

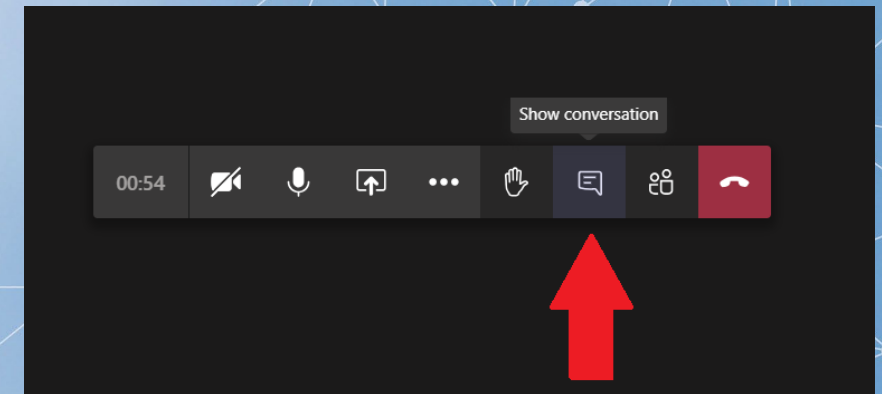
# Herkimer County, New York Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2023 Update

Mitigation Strategy Workshop | April 24, 2023

## ***WELCOME!***

*If you are attending the webinar on your computer, please add your name, title, and organization(s) to the chat box.*

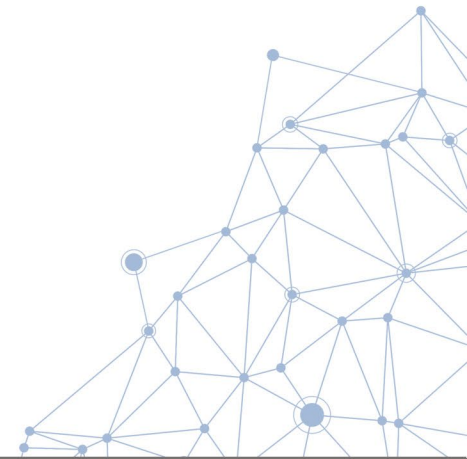
*This will assist in our attendance documentation.*





# Agenda

1. Introductions
2. In-Kind Tracking Reminder
3. Hazard Mitigation Refresher
4. Project Status
5. Developing Mitigation Strategies – NYS DHSES, FEMA
6. Updating Previous Actions
7. Using Mitigation Development Worksheets to Select Your Actions
8. Next Steps

