



MEETING NOTES

Meeting	Wyoming County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Risk Assessment Review Meeting		
Date	September 17, 2020	Time	2:00 – 3:35 p.m.
Location	Webinar		
Attendees	Brian Meyers, Emergency Manager, Wyoming County Emergency Management		
	Rebecca Mann, District Technician, Wyoming County Soil and Water Conservation District		
	Todd Gadd, Highway Superintendent, Wyoming County Highway Department		
	Andy Meyer, Public Health Program Coordinator, Wyoming County Health Department		
	Andrea Aldinger, Director, Wyoming County Office of Aging and Youth Bureau		
	Bill Daly, Director, Wyoming County Planning and Development		
	Julie Cook, Deputy Clerk, Village of Attica		
	Jerry Davis, Supervisor, Town of Covington		
	Michael Roche, Supervisor, Town of Eagle		
	David Granger, Supervisor, Town of Gainesville		
	Becky Ryan, Supervisor, Town of Warsaw		
	Chris Lester, Chief, Arcade Fire Department		
	Todd Campbell, Superintendent, Letchworth Central School District (CSD)		
	Ben Halsey, Superintendent, Pioneer CSD		
	Albert Cheverie, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, New York State Department of Health		
Linda Heinrich			
Tony Subbio, Project Manager, Tetra Tech			

Purpose

The purpose of the Risk Assessment Review Meeting was to review the results of the updated risk assessment analysis performed for the HMP update by Tetra Tech, collect feedback on the analysis, and identify problem areas or issues for each of the hazards identified.

Discussion Points

This section summarizes each discussion point addressed during the meeting.

Review Risk Assessment

Mr. Subbio reviewed the results of Tetra Tech’s risk assessment. Feedback on the analysis of each hazard is provided below.

- Earthquake
 - Attendees thought the estimated damage figures seemed low for the 500-year earthquake.



MEETING NOTES

- Epidemic
 - Mr. Meyers reported that the county was very busy operating food distribution sites during the COVID pandemic.
 - Ms. Aldinger described her organization's support for food distribution. Average meals provided by her office increased from approximately 220 per day to over 300 per day. She reported that senior citizens were not comfortable going shopping. She also stated that the shortage of aid workers to go to the homes of senior citizens was made worse. The pandemic also made it more difficult to provide safe social programs for children.
 - Mr. Halsey reported that Pioneer CSD served 106,000 meals over six months to families in the district. He pointed out that not everybody in the county has access to reliable high-speed Internet service that was required to support online learning and telework by the population.
 - Mr. Daly reported that Spectrum is installing fiber optic cable to serve an additional 3,000 homes in the county. There are still unserved or underserved areas where Internet providers do not want to provide service.
 - Mr. Meyer stated that retail locations have suffered a large economic impact.
- Fire
 - Mr. Meyers reported that a decline in volunteerism has led to difficulties in emergency response capabilities.
- Flooding
 - Attendees provided no feedback on this hazard.
- Hazardous Materials
 - The Wyoming County Hazmat Team is made up of volunteer firefighters. The team currently has about 10 members but used to have about 20. Lower membership makes daytime response difficult. Most spills are from transportation accidents. There have been very few industrial accidents and a few accidents involving trains spilling diesel fuel.
- Severe Storms
 - Two properties were damaged in a storm two weeks ago. They were rated as having minor damage according to FEMA's categorization method.
- Severe Winter Storm
 - Small snowstorms do not concern the county or municipalities. It becomes a concern when it can be measured in several feet. Bennington has seen 84 inches of snow over 1.5 days.
 - Ice storms and freezing rain are a concern. In spring, the ground is saturated, then high winds bring down power lines.
 - Mr. Meyers reported that the county has a generally high resilience from winter storm events.
 - Mr. Gadd stated that the eastern side of the county gets less snow than the western side.



