

## CHAPTER VI – EXISTING HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAMS

The next step involves identifying existing mitigation strategies for the hazards likely to affect the town and evaluating their effectiveness. This section outlines those programs and recommends improvements and changes to these programs to ensure the highest quality emergency service possible.

**Table 7: Existing Hazard Mitigation Programs for the Town of Newington**

Existing Protection	Area Covered	Responsible Local Agent	Effectiveness (Poor, Avg., Good)	Recommended Changes-Actions-Comments
2018 Zoning Ordinance	Town-wide	Code Enforcement Officer	Good	Reviewed annually and updated as needed, contains wetland, floodplain, and stormwater regulations
2018 Subdivision Regulations and Site Plan Review Regulations	Town-wide	Planning Board/Town Planner	Good	Reviewed annually and updated as needed.
2010 Master Plan	Town-wide	Planning Board	Good	Update underway
2009 Capital Improvement Program	Town-wide	Planning Board	Average	Update needed
2018 Building Codes	Town-wide	Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer	Good	The code is in line with state and federal standards.
2017 Vulnerability Assessment	Town-wide	Planning Board/Board of Selectmen	Good	Identifies infrastructure, buildings, and natural resources threatened by sea-level rise and storm surge
2015 Emergency Operations Plan	Town-wide	EMD	Good	Updates as needed
Emergency Services: Police Department	Town-wide	Police Chief	Good	Local and regional training are required for all emergency service personnel
Emergency Services: Fire Department	Town-wide	Fire Chief	Good	Local and regional training are required for all emergency service personnel
Emergency Services: EMS	Town-wide	EMD/Fire Chief	Good	Service needs reviewed as needed
Emergency Services: EOC	Town-wide	EMD	Average	Located in second floor of police station

<b>Existing Protection</b>	<b>Area Covered</b>	<b>Responsible Local Agent</b>	<b>Effectiveness (Poor, Avg., Good)</b>	<b>Recommended Changes-Actions-Comments</b>
Police and Fire Mutual Aid Agreements	Town-wide	Police Chief and Fire Chief	Good	Participates in Seacoast Chiefs and other regional mutual aid agreements
Shelter Plan	Town-wide	EMD	Good	Updated 2012
Public Works	Town-wide	Highway Manager	Good	Responsible for town stormwater infrastructure, tree maintenance in town ROW
Tree Trimming Program	Town-wide	Highway Manager	Good	DPW works with utilities to identify and remove hazard trees
State of NH Reverse 911	Town-wide	EMD	Good	Reviewed annually to insure system works.
Public Alerts, Outreach and Education	Town-wide	EMD, Town Department Heads/ Elementary School	Good	Information is shared in an effective and timely manner via Town and School websites, social media channels, and Town newsletter; EMD maintains phone list of elderly residents and others that may need assistance

## CHAPTER VII – MITIGATION ACTIONS

The Action Plan was developed by analyzing the existing Town programs, the proposed improvements and changes to these programs. Additional programs were also identified as potential mitigation strategies. These potential mitigation strategies were ranked in five categories according to how they accomplished each item:

- Prevention
- Property Protection
- Structural Protection
- Emergency Services
- Public Information and Involvement

**Table 8: List of Hazard Mitigation Strategies or Actions Developed by the Natural Hazard Mitigation Committee**

Mitigation Strategies or Action	Mitigation Category	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Description	Status 2019: New/Completed/Deferred /Removed
Repair Mott’s Pond Dam	Prevention, Property Protection	Flooding	Dam repair to mitigate flooding and prevent dam breach	Completed
Fire Suppression/Water Supply in Historic District	Emergency Services	All Hazards: Flooding, Hurricane/High Wind/Severe Winter Weather/Earthquake/Drought /Coastal Storm/Storm Surge	Ensure adequate water supply to historic district	Completed
Investigate becoming a “Fire Wise Community”	Emergency Services/Prevention	Wildfire	Fire Wise program designed to increase awareness about fire risk	Removed
Bank Stabilization at Town Marina	Structural Protection /Prevention	Flooding	Stabilize bank to reduce shoreline erosion	Removed
Replace culvert on Patterson Lane	Structural Protection	Flooding	Reduce road flooding	Deferred