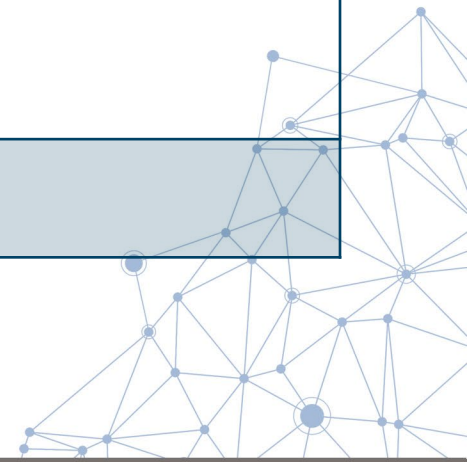




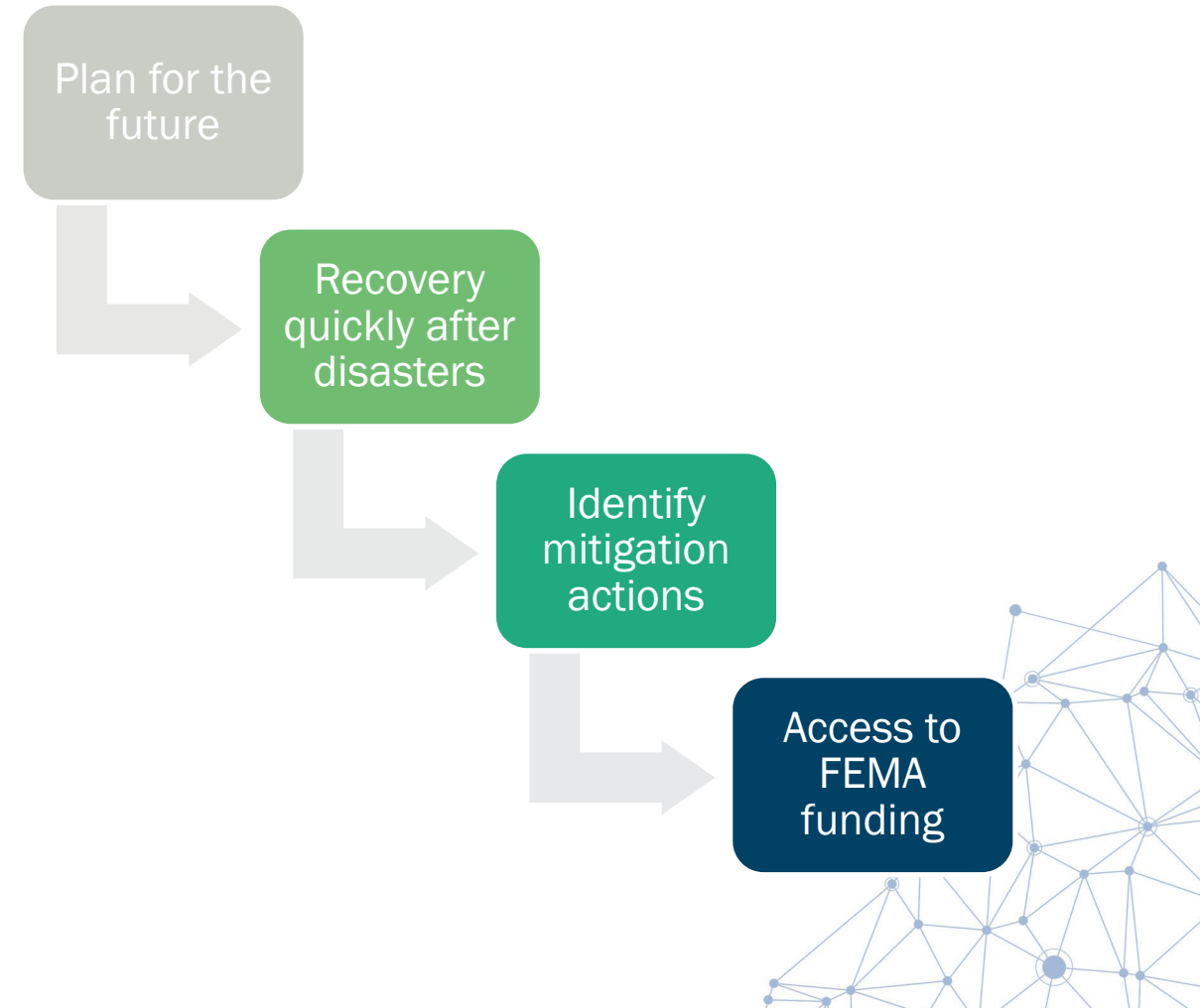
# In-Kind Services Tracking

- Submit form to John Raymond at [jraymond@herkimercounty.org](mailto:jraymond@herkimercounty.org)

Name of Team Member: _____							
Correspondence Type	Meeting Name, Municipality	Date	Start Time	End Time	# of Hours	Agenda/Sign In?	Notes (include meeting topic, how HMP was discussed, etc.)
Meeting	Chiefs and Fire Advisory Board Meeting					Yes - sign-in	Discussed the HMP update
Meeting	Town of ?? Board Meeting						Discussed the HMP update
Phone Call	Town of ??phone call					No	Spoke with the Town about the HMP process and their responsibilities in participating
Meeting	Town of ?? Board Meeting					Yes - agenda	



# Hazard Mitigation – What is it?



# Why are we spending valuable time on this?

## Hazard Mitigation Works!

- For every \$1 spent on hazard mitigation, saves the U.S. \$6 in future disaster costs!
- More than just money – it could prevent 600 deaths and 1 million non-fatal injuries!

### More Mitigation Measures, More Savings



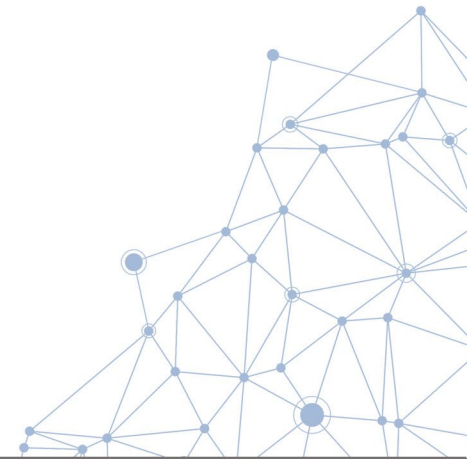
**One dollar invested in mitigation =  
six dollars U.S. saves in future costs**





# Project Schedule Review

- |   |                         |  |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| ✓ | September 26, 2022      | Municipal Kick-Off Meeting                           |
| ✓ | October – December      | Data Collection                                      |
| ✓ | January 2023 – February | Update hazard profiles                               |
| ✓ | February 21, 2023       | Risk Assessment Presentation to Steering Committee   |
| ✓ | February 27, 2023       | Risk Assessment Presentation to Planning Partnership |
| ✓ | April 24, 2023 – TODAY! | Mitigation Strategy Workshop                         |
| ☐ | June 2023               | Review draft plan                                    |
| ☐ | August/September 2023   | Submit plan to NYSDHSES and FEMA                     |





# Progress

- Requested NFIP Data – *Received today.*
- GIS Data Collection - *Complete*
- Critical Facility Survey for Municipal Input – *Complete*
- HMP website, HMP Fact Sheet, Citizen Survey, Agency Surveys – *Input collected*
- County-Level/Regional Plan Collection – *Complete*

Communities *with general or risk ranking\* worksheets* pending:

- Cold Brook (V)\*
- Columbia (T)\*
- Dolgeville (V)\*
- Frankfort (V)
- German Flatts (T)
- Herkimer (V)\*
- Ilion (V)\*
- Litchfield (T)\*
- Little Falls (C)\*
- Manheim (T)\*
- Middleville (V)
- Mohawk (V)
- Newport (V)\*
- Norway (T)\*
- Ohio (T)\*
- Poland (V)\*
- Russia (T)
- Salisbury (T)
- Schuyler (T)\*
- Stark (V)\*
- Warren (T)
- West Winfield (V)
- Winfield (T)

\* = **Only Risk Ranking Worksheet is not submitted.**







# Public and Stakeholder Outreach

- HMP website is updated with current information.

<https://www.herkimercountynyhmp.com/>

- Social Media
- Public Survey
- Stakeholder Survey
- Neighboring County Outreach
  - Notified of planning process
  - Survey

**Herkimer County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update**

Home About What is Mitigation Meetings Calendar Explore the Plan Additional Information

## Herkimer County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

The goal of the project is to save lives and property through the reduction of hazard vulnerability for the entire county. During the course of this planning project, county and local leaders and the community will work in tandem to identify risks, assess capabilities, and formulate a strategy to reduce disaster vulnerability.

Welcome to the Herkimer County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Website. This website provides project updates, resources, and links to hazard mitigation in support of the HMP update.

Public participation and feedback is a vital part of the hazard mitigation planning process. The Herkimer County Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee has developed a Mitigation Survey to assist in providing the public an outlet to contribute to the Herkimer County HMP update. This survey will be used to develop portions of the HMP. Click here to access and complete the public survey. Thank you for participating in this important initiative by providing us with your anonymous survey contribution.

