

Montgomery County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan



INSERT CAPTION FOR PHOTO (Date 3.2.2018)

Hazard mitigation planning is a proactive effort to identify actions a community can take to reduce the dangers to life and property from natural hazard events such as flooding, severe winter weather, hurricanes and tornadoes. In the communities of the central region of New York, hazard mitigation planning tends to focus most on severe winter weather and flooding, the most likely natural hazards to impact these communities.

The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) of 2000 requires all municipalities that wish to be eligible to receive Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding for hazard mitigation grants adopt a local multi-hazard mitigation plan and update this plan in five-year intervals. FEMA defines a Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) as the documentation of a state or local government evaluation of natural hazards and the strategies to mitigate such hazards. Montgomery County received a \$60,000 Federal FEMA grant through the New York State Department of Homeland Security and Environmental Services (NYS DHSES) to update its 2016 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The multi-jurisdictional all hazards Mitigation Plan for Montgomery County is designed to meet the requirements of the DMA.

Montgomery County's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

The HMP identifies critical community assets and evaluates the risk from natural hazard at these locations. The plan also includes a process to develop and prioritize mitigation strategies to address the hazards impacting the community. The planning process includes updating data, maps, tables, and mitigation goals and strategies from the 2016 Hazard Mitigation Plan for the required 2023 5-year update. The update incorporates information from the 2019 New York State Hazard Mitigation Plan (NYS HMP) to address all-natural hazard risk and vulnerability assessments including future impacts due to climate change. Montgomery County recognizes climate change as a factor that will affect weather patterns, flooding extent, habitat, and species distribution, and ultimately impact the ability to recover from disaster and risk to the citizens.

Several notable changes to the 5-year update will include:

- Revised goals and objectives for Hazard Mitigation Planning
- Expansion of natural hazard risk to include climate change
- Addition of environmental and societal community assets vulnerable to identified hazards
- Expanded public participation through involvement of Environmental Justice Communities and Stakeholders
- Clearly defined and systematically prioritized mitigation strategies and actions

A resiliency vision for Montgomery County includes empowering the residents, neighboring communities and City/Village/Town Leaders to make near, mid- and long-term changes that will reduce future climate change impacts, protect its vital community assets, and adapt to changes already occurring. The mitigation actions included in the 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan will complement and support this resiliency vision.

Below is link to the Arc GIS platform and public survey:

Our consultants have developed a cloud-based platform for viewing community assets and other data layers in each jurisdiction and for the County as a whole. If you would like to add a community asset that is not included for your community, you can add by using the simple form at the bottom right corner of the tool.

Arc GIS Community Asset Tool:

<https://tigebond.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/0ed356381c0a4f8c8f66c5802f9ff93e>

We have also developed a survey of natural hazards risks for each community. To take the survey, go here:

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FJ7LZ93>