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# Rockland County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2024 Update

**Steering Committee Kick-off Meeting**  
**September 26 | 10:00 am**


*Leading with Science®*

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## Today's Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Hazard Mitigation Planning Overview
3. Project Organization
4. Steering Committee Responsibilities
5. Planning Process Overview
6. Schedule
7. Questions/Next Steps/Wrap Up



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## Hazard Mitigation Overview

Mitigation planning happens before a disaster strikes. It results in safer, more resilient communities – reducing risk for the residents, businesses, and critical services in Rockland County.


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## Hazard Mitigation Planning Overview




- ✓ Authorized by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000
- ✓ Provides an overview of the impacts of natural hazards on communities
- ✓ Provides a roadmap to reducing the impact of these hazards
- ✓ Requires a FEMA-approved natural hazard mitigation plan to be eligible for Pre-Disaster Mitigation Funding
- ✓ 5-year updates required to maintain eligibility

- 1) What is hazard mitigation?
- 2) Why update the plan?
- 3) What's new for the 2024 HMP?
- 4) What is the process?



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# What is Hazard Mitigation?



Mitigation is a sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event

-or-

Any action taken to reduce future disaster losses



“...provides the blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs and resources, and local ability...” (CFR).



# Why Update?



- The mitigation plan update will:
  - Help prepare for and mitigate hazards
  - Eligibility for pre- and post-disaster mitigation funding
    - Since 2006, Rockland County received over \$13 million in FEMA funding for planning, acquisitions, culvert improvements, and infrastructure projects
  - Incorporate new FEMA requirements
  - Support CRS participation/rating
- What is at risk in Rockland County?
- Which hazard do you think occurred the most since 2018?
  - **Scan this code to vote!**

January 2018 – July 2023	
Hazard	Occurrences
Drought Conditions	4
Earthquake	3
Extreme Temperature (heat/cold)	N/A
Flood	23
Severe Weather	32
Severe Winter Weather	21
Wildfire	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	

Sources: NOAA NCEI 2023; NYSDEC 2023; USGS 2023; USDM 2023



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## Differences from the 2018 Planning Process



- Involvement – engaged and actively participating
- Public and stakeholder outreach
- Community Lifelines and Critical Facilities
- Socially vulnerable and underserved communities
- Climate change
- Mitigation actions for every hazard of concern



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## Project Organization

Working with individuals, agencies, neighboring jurisdictions, businesses, and other partners for a successful mitigation planning process.

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# Project Organization



The diagram illustrates the project organization structure. It features five main components in rounded rectangular boxes, connected by a blue line that forms a partial loop. From left to right: 1. Core Planning Team: Includes Rockland County Emergency Services and Tetra Tech. 2. Steering Committee: Represented by a gear icon with people. 3. Planning Partnership: Represented by a classical building icon. 4. Stakeholders: Represented by a network of people icons. 5. NYSDHSES and FEMA: Includes the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services.

**Core Planning Team**  
Rockland County Emergency Services  
Tetra Tech

**Steering Committee**

**Planning Partnership**

**Stakeholders**

**NYSDHSES and FEMA**  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
FEMA  
Homeland Security & Emergency Services

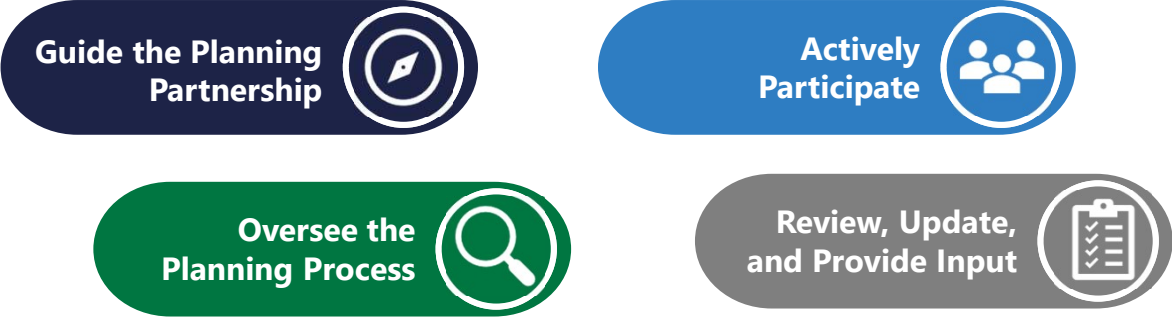



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# Steering Committee Roles and Responsibilities