Keep checking back regularly for information on upcoming events, to take our public survey, and to review and comment on the draft plan. If you would like to get in touch with the project team, please use the following contact information:

**Project Contacts:**  
John J. Raymond, Director  
Herkimer County Emergency Services  
jraymond@herkimercounty.org

Cynthia Addonizio-Bianco, Project Manager  
Tetra Tech, Inc.  
cynthia.bianco@tetrattech.com

**HERKIMER COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE**  
**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Grants & Funding Plan & Prepare Mitigate

**CLICK HERE TO TAKE THE PUBLIC SURVEY AND HELP US UPDATE THE HERKIMER COUNTY HMP**





# Public Outreach and Engagement

- Check out the HMP website – <https://www.herkimercountynyhmp.com/>
- Post links on social media and department/agency websites
- Citizen, stakeholder and neighboring county survey responses as of 4/24/23:
  - Citizen Survey: 33 responses
  - Stakeholder Survey: 4 responses
  - Neighboring County Survey: 1 response
  - *All responses relating to your jurisdiction will be included in your updated Annex for review.*



# Mitigation Strategy





# 2023 HMP Hazards of Concern

- Dam Failure
- Disease Outbreak
- Drought
- Extreme Temperatures
- Flood
- Invasive Species
- Severe Storm (thunderstorm, hail, wind, tornado, hurricane/tropical storm, and Nor'Easter)
- Severe Winter Storm
- Wildfire

*A community must include at least one mitigation action for each hazard that is deemed to have a significant impact on the community.*

*For hazards with minimal or no perceived impact to a community, a statement must be included in the annex to indicate why the community has not address any hazards with a mitigation action.*



# Risk Reduction Examples

## To Reduce Risk:

- **Manipulate the Hazard:**
  - Structural flood control
- **Reduce/Eliminate Exposure:**
  - Property acquisition
- **Reduce Vulnerability:**
  - Retrofit existing structures
- **Increase Capability:**
  - Preparation, technical assistance, planning, enforcement





# Using your Mitigation Strategy to Reduce Risk

- What is a *Mitigation Strategy*?
  - A group of projects or actions to reduce the impacts of the hazards of concern on your community
- Terms to describe the *Mitigation Strategy* include:
  - *Mitigation Action Plan or Action Plan*
  - *Mitigation Projects or Initiatives or Actions*

Your Mitigation Strategy table is included in your annex of the plan. **ONE** action is required for each identified Hazard of Concern in your community.





# FEMA Mitigation Action Types



**Plans and regulations** include government authorities, policies, or codes that encourage risk reduction, such as building codes and state planning regulations. This may also include planning studies.



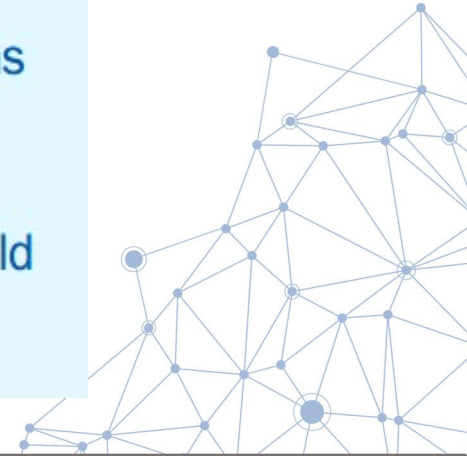
**Structure and infrastructure projects** involve modifying existing structures and infrastructure or constructing new structures to reduce the impact of hazards.



**Natural systems protection projects** minimize losses while also preserving or restoring the function of natural systems.



**Education and awareness programs** include long-term, sustained programs to inform and educate citizens and stakeholders about hazards and mitigation options. This category could also include training.

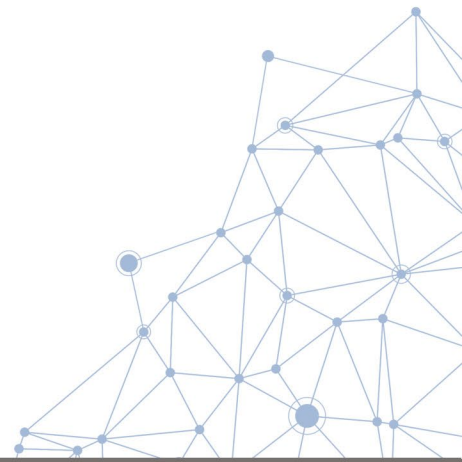






# NYS Requirements for Mitigation Strategy Update

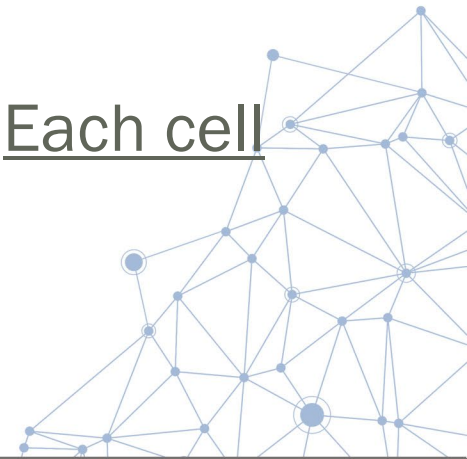
- If jurisdiction has a regulatory floodplain, then one worksheet must address flooding
  - [if the jurisdiction has Repetitive and Severe Repetitive Loss Properties - it is good practice to include action with details (street or neighborhood names)]
- Critical facilities in the 100-year floodplain – must be protected to the 500-year flood event
  - If already protected, we must note how
  - If not protected, a mitigation action must be developed
- Plan for Climate Change and propose actions to address





