arch storm system is 100+ years old and constructed of brick arches. These lines make up a small part of the overall storm drain network, and they are inspected by the city. The city's stormwater fee on all city properties is a funding source for Hagerstown to maintain these old pipes and drains, and the city maintains a plan to address stormwater issues.

Severe weather often manifests as unexpected events. Weather is forecasted, but it seems as though recent events have been much more/less severe than forecasted, which creates challenges, or the incidents are hyper local with severe effects (e.g., localized, very heavy rainfall for a short period of time with minimal impacts in nearby areas). Those unexpected events, due to the surprise of the actual impacts, are challenging the local ability to announce accurate and effective preparedness measures. The National Weather Service (NWS) has been working with Washington County Emergency Management on modifications to the way that it issues severe weather warnings. The county provided a series of new maps to the NWS that identify new clusters of areas to warn simultaneously.

Similarly, committee members acknowledged that people living in special flood hazard areas are aware of their locations and the hazards. Problems arise when communities outside of SFHAs flood due to backed up infrastructure, the volume of water that falls during an event, etc. An education process can be helpful, but there will be a learning curve involved.

Per this discussion, the committee largely agrees with the existing goals list, though minor revisions would better capture the nature of the discussion. For instance, in Goal 2, the term *education* could better represent the efforts needed to build understanding of and support for hazard mitigation initiatives. Goal 4 could include a nod to resilience in additional to sustainable development. Importantly, the previous version of the plan also listed several objectives under the goals. The committee will revisit the objectives at a future session. For the purposes of the update, the following revised goals will serve as "working goals" at future committee meetings.

Revised Mitigation Goals

1. Maintain and enhance Washington County's jurisdictions' capability to make Washington County less vulnerable to hazards.
2. Educate local officials and the public as to the benefits of and opportunities for mitigation, both on community and personal levels.
3. Protect existing and future properties and infrastructure from all hazards that could affect Washington County.
4. Promote sustainable development to improve the quality of life by fostering resilient communities.

The second content item was a review of the hazards included in the 2018 plan. Again, the consultant provided a brief overview, which provided context for committee members. For instance, the "Fire" hazard includes major structural fires, explosions, or brush fires.

Generally, the committee agreed with the existing hazard list. There is interest in adding Dam Failure to the plan. Emergency action planning surrounding potential dam failures is on-going in Washington County, and there is an awareness of these issues following an incident at the Volvo Hagerstown Stormwater Management dam. Further, in anticipated changes to the mitigation planning process (after April 2023), considerations for high-hazard potential dams will feature more heavily in mitigation planning. Adding the profile for this update will lay a solid foundation for future updates.

Other, hazard-related questions included the following.

- Where will pipeline incidents fit into this discussion? Pipeline incidents would

appear in one of two places, contingent on the incident itself. The "Fire" profile would discuss pipeline explosions and resultant fires. The "Hazardous Materials" profile would discuss the release of materials from a pipeline rupture or leak.

- Will a discussion of lingering potential groundwater impacts at Superfund sites be included? Yes, these issues can be included in the "Hazardous Materials" profile.

The consultant asked committee members to complete a "Tell Me a Story" activity for the purpose of obtaining local qualitative data about memorable historical hazard incidents. A blank copy of the worksheet is attached. The committee set a deadline of September 30th for Tell Me a Story submissions. The consultant moved that deadline back by one week – **to October 7th** – due to a delay in producing the minutes.

To conclude the meeting, the consultant reviewed the process for updating the asset inventory and the project list. The consultant, OEM, and the county's GIS department met before the committee meeting to discuss data sharing, and in that meeting, the group agreed to compile a map-based tool to support the committee's updates for the asset inventory. It will be forthcoming. Regarding projects, the consultant provided municipal attendees with their existing project lists and explained that each project will require a status update. Status updates will be "Completed," "Deleted," "Deferred," or "On-Going." ("New" will also be an acceptable status update, but the group will discuss new projects at a later date.) In addition to the status labels, each project will need a narrative description that explains the selected label.

Attachments

- Meeting Agenda
- Slide Deck
- "Tell Me a Story" Activity (Blank)
- Sign-in Sheet

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #1

AGENDA

Date: September 14, 2022

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Duration: 90 minutes

Location: 100 West Washington Street
2nd Floor Conference Room
Hagerstown, MD 21740

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1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Overview of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Process
3. Goals for the Plan Update
   - What are your overarching goals for risk reduction throughout Washington County and its municipalities?
   - What do you hope to achieve with this plan?

4. Hazards Review
   - Hazards in the existing plan
   - Hazards to add?

5. Assets Review
6. Projects Review
   - Points of contact for projects?
   - Status updates: Completed, deleted, deferred, on-going

7. Moving Forward
   - Steering committee member homework

8. Q & A

WASHINGTON COUNTY
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Steering Committee Meeting #1

September 14, 2022 ~ 11:00 a.m.

JH Consulting LLC

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS



AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Overview of the Hazard Mitigation Process
3. Goals for the Plan Update
4. Hazard Review
   - *Hazards in the existing plan*
   - *Hazards to add?*
5. Assets Review
6. Projects Review
   - *Points of contact for projects?*
   - *Status updates: Completed, deleted, deferred, on-going*
7. Moving Forward
8. Q&A

HAZARD MITIGATION 101



Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Region III

- Oversees the hazard mitigation process at the local, regional, state, and national levels
- Defines mitigation as, “the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters” (FEMA.gov, 2016)



HAZARD MITIGATION 101

Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

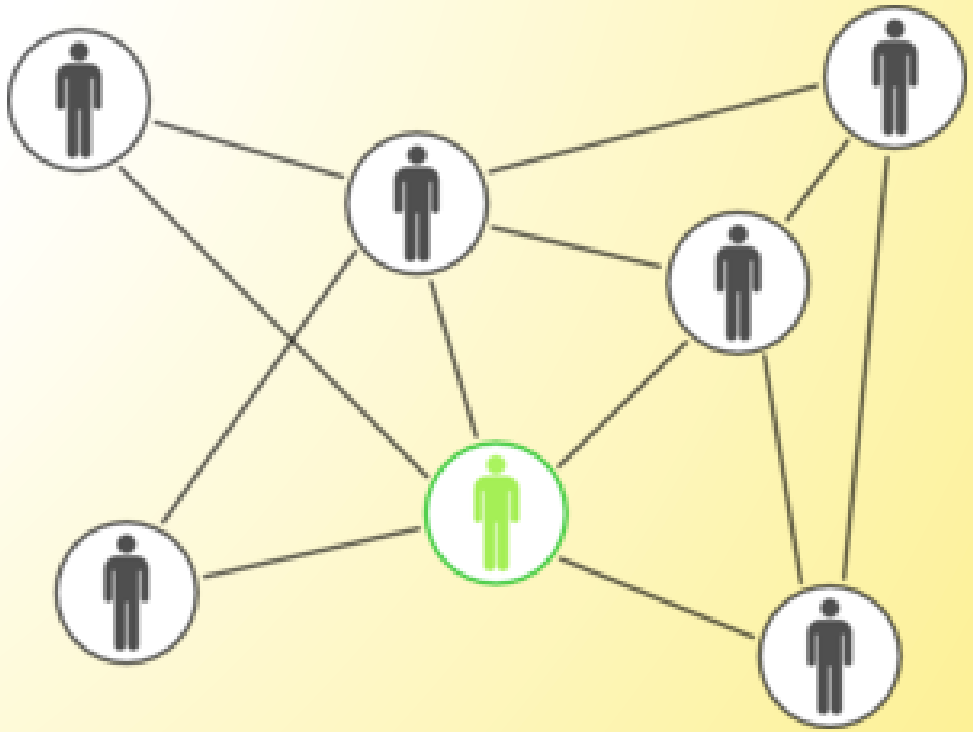
Maryland Department of Emergency Management

- Oversees the hazard mitigation process at the state levels
- Ensure jurisdictional participation
- Ensure alignment with state project and funding strategies



HAZARD MITIGATION 101

Steering Committee Responsibilities



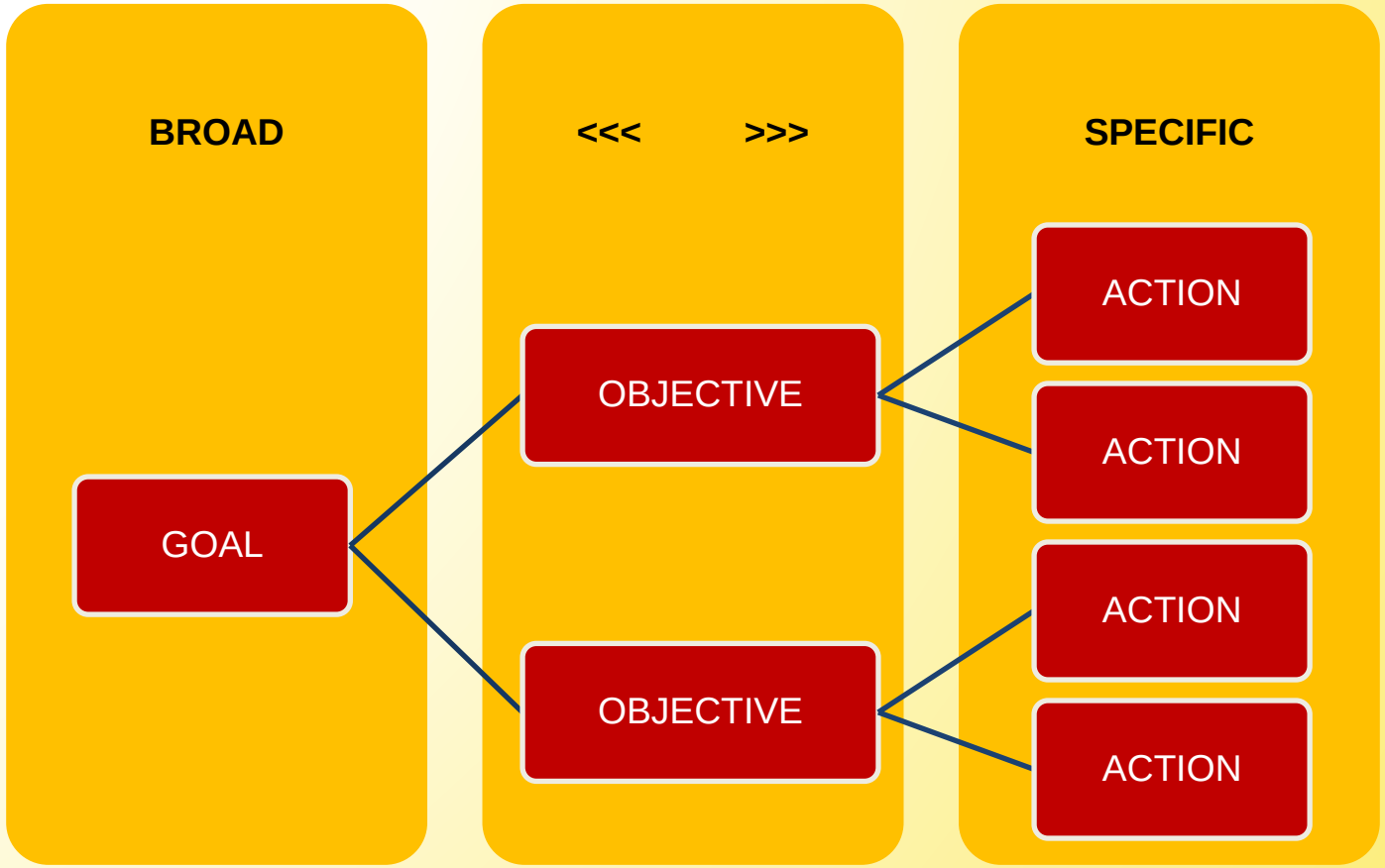
PLANNING PROCESS

DMA2K ~ Stafford Act, Section 322 ~ 44 CFR 201.6

The Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Planning Process
- Description of the planning area
- Risk Assessment
- Action plan
  - Goals
  - Strategies (projects/actions)
- Plan maintenance
- Appendices

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PROJECTS



EXISTING GOALS & OBJECTIVES

See handout.

Goals

1. Maintain and enhance Washington County's jurisdictions' capability to continuously make Washington County less vulnerable to hazards.
2. Build local officials' and public support for and increase understanding of hazard mitigation actions to reduce vulnerability to all hazards.
3. Protect existing and future properties and public infrastructure from all hazards that could affect Washington County.
4. Promote sustainable development to improve the quality of life by minimizing the impacts of hazards.

HAZARDS REVIEW

- Drought
- Extreme temperatures
- Fire
- Flood
- Hazardous materials
- Land subsidence
- Major transportation accident
- Opioid epidemic
- Reportable disease epidemic
- Severe summer weather
- Severe winter weather

ASSETS REVIEW

- Inventory and Summarize Vulnerable “Assets”
  - *Building stock inventory (mapped)*
  - *Manufactured housing units (mobile homes)*
  - *Critical facilities*
  - *Transportation systems (airways, highways, railways, waterways)*
  - *Lifeline utility systems*
  - *Communication systems and networks*
  - *High potential loss facilities (power plants, dams)*
  - *Hazardous material facilities*
  - *Economic elements*
  - *Special consideration areas*
  - *Natural resource areas*
  - *Historic and cultural resources (National Register listed, etc.)*

PROJECTS REVIEW

- POCs
- Status Updates
  - **Completed:** Your jurisdiction has completed the project. Write up a brief summary (i.e., one to two sentences) to describe what you did.
  - **Deleted:** Priorities have changed (e.g., new construction, disaster occurrence) such that the project no longer benefits your jurisdiction in the original intended sense. Write up a brief summary (i.e., one to two sentences) to describe why you are deleting the project.
  - **Deferred:** The project remains a good project and your jurisdiction still intends to accomplish it, but something has happened that completion is not in the near future (i.e., within the five-year planning cycle). Write up a brief summary (i.e., one to two sentences) to describe why you are deferring it and when you intend to pick it back up.
  - **On-Going:** Either your jurisdiction has done the project and will continue to do so (e.g., recurrent public outreach efforts) or you haven't completed the project yet, but it remains a priority. Write up a brief summary (i.e., one to two sentences) to describe your regular, recurrent efforts.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER HOMEWORK

- **Tell Me a Story**

- Assets Review
  - Confirm
  - Add
  - Delete
- Projects Review
  - Note projects for:
    - Status
    - Narrative explanation of the status.

ADJOURNMENT

TELL ME A STORY

From the hazards listed below for the hazard mitigation plan update, tell me about a specific problem you've encountered in your jurisdiction relating to at least three of these hazards. Provide the date (year at minimum), location (street name, park name, etc.), and a brief description of what happened and why, and if there was anything that was done about it since it occurred. Use the reverse side of this page if you require more space.

Name:_____ Jurisdiction:_____

Hazard	*Level of Concern*	*Date and Location*	*Brief Description*
Example: Storm Surge	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☒ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	*Date: August 2014* *Location: Coast of South Beach along Ocean Drive between 5th St. and 14th St.*	*Tropical Storm Enrique caused erosion on South Beach in Miami because of a 10' storm surge. The water reached Ocean Drive and flooded local businesses and swept away cars. After the water receded, recovery took several months and many businesses could not recover. Three people died and dozens were injured; five are still missing. Since then, low impact mitigation strategies have been implemented along the beach to avoid widespread distruction.*
Drought	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	
Extreme Temperatures	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	
Fire	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	
Flood	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	
Hazardous Materials	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	
Land Subsidence	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	
Major Transportation Accident	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	
Opioid Epidemic	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	

Reportable Disease Epidemic	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	
Severe Summer Weather	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	
Severe Winter Weather	☐ Not Concerned ☐ Somewhat Concerned ☐ Concerned ☐ Very Concerned	Date: Location:	

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Steering Committee Meeting #1

September 14, 2022 ~ 11:00 a.m.

Sign In Sheet

	Name	Agency	Contact Info. (Email)
1.	JEFFERY HARVEY	JH CONSULTING, LLC	jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com
2.	RICH EICHELBERGER	PERMITS + INSPECTIONS	REICHELBERGER@WASHCO-MD.NET
3.	ANDREW ESHLEMAN	PUBLIC WORKS	aeshleman@washco-md.net
4.	DAVID MASON	SOLID WASTE	DMASON@WASHCO-MD.NET
5.	Jill Baker	Planning and Zoning	jbaker@washco-md.net
6.	Mark Bradshaw	Environmental ENV	MBradshaw@washco-md.net
7.	Carrie Estell	Sharpsburg Town Clerk	townofsharpsburg@comcast.net
8.	Lisa Riner	Town of Keedysville	lriner@keedysvillemd.com
9.	Juanita Grimm	Town of Clear Spring	Clear_spring@myactv.net
10.	Kelley Stanley	Town of Boonsboro	townplanner@townofboonsboro.com
11.	Kathleen A. Maher	City of Hagerstown PCAD	kmaher@hagerstownmd.org
12.	BRIAN LOWMAN	OEM	BRLOWMAN@WASHCO-MD.NET
13.	Cody Swope	OEM	Coswope@Washco-MD.net
14.			
15.			
16.			

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #2

MINUTES

Date: October 19, 2022

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Duration: 60 minutes

Location: Google Meet Video Conferencing Service

Attendees: Tom Brown, Washington County OEM
Cody Swope, Washington County OEM
Brian Lowman, Washington County, OEM
Kathleen Maher, City of Hagerstown Code Administration & Permitting
Reiley Knight, Town of Boonsboro
Lisa Riner, Town of Keedysville
Juanita Grimm, Town of Clear Spring
Carrie Estell, Town of Sharpsburg
Jennifer Kinzer, Washington County Planning & Zoning
Dave Hays, Washington County Emergency Services
Rich Eichelberger, Washington County Permits & Inspections
Jeff Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

On Wednesday, October 19 2022, the Washington County Office of Emergency Management convened the second steering committee meeting in the update to the *Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan.* The steering committee met at 11:00 a.m. via the Google Meet video conferencing platform, hosted by the county's consultant for the plan update. The meeting lasted approximately 60 minutes. See the meeting agenda below.

To open the discussion, the consultant conducted a roll call to confirm attendance. Afterward, he provided an update as to the project's progress since the September 19th steering committee meeting. Background research has been the primary task, and the consultant's office has collected historical hazard data and accessed the community

plans available open source. Regarding the homework assignment from the September meeting, all entities represented at the first steering committee meeting have submitted a Tell Me a Story worksheet. The consultant thanked everyone for their participation in that activity. Sharpsburg and Keedysville have also submitted project status updates, which the consultant appreciated. The steering committee did not assign a deadline for the submission of status updates at its September meeting; however, to facilitate proper discussion during the November meeting, the consultant requested submission of status updates by **Friday, November 4, 2022**. The consultant showed the following table, which is a tracking item that will appear in the finished plan. He explained that the capability survey would be discussed later in this agenda, and the asset inventory will feature on the agenda of the next steering committee meeting.

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (2023 UPDATE)
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION TABLE

Add columns as appropriate per mtg. schedule | Add columns as app

MUNICIPALITY	MEETINGS				WORKSHEETS / SURVEYS / FORMS				
	KO Mtg. (08-03-2022)	Mtg. 1 (09-14-2022)	Mtg. 2 (10-19-2022)		"Tell Me a Story"	Capability Survey	Asset Updates	Project Updates	
Washington County	X	X			X				
Town of Boonsboro		X			X				
Town of Clear Spring		X			X				
Town of Funkstown									
City of Hagerstown		X			X				
Town of Hancock									
Town of Keedysville		X			X			X	
Town of Sharpsburg		X			X			X	
Town of Smithsburg									
Town of Williamsport									

The consultant then moved to the next agenda item: jurisdictional participation. Meeting attendance and activities such as project status updates, Tell Me a Story, etc. serve as jurisdictional participation. However, the revised plan will need to include an assessment of existing capabilities that support hazard mitigation, and the consulting team uses a capability survey to collect that information. The consultant presented a PDF copy of a draft of the survey and reviewed it, question-by-question. The steering committee did not request any changes to the draft. The consultant asked steering committee members if they would like to include opinion-based questions about certain types of mitigation projects, thereby gauging potential support for those types of projects at the various jurisdictional levels participating in this plan. Tom Brown of the Washington County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) recommended including the opinion

questions, noting they could be helpful for the upcoming consideration of new projects. The consultant agreed to add sample projects to the capability survey draft and to ask for steering committee feedback on those projects when including the revised survey with these meetings (see attached). Steering committee members should submit any feedback to the sample projects to the consultant (at jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com) by the close of business on **Monday, October 24, 2022**. On Tuesday, the 25th, the consultant will provide steering committee representatives with a link to the final capability survey; the survey will be online, and with the link, steering committee members can complete it. The consultant requests the capability surveys to be complete on or before **Friday, November 18th**.

Since surveys were being discussed, the consultant then moved onto the public participation agenda item (taking the agenda out of order). The consultant presented a draft online public survey and reviewed it question-by-question. Kathleen Maher of Hagerstown suggested highlighting an option for residents to write-in hazards about which they are concerned that the steering committee had not identified in the Likert-style questions. Tom Brown of the Washington County OEM asked if the consultant could pull question types from the survey used with the previous mitigation plan update. The consultant agreed to both recommendations. Carrie Estell with Sharpsburg asked about potential respondents that work, but do not live in a specific municipality (or Washington County). The consultant agreed to revise the place of residence question to capture this population. The revised survey appears as an attachment to these minutes.

The consultant noted that he has had mitigation plans obtain state and federal approval with only survey responses from the public, but he recommended including at least one traditional meeting option. Kathleen Maher suggested having food or other incentives at the meeting to encourage participation, based on her and other city department head experiences. The consultant agreed. The steering committee discussed the timing of a public meeting, with Tom Brown and the consultant noting scheduling conflicts with the holidays during the last update. The group discussed whether to hold a public meeting to review a complete draft, at which time attendees might feel like the project was “too complete” to consider their inputs, or as an agenda item (or on the same day) as its November meeting. The consultant suggested using the November meeting date (before Thanksgiving) for a traditional public meeting.

The consultant also asked the steering committee's opinion on modifying the format of the December steering committee meeting to be more of a presentation. As a presentation, the committee could present the meeting as a Facebook Live event and receive comments via the social media platform, via a follow-up survey after the live event, etc. The committee agreed with this suggestion.

To conclude the meeting, the consultant backed up to the analyzing development trends agenda item. He explained the purpose of the development trends section, to include how it relates to future vulnerabilities. Development trends will feature as an agenda item at the next meeting, and the consultant wanted steering committee members to be thinking about areas in their circles of influence that have been targeted for residential, commercial, manufacturing, and industrial development.

Attachments

- Meeting Agenda
- Revised Capability Survey (with opinion-based sample projects)
- Revised Public Survey

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #2

AGENDA

Date: October 19, 2022

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Duration: 60 minutes

Location: Virtual (Google Meet Platform)

Link: https://meet.google.com/ocg-yequ-dui

Or dial: (US) +1 316-416-2812 ~ PIN: 643 544 384

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1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Update on Project Progress
   - "Tell Me a Story" narratives
   - Existing project updates
3. Jurisdictional Participation
   - Draft capability survey review
4. Analyzing Development Trends

   Samples: Commercial, industrial, manufacturing, residential

For this item, think about:
- *What areas in your municipality (or related to your agency or discipline) are targeted for future development?*
- *What impacts might the various types of hazards – natural, technological, or human-caused – have on that development (generally) or the areas targeted for that development (specifically)?*

5. Public Participation
   - Draft online survey review
   - Traditional, town hall-style meeting(s)
   - Other ideas?
6. Q & A

Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Capabilities Survey

Thank you for participating in the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan update. The following pages will ask you about a variety of capabilities that your jurisdiction has that can support the implementation of hazard mitigation efforts.

Please answer the following questions from the perspective of your jurisdiction ONLY. Consider all questions to pertain to in-house (i.e., on your paid staff) resources. For example, if you are a municipality (i.e., city or town) and you rely on a county agency for a service such as engineering or floodplain management, then you would indicate "No" as to whether your municipality has that capability.

This survey is intended to be completed by only one individual from each jurisdiction.

* Required

1. With which jurisdiction are you affiliated? *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Washington County
- ◯ Town of Boonsboro
- ◯ Town of Clear Spring
- ◯ Town of Funkstown
- ◯ City of Hagerstown
- ◯ Town of Hancock
- ◯ Town of Keedysville
- ◯ Town of Sharpsburg
- ◯ Town of Smithsburg
- ◯ Town of Williamsport

2. Please provide your name and department or agency. *

3. Please provide your email address and phone number. *

Planning & Regulatory Capability

The following questions ask you about the planning and regulatory capabilities of your jurisdiction to implement or support hazard mitigation projects.

4. Comprehensive plans promote sound land use and regional cooperation among local governments to address planning issues. These plans serve as the official policy guide for including the location, type and extent of future development by establishing the basis for decision-making and review processes on zoning matters, subdivision and land development, land uses, public facilities and housing needs over time. Does your jurisdiction have or participate in a comprehensive plan? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

5. Do emergency responders or representatives from emergency management participate in the comprehensive planning process? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

6. Building codes regulate construction standards for new construction and substantially renovated buildings. Does your jurisdiction have a building code in place? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

7. Subdivision and land development ordinances (SALDOs) are intended to regulate the development of housing, commercial, industrial, or other uses, including associated public infrastructure, as land is subdivided into buildable lots for sale or future development. Within these ordinances, guidelines on how land will be divided, the placement and size of roads, and the location of infrastructure can reduce exposure of development to hazard events. Does your jurisdiction have a subdivision and/or land use ordinance? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

8. Zoning ordinances allow for local communities to regulate the use of land in order to protect the interests and safety of the general public. Zoning ordinances can be designed to address unique conditions or concerns in a given community. Does your jurisdiction have a zoning ordinance? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

9. Has your municipality adopted a compliant floodplain management ordinance that at minimum: (a) regulates development in special flood hazard areas (SFHAs); (b) utilizes any base flood elevation (BFE) and floodway data (and/or requires BFE data of subdivision proposals and other development proposals larger than 50 lots or 5 acres); (c) identifies measures to keep all new and substantially-improved construction reasonably safe from flooding or above the BFE; and (d) documents and maintains records of elevation data for new or substantially-improved structures? *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Unknown

10. What is the adoption date of your most current DFIRM/Firm? *

_____

11. If your jurisdiction makes DFIRM/FIRM information available, how are they made available (e.g., on website, at municipal building, etc.)? If not available, type N/A. *

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

12. If your jurisdiction supports requests for map updates, explain how (N/A if you do not). *

13. What type of technical assistance, if any, does your jurisdiction provide with local floodplain determination? *

14. Which office or department is responsible for maintaining record of Letters of Map Changes? *

15. What office is responsible for issuing permits for all proposed development in SFHAs? *

16. What office is responsible for obtaining, reviewing, and utilizing (or requiring) BFE and floodway data for regulated developments? *

17. What measures does your jurisdiction encourage to keep new and substantially-improved construction reasonably safe from flooding to or above the BFE? *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Anchoring
- [ ] Using flood-resistant materials
- [ ] Designing or locating utilities and service facilities to prevent water damage
- [ ] Other
- [ ] None
- [ ] Unknown

18. Does your jurisdiction enforce its floodplain ordinance by monitoring compliance and taking remedial action to correct violations? *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Unknown

19. How does your jurisdiction monitor compliance with floodplain regulations? *

20. What activities has your jurisdiction considered adopting, if any, that extend beyond minimum requirements (e.g., participation in the Community Rating System, prohibition of storage of chemicals in the SFHA, etc.)? *

21. How does your jurisdiction educate community members about flood insurance (N/A if your jurisdiction does not provide education on flood insurance)? *

22. As with all community and economic development and emergency preparedness planning efforts (including participation in the NFIP), there may be a number of barriers to full implementation. With respect to these planning and regulatory capabilities, barriers may include a lack of personnel to enforce existing regulations, a reluctance on the part of the public to participate in planning, etc. You can likely think several others for your jurisdiction. Given the combination of these barriers with the presence of the plans and regulatory elements that have been surveyed thus far, how would you label your jurisdiction's ability to fully meet the planning and regulatory capability? *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ High
- ◯ Moderate
- ◯ Low

Administrative Capability

The following questions ask you about the administrative capability of your jurisdiction to implement hazard mitigation projects.

23. Administrative capability is described by an adequacy of departmental and personnel resources for the implementation of mitigation-related activities. Technical capability relates to an adequacy of knowledge and technical expertise of local government employees or the ability to contract outside resources for this expertise in order to effectively execute mitigation activities. Common examples of skill sets and technical personnel needed for hazard mitigation include the following. (a) Planners with knowledge of land development/management practices. (b) Engineers or professionals trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure (e.g., building inspectors). (c) Emergency managers. (d) Floodplain managers. (e) Land surveyors. (f) Scientists familiar with hazards in the community. (g) Staff with education or expertise to assess community vulnerability to hazards. (h) Personnel skilled in geographic information systems (GIS). *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ High
- ◯ Moderate
- ◯ Low

24. To which type of specialized staff do you have access? *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] In-house planners with knowledge of land development/management practices
- [ ] Contracted planners with knowledge of LOCAL land development/management practices
- [ ] In-house engineers
- [ ] Contracted engineers with intimate LOCAL knowledge
- [ ] In-house building inspectors
- [ ] In-house planners with an understanding of natural and/or human-caused hazards
- [ ] Contracted planners with an understanding of LOCAL natural and/or human caused hazards
- [ ] Emergency manager
- [ ] Floodplain manager
- [ ] In-house land surveyor
- [ ] Local scientists with familiar with hazards in your community (e.g., staff at local college, etc.)
- [ ] In-house staff with education or expertise to assess vulnerability to hazards
- [ ] In-house GIS mappers
- [ ] Other
- [ ] None

25. Does your jurisdiction have a paid grants specialist on its payroll?

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Unknown

Fiscal Capability

The following questions ask you about the fiscal capability of your jurisdiction to implement hazard mitigation projects.

26. Does your jurisdiction have available funds in its CAPITAL BUDGET that could be used for mitigation projects? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

27. Does your jurisdiction have available funds in its PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET that could be used for mitigation proiects? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

28. In addition to existing, in-house fiscal resources, mitigation projects can be supported through partnerships with other jurisdictions, the procurement of grants, etc. Given these options as well as the availability of capital and public work funds (as evidenced by your responses above), how would you rate your jurisdiction's fiscal capabilities to support hazard mitigation? *

Mark only one oval.

- High
- Moderate
- Low

Political Capability

The following question asks you about the political capability of your jurisdiction to implement hazard mitigation projects.

29. The political capability can be one the most difficult to evaluate due to the strong feelings it can elicit. How would you rank your jurisdiction's political capabilities? NOTE: A "High" capability refers to a situation where there is significant political will to implement hazard mitigation policies and priorities.

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ High
- ◯ Moderate
- ◯ Low

Your Opinion: Example Mitigation Strategies

The next six questions will present examples of hazard mitigation strategies. For each, please select the option that corresponds to how willing you believe your community would be to implement that type of project.

30. XYZ community guides development away from known hazard areas. *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Very willing
- ◯ Willing
- ◯ Neutral
- ◯ Unwilling
- ◯ Very much unwilling

31. XYZ community restricts public investments or public sector capital improvements within hazard areas. *

Mark only one oval.

- Very willing
- Willing
- Neutral
- Unwilling
- Very much unwilling

32. XYZ community enforces local development standards (e.g., building codes, floodplain management ordinances, etc.) that go beyond minimum state or federal requirements. *

Mark only one oval.

- Very willing
- Willing
- Neutral
- Unwilling
- Very much unwilling

33. XYZ community offers financial incentives (e.g., through property tax credits) to individuals and businesses that employ resilient construction techniques (e.g., voluntarily elevates structure, employs landscape designs to establish buffers, exceeds recommended building code standards, etc.). *

Mark only one oval.

- Very willing
- Willing
- Neutral
- Unwilling
- Very much unwilling

34. XYZ community offers financial incentives (e.g., through property tax credits) to individuals and businesses that employ green infrastructure techniques (e.g., pave sidewalks and driveways utilizing permeable materials, install drought tolerant plants to capture, clean, and filtrate rain water, increase green space in urbanized areas, etc.). *

Mark only one oval.

- Very willing
- Willing
- Neutral
- Unwilling
- Very much unwilling

35. XYZ community establishes a microgrant program to help individuals and businesses install fixed auxiliary power at their locations. *

Mark only one oval.

- Very willing
- Willing
- Neutral
- Unwilling
- Very much unwilling

36. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please use the space to make any comments relative to capabilities that were not included in the preceding survey. You may also leave any general thoughts you may have about the implementation of hazard mitigation throughout Washington County.

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Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan Public Survey

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this survey and participating in Washington County's hazard mitigation planning process. By taking this survey, you are telling local leaders what risks are most important to you and your communities. That will help them to focus on the risk-related issues that matter (versus what might be important in other areas of Maryland or the Nation).

This planning process includes all of Washington County, including the cities and towns therein. This survey is designed to help the county as a whole, including your community, gauge public perceptions of hazard vulnerability and potential projects to lessen the impacts of future hazard occurrences.

If you would like to discuss the hazard mitigation planning project, contact the Washington County Office of Emergency Management at (240) 313-4360.

The survey will ask for your zip code, but that is only to allow planners to gauge the volume of responses from various areas of the county. The survey will also ask for generalized demographic information (e.g., your age range, how long you have lived in the area, etc.). Again, this information is for categorization purposes, and it will not be used to attempt to identify respondents. The survey will not save or identify your email or IP address.

As such, all responses are completely anonymous.

* Required

1. Please indicate how concerned you are about the following hazards where you live. *

Mark only one oval per row.

	Not At All Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Concerned	Very Concerned
Dam Failure				
Drought				
Extreme Temperatures				
Fire				
Flood				
Hazardous Materials				
Land Subsidence				
Major Transportation Accident				
Opioid Epidemic				
Reportable Disease Epidemic (to include pandemic)				
Severe Summer Weather (e.g., wind, thunderstorms, tornadoes)				
Severe Winter Weather (e.g., blizzard conditions, heavy snow, ice storm)				

2. Are you concerned about any hazards that do NOT appear on the list in Question 1? * If so, which ones (and why)? If not, simply write, "N/A."

3. In the past 10 years, which hazards do you remember occurring in your community? (Check all that apply.) *

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Dam Failure
- [ ] Drought
- [ ] Extreme Temperatures
- [ ] Fire
- [ ] Flood
- [ ] Hazardous Materials
- [ ] Land Subsidence
- [ ] Major Transportation Accident
- [ ] Opioid Epidemic
- [ ] Reportable Disease Epidemic (to include pandemic)
- [ ] Severe Summer Weather (e.g., wind, thunderstorms, tornadoes)
- [ ] Severe Winter Weather (e.g., blizzard conditions, heavy snow, ice storm)

4. Have you noticed an increase or decrease in the occurrences or intensity of any of the following hazards? *

Check all that apply.

	Increase	No Change	Decrease
Dam Failure	☐	☐	☐
Drought	☐	☐	☐
Extreme Temperatures	☐	☐	☐
Fire	☐	☐	☐
Flood	☐	☐	☐
Hazardous Materials	☐	☐	☐
Land Subsidence	☐	☐	☐
Major Transportation Accident	☐	☐	☐
Opioid Epidemic	☐	☐	☐
Reportable Disease Epidemic (to include pandemic)	☐	☐	☐
Severe Summer Weather (e.g., wind, thunderstorms, tornadoes)	☐	☐	☐
Severe Winter Weather (e.g., blizzard conditions, heavy snow, ice storm)	☐	☐	☐

5. If applicable, to what do you think the change that you noted in response to the previous question can be attributed?

_____

6. Think back to a recent occurrence (any from Question 1). How would you rate your community's ability to respond?

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Excellent
- ◯ Good
- ◯ Average
- ◯ Fair
- ◯ Poor

7. Do you receive timely, accurate, and effective notifications about hazards that allow you to make appropriate decisions about what to do?

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Not applicable, I do not receive notifications.

8. How do you receive these notifications? (Check all that apply)

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Television
- [ ] Newspaper
- [ ] Radio
- [ ] Media website (TV, print, etc.)
- [ ] Social media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)
- [ ] Text message
- [ ] Email
- [ ] A family member, neighbor, friend, or acquaintance
- [ ] Other

9. Was the information you received in these notifications timely, accurate, and helpful? (Check all that apply)

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Timely
- [ ] Accurate
- [ ] Helpful
- [ ] None of the above

10. Do you follow Washington County on social media?

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

11. If you answered "Yes" to the previous question about following Washington County on social media, on which platform do you follow?

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Facebook
- [ ] Twitter
- [ ] Instagram
- [ ] YouTube

12. Mitigation is an effort by you, your community, and/or your local officials to reduce the negative impacts of hazards. Have you ever...(check all that apply)

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Elevated your home
- [ ] Maintained trees around your house or removed problematic trees
- [ ] Repaired or replaced the roof
- [ ] Cleared the underbrush
- [ ] Other

13. If you chose other to the above question, please specify what you have done.

14. Please indicate the types of mitigation actions you would support; these could be something you can do or an initiative by local officials. (Check all that apply)

Check all that apply.

- [ ] Buying out properties, relocating homes, or elevating structures that are prone to repetitive flooding
- [ ] Upgrading the water and sewer systems
- [ ] Installing generators in critical facilities such as clinics, police stations, fire stations, etc.
- [ ] Regulating the type of development that is permitted in areas that are dangerous due to hazards
- [ ] Planting trees to prevent erosion and promote cooler micro-climates
- [ ] Promoting the collection and reuse of rainwater such as in rain gardens and green roofs
- [ ] Reducing the amount of surface pavement to reduce flooding
- [ ] Conducting inspections of new construction and enforcing building codes
- [ ] Requiring new development to construct on-site retention basins for excessive stormwater runoff
- [ ] Preserving the floodplains as open space
- [ ] Adopting building codes that go above and beyond the basic requirements of construction
- [ ] Burying power lines to provide for uninterrupted power during severe weather
- [ ] Establishing standards for all utilities regarding tree pruning around lines
- [ ] Anchoring mobile homes and roof-mounted and ground equipment
- [ ] Building community shelters for tornadoes and severe weather events
- [ ] Supporting educational campaigns aimed at preparing the population for a variety of hazards
- [ ] Upgrading infrastructure, such as increasing the capacity of drain systems, etc.

15. Do you / does your household have a 72-hour kit? (https://www.ready.gov/kit)

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- Yes, but it is not complete
- Yes, but it is out of date
- No

16. Do you have homeowners/renters insurance?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

17. Does your policy include sewer back-up insurance (or have a sewer back-up policy rider)?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

18. Do you live in a special flood hazard area (SFHA)?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

19. Do you know your flood zone? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure
- I do not live in a flood zone

20. If you know your flood zone, which one do you live in?

_____

21. Are you insured through the NFIP (do you have flood insurance)?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

22. How long have you resided in your community? *

Mark only one oval.

- Not applicable, I work in Washington County, but I do not live in the county.
- Less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- More than 20 years

23. If you live in Washington County, what is the zip code of your home address? (NOTE: Please provide ONLY the zip code. If you do not live in the county, simply write "N/A.") *

_____

24. Please provide your age *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ 18 or under
- ◯ 19-25
- ◯ 26-35
- ◯ 36-55
- ◯ 55-72
- ◯ Over 72

25. Please write any general comments or questions here.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #3

MINUTES

Date: December 14, 2022
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Duration: 60 minutes
Location: Google Meet Video Conferencing Service
Attendees: Tom Brown, Washington County OEM
Cody Swope, Washington County OEM
Brian Lowman, Washington County OEM
Kathleen Maher, City of Hagerstown Code Administration & Permitting
Lisa Riner, Town of Keedysville
Carrie Estell, Town of Sharpsburg
Dave Mason, Washington County Solid Waste
Dave Hays, Washington County Emergency Services
Jeff Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

On Wednesday, December 14, 2022, the Washington County Office of Emergency Management convened the third steering committee meeting in the update to the *Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan.* The steering committee met at 11:00 a.m. via the Google Meet video conferencing platform, hosted by the county's consultant for the plan update. The meeting lasted approximately 35 minutes. See the agenda below.

To open the discussion, the consultant provided an update on the need to reschedule the public meeting that was originally schedule to follow the December committee meeting. Due to that cancellation, the meeting will be moved to January and likely coincide with a steering committee meeting. The Washington County Office of Emergency Management will, once again, work toward having the public meeting live streamed along with the in-person event.

Next, the consultant provided an update as to the project's progress since the October

19th steering committee meeting. Initial drafting for the narrative has begun, and the consultant processed the submitted "Tell Me a Story" worksheets, project status submissions. He also received comments on the capability and public surveys and updated those source files accordingly. Finally, the consultant and WCOEM (i.e., Jeff Harvey and Cody Swope, respectively) coordinated to make contact with the municipalities that had not yet participated. All municipalities have been contacted and information has begun to be submitted. Overall jurisdictional participation appears as follows.