<b>Mitigation Strategies or Action</b>	<b>Mitigation Category</b>	<b>Hazard(s) Mitigated</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status 2019: New/Completed/Deferred /Removed</b>
Evaluate impact and assess vulnerabilities on facilities, infrastructure, and natural resources related to sea level rise and storm surge	Prevention/Public Information and Involvement/Property Protection	Flooding/Sea-Level Rise and Coastal Storm Surge	An assessment of the Town's vulnerability to climate change and sea-level rise would improve hazard mitigation planning.	Completed
Evaluate stormwater systems and ensure proper functionality, especially around Fox Run Mall, in order to prepare for MSR water quality requirements	Prevention/Structural Protection	Flooding	Large portions of Newington are located within the designated MS4 permit area. The Town will be responsible to insure stormwater conveyed to town owned/maintained and operated stormwater infrastructure meets MS4 requirements and is treated prior to outtake to surface waters	Deferred Town has received MS4 waiver
Off-shore oil spill protection emergency response team	Prevention	All Hazards: Flooding, Hurricane/High Wind/Severe Winter Weather/Earthquake/Drought /Coastal Storm/Storm Surge	Continue to evaluate and incorporate effective equipment training initiatives for responding to an oil spill in the Piscataqua River	Completed
Review EOC effectiveness including the wireless computer capabilities, table top drills, and telecommunications	Prevention/ Emergency Services All Hazards: Flooding, Hurricane/Hig	All Hazards: Flooding, Hurricane/High Wind/Severe Winter Weather/Earthquake/Drought /Coastal Storm/Storm Surge	Ensure the EOC operates efficiently during emergency operations	Completed
Insert cisterns or fire ponds near the Public Works Building	Prevention	All Hazards: Flooding, Hurricane/High Wind/Severe Winter Weather/Earthquake/Drought /Coastal Storm/Storm Surge	Ensure there is a water source near the Public Works building	Remove

<b>Mitigation Strategies or Action</b>	<b>Mitigation Category</b>	<b>Hazard(s) Mitigated</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Status 2019: New/Completed/Deferred /Removed</b>
Provide residents with information on water conservation during periods of drought via Town social media channels and newsletter	Public Information and Involvement	Drought	Drought threatens public and private drinking water supplies and fire suppression	New
Purchase and use portable, electronic road sign to post information on hazard mitigation and emergency preparedness techniques	Public Information and Involvement/ Emergency Services	All Hazards: Flooding, Hurricane/High Wind/Severe Winter Weather/Earthquake/Drought /Coastal Storm/Storm Surge	Using a portable, electronic sign to announce hazard mitigation and emergency preparedness information can increase town hazard mitigation efforts	New
Develop plan for sharing Town-owned resources between Town departments	Emergency Services	All Hazards: Flooding, Hurricane/High Wind/Severe Winter Weather/Earthquake/Drought /Coastal Storm/Storm Surge	Access to Town-owned equipment by all departments would enable efficient use of Town resources during periods of emergency response	New
Work with the City of Portsmouth to upgrade water supply serving Little Bay Road, Nimble Hill Road, and Newington Road for fire suppression and domestic water use	Prevention/ Structural Protection	All Hazards: Flooding, Hurricane/High Wind/Severe Winter Weather/Earthquake/Drought /Coastal Storm/Storm Surge	Water infrastructure improvements are needed to improve water flow for fire suppression and for residential use	New