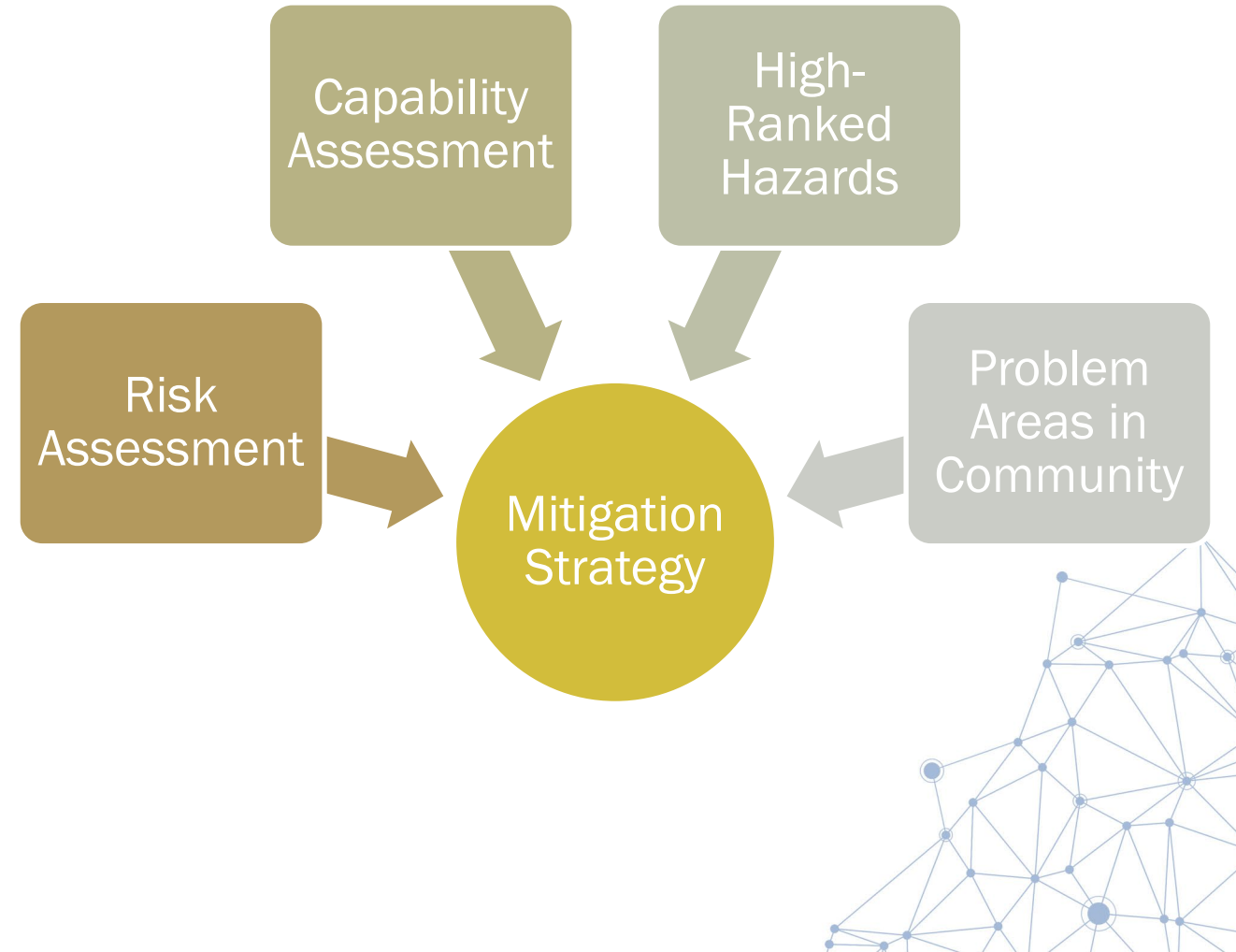
# NYS Requirements for Mitigation Strategy Update

- Proposed actions MUST have specific information identified including:
  - Project lead
  - Estimated cost
  - Timeline
  - Whether the action involves a critical facility
- All required items are identified within the proposed action table. Each cell of the table MUST be filled out!