MUNICIPALITY	MEETINGS				WORKSHEETS / SURVEYS / FORMS			
	KO Mtg. (08-03-2022)	Mtg. 1 (09-14-2022)	Mtg. 2 (10-19-2022)	Mtg. 3 (12-14-2022)	"Tell Me a Story"	Capability Survey	Asset Updates	Project Updates
Washington County	X	X	X		X			
Town of Boonsboro		X	X		X			
Town of Clear Spring		X	X		X			
Town of Funkstown					X			X
City of Hagerstown		X	X		X	X		X
Town of Hancock								
Town of Keedysville		X	X		X			X
Town of Sharpsburg		X	X		X	X		X
Town of Smithsburg								
Town of Williamsport					X			X

As a part of the progress discussion, the committee decided to release the public survey after the turn of the year.

The next agenda item addressed the "Analyzing Development Trends" section of the plan. The consultant explained the intent of the section and opened the floor for discussion. Lisa Riner noted that Keedysville proper is largely built-out, and there is no planned annexation by the town. Kathy Maher noted the warehouse-style development on the western side of the I-81 corridor; some of those are in Hagerstown's corporate limits. Carrie Estell noted that there is not much growth in or around Sharpsburg because of the presence of farms and national parks. To close the discussion, the consultant encouraged committee members to continue thinking about areas targeted for development and to share any ideas with him via email up until there are drafts of the plan to review.

The consultant then moved to the next agenda item: asset inventory. He explained the types of assets that may appear on the list, and asked participants to look specific at asset names, addresses, etc. The primary task for committee members was to confirm

those; the consultant's office will take care of the asset types. The consultant encouraged committee members to contact him about any new assets (different types of assets) they might like to add. Carrie Estell asked if the assets consist of only town-owned facilities, and the consultant explained that the list, for towns, would include facilities within municipal corporate limits, but it could include assets not owned by the towns directly. The consultant indicated he would provide copies of the asset inventories that appeared in the previous version of the mitigation plan after the meeting, and he asked that committee members **return any revisions to him via email by January 13, 2023**.

To conclude the meeting, the consultant reviewed potential project prioritization criteria. He explained several potential criteria aligning with the "STAPLEE method." The STAPLEE method appears in the FEMA guidelines for hazard mitigation planning, and while most of the consultant's clients use a version of it, it is not uncommon for clients to add one or two categories. The consultant also presented a potential methodology for using the STAPLEE criteria to score active projects that appear in the mitigation plan. He indicated that he would compile an online Google Forms survey for committee members to provide input on the categories and scoring methodology. Further, he asked for committee members to **complete the survey on or before December 30, 2022**.

To conclude the meeting, the consultant encouraged steering committee members to be thinking of new projects for their jurisdictions. Time to discuss new projects will be available on the agenda for the next committee meeting.

Attachments

- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting Slides

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #4

MINUTES

Date: January 19, 2023
Time: 3:30 p.m.
Duration: Approximately 70 minutes
Location: Washington County Public Safety Training Center
18350 Public Safety Place, Hagerstown, MD 21740
Attendees: See the attached sign-in sheet.

On Thursday, January 19, 2023, the Washington County Office of Emergency Management convened the fourth steering committee meeting in the update to the *Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan.* The committee met in person at the county's Public Safety Training Center at 3:30 p.m. A hybrid town hall session immediately followed the committee meeting. See the agenda below.

The consultant provided an update on municipal participation and the project process to start the meeting. To date, all municipalities have participated in at least one activity which will ensure their continued coverage by the plan.

MUNICIPALITY	MEETINGS					
	KO Mtg. (08-03-2022)	Mtg. 1 (09-14-2022)	Mtg. 2 (10-19-2022)	Mtg. 3 (12-14-2022)	Mtg. 4 (01-19-2023)	Public Mtg. (01-19-2023)
Washington County	X	X	X	X	X	X
Town of Boonsboro		X	X			
Town of Clear Spring		X	X			
Town of Funkstown						
City of Hagerstown		X	X	X		
Town of Hancock						
Town of Keedysville		X	X	X		
Town of Sharpsburg		X	X	X		
Town of Smithsburg						
Town of Williamsport						

MUNICIPALITY	WORKSHEETS / SURVEYS / FORMS			
	"Tell Me a Story"	Capability Survey	Asset Updates	Project Updates
Washington County	X			
Town of Boonsboro	X	X		
Town of Clear Spring	X			
Town of Funkstown	X			X
City of Hagerstown	X	X		X
Town of Hancock		X		
Town of Keedysville	X		X	X
Town of Sharpsburg	X	X	X	X
Town of Smithsburg				
Town of Williamsport	X			X

The first content-generation agenda item focused on the generation of new projects. Participating municipalities (and the county) have updated the status of the mitigation actions that appeared in the previous plan. Plan update processes also allow opportunities for considering new measures. Notes about new projects included the following.

- Municipalities are looking at backup water supplies to mitigate service interruptions related to contaminated drinking water. Carrie Estell from Sharpsburg brought up the project, and Jill Baker (from county planning) added substantial context.
- Though more consistent with “preparedness” than “mitigation,” efforts to sync county and municipal planning efforts could be beneficial. Washington County OEM and Hagerstown are currently working on such an effort.
- Building out mass notification capabilities can benefit mitigation, preparedness, and response.

The next content item was an activity to define the criteria by which to prioritize mitigation actions. To begin, the consultant presented criteria associated with the STAPLEE methodology. Steering committee members elected to continue using the STAPLEE method. The consultant then distributed a worksheet by which committee members ranked the criteria by order of importance. The consultant averaged these scores to determine a weighting system for priority scoring.

Prioritization Criteria and Scoring		
STAPLEE Category	*Criteria*	*Allocated Points (AVGs)*
Social (S)	Will the project unfairly treat any segment of the community (e.g., the homeless, those living under the poverty line, any protected class category, etc.)?	3.875
Technical (T)	Will the proposed action work (i.e., is it technically feasible)?	4.375
Administration (A)	Does the coordinating agency have the capability of meeting any ongoing administrative requirements the project will create?	3.375
Political (P)	Is there stakeholder and public support to implement and maintain the project?	5
Legal (L)	Will the project be challenged in court?	4.25
Economic (E)	Will the project's benefits exceed the cost (over a measurable period, even if it is in years)?	4.625
Environmental (E)	Will the project require environmental regulatory approvals?	2.5

The consulting team will score each mitigation action (i.e., project) in the plan by these criteria. If, for example, the answer to the question associated with the Economic (E) criterion (the highest weighted) is affirmative, an action will receive seven points. If the answer to the question is negative, an action will receive zero points for that criterion. Points for the Technical (T) criterion (the second-highest weighted) can equal six, with five for the third-ranked criterion and so on for the remaining criteria.

Committee members then discussed the plan maintenance process for the 2023-2028 cycle. The maintenance process in the existing plan includes an annual meeting (coupled with a local emergency planning committee [LEPC] meeting). The steering committee expressed interest in de-coupling the process with the LEPC because of the difference in the focus areas of the LEPC and mitigation steering committee.

For this update, the committee agreed on the following maintenance process. In the planning cycle's second, third, and fourth years, the Washington County OEM will survey steering committee members about hazard experiences and mitigation action status. The survey will be a convenient way for the committee to submit comments, especially given their busy schedules. Online surveys will also provide an easy way to document committee member comments in their own words.

Additionally, the committee recognized September (i.e., National Preparedness Month) as an opportunity to survey the public annually. As such, the consultant will include a “shovel-ready” sample survey as part of the plan maintenance narrative. The committee

also noted the potential benefit of scheduling a meeting (again during September) at the mid-point of the cycle. Washington County OEM could base the need for a meeting on the results of the annual surveys. If it appears as if there are items that necessitate discussion, a mid-point steering committee/public meeting would allow for an extended consideration of those items.

The final agenda item was an open, roundtable discussion. Committee members discussed an increase in the construction of large warehouses in the county and questioned whether those constitute a hazard. Members representing emergency services entities confirmed they are a hazard for various reasons (e.g., fires, hazardous materials, etc.). As such, there should be a reference to those facilities in the plan and, in particular, how the hazards identified by the plan could impact those facilities.

Attachments

- Sign-in Sheet
- Meeting Agenda
- Meeting Slides

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Steering Committee Meeting #4

January 19, 2023 ~ 3:30 p.m.

Sign In Sheet

	Name	Agency	Contact Info. (Email)
1.	Carrie Estell	Sharpsburg	town of Sharpsburg @ comcast.net
2.	Kathleen A. Maher	City of Hagerstown	KMaher@hagerstownmd.org
3.	Jill Baker	Wash Co Planning & Zoning	jbaker@washco-md.net
4.	DAVID MASON	WACO SOLID WASTE	DMASON@WASHCO-MD.NET
5.	RICH EICHELBERGER	PERMITS	REICHELBERGER@WASHCO-MD.NET
6.	Cody Swope	OEM	CoSwope@washco-md.net
7.	Charles T. Brown, Jr.	OEM	cbrown@washco-md.net
8.	BRIAN LOWMAN	OEM	BRLOWMAN@WASHCO-MD.NET
9.	KEVIN LEWIS	DES	KLEWIS@WASHCO-MD.NET
10.	JEFF HARVEY	JH CONSULTING, LLC	jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #4

AGENDA

Date: January 19, 2023

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Duration: 60 minutes

Location: Classrooms 5 and 7
Public Safety Training Center
18350 Public Safety Place, Hagerstown, MD 21740

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1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Update on Project Progress
3. New Project Discussion (revisit from Meeting #3)
4. Project Prioritization Criteria Activity

NOTE: During the third meeting, we made reference to a survey for ranking criteria. Unfortunately, due to the holiday, we never got that survey out. This agenda item will be an interactive version of that survey.

5. Plan Maintenance Process Discussion
   - See attached narrative from the previous mitigation plan

6. Roundtable Discussion
   - What questions, comments, concerns need to be considered as we get close to the end of the update?

7. Q & A

WASHINGTON COUNTY
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Steering Committee Meeting #4

January 19, 2023 ~ 3:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Update on Project Progress
3. New Project Discussion (revisit from Meeting #3)
4. Project Prioritization Criteria Activity
5. Plan Maintenance Process Discussion
6. Roundtable
7. Q&A

UPDATE ON PROJECT PROGRESS

MUNICIPALITY	MEETINGS							WORKSHEETS / SURVEYS / FORMS				
	KO Mtg. (08-03-2022)	Mtg. 1 (09-14-2022)	Mtg. 2 (10-19-2022)	Mtg. 3 (12-14-2022)	Mtg. 4 (01-19-2023)	Public Mtg. (01-19-2023)		"Tell Me a Story"	Capability Survey	Asset Updates	Project Updates	
Washington County	X	X	X	X				X				
Town of Boonsboro		X	X					X	X			
Town of Clear Spring		X	X					X				
Town of Funkstown								X			X	
City of Hagerstown		X	X	X				X	X		X	
Town of Hancock									X			
Town of Keedysville		X	X	X				X		X	X	
Town of Sharpsburg		X	X	X				X	X	X	X	
Town of Smithsburg												
Town of Williamsport								X			X	

Capability Survey Link: https://forms.gle/f22qKLwUgQohGAtw6

NEW PROJECT DISCUSSION (revisit from Meeting #3)

Revised Mitigation Goals

1. Maintain and enhance Washington County's jurisdictions' capability to make Washington County less vulnerable to hazards.
2. Educate local officials and the public as to the benefits of and opportunities for mitigation, both on community and personal levels.
3. Protect existing and future properties and infrastructure from all hazards that could affect Washington County.
4. Promote sustainable development to improve the quality of life by fostering resilient communities.

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

- STAPLEE Criteria

  Social: *General community benefits*

  Technical: *The project can be accomplished*

  Administrative: *The jurisdiction has the capability to manage the project to completion*

  Political: *The distribution of support for the project*

  Legal: *The project adheres to existing codes, laws, etc.*

  Economic: *The project either benefits or does not detract from the local economy*

  Environmental: *The project either benefits or does not harm the environment*

- Others?

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

Prioritization Criteria and Scoring		
STAPLEE Category	*Criteria*	*Allocated Points*
Legal (L)	Will the project be challenged in court?	7
Administration (A)	Does the coordinating agency have the capability of meeting any ongoing administrative requirements the project will create (i.e., is the project sustainable)?	6
Economic (E)	Will the benefits of this project exceed the cost (over a measurable span of time, even if that time is in years)?	5
Social (S)	Will the project unfairly treat any segment of the community (e.g., the homeless, those living under the poverty line, by any protected class category, etc.)?	4
Technical (T)	Will the proposed action work (i.e., is it technically feasible)?	3
Environmental (E)	Will the project require environmental regulatory approvals?	2
Political (P)	Is there stakeholder and public support to implement and maintain the project?	1

PLAN MAINTENANCE PROCESS DISCUSSION

- §201.6 = Formal update every 5 years
- 2018 Process (Condensed)
  - Annual in-person (committee) meeting
    - Survey precedes the annual meeting to support meeting discussion content)
    - Typically, WCDES to utilize one of the quarterly LEPC meetings to discuss updates and maintenance to this plan
  - Jurisdictions to keep a running list of project status updates
  - Survey/meeting content:
    - Hazard list and hazard profile changes/updates
    - Hazard occurrences and risk assessment
    - Community outreach strategies
    - Project status updates & effectiveness
    - Asset inventory review and update
    - Changes in development in the county and each municipality
  - “Effectiveness” assessment:
    - Cost effectiveness
    - Property protection
    - Life safety
    - Environmental impacts
    - Social impacts
    - Legal impacts
    - Political impacts
    - Overall feasibility

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION



ADJOURNMENT

PRIORITIZATION ACTIVITY SCORING

Prioritization Criteria and Scoring		
STAPLEE Category	*Criteria*	*Allocated Points*
Social (S)	Will the project unfairly treat any segment of the community (e.g., the homeless, those living under the poverty line, any protected class category, etc.)?	5
Technical (T)	Will the proposed action work (i.e., is it technically feasible)?	2
Administration (A)	Does the coordinating agency have the capability of meeting any ongoing administrative requirements the project will create?	1
Political (P)	Is there stakeholder and public support to implement and maintain the project?	3
Legal (L)	Will the project be challenged in court?	7
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Environmental (E)	Will the project require environmental regulatory approvals?	6

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Environmental (E)	Will the project require environmental regulatory approvals?	1

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Environmental (E)	Will the project require environmental regulatory approvals?	3

CAPABILITY SURVEY RESULTS

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE CAPABILITIES SURVEY

Thank you for participating in the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan update. The following pages will ask you about a variety of capabilities that your jurisdiction has that can support the implementation of hazard mitigation efforts.

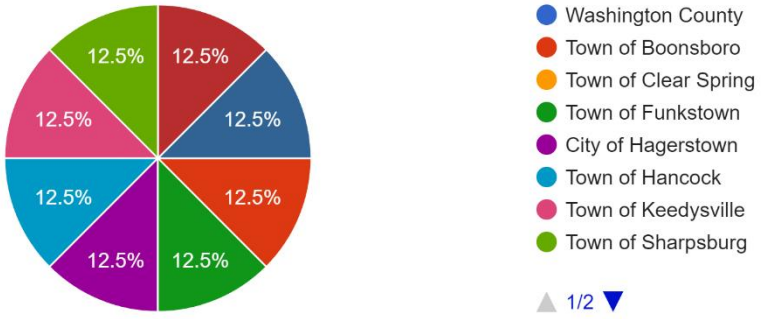
Please answer the following questions from the perspective of your jurisdiction ONLY. Consider all questions to pertain to in-house (i.e., on your paid staff) resources. For example, if you are a municipality (i.e., city or town) and you rely on a county agency for a service such as engineering or floodplain management, then you would indicate "No" as to whether your municipality has that capability.

This survey is intended to be completed by only one individual from each jurisdiction.

THE FOLLOWING MATERIAL REPRESENTS THE RESPONSES RECEIVED AS PART OF THIS SURVEY.

With which jurisdiction are you affiliated?

8 responses



Please provide your name and department or agency. 8 responses

Kathleen A. Maher, PCAD
Lisa Riner, Town Administrator
Reiley Stanley, Planning Department, Town of Boonsboro
Michael Faith
Carrie Estell, Town Clerk
Town Manager
Chad Rooney, Town Manager
Brenda Haynes, Town Manager

Please provide your email address and phone number. 8 responses

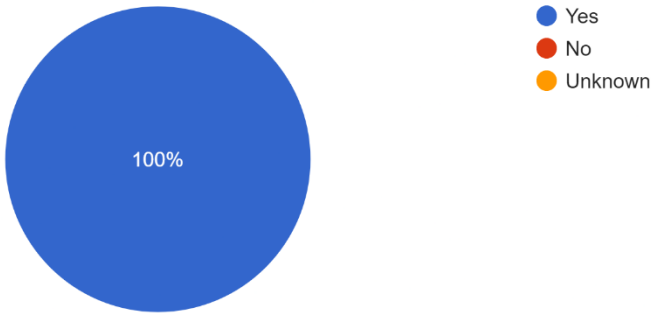
kmaher@hagerestownmd.org (301) 739-8577, x.140

townhall@keedysvillemd.com, 301-432-5795
townplanner@townofboonsboro.com 3014325690
townmanager@townofhancock.org, 240-707-7128
townofsharpsburg@comcast.net, 304-432-4428
Brian Brandt, townmanager@townofsmithsburg.org
crooney@williamsportmd.org
bhaynes@myactv.net

PLANNING & REGULATORY CAPABILITY

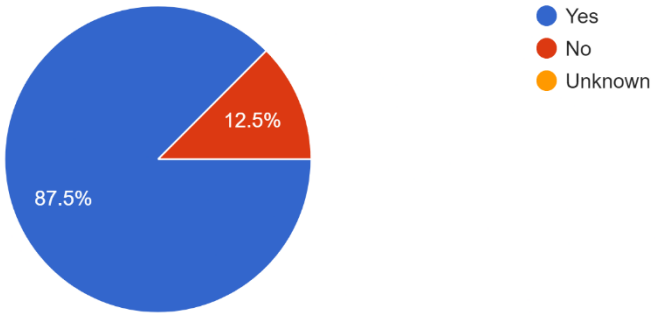
Comprehensive plans promote sound land use and regional cooperation among local governments to address planning issues. These plans serve as t...ction have or participate in a comprehensive plan?

8 responses



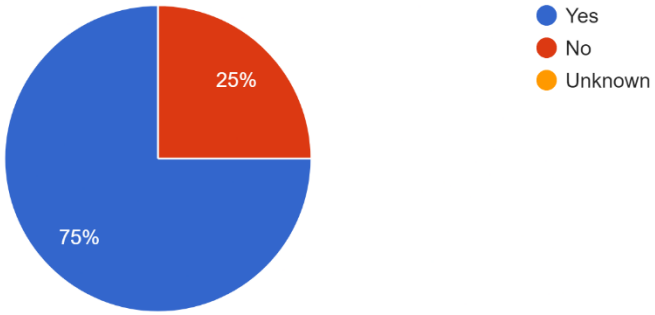
Do emergency responders or representatives from emergency management participate in the comprehensive planning process?

8 responses



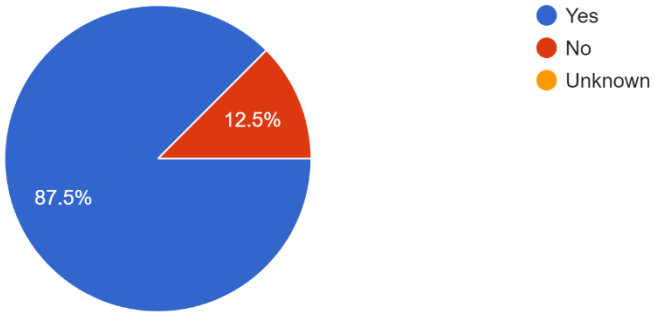
Building codes regulate construction standards for new construction and substantially renovated buildings. Does your jurisdiction have a building code in place?

8 responses



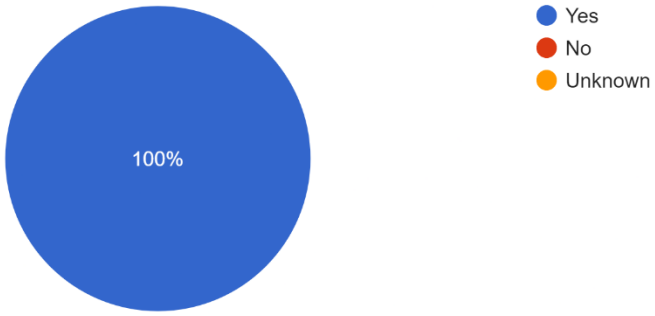
Subdivision and land development ordinances (SALDOs) are intended to regulate the development of housing, commercial, industrial, or other uses, i...ction have a subdivision and/or land use ordinance?

8 responses

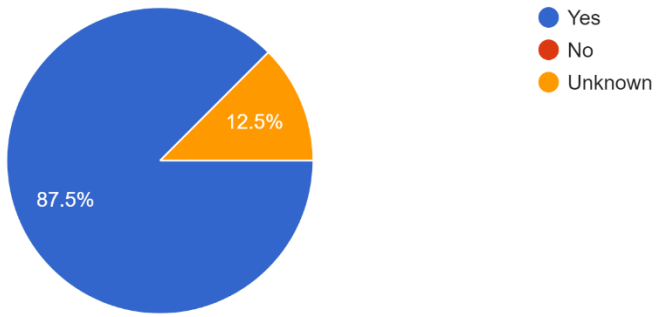


Zoning ordinances allow for local communities to regulate the use of land in order to protect the interests and safety of the general public. Zoning o...ty. Does your jurisdiction have a zoning ordinance?

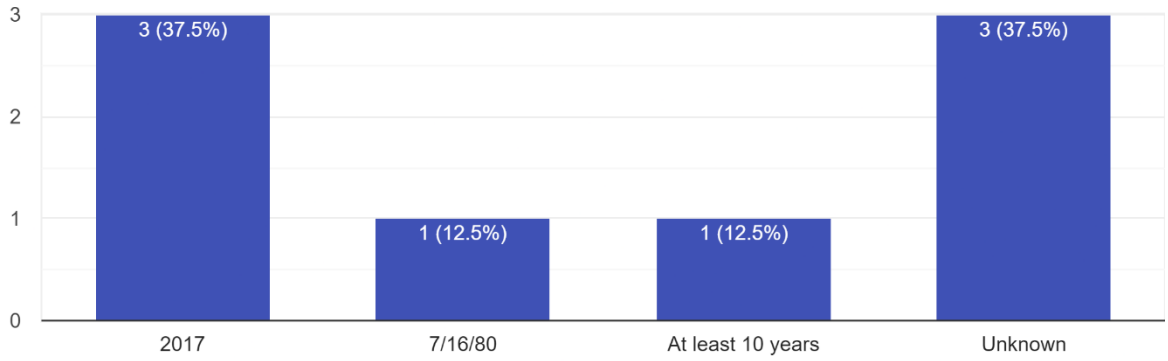
8 responses



Has your municipality adopted a compliant floodplain management ordinance that at minimum: (a) regulates development in special flood hazard area...data for new or substantially-improved structures?
8 responses



What is the adoption date of your most current DFIRM/Firm?
8 responses



If your jurisdiction makes DFIRM/FIRM information available, how are they made available (e.g., on website, at municipal building, etc.)? If not available, type N/A. 8 responses

N/A
digital on State's GIS system
Website
Typically handed by permits/zoning
Planning & Zoning
Work with the county

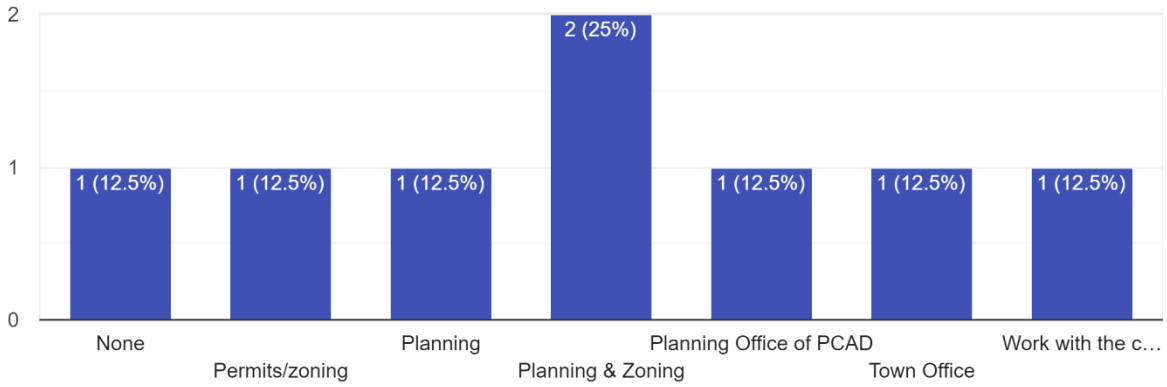
If your jurisdiction supports requests for map updates, explain how (N/A if you do not). 8 responses

N/A
n/a
Permits/zoning
Work with the county

What type of technical assistance, if any, does your jurisdiction provide with local floodplain determination?8 responses

N/A
Encourage use of a civil engineer
None
BFE programs
None.
Permits/zoning
Planning & Zoning

Which office or department is responsible for maintaining record of Letters of Map Changes?
8 responses



What office is responsible for issuing permits for all proposed development in SFHAs?8 responses

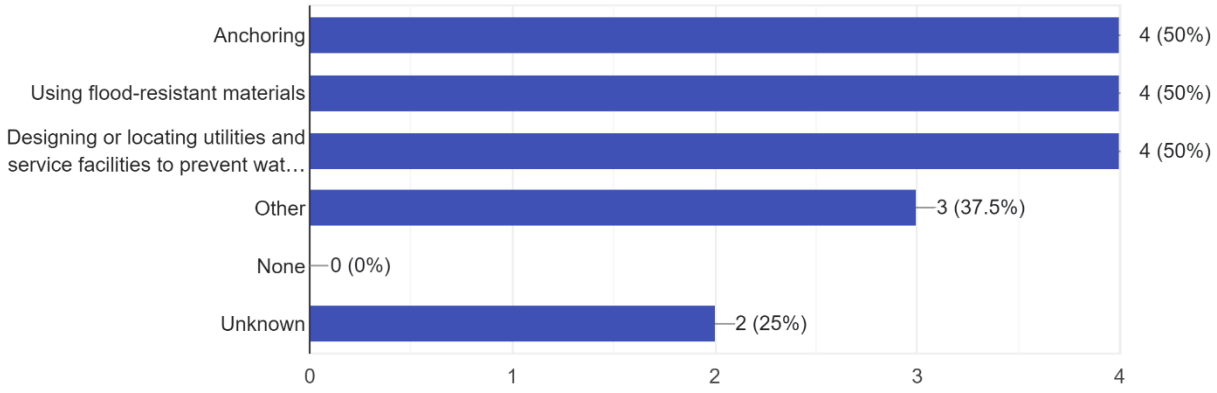
MDE and PCAD
Town Administrator consult with the County
Planning/Wash Co?
Washington County
Planning & Zoning - Zoning Administrator
Permits/zoning
Planning & Zoning
Work with the county

What office is responsible for obtaining, reviewing, and utilizing (or requiring) BFE and floodway data for regulated developments? 8 responses

Civil Engineer prepares; PCAD & City Engineering review.
Town Administrator consults with the County
Planning
N/A
Planning & Zoning - Zoning Administrator
Permits/zoning
Planning & Zoning
Work with the county

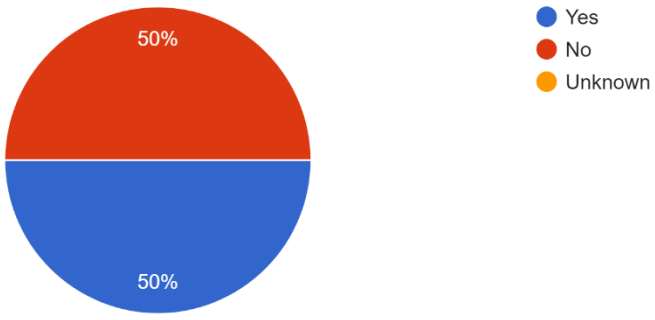
What measures does your jurisdiction encourage to keep new and substantially-improved construction reasonably safe from flooding to or above the BFE?

8 responses



Does your jurisdiction enforce its floodplain ordinance by monitoring compliance and taking remedial action to correct violations?

8 responses



How does your jurisdiction monitor compliance with floodplain regulations? 8 responses

Site plan review process for new development and redevelopment
Consults with the County for new construction
Permits, inspections
We work with the County.
Zoning administration, inspection, permit process
Permits/zoning
Through permitting process
Through permitting (i.e., zoning) & working with the county

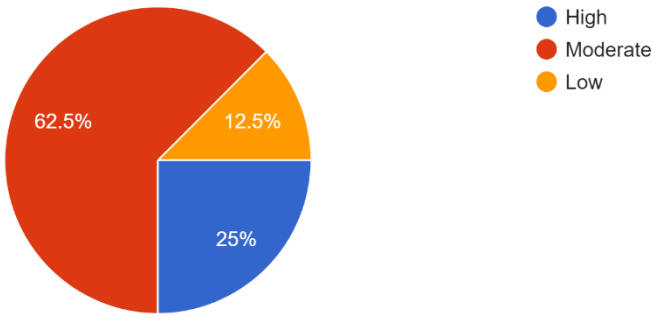
What activities has your jurisdiction considered adopting, if any, that extend beyond minimum requirements (e.g., participation in the Community Rating System, prohibition of storage of chemicals in the SFHA, etc.)?8 responses

N/A
we don't have much floodplain in the city
None
n/a
None.
None at this time, we have a minimal floodplain
Prohibit chemical storage in floodplain

How does your jurisdiction educate community members about flood insurance (N/A if your jurisdiction does not provide education on flood insurance)?8 responses

N/A
Brochures in Town Hall
n/a
Unknown.

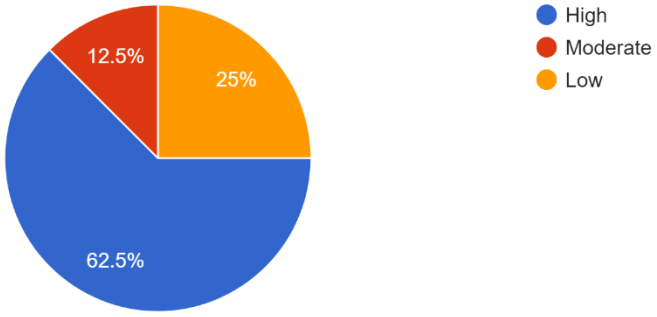
As with all community and economic development and emergency preparedness planning efforts (including participation in the NFIP), there may be ...o fully meet the planning and regulatory capability?
8 responses



ADMINISTRATIVE CAPABILITY

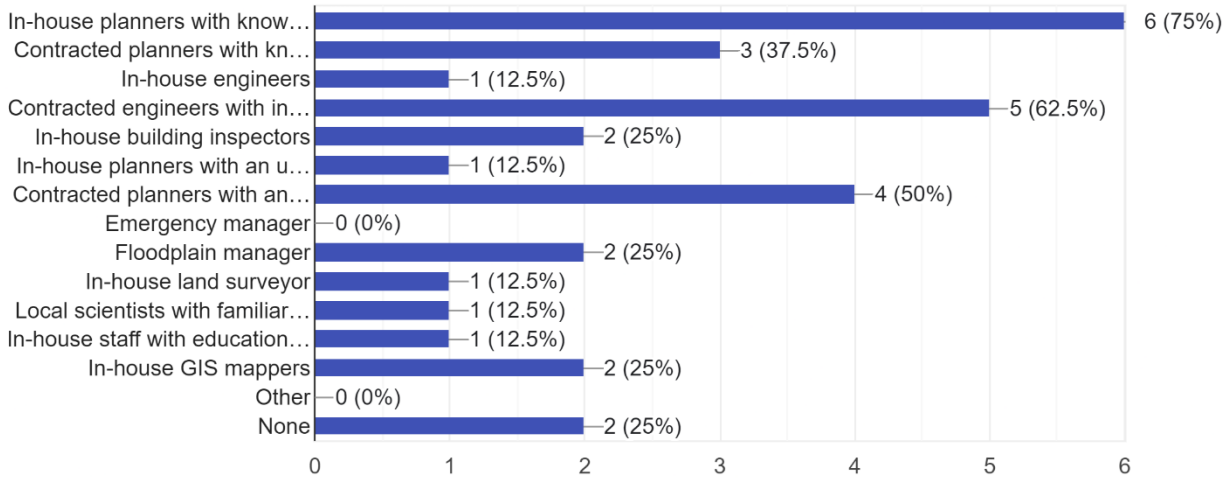
Administrative capability is described by an adequacy of departmental and personnel resources for the implementation of mitigation-related activities....el skilled in geographic information systems (GIS).

8 responses



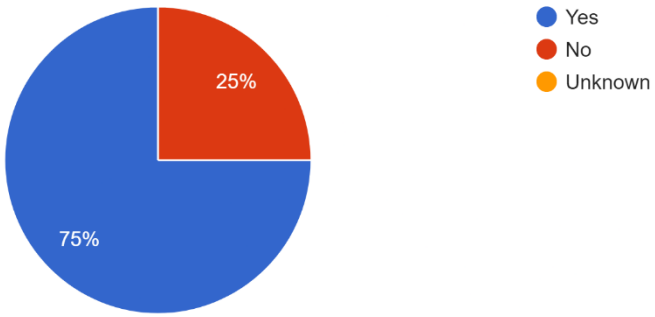
To which type of specialized staff do you have access?

8 responses



Does your jurisdiction have a paid grants specialist on its payroll?

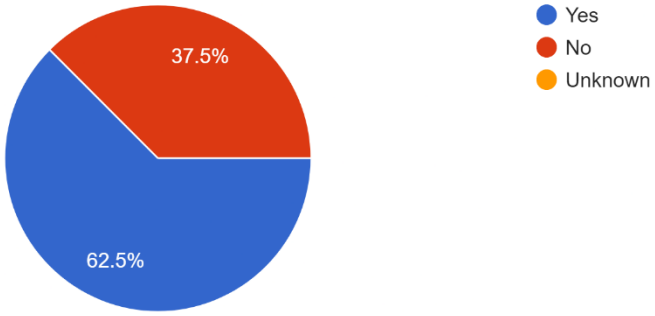
8 responses



FISCAL CAPABILITY

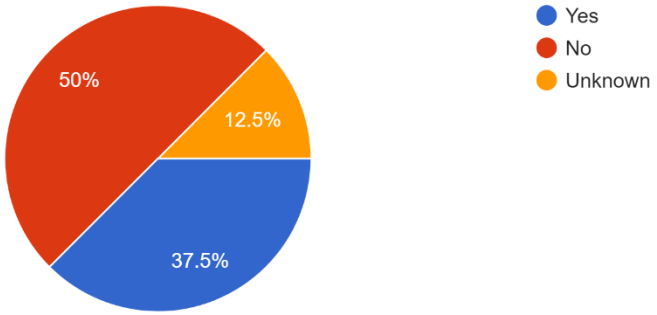
Does your jurisdiction have available funds in its CAPITAL BUDGET that could be used for mitigation projects?

8 responses



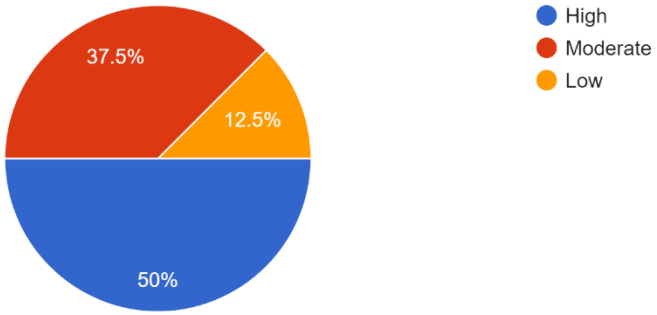
Does your jurisdiction have available funds in its PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET that could be used for mitigation proiects?

8 responses



In addition to existing, in-house fiscal resources, mitigation projects can be supported through partnerships with other jurisdictions, the procureme...'s fiscal capabilities to support hazard mitigation?

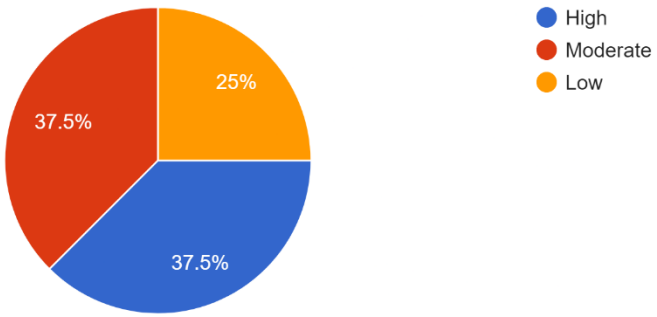
8 responses



POLITICAL CAPABILITY

The political capability can be one the most difficult to evaluate due to the strong feelings it can elicit. How would you rank your jurisdiction's politi... implement hazard mitigation policies and priorities.

8 responses

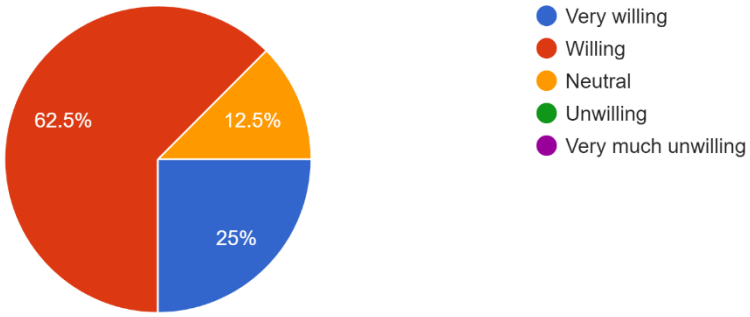


YOUR OPINION: EXAMPLE MITIGATION STRATEGIES

The next six questions will present examples of hazard mitigation strategies. For each, please select the option that corresponds to how willing you believe your community would be to implement that type of project.

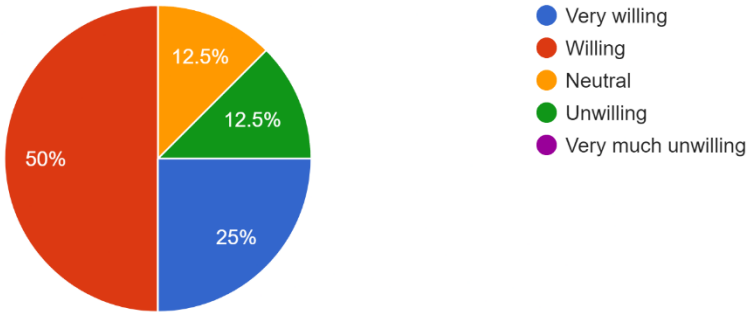
XYZ community guides development away from known hazard areas.

8 responses



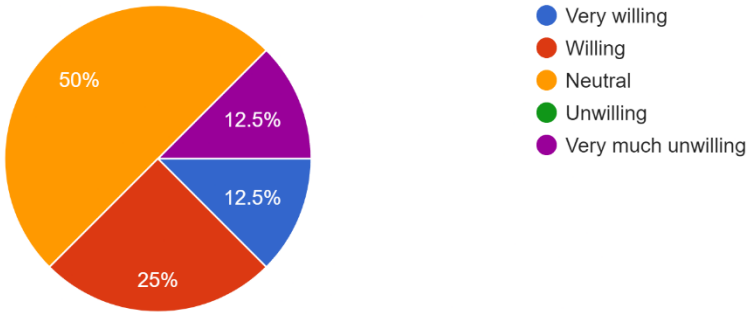
XYZ community restricts public investments or public sector capital improvements within hazard areas.

8 responses



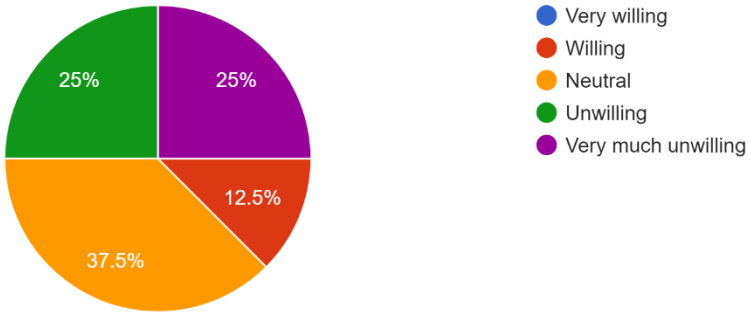
XYZ community enforces local development standards (e.g., building codes, floodplain management ordinances, etc.) that go beyond minimum state or federal requirements.

8 responses

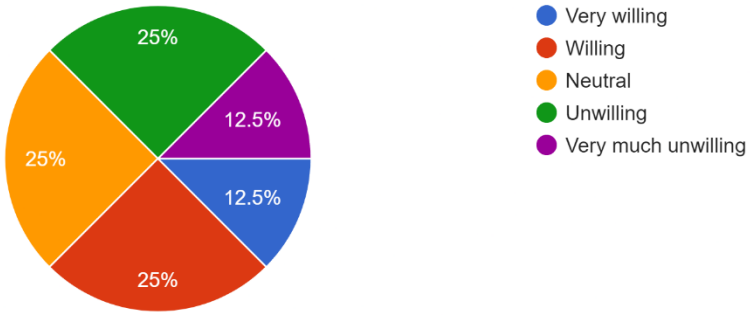


XYZ community offers financial incentives (e.g., through property tax credits) to individuals and businesses that employ resilient construction tec...ceeds recommended building code standards, etc.).

