

Kick-off Meeting Agenda – February 3, 2010

Introduction:

- B&L
- DMA-2000 requirements

Current Plan

- Background on the current Plan
- 2004, update 2005 Plan
- A few items from the Plan that stand out

Our Approach

Organize to Plan: Develop the planning process

- Kick-off Meeting
- Public Participation Process

Risk Assessment; Hazard Analysis & Vulnerability Assessment

- Develop interview tool
- Revisit hazard rankings
- Discuss existing hazards, new occurrences of existing hazards, and any new hazards
- Discuss actions the County has already taken
- Inventory community assets
- Assess vulnerability
- Prepare revised map

Mitigation Strategy Development

- Assess progress towards previously defined goals
- Establish Revised Goals
- Assess Appropriate Mitigation Measures
- Prepare Mitigation Action Plan

Evaluation & Maintenance of the Plan

- Set schedule for monitoring and update for the 5 year cycle
- Process for continued public involvement

Plan Review, Revision, Approval & Adoption

- First draft
- Public review
- Revisions
- Submit to SEMO
- SEMO submits Plan to FEMA
- Revisions to the Plan, as required

Schedule

- Highly compressed
- Draft Plan was to be ready by 2/15
- Final plan to County by & SEMO by 4/21
- Final Plan to FEMA by 5/21



Hazard Mitigation Plan Kickoff Meeting, February 3, 2010.

Attendees:

Luiz Aragon, Sullivan County Planning Commissioner
Tom Bose, Town of Callicoon Supervisor
Thomas J. Brawley, Town of Thompson Code Enforcement Officer
William Culligan, Town of Thompson Water and Sewer Superintendent
Walter Fedun, Village of Monticello Code Enforcement Officer
Sue Flora, Village of Monticello Code Enforcement Officer
Allen Frishman, Town of Fallsburg & Village of Woodridge Code Enforcement Officer
Howard Fuchs, Town of Delaware Code Enforcement Officer
James Galligan, Town of Forestburgh Supervisor
BJ Gettel, Town of Bethel Code Enforcement Officer
Glenn Gidaly, Barton and Loguidice
James Greier, Town of Fremont Supervisor
Margaret Harrison, Town of Tusten Supervisor
Daniel S. Hogue, Jr., Town of Forestburgh Highway Superintendent
William Jakaitis, Town of Fallsburg Highway Superintendent
Gordon Jenkins, Village of Monticello Mayor
Richard Johnson, Jr., Town of Mamakating Highway Superintendent
Preston Kelly, Town of Neversink Highway Superintendent
Jennifer Mall, Sullivan County Planning Division
Dick Martinkovic, Sullivan County Public Safety Commissioner
Ed McAndrew, Sullivan County Deputy Commissioner of Public Works
Pete Parks, Village of Liberty Highway Superintendent
John Perrella, Town of Neversink Code Enforcement Officer
Nadia Rajsz, Town of Lumberland Supervisor
Jim Scheutzow, Town of Delaware Supervisor
Kris Scullion, Town of Callicoon Highway Superintendent
Gregg Semenetz, Town of Cochection Code Enforcement Officer
David Sparling, Town of Tusten Code Enforcement Officer
James Steinberg, Village of Monticello Highway Superintendent
Norman Sutherland, Town of Highland Highway Superintendent
Robert Trotta, Sullivan County Division of Public Works
Mark Van Etten, Town of Liberty Code Enforcement Officer
Richard Winters, Village of Liberty Mayor

Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Steering Committee Meeting, Feb. 17, 2010

Present:

TJ Brawley
Allen Frishman
BJ Gettel
Ted Hartling
Kara McEloy
John Perrella
Nadia Rajs
Kris Scullion
Bob Theadore
Pam Winters
Bob Trotta
Dick Martinkovic
Mark Van Etten
Jennifer Mall
Glenn Gidal

Glenn Gidal: Good morning. We drafted up an agenda, and many of the items require your input. First, a question for Jennifer: Would you like to comment the appointment of representatives to the committee by the supervisors and mayors?

Jennifer Mall: Most of the towns have indicated that they have designated a representative. Some are formally appointing representatives via resolution of the Town Boards. I've been calling the municipalities who weren't represented at the kickoff meeting, to encourage them to appoint a representative and come out today. Today there are a couple of towns that couldn't send someone out because of the weather—their folks are out working on the roads.

Glenn: Thanks. I have a draft questionnaire to be sent out. The idea is to get some input, not only from people on the committee, but to others as well. I would like to get your input on other forums for distributing this questionnaire. It's designed to gauge people's perceptions of hazard mitigation, where they get their information related to hazard mitigation, issues about their homes, and other issues. Because you're all here now, please take a couple of minutes to look at the questionnaire and give me your feedback.