## CHAPTER VIII - FEASIBILITY AND PRIORITIZATION OF PROPOSED MITIGATION STRATEGIES

The goal of each strategy or action is reduction or prevention of damage from a hazard event. To determine their effectiveness in accomplishing this goal, a set of criteria was applied to each proposed strategy. A set of questions developed by the Committee that included the STAPLEE method was developed to rank the proposed mitigation actions. The STAPLEE method analyzes the Social, Technical, Administrative, Political, Legal, Economic and Environmental aspects of a project and is commonly used by public administration officials and planners for making planning decisions. The following questions were asked about the proposed mitigation strategies identified in Table 5:

- Does it reduce disaster damage?
- Does it contribute to other goals?
- Does it benefit the environment?
- Does it meet regulations?
- Will historic structures be saved or protected?
- Does it help achieve other community goals?
- Could it be implemented quickly?

### **STAPLEE criteria:**

**Social:** Is the proposed strategy socially acceptable to the community? Are there equity issues involved that would mean that one segment of the community is treated unfairly?

**Technical:** Will the proposed strategy work? Will it create more problems than it solves?

**Administrative:** Can the community implement the strategy? Is there someone to coordinate and lead the effort?

**Political:** Is the strategy politically acceptable? Is there public support both to implement and to maintain the project?

**Legal:** Is the community authorized to implement the proposed strategy? Is there a clear legal basis or precedent for this activity?

**Economic:** What are the costs and benefits of this strategy? Does the cost seem reasonable for the size of the problem and the likely benefits?

**Environmental:** How will the strategy impact the environment? Will the strategy need environmental regulatory approvals?

Each proposed mitigation strategy was evaluated using the above criteria and assigned a score (Good = 3, Average = 2, Poor = 1) based on the above criteria. An evaluation chart with total scores for each strategy can be found in the collection of individual tables under Tables 6.

**Table 9a: Replace culvert at Patterson Lane**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Score</b>
Does it reduce disaster damage?	2
Does it contribute to other goals?	3
Does it benefit the environment?	2
Does it meet regulations?	2
Will historic structures be saved or protected?	1
Does it help achieve other community goals?	3
Could it be implemented quickly?	2
<b>S:</b> Is it Socially acceptable?	2
<b>T:</b> Is it Technically feasible and potentially successful?	3
<b>A:</b> Is it Administratively workable?	3
<b>P:</b> Is it Politically acceptable?	3
<b>L:</b> Is there Legal authority to implement?	3
<b>E:</b> Is it Economically beneficial?	3
<b>E:</b> Are other Environmental approvals required?	1
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>33</b>

**Table 9b: Evaluate stormwater systems in Newington**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Score</b>
Does it reduce disaster damage?	3
Does it contribute to other goals?	3
Does it benefit the environment?	3
Does it meet regulations?	3
Will historic structures be saved or protected?	2
Does it help achieve other community goals?	3
Could it be implemented quickly?	1
<b>S:</b> Is it Socially acceptable?	2
<b>T:</b> Is it Technically feasible and potentially successful?	3
<b>A:</b> Is it Administratively workable?	2
<b>P:</b> Is it Politically acceptable?	2
<b>L:</b> Is there Legal authority to implement?	3
<b>E:</b> Is it Economically beneficial?	2
<b>E:</b> Are other Environmental approvals required?	1
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>33</b>

**Table 9c: Provide residents with information on water conservation during periods of drought**

Criteria	Score
Does it reduce disaster damage?	3
Does it contribute to other goals?	3
Does it benefit the environment?	3
Does it meet regulations?	3
Will historic structures be saved or protected?	2
Does it help achieve other community goals?	2
Could it be implemented quickly?	3
<b>S:</b> Is it Socially acceptable?	2
<b>T:</b> Is it Technically feasible and potentially successful?	3
<b>A:</b> Is it Administratively workable?	3
<b>P:</b> Is it Politically acceptable?	3
<b>L:</b> Is there Legal authority to implement?	3
<b>E:</b> Is it Economically beneficial?	3
<b>E:</b> Are other Environmental approvals required?	3
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>39</b>

**Table 9d: Use portable electronic road sign to post hazard mitigation information and emergency preparedness techniques**