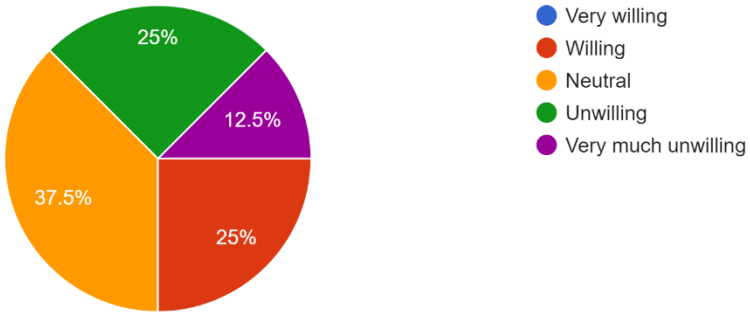
8 responses



XYZ community offers financial incentives (e.g., through property tax credits) to individuals and businesses that employ green infrastructure techniq...er, increase green space in urbanized areas, etc.).
8 responses



XYZ community establishes a microgrant program to help individuals and businesses install fixed auxiliary power at their locations.
8 responses



Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please use the space to make any comments relative to capabilities that were not included in the preceding survey. You may also leave any general thoughts you may have about the implementation of hazard mitigation throughout Washington County. 3 responses

N/A

Smithsburg is lucky; close ties with county agencies, PD closely tied w/ Sheriff and MSD, other emergency services tied closely to neighboring and county resources.

MUNICIPAL MEETING SUMMARIES

Community Worksheet – Floodplain Identification and Mapping

1. Who is your FPA or floodplain manager? Please provide office/agency name, position title, and contact information.

Heather Williams, Senior Plan Reviewer & Floodplain Manager within Washington County Division of Engineering.

2. Where do you keep your FIRM and FIS report?

Hard copy kept on file within the department. Maps available electronically on Maryland DFIRM Outreach (mdfloodmaps.net) website.

3. Has your community adopted the most recent FIRM? When was the adoption? Where is that information stored? Has your community updated the floodplain ordinance language to include the current FIRM and FIS?

Current maps adopted August 15, 2017, and the new ordinance was adopted at the same time.

4. Does your municipality support requests for map updates?

Yes. We review all requests and sign community acknowledgement when appropriate. All LOMCs must be approved by FEMA.

5. Is there a specific agency/department responsible for compiling these updates and tracking LOMCs?

Floodplain Manager documents all requests and keeps LOMC on file within department.

6. Do you collect updated technical or scientific data and modeling? How do you share this with FEMA?

Any properties with new technical data and/or modeling are encouraged to submit an application to FEMA for the appropriate corresponding Letter of Map Change.

7. Does your municipality provide assistance with local floodplain determinations? If yes, specify how.

Yes, through the floodplain permit process and inquiries. Determinations made using best available data including the FIS, FIRMs, elevation certificates, surveyed data, etc.

8. Do the people/agencies responsible for using these tools in your community have the access they need? Which tools does your community rely on?

Yes. See answers above.

Community Worksheet – Floodplain Management

1. Does your municipality issue permits for all proposed development in the SFHA? What office/ position is responsible?

Yes. Floodplain Manager within the Washington County Division of Engineering.

2. Does your municipality require BFE data for subdivision proposals and other development proposals larger than 50 lots or 5 acres? If so, what department or office is responsible?

Yes. See answer above.

3. How does your community identify substantially improved structures? When do they intervene?

Through the floodplain and building permit review process.

4**. Does your community have a coordinated process to determine substantial damage and to permit repair and improvement? Does the municipality conduct substantial damage assessments in the SFHA? Does your community have a plan for who will conduct substantial damage assessments and a procedure for assessment?**

- When a flood event occurs, the floodplain manager and a building inspector visit the flooded location(s) to evaluate structures for safety and document damages.
- The Floodplain Manger's contact information is provided to the property owners during visits and in response to phone calls to the County regarding flooding.
- If a property is located within the SFHA, a Washington County Floodplain Permit and an MDE Non-tidal Wetlands and Waterways Permit is required to make improvements to the structures.
- Properties within the SFHA will be evaluated against SI/SD criteria utilizing the Substantial Improvement/Substantial Damage Desk Reference Publication # FEMA P-758/May 2010 as part of the Floodplain Permit review process. Some of the additional tools used to make the SI/SD determination include:
    - Maryland DFIRM Outreach mapping https://mdfloodmaps.net/map/
    - Property and Zoning Search GIS Mapping and SDAT links to determine the assessed value of the structure(s) and the year the primary structure was built https://www.washco-md.net/gis-home/gis-digital-spatial-data-maps/
    - Elevation Certificates (existing and/or new)
    - Electronic plan review software for electronic submission of documentation and drawings for floodplain permit applications and building permit applications
    - Documentation of market value of structures
    - Documentation of cash value of all proposed work
- If the property is located outside the SFHA, property owners are provided information on how to build back safer, better, and stronger through this FEMA publication: https://agents.floodsmart.gov/sites/default/files/fema_nfip-rebuilding-safer-stronger-after-flood-guide-12-2022.pdf
- There are additional Certified Floodplain Managers on staff within the County Engineering Department, who can provide assistance if the floodplain permit application volume is such that it needs additional resources to review the applications.

5. Does your municipality require Elevation Certificates for new or substantially improved structures? If yes, how is it documented and which office/agency/department is responsible?

Yes, through the floodplain and building permit review and inspection processes. Floodplain Manager reviews and documents all Elevation Certificates.

6. How does the municipality enforce the floodplain ordinance sections? How does the municipality address SI/SD violations?

Through the floodplain and building permit review process. Violations are tracked as service requests and addressed following the "Enforcement" section of the ordinance.

7. Has your municipality had a Community Assistance Visit? If so, were any corrective actions required?

Last CAV was May 3, 2021. Community has responded to minor findings from CAV Report.

8. Does your municipality have or is considering higher ordinance standards than the NFIP? Please describe the higher standards and where they are documented.

- 1 ft freeboard
- Cumulative provision for SI/SD over a 5-year period
- Prohibition of new manufactured housing in floodplain (replacement allowed if SI/SD requirements met)
- Prohibition of at-grade accessory structures larger than 600 square feet in the SFHA
- Prohibition of floodproofing for new non-residential structures

9. Are any local officials/departments in your community interested in a training? What topics relate most to your community?

Yes. Participate in training from FEMA Region III, ASFPM, and local MAFSM organization.

Community Worksheet – Flood Insurance

1. **How does the municipality educate community members about the availability and value of flood insurance?**

   Information available on County website. Written materials available upon request.

2. **Does the municipality inform community property owners about changes to the FIRM that would impact their insurance rates?**

   Yes. Post cards sent to property owners with mapped floodplain during 2017 map updates. Public outreach meetings held by County with resources from MDE to assist with insurance questions.

3. **How does the municipality provide general assistance to community members regarding insurance issues?**

   Refer insurance questions to www.floodsmart.gov or 1-800-427-4661.

4. **Does the municipality keep track of the number of residential and non-residential structures in the SFHA? How many structures are in the SFHA in your community?**

   Information available from GIS. Approximately 246 flood insurance policies.

5. **Does the municipality have any levees or levee systems in its jurisdiction?**

   No

6. **Is the levee or levee system certified and accredited?**

   Not applicable

7. **Is the levee or levee system a Provisionally Accredited Levee (PAL)?**

   Not applicable

8. **Is the levee or levee system part of the USACE Rehabilitation and Inspection Program?**

   Not applicable

9. **Does your community have any Major Dams or High Hazard Dams, and if so, have you applied for FEMA's High Hazard Potential Dam grant?**

   There are MD378 Ponds within County. High hazard dams get reviewed by Maryland Department of the Environment and track through their Dam Safey program.

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Boonsboro, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: April 25, 2023
Attendees: Reiley Stanley, Town Planner/Zoning Administrator
Greg Huntsberry, Jr., Public Works Superintendent
Jeffery Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- Jeff reviewed the existing asset inventory for the town; he requested that town official review the list and then email any additions, deletions, or corrections back to him.
- Jeff asked for permission to reference Boonsboro's MS4 projects; Reiley and Greg agreed.
- Attendees reviewed the projects from the 2018 and discussed their status. Reiley and Greg indicated that both were on-going. For the flooding project, Reiley noted the need to update the cost estimate based on experiences with implementing a stormwater system upgrade.
- Reiley and Greg described two development projects, both residential. The Fletchers Grove development is across from the school campus, and the Fox Gap development is on the south end of town. Developers for these projects have submitted site plans to the town and Boonsboro expects them to break ground any day. A third development by King Road Associates, with approximately 800 units, is currently in the development stage.

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Clear Spring, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: August 15, 2023
Attendees: Juanita Grimm, Town Clerk
Jeff Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- The main purpose for this follow-up discussion was to discuss a more comprehensive range of actions.
- The flood of 2014 was a major incident for Clear Spring. After the event in ’14, the town acquired one property.
- Recently, the town conducted a sewer line replacement project (as part of an inflow and infiltration [I&I] effort).
- The town experiences a loss of fire protection when water tanks drop below a certain level. As such, a generator for the water treatment plan should be a new mitigation project.
- A recent water loss report found that Clear Spring had a 33% loss last year (and loss should be under 10%). The town is, thus, undertaking a project to replace water meters and upgrade meter reading equipment and conduct a lead service inventory.
- There’s an old reservoir just outside of town that has been out of service and the town is looking to take it out. This effort is also a new mitigation project.

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Funkstown, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: April 25, 2023
Attendees: Brenda Haynes, Town Manager
Jeffery Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- Jeff reviewed the existing assets for Funkstown with Brenda, and sent the list on a spreadsheet to her. Jeff asked for town officials to review the list, and then for her to email any additions, deletions, or corrections to him.
- Funkstown recently worked with the county on a building ordinance, and the town followed the county on the floodplain ordinance. (The county coordinates floodplain management for the town.)
- The town completed the dry hydrant project. The town also recently completed a buyout project at a trailer park, which resulted in Jerusalem Park.
- The town is undertaking an inflow and infiltration (I&I) project with ARPA funding.
- Clarifications re: the Capability Survey
    - If a capital investment for town facilities can be done in a way that reduces risk, then use, the town has capital funds it would contribute toward risk reduction.

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Funkstown, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: August 15, 2023
Attendees: Brenda Haynes, Town Manager
Jeff Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- The main purpose for this follow-up discussion was to discuss a more comprehensive range of actions.
- The dry hydrant request was by Funkstown VFD; the town is currently working with floodplain management on the project.
- Funkstown is looking at an electrical project. Instead of doing a fixed generator at each site (e.g., pump stations, etc.), the town wants to purchase a mobile generator to go to the ones that need auxiliary power (using ARPA funds).
- The town's pump stations DO have flood doors, though the seals age and deteriorate. The pump on High Street was ruined during the Blizzard of '93 because the seals on the flood doors weren't tight enough. Behind the fire company across the Oak Ridge Drive bridge is another pump, as well as along Lagoon Road and Edgewood Drive. These pumps are within 300' of Antietam Creek.
- The biggest issue with inflow and infiltration (I&I) is at the pump station on Edgewood Drive. The town got $150,000 from MD Planning (through CDBG) to address this issue.
- The Arts Farm will remain farmland.

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Hagerstown, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: August 15, 2023
Attendees: Kathy Maher, Director of Planning & Code Administration
Jim Bender, City Engineer
Jeff Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- The main purpose for this follow-up discussion was to discuss a more comprehensive range of actions.
- The city has a dense urban development pattern, and this sets it apart from other communities in Washington County.
- The city provides local grants for installing sprinkler systems.
- Re: the stormwater fee – retrofits for parts of the city (projects born out of that)
- Hagerstown's strategy for reducing risk is a comprehensive model whereby city officials concentrate on known problems or information gaps. Officials look for things like bottlenecks that slow projects or impede information sharing (that might reveal issues), being proactive rather than reactive.
- The western edge of downtown just north of the city park represents a flooding risk area, as does Burhans Boulevard (Rt. 11).

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Hancock, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: April 25, 2023
Attendees: Mike Faith, Town Manager
Jeffery Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- Regarding projects from the 2018 plan, the Pizza Hut property project was completed and the Shaw Motors project was not completed. The town has had conversations with the Sheetz at the Main Street and Methodist Avenue intersection about elevating the property or potentially to a higher portion of the block. The town has looked at acquiring the Subway restaurant and decommissioned gas station across Main Street from Sheetz.
- The town recently flood-proofed its wastewater pump station (though this effort did not appear in the 2018 plan).
- On the east end of town, there was an old packing shed (near 318 East Main Street) that the town had used as a public works building. This facility was close to the floodplain and the town removed it.
- For new projects, working with Morgan County (WV) officials to ascertain the risks from a rail incident on their side of the Potomac River would be helpful. The town has received funding to acquire some blighted properties (which aligns with its urban renewal plan). The town may also be looking at expanding its park.
- Regarding flooding, the heart of the town is in the floodplain. Devastating flood events include the ’85 flood and two events in the 1990s. For Hancock, the floodplain pretty well defines the risk areas; there is not much runoff flooding outside of the special flood hazard area (SFHA).

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Hancock, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: August 16, 2023
Attendees: Mike Faith, Town Manager
Jeff Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- The main purpose for this follow-up discussion was to discuss a more comprehensive range of actions.
- The town has a new wastewater superintendent in place now who is looking at various processes and issues with fresh eyes. There are proactive efforts to plan for emergencies involving the water and wastewater systems. The town purchased and installed a generator for the public house to sustain the ability to pump water. (The well house is not in the floodplain, but it is located close to the bridge. As such, contamination from a transportation-based hazardous material incident on the bridge could occur.) The town is also looking at security measures for utility infrastructure. Similarly, the town is working on a permit to be able to draw down water from the Potomac River as a backup supply.

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Keedysville, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: August 21, 2023
Attendees: Lisa Riner, Town Manager
Jeff Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- The main purpose for this follow-up discussion was to discuss a more comprehensive range of actions.
- The town would like to create a “pocket park.”
- There is a need for a streambank restoration/protection project behind a property that was recently purchased as well as town hall. To do this, the town is looking at a grant from soil conservation.
- Keedysville is working to build capacity in Shafer Park well (i.e., replacing the Shafer Park well) at a cost of approximately $250,000. This is for the joint water system with Boonsboro.

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Sharpsburg, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: April 25, 2023
Attendees: Carrie Estell, Town Administrator
Jeffery Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- Jeff reviewed the existing assets for Sharpsburg with Carrie, and sent the list on a spreadsheet to her. Jeff asked for town officials to review the list, and then for her to email any additions, deletions, or corrections to him.
- Carrie indicated that the state recently worked with the town to update a digital floodplain map, and the town published this information for its residents. The town also participates in public outreach campaigns as they are available.
- Carrie and Jeff talked at length about how to bolster public participation, and she agreed to pass out additional surveys for the town.

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Sharpsburg, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: August 14, 2023
Attendees: Russ Weaver, Mayor
Jeffery Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- The main purpose for this follow-up discussion was to discuss a more comprehensive range of actions.
- The town's water system is exposed to contamination through the Potomac River and Antietam Creek. To mitigate this concern, the town is exploring steps it can take to get off of surface water and go to wells for raw water supply.
- The biggest problem in the past has been flooding along tributaries coming in from farming areas. The town has down a lot to address it. For example, it recently re-did Antietam Street (i.e., mill down the pavement to allow for better water drainage) following upgrades to the stormwater management system under that street. The town works to keep the storm system cleaned out (annually). A vacuum truck was in town working on the storm system in 2023.
- Other items of concern include how one manages and reacts to novel hazards that occur. Recently, wildfires in Canada impacted air quality. People didn't know what to do when there were foreign particles in the air.

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Smithsburg, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: April 26, 2023
Attendees: Brian Brandt, Town Manager
Jeffery Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- Jeff reviewed the existing assets for Smithsburg with Brian, and sent the list on a spreadsheet to him. Jeff asked for town officials to review the list, and then for Brian to email any additions, deletions, or corrections to him.
- Brian and Jeff reviewed Smithsburg's existing projects. The town received a PER grant to complete a study on the complete water system, and there will be future projects to come from that study. The second project, i.e., relocating Smithsburg EMS, has not yet been completed. The developer of the Cloverly project has been involved in those discussions recently.
- There is a residential development project mixed with commercial structures and elderly housing in the corporate limits – this is the Cloverly project. It is located directly off 64 opposite town. The Blue Mountain Estates project (29 houses) is a development project that is within the town's corporate limits.
- There is a potential for commercial development on the property that used to be Oswald Nursery.
- Smithsburg is looking extensively at its infrastructure systems (reference the PER grant for the water system study above). The town is fixing its sewer system also (which could be considered in the plan integration section).
- Everyone is happy with the town's police and fire departments as well as Smithsburg EMS. There are risks, though, regarding fire flow associated with the water system.
- There is not much rail activity in the town.
- Jeff went through the capability survey questions with Brian, and since both had time, they completed the survey via telephone (while Jeff entered Brian's responses into the online Google Form).

MEMO TO FILE

Re: Smithsburg, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date: August 16, 2023
Attendees: Brian Brandt, Town Manager
Jeff Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- The main purpose for this follow-up discussion was to discuss a more comprehensive range of actions.
- As mentioned before, Smithsburg is very interested in upgrading its infrastructure. Regarding the water system, the town suffers 25% water loss (which is both a supply and cost issue). As noted, there's a need to raise fire flow as well as water pressure for the schools. The town has been replacing lines, valves, and hydrants. The Mountain Shadows water main loop is an example of a project to raise pressure in that subdivision.
- On the sewer side, there's a need to replace linings to reduce inflow and infiltration (I&I) (which also addresses an environmental concern). The town is replacing three pump stations.
- Smithsburg has an ongoing MS4 study, and the town is working with RK&K (engineers) on this project. It has identified eight to 12 issues worthy of near-term action. The MS4 initiative is primarily an environmental effort, but some of these issues could reduce property damage as well (if completed).
- The town's infrastructure has been neglected for a while, which is why it is featuring as such a priority.

MEMO TO FILE

Re:	Williamsport, MD Information for the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date:	April 26, 2023
Attendees:	Chad Rooney, Town Manager
	Donnie Stotelmyer, Resident and former town manager
	Jeffery Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

Summary of Discussion

- Jeff reviewed the existing assets for Williamsport with Chad and Donnie, and sent the list on a spreadsheet to him. Jeff asked for town officials to review the list, and then for Chad to email any additions, deletions, or corrections to him.
- Regarding development, just outside corporate limits, there are several distribution centers planned and/or under construction. There is also residential development just outside the town's limits.
- Flooding is a concern, as are severe weather incidents (what we used to refer to as "acts of God").
- The town is working to address inflow and infiltration (I&I). It has run into problems with pump motors burning up trying to pump the water out. The town is looking into a sewer lining and manhole redevelopment project. There will also soon be a request for proposals (RFP) released for water and sewer projects.
- The existing project from 2018 regarding the canal was completed by constructing stormwater drains around the C&O Canal headquarters.

DAM OWNERS SURVEY RESULTS

Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update: Dam Owners Survey

n=1

Washington County is updating its FEMA-required *Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan*. As part of that process, this survey enables us to establish contact with the owners of regulated dams in our jurisdiction. Our intent is to identify ways to involve you in community preparedness efforts.

You are receiving this survey because you have filed an emergency action plan (EAP) with Washington County Emergency Management. Thank you for submitting and maintaining your EAP.

The questions below are voluntary and non-binding. Aside from statistics associated with completion of the survey (e.g., X number of dam facility representatives responded), none of the specific information you provide will be included in our plan (unless otherwise noted by the question and as directed by you in your reply).

Thank you for considering participation in our planning process.

If you have questions, feel free to contact Cody Swope, Emergency Management Specialist, at (240) 313-2923.

What is your name and contact information? 1 response

Andrew Eshleman, aeshleman@washco-md.net

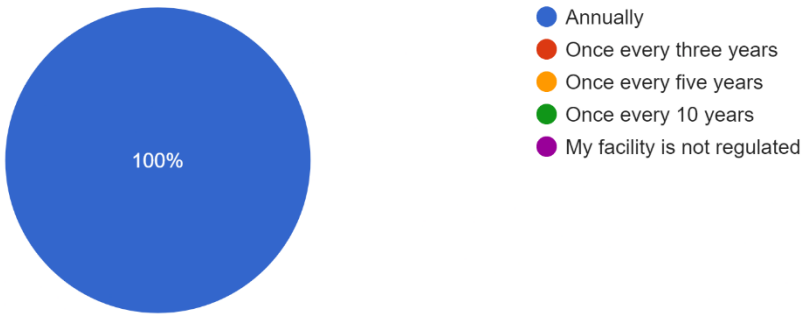
Which dam facility(ies) do you represent? 1 response

Fort Ritchie - Lake Royer MD Dam #70

GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND PREPAREDNESS

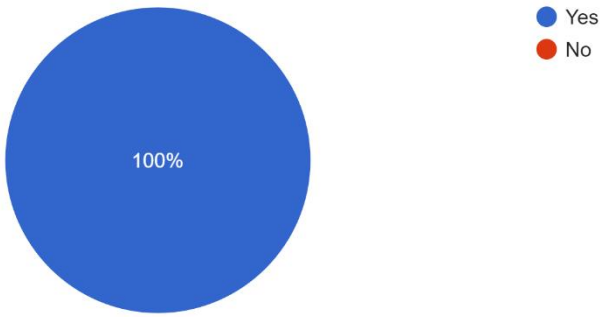
Which of the following choices best illustrates how often is/are your dam(s) inspected by state or other regulatory authorities?

1 response



Do you inspect your dam facilities when heavy rainfall occurs?

1 response

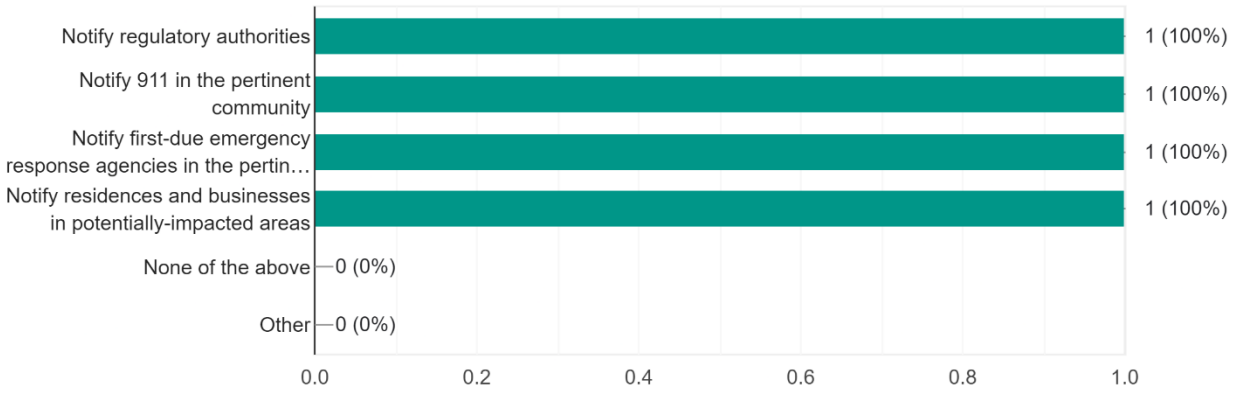


If you answered "Yes" to the previous question, what criteria do you use to determine when to make an unscheduled, weather-related inspection?1 response

According to the Emergency Action Plan

If, as a result of a weather-related inspection, you felt there was an issue about which emergency services entities should be concerned, what action(s) would you take? (Check all that apply.)

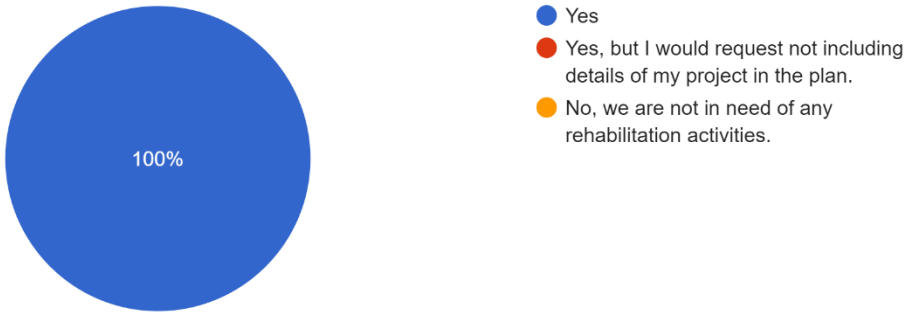
1 response



HAZARD MITIGATION

Are you considering rehabilitation activities that may reduce any potential risks you've identified at your facility(ies)?

1 response



If you answered "Yes" to the question above, please provide the details you are comfortable providing in this space. Please consider identifying how we might list this project in the plan (e.g., "Acme Dam spillway upgrades).

Including projects in the plan is not a guarantee for funding, but if we are aware of your interest, we can notify you as and if funding under FEMA's High-Hazard Potential Dams (HHPD) program becomes available.

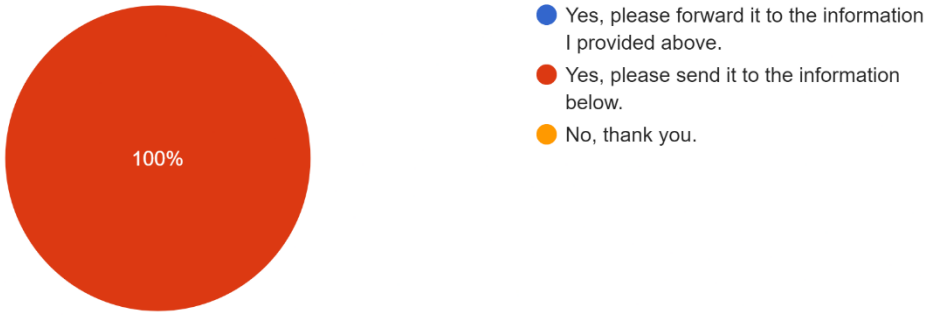
NOTE: If you have a project in mind but are requesting discretion, answering this question is optional.

1 response

Need to replace the sluice gate

Would you like more information on hazard mitigation as it relates to dam facilities?

1 response

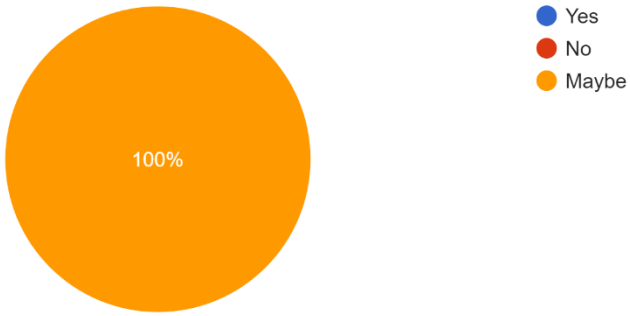


If you answered "Yes" to the above question and would like us to send the information to another individual that represents your company, facility, etc., please provide that contact information here.1 response

aeshleman@washco-md.net

The mitigation plan is a document that we revisit frequently. Would you be interested in participating in the hazard mitigation planning process?

1 response



CONCLUSION

What questions do you have for us?

NOTE: Please indicate in your description how we can return a reply to you.

0 responses

No responses yet for this question.

Please provide any other comments that you would like to share. 0 responses

No responses yet for this question.

2016-2017 INCLEMENT WEATHER PLAN

2016-2017 Washington County Homeless Coalition
INCLEMENT WEATHER PLAN

COUNTY: Washington County, Maryland **Updated:** 10/30/16

Submitted by: Washington County Community Action Council, Inc. on behalf of the Washington County Homeless Coalition

Contact/Phone: Diana Fulchiron (301) 797-4161 x126

I. Purpose, Scope & Definitions

The Washington County Homeless Coalition Inclement Weather Plan (hereinafter "The Plan") guides the actions of homelessness-related emergency shelter providers during specific weather events, as detailed below.

Activating Weather Conditions – The Plan will be activated when the following weather conditions exist:

- A low temperature or wind chill factor at or below 32 degrees; and/or
- The presence of freezing rain, sleet, or snow.

Weather conditions will be monitored independently by agencies and service providers participating in The Plan through www.weather.com and/or through the local news station WHAG TV Channel 25 or at http://www.your4state.com/weather.

The Plan – Based on the scope of available cold weather homelessness services in Washington County, the Inclement Weather Plan for our region equates to the standard operating procedures for our emergency shelters during the winter months.

Once The Plan is activated by precipitating weather events, emergency shelters can flex their policies to allow for expanded use of shelter, including sheltering seasonally or temporarily barred individuals, increasing the use of floor space, and/or extending the daytime hours during which sheltered individual may remain in the facility.

In the event of a verified extreme weather event, the Severe Weather Plan, coordinated through the Washington County local government department of emergency services, will be in effect. Please refer to Section X for Severe Weather Plan contact information.

The Washington County Homeless Coalition is currently developing additional resources to provide for overflow capacity in our County. Access to these resources will be coordinated through the Homeless Coalition Inclement Weather Committee.

II. Key Decision Makers & Duties

Duty: *Surveillance of weather events and activation of inclement weather plan for agency.*

Position: Staff on duty
Agency: Hagerstown Rescue Mission
Address: 125 N Prospect St, Hagerstown, MD 21740
Telephone: 301-739-1165
E-mail: contact@hagerstownrescue.org

Position: Staff on duty
Agency: REACH of Washington County
Address: 140 W Franklin St, Ste 300, Hagerstown, MD 21740
Telephone: 301-733-9185
E-mail: info@reachofwc.org

Duty: *Coordinate the placement of homeless individuals during activating weather events.*
Position: Staff on duty
Agency: REACH of Washington County
Address: 140 W Franklin St, Ste 300, Hagerstown, MD 21740
Telephone: 301-733-9185
E-mail: info@reachofwc.org

Duty: *Coordinate annual revision of plan with Washington County Homeless Coalition.*
Position: CoC Coordinator
Agency: Washington County Community Action Council
Address: 101 Summit Ave, Hagerstown, MD 21740
Telephone: 301-797-4161
E-mail: info@wccac.org

III. Individual and Family Placements

REACH of Washington County and the Hagerstown Rescue Mission provide for the majority of shelter placements during cold weather events. Local service agencies will follow their standard referral processes for accessing shelter for their clients while the Plan is activated.

Households can access these services by calling REACH or the Rescue Mission directly.

- Homeless men will be referred to the Hagerstown Rescue Mission for shelter
- Homeless women/men will be referred to REACH Cold Weather Shelter
- Homeless families can contact the REACH hotline number after hours for motel placement, as funding allows. REACH hotel/motel placements allow sheltered guests to remain in the motel until check out time.

- Individual churches may also provide hotel or motel placement to families seeking shelter on an ad hoc basis.

Individuals and families may also access this network of services 24-hours a day by contacting the Citizens Assisting and Sheltering the Abused (CASA) hotline at 301-739-8975.

IV. Transportation.

Due to the location of the shelters in the downtown areas, most shelter guests will be able to walk to the overnight shelter. The Hagerstown Police Department and the Washington County Sheriff's Department provide limited transportation from within their respective areas of response for clients.

V. Security.

In the event of an emergency, shelter staff will call 911 and request additional assistance.

VI: Outreach.

The Washington County Homeless Coalition Project Committee and the Turning Point Homeless Outreach Program assist with specific outreach needs of the unsheltered homeless population in Washington County. Several homeless street outreach events are planned for the 2016-2017 cold weather season and include activities such as blanket & basic provision distribution days, referral and information sessions for the unsheltered, and information distribution to non-service provider partners, such as local retail stores and the public library.

The Washington County Homeless Coalition membership will also conduct the County's annual Point In Time survey during the last week of January 2017. This year will include specific outreach activities to potentially unsheltered individuals.

The Washington County Homeless Coalition member agencies distribute "Street Guides" listing the availability of food, shelter and other services in Washington County, including cold weather shelter. The guide is updated annually.

The Hagerstown Rescue Mission staff responds to calls from the public and businesses that may know of people in need of shelter.

VII. Day Shelter.

The REACH Day Resource Center, located at 140 W Franklin St, Suite 300, Hagerstown, MD, operates year round from 9 am – 1pm, Monday – Friday. The Resource Center provides a place for homeless households to go during the coldest hours of the day and a place where volunteers, staff, and other community agencies can provide information and guidance. During inclement weather incidents, the REACH Day Resource Center may provide for extended hours, or the REACH Cold Weather Shelter will remain open during the day only for overnight shelter residents in instances of heavy snowfall and ice storms. The decision to remain open during these circumstances is determined by the shelter coordinator.

The Hagerstown Rescue Mission and the Salvation Army allow sheltered guests to remain in their common areas during the day. The Rescue Mission, located at 125 N Prospect Street, Hagerstown, MD, allows homeless individuals day access to a sheltered (but unheated) porch area during inclement weather incidents.

The Soul Haven Wellness and Recovery Center, located at 12 W Franklin Street, Hagerstown, MD, operates a day resource center from 12pm-7pm, seven days per week. During minor inclement weather incidents, Soul Haven may open early. During heavy snowfall or ice storms, Soul Haven may be closed. Consumers are encouraged to call 301-733-6676 to confirm hours, when possible.

The Turning Point Day Program, located at 328 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD, operates 9:30am-1pm, Monday-Friday. During inclement weather incidents, Turning Point will not provide transportation to program.

VIII. Plan Development and Evaluation.

A Subcommittee of the Washington County Homeless Coalition evaluates the Inclement Weather Plan on an annual basis. Changes to the plan will occur on an as needed basis.

IX. Gaps in Services:

In Washington County, gaps in our service network affect the use and accessibility of emergency shelter during inclement weather conditions:

- Washington County lacks overflow shelter facilities. Once our emergency shelters reach capacity, households are diverted to motel stays or to their own recognizance.
- All family shelters in the County maintain waiting lists for their services; therefore, we are unable to place families in shelter on an emergency basis during inclement weather conditions.
    - This issue is especially true for families with male children over the age of 13 years old, who are barred from staying at the Salvation Army's Shelter for Women & Children, the largest family shelter in the County.
- Our current Inclement Weather Plan does not contain provisions for the assistance to those not serviceable by shelter (e.g. those individuals barred from shelters due to past violent behavior or those individuals otherwise unamenable to shelter environments).

X. Special Note:

The Washington County Severe Weather Plan, developed by Washington County Emergency Management, provides guidance to the Washington County Division of Emergency Services for county-wide response during extreme weather events. This Severe Weather Plan is distinct and separate from the above Inclement Weather Plan. Questions concerning the County's Severe Weather Plan should be directed to Verna Brown, CEM Coordinator, at 240-313-4364 or vbrown@washco-md.net.

Area Shelters					
Agency	Contact Person	Phone	Service Population	Bed Capacity	Special Notes
REACH of Washington County 140 W Franklin St, Ste 300 Hagerstown, MD 21740	Jodie Ostoich	301-733-2371	Single men Single women	32 (men) 12 (women)	Cold weather shelter operates October-April
Hagerstown Rescue Mission 125 N Prospect Street Hagerstown, MD 21740	Sonny Shank	301-739-1165	Single Men	30-35	Porch area open during daytime hours (no heat or AC)
Salvation Army 534 W Franklin Street Hagerstown, MD 21740	Diane Rowe	301-733-2440	Women, single or with children	30 beds 9 overflow beds	Will not take families with male children over the age of 13
Community Action Council 101 Summit Ave Hagerstown, MD 21740	Donna Rose	301-797-4161 x 127	Families	5 units 33 beds	Priority is given to single male-headed households – maintains a wait list
St John's Shelter 14-16 Randolph Avenue Hagerstown, MD 21740	Joyce Chabot	301-791-1388	Families	5 units 25 beds	Priority is given to single male-headed households – maintains a wait list
CASA, Inc 116 W Baltimore St Hagerstown, MD 21740	Vicki Sadehvandi **24 hr hotline**	301-739-4990 **301-739-8975**	Domestic violence shelter	40 beds	Hotline provides access to REACH cold weather shelter & motel placements
Interfaith Service Coalition 8 W High Street Hancock, MD 21750	Deb Cohill	301-678-7677	Families		Only shelter in west county

Partner Agencies			
Agency	Contact Person	Phone	Special Notes
Wash Co Department of Social Services 122 N Potomac Street Hagerstown, MD 21740	Karen Christoff John Kenney **After Hours**	240-420-2140 240-420-2150 **240-420-2222**	Provides referrals to shelters
Turning Point – Homeless Outreach Prg 25 E North Street Hagerstown, MD 21740	Carrie Tressler Beth Murrow **Pager**	301-733-6063 Ext 8269 or 8271 301-665-2314	Contact for homeless persons with mental illness

Law Enforcement Agencies			
Agency	Contact Person	Phone	Special Notes
Washington Co Sheriff's Office 500 Western Maryland Parkway Hagerstown, MD 21740	Patrol Duty Officer	301-791-3020	Provides some transportation for homeless clients during inclement weather conditions
Hagerstown Department of Police 50 N Burhans Blvd Hagerstown, MD 21740	Patrol Division Sargent	301-790-3700	Provides some transportation for homeless clients during inclement weather conditions

NEIGHBORING COUNTY OUTREACH

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net> Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 9:18 AM
To: "rbennett@alleganygov.org" <rbennett@alleganygov.org>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Good morning,

Washington County is updating its hazard mitigation plan, and we are doing our due diligence in ensuring that we're examining the full range of risks that might impact our county. As such, we would like to ask for your thoughts as we complete this project.

Are there any risks or hazards that you have examined that you feel might impact us in Washington County? If so, what can you tell us about those?

Similarly, as you consider your risks, is there anything from Washington County that we can share with you? We are happy to answer any specific questions, and as we finalize drafts of our plan, we would be happy to share any sections of interest.

Thank you for your time and for any feedback you provide.

Thanks

Cody

Cody Swope

Emergency Management Specialist

100 West Washington Street

Hagerstown, MD 21740, Suite 2600

P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

www.washco-md.net

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Re: Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Roger Bennett <rbennett@alleganygov.org> Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 10:09 AM
To: "Swope, Cody A." <coswope@washco-md.net>
Cc: Carrie Hughes <chughes@alleganygov.org>, Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>, Roger Bennett <rbennett@alleganygov.org>

Cody

Thanks for reaching out. Our EM Chief Carrie Hughes is also working to update our plan.

We would be glad to work with you.

I will let Carrie respond to you.

Roger.

Roger Bennett, MS
Deputy Director, Department of Emergency Services
Allegany County Government

t: 240-580-0220
w: http://www.alleganygov.org
a: Allegany County Government
Department of Emergency Services
11400 PPG Road, SE
Cumberland, Maryland 21502

On Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 09:18 Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net> wrote:

> Good morning,
>
> Washington County is updating its hazard mitigation plan, and we are doing our due diligence in ensuring that we're examining the full range of risks that might impact our county. As such, we would like to ask for your thoughts as we complete this project.
>
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>
> Thank you for your time and for any feedback you provide.
>
> Thanks
>
> Cody

Cody Swope

Emergency Management Specialist

100 West Washington Street

Hagerstown, MD 21740, Suite 2600

P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

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--

Roger Bennett, MS
Deputy Director
Allegany County Department of Emergency Services
11400 PPG Road SE
Cumberland, Maryland 21502
Primary: 240-580-0220
24/7: 301-777-7111
rbennett@alleganygov.org

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net> Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 9:23 AM
To: "jwolford@berkeleywv.org" <jwolford@berkeleywv.org>, "rlilly@berkeleywv.org" <rlilly@berkeleywv.org>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Good morning,

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Thanks

Cody

Cody Swope

Emergency Management Specialist

100 West Washington Street

Hagerstown, MD 21740, Suite 2600

P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

www.washco-md.net

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net> Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 9:27 AM
To: "rlbarvin@franklincountypa.gov" <rlbarvin@franklincountypa.gov>, "rwpovlich@franklincountypa.gov" <rwpovlich@franklincountypa.gov>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

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Cody

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P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

www.washco-md.net

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net> Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 9:25 AM
To: "emergencymanagement@FrederickCountyMD.gov" <emergencymanagement@frederickcountymd.gov>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Good morning,

Washington County is updating its hazard mitigation plan, and we are doing our due diligence in ensuring that we're examining the full range of risks that might impact our county. As such, we would like to ask for your thoughts as we complete this project.

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Thank you for your time and for any feedback you provide.

Thanks

Cody

Cody Swope

Emergency Management Specialist

100 West Washington Street

Hagerstown, MD 21740, Suite 2600

P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

www.washco-md.net

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net> Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 9:29 AM
To: "ema@co.fulton.pa.us" <ema@co.fulton.pa.us>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Good morning,

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Thank you for your time and for any feedback you provide.

Cody

Cody Swope

Emergency Management Specialist

100 West Washington Street

Hagerstown, MD 21740, Suite 2600

P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

www.washco-md.net

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

RE: Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Brian Barton <bjbarton@co.fulton.pa.us> Mon, Mar 6, 2023 at 12:49 PM
To: "Swope, Cody A." <coswope@washco-md.net>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Cody,

My apologies for just now responding to your message. The only risk or hazard that I would think, would be the always anticipated Interstate 70 issue in either County that would cause potential issues for the other County.

