



SECTION 5. CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

2022 HMP Changes

- In the 2017 NJ4HMP, the capability assessment section was presented in Section 4 as part of the mitigation strategy. For the 2022 HMP update, the capability assessment was expanded and presented in Section 5 as a stand-alone section with capabilities expanded in each jurisdictional annex as well (Section 9 [Jurisdictional Annexes]).

According to FEMA's Mitigation Planning How-To Guide #3, a capability assessment is an inventory of a community's missions, programs, and policies and an analysis of its capacity to carry them out. Each jurisdiction has a unique set of capabilities available to accomplish mitigation and reduce long-term vulnerable to future hazard events. Capabilities include authorities, policies, programs, staff, and funding. Reviewing existing capabilities helps identify capabilities that currently implement mitigation and leads to loss reductions or that have the potential to be implemented in the future.

This assessment is an integral part of the planning process. The assessment process enables identification, review, and analysis of current federal, state, and local programs, policies, regulations, funding, and practices that could either facilitate or hinder mitigation.

During the original planning process, the county and all jurisdictions identified and assessed their capabilities in the areas of planning and regulatory, administrative, and technical, and fiscal. By completing this assessment, the Planning Committee and each jurisdiction learned how or whether they would be able to implement certain mitigation actions by determining the following:

- Limitations that could exist on undertaking actions.
- The range of local and state administrative, programmatic, regulatory, financial, and technical resources available to assist in implementing their mitigation actions.
- Actions deemed infeasible, as they are currently outside the scope of capabilities.
- Types of mitigation actions that could be technically, legally (regulatory), administratively, politically, or fiscally challenging or infeasible.
- Opportunities to enhance local capabilities to support long term mitigation and risk reduction.

During the 2022 plan update process, all participating jurisdictions were tasked with developing or updating their capability assessment, paying particular attention to evaluating the effectiveness of these capabilities in supporting hazard mitigation and identifying opportunities to enhance local capabilities to integrate hazard mitigation into their plans, programs, and day-to-day operations.



County and municipal capabilities in the areas of planning and regulatory, administrative and technical, and fiscal may be found in the Capability Assessment section of their jurisdictional annexes in Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes).

5.1 UPDATE PROCESS SUMMARY

The purpose of the capability assessment is to understand the planning, regulatory, administrative, technical, and financial capabilities present in Gloucester County. This assessment helps the County and its jurisdictions identify strengths and opportunities that can be used to reduce losses from hazard events and reduce risks throughout Gloucester County.

To complete the capability assessment, the contracted consultant met with Gloucester County and each municipality virtually to review the capability assessment from the 2016 HMP and update accordingly. In addition to virtual meetings, the consultant reviewed plans and codes/ordinances to enhance the information provided by the jurisdictions.

A summary of the various federal and state capabilities available to promote and support mitigation and reduce risk in Gloucester County are presented below. Information provided by the County and municipalities are presented in Volume II, Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) of this plan update.

5.2 PLANNING AND REGULATORY CAPABILITY

Planning and regulatory capabilities are based on the implementation of ordinances, policies, local laws and state statutes, and plans and programs that relate to guiding and management growth and development. Planning and regulatory capabilities refer not only to the current plans and regulations, but also to the jurisdiction's ability to change and improve those plans and regulations as needed. The following provides the planning and regulatory capabilities for Gloucester County.

5.2.1 Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – County and Local

The following table summarizes the planning and regulatory capabilities available to Gloucester County, at the county and local level.



Table 5-1. Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – County and Local

Capability	Details	
<p>Land Use Planning Policy</p>	<p>Description:</p>	<p>State of New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law L.1975, c. 291, s. 1, eff. Aug. 1, 1976, is the legislative foundation for the land use process, including decisions by Planning Boards and Zoning Boards of Adjustment, in the State of New Jersey. It defines the powers and responsibilities of boards and is essential to their functions and decisions. It also provides the required components of a municipal Master Plan.</p> <p>Every municipal agency shall adopt and may amend reasonable rules and regulations, not inconsistent with this act or with any applicable ordinance, for the administration of its functions, powers, and duties. These plans help jurisdictions review their land use plans and policies with public participation. The Municipal Land Use Law requires that each municipality prepare a comprehensive plan and update that plan every 6 years.</p> <p>The board of chosen freeholders may create a county planning board of not less than five nor more than nine members.</p> <p>The county planning board shall make and adopt a master plan for the physical development of the county. The master plan of a county, with the accompanying maps, plats, charts, and descriptive and explanatory matter, shall show the county planning board's recommendations for the development of the territory covered by the plan, and may include, among other things, the general location, character, and extent of streets or roads, viaducts, bridges, waterway and waterfront developments, parkways, playgrounds, forests, reservations, parks, airports, and other public ways, grounds, places and spaces; the general location and extent of forests, agricultural areas, and open development areas for purposes of conservation, food and water supply, sanitary and drainage facilities, or the protection of urban development, and such other features as may be important to the development of the county. The county planning board shall encourage the co-operation of the local municipalities within the county in any matters whatsoever which may concern the integrity of the county master plan and to advise the board of chosen freeholders with respect to the formulation of development programs and budgets for capital expenditures.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency:</p>	<p>Local Planning Boards, Zoning Boards of Adjustment, and County Planning Board</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation:</p>	<p>No</p>
	<p>Hazard:</p>	<p>All Hazards</p>
<p>gc2040, Community Visioning for Gloucester County</p>	<p>Description:</p>	<p>Gloucester County, New Jersey is in the midst of an extensive planning effort to update its County Master Plan, a public document reflecting the community's vision for how it should grow and change over time. There is urgency to this effort as the county has changed significantly since 1982, the date of the most recent plan, and will continue to experience significant development pressure over the next 25 years, the horizon for this planning process.</p>



Capability	Details	
		<p>Determining the Community Vision is the first step in the Master Plan update process as it describes the future the community wants. A Master Plan is a public document that reflects a community's vision for how it should grow and change over time. It usually covers a long-term time period—in this case, Gloucester County is planning for its future growth and development 25 years into the future. A Master Plan provides a framework within which to evaluate the community's progress toward its goals. Updating Gloucester County's Master Plan is critical—it was last updated in 1982 and is no longer consistent with current federal, state, regional, and municipal plans, and it does not reflect best practices in planning and management. Furthermore, because the plan is outdated.</p> <p>Gloucester County enlisted DVRPC's Office of Smart Growth to conduct public outreach to develop the Community Vision in order to update its County Master Plan.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	Planning Board, Board of Chosen Freeholders
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All Hazards
<p>Gloucester County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Programs</p>	<p>Description:</p>	<p>The objective of the Open Space Preservation Program is to expand the existing county and municipal park system in Gloucester County. Through this program the county has been able to expand all three county parks: Red Bank Battlefield in National Park, the James G. Atkinson Park in Washington Township and the Scotland Run Park in Clayton and Franklin Townships along with five additions of lands adjacent to the County golf course and greenway in Mantua Township.</p> <p>The County also assists municipalities in the purchase of recreational lands through this program. Funds can be used to purchase new parks, expand existing ones or develop greenways. In 2015, the office of Land Preservation, in cooperation with the State Green Acres Program, Mantua Township, and the South Jersey Land and Water Trust, was able to preserve the former Maple Ridge Golf Course in Mantua and Deptford Townships to create the Tall Pines State Preserve, the first state park in Gloucester County.</p> <p>The objective of the Farmland Preservation Program is to purchase development rights on farms so that the land is permanently preserved and restricted to only agricultural uses. Our office coordinates all acquisitions in accordance with the regulations set by the New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC).</p> <p>The office also oversees the state and municipal eight-year development easement programs. Currently there are over 300 farms totaling more than 21,000 acres in farmland preservation.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	County Planning Board and Freeholders
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards



Capability	Details	
<p>Connections 2050 Plan for Greater Philadelphia, September 2021</p>	<p>Description:</p>	<p>The Connections 2050 Plan is a nine County greater Philadelphia regional plan. Five are Pennsylvania counties and four New Jersey counties, including Gloucester County.</p> <p>The Plan is about transportation infrastructure. Infrastructure underpins the society and economy that makes much of what gets done possible. In order for the transportation network to continue to serve the region's residents and its economy, and to find the means to invest to modernize and improve the condition of the infrastructure, coordination is necessary across public and private sectors to make the necessary safety, information, multimodal, and reliability improvements needed for the digital age. At the same time, climate change and shifting ideologies around equity are joining with the Digital Revolution to drive change and reshape the region's economy, along with its environment, land use and communities, and the transportation network. DVRPC and its partners look forward to being a part of the dialogue and doing our part in making all these areas more equitable, sustainable, and resilient. A major focus going forward will be to incorporate the Plan's strategies into projects and investments undertaken throughout the nine-county region and to ensure that decision-making is consistent with the Plan's vision and goals. Many of the strategy recommendations contained within the Plan are for the region, and go beyond what DVRPC and its planning partners can do on their own. As a result, it is critical to continue to coordinate and build partnerships across the public and private sectors, as well as at the individual level to help implement the Plan.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency:</p>	<p>The DVRPC and the four NJ participating counties.</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation:</p>	<p>No</p>
	<p>Hazard:</p>	<p>Climate Change and Sea Level Rise, Flood, Severe Weather</p>
<p>United We Ride Plan (2007)</p>	<p>Description:</p>	<p>In the State of New Jersey, NJ Transit assigned the responsibility for developing local United We Ride transportation plans to counties. Assigning this responsibility to counties was consistent with the current overall delivery of human services transportation since New Jersey law requires counties to develop an annual application to receive casino tax revenues through the Senior Citizen and Disabled Resident Transportation Assistance Program (SCDRTAP).</p> <p>The following are the essential components of the UWR coordination plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Designate lead contact by governing body ○ Convene group of local stakeholders to participate in the development of a local plan based upon the "Framework for Action Self-Assessment for Communities" ○ Conduct an analysis of transportation needs for people with disabilities, older adults and low-income residents ○ Prepare an inventory of available resources and services ○ Identify service gaps and duplication of services ○ Identify coordination opportunities to address service gaps and attain service efficiencies ○ Develop strategies for more efficient utilization of resources



Capability	Details	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prioritize implementation strategies <p>Opportunities abound for transportation services to be improved throughout Gloucester County. From public transit initiatives, to initiatives in the area of paratransit, there continues to be a tremendous social and economic value to improving the current network of transportation services. Socio-economic factors such as: people living longer, people with disabilities being more active and working, working poor trying to get to their job, suburban employers, and increasing traffic congestion; all contribute to the conclusion that we need to invest in our transportation network. These factors suggest that additional well-placed investment is needed now, since waiting will result in diminished opportunity and only greater challenges ahead.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	Board of Chosen Freeholders
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Hurricane and Tropical Storm, Nor'Easter
<p>Gloucester County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2014</p>	<p>Description:</p>	<p>In 2008, Gloucester County adopted a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy or CEDS. Two years later, the County prepared an Addendum to that CEDS which updated various goals, objectives and projects. This document represents an additional addendum or update to the 2008 CEDS.</p> <p>Gloucester County began 2013 with an unemployment rate well above the national average at 10.3%. As of April 2014 (the latest month for which N.J. Department of Labor figures are available) the unemployment rate had dropped to 6.6%.</p> <p>While not a short term strategy or plan, the CEDS is a vehicle for channeling U.S. Economic Development Administration (U.S. EDA) funds and other development financing to initiate projects that are essential for the county to attract, grow and sustain new business and industry.</p> <p>The following six (6) broad goals reflect the 2014 CEDS Plan priorities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work to expand and diversify the County's economic base to provide a broader range of new jobs and a more viable mix of industries. 2. Preserve existing jobs and industry and reduce unemployment, municipal distress and economic inequities throughout the County. 3. Focus development and jobs around centers of employment and population with an emphasis on the revitalization of the downtowns and the redevelopment of brownfield and underutilized commercial and industrial properties. 4. Improve the public transportation, highway circulation systems and public utilities access in the County to serve businesses and commercial centers more effectively.



Capability	Details	
		5. Enhance and coordinate Municipal, County and Regional marketing efforts to promote Gloucester County as a destination for new business. 6. Explore new opportunities for funding industrial and business development.
	Responsible Agency:	Board of Chosen Freeholders
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Climate Change and Sea Level Rise, Flood, Severe Weather
Annual Report, Gloucester County Department Of Health (2017)	Description:	<p>The Gloucester County Department of Health partners closely throughout the year with all 24 municipalities to provide a range of Nursing, Special Child Health and WIC activities, Consumer and Environmental Health services, public health information and health education sessions and Preparedness readiness efforts.</p> <p>The Gloucester County Department of Health has adopted the ten essential services of public health listed below, which guide our daily actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor the health status of the community. 2. Investigate and diagnose health problems and hazards. 3. Inform and educate people regarding health issues. 4. Mobilize community partnerships to solve community problems. 5. Support policies and plans to achieve health goals. 6. Enforce laws and regulations to protect health and safety. 7. Link people to needed personal health services. 8. Ensure a skilled, competent public health workforce. 9. Evaluate effectiveness, accessibility and quality of health services. 10. Research and apply innovative solutions. <p>The Gloucester County Department of Health remains committed to serving our residents with the guiding principles of HEALTH in mind, aspiring to deliver program assistance that is: Helpful; Excellent; Accountable; as Leaders in public health; with Teamwork; all while encouraging Healthy behaviors.</p> <p>2018 Goals and objectives have been designed to advance the Department forward in achieving our Vision to "Strive for a healthier Gloucester County". With an overarching mission to: Prevent illness and injury; Promote positive health behaviors; Protect people and the environment; and Prepare for public health emergencies, this Department offers a multitude of programs and services.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	Gloucester County Department of Health
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All Hazards



Capability	Details	
Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)	Description:	Continuity of Operations (COOP) planning is essential to ensure that the County can continue to function and provide services to its citizens following an emergency, disaster, or incident that disrupts the County's normal operations. Gloucester County is in need of the development of a single, County-level COOP Plan that prioritizes the County's critical functions and provides strategies for carrying these out during periods of disruption.
	Responsible Agency:	OEM
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Soil Survey of Gloucester County, New Jersey	Description:	<p>GLOUCESTER COUNTY is in southern New Jersey (fig. 1). It is along the southeast side of the Delaware River, south of the city of Camden. The county comprises about 215,500 acres, or nearly 337 square miles. It is in the Outer Coastal Plain and Inner Coastal Plain Physiographic Regions.</p> <p>This soil survey updates an earlier survey of Gloucester County (USDA SCS 1962). It provides a digital soil survey on orthophotography and contains additional interpretive information.</p> <p>The soils and miscellaneous areas in Gloucester County are in an orderly pattern that is related to the geology, landforms, relief, climate, and natural vegetation of the area. Each kind of soil and miscellaneous area is associated with a particular kind of landform or with a segment of the landform. By observing the soils and miscellaneous areas in the county and relating their position to specific segments of the landform, a soil scientist develops a concept or model of how they were formed. Thus, during mapping, this model enables the soil scientist to predict with a considerable degree of accuracy the kind of soil or miscellaneous area at a specific location on the landscape.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	Gloucester County Soils Division
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Floodplain Management Policy	Description:	<p>New Jersey State Law Flood Hazard Area Control Act (NJSA 58:16A-52): The Act and regulations attempts to minimize damage to life and property from flooding caused by development within fluvial and tidal flood hazard areas, to preserve the quality of surface waters, and to protect the wildlife and vegetation that exist within and depend upon such areas for sustenance and habitat. While it does not require local adoption, as it is enforced by the NJDEP, the floodplain ordinances of each municipality need to be reviewed to be in compliance with this new regulation.</p> <p>All municipalities participate in the NFIP and have a Floodplain Ordinance. Communities are encouraged to adopt standards which exceed NFIP requirements. The State's minimum design base flood elevation is 1 foot above the designated base flood elevation.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	NFIP, NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No