MEETING NOTES

- Transportation Accidents
 - There was a train derailment in Attica.
 - There was a train derailment in Silver Springs near the Morton Salt facility.
- Utility Failure
 - There have been water main breaks in the Village of Wyoming and the Village of Warsaw. Mr. Meyers will send details to Mr. Subbio.
- Water Supply Contamination
 - Ms. Mann confirmed that South Sandy Pond is not in the county.
 - Mr. Meyer reported that Silver Lake had a large algal bloom a few years ago.
 - Ms. Mann stated that increase in rainfall causes more agricultural waste to run off into the water supply. She stated that the plan should include an action to inform the agricultural community not to spread fertilizer when rain is expected and to be conscious of when to spread manure.

Review Risk Ranking

Mr. Subbio discussed each hazard's risk ranking scores, which are based on Tetra Tech's current ranking methodology. Flooding, severe storms, severe winter storms, earthquake, epidemic, and utility failure were ranked as high-risk hazards. Mr. Meyers confirmed that those results match general understanding of hazards in the county.

Next Steps

The following next steps were discussed at the meeting:

- Municipal officials will work with their assigned planners to identify problem areas and problem statements.
- Tetra Tech's planners and municipal officials will develop mitigation actions for each jurisdiction.
- The draft of the HMP will be completed and submitted to NYS DHSES in early October.

The webinar adjourned at 3:35 p.m.



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**Wyoming County
Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
Risk Assessment
Review Meeting**

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Welcome

- If you are attending the webinar on your computer, please add your name, title, and organization(s) to the Chat.
 - Bring your mouse to the lower part of the screen until a set of buttons appears.
 - Click “Show Conversation.”

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Welcome

Agenda:

- Review Risk Assessment
- Review Risk Ranking
- Next Steps
- Questions

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Review Risk Assessment

- **Earthquake**
 - History
 - Seven earthquakes were epi-centered in the County since 1950
 - Location
 - Epicenters in the northern-central part of the county
 - Impacts
 - Shaking
 - Evacuation of buildings
 - No damage so far
 - Probability - frequent

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Review Risk Assessment

- **Earthquake (continued)**
 - Entire population is exposed, especially:
 - Urban areas
 - Elderly
 - Individuals living below the poverty line
 - On soft soils
 - 13,526 people (33.3% of the County population)
 - 5,630 buildings (31.6% of the County total)
 - \$3.2 billion in property replacement cost

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Review Risk Assessment

- **Earthquake (continued)**
 - 500-year Mean Return Period (MRP) earthquake
 - \$1.2 million in damage
 - \$505,100 in income loss
 - Critical facilities – no significant damage
 - 903 tons of debris
 - 718 tons of brick/wood debris
 - 185 tons of concrete/steel debris

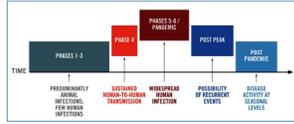
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Review Risk Assessment

Epidemic

- Influenza
 - o Differences between pandemic and seasonal influenza
- o Ebola
- o COVID-19
- History
 - o West Nile Virus (2000)
 - o COVID-19 (2020)
- Exposure: Entire County is vulnerable
 - o Increased vulnerability in highly/densely populated areas
- Broadband Internet



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Review Risk Assessment

Fire

- History
 - 296 incidents from 2014-2019
- Impacts
 - Inhalation injuries
 - Fatalities
 - Contents loss
 - Structure loss
 - Smoke damage
- Probability
 - 296 incidents in 6 years – 100% chance each year



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Review Risk Assessment

Flooding

- History
 - 3 Presidential Disaster Declarations
 - 26 events since 1950; 6 in the last 5 years
- Location
 - 1-percent annual chance floodplain
 - Dam inundation areas
 - Flash flooding



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Review Risk Assessment

Flooding (Continued)

- Impacts
 - \$8.4 million in reported property damage since 1950
- Probability
 - 6 events in the last 5 years – 100% chance each year



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Review Risk Assessment

Flooding (Continued)

- 1-percent Annual Chance Floodplain
 - 2,241 people (5.5% of total population)
 - 962 buildings (5.4% of total)
 - \$504 million in structure and contents replacement cost value (RCV)
 - \$56.7 million in expected losses
 - 114 critical facilities, including 82 bridges
 - 4,799 tons of debris



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Review Risk Assessment

Flooding (Continued)