Criteria	Score
Does it reduce disaster damage?	2
Does it contribute to other goals?	2
Does it benefit the environment?	1
Does it meet regulations?	3
Will historic structures be saved or protected?	1
Does it help achieve other community goals?	3
Could it be implemented quickly?	1
<b>S:</b> Is it Socially acceptable?	2
<b>T:</b> Is it Technically feasible and potentially successful?	2
<b>A:</b> Is it Administratively workable?	1
<b>P:</b> Is it Politically acceptable?	2
<b>L:</b> Is there Legal authority to implement?	2
<b>E:</b> Is it Economically beneficial?	1
<b>E:</b> Are other Environmental approvals required?	3
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>26</b>

**Table 9e: Develop plan for sharing Town-owned resources between Town departments**

Criteria	Score
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Does it reduce disaster damage?	3
Does it contribute to other goals?	2
Does it benefit the environment?	2
Does it meet regulations?	1
Will historic structures be saved or protected?	2
Does it help achieve other community goals?	2
Could it be implemented quickly?	2
<b>S:</b> Is it Socially acceptable?	3
<b>T:</b> Is it Technically feasible and potentially successful?	3
<b>A:</b> Is it Administratively workable?	3
<b>P:</b> Is it Politically acceptable?	2
<b>L:</b> Is there Legal authority to implement?	3
<b>E:</b> Is it Economically beneficial?	3
<b>E:</b> Are other Environmental approvals required?	3
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>34</b>

**Table 9f: Work with City of Portsmouth to upgrade water supply**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Score</b>
Does it reduce disaster damage?	3
Does it contribute to other goals?	3
Does it benefit the environment?	2
Does it meet regulations?	3
Will historic structures be saved or protected?	3
Does it help achieve other community goals?	2
Could it be implemented quickly?	1
<b>S:</b> Is it Socially acceptable?	2
<b>T:</b> Is it Technically feasible and potentially successful?	3
<b>A:</b> Is it Administratively workable?	2
<b>P:</b> Is it Politically acceptable?	2
<b>L:</b> Is there Legal authority to implement?	2
<b>E:</b> Is it Economically beneficial?	1
<b>E:</b> Are other Environmental approvals required?	2
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>31</b>

**CHAPTER IX - IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE FOR PRIORITY MITIGATION STRATEGIES**

This step involves developing an action plan that outlines who is responsible for implementing each of the prioritized strategies determined in the previous step, as well as when and how the actions will be implemented. The following questions were asked to develop an implementation schedule for the identified priority mitigation strategies:

**WHO?** Who will lead the implementation efforts? Who will put together funding requests and applications?

**HOW?** How will the community fund these projects? How will the community implement these projects? What resources will be needed to implement these projects?

**WHEN?** When will these actions be implemented, and in what order?

Table 10 is the Action Plan, and includes the responsible party (WHO), how the project will be supported (HOW), and what the timeframe is for implementation of the project (WHEN). Also included is a cost estimate for each project if available.

**Table 10: Action Plan for Proposed Mitigation Actions**

<b>STAPLEE Score</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Responsibility/ Oversight</b>	<b>Funding/ Support</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Time frame</b>
39	Provide residents with information on water conservation during periods of drought	Town Administration	Town	\$0	Short term One year or less
34	Develop plan for sharing Town-owned resources between Town departments	EMD	Town	\$0	Short term One year or less
33	Replace Patterson Road culvert	Highway Dept.	Town/EMPG	Unknown	Medium term 2-3 years
33	Evaluate stormwater systems in Newington	Planning Dept.	Town/DES	Unknown	Long term 3-5 years
31	Work with City of Portsmouth to upgrade water supply	Selectmen/City of Portsmouth	Town/DES	Unknown	Long term 3-5 years
26	Use portable electronic sign to post hazard mitigation information	Police Dept.	Town/EMPG	\$25,000	Medium term 2-3 years