Capability	Details	
Building Codes Policy	Hazard:	Flood
	Description:	Uniform Construction Code (Uniform Construction Code Act of 1975 [UCC]) is State mandated on local level under NJAC 5:23-3.14. International Building Code – New Jersey Edition, 2018, NJAC 5:24-3.14 Adopted 9/3/2019. The UCC adopts up-to-date building codes as its Building Subcode and One- and Two-Family Subcode. These Subcodes contain requirements that address construction in both A and V flood zones. Building and Fire codes mandate best practices and technology, much of which is designed to reduce or prevent damage from occurring when structures are under stress. New Jersey State Law requires that all municipalities adopt ordinances that follow the UCC. In January 2013, the State established by emergency rule the best available data from FEMA's latest flood maps, plus one foot of freeboard, as the general rebuilding standard to adapt to changing flood hazard risks and corresponding federal flood insurance rates. All municipalities in Gloucester County have an active building code.
	Responsible Agency:	Local Building Departments
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
Emergency Management Plan	Hazard:	Flood, Hurricane and Tropical Storm
	Description:	According to State Police Directive 101, each County and municipality shall prepare, adopt and maintain an Emergency Operation Plan that meets the requirements of the State Emergency Operations Plan guidelines and checklist. The plan describes the hazards faced by the jurisdiction as well as the jurisdictions capabilities, needs, demands and emergency management structure. Gloucester County and each municipality have an Emergency Operations Plan.
	Responsible Agency:	County and Local Offices of Emergency Management
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
Climate Change Vulnerability And Risk Assessment of New Jersey's Transportation Infrastructure (December 2011)	Hazard:	All Hazards
	Description:	The primary objective of this project is to pilot the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) vulnerability and risk assessment Conceptual Model using New Jersey as a case study, providing feedback for the advancement of the Conceptual Model as well as a heightened awareness and understanding of the potential effects of climate change on transportation infrastructure in New Jersey. The project was led by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA). The Conceptual Risk Assessment Model was developed to assist transportation agencies in identifying infrastructure at risk for exposure to climate change stressors and determining which threats carry the most significant consequences. It incorporates the following summary steps: 1. Build an inventory of relevant assets and determine which are critical; 2. Gather information on potential future climate scenarios; 3. Assess the potential vulnerability and resilience of critical assets.



Capability	Details	
		A portion of the study is conducted for the Central Study Area to quantify the potential impact of climate change on the exiting riverine 1% annual chance floodplain. The central study area covers portions of Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Mercer, Salem and Middlesex Counties, NJ. The impact of climate change on the riverine floodplain has been assessed through analysis of the effects of extreme precipitation as well rising temperatures. In this analysis, years 2050 and 2100 were considered.
	Responsible Agency:	NJTPA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Best Management Practices for Creating and Maintaining Wildfire Fuelbreaks in New Jersey's Wildland Urban Interface, 2011	Description:	In New Jersey, residential communities and development continue to spread into new, previously undisturbed natural areas which create a "Wildland Urban Interface" (WUI) - where rural land and developed areas meet. This fragmented rural landscape has greater ignition sources and more frequent fires, which makes it difficult for the Forest Fire Service to manage land for wildfire protection and preparedness. This problem can be seen throughout the country and in New Jersey, especially with the state having such a rapidly growing population. In a study done by the American Planning Association, 46 percent of homes in New Jersey are located in the Wildland Urban Interface, which stresses the importance of the problem in New Jersey.
	Responsible Agency:	Federal, State & County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Wildfires

5.2.2 Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – Federal and State

The following table summarizes the planning and regulatory capabilities available to Gloucester County, at the federal and state level.

Table 5-2. Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – Federal and State

Capability	Details	
Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA)	Description:	The DMA is the current federal legislation addressing hazard mitigation planning. It emphasizes planning for disasters before they occur. It specifically addresses planning at the local level, requiring plans to be in place before Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant funds are available to communities. This plan is designed to meet the requirements of DMA, improving eligibility for future hazard mitigation funds.
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	HMPs designed to meet the requirements of DMA will remain eligible for future FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance funds



Capability	Details	
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Hazard:	All-natural hazards
	Description:	<p>The NFIP is a federal program enabling property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance as a protection against flood losses in exchange for state and community floodplain management regulations that reduce future flood damages. The Flood Hazard Profile in Section 4.3.6 (Flood) provides information on recent legislation related to reforms to the NFIP.</p> <p>All municipalities in Gloucester County actively participate in the NFIP. As of April 2021, there were 924 policies in Gloucester County. There have been 617 claims made, totaling over \$4 million for damages to structures and contents. There are 64 NFIP Repetitive Loss properties and 1 Severe Repetitive Loss property in the County.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Full compliance and good standing under the NFIP are application prerequisites for all FEMA grant programs for which participating jurisdictions are eligible under this plan.
NFIP Community Rating System (CRS)	Hazard:	Flood
	Description:	<p>As an additional component of the NFIP, CRS is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS: (1) reduce flood losses, (2) facilitate accurate insurance rating, and (3) promote the awareness of flood insurance. Municipalities, and the county as a whole, could expect significant cost savings on premiums if enrolled in the CRS program. As of October 2021, 2 communities in Gloucester County participate in the CRS program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Township of Greenwich, Class 9 Borough of National Park, Class 8 <p>Other communities in Gloucester County have noted they are exploring the possibility of participating in the program in the future.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	CRS premium discounts on flood insurance range from 5 percent for Class 9 communities up to 45 percent for Class 1 communities.
Municipal Land Use Law	Description:	The State of New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law, MLUL (L.1975, c. 291, s. 1, effective August 1, 1976) is the legislative foundation for the land use process in the State of New Jersey, including decisions by Planning Boards and Zoning Boards of Adjustment. It defines the powers and responsibilities of boards and is essential to their functions and decisions. It also provides the required components of a municipal master plan.



Capability	Details	
		<p>Every municipal agency must adopt and can amend reasonable rules and regulations, consistent with this act or with any applicable ordinance, for the administration of its functions, powers, and duties. These plans help jurisdictions review their land use plans and policies with public participation.</p> <p>In 2017 the MLUL was amended to add a new subparagraph (f) to N.J.S.A. 40-55D-28.b.(2), which requires that any land use plan element adopted after the amendment include a statement of strategy concerning, smart growth, storm resiliency, and environmental sustainability. This section of the MLUL was further amended on February 4, 2021 to require that any land use plan element of the master plan adopted or amended after that date, must include a climate change-related hazard vulnerability assessment which shall include an analysis of current and future threats to ,and vulnerabilities of the municipality associated with climate change-related hazards, including many of those identified in this Hazard Mitigation Plan update. The Municipal Land Use Law requires that each municipality prepare a comprehensive plan and update that plan every 10 years.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	State of New Jersey
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All Hazards
State of New Jersey Hazard Mitigation Plan (2019 Update)	Description:	<p>The State of New Jersey HMP includes an evaluation of the state’s overall pre- and post-hazard mitigation policies, programs, and capabilities; the policies related to development in hazard-prone areas; and the state’s funding capabilities. The State of New Jersey HMP thoroughly describes the federal and state programs available to Gloucester County to promote mitigation. The State of New Jersey HMP was used as a resource in developing Gloucester County’s HMP update.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	NJOEM
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Critical Area Protection Policy	Description:	<p>The following NJDEP programs both protect critical natural resources, and provide funding for the State, municipalities, and counties to purchase land for open-space preservation and recreation, which may directly or indirectly support hazard mitigation efforts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Acres Program • Blue Acres Program • Historical Preservation Program • Farmland Preservation • Wetlands Act of 1970 (N.J.S.A. 13:9A) • Soil and Erosion and Sediment Control Act (N.J.S.A. 4:24)