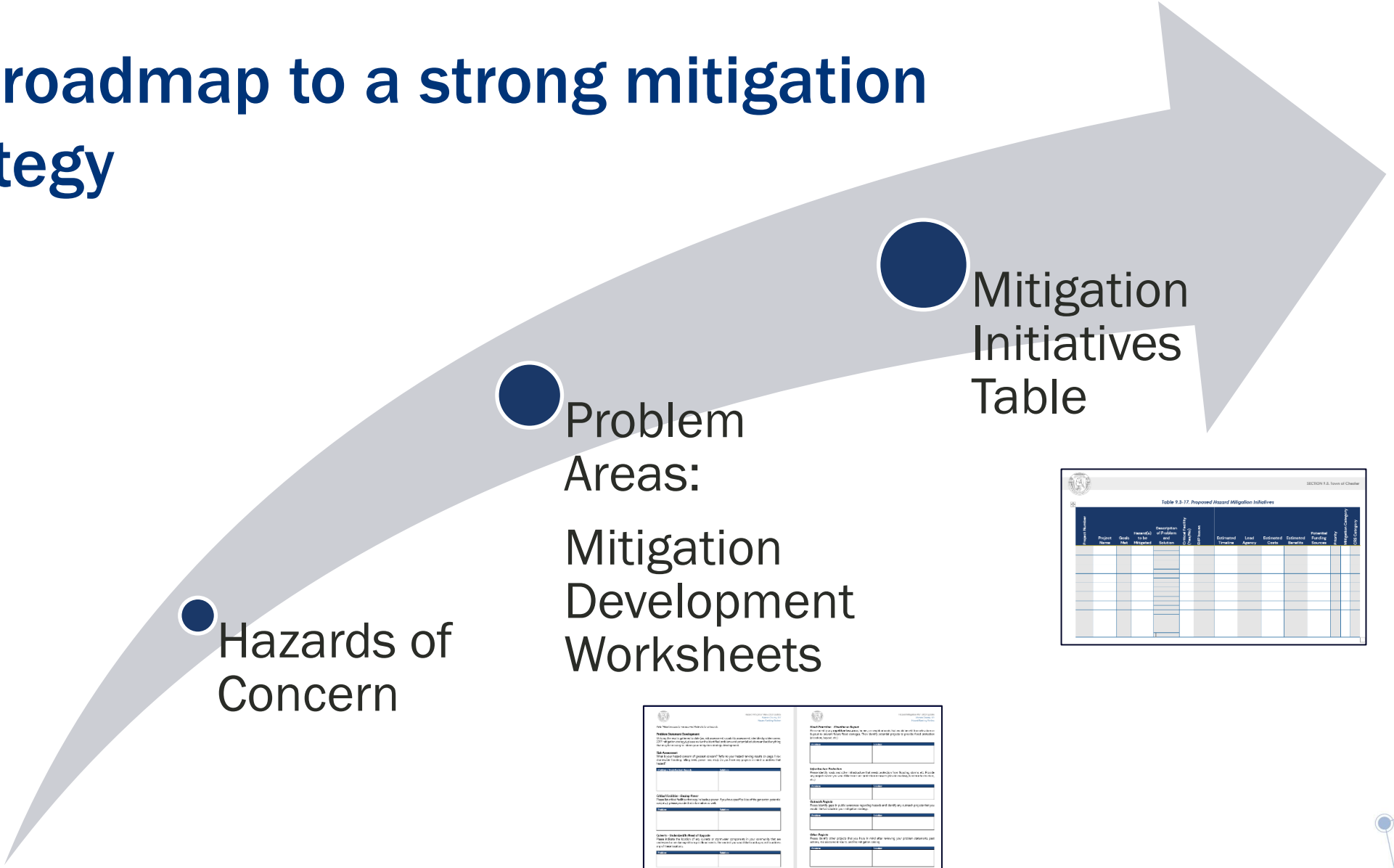
# Connecting to the Mitigation Strategy

- Need a clear connection between vulnerability and proposed mitigation actions.
- Capability assessment provides insight into challenges/opportunities for the mitigation strategy as well.
- Provides the factual basis for activities proposed in the mitigation strategy.





# The roadmap to a strong mitigation strategy



Hazards of Concern

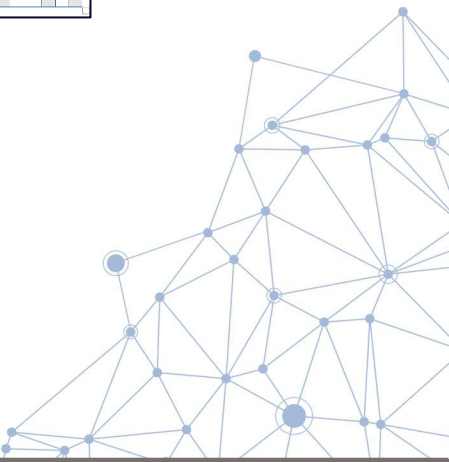
Problem Areas:  
Mitigation Development Worksheets

Mitigation Initiatives Table

Project Number	Project Name	County	Description of Problem and Solution	Potential Impacts	Potential Funding Sources

**Hazard Mitigation Worksheet**

**Mitigation Development Worksheet**



# Mitigation Development Worksheet

- ✓ *This is part of your risk ranking worksheet.*
- ✓ Information provided will provide a basis for identifying mitigation projects to increase community safety and resilience during your meeting with Tetra Tech to develop your mitigation strategy
- ✓ Next steps:
  - ✓ *Schedule your annex meeting with your assigned Tetra Tech planner indicated in the email provided this week.*
  - ✓ *Complete the risk ranking worksheet and return to Tetra Tech before your annex meeting.*

# Use Your Risk Ranking/Action Development Worksheet to Identify Mitigation Actions



Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update  
Herkimer County, NY  
Hazard Ranking Review

## Problem Statement Development

Utilizing the results gathered to date (i.e., risk assessment, capability assessment, identified problem areas, 2017 mitigation strategy), please review the identified problems and potential solutions and add anything that may be missing to inform your mitigation strategy development.

## Risk Assessment

What is your hazard concern of greatest concern? Refer to your hazard ranking results on page 1 (ex: stormwater flooding, falling trees, power loss, etc.). Do you have any projects in mind to address that hazard?

Problem / High-Ranked Hazards	Solution
<b>Flood</b>	<b>German St &amp; Church St. bridge projects.</b>

## Critical Facilities - Backup Power

Please list critical facilities that require backup power. If you have specifics (size of the generator, potential cost, etc.), please provide that information as well.

Problem	Solution
<b>Public Safety: Fire Dept. &amp; Police Dept. currently has a generator to keep communication and facilities running</b>	

## Culverts - Undersized/In Need of Upgrade

Please indicate the location of any culverts or stormwater components in your community that are undersized or are damaged from past flood events. Then note if you would like to add a project to address any of these locations.

Problem	Solution
<b>W. German &amp; Church St. Bridge</b>	<b>Project has been engineered Village is seeking additional funding.</b>



Hazard Mitigation Plan 2023 Update  
Herkimer County, NY  
Hazard Ranking Review

## Flood Protection – Elevation or Buyout

Please identify any **repetitive loss areas**, homes, or neighborhoods that would benefit from elevation or buyout to prevent future flood damages. Then identify potential projects to provide flood protection (elevation, buyout, etc.)

Problem	Solution
<b>North North/West &amp; South/West areas of the Village</b>	

## Infrastructure Protection

Please identify roads and other infrastructure that needs protection from flooding, storms, etc. Provide any projects where you would like to include protection measures (elevate roadway, harden infrastructure, etc.)

Problem	Solution
<b>Main entry/exit points for the Village</b>	<b>Storm drainage work</b>

## Outreach Projects

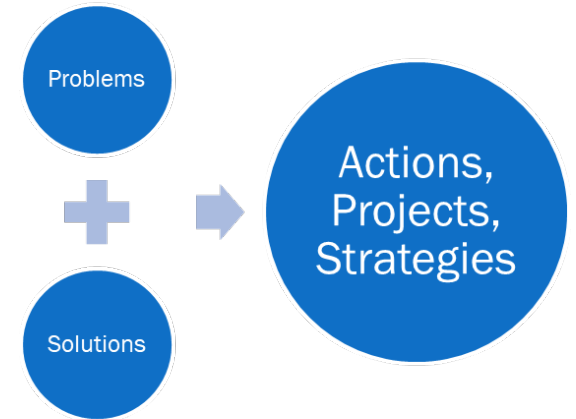
Please identify gaps in public awareness regarding hazards and identify any outreach projects that you would like to include in your mitigation strategy.