Thank you,

Brian

Brian J. Barton

Fulton County

EMA / 911 Director

Phone:717-485-3201

Cell:717-816-6191

Email: bjbarton@co.fulton.pa.us

From: Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 9:30 AM
To: Brian Barton <bjbarton@co.fulton.pa.us>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>
Subject: Hazard mitigation plan

[EXTERNAL MESSAGE - EXERCISE CAUTION]

Good morning,

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Thank you for your time and for any feedback you provide.

Cody

Cody Swope

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P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

www.washco-md.net

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net> Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 9:31 AM
To: "sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org" <sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

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Thank you for your time and for any feedback you provide.

Cody

Cody Swope

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Hagerstown, MD 21740, Suite 2600

P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

www.washco-md.net

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

RE: Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Steve Allen <sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org> Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 10:13 AM
To: "Swope, Cody A." <coswope@washco-md.net>
Cc: Dick Myers <dmyers@jeffersoncountywv.org>, "Jeff Harvey (jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com)" <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Hi Cody,

We are in the midst of posting an RFP for our Hazard Mitigation Plan update, as well. We'll share our works with you as well.

Thanks,

Steve
Stephen S. Allen
Director

Jefferson County Office of
Homeland Security and
Emergency Management

28 Industrial Blvd., Suite 101
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Phone (304) 728-3290
Cell (304) 279-8233
Fax (304) 728-3320

Email sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org<mailto:sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org>

Disclaimer: The information contained in this electronic mail may be confidential or legally privileged. It is for the intended recipient(s) only. Should you receive this message in error, please notify the sender by replying to this email. Unless expressly stated, opinions in this message are those of the individual sender and not of the Jefferson County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Unauthorized use of the contents is strictly prohibited. While all care has been taken, JCOHSEM is not responsible for the integrity of the contents of this electronic mail and any attachments included within.

From: Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 9:31 AM
To: Steve Allen <sallen@jeffersoncountywv.org>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>
Subject: Hazard mitigation plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or on clicking links from unknown senders.
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Thank you for your time and for any feedback you provide.

Cody

[cid:image002.png@01D946A6.66F24850]<https://www.washco-md.net/>
Cody Swope
Emergency Management Specialist
100 West Washington Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740, Suite 2600
P: 240-313-2923
C: 301-582-8040
www.washco-md.net<applewebdata://8B646D4B-3357-4E75-BA23-24EADC55E8AB/www.washco-md.net>



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Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net> Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 9:33 AM
To: "jhoover@morgancountywv.gov" <jhoover@morgancountywv.gov>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Good morning,

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Thank you for your time and for any feedback you provide.

Cody

Cody Swope

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P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

www.washco-md.net

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

FW: Hazard mitigation plan

1 message

Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net> Fri, Feb 24, 2023 at 8:10 AM
To: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>
Cc: "Brown, Charles" <cbrown@washco-md.net>

Would you guys like me to get this info?

Tom, see the last paragraph

Cody Swope

Emergency Management Specialist

100 West Washington Street

Hagerstown, MD 21740, Suite 2600

P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

www.washco-md.net

From: Jason Hoover <jhoover@morgancountywv.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 8:07 AM
To: Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net>
Subject: Re: Hazard mitigation plan

WARNING!! This message originated from an **External Source**. Please use proper judgment and caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.

Any claims of being a County official or employee should be disregarded.

Cody,

If you have not already done so, contact Region 9 Planning & Development Council. We partner with Berkeley County, WV on our Hazard Mitigation Plan, which was updated in 2022. I can also provide you with our latest Commodity Flow Study, which will show traffic flow from Morgan County into Washington County on US 522, as well as rail traffic along the Potomac River.

In my opinion, the greatest hazards that would affect Washington County from Morgan would be a rail accident in the proximity of Hancock, MD or runoff from flooding or a hazmat incident that pollutes the Potomac River.

If you would like to speak with me or obtain any further information, please let me know. I would also like to visit with the staff in your office. I am new to this position and have not had the oppurtunity to schedule a visit to meet.

Jason Hoover

Director

Morgan County Office of Emergency Services

Office: 304-867-3145

Cell: 304-268-6400

From: Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 9:33 AM
To: Jason Hoover <jhoover@morgancountywv.gov>
Cc: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>
Subject: Hazard mitigation plan

Good morning,

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Thank you for your time and for any feedback you provide.

Cody

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5.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 2: Project Prioritization

This appendix contains a workbook planners used to calculate the priority of hazard mitigation actions (per the methodology outlined in Section 3.2). As a note, the City of Hagerstown prioritized the city's projects per its own methodology. Further, when a jurisdiction identifies a single project, it does not appear in this appendix.

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATIO PLAN (2023 UPDATE)									
PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CALCULATIONS									
Municipality/Project	*Political (P), 7 pts for Yes response*	*Economic (E), 6 pts for Yes response*	*Technical (T), 5 pts for Yes response*	*Legal (L), 4 pts for No response*	*Social (S), 3 pts for No response*	*Admin. (A), 2 pts for Yes response*	*Environ. (E), 1 pts for No response*	*Sum*	*Priority Ranking*
BOONSBORO: Partner with the Town of Keedysville to replace the Shafer Park well to address water availability issues.	7	6	5	4	3	2	0	27	1
BOONSBORO: Proactively continue to enforce floodplain ordinances, controlling and improving stormwater management systems and participating in the NFIP, particularly with respect to the new residential developments.	0	6	5	0	3	2	1	17	2
CLEAR SPRING: Construct a plan to rebuild damaged culvert; identify corrections and apply to funding sources.	7	6	5	4	3	2	0	27	2
CLEAR SPRING: The town has identified that the wells are on the same aquifer. Identify additional water sources, and encourage residents to conserve water.	7	0	5	4	3	2	0	21	4
CLEAR SPRING: Work with the state for additional detours that don't affect the town.	0	6	5	4	3	2	1	21	4
CLEAR SPRING: Identify problem areas and prepare an RFP for correction of the problem.	7	6	5	4	3	2	0	27	2
CLEAR SPRING: Educate the public.	0	6	0	0	3	2	1	12	8
CLEAR SPRING: 20+ years ago, MDSHA installed a bypass culvert to take some of the flood water. Acquire properties and improve the conveyance system.	0	6	5	0	3	2	0	16	7

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATIO PLAN (2023 UPDATE)									
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CLEAR SPRING: Purchase a generator for auxiliary power at the town's water treatment plant.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	1
CLEAR SPRING: Explore the removal of the reservoir.	7	0	5	4	3	0	0	19	6
FUNKSTOWN: The town will raise the electrical components in the pump stations, targeting the following stations: High St., behind the fire company near the Oak Ridge Dr. bridge, Lagoon Rd., Edgewood Dr. The town will also purchase a mobile generator.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	1
FUNKSTOWN: Storm sewers collect water during heavy rains and floods, causing inflow and infiltration (I&I) in the sanitary sewer system. Install water-tight covers or inflow guards on sewer manholes, with the Edgewood Dr. pump station area being the first addressed.	7	6	5	4	3	2	0	27	2
FUNKSTOWN: The town will work with Washington County agencies to promote awareness.	0	6	5	4	3	2	1	21	4
FUNKSTOWN: The town will install the dry hydrant in Jerusalem Park.	7	6	5	4	3	2	0	27	2
HANCOCK: Shaw Motors is in process of acquisition. Continue to acquire flood prone properties and implement flood-proofing measures.	0	6	5	0	3	2	0	16	2

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATIO PLAN (2023 UPDATE) PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CALCULATIONS									
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HANCOCK: Engage in preparedness activities with Morgan County (WV) officials regarding the potential for a rail incident on the Morgan County side of the river that could impact the town.	0	6	5	4	3	2	1	21	1
HANCOCK: Purchase a generator as a means of auxiliary power for the town's water pumphouse.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	1
HAGERSTOWN: PCAD and FD work diligently to require upgrades to fire-stopping systems during renovations.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	1
HAGERSTOWN: Building code changes protect new construction. Educate property owners about risks. Require upgrades during building upgrades.	0	6	5	0	3	2	1	17	4
HAGERSTOWN: New development meets stormwater requirements and gains improvements from renovation or reuse projects. Continue to retrofit stream channels and the public stormwater management systems as funding allows.	0	6	5	0	0	2	1	14	6
HAGERSTOWN: Create a H&H model to identify problem areas and bottlenecks in the stormwater management system. The model's output/data can allow for the implementation of future proactive upgrade measures.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	1
HAGERSTOWN: Increase Narcan training and work with partners on longer-term solutions to assist people with overcoming addition.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	1

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATIO PLAN (2023 UPDATE) PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CALCULATIONS									
Municipality/Project	*Political (P), 7 pts for Yes response*	*Economic (E), 6 pts for Yes response*	*Technical (T), 5 pts for Yes response*	*Legal (L), 4 pts for No response*	*Social (S), 3 pts for No response*	*Admin. (A), 2 pts for Yes response*	*Environ. (E), 1 pts for No response*	*Sum*	*Priority Ranking*
HAGERSTOWN: Identify neighborhoods vulnerable to the urban heat island effect and develop strategies to help naturally cool dwellings and communities. Street tree planting can assist with natural cooling.	0	6	5	4	0	2	0	17	4
KEEDYSVILLE: Research ways to alleviate the flooding and limit permits in the flood zone.	7	6	5	4	3	2	0	27	2
KEEDYSVILLE: Demolish the flood-prone structure and build a "pocket park" on that parcel.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	1
KEEDYSVILLE: Undertake a streambank restoration along Little Antietam behind Main Street.	7	6	5	4	3	2	0	27	2
KEEDYSVILLE: Partner with a group in town that is organizing to find ways to inform the public of this problem. Use town resources to promote awareness and available treatment programs.	7	0	5	4	3	2	1	22	4
SHARPSBURG: Restrict additional buildings in the floodplain and encourage mitigation reconstruction and elevation where appropriate.	0	6	5	0	3	2	0	16	2
SHARPSBURG: Develop community outreach programs to educate officials and the public about the hazards the town faces.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	1
SHARPSBURG: There is a need to re-engineer Antietam and Church Streets.	7	0	0	4	3	2	0	16	2

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATIO PLAN (2023 UPDATE) PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CALCULATIONS									
Municipality/Project	*Political (P), 7 pts for Yes response*	*Economic (E), 6 pts for Yes response*	*Technical (T), 5 pts for Yes response*	*Legal (L), 4 pts for No response*	*Social (S), 3 pts for No response*	*Admin. (A), 2 pts for Yes response*	*Environ. (E), 1 pts for No response*	*Sum*	*Priority Ranking*
SMITHSBURG: The need remains, and this action calls for upgrading the water system to support the availability of potable water and fire suppression.	7	6	5	4	3	2	0	27	**1**
SMITHSBURG: Complete the study, and when considering the projects identifed by the study, prioritize those with both environmental and property damage impacts for earlier implementation.	0	6	5	4	3	2	0	20	**3**
SMITHSBURG: SEMS is currently looking for available property within the town growth area to relocate. If a proposed annexation is approved within the Town of Smithsburg, the developer has agreed to provide land for a new rescue company.	0	6	5	4	3	2	1	21	**2**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Seek funding sources for additional equipment. Educate the public on new notification systems and where to go for information.	7	0	5	4	3	2	1	22	**9**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Educate the public on the new notification system and on where to get information.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	**1**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Work with Boonsboro, Clear Spring, Funkstown, Hancock, Keedysville, Sharpsburg, Smithsburg, and Williamsport to consider a planning commission representative on the mitigation plan steering committee (in addition to existing municipal participation).	0	6	5	4	3	2	1	21	**10**

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATIO PLAN (2023 UPDATE)									
PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CALCULATIONS									
Municipality/Project	*Political (P), 7 pts for Yes response*	*Economic (E), 6 pts for Yes response*	*Technical (T), 5 pts for Yes response*	*Legal (L), 4 pts for No response*	*Social (S), 3 pts for No response*	*Admin. (A), 2 pts for Yes response*	*Environ. (E), 1 pts for No response*	*Sum*	*Priority Ranking*
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Identify and train for the response to current materials being transported. Conduct a commodity flow study to identify current hazmat being transported on roadways.	0	6	5	4	3	2	1	21	**10**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Increase citizen and provider Narcan training. Conduct citizen outreach on awareness and crisis intervention teams and peer intervention specialists.	0	6	5	4	3	2	1	21	**10**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: There has been some updating to the stormwater system to address issues. Under the MS4 Phase II permit for Washington County, develop a list of projects to address storm water best management practices that will address requirements of the permit, improve local water quality, and reduce associated flooding.	7	6	5	4	3	2	0	27	**6**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Provide each municipality the opportunity to get familiar with and train in public notification systems.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	**1**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Update resource lists to include points of contact for all high-hazard potential dams in Washington County.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	**1**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Replace the sluice gate at the Fort Ritchie-Lake Royer MD Dam #70.	7	6	5	4	0	2	0	24	**7**

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATIO PLAN (2023 UPDATE)									
PROJECT PRIORITIZATION CALCULATIONS									
Municipality/Project	*Political (P), 7 pts for Yes response*	*Economic (E), 6 pts for Yes response*	*Technical (T), 5 pts for Yes response*	*Legal (L), 4 pts for No response*	*Social (S), 3 pts for No response*	*Admin. (A), 2 pts for Yes response*	*Environ. (E), 1 pts for No response*	*Sum*	*Priority Ranking*
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Digitize the inunduation maps in the EAPs that are on file to assist in risk determinations.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	**1**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Consider the implications of recognizing dam inundation areas as sensitive areas in zoning ordinances.	0	6	5	0	0	2	1	14	**1**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Identify and enter into agreements with facilities to serve as shelters in Census tracts with the highest number of mobile homes.	7	6	0	4	3	2	1	23	**8**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Conduct outreach campaigns for voluntary sign-ups for the county's mass notification system in the Census tracts with higher numbers of mobile homes.	7	0	5	0	3	0	1	16	**13**
WASHINGTON COUNTY: Compile municipal-specific reports of social vulnerability data and provide them to the participating jurisdictions.	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	28	**1**

5.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 3: Inactive Projects

This appendix records the mitigation projects that Washington County or the municipalities within the county have completed, deleted, or deferred. Projects completed between 2018 and 2023 include the following.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PROJECT STATUS (2023)				
Jurisdiction	*Hazard*	*Problem*	*Project*	*Status*
Boonsboro	Flood	There is flooding in some areas of the town that affects roads and houses.	Proactively continue to enforce floodplain ordinances, controlling and improving stormwater management systems and participating in the NFIP	COMPLETED. At the beginning of 2023, the town had restored 18.276 acres of the 29.62-acre, 2025 NPDES Phase II Permit requirement.
Funkstown	Flood	The trailer park on Poplar Street floods. The town has reached out to the property owner to purchase the property with FEMA funds. The town has already had the property appraised.	The property will be purchased and residents will be relocated. The property will be turned into a park.	COMPLETED. In June 2020, the town was able to purchase the trailer park property from the owner. This land was purchased with a state grant from Program Open Space. This land will permanently be a park and stay open land. The future goals are to have a pavilion and a canoe access into Antietam Creek. The residents in the trailers had one year to move their trailers or find other housing. After one year, the town paid to have the remaining trailers demolished and cleared off the property. To date, the property is clear of trailers.
Hancock	Flood	The town of Hancock has experienced flooding of businesses and commercial properties on Main Street due to the Potomac River.	The Pizza Hut has been flood-proofed and Shaw Motors is in process of acquisition. Continue to acquire flood prone properties and implement flood-proofing measures.	COMPLETED. The Pizza Hut floodproofing project has been completed.
Keedysville	Miscellaneous	There is a need to diversify energy sources, to include more integration of renewable energy, to meet demand while being sensitive to climate change.	Install solar panels on town facilities.	COMPLETED. The town installed solar panels on its library with a $20,000 grant from Maryland Smart Energy Communities.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PROJECT STATUS (2023)				
Jurisdiction	*Hazard*	*Problem*	*Project*	*Status*
Sharpsburg	Flood	Areas of the town are in the floodplain.	Restrict additional buildings in the floodplain and encourage mitigation reconstruction and elevation where appropriate.	COMPLETED (but remains on-going). The town's planning commission assisted with ensuring the parking lot of the old American Legion building was floodproofed. The town cleaned out the culvert on Chapline.
Williamsport	Flood	There are no control measures to reduce the water in the C&O canal.	Identify funding sources that could address storm water runoff issues as well as storm drains.	COMPLETED. The SHA constructed stormwater drains around the C&O Canal Headquarters.

The following table outlines the projects that were identified in the 2012 plan update. Where applicable, the Washington County Division of Emergency Services (the custodial entity for the 2018 update) provided these status narratives.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PROJECT STATUS (2017)						
Goals	*Objectives*	*Type*	*Action*	*Hazard*	*Timing*	*Status Narrative*
2 4 5 6	2.1 4.1 4.3 5.1 5.2 5.6 6.1	Prevention	1 * CRS Consider placing development restrictions on land use for vacant parcels within hazard areas.	All	Long-term	No. Only as part of an acquisition of a flood prone property.
2 4 5 6	2.2 4.3 5.15.3 5.4 6.3	Public Education and Awareness	2 * CRS Consider purchasing repetitive loss properties in the county. Develop a volunteer distribution buy-out program letter of interest.	Flood	Long-term	Yes. There are two repetitive loss properties interested in the FEMA/MEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. One in Hancock and one in Funkstown. Both are considering application for a HMGP assistance.
1 2 4 5	1.3 1.4 2.3 4.1 5.1	Structural Projects	3 * CRS Identify older homes and Pre-FIRM residential structures in the floodplain that are in need of mitigation measures in order to bring them into compliance when funding is available. Parcel layer is needed within GIS to adequately identify.	Flood	Long-term	No. We have no process in place.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PROJECT STATUS (2017)						
Goals	*Objectives*	*Type*	*Action*	*Hazard*	*Timing*	*Status Narrative*
4 6 9	4.1 4.3 6.2 9.1 9.2 9.3	Structural Projects	4 * CRS Mitigate and upgrade flooded roads when funding is available specifically based on areas that the HMPC identified as "high" in the following table.	Flood	Long-term	Contact Scott Hobbs, Engineering and Construction Management for this information.
1 2 4 5	1.3 2.3 4.1 5.1	Property Protection	5 * CRS Perform a detailed analysis of structures in the floodplain for all municipalities, and to determine first floor elevation for mitigation project purposes.	Flood	Long-term	Partially, yes.. In 2014, we did determine first floor elevations for approximately 12 of the houses that were flooded in the Town of Clear Spring. The purpose was to assist in determining the feasibility of meeting Floodplain Ordinance requirements during renovation.
4 6 7	4.2 4.3 6.3 6.5 7.3	Public Education and Awareness	6 * CRS Provide citizens with easy access to important hazard related documents such as FEMA's "The Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting", "Answers to Questions about the NFIP", "How to Use a Flood Map to Determine Flood Risk for a Property", Repairing your Flooded Home", "Reduce Your Risk from Natural Disasters", "Taking Shelter from the Storm", etc.	All	Short-term	Partially, yes. The County Floodplain Management webpage provides links to most FEMA documents and other information relating to flood hazards.
4 6 7	4.2 4.3 6.3 6.5 7.3	Public Education and Awareness	7 * CRS Target residents for public outreach campaign preparedness in high hazard areas such as the 100 yr floodplain.	Flood	Short-term	Yes. In 2016, the County contacted over 4400 citizens via mail regarding the impact of the new FEMA flood maps on their properties. We also hosted an open house for those affected by the new maps to discuss map changes and insurance implications with FEMA, State and County representatives.
2 4	2.1 2.3 4.1 4.2 4.3	Prevention	8 * CRS Update and continue the Flood Mitigation Task Force for Western Maryland.	Flood	Long-term	No. There is minimal interest in CRS participation throughout the county at this time.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PROJECT STATUS (2017)							
Goals	*Objectives*	*Type*		*Action*	*Hazard*	*Timing*	*Status Narrative*
2 6	2.2 6.2 6.3	Prevention	9	* CRS Use the selected actions to help join the National Flood Insurance – Community Rating System (CRS).	Flood	Short-term	No. There is minimal interest in CRS participation throughout the county at this time.
4 5 7	4.3 5.2 5.5 7.2	Natural Resource Protection	10	Apply the concepts from the 2009 Washington County Water and Sewer Plan, to improve groundwater qualities which are: well depth, length of well casing, isolation distances, soils and hydrogeological conditions, depth to static water level, and wells drilled in the Beekmantown and Metamorphic Aquifer Units. Regulatory recommendations are within the 2009 Washington County Water and Sewer Plan.	Karst	Long-term	N/A. The water and sewer plan remains valid; however, it is a stand-alone document. It should be compatible with this document, but for feasibility, the committee removed this project because it effectively suggests that it is important to follow another fully-adopted plan that is being incrementally implemented.
2 4 5	2.3 4.1 4.3 5.2	Structural Projects	11	Asses existing multilevel structures such as hospitals and apartment complexes for their wind load capacities.	Tornado Hurricane Thunderstorm **(Severe Weather)**	Short-term	N/A. The capacity to undertake this project is not available at this time (given current workloads).
1 3 5	1.3 3.3 5.2	Structural Projects	12	Assess all shelters and their ability to sustain damage for specific hazard types and identify retrofitting projects based on this assessment.	All	Long-term	N/A. Shelter assessment can be a part of the process that is implemented when agreements for usage are compiled.
5 6 7	5.2 6.1 7.2	Natural Resource Protection	13	Clean up the Central Chemical Corporation site and remove it from the EPA's superfund sites.	Hazmat	Long-term	Yes. Completed as of November 2022.
1 4 5	1.3 1.4 4.1 5.6	Prevention	14	Create a parcels layer for hazard areas based on changing development using GIS.	All	Short-term	Completed. The Department of Planning maintains an extensive GIS database.
3 4	3.1 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4	Public Education and Awareness	15	Develop and administer outreach programs to identified business organizations that should prepare for flood events.	Flood	Short-term	N/A. Consolidated with other natural hazard-centric outreach projects.
4 5	4.1 4.3 5.2	Natural Resource Protection	16	Develop mitigation strategies for new construction on expandable soils, especially in the municipality of Hagerstown.	Soil Movement **(Land Subsidence)**	Short-term	N/A. Deleted per building codes (i.e., IBC), which identifies measures for permitting in areas with expansive soil.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PROJECT STATUS (2017)						
Goals	*Objectives*	*Type*	*Action*	*Hazard*	*Timing*	*Status Narrative*
2 5 6	2.3 5.4 6.2 6.4	Property Protection	18 For the critical facilities listed as having a high vulnerability in the risk assessment and identified by the planning committee as a high priority, a technical report should be completed to provide information on first floor elevation and the base flood elevation. Mitigation alternatives and a detailed benefit/cost analysis should be completed.	Flood	Long-term	No. Deleted because of a lack of personnel capacity to complete the project in a comprehensive manner.
2 5	2.2 5.1 5.3 5.4 6.2 6.3 6.4	Property Protection	19 Identify structures that would be candidates for retrofit projects. Prioritize and evaluate cost/benefits for candidate structures.	All	Long-term	N/A. Deleted and re-written with current mitigation program recommended language.
4 6 9	4.1 4.3 6.2 9.3	Prevention	21 Mitigate the top transportation accident locations in the county (CH.6).	Major Transportation Accident	Long-term	N/A. State DOT considerations as opposed to local.
1 2 4 6	1.1 2.1 4.1 4.3 6.5	Prevention	22 Prepare CRS (Community Rating System) Application to reduce the cost of flood insurance within the county.	Flood	Long-term	N/A. There is minimal interest in CRS participation throughout the county at this time.
4 5 7	4.3 5.2 5.5 7.3	Prevention	23 Prohibit or restrict additional housing in areas of high risk, particularly in the 100- year floodplain. Status: No additional changes have been made.	Flood	Short-term	N/A. Removed from the plan. The county and municipalities are NFIP participants, which addresses the intent of this project.
4 6	4.3 6.3 6.5	Property Protection	24 Promote the new Citizen Emergency Notification System. Specifically flood hazard warning.	All	Long-term	Yes. The division of emergency services (and, later, office of emergency management) manages this program.
1 4 5	1.3 1.4 4.1 4.3 5.2	Prevention	25 Study the effects of karst and its risk at a more detailed level specific to Washington County. The last report completed by the Maryland Geological Survey was in 2004, and is general in scope.	Karst **(Land Subsidence)**		N/A. The county does not have the expertise on staff to conduct this study. Given the state's initiative (even if older), there is minimal desire to fund it locally.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PROJECT STATUS (2017)						
Goals	*Objectives*	*Type*	*Action*	*Hazard*	*Timing*	*Status Narrative*
2 4 5 7	2.1 2.3 4.1 4.2 5.2 7.2	Natural Resource Protection	27 The 2009 Washington County Water and Sewer Plan also states, "All of the historic and recent water quality data seems to yield the same conclusions. A successful groundwater quality management plan will need to be designed to regulate point and non-point sources of surface bacteriological and chemical contaminants." Conduct this study.	Karst	Long-term	N/A. The water and sewer plan remains valid; however, it is a stand-alone document. It should be compatible with this document, but for feasibility, the committee removed this project because it effectively suggests that it is important to follow another fully-adopted plan that is being incrementally implemented.
2 5 7	2.3 5.2 5.3 5.5 7.3	Prevention	28 Update to the 2012 International Building Codes for the county and all municipalities.	All	Short-term	Yes. The county and Hagerstown have adopted the 2018 IBC.
1	1.2 1.3	Emergency Services	29 Use MDE's Maryland Online Tier Two Reporting System (MOTTRS) A certified Tier Two Report to MDE using MOTTRS fulfills the reporting obligation to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). There is no need to mail a signed paper copy of the completed Report to MDE.	Hazmat	Short-term	Yes. Covered facilities utilize the most-current and available systems for reporting, as required by Maryland's EPCRA laws.
4	4.1 4.2	Prevention	30 Using Commodities Flow Study results develop a plan to mitigate any identified risks.	Hazmat	Long-term	Yes. Washington County completed a commodity flow study.
2 4 6 8	2.3 4.1 4.3 6.2 8.1	Emergency Services	31 Using the critical facilities list from this Plan for county and municipally owned buildings identify which facilities are most in need of generators.	Power Outage	Long-term	Yes. The asset inventory is available to participating county departments and municipalities.
2 6	2.2 6.2 6.3 6.4	Emergency Services	32 Utilizing the Emergency Services Projects from the County's Capital Improvement Program, research grant funding to pay for these projects.	All	Short-term	N/A. This project was removed in lieu of expanded "plan integration" discussions.
3 4 5	3.3 4.1 5.2	Natural Resource Protection	33 Work with MDE to ensure the safety of the ground and surface water supplies due to karst topography.	Karst **(Land Subsidence)**	Long-term	N/A. The state coordinates this effort; the county and municipalities participate as and when asked.
2 3 4 5	2.1 3.1 4.1 5.4	Prevention	34 Work with Public Utility Companies to identify and prioritize utility structures at risk in high hazard areas.	All	Long-term	N/A. This project was removed because it does not represent a priority activity for utilities.

5.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 4: Public Participation

This appendix provides evidence of public participation in the process. It includes survey responses, meeting sign-in sheets, and evidence of relevant advertisements.

Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

FW: RESCHEDULED: Washington County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee to Hold Public Meeting

1 message

Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net> Mon, Jan 9, 2023 at 3:40 PM
To: Jeffery Harvey <jharvey@jhcpreparedness.com>

Here is the release that went out.

Thanks

Cody

Cody Swope

Emergency Management Specialist

100 West Washington Street

Hagerstown, MD 21740

P: 240-313-2923

C: 301-582-8040

www.washco-md.net

From: Washington County Government <pr+washco-md.net@ccsend.com>
Sent: Monday, January 9, 2023 3:30 PM
To: Swope, Cody A. <coswope@washco-md.net>
Subject: RESCHEDULED: Washington County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee to Hold Public Meeting

WARNING!! This message originated from an **External Source**. Please use proper judgment and caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.

Any claims of being a County official or employee should be disregarded.

Washington County
PUBLIC RELATIONS & MARKETING

100 W. Washington Street, Suite 1401

Hagerstown, MD 21740 | 240.313.2380

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Danielle Weaver, Director

Phone: 240-313-2380

Email: dweaver@washco-md.net

Ashley Acevedo, Public Relations Coordinator

Phone: 240-313-2380

Email: aacevedo@washco-md.net

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING COMMITTEE TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING

Rescheduled for Thursday, January 19, 2023



HAGERSTOWN, MD (January 9, 2023) – The **Washington County Emergency Management Office** announces the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee will hold the rescheduled public meeting on Thursday, January 19, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Washington County Public Safety Training Center in classrooms 5 and 7. The Public Safety Training Center is located at 18350 Public Safety Place, Hagerstown, Maryland.

The meeting will be live streamed on the **Washington County Government Facebook** page and will be uploaded to the **Washington County Government YouTube** channel following the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting is to review updates to the County's hazard mitigation plan. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to comment on the natural and human-caused hazards most affecting them.

The Washington County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan was last updated in 2017 per federal requirements in Section 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as enacted by Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

For additional information, please contact Washington County's Public Relations and Marketing Department at 240-313-2380 or pr@washco-md.net.

###

Visit our website

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

HYBRID PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES

Date: January 19, 2023

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Duration: 40 minutes

Location: Washington County Public Safety Training Center
18350 Public Safety Place, Hagerstown, MD 21740

Streamed Live to the Washington County Government Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/WashingtonCountyMD)
Posted to the Washington County Government YouTube channel following the meeting (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRYeIvFCy4E)

Attendees: Jeff Prestene, Washington County (Public, in-person)
Charles Summers, Hagerstown (Public, in-person)
Tom Brown, Washington County OEM
Cody Swope, Washington County OEM
Brian Lowman, Washington County OEM
Dave Hays, Washington County Emergency Services
Jeff Harvey, JH Consulting, LLC

On Thursday, January 19, 2023, Washington County Emergency Management hosted a town hall-style meeting for the public to learn about and comment on the county's multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan. The county offered the meeting in a hybrid format, with an in-person option at the Public Safety Training Center and a live stream option on the Washington County Government Facebook page.

To open the meeting, the county's consultant presented a series of slides providing an overview of mitigation (generally), the planning process, the hazards included, and the

types of mitigation actions that might appear in Washington County's plan.

In-person public comment consisted of the following.

- Surface water runoff is a challenge and contributes to flooding.
    - There is a need to look at surface water runoff and stormwater contributions to flooding. This plan addresses those contributions and seeks to balance other types of development with hazard mitigation. For example, rather than stand against the construction of large parking lots associated with commercial or industrial development, strategies might include on-site retention of a certain percentage of the runoff at that site.

- There is a problem with trash and other debris throughout the county, particularly at commercial and industrial facilities. For example, at locations where large quantities of cardboard are stored, a fire could be difficult to extinguish because of the availability of that cardboard as fuel.
    - The plan does include "fire" as a hazard, and this variable can be included in that profile.

- Will the plan include cyber incidents?
    - Generally, yes. This plan will include unintentional cyber issues as potential cascading impacts of the weather hazards and then again as a complicating variable for multiple responses. Cyberattacks appear in a separate stream of planning and preparedness.

In addition to the hybrid town hall meeting, the public can participate via an online survey. The consultant used this meeting to encourage residents to take that survey. The only comment received via the Facebook live stream was about where residents could access the survey. Subsequent comments on the Facebook feed included a request to post the location where residents could view the existing mitigation plan.

<u>Attachments</u>

- Sign-in Sheet
- Meeting Slides

WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Town Hall (Public Meeting)

January 19, 2023 ~ 5:00 p.m.

Sign In Sheet

	Name	Home Community in Washington County	Contact Email (Optional)
1.	Jeff Preston	Washington County	J Preston0265@gmail.com
2.	CHARLES SUMMERS	HAGERSTOWN	CHARLES.SUMMERS@MARYLAND.GOV.
3.			
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WASHINGTON COUNTY
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Public Meeting

January 19, 2023 ~ 5:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. What is a hazard mitigation plan?
3. Hazards/Risks
4. Project Types
5. Q&A

Public Survey Link: https://forms.gle/aqEGk2mZpVjZHxJE7

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS



Public Survey Link: https://forms.gle/aqEGk2mZpVjZHxJE7

WHAT IS HAZARD MITIGATION?



Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Region III

- Oversees the hazard mitigation process at the local, regional, state, and national levels
- Defines mitigation as, “the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters” (FEMA.gov, 2016)



Public Survey Link: https://forms.gle/aqEGk2mZpVjZHxJE7

WHAT IS HAZARD MITIGATION?

Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Maryland Department of Emergency Management

- Oversees the hazard mitigation process at the state levels
- Ensure jurisdictional participation
- Ensure alignment with state project and funding strategies



Public Survey Link: https://forms.gle/aqEGk2mZpVjZHxJE7

HAZARDS / RISKS

Natural Hazards	Technological/Human-Caused Hazards
• Drought • Extreme Temperatures • Fire (Wildland) • Flooding (Flash Flood and Riverine) • Land Subsidence • Reportable Disease Epidemic • Severe Summer Weather • Severe Winter Weather	• Dam Failure • Hazardous Materials • Major Transportation Accident • Opioid Epidemic

Public Survey Link: https://forms.gle/aqEGk2mZpVjZHxJE7

PROJECT TYPES (1)

Revised Mitigation Goals

1. Maintain and enhance Washington County's jurisdictions' capability to make Washington County less vulnerable to hazards.
2. Educate local officials and the public as to the benefits of and opportunities for mitigation, both on community and personal levels.
3. Protect existing and future properties and infrastructure from all hazards that could affect Washington County.
4. Promote sustainable development to improve the quality of life by fostering resilient communities.

Mitigation Type	Description	Examples
Local Plans & Regulations	These actions include government authorities, policies, or codes that influence the way land and buildings are developed and built.	• Comprehensive plans • Land use ordinances • Subdivision regulations • Development review • Building codes and enforcement • Open space preservation
Structure & Infrastructure Projects	These actions involve modifying existing structures and infrastructure to protect them from a hazard or remove them from a hazard area. This could apply to public or private structures as well as critical facilities and infrastructure. This type of action also involves projects to construct structures to reduce the impacts of hazards.	• Acquisitions and elevations of structures in flood prone areas • Utility undergrounding • Structural retrofits • Floodwalls and retaining walls • Detention and retention structures • Culverts • Safe rooms

Public Survey Link: https://forms.gle/aqEGk2mZpVjZHxJE7

PROJECT TYPES (2)

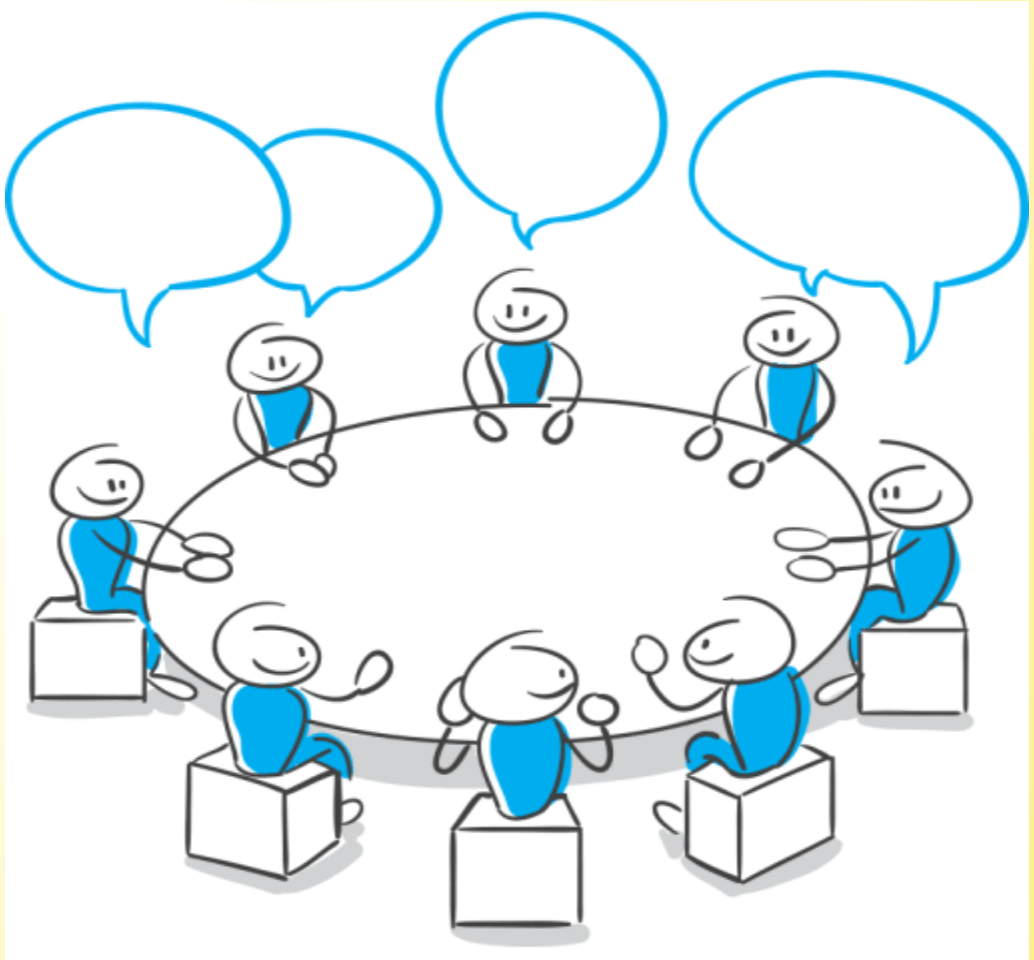
Revised Mitigation Goals

1. Maintain and enhance Washington County's jurisdictions' capability to make Washington County less vulnerable to hazards.
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3. Protect existing and future properties and infrastructure from all hazards that could affect Washington County.
4. Promote sustainable development to improve the quality of life by fostering resilient communities.

Mitigation Type	Description	Examples
Natural Systems Protection	These are actions that minimize damage and losses and also preserve or restore the functions of natural systems.	• Sediment and erosion control • Stream corridor restoration • Forest management • Conservation easements • Wetland restoration and preservation
Education and Awareness Programs	These are actions to inform and education citizens, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and potential ways to mitigate them. These actions may also include participation in national programs, such as StormReady or Firewise Communities. Although this type of mitigation reduces risk less directly than structural projects or regulation, it is an important foundation.	• Radio or television spots • Websites with maps and information • Real estate disclosure • Presentations to school groups or neighborhood organizations • Mailings to residents in hazard-prone areas • StormReady • Firewise Communities

Public Survey Link: https://forms.gle/aqEGk2mZpVjZHxJE7

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Q&A)



Public Survey Link: https://forms.gle/aqEGk2mZpVjZHxJE7

ADJOURNMENT

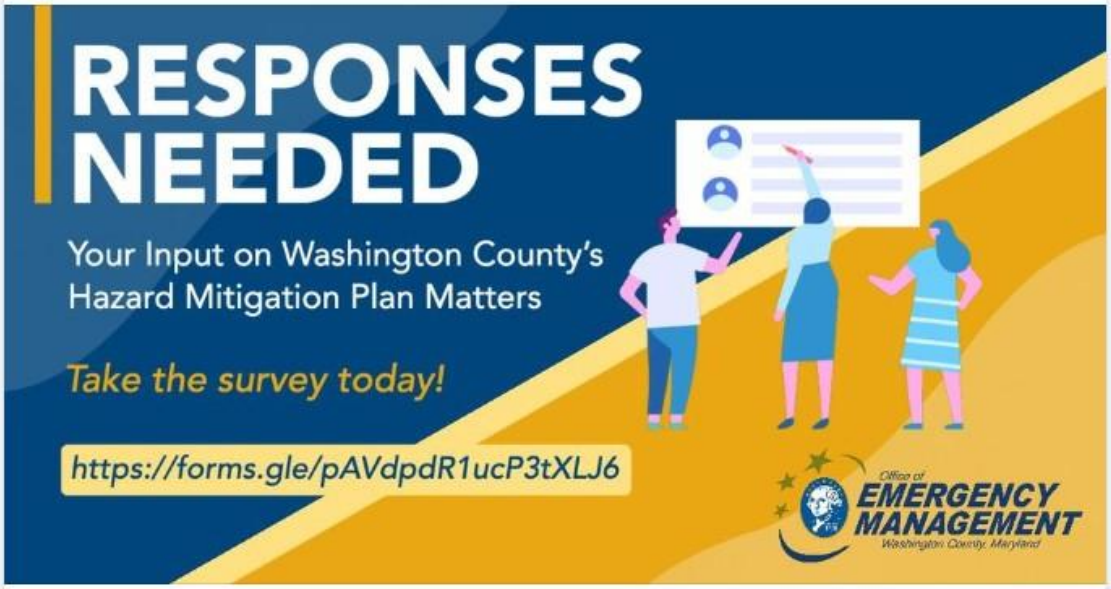
Public Survey Link: https://forms.gle/aqEGk2mZpVjZHxJE7

Washington County Government - Maryland
January 20 at 1:00 PM ·

The Washington County Office of Emergency Management encourages citizens to participate in Washington County's hazard mitigation planning process by completing the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan Public Survey.