Capability	Details	
		<p>The Wetlands Act of 1970 (N.J.S.A. 13:9A) provide rules and regulations governing development in wetland areas of New Jersey. New Jersey has 15 soil conservation districts, following county boundaries that implement the New Jersey Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Act (N.J.S.A. 4:24), which governs certain aspects of new development.</p> <p>Both the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Programs are funded partially through grants administered by the NJ State Agriculture Development Committee and the New Jersey Green Acres Program. The objective of the Open Space Preservation Program is to expand the existing county and municipal park system in Gloucester County. Through this program the county has been able to expand all three county parks: Red Bank Battlefield in National Park, the James G. Atkinson Park in Washington Township and the Scotland Run Park in Clayton and Franklin Townships along with five additions of lands adjacent to the County golf course and greenway in Mantua Township.</p> <p>Gloucester County also uses a voter-supported County Open Space Tax for land preservation acquisitions. Gloucester County voters over the years have approved a \$0.04 supplement to the fund, indicating their support of the County's land preservation program and improvements to the County's current open space properties.</p> <p>In addition, the Board of County Commissioners has passed a number of bond acts over the years as needed to supplement the County fund. By implementing this proactive tactic, County residents are ensured of the continuation of our rich and thriving agricultural heritage (County 2021).</p>
	Responsible Agency:	County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes. The Open Space Fund program provides funding to acquire land and properties and turn into open space and preserve as farmland
	Hazard:	Flood, Severe Weather
Uniform Construction Code (UCC)	Description:	<p>Building codes mandate best practices and technology, much of which is designed to reduce or prevent damage from occurring when structures are under stress.</p> <p>The UCC adopts up-to-date building codes as its Building Subcode and One- and Two-Family Subcode. These Subcodes contain requirements that address construction in both A and V flood zones. Also, all new construction is required to comply with the UCC for flood zone construction.</p> <p>New Jersey has enacted legislation directing the Department of Community Affairs (NJ DCA) to adopt a radon hazard code or revise the state building code to establish "adequate and appropriate standards to ensure that schools and residential buildings within tier one areas [as defined by the state] ... are constructed in a manner that minimizes radon gas and radon progeny entry and facilitates any subsequent remediation that might prove necessary." See N.J. Stat. Ann. 52:27D-123a.</p>



Capability	Details	
		The Department then adopted a radon hazard sub-code which does not reference existing model standards or guidance, but which sets forth the basic requirements for a passive sub-slab or sub-membrane depressurization system. See N.J. Admin. Code 5:23-10.4. The radon control standards and procedures apply to new residential construction (and school construction) in “tier one” areas, as defined by the state, and Appendix 10-A of the sub-code lists the specific municipalities that are designated as tier one areas.
	Responsible Agency:	NJ DCA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Floodplain Management Policy	Description:	New Jersey State Law Flood Hazard Area Control Act (NJSA 58:16A-52): The Act and regulations attempts to minimize damage to life and property from flooding caused by development within fluvial and tidal flood hazard areas, to preserve the quality of surface waters, and to protect the wildlife and vegetation that exist within and depend upon such areas for sustenance and habitat. While it does not require local adoption, as it is enforced by the NJDEP, the floodplain ordinances of each municipality need to be reviewed to be in compliance with this new regulation.
	Responsible Agency:	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
Growth Management Policy	Description:	<p>Land preservation and recreation comprise one of the cornerstones of New Jersey’s smart growth policy. The New Jersey Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan provides Statewide policy direction to the State, local governments, and conservation organizations in the preservation of open space and the provision of public recreation opportunities. The State Plan was prepared and adopted by the State Planning Commission according to the requirements of the State Planning Act of 1985 as amended (NJSA 52:18A-196 et seq.) to serve as an instrument of State policy to guide State agencies and local government in the exercise of governmental powers regarding planning, infrastructure investment and other public actions and initiatives that affect and support economic growth and development in the State.</p> <p>Green Acres Program, Open Space Tax Program, and Development and Redevelopment Plan. The State Planning Act has enhanced the traditionally limited role of county land-use planning and control. Also provides tools for municipalities when preparing their master land use plans and better opportunity for a comprehensive approach to planning so not to harm or be in conflict with neighboring Municipalities’ plans.</p> <p>New Jersey’s Smart growth is growth that serves the environment, the economy, and the community equally. It attempts to concentrate development into already-existing communities when possible, and it addresses the inherent interconnections between environmental protection, social equity, public health, and economic sustainability.</p>



Capability	Details	
	Responsible Agency:	State Planning Commission
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Dam Safety Program	Description:	The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is responsible for safety inspections of some federal and non-federal dams in the United States that meet the size and storage limitations specified in the National Dam Safety Act. USACE has inventoried dams and has surveyed each state and federal agency’s capabilities, practices, and regulations regarding design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the dams. USACE has also developed guidelines for inspection and evaluation of dam safety (USACE 1997).
	Responsible Agency:	USACE
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood

5.3 ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES

Table 5-3 summarizes the administrative and technical capabilities in Gloucester County. Detailed information regarding administrative and technical capabilities in the County and the municipalities can be found in each jurisdictional annex found in Volume II, Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes).

Table 5-3. Administrative and Technical Capability – County and Local

Capability	Details	
Gloucester County Department of Emergency Response	Description:	<p>The mission of the Department of Emergency Response is centered on the advancement of the quality of life for the people of Gloucester County. In this regard, the department protects and enhances the safety and interests of every citizen of Gloucester County through an integrated system of public safety services and represents the interests of the county and its agencies in all public safety matters.</p> <p>The Gloucester County Office of Emergency Response is comprised of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Fire, EMS and Police Communications • County Radio Repair • Emergency Management • The Fire Marshal's Office • Hazardous Materials Response Team (CBRNE)



Capability	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Office of 911 <p>Emergency Management led the 2022 update of the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan and served on the Steering Committee throughout the planning process.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: Gloucester County Office of Emergency Management</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Provides grant administration assistance</p>
	<p>Hazard: All Hazards</p>
<p>Gloucester County Planning Division</p>	<p>Description:</p> <p>The Planning Division is responsible for the County's comprehensive planning: preparing, maintaining, and updating the County Master Plan and its various elements. Additional responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Division also serves as a coordinator and advisor for municipal planning In the area of transportation, the Division is responsible for a number of local and regional transit planning activities, as well as providing planning services for highway improvements. The division also applies for state and federal grants The Division's environmental planning supports a number of activities related to improving and/or maintaining the County's environmental quality. These include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air quality Groundwater monitoring Hazardous waste Stormwater management Water supply Watershed planning The Planning Division also serves as an affiliate for the New Jersey State Data Center The Division is a resource center for data management and mapping (geographic information systems/GIS), providing information to other agencies, municipalities, and the public The Division serves as staff to the County Planning Board, processing all site plans and subdivisions within the county The Division represents the County at various levels including the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) South Jersey Resource Conservation and Development Council State Planning Commission Tri-County Water Quality Management Board
	<p>Responsible Agency: Gloucester County Planning Division</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Provides grant administration assistance</p>
	<p>Hazard: All Hazards</p>



Capability		
<p>Gloucester County Department of Public Works</p>	<p>Description:</p>	<p>The Gloucester County Public Works Department consists of four divisions: engineering, fleet management, highway, and planning.</p> <p>The Office of the County Engineer has the following principal responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direction of capital projects involving county roads, bridges, traffic control, and drainage. Provide in-house design or oversee consultants. Complete control of projects from conception, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Budgeting ○ Construction ○ Design ○ Inspection ○ Permitting ○ Related survey work • Bridge inspection and dam inspection for County owned facilities • Review of engineering of developers' plans submitted to the County Planning Board, relating to drainage affecting County roads and traffic safety • Investigation of all traffic problems on County roads including speed limits, traffic control devices, pavement markings, signs, etc. • Investigation of drainage problems and recommendation as to solution for County owned facilities • Coordination with New Jersey Department of Transportation and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for County projects • Installation, operation and maintenance of traffic signals on County roads • Provide land surveying services to the County <p>The Gloucester County Office of Fleet Management is responsible for the repair and maintenance of all County owned vehicles, heavy-duty equipment and miscellaneous power equipment.</p> <p>The Office of Fleet Management also provides and ensures that all County departments have sufficient and reliable transportation in order to perform their assigned duties</p> <p>The Highway Division coordinates work programs under the direction of the Board of County Commissioners and the Director of Public Works. The Highway Division is involved with road and bridge maintenance repairs, this includes construction and reconstruction (asphalt overlay) of roads, and snow and ice control. The division also maintains drainage pipes, and culverts.</p>