The diagram lists four roles and responsibilities for the Steering Committee, each in a rounded rectangular box with an icon. 1. Guide the Planning Partnership (compass icon). 2. Actively Participate (group of people icon). 3. Oversee the Planning Process (magnifying glass icon). 4. Review, Update, and Provide Input (clipboard icon).

**Guide the Planning Partnership**


**Actively Participate**

**Oversee the Planning Process**


**Review, Update, and Provide Input**



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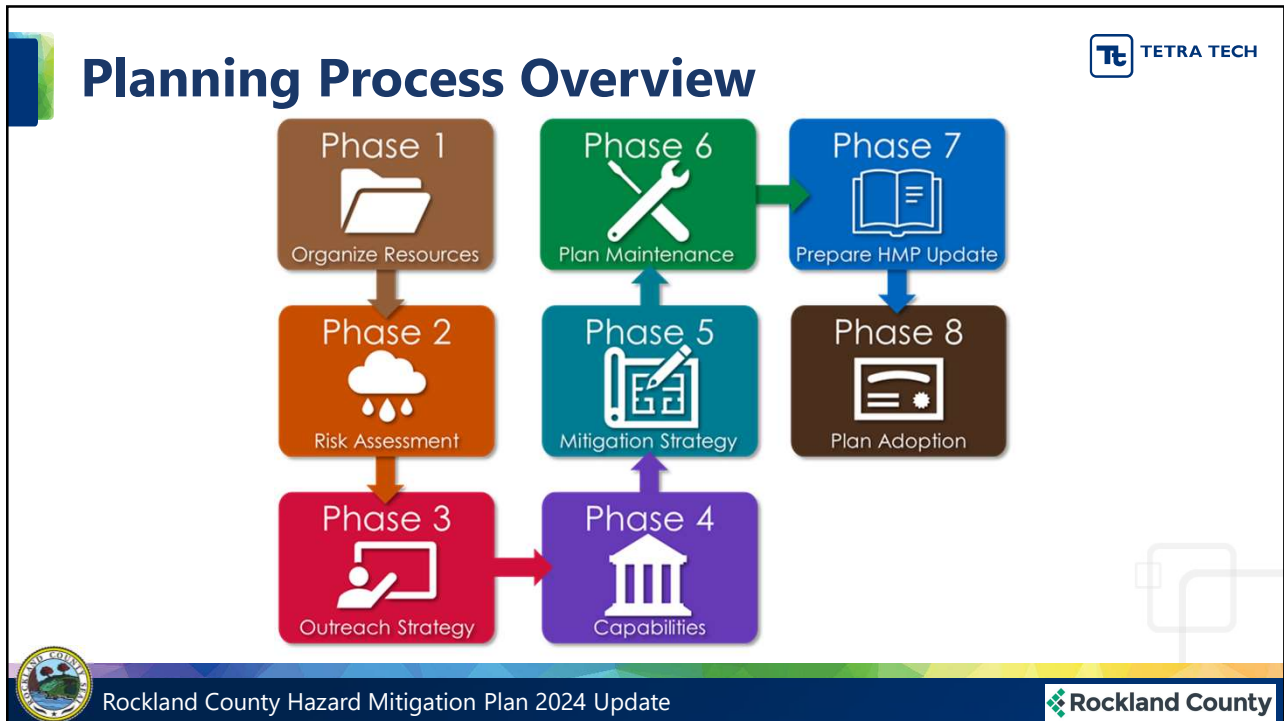
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## Planning Process Overview

A well-defined planning process is essential to the success of Rockland County's HMP Update.

