

TOWN OF HIGHGATE, VT
LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – STAKEHOLDER AND PUBLIC OUTREACH PLAN

To meet FEMA requirements and to ensure public, neighboring community, local and regional agency input opportunities, the following communication methods are recommended.

Goals:

1. Inclusive Participation and collaboration – Ensure all relevant stakeholders and the public have opportunities to contribute including people with disabilities, access and functional needs. Foster collaboration among all stakeholders.
2. Informed Decision-Making – Provide necessary education and information regarding hazards and risks.
3. Community Buy-In – Foster community support and ownership by involving stakeholders and public from the start.
4. Transparency - Build trust through clear, transparent and consistent communication throughout the planning process
5. Effective Implementation = Gather input that is practical, sustainable and responsive to the needs of the community.
6. Compliance –Ensure federal, state and local requirements for public involvement in hazard mitigation planning are met.

Identifying Planning Team and Stakeholders

- Local Government Officials – Selectboard Chair, Selectboard members, public works director, first response agencies, health officer, finance, zoning administrator, planning, and regional planning commission, Health Department
- School representatives
- Local and regional entities that support people with disabilities, access, and functional needs (PDAFN) or vulnerable populations (vulnerability specific to hazard mitigation)
 - Hospital / medical care (Northwest Medical Center, Northern Tier Center for Community Health (NOTCH))
 - Visiting Nurses Association Hospice of the Southwest Region (Bennington, Franklin and Rutland Counties)
 - Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity
 - Age Well (Meals on Wheels)
 - Mobile home properties
 - People living in flood zones
 - Turning Point of Franklin County
- Franklin County Natural Resource Conservation District
- Friends of Northern Lake Champlain
- Neighboring communities (Franklin, Sheldon, Swanton Town and Swanton Village)
 - Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Dispatch Center (St. Albans City)
 - Franklin County Mutual Aid
 - EMS Services (Missiquoi Valley Rescue, Inc.)
 - Neighboring EMDs
 - Town Clerks
- Businesses that support hazard mitigation / emergency response
 - Business and Community Association (EBCA)
 - Swanton Village Electric
 - Vermont Electric Co-operative
 - Northern Vermont Economic Development District
 - Franklin County Industrial Development
 - Franklin County Chamber of Commerce

- Northwest FiberWorx (community broadband)
- Non-Profit organizations – Including community-based organizations that work directly with or provide support to people with disabilities or functional accesses needs or front-line communities – housing, health care, etc.
 - Food Shelf, Healthy Roots Collaborative, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Northern Tier Center for Health, Meals on Wheels)

Communication Methods and Implementation:

- Post meeting information (agenda, slides, zoom link, etc.) on municipal website
- Post meeting information (agenda, slides, zoom link, etc.) on municipal social media sites
- Post Online surveys / questionnaires on Montgomery Mitigation Project website
- Send email notifications (e.g., meeting dates, agenda, slides, etc.) to the entities listed below
- Post hard copies of meeting information (agenda, slides, etc.) in municipal buildings (village office, library, public safety building, general store)
- Post hard copy of meeting information (agenda, slides, etc.) including non-municipal buildings (e.g., post office, NOTCH, etc.)

Processing Feedback

Feedback opportunities included public meetings, public comment period, requests. online feedback via email link, phone, regular updates and follow-ups. Comments and feedback received were incorporated during the plan update.

Planning Team and Stakeholders		
Name	Organization	Role
Fredi Hayes	Town Administrator	Planning Team Lead (Community Lead POC)
Shaun Coleman	Northwest Regional Planning Commission	Planning Team Member (Project Leader)
Merry Souza	Selectboard Chair	Planning Team Member (Community EMD. Health Officer)
Luc Dupois	Planning Commission Chair	Planning Team Member
Scott Dupuis	Planning Commission Vice-Chair	Planning Team Member
Luc Choinierre	Public Works Director, Selectboard	Planning Team Member (Community PW Lead)
Gary Greenough	Fire Chief	Planning Team Member (Fire Response Agency Chief)
Wendy Dusablon	Town Clerk	Planning Team Member (Local official)
Dennis Nolan	Historical Society	Stakeholder (Historical and Cultural Resources)
William Sheets	Swanton Village Manager, Swanton Village Electric	Planning Team Stakeholder (Electric Utility, and Neighboring Community Official))
	Vermont Electric Co-op	Planning Team Stakeholder (Electric Utility)
Joel Clark	Swanton Town Selectboard Chair	Stakeholder (Neighboring Community Official)
Stephen Dodd	Sheldon Selectboard Chair	Stakeholder