Capability		
		<p>The department is responsible for the issuance of Road Opening Permits and the inspection of road openings and new accesses onto County roads. The Highway Division is responsible for maintaining a safe and secure County public roadway system for various modes of transportation. The primary function of the Highway Division is the operation, maintenance, and improvement of the County's 410 miles of road and 85 bridges.</p> <p>Administration and supporting activities are handled at our Clayton Complex. Maintenance functions are provided through our satellite yards in Mantua and Swedesboro. The division's highest priority is to provide the needed routine maintenance to protect the investment in existing roads and bridges.</p> <p>As described above, the Planning Division is responsible for the County's comprehensive planning: preparing, maintaining, and updating the County Master Plan and its various elements.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	Gloucester County Department of Public Works
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Gloucester County Department of Health	Description:	<p>The Gloucester County Department of Health is a service agency which operates under the auspices of the Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders. By contract with all 24 municipalities, the Department of Health provides: a range of nursing activities, environmental health services, public health information, and health education sessions to all residents of Gloucester County. Many of these services focus upon protecting persons from health threats and assist our residents to adopt healthful lifestyles. Most of these programs are provided to county residents at no charge.</p> <p>The Environmental Health Division of the Department of Health provides technical assistance and enforces public health and environmental laws to ensure the protection of the environment and the health and safety of our residents.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	Gloucester County Department of Health
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Gloucester County Division of Social Services	Description:	<p>The Gloucester County Division of Social Services (formerly the Gloucester County Board of Social Services) was established in 1932 under the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, Title 44 to provide for widows and children. Through the years it has expanded to include many more services such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash assistance to families and adults • Child Support and Paternity • Emergency assistance and employment support activities • Food Stamps • Medicaid



Capability	
	<p>It is the mission and the responsibility of the Gloucester County Division of Social Services to provide an opportunity for self-sufficiency to individuals and families through economic and social service programs designed for this purpose. The Division and its employees are committed to offering these services in an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect without regard to race, creed, disability, sex or national origin. The Division of Social Services is also dedicated to provide timely, efficient, cost-effective delivery of social, medical and economic programs in a compassionate and financially responsible manner.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: Gloucester County Division of Social Services</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p>
	<p>Hazard: All Hazards</p>
<p>Gloucester County Utilities Authority</p>	<p>Description:</p> <p>The Gloucester County Utilities Authority (GCUA) is a regional wastewater collection and treatment system serving 16 municipalities and several industrial customers in Gloucester County. Every year, the GCUA accepts and treats over 6.3 billion gallons of wastewater from the residents, businesses and industries it serves. Each and every year, the GCUA reclaims this 6.3 billion gallons of wastewater and returns it back into the environment as a high quality resource to be enjoyed by the people residing along the Delaware River Estuary.</p> <p>In addition to providing treatment of domestic wastewater, the GCUA owns and operates a septage pretreatment facility processing and disposing of thousands of gallons a day of trucked-in, non-hazardous waste streams, such as liquid, thickened and dewatered sewage sludges; non-hazardous industrial wastewater; domestic landfill leachate; non-petroleum oils and greases; grease and scum from domestic wastewater treatment facilities; domestic and commercial septage; and backwash slurries from potable water treatment facilities.</p> <p>The Authority's mission is to contribute toward the high quality of life expected and enjoyed by all residents of the Authority's service area, the county and the region by creatively applying the Authority's human, technical and financial resources. By following this general principle, the Authority will provide the facilities and services for meeting today's and tomorrow's environmental protection and economic development needs without compromising the accessibility to these resources for meeting the needs and desires of future Customers, Ratepayers and generations, at a reasonable cost.</p> <p>In more specific terms, the Authority's mission is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect the public's health and well-being • Protect, preserve and enhance the quality of our natural environment and ecological systems • Provide the appropriate wastewater facilities and services to support current and future economic development and redevelopment • Provide these facilities and services in a timely fashion • Provide these facilities and services at the Least Possible Cost



Capability	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organizational Values <p>The GCUA is always looking to improve processing methods, reduce operating costs and save energy. For example, the GCUA previously treated sewage sludge by using two Fluidized Bed Sludge Incinerators. Those sludge incinerators have been replaced with two Anaerobic Sludge Digestors. The sludge digestion process also includes a Methane Flare to burn off excess biogas. A current project underway will allow GCUA to reuse this biogas instead of flaring the biogas off. The biogas will be scrubbed clean, stored onsite, then used as fuel to power an electric engine which will produce electricity that will be used to power the GCUA Sewer Treatment Plant. This onsite electrical production will help GCUA daily, but also during emergency events when the electrical power grid may be under stress.</p>
	Responsible Agency: Gloucester County Utilities Authority
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: No
	Hazard: Flood, Severe Weather, Nor'Easter, Hurricane/Tropical Storm
Gloucester County Department of Parks and Recreation	Description: Gloucester County Parks and Recreation is responsible for the organization and development of the recreational environment within the County. One of the objectives of the Parks Department is to acquire and develop park land which will enable the residents of our County to freely exercise their needs and desires for recreation in an atmosphere of open spaces. Our other main objective is to schedule recreational programs and activities in order to meet the great need for leisure participation.
	Responsible Agency: County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: No
	Hazard: All Hazards
Gloucester County Department of Economic Development	Description: Gloucester County Department of Economic Development will foster public/private partnerships in order to create an environment of sustainable growth through retaining, expanding, and attracting quality businesses (Business Development) and by developing an educated/trained workforce (Workforce Development WDB/WIOA). Also, enhancing tourism and open space while providing a suitable environment and expanding economic opportunities for all our citizens.
	Responsible Agency: County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: No
	Hazard: All Hazards
Rutgers Cooperative Extension for Gloucester County	Description: Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) Cooperative Extension helps the diverse population of New Jersey adapt to a rapidly changing society and improve their lives and communities through an educational process that uses science based knowledge. Through science-based educational programs, Rutgers Cooperative Extension truly enhances the quality of life for residents of New Jersey and brings the wealth of knowledge of the state university to local communities.



Capability	
	<p>Rutgers NJAES Cooperative Extension of Gloucester County was established in 1917. The office provides research-based information to county residents in the areas of: 4-H Youth Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources, and Family & Community Health Sciences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-H Youth Development • Agriculture & Natural Resources • Family & Community Health Sciences <p>Responsible Agency: Rutgers University</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: Hurricane, Nor'Easter, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather</p>
NJ Department of State Office of Planning Advocacy	<p>Description: The New Jersey State Planning Commission and the Office of State Planning (now the Office for Planning Advocacy) were established by New Jersey State Planning Act (N.J.S.A. 52:18A-196 et seq.; available for reference at the New Jersey Legislature) which was signed into law on January 5, 1986. The Act called for a State Development and Redevelopment Plan to be prepared through a statewide planning process called cross-acceptance</p> <p>Responsible Agency: NJ Department of State Office of Planning Advocacy</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: All Hazards</p>
	<p>Description: Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. By supporting community efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and improve environmental equity, Sustainable Jersey aims to empower communities to build a better world for future generations. The organization also offers a certification program. Sustainable Jersey certification is a designation for municipal governments in New Jersey. All actions taken by municipalities to score points toward certification must be accompanied by documentary evidence and is reviewed. The certification is free and completely voluntary. In Gloucester County, the following municipalities are certified: East Greenwich (bronze), Glassboro (bronze), Harrison (bronze), Monroe (bronze), National Park (bronze), Pitman (bronze), Washington (silver), Wenonah (bronze), Woodbury (bronze), and Woolwich (bronze) (Jersey 2021).</p> <p>Responsible Agency: Sustainable Jersey</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
	<p>Description: The New Jersey Pinelands Commission is an independent state agency whose mission is to "preserve, protect, and enhance the natural and cultural resources of the Pinelands National Reserve, and to encourage compatible economic and other human activities consistent with that purpose." To accomplish its mission, the Commission implements a comprehensive plan that guides land use, development and natural resource protection programs in the 938,000-acre Pinelands Area of southern New Jersey.</p> <p>The Pinelands Commission has several programs and initiatives in place:</p>



