



# MEETING NOTES

<b>Meeting</b>	Dauphin County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Steering Committee Meeting		
<b>Date</b>	March 15, 2021	<b>Time</b>	9:05 – 10:05 a.m.
<b>Location</b>	Webinar		
<b>Attendees</b>	Chris Fisher, Manager – Office of Emergency Management, Dauphin County Department of Public Safety		
	Andy Megonnell, Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Training Specialist, Dauphin County Department of Public Safety		
	Lexi Passaro, Planning Specialist - Office of Emergency Management, Dauphin County DPS		
	Bob Stout, Emergency Management Specialist - Office of Emergency Management, Dauphin County DPS; Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), Halifax Borough and Halifax Township		
	Doug Brown, Deputy Director, Dauphin County Department of Community and Economic Development		
	Eric Naguski, Manager, Dauphin County Conservation District		
	Andrew Woodring, IT Security Administrator, Dauphin County Office of Information Technology		
	Gerard Duke, Dauphin County Planning Coordinator, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC)		
	Brian Enterline, Fire Chief and Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), City of Harrisburg		
	Joe Ritchey, Risk Manager, Capital Region Water		
	Bob Rusbatch, EMC, Dauphin Borough and Middle Paxton Township		
	Jon Bogush, Director of Emergency Preparedness and Purchasing, Homeland Center and Homeland Hospice		
	Jay Robertson, EMA Coordinator, South Hanover Township		
	Bill Bradfield, National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Program Manager, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)		
	Ernie Szabo, State Hazard Mitigation Planner, PEMA		
Alan Margraf, Director of Facilities Operation, Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE)			
Tony Subbio, Project Manager, Tetra Tech, Inc.			

## Discussion Points

This section summarizes each discussion point addressed during the Steering Committee Meeting.

### Welcome

Ms. Passaro welcomed attendees to the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves.

### Status Update and New Timeline

Mr. Subbio reviewed the list of worksheets received from each municipality. There are 27 municipalities that still need to provide worksheets, though 20 municipalities have provided at least one completed worksheet. Mr. Subbio stated that the Department of Public Safety’s intern would



# MEETING NOTES

be reaching out to the 27 municipalities to solicit the completed worksheets and/or collect relevant information from municipal officials for incorporation into the planning process in lieu of the worksheets.

Mr. Subbio then reviewed the updated timeline for completion of the plan. Mitigation Strategy Workshops have been scheduled for March 24, 2021. Mitigation actions will be due to Mr. Subbio or Ms. Passaro by April 9, 2021.

To meet the county's deadline of having the plan receive "approvable pending adoption" status in July 2021, the draft plan must be completed by the end of April 2021 to allow time for public, PEMA, and FEMA review. Mr. Szabo stated that PEMA's review could take as little as a few days. He also stated that FEMA's goal is to have plans reviewed within 45 days, but several of FEMA Region III's planners have been deployed to disaster sites, so the review may take longer.

## Plan Maintenance Section

The Steering Committee approved the draft of Section 7 (Plan Maintenance) that was distributed to members on February 16, 2021. Mr. Subbio will post the section to the project website.

## Nuclear Incidents Hazard Profile

With the closure of the Three Mile Island Nuclear Generating Station (TMI), the Steering Committee elected to remove nuclear incidents as a hazard of concern.

## Goals and Objectives

Mr. Subbio reviewed the set of goals and objectives from the existing HMP and provided information on the feedback received by Planning Team members regarding those goals and objectives. He discussed the set of suggested goals and objectives for the 2021 HMP. The following points were discussed during the review of the goals and objectives:

- Mr. Rusbatch reported that residents are concerned about the risk of dam failures in the county.
- Mr. Stout stated that the county and municipalities need to educate residents and others about the risks they face and the SCTF Alert notification system.
- Mr. Szabo pointed out that municipalities can enhance their floodplain management ordinances to regulate areas that are not mapped in the special flood hazard area (SFHA) by FEMA. Regulating areas outside the SFHA would help prevent impacts from stormwater flooding.
- The Steering Committee elected to keep an objective related to supporting mapping of the Lower Susquehanna-Penns and Lower Susquehanna-Swatara Watersheds.
- Existing Goal 4 and its objectives will remain in the plan. There was not clear support for removing them.
- Mr. Subbio stated that integration of hazard mitigation into other community programs would be described in Section 4.4 (*correction: integration will be addressed in Section 5, not Section 4.4*) and would be reflected by specific mitigation actions.