The planning process includes all of Washington County. The public survey is designed to help the county gauge public perceptions of hazard vulnerability and potential projects to lessen the impacts of future hazard occurrences.

Please take a few minutes to ... See more

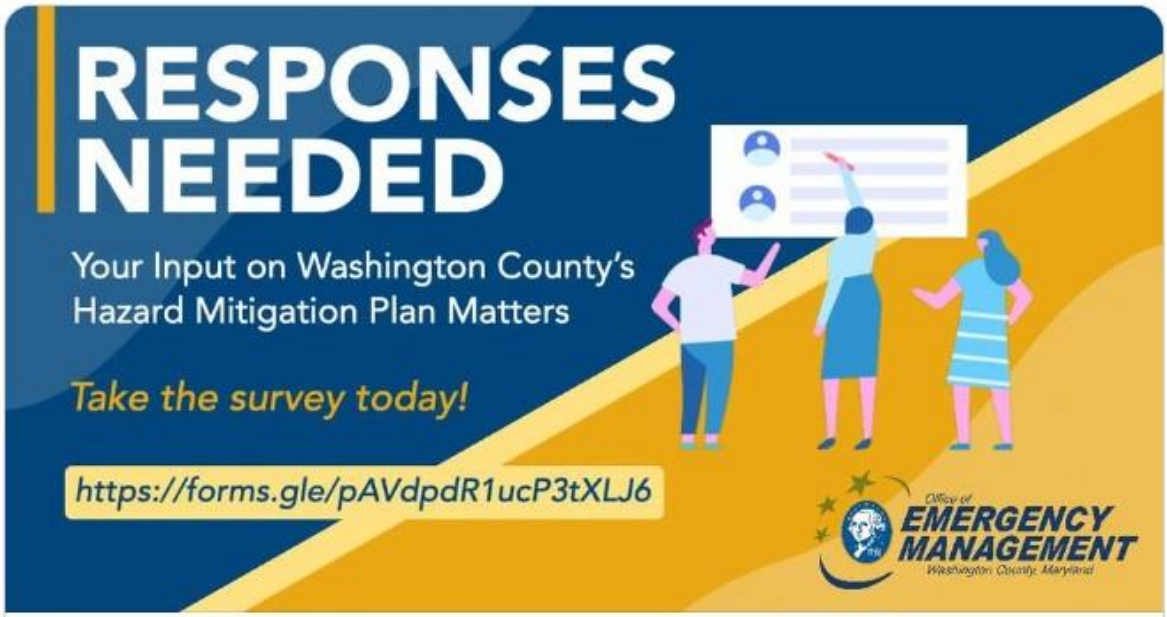


3 shares

Like Comment Share

Town of Keedysville, Maryland
5h ·

Take the Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan Survey today! This plan affects all of us in Keedysville.



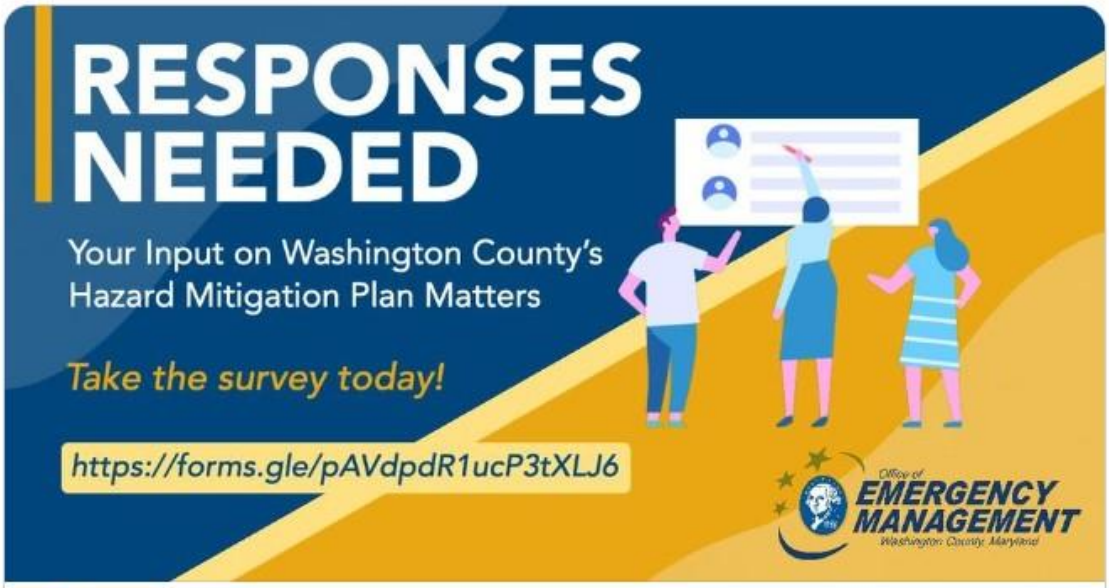
Washington County Government - Maryland
January 20 at 1:00 PM ·

The Washington County Office of Emergency Management encourages citizens to participate in Washington County's hazard mitigation planning process by completing ... See more

Like Comment Share

The Town of Sharpsburg
2d ·

PLEASE take a moment to give your feedback! THANKS!



Washington County Government - Maryland
January 20 at 1:00 PM ·

The Washington County Office of Emergency Management encourages citizens to participate in Washington County's hazard mitigation planning process by completing ... See more

1 1 share

Like Comment Share

The Town of Sharpsburg

17m ·

Hello-
Anyone who comes to Town Hall to fill out a Hazard Survey will get a free cone from Nutters! Just come up to Town Hall during regular office hours to fill out a survey, won't take but a minute or two! Surveys need to be filled out by the end of the month!
THANKS!



Like Comment Share

Washington County Hazard Mitigation Plan Public Survey

n=126

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this survey and participating in Washington County's hazard mitigation planning process. By taking this survey, you are telling local leaders what risks are most important to you and your communities. That will help them to focus on the risk-related issues that matter (versus what might be important in other areas of Maryland or the Nation).

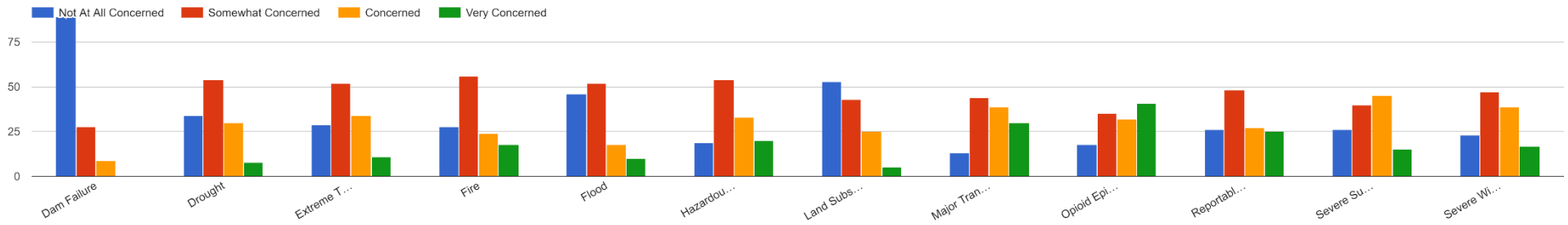
This planning process includes all of Washington County, including the cities and towns therein. This survey is designed to help the county as a whole, including your community, gauge public perceptions of hazard vulnerability and potential projects to lessen the impacts of future hazard occurrences.

If you would like to discuss the hazard mitigation planning project, contact the Washington County Office of Emergency Management at (240) 313-4360.

The survey will ask for your zip code, but that is only to allow planners to gauge the volume of responses from various areas of the county. The survey will also ask for generalized demographic information (e.g., your age range, how long you have lived in the area, etc.). Again, this information is for categorization purposes, and it will not be used to attempt to identify respondents. The survey will not save or identify your email or IP address.

As such, all responses are completely anonymous.

Please indicate how concerned you are about the following hazards where you live.



Are you concerned about any hazards that do NOT appear on the list in Question 1? If so, which ones (and why)? If not, simply write, "N/A."126 responses

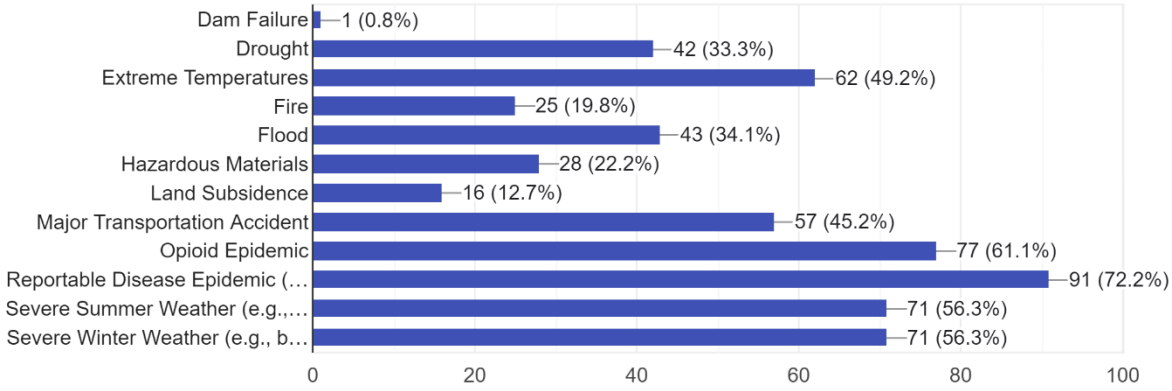
N/A
n/a
No
N/a
Na
NA
no
National civil unrest that breaks down major systems such as electricity and food distribution.
Cyber security attacks crippling our critical infrastructure and/or emergency services
Concrete plant off of eastern blvd. There should be more oversight of environmental regulations
The knowledge and expertise of the personnel expected to respond to the incidents identified above.
Pesticide runoff
EMS/healthcare availability
Homeless population
Global warming is a very big concern.
Truck Stops - Drivers are only allowed to drive so many hours and they have to have a place to stop and rest
making our rural mountain top a retail meca
Crime like theft and people illegally riding 4 wheelers and dirt bikes on public roads.
N / A
Terrorism
Lack thinking people.
Cybersecurity
Local & interstate tractor trailer volume. Volume is comparable to the convoys in the 70's. Traveling you can't see the signs for exits, can't get to the exit. They're on their phones & tablets. Also I live by 81 & the noise is deafening. Jake brakes, engine noise. I can't sit outside & have a conversation because of the level of noise. I'm sure there is a decibel violation. Why are there no sound barriers for residential neighborhoods by 81?
Nothing immediately comes to mind
Political Unrest
Pandhanding
The proper signage to help the drivers of large trucks to avoid the problem going through our towns. Truck route signage.
Traffic at the entrance of Marty Snook Park on Halfway blvd
Road failure... bridges...major road damage
Losing your farm land
Contamination of water supply due to development in Karst topography
Use of pesticides and overuse of fertilizers
Electric car accidents

Criminal violence
Traffic on I81
Hunger, homelessness
Republicans
Energy shortages due to bad policies
Pedestrian Hazards
Infrastructure: aging water pipes, vulnerable electrical lines, EMPs, Cyber security, lack of consisent internet connection or other communication means (or warning "sirens"), proximity to Washington DC targets if world war occurs, lack of fire buffer zones, clear major routes of transportation, uneducated or unaware public roles in preparedness or individual action plans.
Trash and waste removal
Resume signage of buildings designated as a fallout shelter.
Warehouses, they are eliminating farm land and destroying the agriculture in our county. Not to mention the traffic nightmares on roads that were not designed for truck traffic.
Gun violence
Trailers and C containers that are left empty in the county
Being close to DC, Camp David and the Underground Pentagon makes Washington Co. at risk if there was trouble from unfriendly world governments.
Sinkholes in Williamsport due to construction, damage to homes from blasting.
Prolonged Electrical Outages
Concerned about the lack of adequate site for displaced people and families after a disaster.
School safety
Power outages related to the above
Crazy People
No street sign on Garretts Mill Road. Difficult to find.
Invasive plants/insects.
airplane national guard plane crashes
war and power outages
Damage to my home due to blasting on local construction sites
na
Toxic spills (especially in water ways and from trains and large trucks)
Water quality, water contamination
Over population of deer jumping into roadways and eating all natural vegetation.
Protecting our farmlands, preserving the beauty of our landscape & therefore stopping developments & increased traffic/pollution, Frequent line breaks re: drinking water, chlorine in house water is so strong it smells of chlorine; environmental pollution
Chemicals from planes, balloons, drones, etc.
Excessive development that is depleting farmland and other natural, historical and agricultural resources. Washington County should impose a moratorium on development. Very concerned.
Nuclear war/radioactive fallout
Drinking water contaminated
I feel strongly that the excessive development needs to be curtailed! It leads to increased traffic, pollution, litter, flooding in areas which did not flood previously, impact to the water supply, etc.,

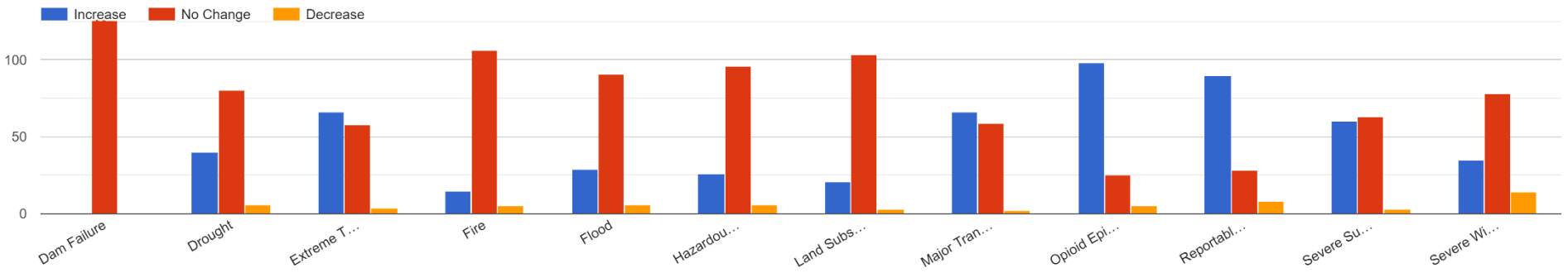
in addition to the destruction of our rural and cultural heritage for future generations. While my immediate community has been mostly protected from this, the rest of the county has not.

In the past 10 years, which hazards do you remember occurring in your community? (Check all that apply.)

126 responses



Have you noticed an increase or decrease in the occurrences or intensity of any of the following hazards?



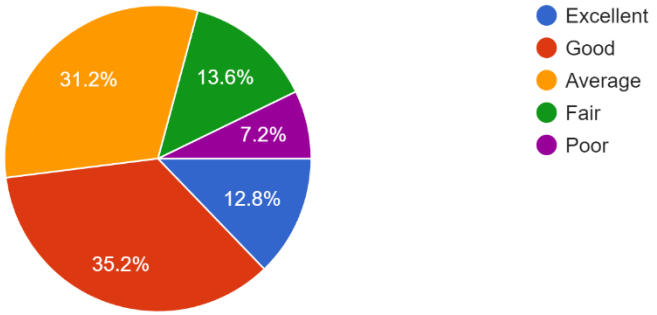
If applicable, to what do you think the change that you noted in response to the previous question can be attributed? 75 responses

Climate change
Global warming
climate change
Climate change
N/A
Normal shifts in weather patterns
To much drugs on the street
Climate change and lack of appropriate signaling with increased traffic
I do not have the data to accurately respond to this. But the experts in Washington County Emergency Management should be able to provide them.
Increase Opioid use and Covid- 19
No real idea, lack if parental involvement and/or too much government involvement in family life, not enough control in school. Teachers had are tied kids are just allowed to behave however they want with very little or no consequence, Same with society we have taken parental responsiblity away and law enforcement has no power. everything is upside down.
Accidents are happening because drivers from neighboring states drive too fast and wreck less.
drainage action needed
possible climate change
Lack of resources and infrastructure needs
Global warming for the last 2.
Open Border with drugs pouring in and Natural Immunity
climate and gases
Climate change and treating drug use as a medical problem instead of criminal
n/a
Growing real estate development, increasing population, increased industrial building, disappearing farms, increasing retail & shopping buildings.
I-81 needs to be widened; drug dealers need hash sentences
It gets hot in the summertime
Covid pandemic and fire hazard from drought
Population increase, global warming, lack of political will to address problems
Climate changes due to global issues, increased traffic
Drugs being brought into our county
Climate Change, failing infrastructure, inadequate # treatment facilities
Transportation is a lack of adequate funding and foresight in preparation for the added traffic flow over the years.nd foresight with our present roadways.
Trump admin disolving the world health org and its presence in China
Pollution
Human causes
Climate changes, Drug use/ fentanyl has been a killer, County sits between 2 interstates with great amounts of traffic and trucks, Covid-19.

N/a
human carelessness
COVID, increased tractor-trailer traffic, spiritually bereft
Global warming
The moving on with life without listening to government propaganda
Not sure
Climate change; failure to take COVID seriously
Misuse or mismanagement of resources and design of urban usages. (Ways to work with nature and human population needs.)
Pollution for weather related change. Fire and drugs public lack of education.
The opioid epidemic is on the rise, due to the failure to close the borders.
Not exactly sure the root cause
warehouses
Climate change, much more construction, traffic on I81 and I70 has increased with no widening of either, more access to illegal drugs.
Lack of Community/Utility Energy Resiliency responsibility
Weather change due to Climate change. Opioids due to increased demand, criminal drug lords, Sackler family, and China.
Seasonal Anomalies, not climate change
Nature/climate change; too many people with not enough experience driving cars and big rigs especially; people who are unable to control addition; mental health and obesity are huge issues in this area as well.
Global warmng
The amount of drugs coming from the Mexican boarder.
Population increasing and services not meeti g commu ity needs
increased use of addicting drugs
people
people taking drugs
Climate change, poor epidemic management on an national level at the start of the pandemic.
Cllimate change, increased truck traffic, poor driving skills
Global warming, increased accessibility to addictive drugs, lack of foresight to prevent possible effects
changing climate - increase population
Due to the number of traffic on the road and interstate around us, the building taking place and the construction around us as well.
climate change, little attention to dumps like Central Chemical
Covid
Drinking water - frequent line breaks; re: environmental pollution & traffic accidents, more cars, trucks; i.e., other pollution = Rock Wood & other unknowns
More truck transport, material from sky
Covid - weather systems - train accident in OH

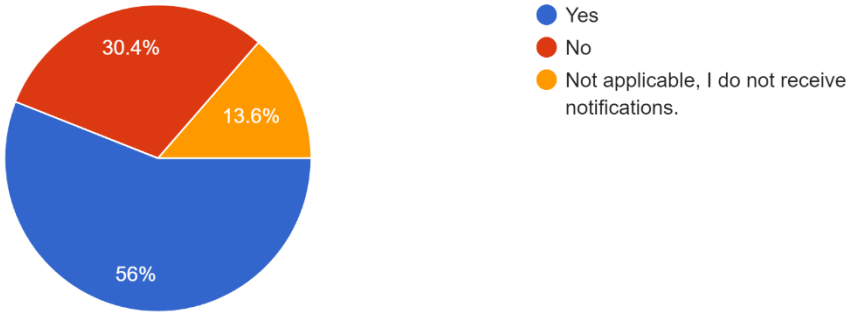
Think back to a recent occurrence (any from Question 1). How would you rate your community's ability to respond?

125 responses



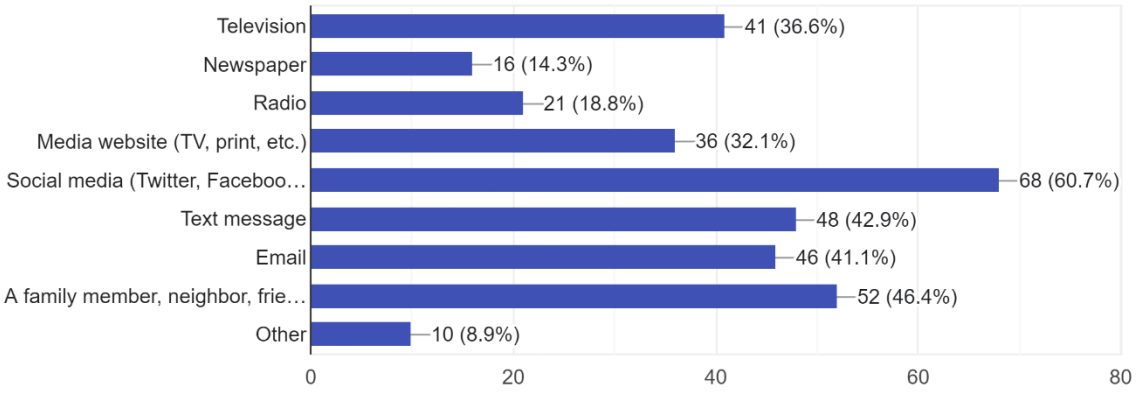
Do you receive timely, accurate, and effective notifications about hazards that allow you to make appropriate decisions about what to do?

125 responses



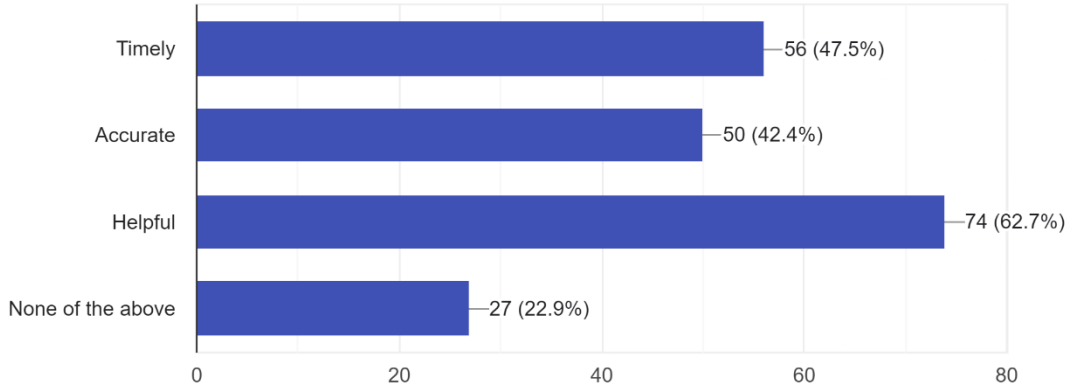
How do you receive these notifications? (Check all that apply)

112 responses



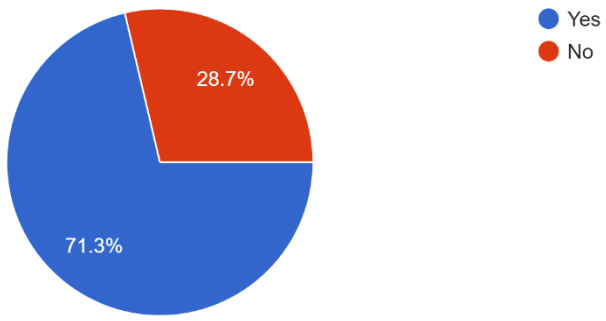
Was the information you received in these notifications timely, accurate, and helpful? (Check all that apply)

118 responses



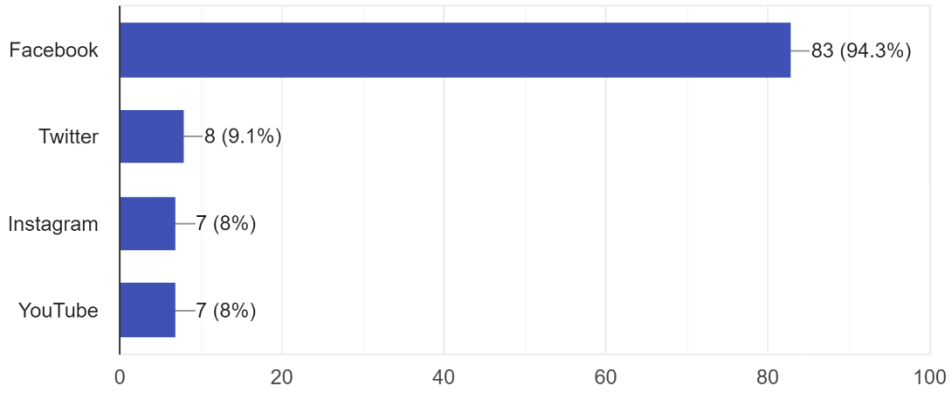
Do you follow Washington County on social media?

122 responses



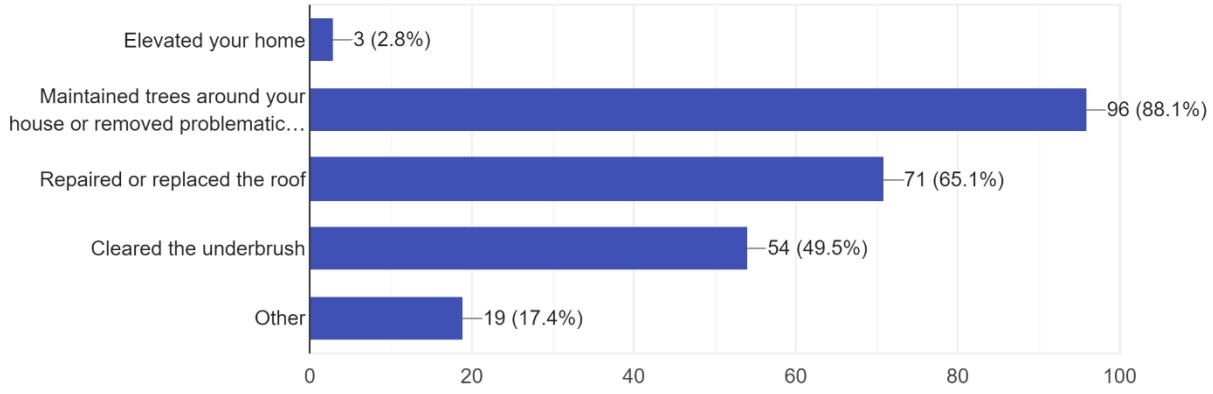
If you answered "Yes" to the previous question about following Washington County on social media, on which platform do you follow?

88 responses



Mitigation is an effort by you, your community, and/or your local officials to reduce the negative impacts of hazards. Have you ever...(check all that apply)

109 responses



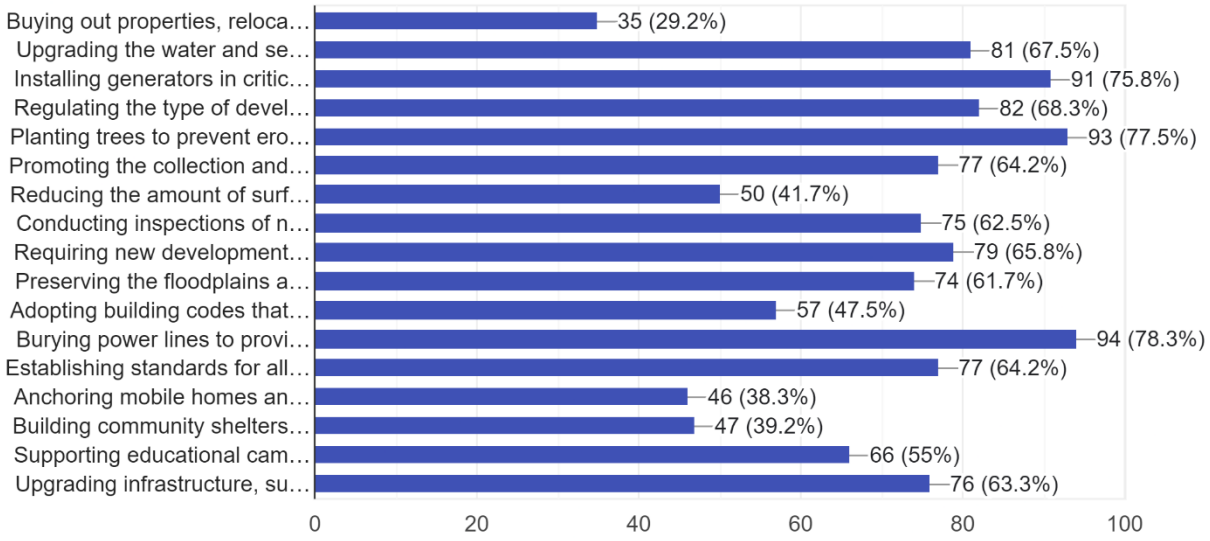
If you chose other to the above question, please specify what you have done. 30 responses

prepared for extended power or other utility outages for the eventual cyber attack the county will probably experience
Replaced roof
Removed trees, replaced roof
n/a
Be an active and responsible citizen.
Ensure no dead trees/limbs are close to my house, ensure the roof was replaced, keep property clean
replaced roof, cut down trees as needed
Removed a huge tree and replaced roof
N/a
vote democratic
Removed trees
Considering moving out of the county
taken down Tree's, and keep the land clean.
Stopped using any chemicals in my yard, started planting only native plants
Cut down trees and had a new roof put on
Divert runoff from the street into my landscaping
Smoke/Carbon Dioxide detectors
roof replacement and trimming of trees
I am new to the area and rent an apartment, but have had discussions with neighbors, coworkers concerning preparedness. (The what if scenarios...)
installed sump pump

Removed tree, new roof, keep landscape from getting overgrown, plant drought tolerant plants, drive less, conserve water as much as possible.
Cleaned gutters, capped chimney, cabled tree.
None
Re-graded lot, installed proper drainage, re-ran utilities and service lines
window glazing, general upkeep,
Destroyed invasives, planted native plants, developed water and plant conservation plans and worked to improve drainage and retention as applicable.
Bought a generator
Install solar panels to reduce use of fossil fuels that pollute our air and lead to climate change
Added a rain barrel to store water in case of power failure or drought
Channel water runoff away from house

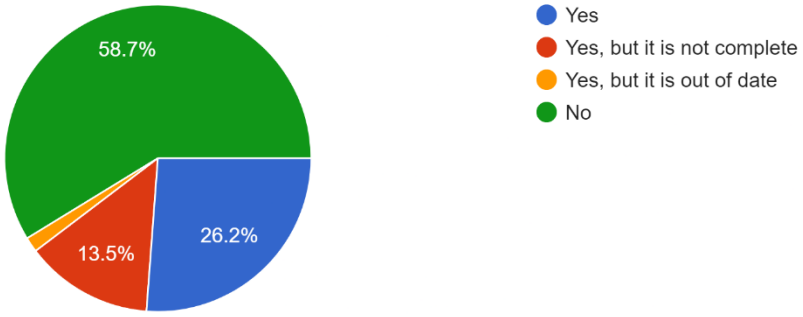
Please indicate the types of mitigation actions you would support; these could be something you can do or an initiative by local officials. (Check all that apply)

120 responses



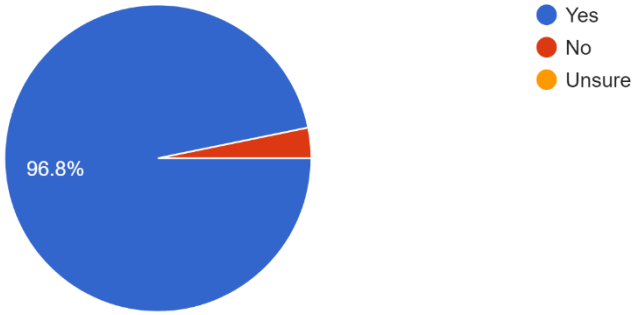
Do you / does your household have a 72-hour kit? (https://www.ready.gov/kit)

126 responses



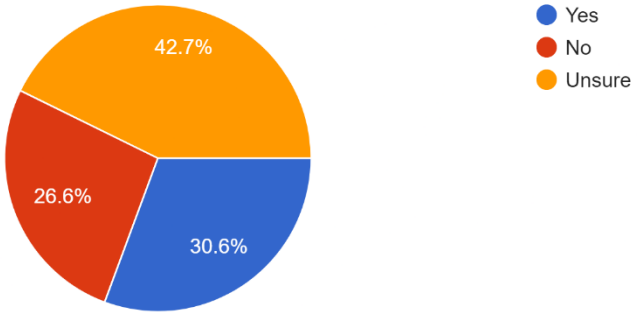
Do you have homeowners/renters insurance?

125 responses



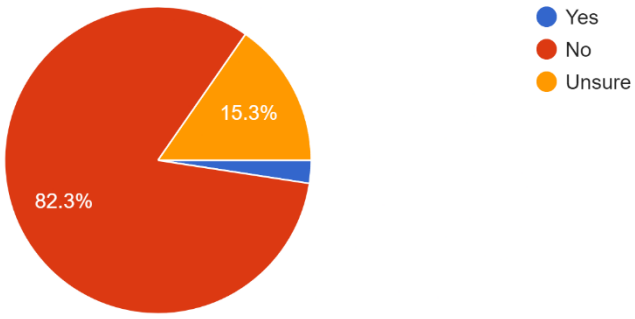
Does your policy include sewer back-up insurance (or have a sewer back-up policy rider)?

124 responses



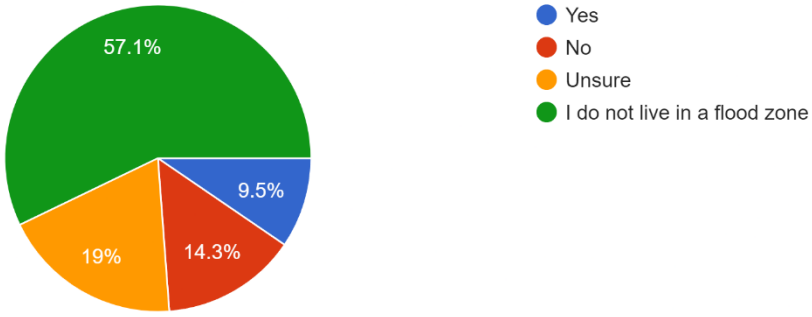
Do you live in a special flood hazard area (SFHA)?

124 responses



Do you know your flood zone?

126 responses

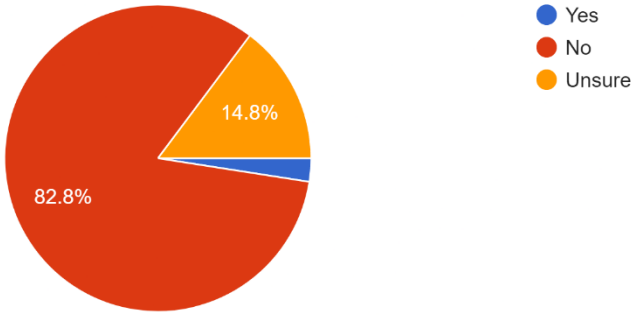


If you know your flood zone, which one do you live in?12 responses

Ocean City part time
Zone X, Minimum flood hazard. For now
Not familiar with the area enough yet.
Not sure
1/10
N/A
X -not 100 or 500 year zone per maps
not in flood zone
Hamilton Run
X
Do not live in a floodplain
Sharpsburg (Town of)

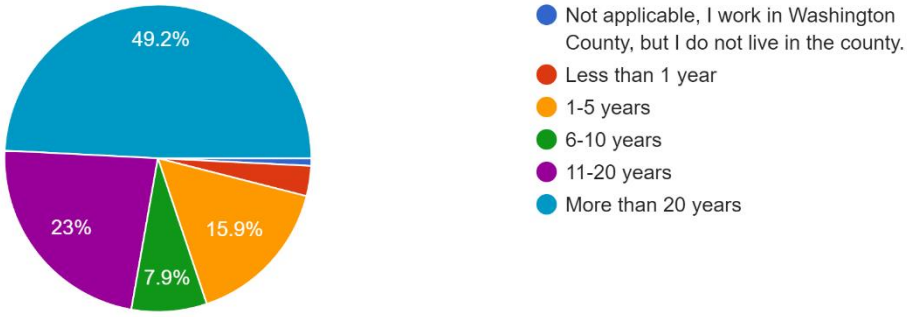
Are you insured through the NFIP (do you have flood insurance)?

122 responses



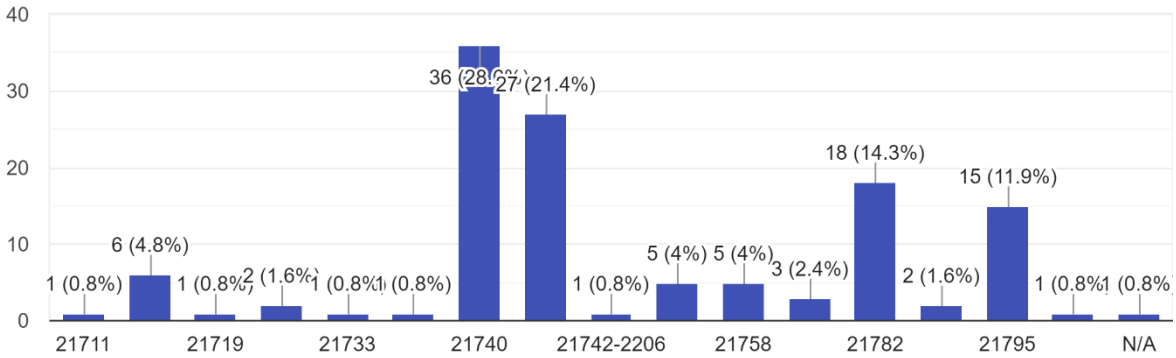
How long have you resided in your community?

126 responses



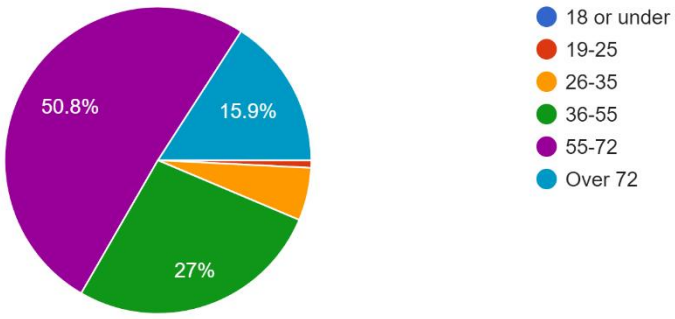
If you live in Washington County, what is the zip code of your home address? (NOTE: Please provide ONLY the zip code. If you do not live in the county, simply write "N/A.")

126 responses



Please provide your age

126 responses



Please write any general comments or questions here. 34 responses

I appreciate the counties efforts on these maters. Would like to see local CERT training.

The failure to include cyber threats in hazard mitigation is extremely concerning, especially when the county literally just experienced a cyber attack.

Homeless drugs and urban decay in Hagerstown are ruining the city

The which mitigation actions would you support was hard to answer it would really depend on what plan(s) you put into place. Everything is about balance, its hard to find.

Washington County has numerous resources and plans in place for hazardous, however, they lack the leadership and knowledge to effectively implement these plans. Just like this winter during extremely cold temperatures, emergency management did NOTHING to prepare the public for this. You had the city of Hagerstown do something on their own and then a few volunteer fire companies and churches, but emergency management was not involved with that. If they were, it was way after the fact when someone else had to initiate it.

Weather has been around forever. Depending on the $$ given out depends on the exaggerated information that is given to the people.

I am concerned about the interchange of rt70 and 81 with so much traffic and trucks in major accidents. I am concerned with the quality of the drinking water here in Hagerstown. Lastly, the speed limit on Sharpsburg Pike is too high for the increasing growth.

Please build opioid treatment facilities and shelters away from houses and businesses as they attract people addicted to opioids and then in turn attract drug dealers!

Mitigation by local government doesn't include reckless spending and tax increases.

Between lack of adequate preparedness for simple temperature events and a recent cybersecurity event that shut down county government, I have a serious concern about the current leadership in this county to manage even simple events.

We need cable ran to our community which will allow us to have high-speed internet. Currently, my house only has satellite internet as an option and it is not dependable or fast by any means. The upgrade to high-speed internet would allow us to have better notification options such as social media, etc.