Capability	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Pinelands Commission administers many resource protection programs relative to wetlands and other ecosystems, threatened and endangered species, vegetation, wildlife management, water resources, air quality, fire management and historic and cultural resources. The Pinelands Commission manages regulatory programs relative to forestry, agriculture, resource extraction, and waste management. The Pinelands Commission maintains comprehensive long-term economic and environmental monitoring programs to support its policy and regulatory decisions. As of June 2020, more than half of the Pinelands Area (479,000 acres) has been permanently preserved as open space through a variety of acquisitions, easements and other programs. The State has acquired 5,771 acres under the Pinelands Limited Practical Use Program. Non-profit organizations currently own and manage about 12,000 acres of permanently protected land (NJDEP, State of New Jersey Pinelands Commission 2021).
Responsible Agency:	Pinelands Commission
Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
Hazard:	Flood (riverine) and Wildfire

5.4 FISCAL CAPABILITIES

Fiscal capabilities are the resources that a jurisdiction has access to or is eligible to use to fund mitigation actions. The table below provides a list of programs, descriptions, and links for those jurisdictions seeking funding sources. This table is not intended to be a comprehensive list, but rather a tool to help begin identifying potential sources of funding.

Table 5-4. Fiscal Capabilities

Capability	
Federal	
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	<p>Description:</p> <p>The HMGP is a post-disaster mitigation program. It is made available to states by FEMA after each Federal disaster declaration. The HMGP can provide up to 75% funding for hazard mitigation measures. The HMGP can be used to fund cost-effective projects that will protect public or private property in an area covered by a federal disaster declaration or that will reduce the likely damage from future disasters. Examples of projects include acquisition and demolition of structures in hazard prone areas, flood-proofing or elevation to reduce future damage, minor structural improvements and development of state or local standards. Projects must fit</p>



Capability		
		<p>into an overall mitigation strategy for the area identified as part of a local planning effort. All applicants must have a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (this plan).</p> <p>Applicants who are eligible for the HMGP are state and local governments, certain nonprofit organizations or institutions that perform essential government services, and Indian tribes and authorized tribal organizations. Individuals or homeowners cannot apply directly for the HMGP; a local government must apply on their behalf. Applications are submitted to NJ OEM and placed in rank order for available funding and submitted to FEMA for final approval. Eligible projects not selected for funding are placed in an inactive status and may be considered as additional HMGP funding becomes available.</p> <p>For additional information regarding HMGP, please refer to: https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program</p>
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Flood Mitigation Assistance Program	Description:	<p>The FMA program combines the previous Repetitive Flood Claims and Severe Repetitive Loss Grants into one grant program. The FMA provides funding to assist states and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the NFIP. The FMA is funded annually; no federal disaster declaration is required. Only NFIP insured homes and businesses are eligible for mitigation in this program. Funding for FMA is very limited and, as with the HMGP, individuals cannot apply directly for the program. Applications must come from local governments or other eligible organizations. The federal cost share for an FMA project is at least 75 percent. For the non-federal share, at most 25 percent of the total eligible costs must be provided by a non-federal source; of this 25 percent, no more than half can be provided as in-kind contributions from third parties. At minimum, a FEMA-approved local flood mitigation plan is required before a project can be approved. The FMA funds are distributed from FEMA to the state. NJOEM serves as the grantee and program administrator for the FMA program. The FMA program is detailed on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/flood-mitigation-assistance-grant-program.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood, Severe Weather
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program	Description:	<p>Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) will support states, local communities, tribes and territories as they undertake hazard mitigation projects, reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards. BRIC is a new FEMA pre-disaster hazard mitigation program that replaces the existing Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program.</p>



Capability	
	<p>The BRIC program guiding principles are supporting communities through capability- and capacity-building; encouraging and enabling innovation; promoting partnerships; enabling large projects; maintaining flexibility; and providing consistency.</p> <p>For additional information regarding the BRIC program, please refer to: https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: FEMA</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p>
	<p>Hazard: All Hazards</p>
Extraordinary Circumstances	<p>Description:</p> <p>For PDM and FMA project subawards, the (FEMA) Region may apply extraordinary circumstances when justification is provided and with concurrence from FEMA Headquarters (Risk Reduction and Risk Analysis Divisions) prior to granting an exception. If this exception is granted, a local mitigation plan must be approved by FEMA within 12 months of the award of the project subaward to that community.</p> <p>For HMGP, PDM, and FMA, extraordinary circumstances exist when a determination is made by the Applicant and FEMA that the proposed project is consistent with the priorities and strategies identified in the State (Standard or Enhanced) Mitigation Plan and that the jurisdiction meets at least one of the criteria below. If the jurisdiction does not meet at least one of these criteria, the Region must coordinate with FEMA Headquarters (Risk Reduction and Risk Analysis Divisions) for HMGP; however, for PDM and FMA the Region must coordinate and seek concurrence prior to granting an exception:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The jurisdiction meets the small, impoverished community criteria (see Part VIII, B.2). •The jurisdiction has been determined to have had insufficient capacity due to lack of available funding, staffing, or other necessary expertise to satisfy the mitigation planning requirement prior to the current disaster or application deadline. •The jurisdiction has been determined to have been at low risk from hazards because of low frequency of occurrence or minimal damage from previous occurrences as a result of sparse development. •The jurisdiction experienced significant disruption from a declared disaster or another event that impacts its ability to complete the mitigation planning process prior to award or final approval of a project award. •The jurisdiction does not have a mitigation plan for reasons beyond the control of the State, federally-recognized tribe, or local community, such as Disaster Relief Fund restrictions that delay FEMA from granting a subaward prior to the expiration of the local or Tribal Mitigation Plan. <p>For HMGP, PDM, and FMA, the Applicant must provide written justification that identifies the specific criteria or circumstance listed above, explains why there is no longer an impediment to satisfying the mitigation planning requirement, and identifies the specific actions or circumstances that eliminated the deficiency.</p>



Capability	
	<p>When an HMGP project funding is awarded under extraordinary circumstances, the Recipient shall acknowledge in writing to the Regional Administrator that a plan will be completed within 12 months of the subaward. The Recipient must provide a work plan for completing the local or Tribal Mitigation Plan, including milestones and a timetable, to ensure that the jurisdiction will complete the plan in the required time. This requirement shall be incorporated into the award (both the planning and project subaward agreements, if a planning subaward is also awarded).</p> <p>Responsible Agency: FEMA</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: All Hazards</p>
Individual Assistance	<p>Description: Individual Assistance (IA) provides help for homeowners, renters, businesses, and some non-profit entities after disasters occur. This program is largely funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration. For homeowners and renters, those who suffered uninsured or underinsured losses could be eligible for a Home Disaster Loan to repair or replace damaged real estate or personal property. Renters are eligible for loans to cover personal property losses. Individuals are allowed to borrow up to \$200,000 to repair or replace real estate, \$40,000 to cover losses to personal property, and an additional 20 percent for mitigation. For businesses, loans could be made to repair or replace disaster damages to property owned by the business, including real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and supplies. Businesses of any size are eligible. Non-profit organizations, such as charities, churches, and private universities are eligible. An Economic Injury Disaster Loan provides necessary working capital until normal operations resume after a physical disaster but are restricted by law to small businesses only. IA is detailed on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/individual-disaster-assistance.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: FEMA</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: All Hazards</p>
Public Assistance	<p>Description: Public Assistance (PA) provides cost reimbursement aid to local governments (state, county, local, municipal authorities, and school districts) and certain non-profit agencies that were involved in disaster response and recovery programs or that suffered loss or damage to facilities or property used to deliver government-like services. This program is largely funded by FEMA with both local and state matching contributions required. PA is detailed on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: FEMA</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: All Hazards</p>