- Flood Insurance Statistics (as of July 30, 2020)
 - 101 policies in the County
 - Compare to 962 buildings
 - 88 claims
 - \$1.0 million in payments
- Repetitive Loss (RL)
 - Two or more reported losses over \$1,000 in any 10-year rolling period since 1978
 - 77 total



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Review Risk Assessment

▪ Hazardous Materials

– History

- 18 spill incidents since 2014
- Petroleum products, milk, fertilizer

– Within ½ mile of rail, highway, pipelines, fixed facilities

– Impacts

- Contamination
- Road closures
- Property damage

– Probability

- 18 incidents in 5 years – 100% chance each year



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Review Risk Assessment

▪ Hazardous Materials (continued)

– Population

- Entire population is vulnerable
- Injuries/fatalities from exposure to spilled chemicals
- Spills in transit
- Spills from fixed facilities

– Structures

- Inaccessibility
- Contamination
- Fire/explosion



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Review Risk Assessment

▪ Severe Storms

– Hail

– Wind

– Lightning

– Thunderstorms

– Tornado

– Hurricane/Tropical Storm



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Review Risk Assessment

▪ Severe Storms (Continued)

– History

- 5 Presidential Disaster Declarations
- 144 events since 1950

– Impacts since 2014

- No reported fatalities
- 2 reported injuries
- \$1.2 million in property damage
- \$4.5 million in crop damage
- Trees/wires down

– Probability

- 26 events since 2014 – 100% chance each year



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Review Risk Assessment

▪ Severe Storms (Continued)

– Every structure is exposed

– HAZUS Model – 500-year MRP Event

- Less than 39 mph – not even tropical storm force
- No expected structure damage
- No critical facilities impacted
- Insignificant income loss
- No debris



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Review Risk Assessment

▪ Severe Winter Storm

– Heavy Snow

– Blizzards

– Ice Storms



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Review Risk Assessment

- Severe Winter Storm (Continued)
 - History
 - 11 Presidential Disaster Declarations since 1954
 - 126 major events since 1950
 - Impacts
 - No fatalities or injuries reported
 - \$6.7million in property damage
 - Up to \$134,000 in crop damage
 - Accidents
 - Travel delays
 - Probability
 - 126 events in 70 years – 100% chance each year



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Review Risk Assessment

- Severe Winter Storm (Continued)
 - Entire population is vulnerable
 - Increase in traffic accidents
 - Overexertion
 - Hypothermia
 - Reduction in ability to access emergency services
 - All buildings exposed - \$8.4 billion
 - Loss of functionality of critical facilities
 - Economic impacts from loss of business



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Review Risk Assessment

- Transportation Accidents
 - History (2009 – Jan. 2020)
 - 12,785 major vehicle accidents
 - 2 railroad incidents
 - Silver Springs 2018, 2020
 - 2 aviation incidents
 - Potential economic impacts and other damage



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Review Risk Assessment

- Utility Failure
 - History
 - 1 Presidential Disaster Declaration - 2003
 - 27 incidents since 2014
 - Primarily caused by other hazards
 - Impacts
 - HVAC failure
 - Communications failure
 - Food spoilage
 - Basement flooding
 - Probability
 - 27 incidents in the last 7 years – 100% chance each year



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Review Risk Assessment

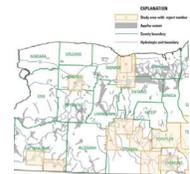
- Utility Failure (Continued)
 - Entire population is vulnerable
 - Food safety
 - Carbon monoxide exposure from generators
 - Individuals dependent on medical equipment
 - Access to potable water
 - Cost of spoiled food/goods
 - Cost to government and community service groups



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Review Risk Assessment

- Water Supply Contamination
 - Groundwater contamination
 - Naturally-occurring Radon
 - Chemicals
 - Harmful Algal Blooms
 - Java Lake
 - Silver Lake
 - Akron Reservoir
 - South Sandy Pond
 - 19 events from 2014-2019
 - Health impacts
 - No direct impacts to structures or critical facilities