We moved here in 1980, and Now we have a Stone Quarry in our back yard. And they work 24/6 a week. Why or How did that happen??? I guess its all about the money? huh??
In the early mid 2000s there were tornadoes with adequate warnings. Things have been quiet since until the pandemic. I am confident in my county's ability to provide adequate advisories.
Is the water supply protective from flooding? Are large power stations protected from vandalism?
Water bills are very high in Sharpsburg. Something needs to be done to lower the cost or average the cost so we all pay the the same per gallon.
Thanks
The fallen trees within the wooded areas throughout the county need to be removed. This is fuel for a major fire if by lightning or carelessness all around the county. I'm amazed at how many there are now to hat the leaves are off of the trees.
What is "land subsidence"
In 2022 there was a heavy rainfall and many roads in Hagerstown were flooded. One example was along Northern Ave near an elementary school where drivers had no warning. Was there a sewer drainage problem
Stop building warehouses. Require warehouses to install solar panels on buildings AND over parking lots. What are we going to eat after you take away all the farms???
We need more fire stations, EMS and LEO. The county continues to grow but public safety does not. Why is that?
NO TRUCK STOPS!!!!!
Glad to see the county government is interested in doing something about these issues.
Need Post-Emergency Infrastructure/Training for Constituents
Plant trees, preserve farm land and forests, restrict growth to good planning, reduce "demolition by neglect" in town.
In our area water is a concern as so many huge developments have popped up in the last few years. Also, a concern is how our county is over building in general. Use existing buildings instead of building new ones and the construction of these mammoth warehouses is just simply Extreme.
Terry Baker removed one individual who had superior insight to these matters, thusly you now have generated this survey in panic mode. Shame on you & Terry Baker.
severe weather has happened for years. We remember Hurricane Agnes in 1972
undergrond power wears out after 30 years Neck road for example /not the answer
Need to help the city of Hagerstown to stop sending storm water into the streams
Very concerned about recent nearby Norfolk Southern 24 car derailment on Jan 11th. We could hear the roar of the railcars buckling from our house. Give the recent Norfolk Southern Ohio derailment resulting fire & ongoing hazmat situation in that community, we consider ourselves lucky. The article below indicates that the First Responders did not know what chemicals were actually in the cars marked hazard and that access was not readily available. We also had the recent CSX derailment crossing the bridge over the Potomac river. We encourage Washington County to make sure our First Responders have ready access to railcar and truck manifests for hazardous materials being transported through the county. Thank you for your good work! Article today reporting on derailments: NYTimes: Over 1,000 Trains Derail Every Year in America. Let's Bring That Number Down. https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/17/opinion/ohio-train-derailment-

safety-regulation.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare Over 1,000 Trains Derail Every Year in America. Let’s Bring That Number Down.
The recent matter falling from the skies identifies problems with our response system.
Washington County is a great place to live, but it is becoming for too overdeveloped. Please recommend a moratorium on development so that the rural character of our home may be preserved for future generations.
Again, stop the development! We don't need any more warehouses built, only to sit empty, destroying what was once farmland, woods, or other green spaces. There are already more than enough "truck stops" off of I-81, no need to build yet another in an otherwise rural community which is also hallowed ground/falling waters battlefield. It seems more about greed than need.

5.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 5: Municipal Flood and Land Subsidence Mapping

This appendix contains two “flood vulnerability maps” for each participating municipality. The first is a street view, with the special flood hazard areas (SFHAs), building footprints (when the scale is low enough for them to be discernible), and asset inventory visible, along with roadways and waterways. The second map consists of aerial imagery with only SFHAs and the municipality’s corporate limits visible over the image.

Similarly, there are two “land subsidence risk areas” maps for each participating municipality. Again, the first is a street with the same parameters as the flood vulnerability map (except, of course, for the use of layers showing soils prone to shrinking and swelling, karst topography, and known instances of landslides and sinkholes). The second land subsidence map also depicts risk areas over aerial imagery.

BOONSBORO

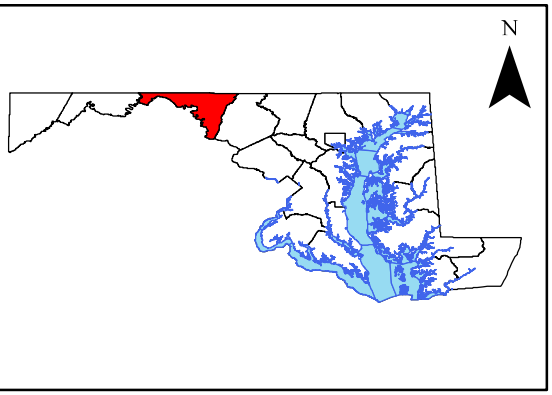
WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

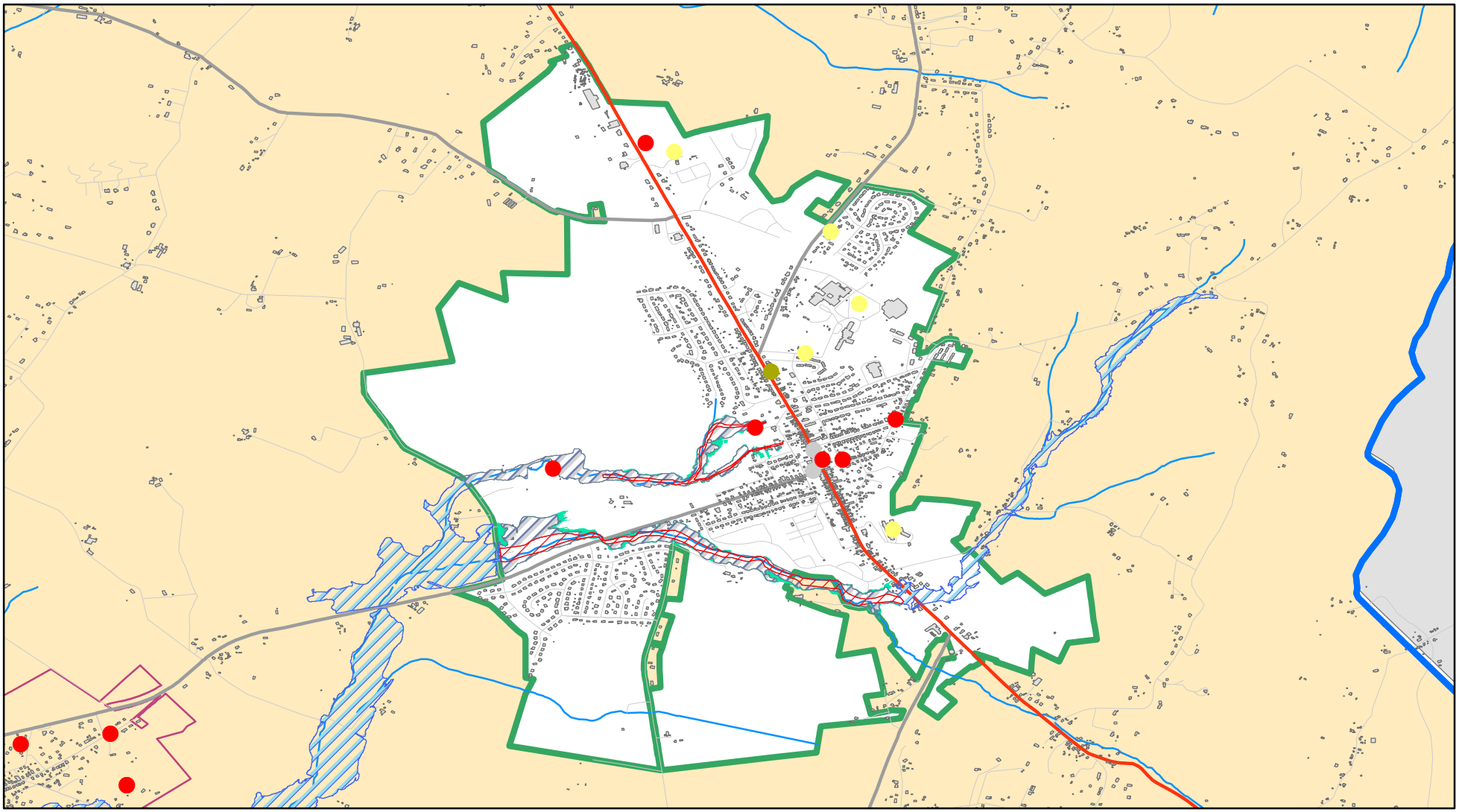
Special Flood Hazard Areas (Boonsboro)

Data Source(s):
FEMA Region III

DISCLAIMER: Data is meant for use as reference only. Some sources may be intended to be used at national or regional scales and are thus used beyond their original intent for demonstrative purposes.

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- Economic Assets
- Historic Considerations
- Special Considerations
- Vulnerable Populations
- Building Footprints





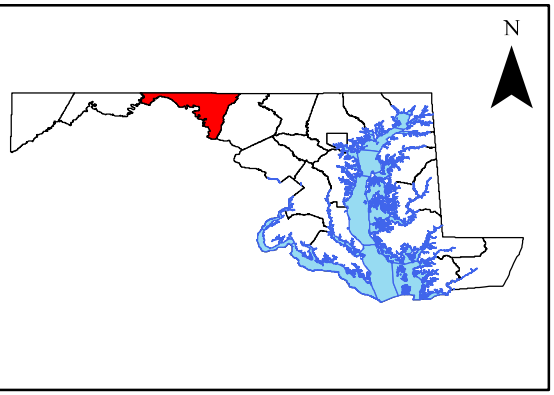
WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Special Flood Hazard Areas (Boonsboro [Aerial])

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Land Subsidence Risk Areas (Boonsboro)

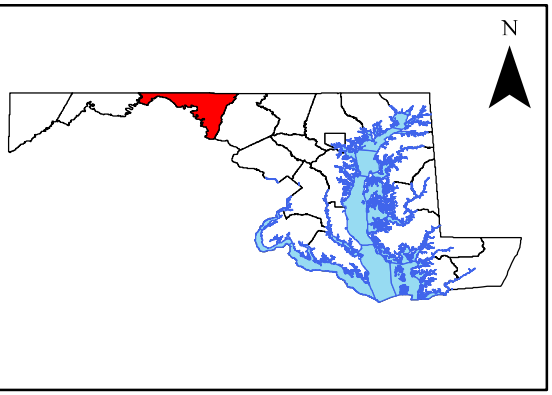
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USGS SSURGO

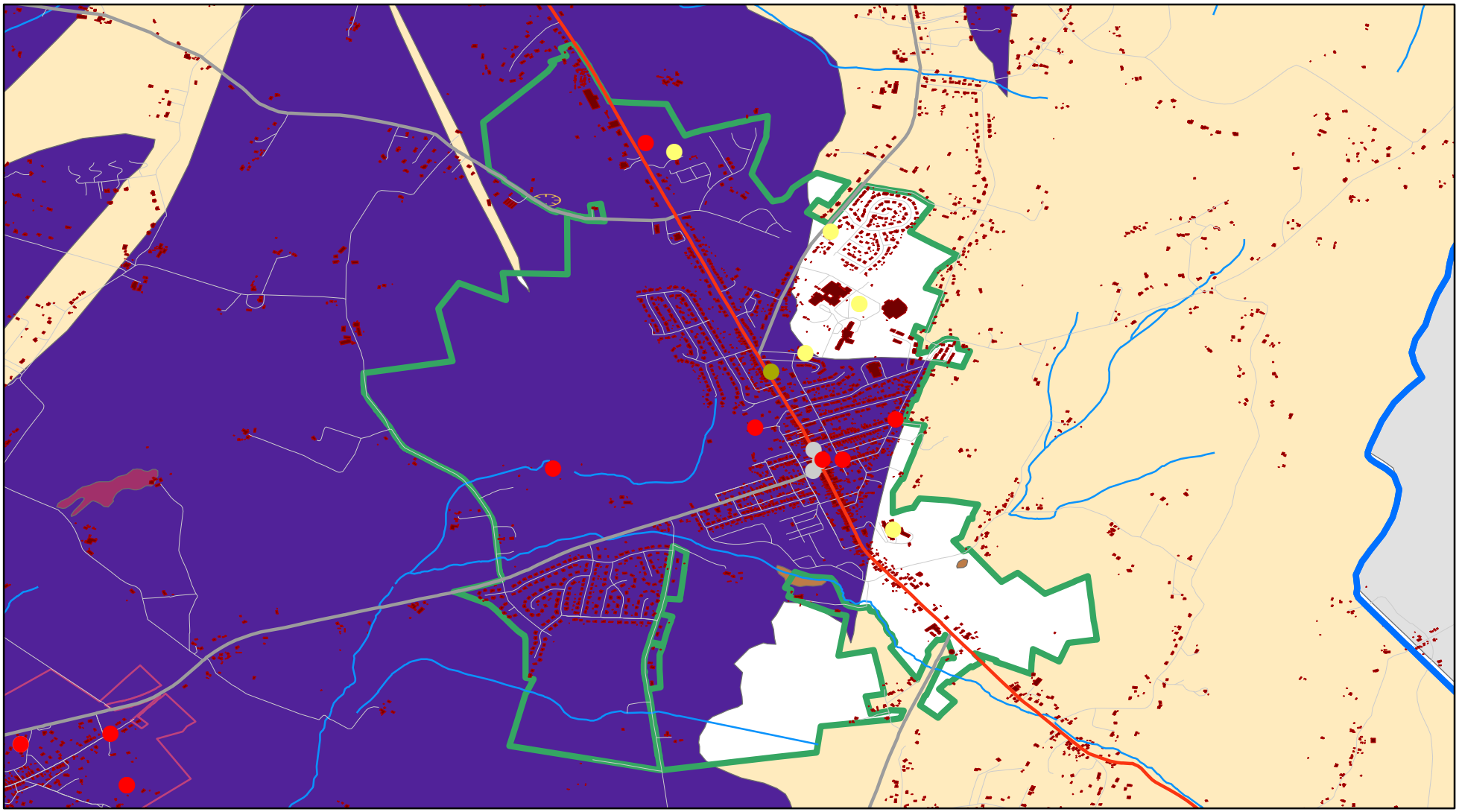
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Karst Geology
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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

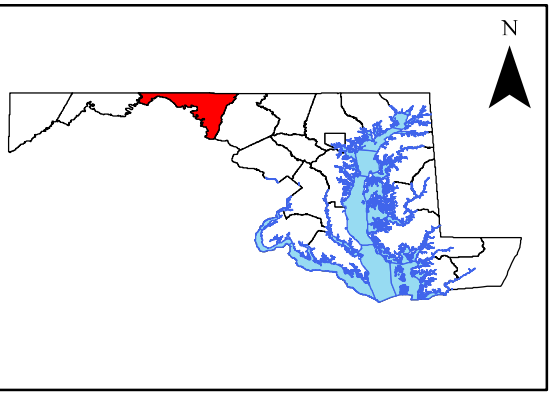
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CLEAR SPRING

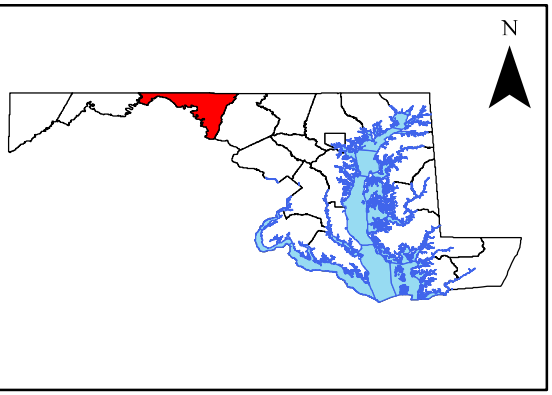
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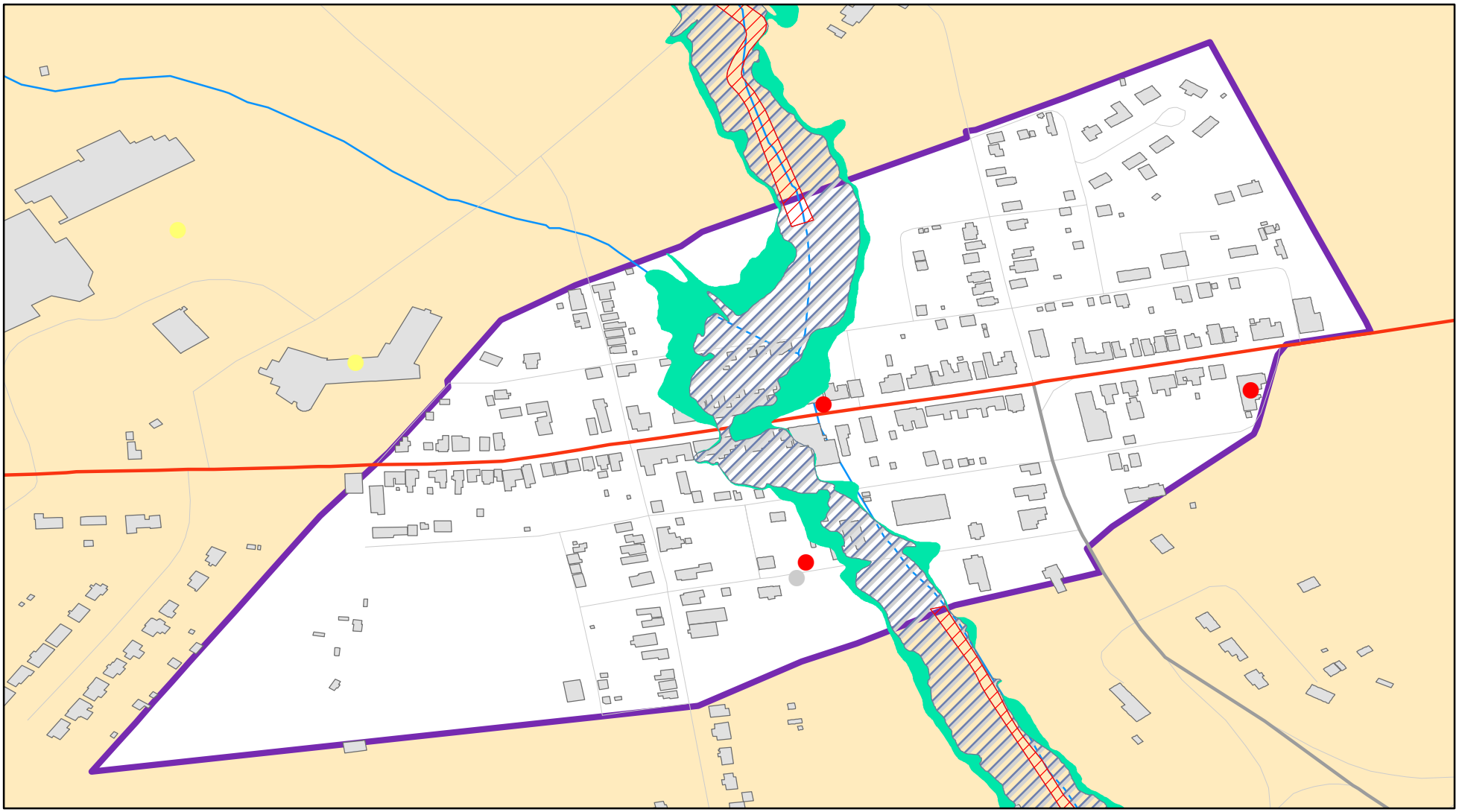
Special Flood Hazard Areas (Clear Spring)

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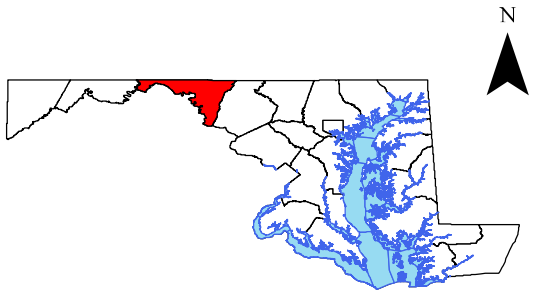
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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Land Subsidence Risk Areas (Clear Spring)

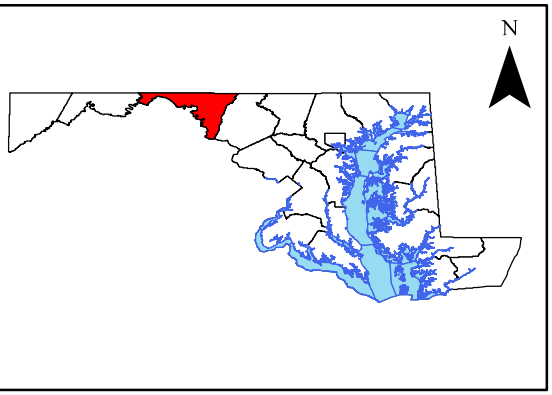
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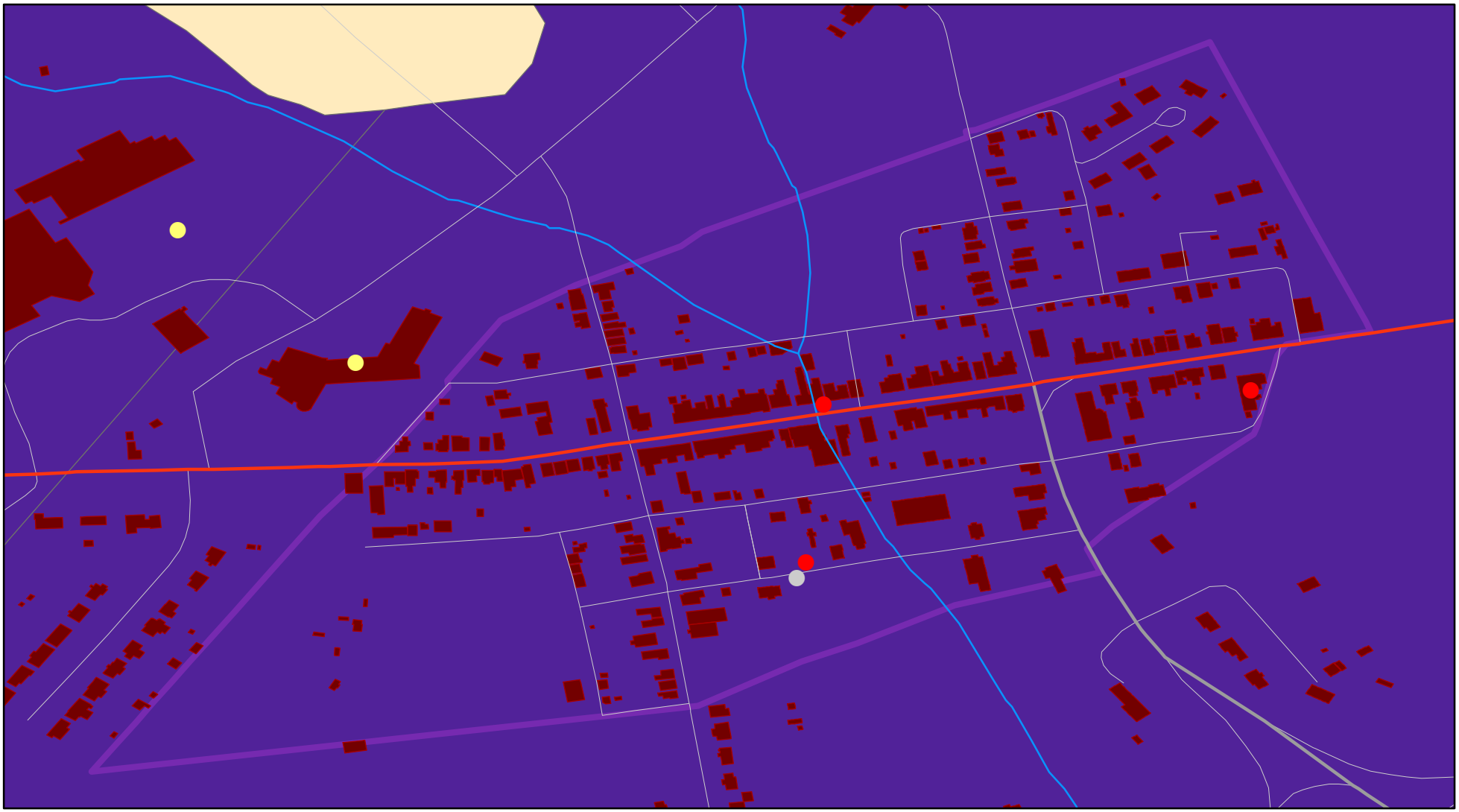
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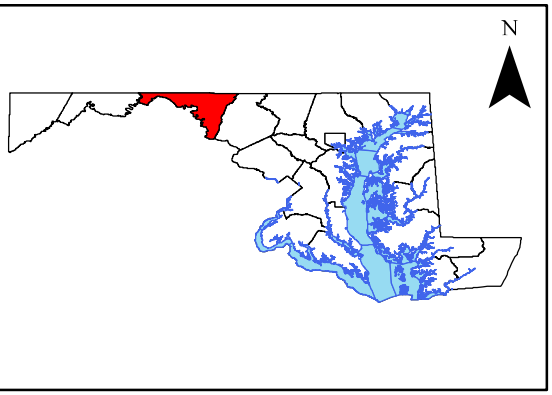
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FUNKSTOWN

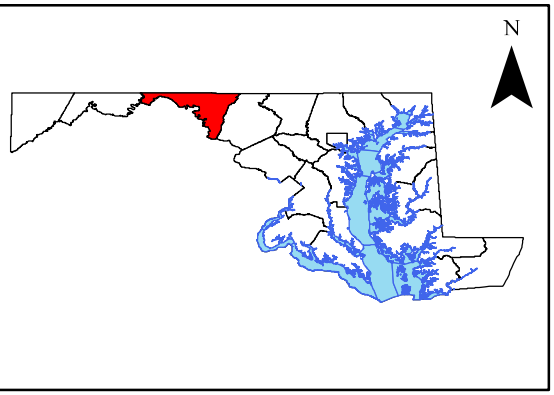
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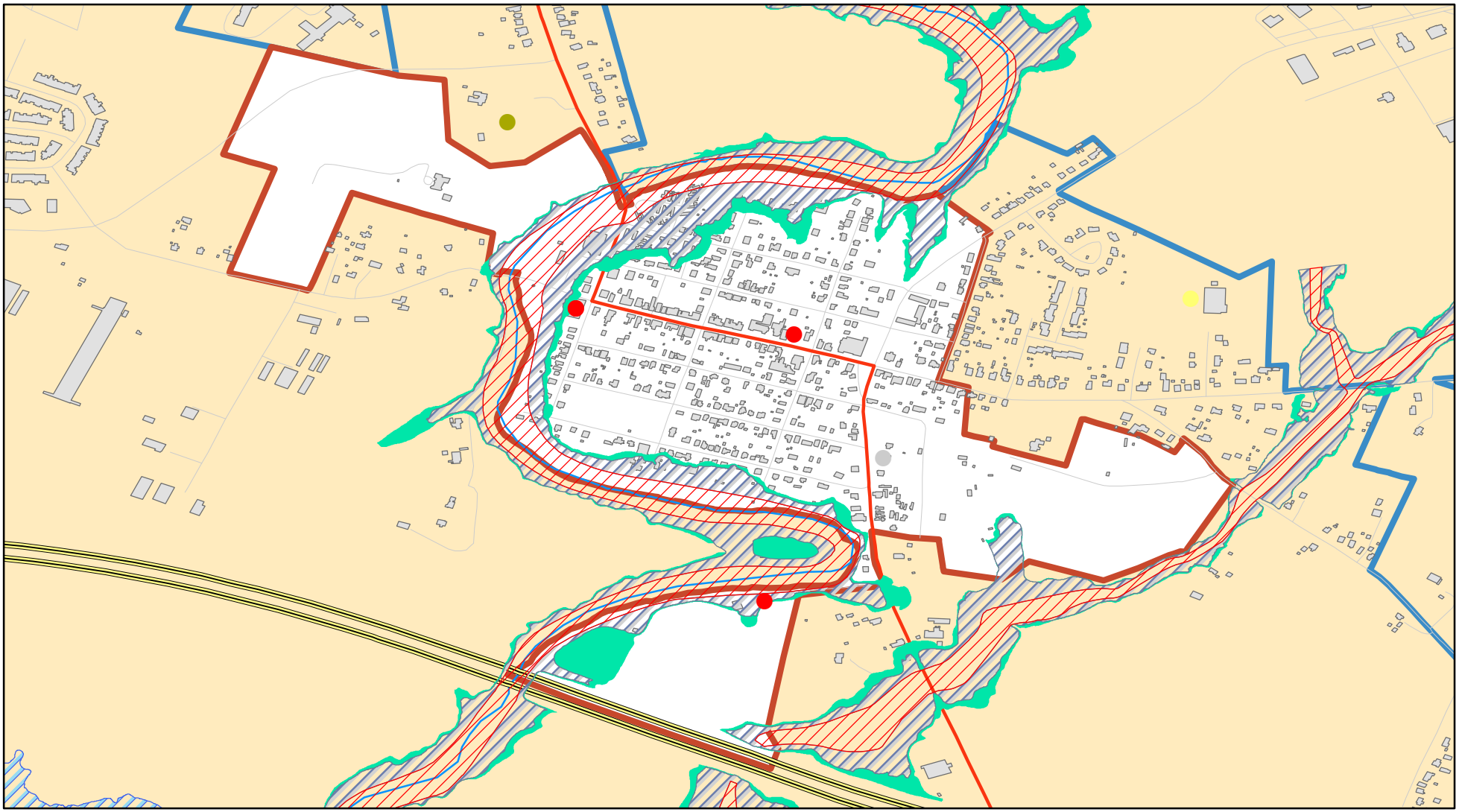
Special Flood Hazard Areas (Funkstown)

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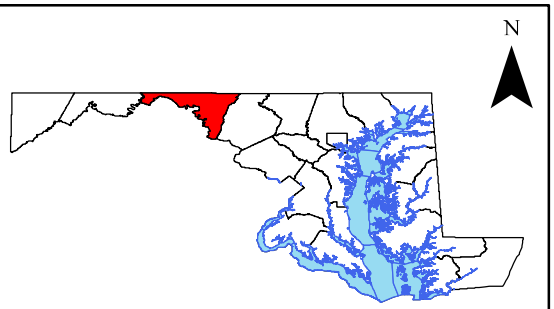
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Special Flood Hazard Areas (Funkstown [Aerial])

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Land Subsidence Risk Areas (Funkstown)

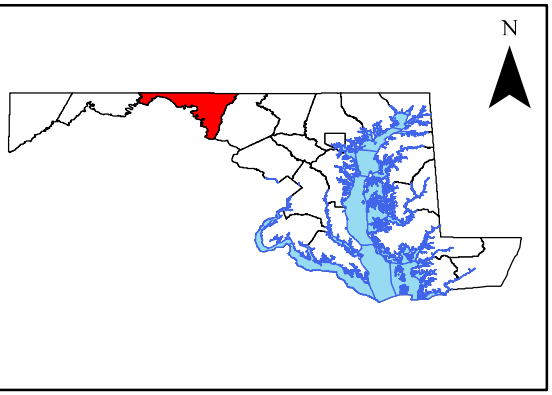
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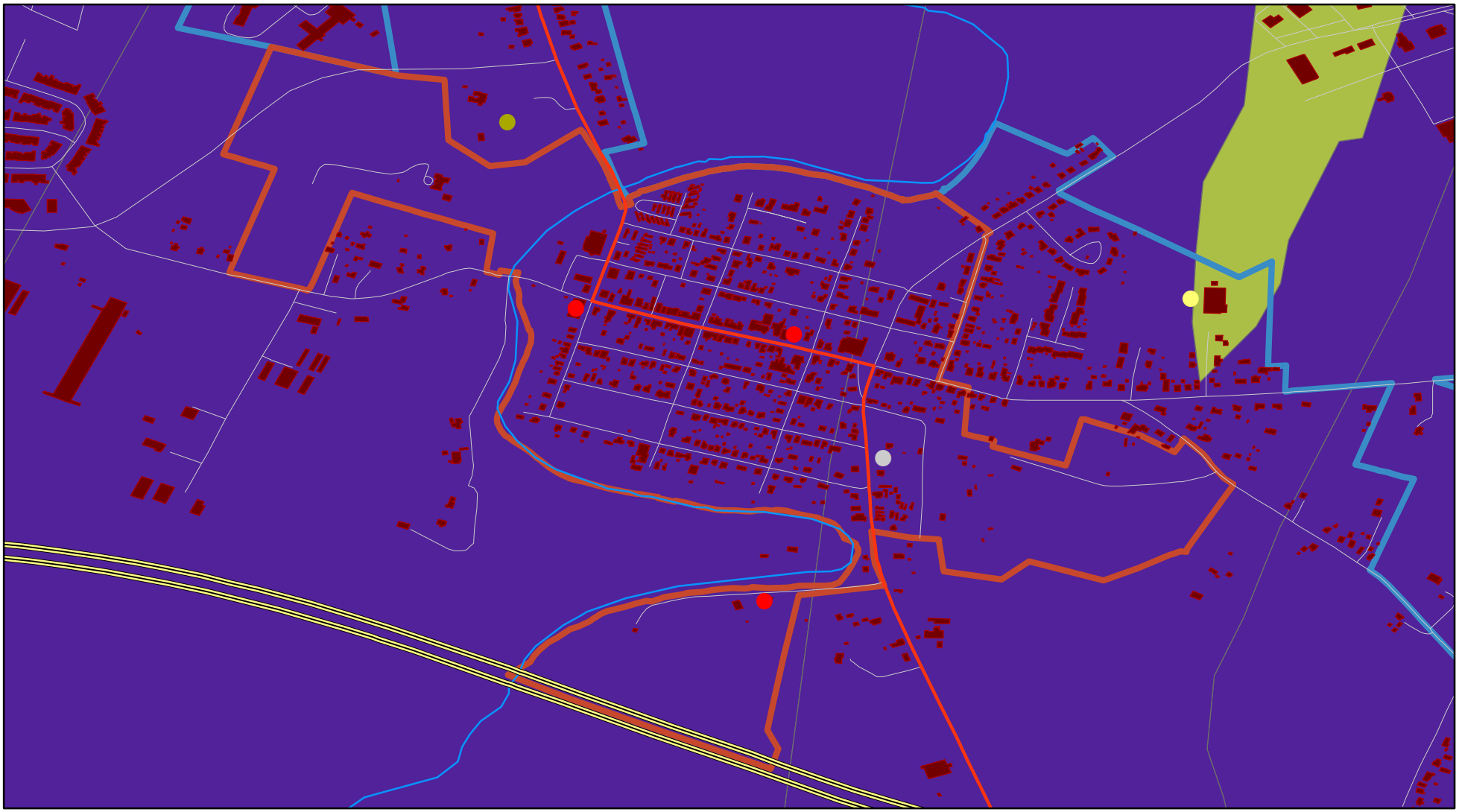
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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

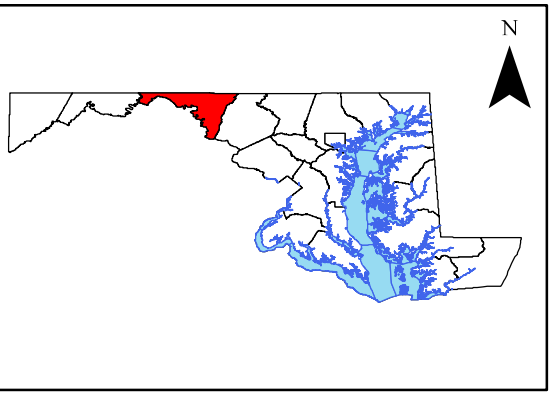
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HAGERSTOWN

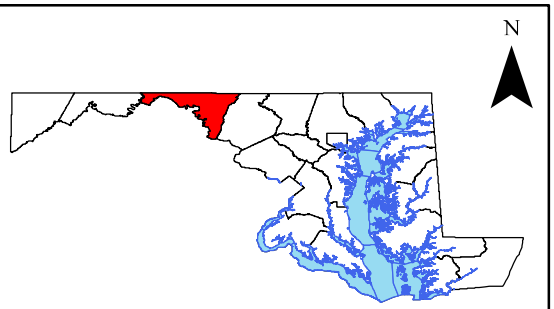
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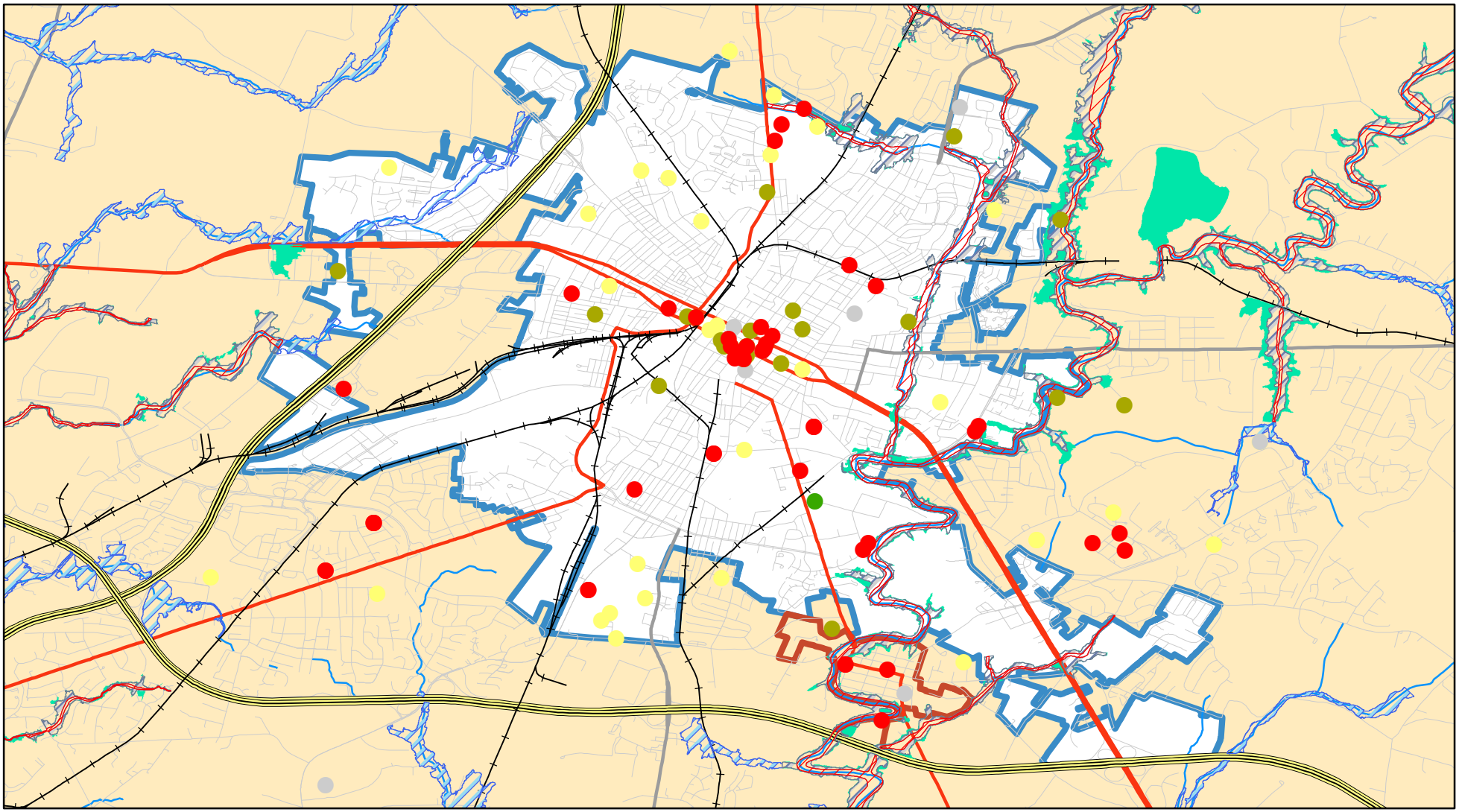
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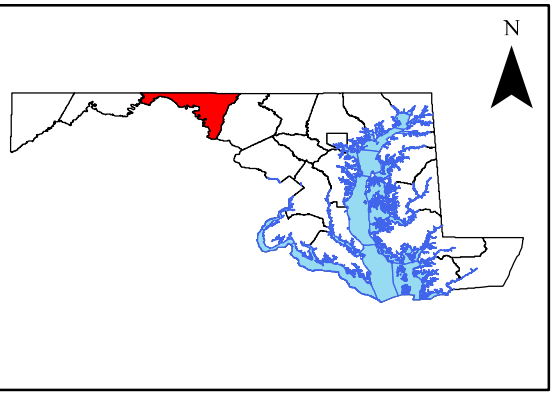
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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Land Subsidence Risk Areas (Hagerstown)