		(Neighboring Community Official)
Dave Benion	Franklin Selectboard Chair	Stakeholder (Neighboring Community Official, EMD)
Jacqueline Kelley	EP, Vermont Department of Health, St. Albans District	Stakeholder (Community Health Including Disabilities and Individuals with Functional Access Needs)
Reginald Beliveau, Jr.	Interim Chair, Franklin County Regional Emergency Management Committee	Stakeholder (County EM services and first responders)
Jess Graff	Director, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity	Stakeholder (People with Disabilities and Functional Access Needs)
	Highgate Food Shelf	Stakeholder (Food, Shelter)
Ashley Bartley	Visiting Nurses Association (formerly Franklin County Home Health Agency)	Stakeholder (Senior Healthcare, Hospice and Community Support Services)
Lauren Weston	Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District	Stakeholder
Karen Heinlein-Grenier	Director Turning Point of Franklin County	Stakeholder (Recovery Support and Services)
Keith Ellery	Northwest Medical Center Emergency Ops Manager	Stakeholder (Regional Hospital)
Justina Jennet	Highgate Elementary School	Stakeholder (Education)
Dan Palmer	Missisquoi Valley Union High School	Stakeholder (Education)
Carl Watkins	Franklin County Regional Chamber of Commerce	Stakeholder (Local Businesses)
Tim Smith	Franklin County Industrial Development & Northern VT Economic Development District Office	Stakeholder (Economic Development and Industry)
Bridget Butler	Friends of Northern Lake Champlain, ED	Stakeholder (Natural Resources)

Outreach Contacts	
Apartment Complex	None
Senior Living	None
Airport – State	VT Agency Of Transportation Franklin County Airport Border Air Ltd. 629 Airport Road Highgate, VT 05488 (802) 373-4136 / 868-2822
Businesses	Franklin County Regional Chamber of Commerce Manager Carl Watkins 2 N Main St.#101 St. Albans, VT 05478 (802)524-2444
Community Action	Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) Director Jess Graff 5 Lemnah Dr., Suite 5 St. Albans, VT 05478 (802) 527-7392
Conservation District	Franklin County Natural Resources Conservation District USDA – NRCS Field Office Lauren Weston, District Manager 50 South Main St. Ste B-20 St. Albans, VT 05478 (802)489-8596
Environment	Friends of Northern Lake Champlain Bridget Butler, Executive Director PO Box 1145 St. Albans, VT 05478
Daycare	MVSD Highgate Preschool 219 Gore Road Highgate Center, VT 05459 (802)868-4170
Economic Development and Industry	Franklin County Industrial Development Corp. Northern VT Economic Development District Tim Smith, Director, Board member 2 N Main Street St. Albans City, VT 05478 (802)524-2194
Food Shelf	Highgate Methodist Church Community Center 3060 Rte. 78 Highgate, VT 05459 (802)868-4921
Library and Community Center	Highgate Library and Community Center 17 Mill Hill Road Highgate Center, VT 05459 (802)868-3970
Government Office	Highgate Municipal Complex

Fire Station Public Works	2996 VT-78 Highgate Center, VT 05459 (802)868-4697
Government Office (neighboring)	Swanton Village Municipal Complex 120 First Street Swanton VT 05488 (802)868-3397
Government Office (neighboring)	Swanton Town Office 1 Academy Lane Swanton, VT 05488 (802)868-4421
Government Office (neighboring)	Sheldon Town Office 1640 Main Street Sheldon, VT 05483 (802)933-2524
Government Office (neighboring)	Franklin Town Office 5167 Main St. Franklin, VT 05457 (802)285-2101
Historical	Highgate Historical Society 3181 VT Route 78 Highgate Center, VT 05459
Hospital	Northwest Medical Center Keith Ellery, Emergency Manager 133 Fairfield St. St. Albans, VT 05478 (802)524-5911
Mobile Home Park	All Rental Mobile Home Park N&A Pine Haven Inc. Route 78 Highgate Center, VT 05459 (802)868-7032
Mobile Home Park	ANDCO Mobile Home Park First Choice Property Mgmt Frontage Road Highgate Center, VT 05459 (802)582-0049
Mobile Home Park	Descorcie's Mobile Home Park Paul's Court Highgate, VT 05459 (802)868-4409
Mobil Home Park	LynnLout Mobile Home Park Route 78 Highgate, VT 05459 (802)752-6000
Municipal Public Works Fire Department	Highgate Municipal Complex 2996 VT-78 Highgate Center, VT 05459

Highgate Dam (Operator Swanton Village Electric)	Swanton Village Electric 120 First Street Swanton VT 05488 (802)868-3397
Religious Facility	St. John's Episcopal Church 161 Park Street Highgate, Center, VT 05459 (802)868-7185
Religious Facility	St. Louis Parish Church 222 Lamkin Street Highgate, VT 05488 (802)868-70341
Residential Home Care	None
School	Highgate Elementary School 219 School Street Highgate Center, VT 05489 (802)868-4406
School	Missisquoi Valley Union Middle and High School 100 Thunderbird Drive Highgate, VT 05489 (802)868-7311
US Customs and Border Patrol	GSA Highgate Springs Port of Entry 482 Welcome Center Road, Highgate Springs, VT 05489 (802) 578-3486
US Postal Service	US Post Office - Highgate 38 St. Armand Rd Highgate Center, VT 05459 (802)275-8777
US Postal Service	US Post Office – Highgate Springs 2934 VT Route 7 Highgate Springs, VT 05489 (802)868-2106
Utility	Highgate Converter Station Vermont Transco, Inc. 2694 Vt Route 78 Highgate, VT 05489 Contact: (802)770-6261
Utility	Highgate Substation Vermont Transco 2759 Vt Route 78 Highgate, VT 05489 Contact: (802)770-6261
Utility	Vermont Gas Systems Inc. 85 Swift Street South Burlington, VT 05403 (802)863-4511

Utility and Hydro Dam	Swanton Village Electric 120 First St, Swanton, VT 05488 (802)868-3397
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