Glenn: Any suggestions or concerns? I want to make sure you're comfortable with the way it reads before we talk about distributing it.

Q: How many of these questionnaires would you like to get back?

Glenn: The plan can be updated without conducting the questionnaire at all, but we want as much information as possible. So it would be nice to have 100 of them returned.

Discussion of ways to disseminate the questionnaire:

*Copies at the Town and Village Halls

*Email to committee members, to distribute to town planning and zoning board members and others

*Post on municipal websites

*Mention in municipal newsletters

*Post on the County website

*Fire Chiefs, Fire Commissioners

Each fire department

*Sullivan Renaissance Winter Exposition

*Pat Michel's (School Superintendent) firehouse chats regarding the new school budget. There is one on February 24th at the White Lake Firehouse. These meetings can draw large crowds, and you can ask people to fill out the questionnaires and leave them at the door when they exit.

Glenn: I will email Pat today and ask his permission to distribute the questionnaires there.

BJ Gettel: I will be there, so I can take copies and collect the completed questionnaires.

Glenn: We would like to have these returned by March 31st at the latest. On our original schedule, the draft plan was scheduled to be submitted by February 15th, and the final plan submitted by May 21st. So we need to get them turned in as soon as possible.

Comment: The 2005 plan is a good document, but most residents don't know it exists. The 2005 plan is now on the Sullivan County website, so we hope people will take a look at it.

Glenn: To increase public awareness, we will put the questionnaire on the County website, and email it to all steering committee members. We will also post a press release on the County website.

Glenn: Are there any comments on the content and layout of the survey?

Comment: Regarding question 4B: "Did your real estate agent or landlord inform you that a natural hazard risk zone was present before you purchased or moved into your home?" I don't think most people know they're in a flood zone when they buy a home. They might come on a summer day, when the river is low, and never think about what could happen during a storm event.

Glenn: Right, and I think people often do not know what type of soil their home sits on. I don't know whether NYS law requires that real estate agents disclose information about flood zones to prospective purchasers.

Glenn: Next, there's a sheet on declared disasters since 2000. Please take a look and see what you think about the amounts of money that are listed for each event. Some of these events were included in the 2005 plan, but others have occurred since.

Q: The 10/1/04 event is described as a tropical depression. What does this mean?

Dick Martinkovic: There was a storm that broke off a hurricane, and became a tropical depression. The National Weather Service calls such events tropical depressions or tropical storms. All of our storms since the 2004-05 plan have been related to rain and flooding. Everything has been related to water, and water that never used to happen. In Livingston Manor, Roscoe, and Shandalee, roads washed out that they never thought would wash out. The streams and brooks couldn't take that amount of rain in a short amount of time. The Delaware River and Neversink Dam remained intact, but the issue is with the smaller streams—the Callicoon Creek in particular. The Town of Delaware almost lost their highway facility twice. The claims that are listed here come from the PALs (public assistance liaisons) from SEMO, who came down and walked the sites with town officials. They then made awards. Had we not had a mitigation plan in place, a lot of the monetary relief would not have happened. If I were a town official, I would take a look at flooding and rainstorms, and see where my 2004 plan put me, and ratchet that up closer to the top. A few towns listed wildfire as a

hazard, but we really don't have wildfire the way the western states do. Flooding and rainstorms are our biggest issue. We are also due for an ice storm. The National Weather Service says we are due for an ice storm creating 2 to 3 inches of ice. This will knock out power lines, knock down trees, and make roads impassable.

Glenn: We also included a list of significant flood events since 2000. Some of these numbers may be inaccurate, but they come from what we could find on the internet. In terms of the plan update, as Dick said, most of the events since 2004 have been related to water. So please take a moment to look that over. Any comments?

No comments.

Glenn: Regarding our discussion of re-ranking hazards, I spoke with Gene Lucchese at SEMO about the HAZNY analysis. This is where you go through each of the hazards and rank and rate them. It's a computerized program. He gave me a couple of dates when he is available to come in and do the HAZNY with us. Which of the suggested dates is best for you?

Discussion.

March 9th at 2:00 pm is good for all members.

Glenn: Okay, I will confirm that with Gene today.

Q: Where will we do this?

A: Here in the Legislative Hearing Room if we can secure it. We will let you know as soon as possible.

Glenn: I wanted to mention this January 12th article from the Sullivan County Democrat. It discusses the County's program for purchasing properties that are in flooded areas. Does anyone know how that's going?