Capability		
Department of Homeland Security Grant Program	Description:	<p>The Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. In FY 2019, the total amount of funds available under HSGP was \$1.095 billion.</p> <p>HSGP is comprised of three interconnected grant programs including the State Homeland Security Program, Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI), and the Operation Stonegarden. Together, these grant programs fund a range of preparedness activities, including planning, organization, equipment purchase, training, exercises, and management and administration.</p> <p>Additional information regarding HSGP is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/homeland-security-grant-program.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Fire Management Assistance Grant Program	Description:	<p>Assistance for the mitigation, management, and control of fires on publicly or privately-owned forests or grasslands that threaten such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. Provides a 75% federal cost share and the state pays the remaining 25% for actual cost. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/fire-management-assistance-grant-program.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Wildfire
Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program	Description:	<p>The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated Emergency Medical Services organizations, and State Fire Training Academies. This funding is for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience. Information regarding this grant program is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Wildfire
High Hazard Potential Dams Grant Program	Description:	<p>The Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dams Grant Program provides technical, planning, design, and construction assistance in the form of grants to non-Federal governmental organizations or nonprofit organizations for rehabilitation of eligible high hazard</p>



Capability		
		potential dams. Information regarding this program is available on the website: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=316238 .
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood
Small Business Administration Loan	Description:	<p>The Small Business Administration (SBA) provides low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters, business of all sizes, and most private nonprofit organizations. SBA disaster loans can be used to repair or replace the following items damaged or destroyed in a declared disaster: real estate, personal property, machinery and equipment, and inventory and business assets.</p> <p>Homeowners could apply for up to \$200,000 to replace or repair their primary residence. Renters and homeowners could borrow up to \$40,000 to replace or repair personal property-such as clothing, furniture, cars, and appliances that were damaged or destroyed in a disaster. Physical disaster loans of up to \$2 million are available to qualified businesses or most private nonprofit organizations.</p> <p>Additional information regarding SBA loans is available on the SBA website: https://www.sba.gov/managing-business/running-business/emergency-preparedness/disaster-assistance.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	SBA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Community Development Block Grant Program	Description:	<p>CDBG are federal funds intended to provide low and moderate-income households with viable communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, roads and infrastructure, housing rehabilitation and preservation, development activities, public services, economic development, and planning and administration. Public improvements could include flood and drainage improvements. In limited instances and during the times of "urgent need" (e.g., post disaster) as defined by the CDBG National Objectives, CDBG funding could be used to acquire a property located in a floodplain that was severely damaged by a recent flood, demolish a structure severely damaged by an earthquake, or repair a public facility severely damaged by a hazard event. Additional information regarding CDBG is available on the website: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-entitlement/.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards



Capability		
Federal Highway Administration-Emergency Relief	Description:	The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief is a grant program through the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) that can be used for repair or reconstruction of federal-aid highways and roads on federal lands that have suffered serious damage as a result of a disaster. New Jersey Department of Transportation serves as the liaison between local municipalities and FHWA. Additional information regarding the FHWA Emergency Relief Program is available on the website: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/programadmin/erelief.cfm .
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. DOT
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Federal Transit Administration - Emergency Relief	Description:	The Federal Transit Authority (FTA) Emergency Relief is a grant program that funds capital projects to protect, repair, reconstruct, or replace equipment and facilities of public transportation systems. Administered by the Federal Transit Authority at the U.S. DOT and directly allocated to Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) and Port Authority, this transportation-specific fund was created as an alternative to FEMA PA. Currently, a total of \$5.2 billion has been allocated to New Jersey-related entities. Additional information regarding the FTA Emergency Relief Program is available on the website: https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/emergency-relief-program/emergency-relief-program .
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. DOT
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Disaster Housing Program	Description:	Emergency assistance for housing, including minor repair of home to establish livable conditions, mortgage and rental assistance available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/publications/dhap .
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
HOME Investment Partnerships Program	Description:	Grants to local and state government and consortia for permanent and transitional housing, (including financial support for property acquisition and rehabilitation for low income persons). Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/affordablehousing/programs/home/ .
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes



Capability		
	Hazard:	All Hazards
HUD Disaster Recovery Assistance	Description:	Grants to fund gaps in available recovery assistance after disasters (including mitigation). Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hud.gov/info/disasterresources .
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Section 108 Loan Guarantee	Description:	Enables states and local governments participating in the CDBG program to obtain federally guaranteed loans for disaster-distressed areas. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/section-108/ .
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Smart Growth Implementation Assistance program	Description:	The Smart Growth Implementation Assistance (SGIA) program through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) focuses on complex or cutting-edge issues, such as stormwater management, code revision, transit-oriented development, affordable housing, infill development, corridor planning, green building, and climate change. Applicants can submit proposals under 4 categories: community resilience to disasters, job creation, the role of manufactured homes in sustainable neighborhood design, or medical and social service facilities siting. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth .
	Responsible Agency:	EPA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Partners for Fish and Wildlife	Description:	Financial and technical assistance to private landowners interested in pursuing restoration projects affecting wetlands and riparian habitats. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fws.gov/partners/ .
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Natural Hazards
Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER)	Description:	Investing in critical road, rail, transit and port projects across the nation. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.transportation.gov/tags/tiger-grants .
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. DOT
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards



Capability		
Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program	Description:	This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program .
	Responsible Agency:	USDA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Emergency Loan Program	Description:	USDA's Farm Service Agency provides emergency loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters or quarantine. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/emergency-farm-loans/index .
	Responsible Agency:	USDA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Natural Hazards
Emergency Watershed Protection program	Description:	The Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program provides assistance to relieve imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fires, drought, windstorms, and other natural occurrences through the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/ewpp/ .
	Responsible Agency:	USDA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Natural Hazards
Financial Assistance	Description:	Financial assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns or opportunities to help save energy, improve soil, water, plant, air, animal and related resources on agricultural lands and non-industrial private forest land. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/ .
	Responsible Agency:	NRCS
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) Program	Description:	Assist local, tribal, territorial, and state governments in enhancing and sustaining all-hazards emergency management capabilities. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/emergency-management-performance-grant-program .



Capability	
	Responsible Agency: U.S. DHS
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: All Hazards
Reimbursement for Firefighting on Federal Property	Description: Provides reimbursement only for direct costs and losses over and above normal operating costs. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/grants/firefighting_federal_property.html .
	Responsible Agency: U.S. DHS
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: Wildfire
	Description: Matching grants to states and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities (as well as funding for shared federal land acquisition and conservation strategies). Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/index.htm .
	Responsible Agency: National Park Service
Land & Water Conservation Fund	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: All Natural Hazards
	State
New Jersey Clean Energy Program	Description: New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) promotes increased energy efficiency and the use of clean, renewable sources of energy including solar, wind, geothermal, and sustainable biomass. The results for New Jersey are a stronger economy, less pollution, lower costs, and reduced demand for electricity. NJCEP offers financial incentives, programs, and services for residential, commercial, and municipal customers. Refer to https://www.njcleanenergy.com/main/about-njcep/about-njcep for additional details on NJCEP. The program also offers a Community Energy Plan Grant for government entities (e.g. municipality, county, Green Team or environmental commission, or other Sustainable Jersey organization within a community or county). The grant will provide funding for an entity to create a Community Energy Master Plan to align local communities with the State Energy Master Plan
	Responsible Agency: New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: Hazards impacted by climate change
Grant and Loan Programs	Description: NJDEP offers a wide variety of funding opportunities for local governments and other types of organizations to fund numerous environmentally based projects. This includes funding for: air quality, energy, and sustainability; compliance and enforcement; engineering and construction; land use management; local government assistance; natural and historic resources; site remediation



