

Sussex County, NJ – Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025 Update
Planning Partnership Mitigation Strategy Workshop | Meeting Minutes



Purpose of Meeting:	Planning Partnership Mitigation Strategy Workshop	
Location of Meeting:	Sussex County Emergency Operations Center (135 Morris Turnpike Newton, NJ 07860)	
Date of Meeting:	May 8, 2024 @ 10:00 A.M.	
Attendees:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sussex County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Steven Sugar, OEM Deputy Coordinator ○ James Aumick, OEM Deputy Coordinator ○ Michael Strada, Sussex County Sheriff ○ Eric Muller, OEM Deputy Coordinator • Andover (Twp) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chief Eric Danielson, OEM Coordinator • Branchville (B) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jeff Lewis, OEM Coordinator • Byram (Twp) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Phil Crosson, Deputy Township Manager ○ Mike Orgera, Public Works Superintendent • Frankford (Twp) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jeff Lewis, OEM Coordinator • Hamburg (B) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Keith Sukennikoff, OEM Coordinator • Hampton (Twp) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jessica M. Caruso, Township Administrator ○ Edward Hayes, OEM Coordinator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montague (Twp) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jesse Brace-Revak, OEM Coordinator • Newton (T) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dan Finkle, OEM Coordinator • Sparta (Twp) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Richard Bartlett, Deputy OEM Coordinator • Stillwater (Twp) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lisa Chamings, Mayor/OEM Coordinator • Wantage (Twp) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Joe Konopinski, OEM Coordinator • Tetra Tech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chris Huch, Project Manager ○ Jessica Stokes, Lead Planner
Agenda Summary:	The purpose of the meeting was to describe the contains within the mitigation strategy, provide an opportunity for jurisdictions to review their previous mitigation actions, complete outstanding worksheets with assistance from Tetra Tech planners, discuss what makes a good mitigation action, and identify potential 2025 mitigation actions.	
Item No.	Description	Action item(s):
1	Introductions	-
2	Project Status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tetra Tech provided an overview on the status of the project, including the anticipated timeline. 	-
2	Identifying and Developing Mitigation Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mitigation Strategy is the County's roadmap to reduce the risk of hazards identified in the HMP. The strategy is based on hazard impacts, asset vulnerability, and the County's capabilities. • Mitigation Actions are specific activities, such as policies, projects, and studies, that stakeholders identify to reduce risk. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forward-looking and incorporate changing conditions for the life of the County's assets ○ Consider changing demographics, development patterns, impacts of climate change. ○ Examples of actions may include elevating electrical and HVAC equipment to reduce the likelihood of damage from floodwaters or planting trees to lower temperatures exacerbated by pavement. • What is a Mitigation Strategy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A group of projects or actions to reduce the impacts of the hazards of concern on your community 	-

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans and Regulations Structure and Infrastructure Studies and Projects Natural Systems Protection Studies and Projects Education and Awareness Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terms to describe the <u>Mitigation Strategy</u> include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation Action Plan or Action Plan Mitigation Projects or Initiatives or Actions Need a clear connection between vulnerabilities identified in the risk assessment and proposed mitigation actions. The capability assessment can provide insight into challenges and opportunities for the mitigation strategy. All actions proposed in the mitigation strategy must have a factual basis tied to the results of the risk and capability assessments (<i>this shouldn't be a wish list!</i>) 	
3	Review Previous Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the mitigation actions your jurisdiction identified in the previous HMP by providing a brief status narrative. Begin by providing the status headings below and then add details (what has been accomplished, what funding was used, anything holding back progress): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IN PROGRESS: Started but not complete ONGOING CAPABILITY: An action you now complete on a regular basis (maintenance, annual outreach, etc.). These actions will be included in your capabilities moving forward. NO PROGRESS: Not started COMPLETE: Finished! Actions that are COMPLETE or ONGOING will not be carried forward. 	Planning Partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete outstanding worksheets and submit to Grace Altenburg.
4	Developing New Potential Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality not quantity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each action needs detailed information on the why, who, what, and when of the action. 2021 projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a project is not finished and still a priority, include in 2025 HMP Remove general projects or make more specific Remove ongoing capabilities like maintenance or annual outreach Each hazard needs at least one mitigation action If your jurisdiction has Repetitive Loss Properties - an action is needed to mitigate the properties (elevation or acquisition) with specifics (street or neighborhood names, not specific addresses) Four types of Mitigation Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans and regulations Structure and Infrastructure Natural systems protection Education and awareness 	-
5	Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share information about the HMP Update via social media, community groups, and networks Submit all outstanding worksheets to Tetra Tech 	-
6	Questions/Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No questions 	-