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# Phase 1 – Organize Resources





**Core Planning Team**  
Rockland County Planning  
Tetra Tech



**Steering Committee**

**Planning Partnership**





**Stakeholders**



**FEMA**  
Homeland Security & Emergency Services



**NYSDHSES and FEMA**




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# Data Collection



- **Data collection and inventory assets**
- **Update critical facility/community lifeline inventory**
  - Critical Facilities provide essential services to the community, especially before, during, and after a disaster.
  - Community Lifelines provide services that allow continuity of operations of critical business and government functions, and crucial to health and safety of residents.

A lifeline enables the continuous operation of **critical government and business functions** and is **essential to human health and safety or economic security**.



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## Data Collection

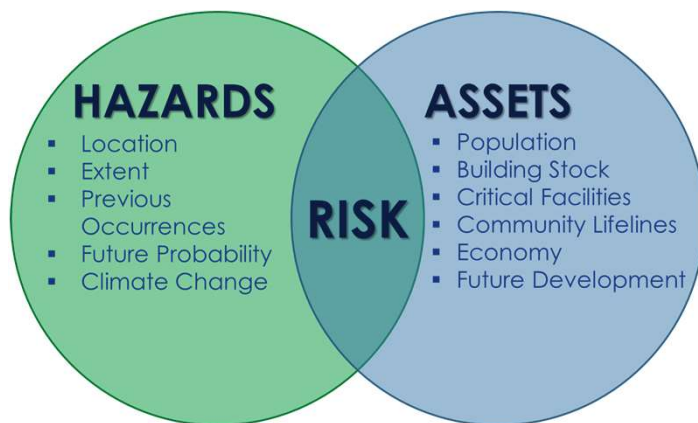


### • Identify socially vulnerable populations and underserved communities

- How will we incorporate socially vulnerable populations in Rockland County?
- Need to include throughout the planning process – outreach, risk assessment, mitigation strategy, etc.



## Phase 2 - Risk Assessment





- Review and update list of hazards of concern
- Update hazard profiles
- Complete risk assessment
- Review risk assessment results with Steering Committee and Planning Partnership






# Hazards of Concern






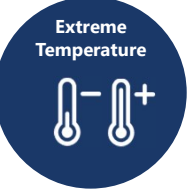
Dam Failure




Disease Outbreak




Drought




Extreme Temperature




Geologic




Flood




Severe Weather




Severe Winter Weather




Wildfire



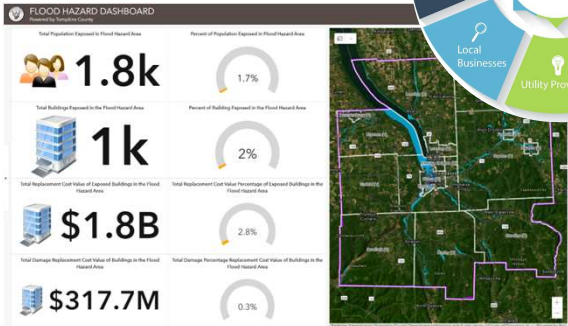
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# Phase 3 – Public Outreach Strategy




- Public Outreach Toolkit
  - Social media templates and posts
  - Press release templates
  - Printable materials
- Surveys
  - Stakeholders
  - Neighboring communities
  - Public
- County Website
- StoryMap







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## Phase 4 – Capabilities and Integration



- Review existing capabilities and identify how each reduces risk and if it incorporates elements of the HMP
- Describe current and future integration process for the County and each jurisdiction

### Regulatory

- Current ordinances that integrate mitigation (e.g., local flood damage prevention ordinance, stormwater management, wetlands protection, etc.).

### Operational and Administrative

- County/community boards/departments that integrate mitigation in their current processes and how.