Capability		
		and waste management programs; and water resource management. Information on each of the programs can be found on the NJDEP website: https://www.nj.gov/dep/grantandloanprograms/ .
	Responsible Agency:	NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All
Green Acres Program	Description:	Green Acres was created to meet New Jersey’s growing recreation and conservation needs. This program has helped preserve over 1.2 million acres of land in New Jersey. Gloucester County has used the Green Acres Program to acquire open space, with a majority of land being municipal- or county-owned. Between 1935 and 2020, Green Acres open space had been acquired in: Clayton, Deptford, East Greenwich, Elk, Franklin, Glassboro, Greenwich, Harrison, Logan Mantua, Monroe, National Park, Newfield, Pitman, South Harrison, Swedesboro, Washington Township, West Deptford, Woodbury, and Woolwich, amounting to 18,703 acres of Green Acres open space (NJDEP 2021).
	Responsible Agency:	NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Natural Hazards
Blue Acres Program	Description:	The goal of the Blue Acres Program, which has historically served as part of DEP’s Green Acres Program that purchases flood-prone properties, is to dramatically reduce the risk of future catastrophic flood damage and to help families to move out of harm’s way. The Superstorm Sandy Blue Acres program launched in May 2013 and is recognized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a “National Best Practice.” Blue Acres dates back to 1995, but activity expanded sharply after Hurricane Sandy in 2012. As of September 2019, the program has purchased approximately 1,000 properties (about 700 since Sandy) and plans to acquire hundreds more using a mix of state and federal funding. Blue Acres buyouts take 6 to 12 months from start to closing, depending on the homeowner’s situation and needs; after closing, it will take another 6 to 12 months to complete demolition. This timeline is substantially faster than most FEMA-funded buyouts—but it has required extensive work to reach this point.
	Responsible Agency:	NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood, Severe Weather
New Jersey Water Bank	Description:	The New Jersey Water Bank (NJWB) is a partnership between the NJDEP and the NJEIT to provide low cost financing for the design, construction, and implementation of projects that help protect and improve water quality and help ensure safe and adequate drinking water.



Capability		
		The NJWB finances projects by utilizing two funding sources. The Trust issues revenue bonds which are used in combination with zero percent interest funds to provide very low interest loans for water infrastructure improvements. The NJDEP administers a combination of Federal State Revolving Fund capitalization grants, as well as the State's matching funds, loan repayments, State appropriations and interest earned on such funds.
	Responsible Agency:	NJDEP and New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood, Severe Weather
New Jersey Redevelopment Authority	Description:	The New Jersey Redevelopment Authority (NJRA) is an independent state financing authority committed exclusively to the redevelopment of New Jersey's urban areas. NJRA offers several financing resources including site acquisition funding, predevelopment assistance, several development assistance resources, and technical assistance.
	Responsible Agency:	New Jersey Redevelopment Authority
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs	Description:	The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJCA) is a state agency created to provide administrative guidance, financial support, and technical assistance to local governments, community development organizations, businesses, and individuals to improve the quality of life in New Jersey. NJCA offers a wide range of programs, funding, and services that respond to issues of public concern including fire and building safety, housing production, community planning and development, and local government management and finance. Among other funding sources, NJCA administers CDBG funding and is typically the CDBG-Disaster Relief funding recipient for the State of New Jersey.
	Responsible Agency:	New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities	Description:	The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) works with private utility companies to provide analysis of natural hazard information affecting the provision of electric power, telecommunications, public water, sewage collection and treatment, and other regulated public utilities. The data are used during response and recovery efforts in the event of emergency or disaster and is also used to analyze impact of mitigation plans and projects. BPU also provides technical assistance for the Energy Resiliency Program
	Responsible Agency:	BPU
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards



Capability		
Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program	Description:	Qualified borrowers receive loans in two equal parts: Approximately one half to three quarters comes from a 0-interest State Revolving Fund maintained by the NJDEP. The other portion comes from proceeds of highly rated tax-exempt revenue bonds sold by the Trust. Combining these two funds results in a loan that is 50 to 75% lower than traditional loan rates.
	Responsible Agency:	NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Natural Hazards
New Jersey Small Cities Communities Development Block Grants	Description:	The New Jersey Small Cities Communities Development Block Grants provide funds for economic development, housing rehabilitation, community revitalization, and public facilities designated to benefit people with low and moderate incomes, or to address recent local needs for which no other source of funding is available to non-entitlement counties and municipalities. Information on the program is available on the website: https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/neighborhood.html .
	Responsible Agency:	NJDCA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
New Jersey Conservation Foundation	Description:	The New Jersey Conservation Foundation (NJCF) is a private, not-for-profit organization. Through acquisition and stewardship, NJCF protects strategic lands, promotes strong land use policies, and forges partnerships to achieve conservation goals. Grants to help fund preservation activities. Information on the program is available on the website: https://www.njconservation.org/what-we-do/ .
	Responsible Agency:	NJCF
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Natural Hazards
The New Jersey Infrastructure Bank	Description:	<p>Two programs provide and administer low interest rate loans to qualified municipalities, counties, regional authorities, and water purveyors in New Jersey. Approximately \$350 million is awarded annually.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NJEIT for the purpose of financing water quality infrastructure projects that enhance ground and surface water resources, ensure the safety of drinking water supplies, protect the public health and make possible responsible and sustainable economic development. 2. The New Jersey Transportation Infrastructure Bank (NJTIB) is an independent State Financing Authority responsible for providing and administering low interest rate loans to qualified municipalities, counties, and regional authorities in New Jersey for the purpose of financing transportation quality infrastructure projects. <p>Information on the program is available on the website: https://www.njib.gov/.</p>



Capability		
	Responsible Agency:	NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Natural Hazards
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	Description:	The DWSRF program assists water systems in financing the cost of infrastructure through the use of federal and New Jersey Infrastructure Trust funds. Additionally, the Water Supply program provides operator licensing and training support as well as financial assistance through the DWSRF program. Information on the program is available on the website: https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/dws_loans.html .
	Responsible Agency:	NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Drought
New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT)	Description:	Funding of the Program is typically federal through the Federal Highway Administration or State through the Transportation Trust Fund. Information on the program is available on the website: https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/funding.shtm .
	Responsible Agency:	NJDOT
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards
County and Local		
Capital Improvement Plans	Description:	Capital Improvement Plans outline capital spending and investments necessary for public improvements. Many municipalities in Gloucester County have Capital Improvement Plans. These plans and budgets have been and may continue to be used to fund mitigation projects and demonstrate integration into daily operations. Refer to the jurisdictional annexes in Section 9 for further details.
	Responsible Agency:	County and Local Municipalities
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All Hazards



5.5 PLAN INTEGRATION

Described earlier in this section and within each annex, participating jurisdictions identified integration of hazard risk management into their existing planning, regulatory, and operational/administrative framework (“integration capabilities”) and intended integration promotion (integration actions). Volume II, Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) provides details on how each jurisdiction integrates hazard mitigation into their existing capabilities.

5.5.1 Integration Process

Hazard mitigation is a sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. Integrating hazard mitigation into a community’s existing plans, policies, codes, and programs leads to development patterns that do not increase risk from known hazards or leads to redevelopment that reduces risk from known hazards. The Gloucester County Planning Partnership was tasked with identifying how hazard mitigation is integrated into existing planning mechanisms. Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) details how this is done for each participating municipality and the County. During this process, many municipalities recognized the importance and benefits of incorporating hazard mitigation into future municipal planning and regulatory processes and have added new mitigation actions to support this effort.

The Planning Partnership representatives will continue to incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of daily government operations. Planning Partnership representatives will continue to work with local government officials to integrate the newly adopted hazard mitigation goals and actions into the general operations of government and partner organizations. Further, the sample adoption resolution presented in Appendix A (Plan Adoption) includes a resolution item stating the intent of the local governing body to incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of government and partner operations. By doing so, the Planning Partnership anticipates that:

1. Hazard mitigation planning will be formally recognized as an integral part of overall planning and emergency management efforts.
2. The Hazard Mitigation Plan, Master Plans, Emergency Management Plans, and other relevant planning mechanisms will become mutually supportive documents that work in concert to meet the goals and needs of County residents.

Section 7 (Plan Maintenance) provides for additional information on the implementation of the mitigation plan through existing programs.