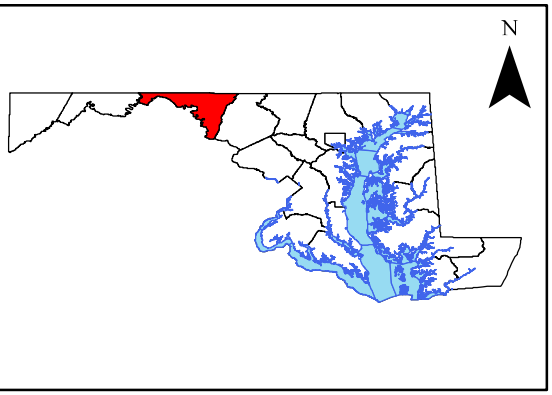
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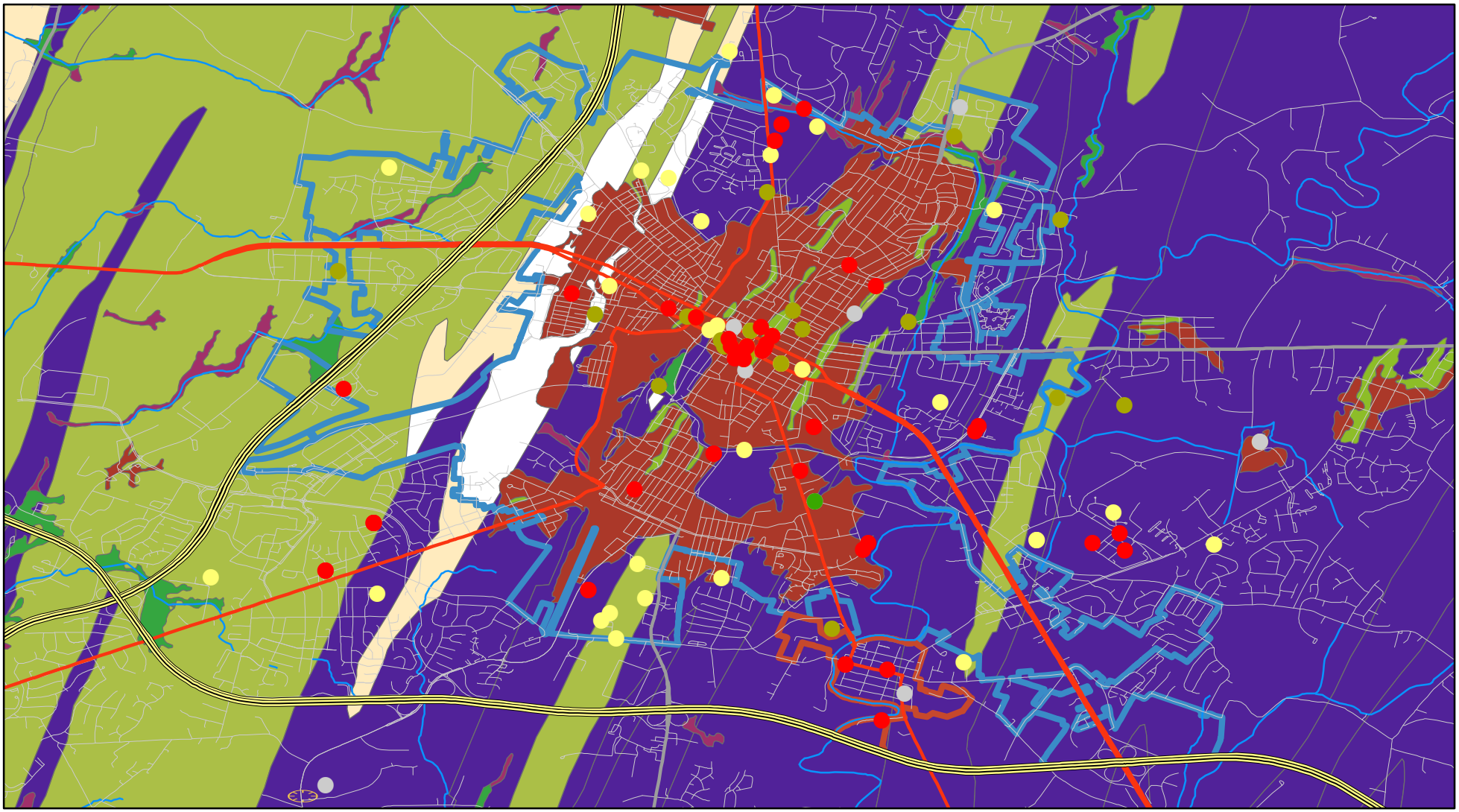
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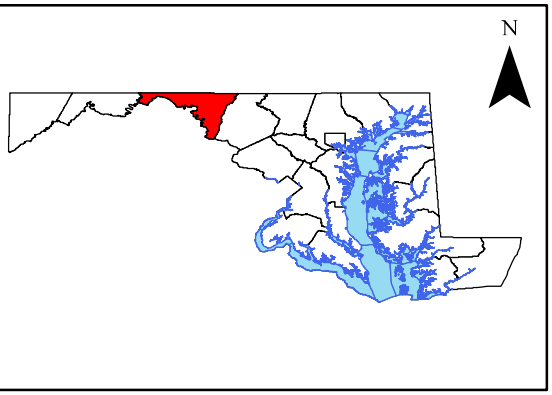
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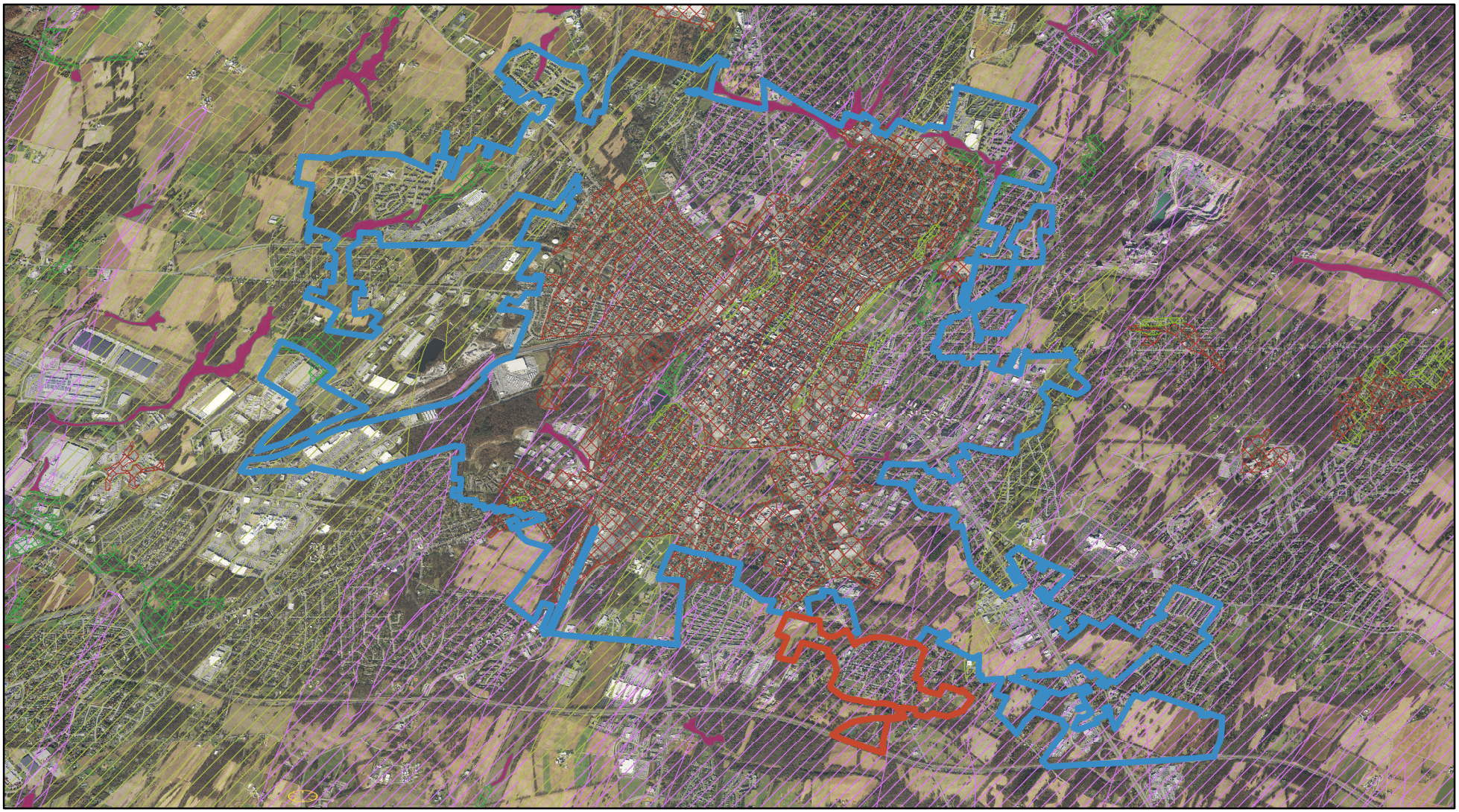
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HANCOCK

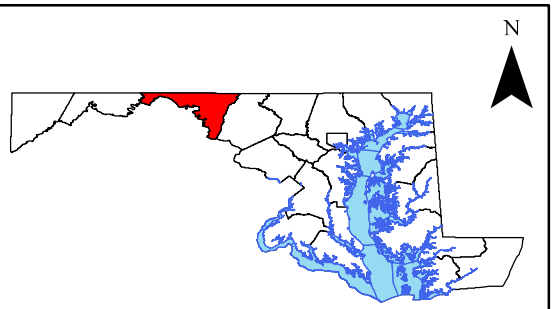
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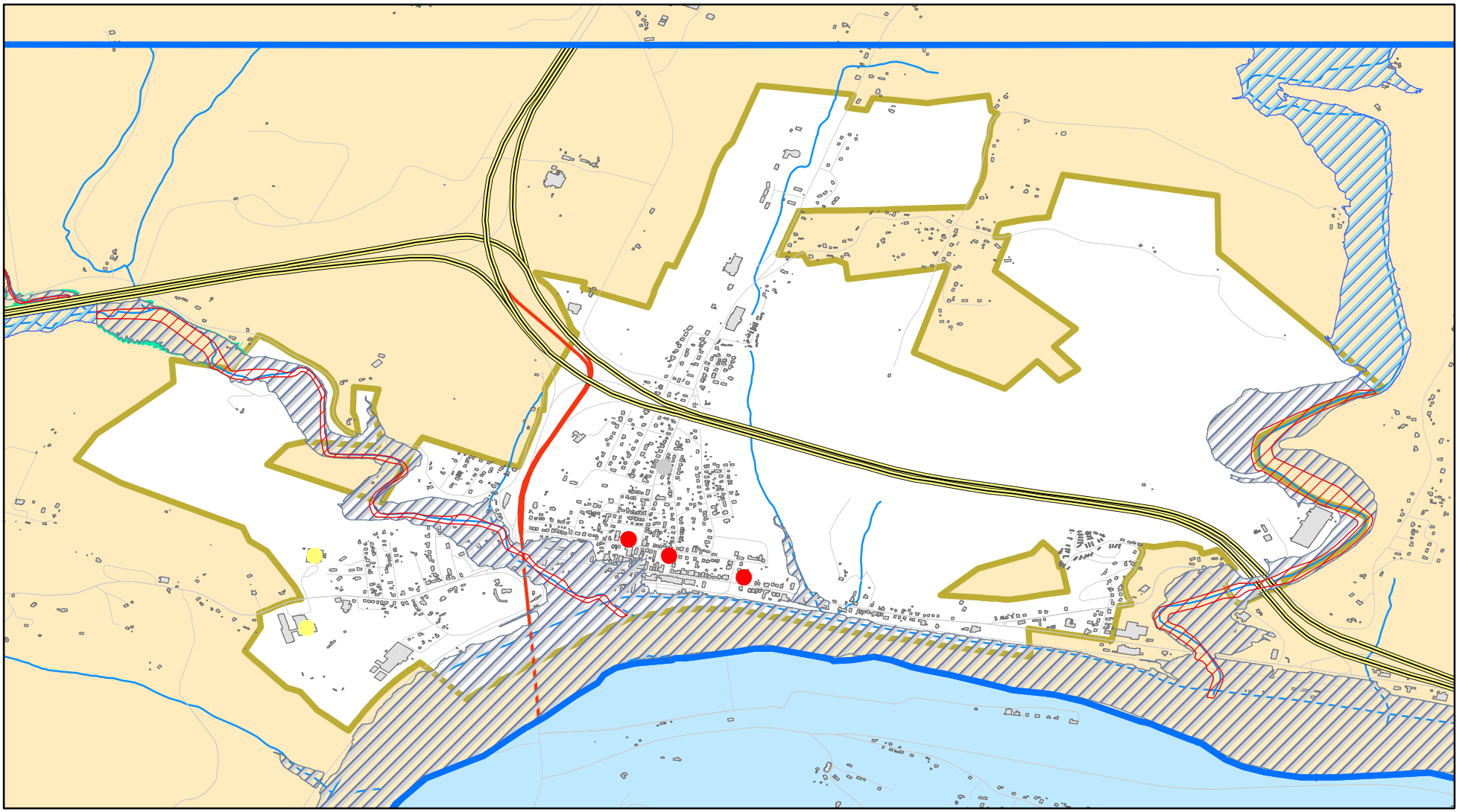
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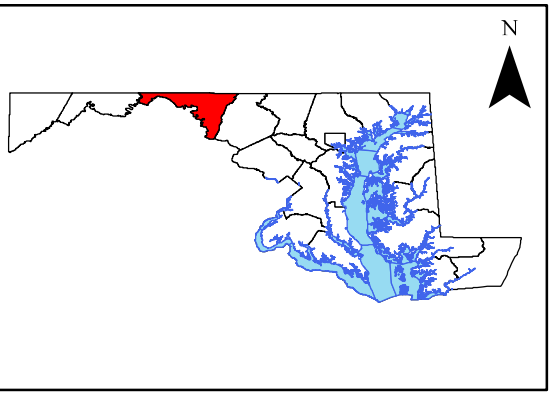
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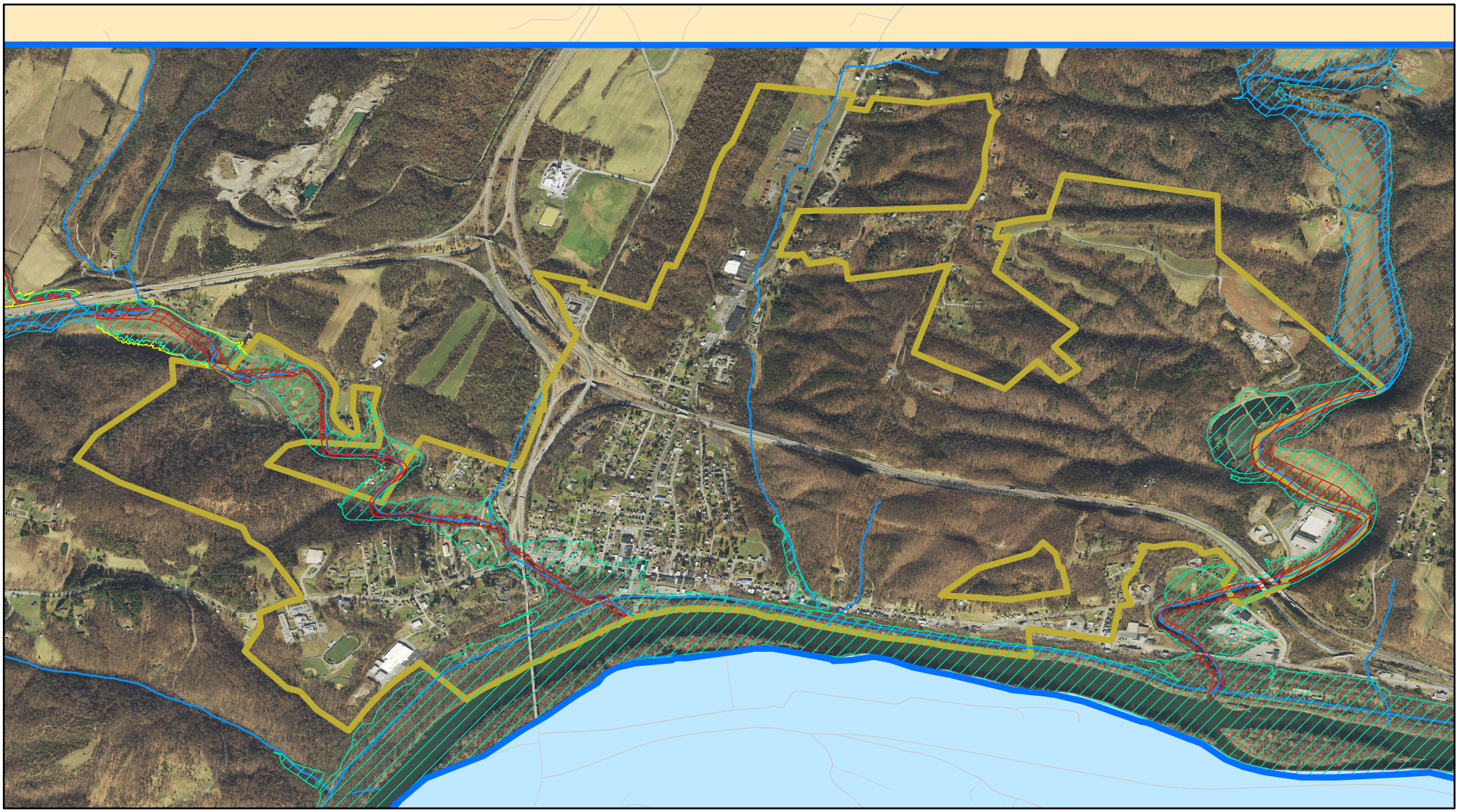
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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Land Subsidence Risk Areas (Hancock)

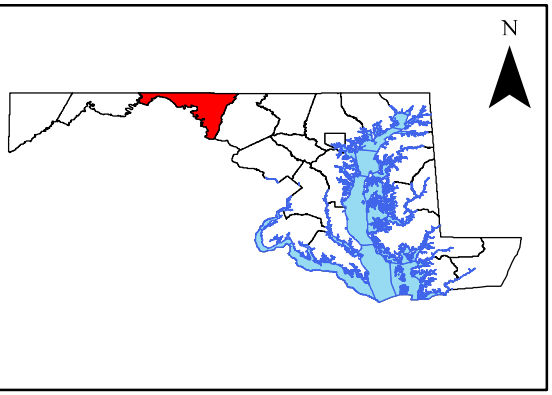
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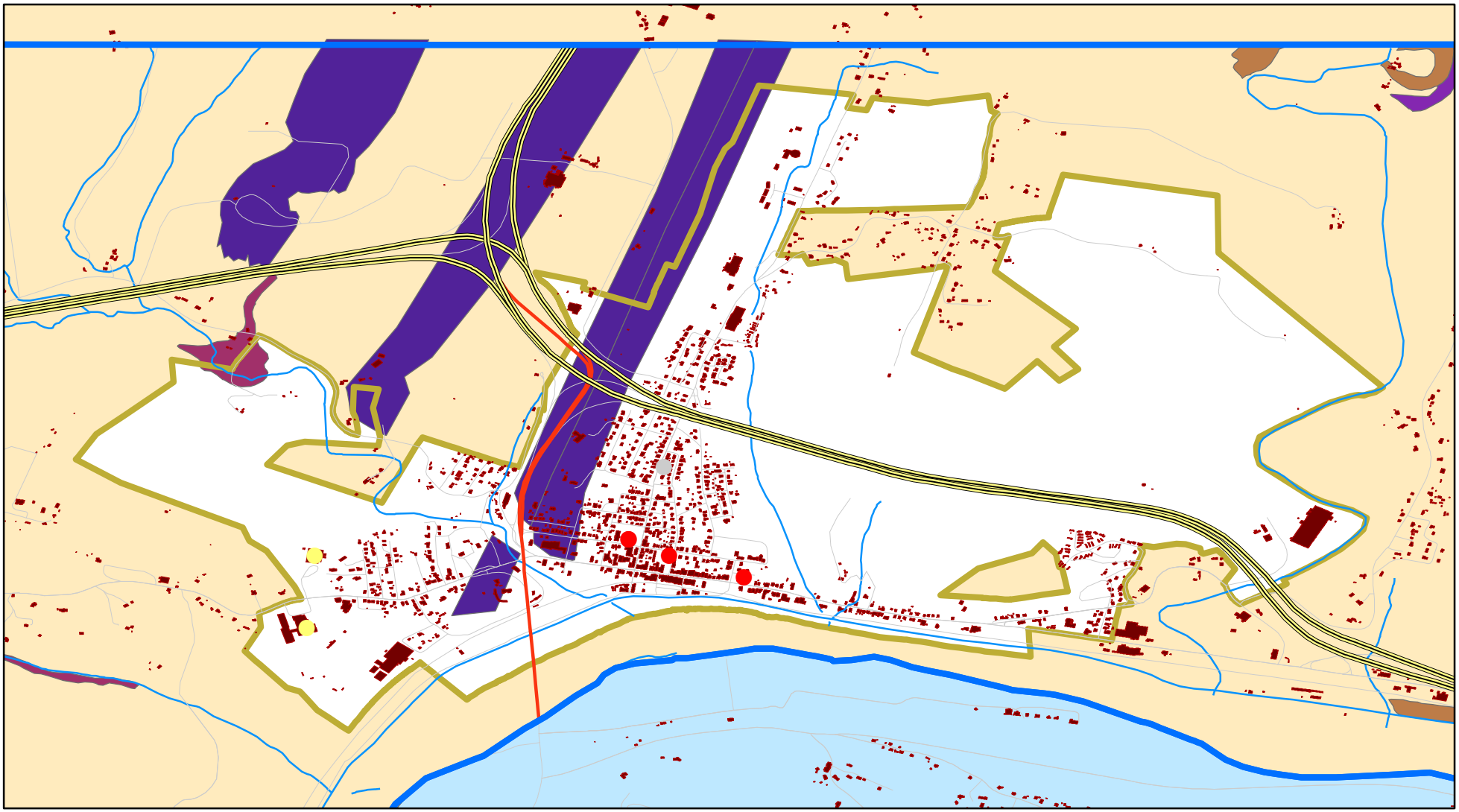
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- Building Footprints





WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

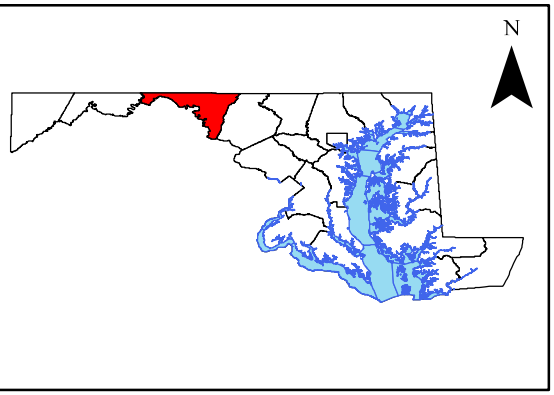
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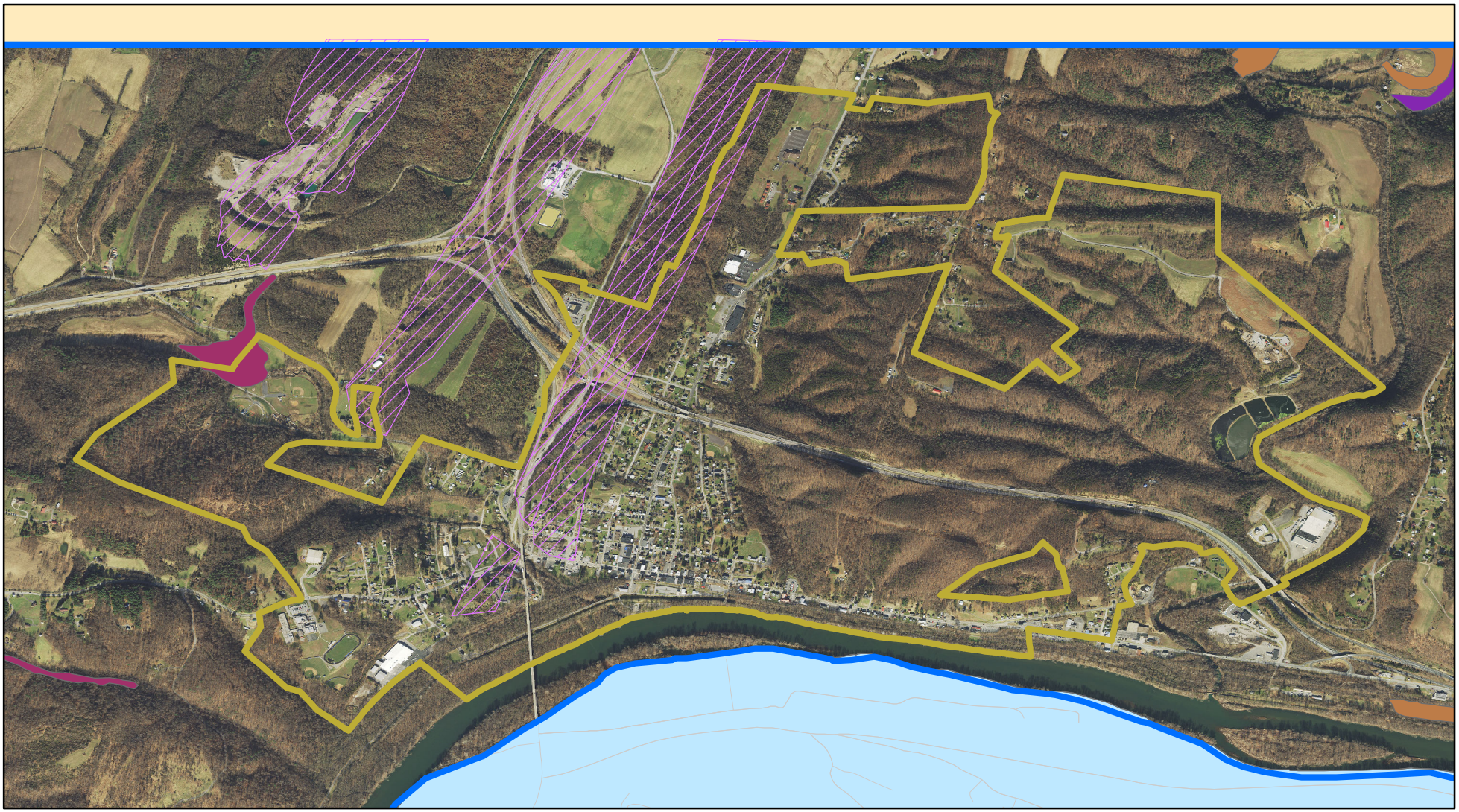
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DISCLAIMER: Data is meant for use as reference only. Some sources may be intended to be used at national or regional scales and are thus used beyond their original intent for demonstrative purposes.

Shrink/Swell Soils
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- UrD

Karst Geology
- Dolomite
- Limestone
- Landslide (per USGS)
- Sinkholes





KEEDYSVILLE

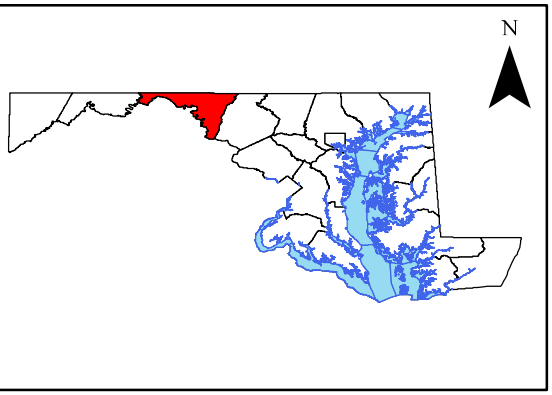
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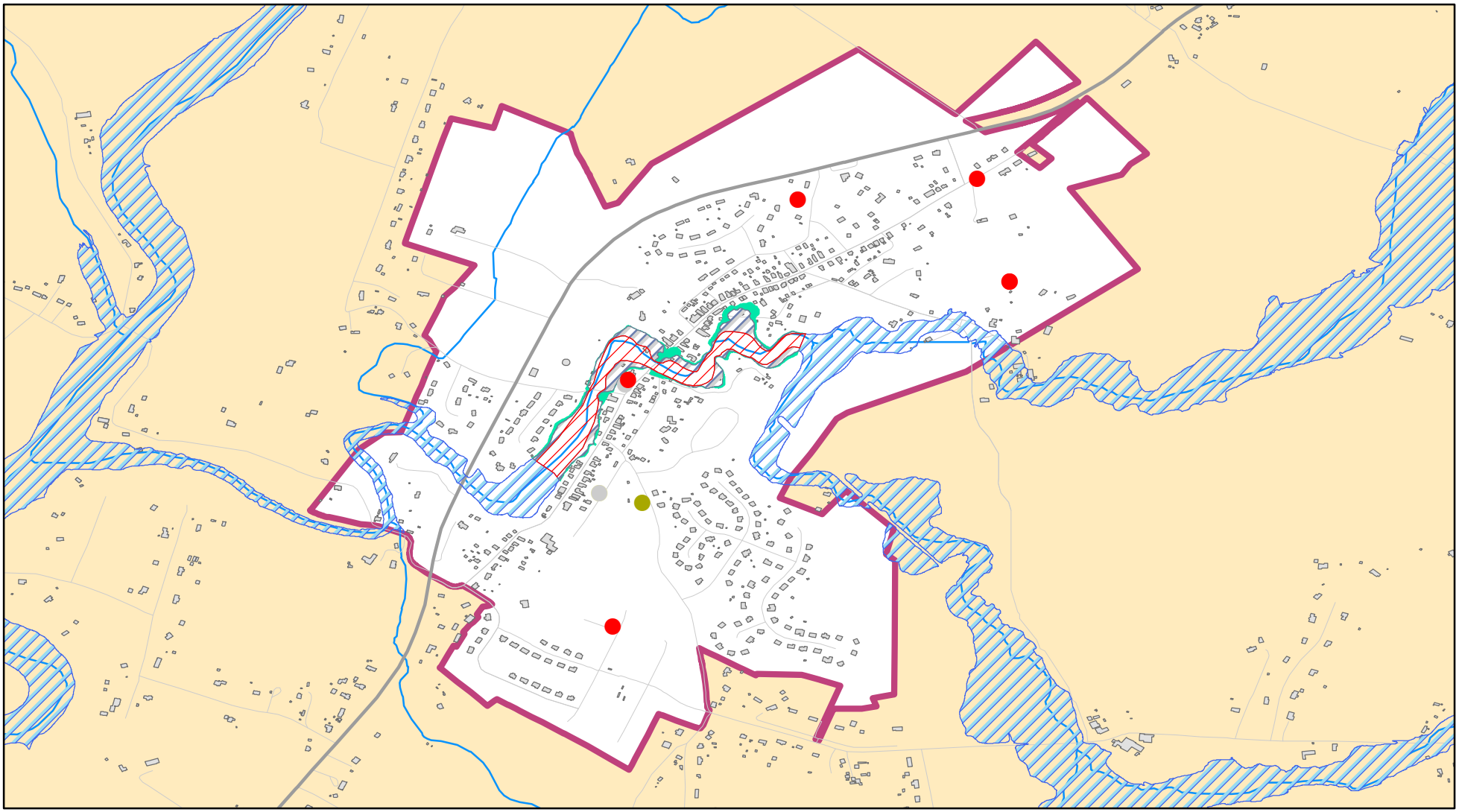
Special Flood Hazard Areas (Keedysville)

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- Vulnerable Populations
- Building Footprints





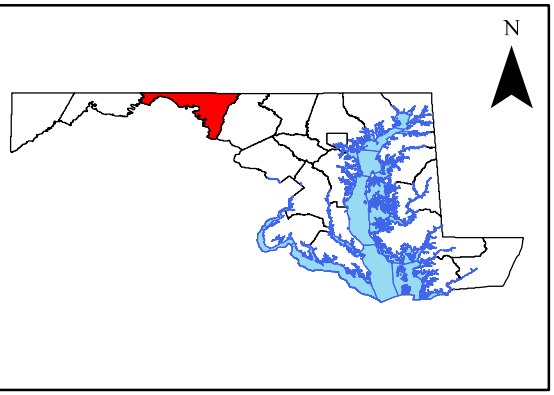
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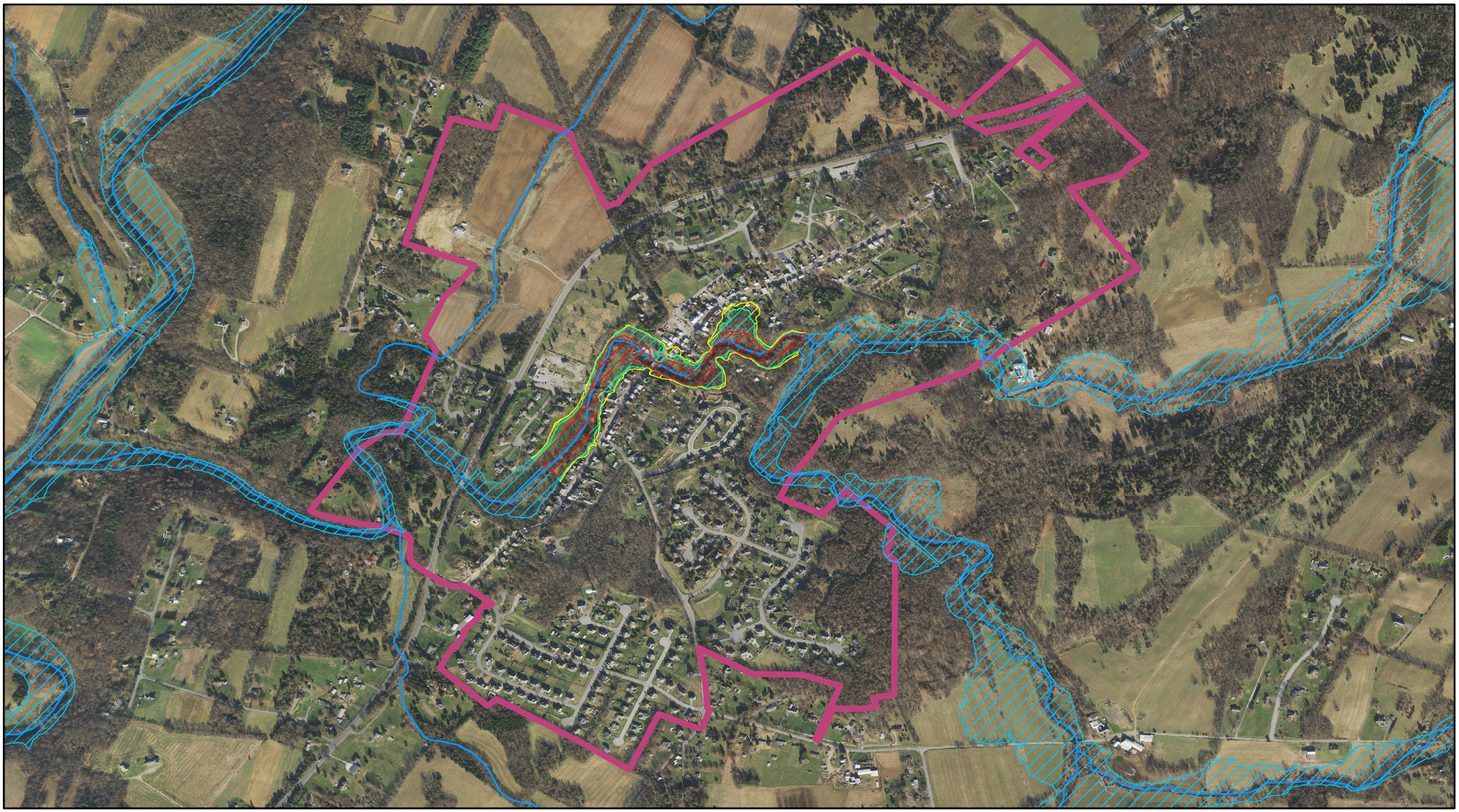
Special Flood Hazard Areas (Keedysville [Aerial])

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Land Subsidence Risk Areas (Keedysville)

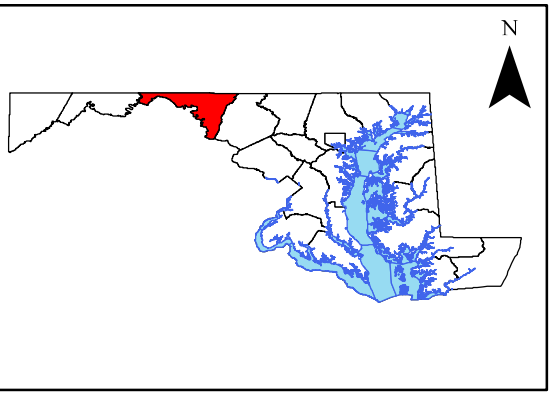
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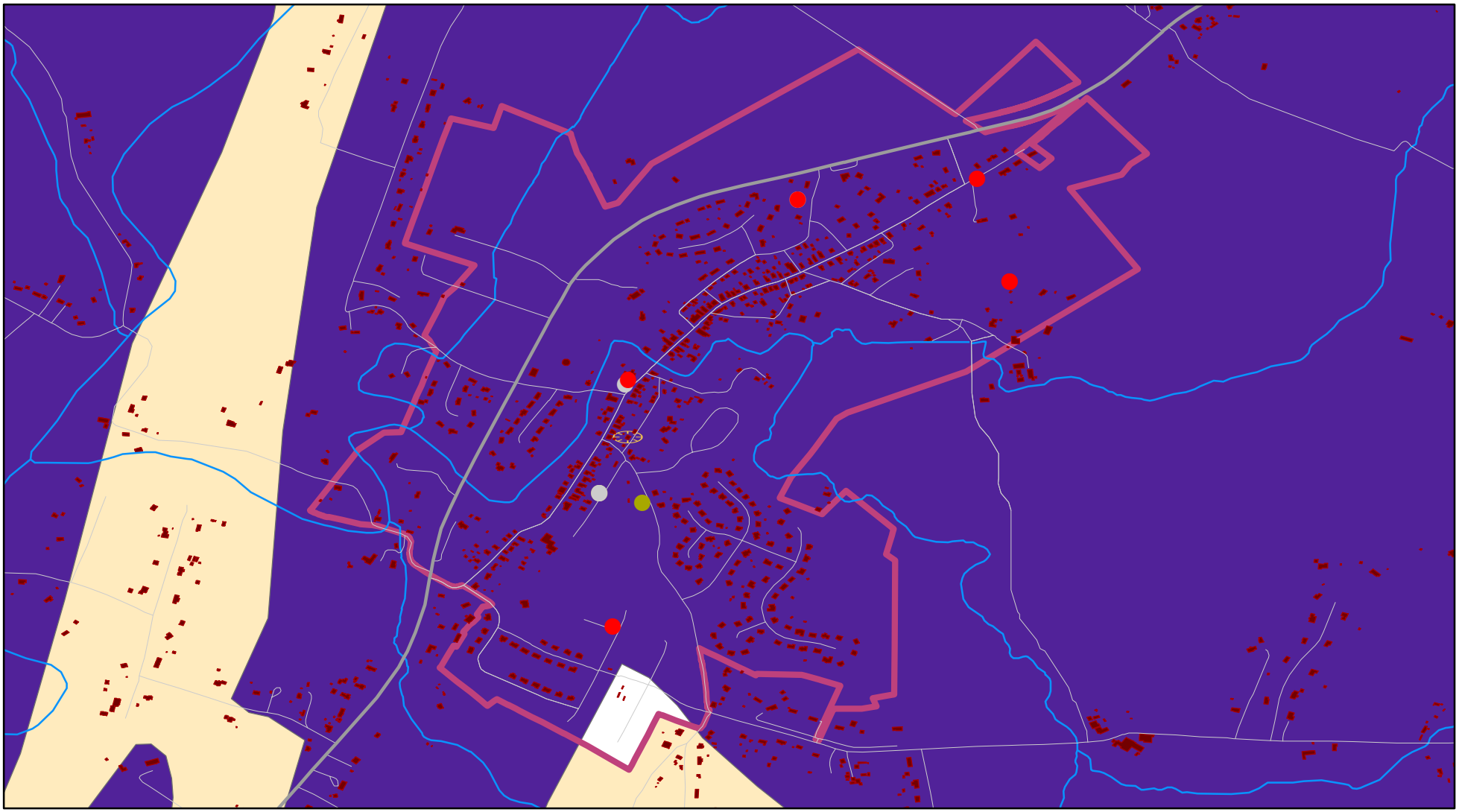
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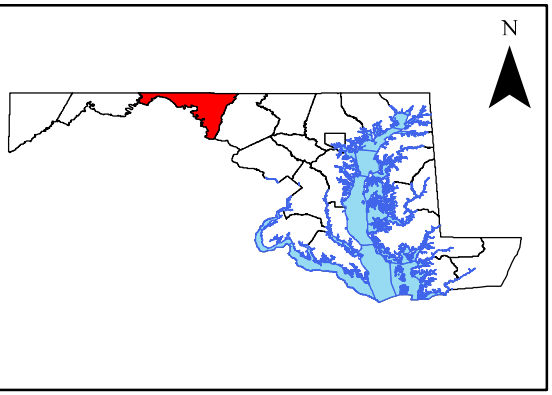
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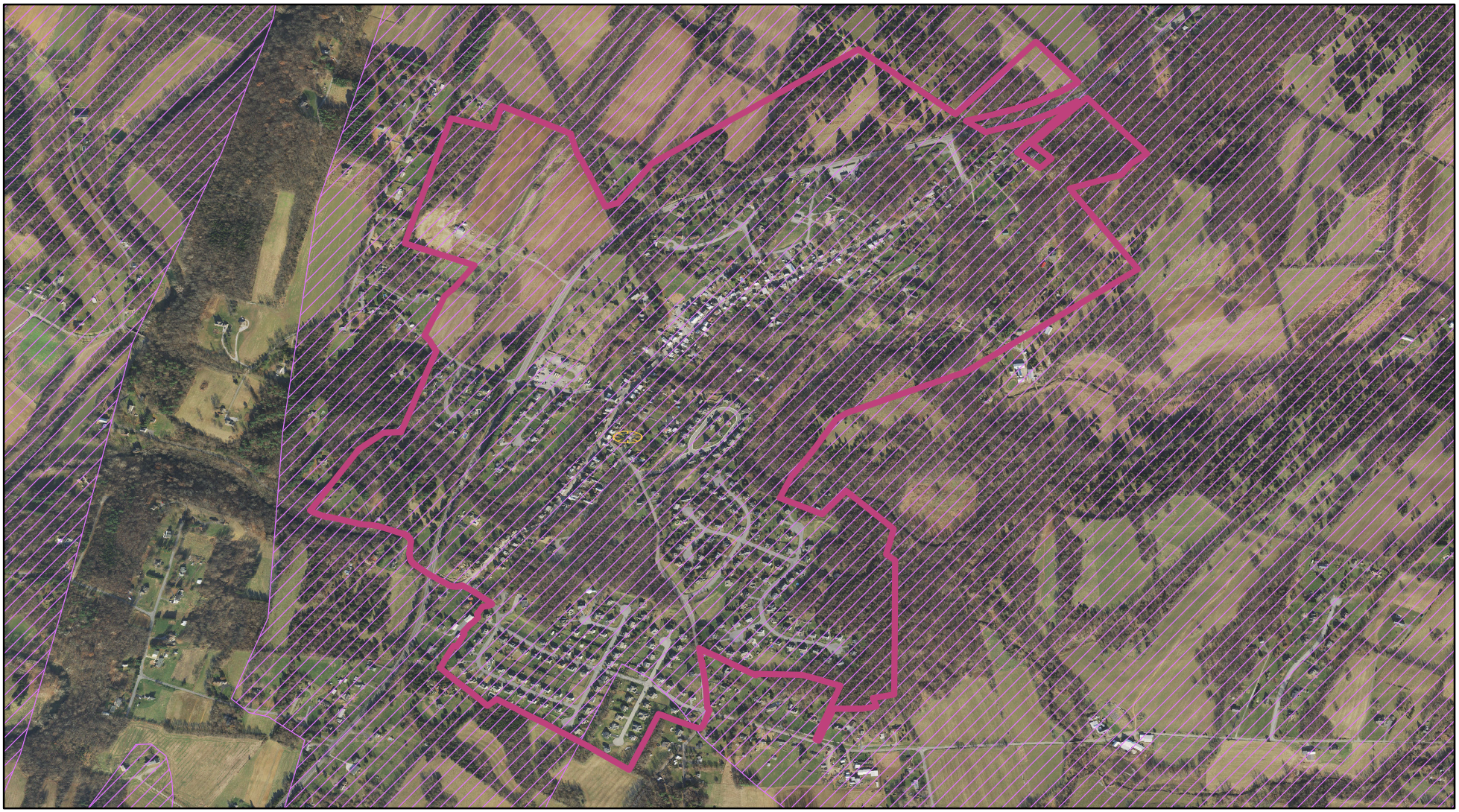
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SHARPSBURG