Problem	Solution
<b>Dissemination of emergency information to the public</b>	<b>LED signage at Village, Police &amp; Fire Station complex.</b>

## Other Projects

Please identify other projects that you have in mind after reviewing your problem statements, past actions, risk assessment results, and the mitigation catalog.

Problem	Solution





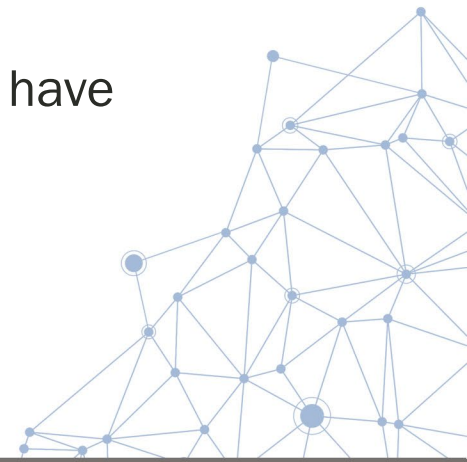


# How do you fill in the Worksheet?

If you have not filled out and sent in your worksheet, do that before you schedule your annex meeting with your Tetra Tech planner.

The worksheet asks a series of questions to help you think about vulnerabilities within your community.

- Critical Facilities/Lifelines – backup power
- Critical Facilities/Lifelines – flood protection
- Culverts – undersized/in need of upgrades
- Flood Protection – elevations/buyouts; think about the RL/SRL properties – if you have RL/SRLs you need an action related to this
- Infrastructure Protection – what needs protection from flooding, storms, etc.?
- Anything else?

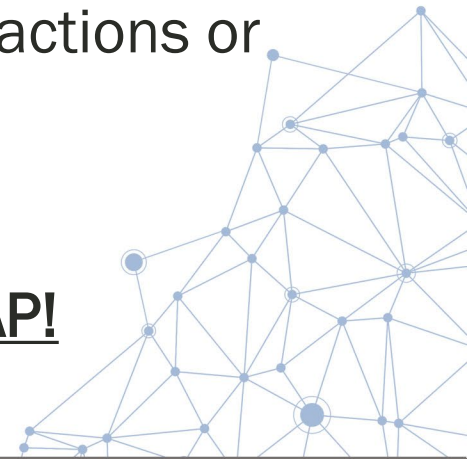




# How do you use the Worksheet?

- Review the information on your worksheet
  - Identified problems and problem areas
  - Critical facilities in need of back-up power
  - Input from public/stakeholder surveys
  - Risk assessment results
- Add as much detail as possible to the problems and develop detailed solutions
- Your Tetra Tech planner will use this to assist in developing mitigation actions or projects during your annex development meeting

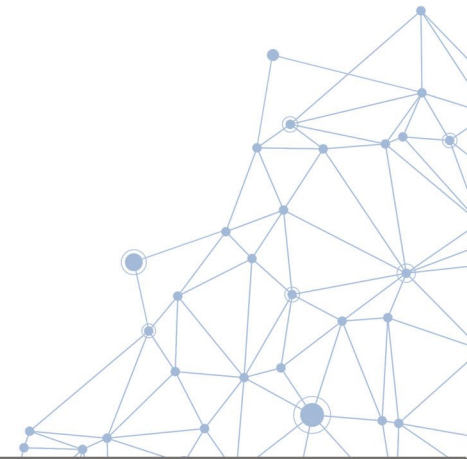
**Schedule your annex meeting with your Tetra Tech planner ASAP!**





# What are we focusing on for our mitigation strategy?

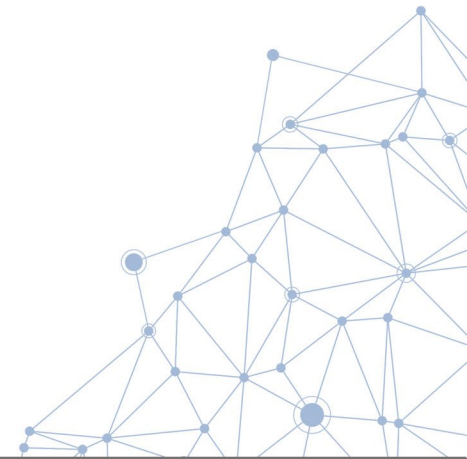
- **Stronger connection between the risk assessment and mitigation strategy**
  - At least one action is needed to address each hazard of concern
- **More specific actions**
  - Specific projects, in specific locations, in a specific timeframe
- **Diverse actions**
  - Include a variety in the types of actions





# Update the Mitigation Strategy

- Review our Goals and Objectives
- Start with Problems (many identified on your Worksheets)
  - Areas that have been impacted by hazard events
  - Recurring issues
  - Critical/Lifeline facilities in the floodplain
  - RL/SRL properties need mitigating
  - Evacuation routes and sheltering needs

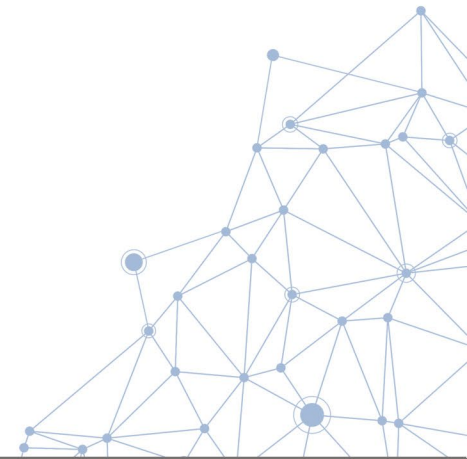




# Update the Mitigation Strategy

- Identify New Mitigation Actions/Projects
- Modify 'Carry-Over' projects from the previous HMP -more specific or address different aspect of original problem