# MEETING NOTES

- Ms. Passaro requested that protecting historic and cultural resources be specifically addressed in the objectives.

## Next Steps

- The intern at the Department of Public Safety will reach out the municipalities, beginning with those that had not yet participated in the planning process.
- A pair of Mitigation Strategy Workshops will be conducted on March 24, 2021.
- Municipalities and other Planning Team members will provide information on mitigation actions by April 9, 2021.

The meeting adjourned at 10.05 a.m.



# AGENDA

## DAUPHIN COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE Steering Committee Meeting

Monday, March 15, 2021 | 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

---

### 1. Welcome

---

### 2. Status Update and New Timeline

- a. Worksheet Status Handout
- b. Intern outreach
- c. Mitigation Strategy Workshops – March 24, 2021
- d. Deadline for actions – April 9, 2021
- e. Draft complete – April 30, 2021

---

### 3. Plan Maintenance Section

- a. Distributed via email on February 16, 2021

---

### 4. Nuclear Incidents Hazard Profile

---

### 5. Goals and Objectives

---

### 6. Next Steps

- a. Mitigation Strategy Workshops
- b. Action Identification

---

### 7. Questions

---



Worksheet Completion Status

Municipality	Hazard Evaluation Survey	Capability Assessment Survey	Mitigation Strategy Survey	NFIP Survey
Dauphin County	x	x	x	N/A
Berrysburg Borough				
Conewago Township				
Dauphin Borough	x		x	
Derry Township				
East Hanover Township	x	x		x
Elizabethville Borough	x	x	x	x
Gratz Borough				
Halifax Borough				
Halifax Township				
Harrisburg City				
Highspire Borough	x	x		
Hummelstown Borough				
Jackson Township	x	x	x	x
Jefferson Township	x	x	x	x
Londonderry Township	x		x	x
Lower Paxton Township	x	x	x	x
Lower Swatara Township	x	x	x	x
Lykens Borough	x	x	x	x
Lykens Township				
Middle Paxton Township	x		x	
Middletown Borough				
Mifflin Township				
Millersburg Borough		x	x	x
Paxtang Borough				
Penbrook Borough	x	x	x	x
Pillow Borough	x	x	x	x
Reed Township	x	x	x	x
Royalton Borough	x	x	x	x
Rush Township				
South Hanover Township				
Steelton Borough				
Susquehanna Township				
Swatara Township				
Upper Paxton Township	x	x	x	x
Washington Township	x	x	x	x
Wayne Township	x	x	x	x

Dauphin County Steering Committee Meeting  
March 15, 2021

Municipality	Hazard Evaluation Survey	Capability Assessment Survey	Mitigation Strategy Survey	NFIP Survey
West Hanover Township				
Wiconisco Township				
Williams Township				
Williamstown Borough				

## 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Goals – For Reference

### Goal 1: Increase education and awareness about existing and potential natural and human-made hazards in the County.

- Objective 1.A Encourage awareness of the County’s hazards so that residents and business owners are prepared for future hazard events.
- Objective 1.B Ensure that property owners and buyers are aware of the availability and benefits of obtaining federal flood insurance.
- Objective 1.C Ensure that local officials and EMA staff are well trained regarding natural hazards and appropriate prevention and mitigation activities.
- Objective 1.D Increase Dauphin County’s municipal participation in FEMA’s Community Rating System.

**Commented [ST1]:** 2015 Goal 1 and its objectives are included in new Goal 4 and its objectives.

### Goal 2: Protect citizens and public and private property from the impacts of natural and human-made hazards.

- Objective 2.A Ensure that existing drainage systems (pipes, culverts, channels) are adequate and functioning properly.
- Objective 2.B Minimize future damage due to flooding of the Susquehanna River and its tributaries.
- Objective 2.C Reduce impacts related to flash flooding and stormwater problems.
- Objective 2.D Encourage the use of retrofitting techniques for repetitive loss structures.
- Objective 2.E Restore degraded natural resources and open space to improve their flood control function.
- Objective 2.F Investigate structural solutions to address natural and human-made hazards.
- Objective 2.G Reduce threats from natural and human-made hazards.

**Commented [ST2]:** Reflected in new Objective 2.3.

**Commented [ST3]:** Recommend removing this one, as the other goals/objectives would reduce damage due to flooding.

**Commented [ST4]:** Addressed in new Objectives 2.1, 2.3, and 2.4.

**Commented [ST5]:** Addressed in new Objective 2.2.

**Commented [ST6]:** Addressed in new Objective 3.1.

**Commented [ST7]:** Recommend removing these as generic.

### Goal 3: Encourage the integration of hazard mitigation planning principles in County and Local Government regulations, plans, and policies.