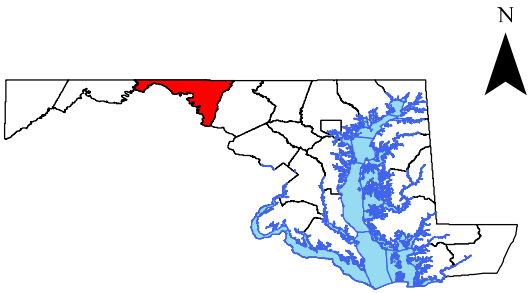
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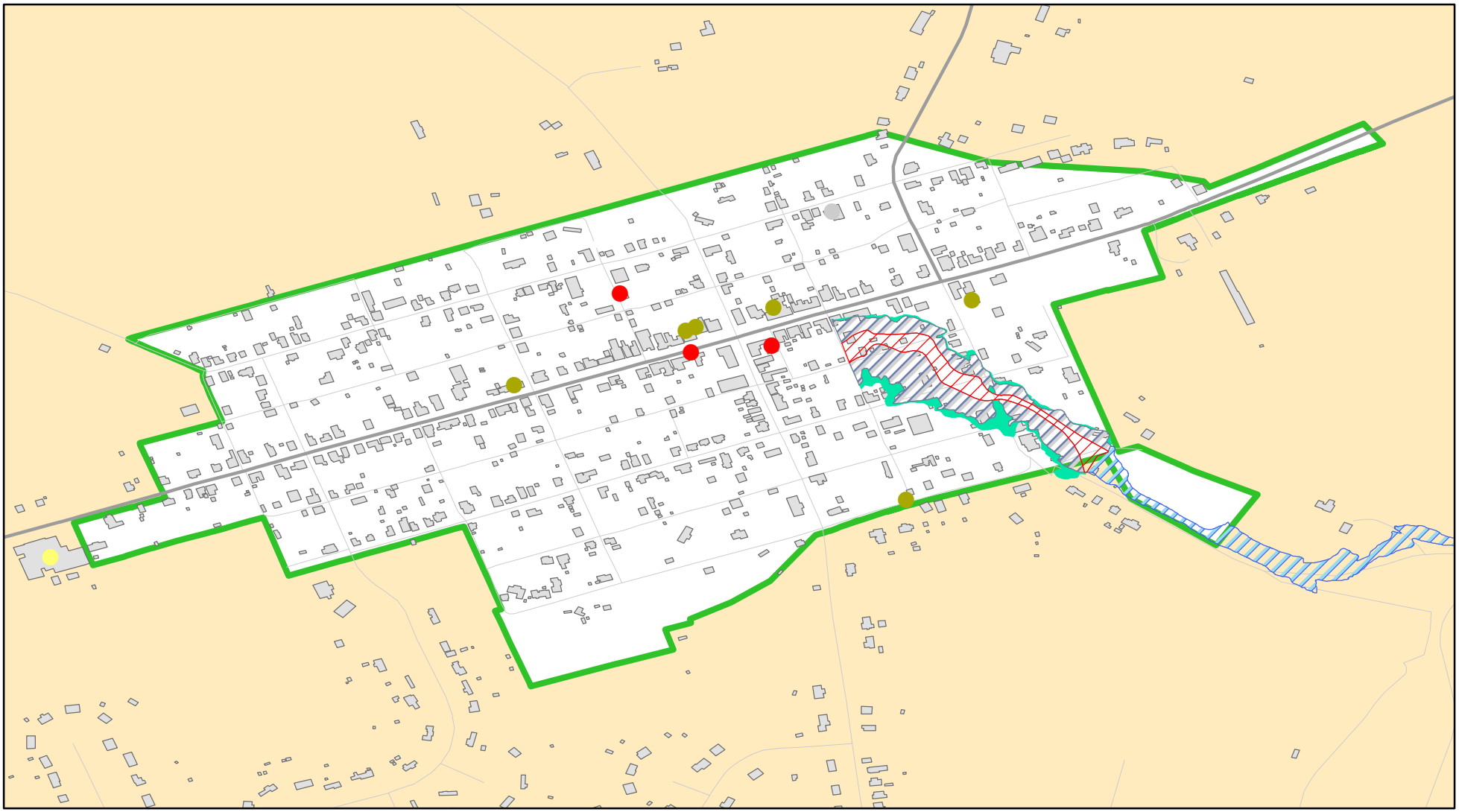
Special Flood Hazard Areas (Sharpsburg)

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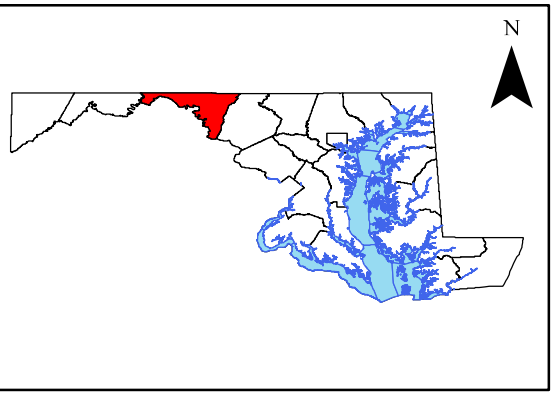
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Special Flood Hazard Areas (Sharpsburg [Aerial])

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Land Subsidence Risk Areas (Sharpsburg)

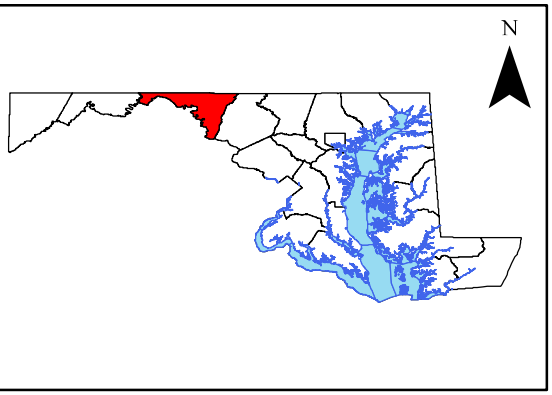
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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

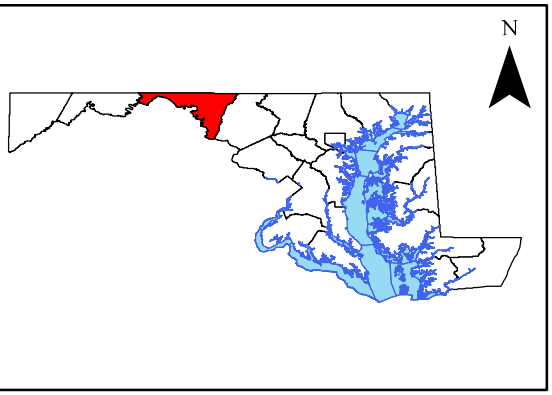
Land Subsidence Risk Areas (Sharpsburg [Aerial])

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SMITHSBURG

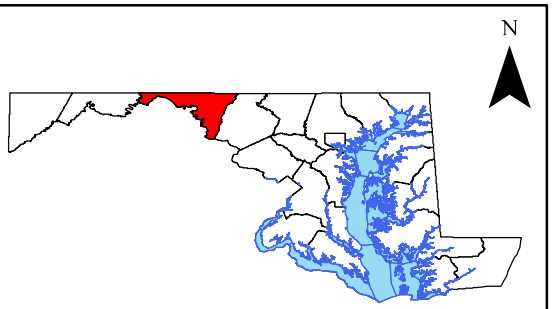
WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

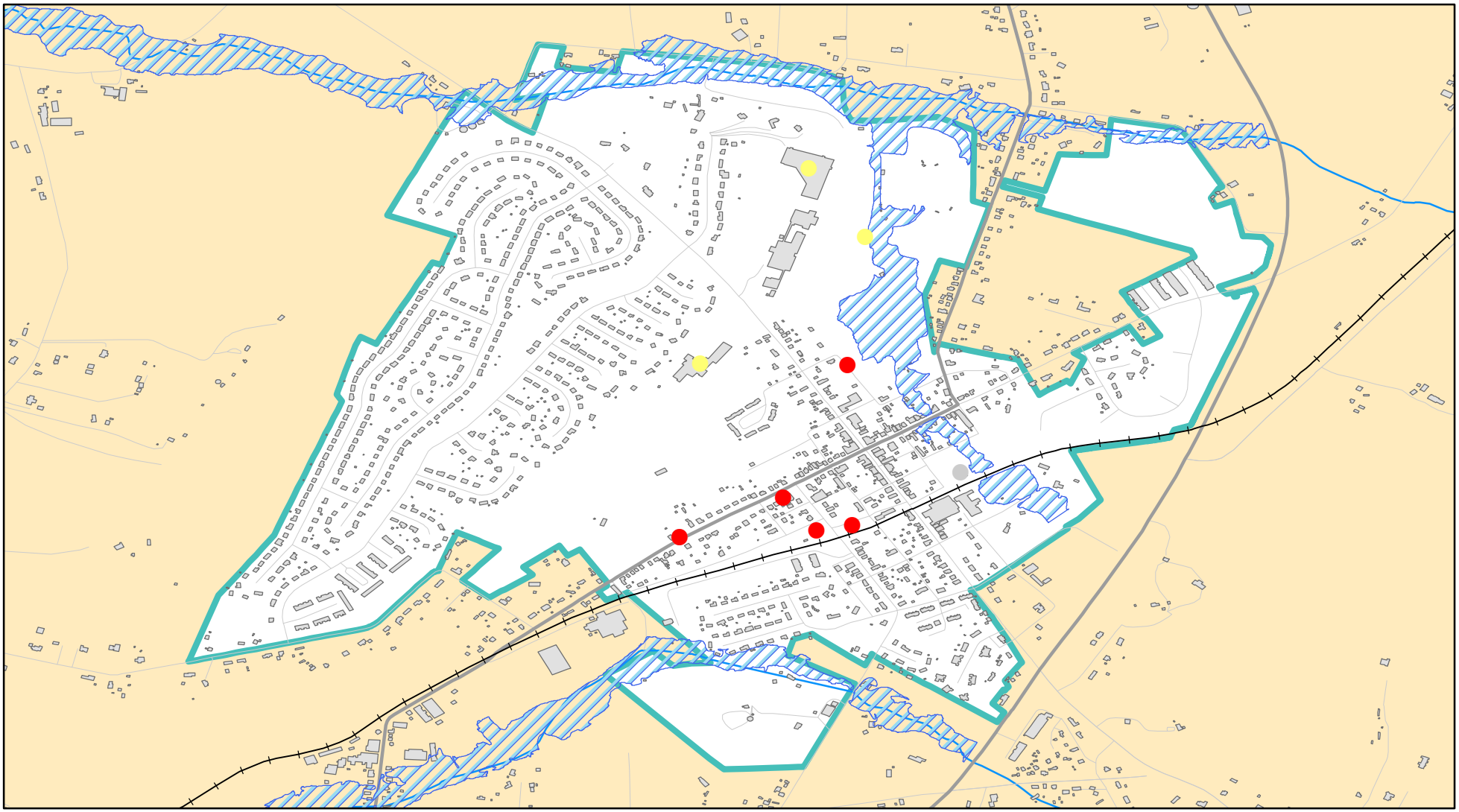
Special Flood Hazard Areas (Smithsburg)

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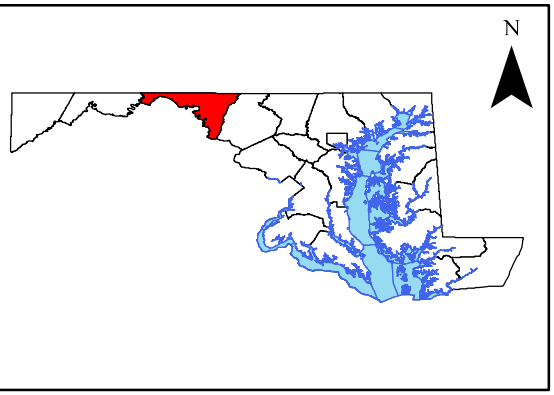
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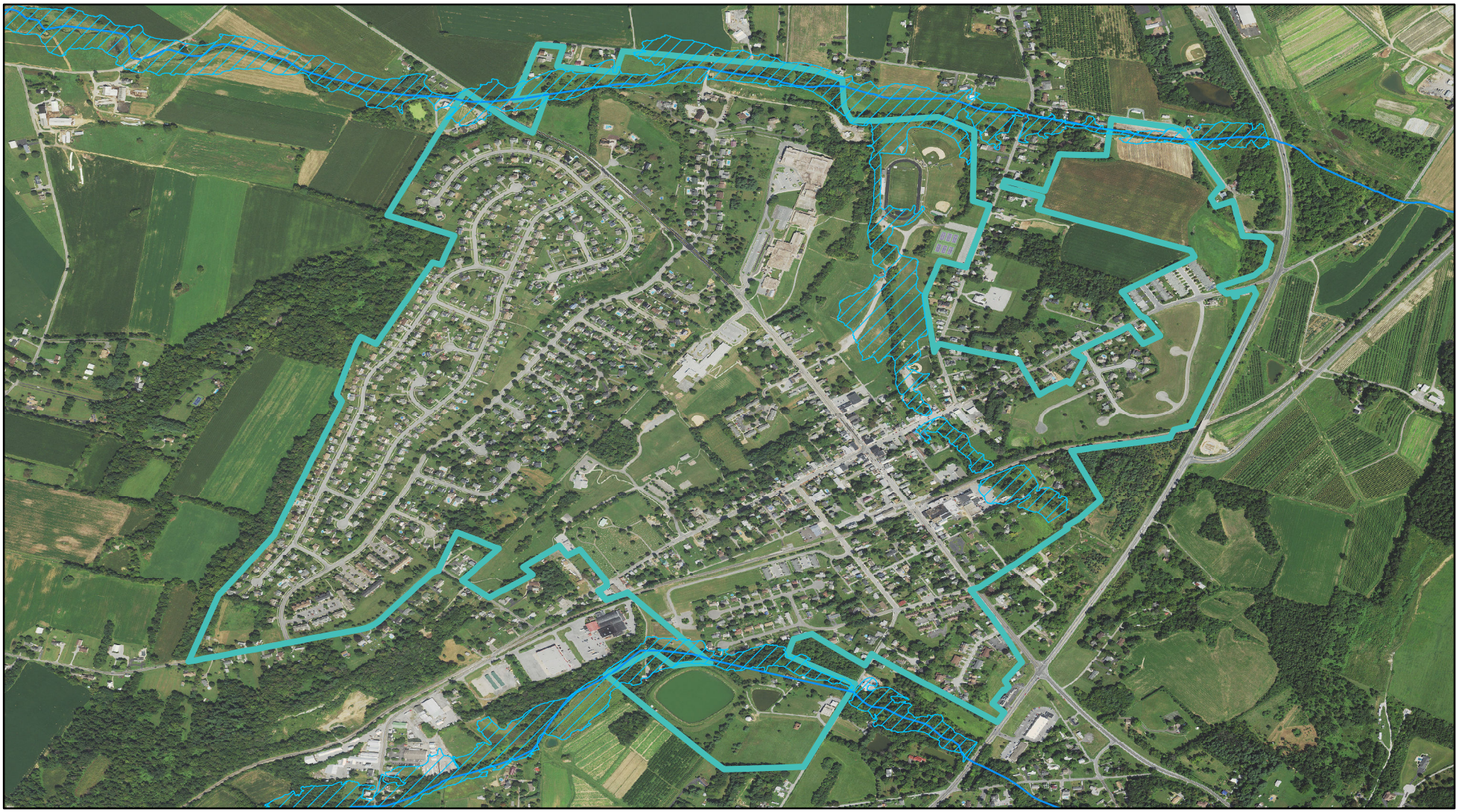
Special Flood Hazard Areas (Smithsburg [Aerial])

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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Land Subsidence Risk Areas (Smithsburg)

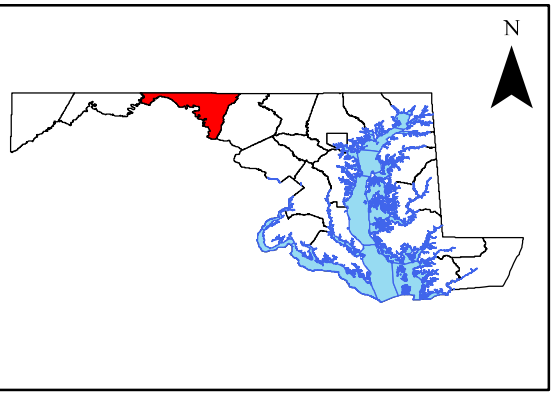
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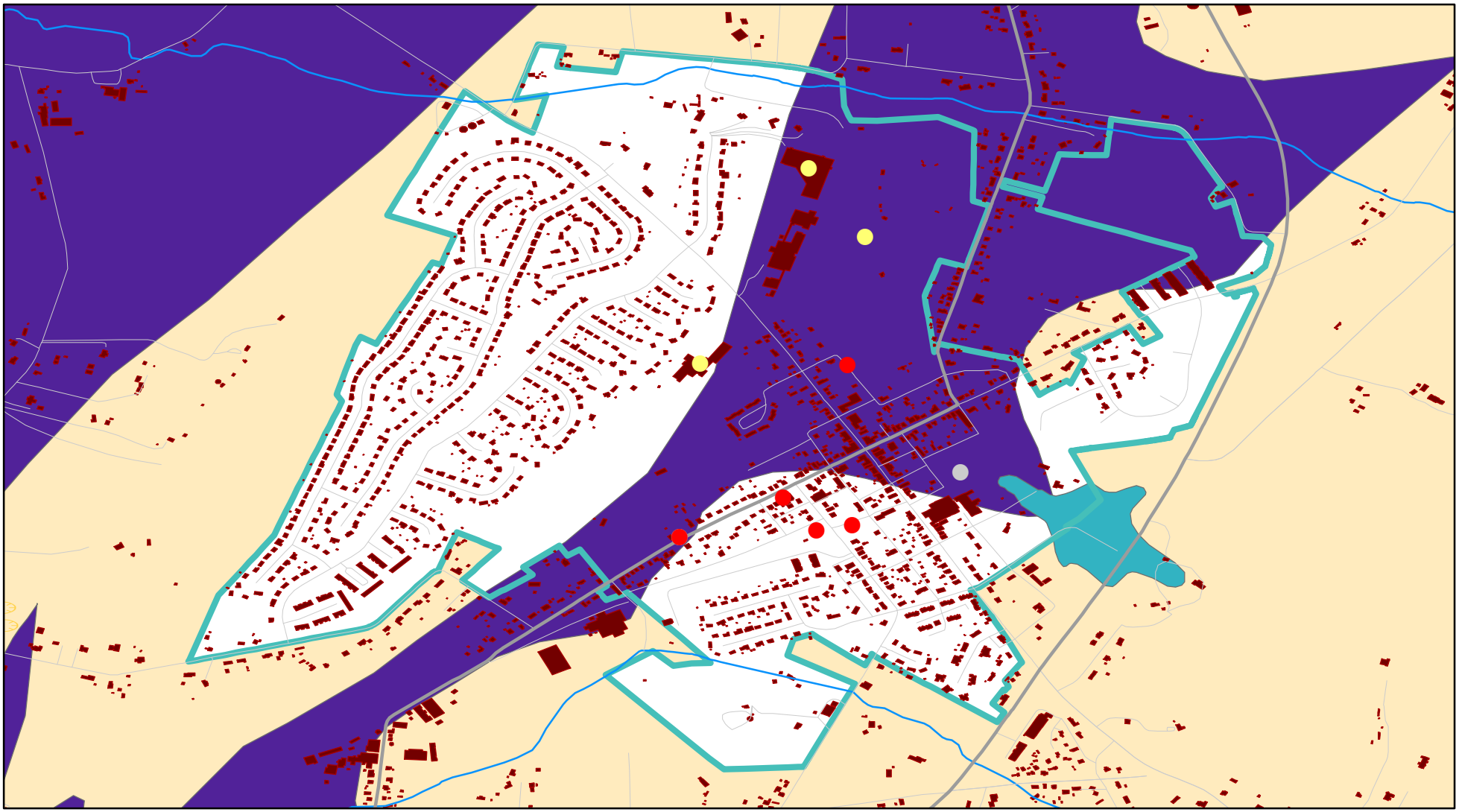
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WASHINGTON COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

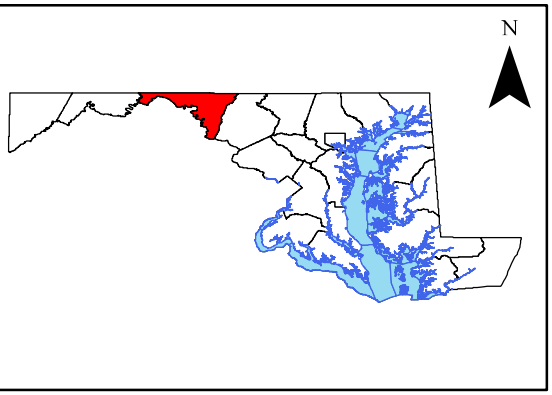
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WILLIAMSPORT

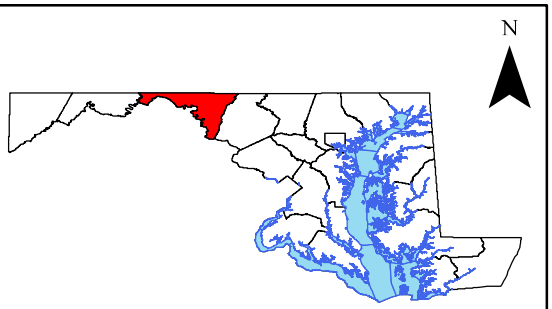
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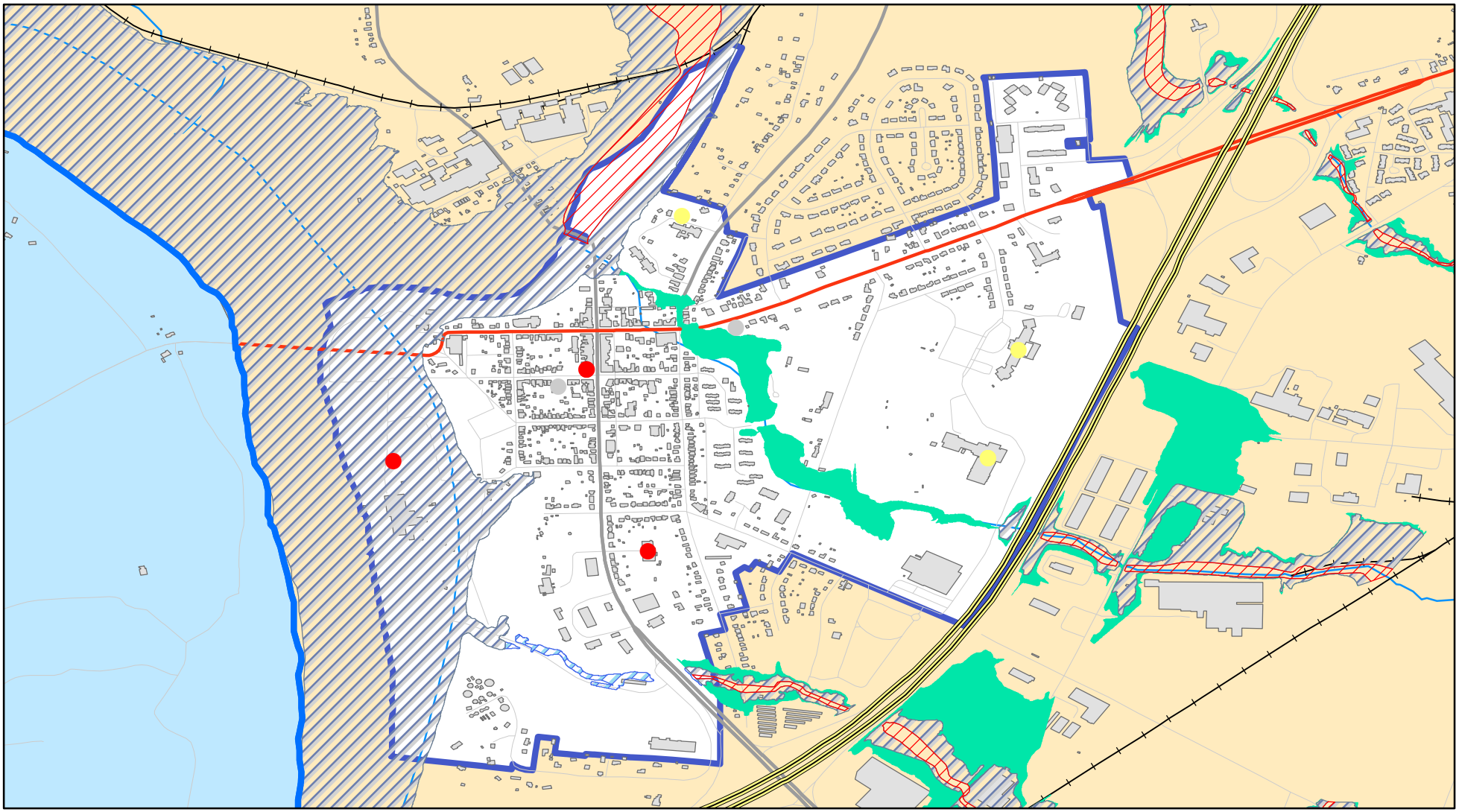
Special Flood Hazard Areas (Williamsport)

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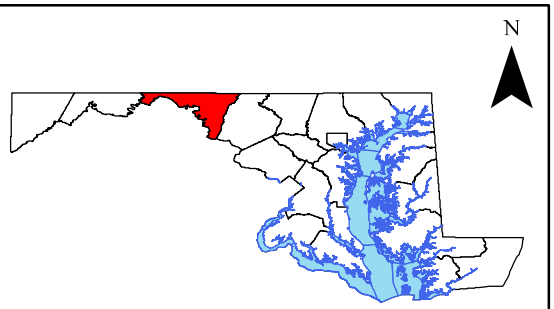
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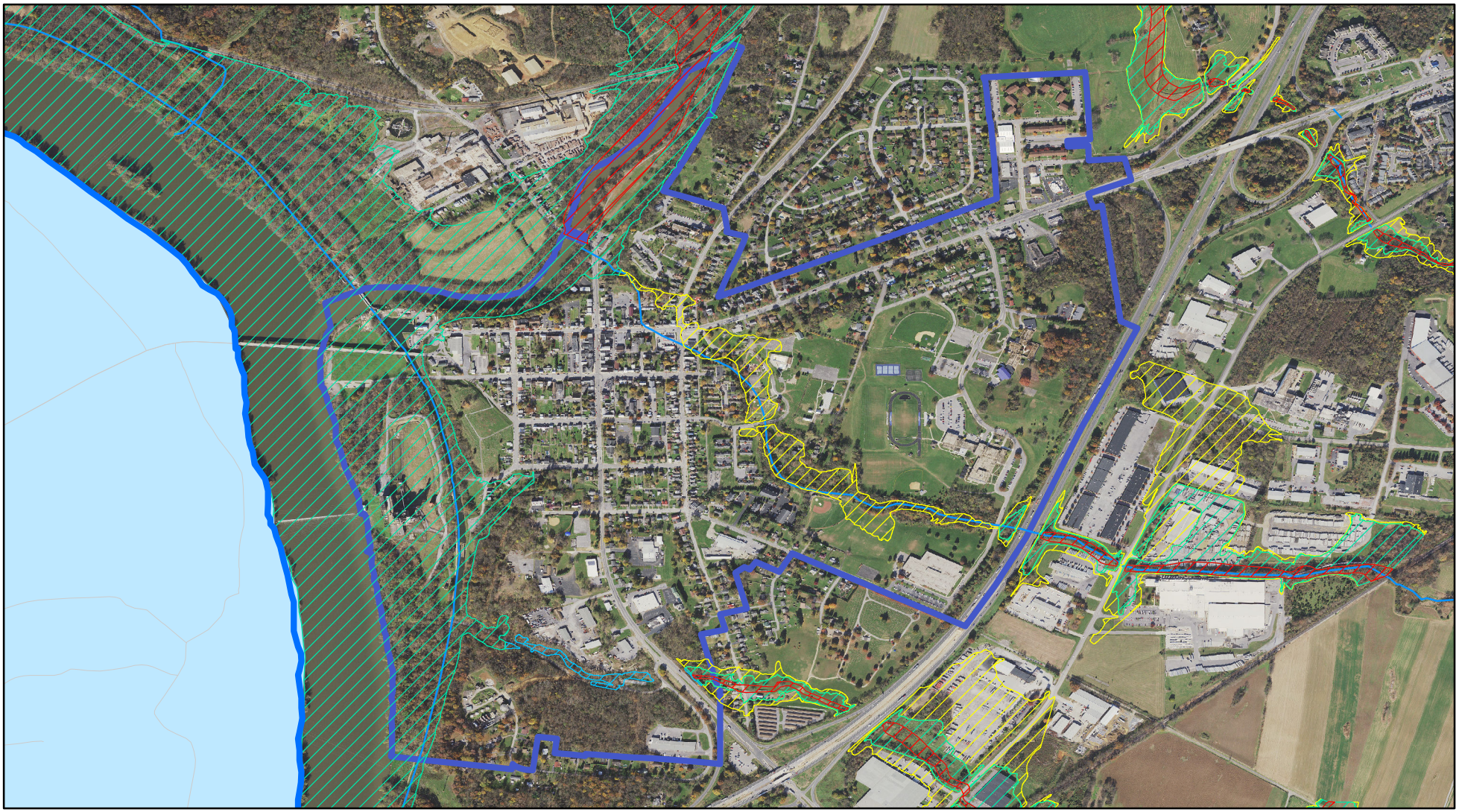
Special Flood Hazard Areas (Williamsport [Aerial])

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Land Subsidence Risk Areas (Williamsport)

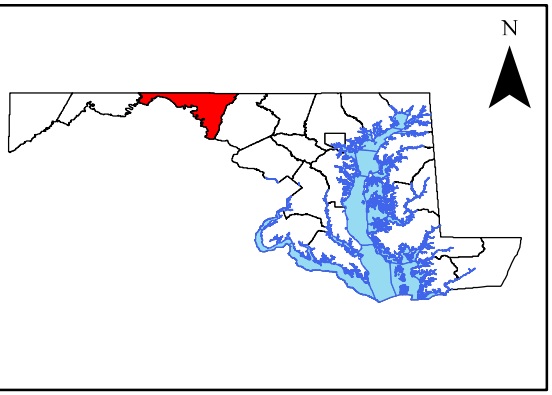
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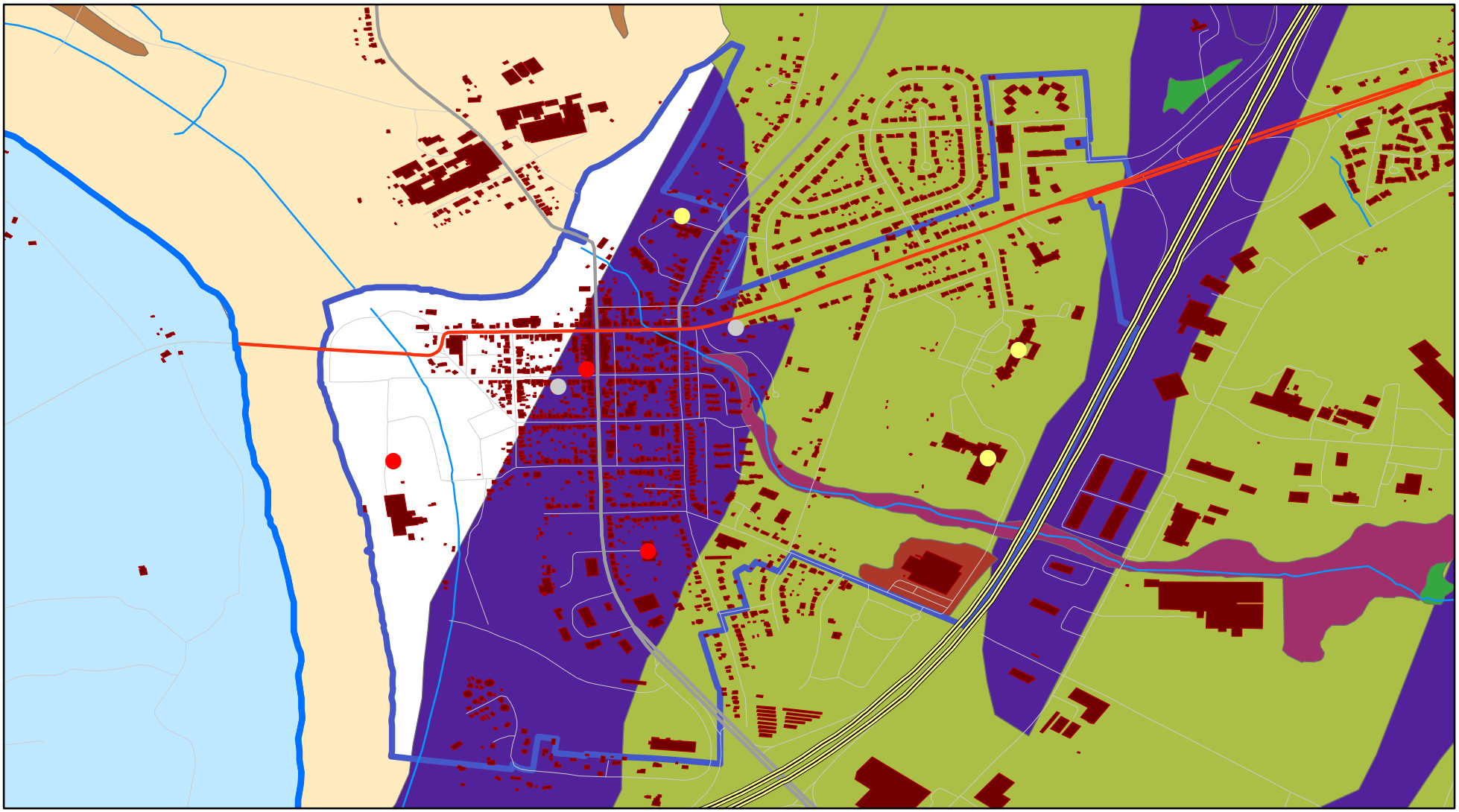
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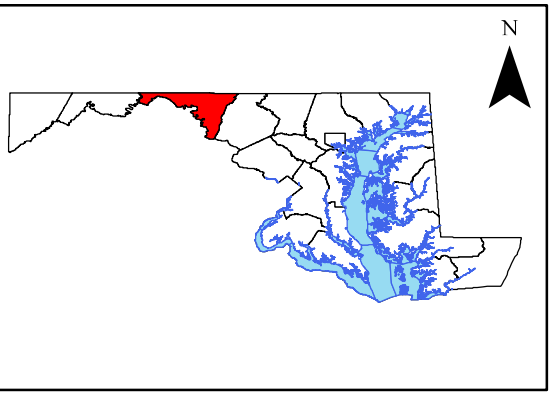
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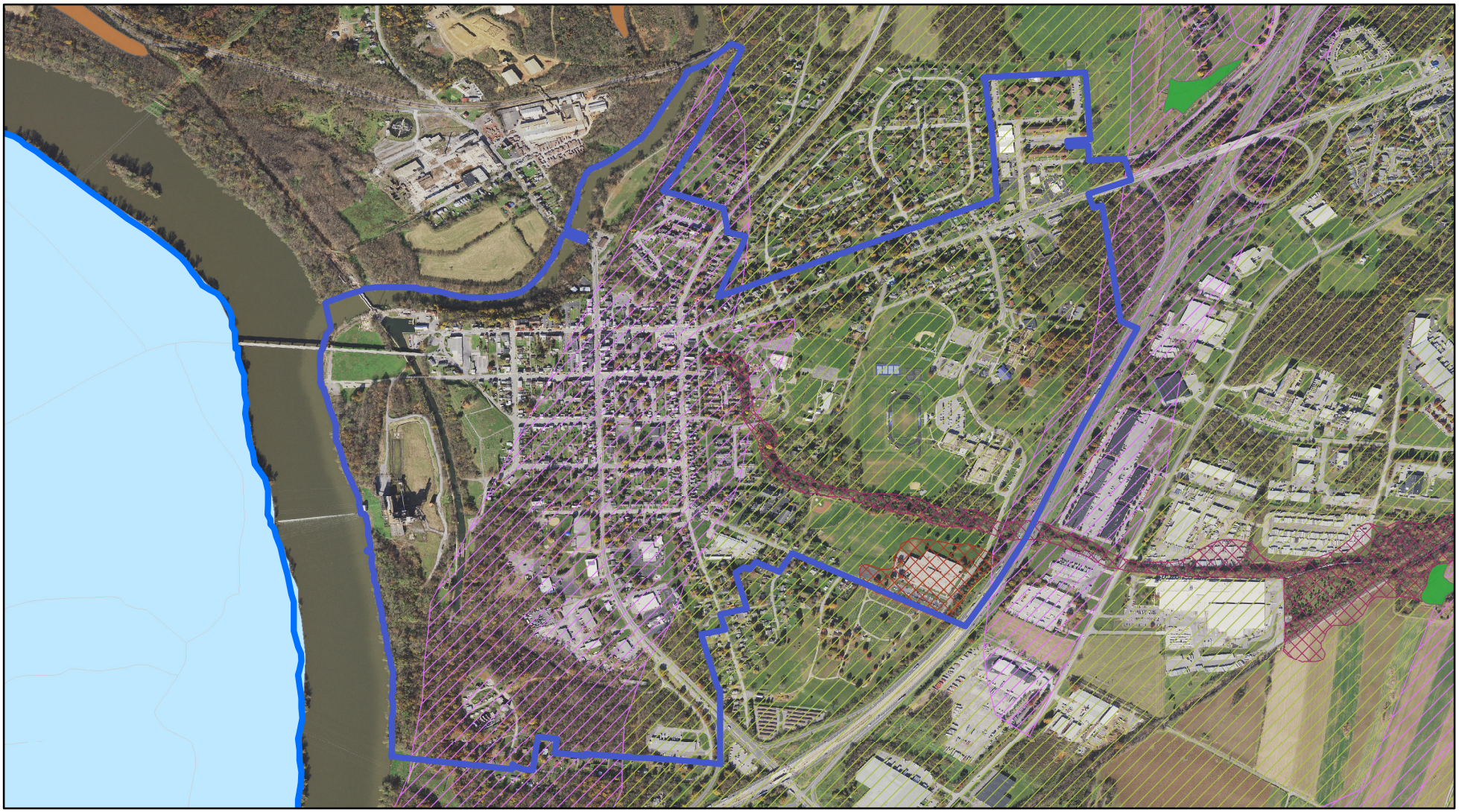
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5.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 6: THIRA Considerations

This appendix is reserved for future use.

APPENDIX 7: REFERENCES

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5.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 8: Crosswalks and Resolutions

This appendix provides space for the Washington County Office of Emergency Management (WCOEM) to file the final review crosswalk (i.e., FEMA's *Local Plan Review Tool*) and the jurisdictional resolutions adopting the plan.