## Quality Over Quantity!!



# Making Previous Actions More Specific

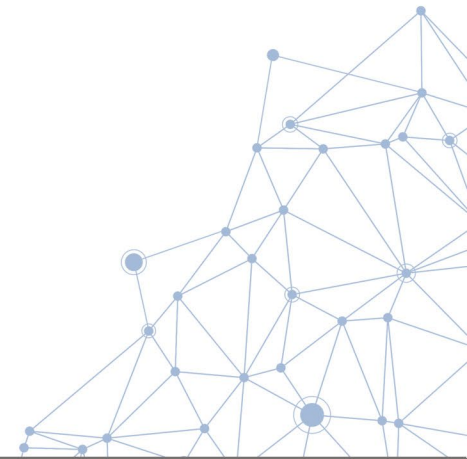






# Why we must update our actions...

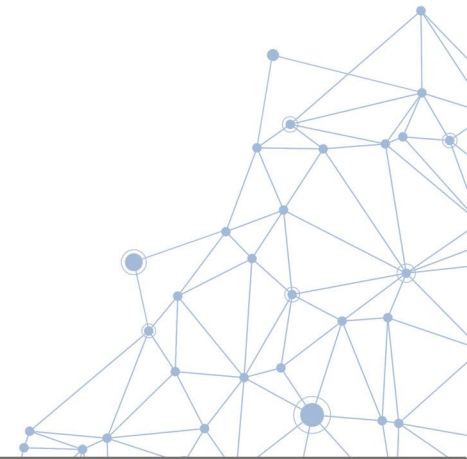
- Actions in the previous plan often were general and did not include detailed information.
- Detailed information is needed to support FEMA grant applications for funding support.
- Focus on updating previous actions to include the necessary level of detailed information.
- If detailed information is not available, note a phase in the action that will gather this information such as an engineering study or feasibility assessment.
- Use the same level of detail for new actions as well!





# Example: Previous problem and action

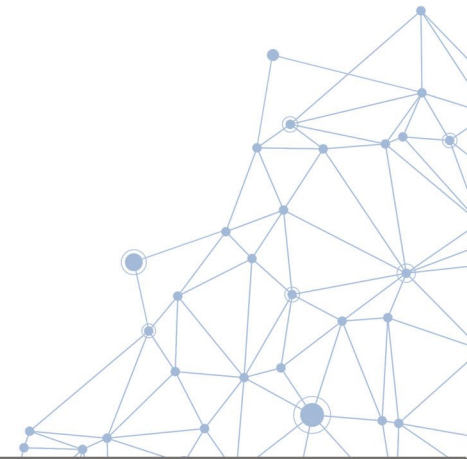
- **Problem:** Critical facilities require backup power.
- **Solution:** Acquire backup power for critical facilities.





## Example: Improved problem and action

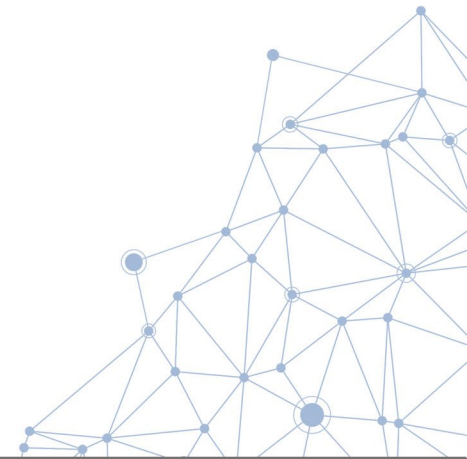
- **Problem:** Town Hall lacks a backup power source. The Town Hall houses the Emergency Operations Center and also can serve as a backup shelter. Lack of power results in a breakdown of continuity of operations and prevents the Town Hall from providing critical services during a hazard event.
- **Solution:** The Town Engineer will work with the Office of Emergency Management to research and purchase the appropriately sized backup generator for the Town Hall. The Town DPW will install the backup generator and necessary electrical components and will be responsible for testing and upkeep of the generator after installation.





# Example: EVEN MORE Improved problem and action

- **Problem:** Town Hall lacks a backup power source. The Town Hall houses the Emergency Operations Center and also can serve as a backup shelter **for approximately 100 people**. Lack of power results in a breakdown of continuity of operations and prevents the Town Hall from providing critical services during a hazard event.
- **Solution:** The Town Engineer will work with the Office of Emergency Management to research and purchase **a 75 kW** generator for the Town Hall. The Town DPW will install the backup generator **on the roof of the Town Hall** and necessary electrical components and will be responsible for testing and upkeep of the generator after installation.



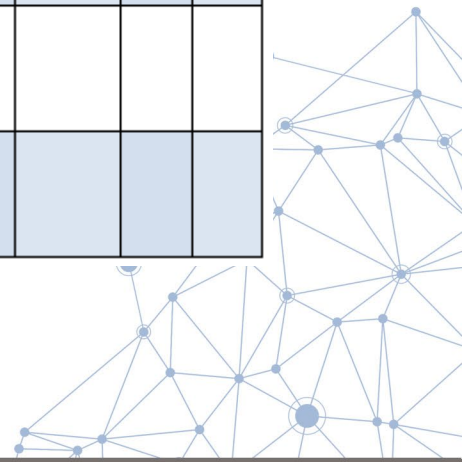
# Proposed Action Table





# Proposed Action Table

Project Number	Project Name	Goals Met	Hazard(s) to be Mitigated	Description of Problem and Solution	Critical Facility (Yes/No)	EHP Issues	Estimated Timeline	Lead Agency	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources	Priority	Mitigation Category	CRS Category
2020-Muni-001				Problem:										
				Solution:										
2020-Muni-002				Problem:										
				Solution:										
2020-Muni-003				Problem:										
				Solution:										
2020-Muni-004				Problem:										
				Solution:										
2020-Muni-005				Problem:										
				Solution:										







# Evaluation of Actions

- Consider the benefits and costs
- Consider the implementation timeline
- Consider the areas/problems of greatest need
- Consider the funding sources
- High/Medium/Low priority

**1** = highlight effective or feasible

**0** = neutral

**-1** = ineffective or not feasible

Evaluation and Prioritization		
Project Name:		
Project Number:		
Criteria	Numeric Rank (-1, 0, 1)	Provide brief rationale for numeric rank when appropriate
Life Safety		
Property Protection		
Cost-Effectiveness		
Technical		
Political		
Legal		
Fiscal		
Environmental		
Social		
Administrative		
Multi-Hazard		
Timeline		
Agency Champion		
Other Community Objectives		
Total		
Priority (High/Med/Low)		



# Important Actions

- **Municipalities with high hazard potential dams with a condition rating of unsafe or unsound** should include an action to address the deficiencies, using the High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) grant program for funding.
- **Municipalities with repetitive loss properties** need to include an action to address repetitive loss (elevation and/or acquisition).