Dick: This was money secured by Sen. Bonacic for helping families who have continually had flooding issues. The property has to be a residence, and I believe there is an income requirement. We initially had about 40 applications, some of which had to be denied, for example, because they contained apartments or commercial spaces. Roughly 12 properties went through the process all the way to closing. The stipulation from the State was that the building must be destroyed, and the land restored and left vacant. Some parcels are near streams, so we're talking to the municipalities to see if they are interested in taking them over for recreation. Most of the properties, but not all, are in the floodplain. For example, on the Island in Jeffersonville, there are four properties that have been purchased. Perhaps those properties could be managed for recreation. The municipalities won't want to make a big investment in these properties, though, because they will most likely flood again. There's a property in Youngsville, which the fire department would like to use as parking.

Glenn: Who would have the list of the properties?

Dick: The Grants office would have all the information.

Glenn: Do you know if we spent all of the available money on the twelve properties?

Dick: No. Each county got a different amount.

Glenn: Also in this article, Army Corps of Engineers and other County and Soil and Water projects are mentioned.

Dick: Right. Those are different programs.

Glenn: The good thing about all of this is that it shows that the County is taking action to mitigate future flooding problems.

Dick: Yes, and we're using funds from a state agency. The Town of Rockland did a buyout program, but they got stuck with their properties—they had to pay the costs of demolition, and now they can't sell or dispose of the parcels.

Ted Hartling: inaudible

Dick: Yes, the County wants to dispose of the properties. Delaware County went through the same thing. It left a bad taste for them.

Glenn: Do you have a contact at the Army Corps?

Bob Trotta: I can get you the contact information.

More discussion, inaudible.

Jennifer : The planning office also has information on the Army Corps work on the East Branch.

Dick: We've been trying to be proactive. But of those forty original flood buyout properties, there were some people who could have sold, but when we told them what their property was worth according to an independent appraiser, they could not have bought another home for that amount of money. Many properties were appraised at less than \$100,000. If FEMA keeps coming in and giving people money for repairs, they won't leave.

More discussion, inaudible.

Glenn: Does anyone have other questions? If you've filled out the questionnaire, we can take it from you. Also, we are compiling the information from the checklists that you filled out at the kickoff meeting.

I will contact Gene about doing the HAZNY on March 9th at 2:00.

We will email all of you the questionnaire, and put it on the County website.

Thank you.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee Meeting, 3-9-10.

TJ Brawley
Charlie Hallock
Ted Hartling
Daniel Hendrickson
Dave Kuebler
Kara McElroy
Gregg Semenetz
Bob Theadore
Bob Trotta
Pam Winters
Dick Martinkovic
John Perrella
Jennifer Mall
Glenn Gidaly
Eugene Lucchese
Charles Fallon
Dave Sparling
Norman Sutherland
Walter Fedun

Discussion of our HMP update and the FEMA flood map updates:

If you disagree with the new flood insurance rate maps, we should indicate this in our plan. For example, if the new BFEs in a particular location are lower than you think they should be, based on your expertise and observations, then homes just above that elevation could be at risk. We need to identify those locations and potential hazards in our plan.

Today's task is to complete SEMO's HAZNY analysis. Gene Lucchese is here to take us through the process. See the attached Hazard Analysis Worksheet and List of Hazards.

First, look at the worksheet and check hazards that we have faced in the past or that you think are possible in the future. Then rank them, with #1 being the greatest hazard. Look at the List of Hazards for the definitions—SEMO might define a particular hazard differently than you do.

Next, we will look at several aspects (scope, frequency, onset, impact and duration) of each hazard. For example:

Hazard:	Severe Storm
Scope:	Could affect entire region Highly likely to cause other hazards (including dam failure, explosion, fire, flood, food shortage, fuel shortage, hazmat-- fixed site and in transit, landslide, oil spill, radiological—in transit, structural collapse, transportation accident, utility failure, wildfire, and water supply contamination).
Frequency:	Frequent (greater than once a year)
Impact:	Serious injury or death is unlikely Severe impact to private property Moderate damage to infrastructure

Onset: Several days warning

Duration: Less than one day

Once inactive, emergency operations and services continue for 1 to 2 days

Based on all of the above, the HAZNY software determined that a severe storm gets a moderately high hazard ranking for us.

We continued this analysis for several other hazards, including flood, earthquake, hurricane, winter storm, terrorism, and others.

FEMA requires that we consider earthquakes and hurricanes in our plan. Although they are infrequent in our area, they are extremely costly.

HAZNY gives us a starting point for a hazard analysis. Once we have the hazards ranked and prioritized, we can talk about vulnerability and how to prepare.

Attached please find the HAZNY report that we generated at this meeting, as well as a listing of possible mitigation measures for each hazard.