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Review Risk Ranking

Hazard of Concern	Prob.	Pop.	Built Env.	Econ.	Adapt Cap.	Future Cond.	Risk Ranking Value
Flooding	3	3	2	2	2	3	6.3
Severe Storms	3	3	3	1	1	2	6.2
Severe Winter Storms	3	3	3	1	1	2	6.2
Earthquake	1	3	3	1	1	1	5.5
Epidemic	2	3	1	2	1	2	5.0
Utility Failure	3	2	2	2	1	2	5.0
Water Supply Contamination	3	2	1	1	2	3	4.5
Fire	3	2	1	1	1	1	4.0
Hazardous Materials Incidents	3	3	2	2	1	1	4.0
Transportation Accidents	3	1	1	1	1	1	3.1



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Next Steps

- Identify problems and problem areas
- Develop mitigation actions
- Submit the HMP for review



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Questions?

Thank you for your time!



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Contacts



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AGENDA

WYOMING COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE Risk Assessment Review Meeting

Thursday, September 17, 2020 | 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

1. Welcome

2. Review Risk Assessment

- a. Earthquake
 - b. Epidemic
 - c. Fire
 - d. Flooding
 - e. Hazardous Materials
 - f. Severe Storms
 - g. Severe Winter Storms
 - h. Transportation Accidents
 - i. Utility Failure
 - j. Water Supply Contamination
-

3. Review Risk Ranking

4. Next Steps

- a. Identify problems and problem areas
 - b. Develop mitigation actions
 - c. Submit the HMP for review
-

5. Questions



Wyoming County

Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)

Risk Ranking Score – Countywide

Hazard of Concern	Prob.	Pop.	Built Env.	Econ.	Adapt Cap.	Future Cond.	Risk Ranking Value
Flooding	3	3	2	2	2	3	6.3
Severe Storms	3	3	3	1	1	2	6.2
Severe Winter Storms	3	3	3	1	1	2	6.2
Earthquake	1	3	3	1	1	1	5.5
Epidemic	2	3	1	2	1	2	5.0
Utility Failure	3	2	2	2	1	2	5.0
Water Supply Contamination	3	2	1	1	2	3	4.5
Fire	3	2	1	1	1	1	4.0
Hazardous Materials Incidents	3	3	2	2	1	1	4.0
Transportation Accidents	3	1	1	1	1	1	3.1

Notes:

Prob. = Probability

Pop. = Impact on the Population (higher numbers reflect a higher percentage of the population being at risk)

Built Env. = Impact on the built environment (higher numbers reflect a higher percentage of the property value in the county being at risk)

Econ. = Impact on the Economy (higher numbers reflect higher loss estimates)

Adapt. Cap. = Adaptive Capacity (higher numbers reflect less capability to address hazard impacts)

Future Cond. = Impact of future conditions on the hazard (higher numbers indicate higher future risk from the hazard)

To update the actions and initiatives for your mitigation strategy, please consider the questions below. Suggested actions will be developed based on an analysis of Wyoming County's needs and capabilities, or will be carried over from the previous hazard mitigation plan (HMP) update based on the responses given in Worksheet 4. Some questions may not apply to your municipality.

1. Which properties in your jurisdiction are most at-risk to flood events and would have the greatest need for retrofitting or other flood hazard mitigation measures? Specific property addresses do not need to be listed (to ensure residential privacy), but names of streets or neighborhoods can be included.

2. What public outreach and education actions would you be most interested in implementing? Circle all that apply.
 - A. Provide general hazard risk preparedness and mitigation and related National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) information in regular newsletters and mailings.
 - B. Provide hazard risk and risk reduction information through social media channels and e-mail blast systems.
 - C. Post flyers and other readily available NFIP informational materials at the municipal hall or distribute at regular civic meetings.
 - D. Develop and maintain a hazard risk management webpage on the municipal website where information and mapping can be posted.
 - E. Encourage private business owners and managers of infrastructure that provide critical services in post-disaster situations to develop Continuity of Operations Plans or Business Continuity Plans.
 - F. Enhance public outreach to residents in NFIP floodplain areas, which may include distributing periodic articles and including handouts in the annual newsletter, to inform them of annual grant opportunities.
 - G. Other:

3. Which critical facilities still need or would benefit from a backup generator or redundant power supply?

4. Which intersections or road corridors are your "trouble spots" for traffic accidents?