- Objective 3.A Ensure that local ordinances are consistent with FEMA and PA DCED guidelines and are properly enforced.
- Objective 3.B Preserve areas where natural hazard potential is high (i.e., steeply sloping areas, sinkhole areas, floodplains, wetlands, etc.).
- Objective 3.C Regulate construction/development in the County to prevent increases in runoff and subsequent increases in flood flows.
- Objective 3.D Support FEMA’s efforts to prepare detailed floodplain mapping in the Lower Susquehanna-Penns and Lower Susquehanna-Swatara Watersheds.
- Objective 3.E Continue mass evacuation planning to provide safe and efficient evacuation during natural and human-made hazard events.
- Objective 3.F Assess the impacts of pandemics and infectious diseases and radon exposure on Dauphin County’s citizens.

**Commented [ST8]:** Ongoing capability.

**Commented [ST9]:** See new Objective 3.3.

**Commented [ST10]:** Addressed in new Objective 1.2.

**Commented [ST11]:** Recommend removing this. In and of itself, mapping does not reduce vulnerability. The impacts of new maps would be reflected in updated ordinances.

**Commented [ST12]:** Recommend removing this as it is a capability.

### Goal 4: Plan for improved infrastructure to protect citizens and public and private property from natural and human-made hazards.

- Objective 4.A Provide residents and businesses with adequate warning of natural and human-made hazard events.
- Objective 4.B Provide adequate shelters during hazard events.
- Objective 4.C Provide adequate communication systems for emergency management agencies and emergency response units.

**Commented [ST13]:** I feel like we have seen the impacts of pandemics on Dauphin County’s citizens now. Enhancing public health response would be a capability. Another impact of the pandemic was on the telecommunications infrastructure- so many people working/learning from home. New Objective 1.3 addresses upgrading infrastructure, including telecommunications.

Added new Objective 4.7 to address radon. Newer homes have the fans; older structures may need retrofit to install them.

**Commented [ST14]:** Recommend removing these, as they are capabilities.

## Suggested Goals and Objectives for the 2021 HMP

### Goal 1: Prevent injury/death, physical damage, and other impacts from hazards in Dauphin County.

- Objective 1.1 Enhance regulations for development in hazard-prone areas.
- Objective 1.2 Enhance stormwater management planning and regulations.
- Objective 1.3 Upgrade infrastructure to reduce the likelihood of hazards and their impacts.
- Objective 1.4 Improve problem intersections and transportation corridors to reduce the likelihood of transportation accidents.

### Goal 2: Protect the citizens of Dauphin County as well as public and private property from the impacts of natural and human-caused hazards.

- Objective 2.1 Protect existing structures, including critical facilities, and infrastructure from damage that can be caused by hazards.
- Objective 2.2 Acquire, relocate, elevate, and/or retrofit existing structures, including repetitive loss properties, located in hazard areas.
- Objective 2.3 Improve and maintain stormwater management systems to reduce flooding.
- Objective 2.4 Encourage homeowners, renters, and businesses to insure their properties against all hazards, including flood coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- Objective 2.5 Develop connections and agreements among water systems and operators.

### Goal 3: Protect and restore existing natural resources.

- Objective 3.1 Restore degraded natural resources and open space to reduce vulnerability to hazards.
- Objective 3.2 Provide appropriate safeguards for the preservation of the quality of water resources, stream corridors, watershed areas, and floodplains.
- Objective 3.3 Preserve areas where natural hazard potential is high.

### Goal 4: Educate officials and the public on the potential impacts of natural and non-natural hazards, and actions to reduce those impacts.

- Objective 4.1 Educate local officials regarding their municipalities' risk and the precautions they can take.
- Objective 4.2 Educate property owners and residents in hazard-risk areas regarding their risks and the precautions they can take.
- Objective 4.3 Encourage local participation in the Community Rating System (CRS) Program.
- Objective 4.4 Develop and enforce a requirement for property sellers to disclose hazards that exist on the property to potential buyers.
- Objective 4.5 Educate the public about cyber security and how to reduce their vulnerability to cyber crime and attack.
- Objective 4.6 Educate the public about invasive species and the precautions and response measures they can take to reduce the impacts of these species.
- Objective 4.7 Encourage residents and business owners to install and maintain radon fans in below-grade levels of structures.