### Funding

- Funding sources at the local level that may be used to fund mitigation projects.

### Education/Outreach

- Current action the County/community is taking to integrate mitigation in their outreach and notifications to residents.

### Adaptive Capacity

- Review the County and municipalities' adaptive capacity to deal with the potential impacts of climate change.




## Phase 5 – Mitigation Strategy





- Review 2018 mitigation actions
- Review and update goals/objectives
- Problem statements and potential solutions
  - What specific actions will be taken to reduce hazard risk?
- Develop an action plan
  - How will the actions be prioritized and implemented?
  - One mitigation action for every hazard of concern!






## Phase 6 – Plan Maintenance



- Develop a game plan for maintaining the 2024 HMP over the next 5 years
  - How often will you meet to discuss progress on the HMP?
  - How will the County and jurisdictions integrate the HMP?
  - How will you monitor progress on the 2024 mitigation actions?


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## Phase 7 – Prepare the HMP Update

Volume I	Appendices	Volume II
Table of Contents	Sample Adoption Resolution	Planning Team
Executive Summary	Participation Matrix	Jurisdictional Annexes (25)
Introduction	Meeting Documentation	
Planning Process	Public and Stakeholder Outreach	
County Profile	Risk Assessment Information	
Risk Assessment	Mitigation Strategy Support Documentation	
Capability Assessment	Plan Maintenance Tools	
Mitigation Strategies	Linkage Procedures (if applicable)	
Plan Maintenance	Critical Facilities	
Acronyms and Abbreviations	High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD)	
Glossary		
References		


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## Phase 8 – Adopt the Plan



- Once FEMA approves the HMP, the County and each jurisdiction will need to adopt the plan
- Begin plan implementation and integration

