



COMMUNITY PLANNING & CAPACITY BUILDING

Needs:

- Regional coordination to protect our communities and plan for future disasters
- Public education/outreach to increase awareness of the potential impacts of natural disasters
- Cross-jurisdictional map of alternative evacuation routes and real-time display
- Enforcement of existing regulations
- Examination of zoning and building codes to increase resiliency in the flood plain
- Cross jurisdictional training for emergency service workers and volunteers
- Regional "Command Center(s)"
- Develop strong partnerships with state, federal, and municipal governments
- Reduced flood insurance rates

Opportunities:

- Continue Ulster Communities CR program in some capacity to address regional planning and capacity building needs
- Develop a public education campaign(s) focused on
 - Building with flood proof materials, retrofitting homes, methods for elevating, financial resources
 - Provide current and updated Flood maps & flood insurance programs
 - Emergency preparedness: Develop a warning system, potentially through social media (reverse 911)
- Development of a real-time emergency evacuation system
 - "Hurricane Evacuation Decision Support Solution" – South Carolina evacuation system
- Train code enforcement officers/building inspectors on enforcement issues related to flood mitigation techniques
- Review and update zoning laws/ordinances and prepare design guidelines for development
- Participate in the Community Rating System
- Evaluate sites for a regional command center(s) and a regional warehouse

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Needs:

- Protect business centers (hamlets, central business districts, village centers) from future flood damage
- Promote tourism as a key economic engine

- Protect historic resources
- Protect agricultural lands and livestock
- Promote agri-tourism as an economic engine
- Critical area broadband development
- Promote public/private partnerships
- Connection to local food systems, maintaining supplies at local food pantries
- Business assistance – loans, grants for working capital, equipment needs, retrofitting, relocating, backup generators, business, electrical and crop loss insurance
- Green Infrastructure for treatment of stormwater in business construction

Opportunities:

- Provide assistance to businesses to protect from future flooding: mitigation measures, relocation, flood proofing
- Develop a regional tourism development strategy
- Identify farms that were damaged during Irene, Lee, or Sandy to determine mitigation and protection measures aimed at preventing the loss of farmland
- Develop a regional agri-tourism strategy
- Identify ways to protect historic resources from future flooding
- Conduct Broadband study
- Promote local agricultural resources and identify grant sources for food pantry replenishment
- Educate businesses who are developing in new locations about the financial and ecological value of green infrastructure
- Create public private partnerships
 - Partner with grocery stores, gas stations, pharmacies, and home stores to provide back-up generators to ensure continued operation during storms
 - Create an inventory of “emergency recovery” materials, including batteries, plugs, extension cords, and larger infrastructure materials and identify a central storage facility for these materials.
- Small Business Storm Recovery Program (grants and loans for remediation, mitigation and protection and support for seasonal businesses)

HOUSING

Needs:

- Protect neighborhoods and housing from future flooding
- Provide resilient and sustainable housing choices for all income levels
- Identify new locations outside of the flood plain for senior housing facilities
- Protection of existing senior housing including access points
- Address flood insurance rate increases
- Housing rehab program for any home in that was damaged (in and out of the floodplain)

- Emergency housing for displaced people after storm events (homes, motels/hotels, Bed and Breakfasts)
- Address prevailing wage requirements for municipal contracts (Ulster County in the same region as NYC)

Opportunities:

- Provide assistance to homeowners to protect from future flooding: mitigation measures, elevation, acquisition and relocation, flood proofing
- Continue public/private partnerships to ensure a variety of housing choices
- Update Ulster County’s regional housing needs assessment
- Identify ways to protect historic homes from future flooding
- Address increasing costs of flood insurance
- Work with Ulster County to develop a strong county-wide housing rehabilitation program
- Identify a network of homes and facilities that can be used for displaced people after storm events

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Needs:

- Protect health and social service facilities from future flooding
- Maintain access to critical health and social service facilities during storm events
- Backup generators for key facilities
- Regional sheltering
- Enhance EMS, Fire, Police coverage
- Providing accessible food pantries
- Provide services to vulnerable populations during and immediately after storm events (access to food, medicine, medical needs, transportation, etc.)

Opportunities:

- Protect key health and social service providers: mitigation measures, elevation, relocation, flood proofing
- Provide generators through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Feasibility analysis for potential for alternative energy sources at key locations
- Conduct feasibility study of closed schools for regional shelters
- Increase volunteerism
- Enhanced training opportunities and regional coordination
- Develop a food pantry network and educate and inform residents
- Coordinate with EMS, Fire, utilities (Central Hudson) to maintain a list of vulnerable and home-bound populations

INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS

Needs:

- Repair and protect identified infrastructure assets (WWTP, roads, bridges, dams, etc.)
- Better protection for (burial of) power lines to protect from future storm events
- Evaluation of existing flood control systems
- Protect communication towers
- Replacement of culverts of various sizes
- Stormwater improvements – upgrades and retrofits
- Detour route signage and road upgrades
- Upgrade flood maps
- Coordinate with state and federal agencies in relation to permitting needs and evaluating and repairing flood control systems

Opportunities:

- Protect identified infrastructure assets: mitigation measures, elevation, relocation, flood proofing
- Consideration of burying power lines to reduce power outages during storm events
- Work with state and federal agencies to evaluate existing flood control systems and to update flood maps
- Conduct engineering feasibility studies to upgrade and retrofit public stormwater systems
- Ensure adequate stormwater ordinances

NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES

Needs:

- Hydrological study of key watersheds
- Selective/Sustainable gravel removal
- Clean up of stream and river debris and restore natural stream and river banks
- Restore existing damaged or vulnerable recreational assets and develop new recreational assets
- Alternative stormwater measures (i.e., green infrastructure)
- Coordinate with state and local agencies on water-related issues
- Reduce impacts from water pollution during storm events
- Protect and restore sensitive environmental areas
- Recreational Access to streams after restoration

Opportunities:

- Conduct hydrologic study of key watersheds
- Determine gravel removal sites after consideration of stream hydrology
- Identify priority areas for debris removal and establish an ongoing maintenance system
- Implement best practices for stream management
- Examine areas for green infrastructure to reduce stormwater impacts

- Research implementation of water pollution control measures for both roadway runoff and wash-off from agricultural operations.
- Inventory sensitive environmental systems (wetlands, tidal areas, etc.) for use in flood control and storm surge barriers
- Identify opportunities for stormwater management systems, where they don't currently exist
- Determine ability to use riparian buffer areas for a regional trail system
- Consider a wetland banking system as a means to mitigate from future storm events
- Coordination with state and federal regulatory agencies for flexibility in identifying innovative mitigation measures.