**High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Worksheet**  
A job aid for Municipalities Preparing /Amending Mitigation Plans<sup>1</sup>  
Complete a Separate Worksheet for each<sup>2</sup> state regulated HHPD in your community.

Name of the Mitigation Plan:	Point of Contact for this Worksheet Name:
	Email:
Municipality where dam is located:	Name of Dam:
Name of the Dam Owner:	NYS Dam ID #:

Dams are critical infrastructure that can be impacted by natural hazards and if they fail to operate as designed, there could be cascading consequences downstream in the inundation area and potentially to a larger area if the use of the pooled reservoir is lost or diminished.

This worksheet, when completed, will:

1. Describe the process followed for assessing the risks to /from the identified high hazard potential dam located in the municipality.
2. Describe the risks to the dam from natural hazards, and from the dam should it fail to operate as designed.
3. Describe the mitigation plan goal that covers addressing the vulnerabilities to/from HHPDs.
4. Describe one or more planned mitigation actions / projects related to a high hazard potential dam, be it with a HHPD grant or other FEMA hazard mitigation grant programs.

This worksheet is designed to be placed in the annex of the municipality with jurisdiction over the area where the dam is located. Use of this worksheet will ensure no HHPD requirement has been overlooked for the dam being assessed. Completing worksheets for each of the HHPDs in the municipality will allow FEMA to quickly confirm the municipality has a hazard mitigation plan that included all dam risks.

It is highly recommended that when the dam owner is another municipality, the worksheet should also be added to the other municipality's mitigation plan. Doing so will ensure the other municipality meets Element B1-a and C4-b for approval of their mitigation plan under the Stafford Act requirements.

General or generic discussion of high hazard dams and their risks is welcomed content in a mitigation plan. However, it is not a substitute meeting HHPD requirements 1 thru 4, as covered by this worksheet.

<sup>1</sup> Source: Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide (pages 34-35 and 57), Released April 19, 2022

<sup>2</sup> This change, to include all state regulated HHPDs, per the Policy Guide went into effect with the release of the release of the Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dams Grant Program Fiscal Year 2022 Notice of Funding Opportunity.

1



# Schedule

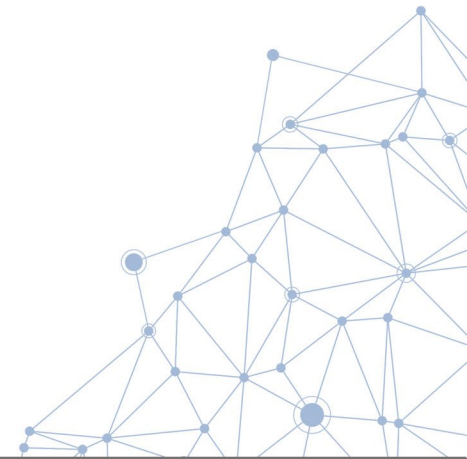
- Complete Mitigation Development Worksheet and Schedule Meeting with your Tetra Tech Planner before May 27th
- Work with Tetra Tech Planner to Complete Actions and Annex following meeting
- Draft Plan to Steering Committee by middle of May
- Final draft plan to NYS DHSES and FEMA – August/September 2023



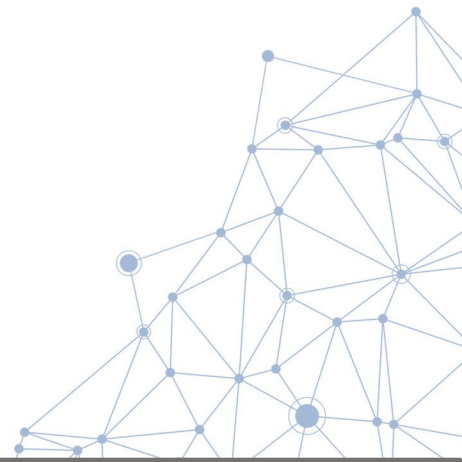


# Next Steps

- Continue Public Involvement
  - Update elected officials and public on municipal website and at community meetings
- Mitigation Strategy
  - Develop mitigation strategy/actions: April to May 2023



# Questions?





## Herkimer County Emergency Services Project Contacts

John J. Raymond, Director  
[jraymond@herkimercounty.org](mailto:jraymond@herkimercounty.org)

Robert Vandawalker,  
[rvandawalker@herkimercounty.org](mailto:rvandawalker@herkimercounty.org)

## Tetra Tech Project Contacts

Cynthia Addonizio-Bianco, Project Manager  
(973) 630-8044 | [cynthia.bianco@tetrattech.com](mailto:cynthia.bianco@tetrattech.com)

Erika Corsi, Planner  
(973) 630-8031 | [erika.corsi@tetrattech.com](mailto:erika.corsi@tetrattech.com)

Heather Apgar, CFM, Lead Planner  
(973) 630-8046 | [heather.apgar@tetrattech.com](mailto:heather.apgar@tetrattech.com)

Jessica Stokes, Planner  
973-630-8017 | [jessica.stokes@tetrattech.com](mailto:jessica.stokes@tetrattech.com)  
Emily Vassallo, Planner  
(717) 545-3580 | [Emily.Vassallo@tetrattech.com](mailto:Emily.Vassallo@tetrattech.com)

Thank  
You!