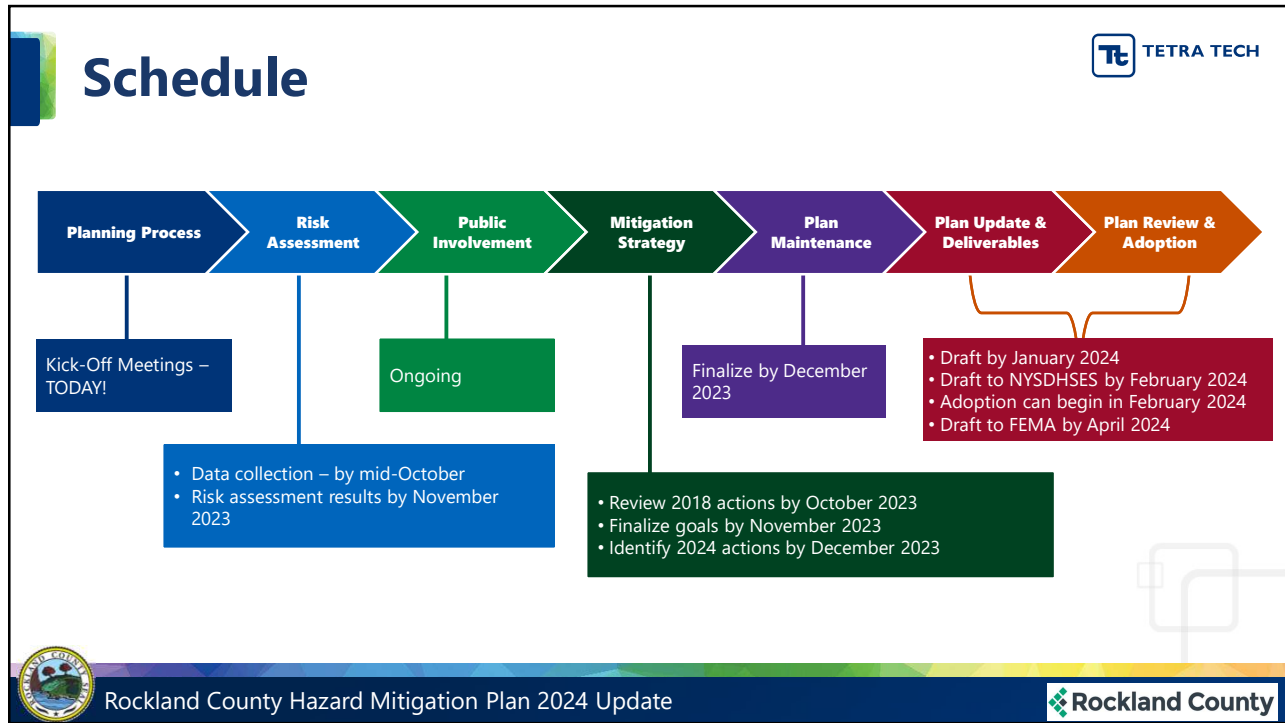


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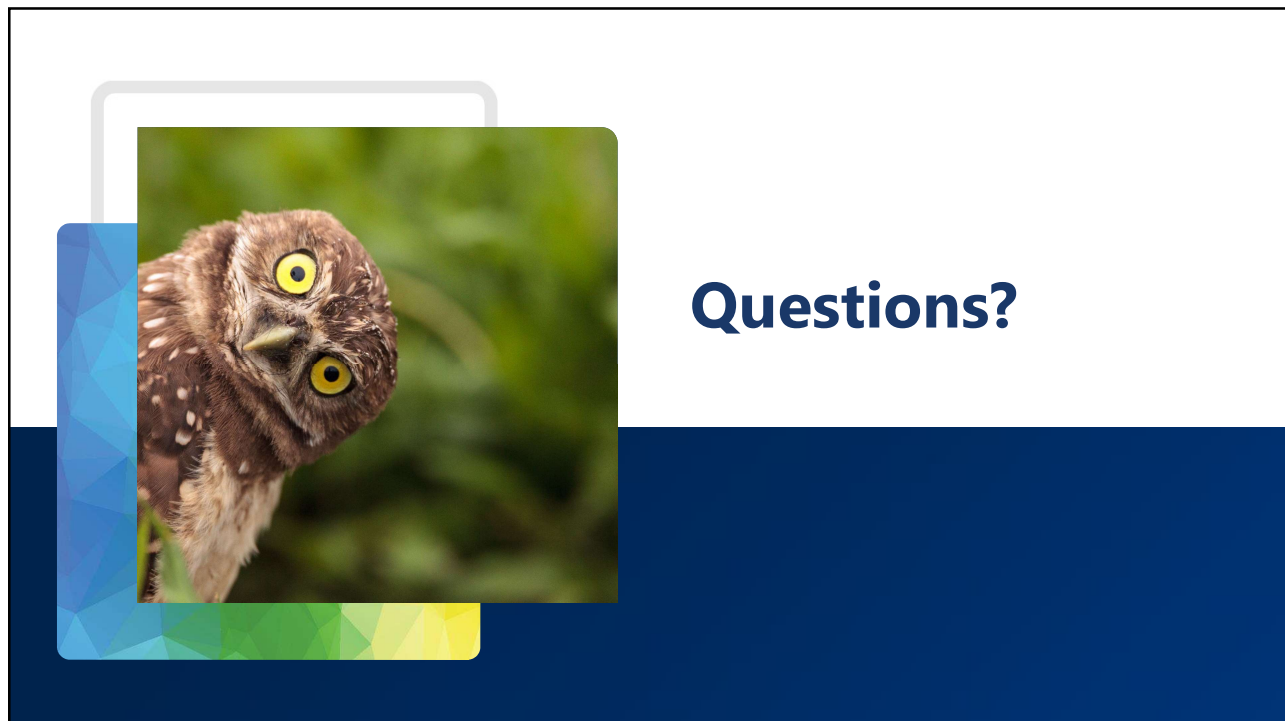


## Project Schedule

Upcoming meetings and key milestones throughout the HMP update process



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Thank  
You!