

Town of Highgate Mitigation Plan 2026 Update

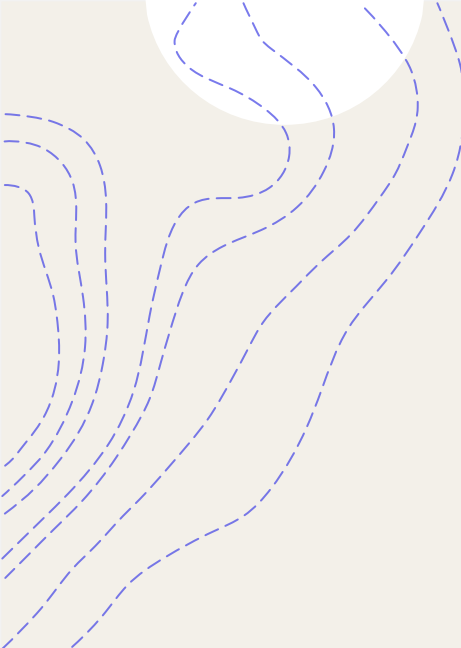


**Northwest
Regional Planning
Commission**

Mitigation Goals

Meeting

Date: May 19, 2026



Local Hazard Mitigation Meeting Agenda

- 1. Introductions**
 - 2. Public Comment**
 - 3. Adjustments to the Agenda**
 - 4. Timeline Review**
 - 5. Hazard Mitigation Projects Past and Present**
 - 6. Next Steps**
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Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting Agenda

Goal: Update the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Town of Highgate.

"Hazard mitigation" is any sustainable action that reduces or eliminates long-term risk to people and property from future disasters. Mitigation planning breaks the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction and repeated damage.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting

Timeline of Deliverables



Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting

Four Action Categories

Actions must be considered in the following categories:

1. Structure and Infrastructure Projects
 - Culvert upgrades, stormwater infrastructure (catch basins, ditches, culverts) maintenance, bridge replacement, flood proofing buildings, buyouts
2. Natural Systems Protection
 - Streambank restoration / stabilization, debris removal to restore floodplain capacity
3. Local Plans and Regulations
 - Adopt River Corridor bylaws, Stormwater Master Plan, Right-of-Way Vegetation Management Plan, Debris Management Plan
4. Education and Awareness Programs
 - Providing flood mitigation information to homeowners through utility mailings; having a discussion on mitigation actions the village can take during Town Meeting Day. Providing information to public on Emerald Ash Borer

Identify at least one mitigation action for each hazard prioritized / profiled in the plan. Mitigation actions must reduce risks associated with vulnerabilities identified in the plan.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting

Previous Actions Scoring Criteria

SCORING CRITERIA

The following criteria was rated according to a numeric **SCORE** of “1” (**Poor**), “2” (**Average**) or “3” (**Good**).

1. Does the action reduce damage?
2. Does the action contribute to community objectives?
3. Does the action meet existing regulations?
4. Does the action protect historic structures or structures critical to municipal operations?
5. Can the action be implemented quickly?
6. Is the action socially acceptable?
7. Is the action technically feasible?
8. Is the action administratively possible?
9. Is the action politically acceptable?
10. Is the action legal?
11. Does the action offer reasonable benefits compared to its cost of implementation?
12. Is the action environmentally sound?

Cost Estimates

High	=> \$100,000
Medium	= \$25,000 – 100,000
Low	=< \$25,000

Benefit Estimates

High	Public Safety
Medium	Infrastructure / Function
Low	Aesthetics / General Maintenance

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An abstract graphic design on a light beige background. In the upper right, there is a large white circle. Below it and to the left is a solid grey rectangle. Several blue dashed lines of varying lengths and curves are scattered across the composition, some appearing to flow from the top left towards the bottom right, and others forming loops or arcs. The overall style is minimalist and modern.

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Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting

Previous Hazard Mitigation Actions

Priority / Score	Mitigation Project / Hazard Addressed	Responsibility/ Oversight	Funding/Support	Time – Frame	Cost / Benefit	Status
High / 35	Transfer Station property and road slope stabilization / Flooding, fluvial erosion, land slide.	Selectboard	FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). Vermont AOT Structures grant, Vermont Better Roads Program. Local Funding.	Medium -term. Project January 2020 – September 2023	High / High	In progress. HMGP funding conditionally secured. Geo analysis completed. Initial Engineering completed. Continue to work the SHMO and FEMA to meet grant funding requirements.
High / 35	Machia Road Bank Stabilization / Flooding, Fluvial Erosion, Landslide	Selectboard	FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Vermont AOT Structures Grant, Local Funding.	Medium – Term January 2020 – September 2023	High/High	Vermont AOT conducted slope stability engineering at site to determine cause and severity. Town monitoring road. Seeking grant funding source.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting

Previous Hazard Mitigation Actions

Priority / Score	Hazard Addressed / Mitigation Action	Responsibility / Oversight	Time – Frame	Funding / Support	Cost / Benefit	Initial Implementation Steps
Medium / 33	Property buyouts for Monument Road Residences / Flooding, Fluvial Erosion, Landslide	Selectboard	FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Vermont AOT Structures Grant, Local Funding.	Long - Term April 2020 – December 2025	High/High	Selectboard would have to secure funding and property owners would need to be educated on program and approached for consideration.
High / 33	Highgate/Swanton Monument Road Flood Proofing (road elevation, bank stabilization, drainage improvements) Flooding, Fluvial Erosion, Landslide, Severe Winter Storm (Ice Storm)	Selectboard	FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Vermont AOT Structures Grant, Local Funding.	Long-Term May 2020 – December 2025	High / High	Selectboard approach Swanton Town Officials regarding joint project to reduce flooding along road. Design/engineering.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting

Previous Hazard Mitigation Actions

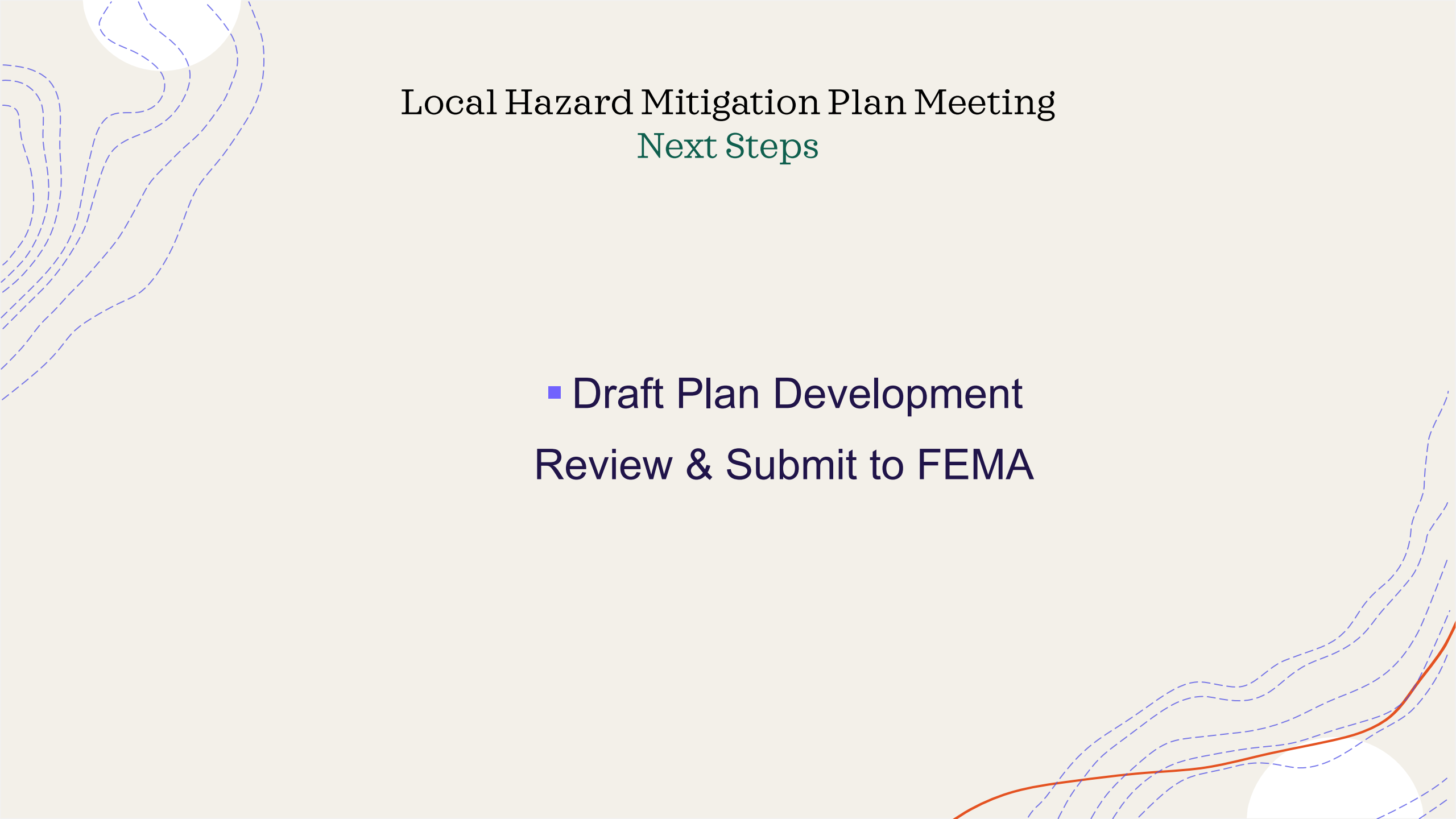
Priority / Score	Hazard Addressed / Mitigation Action	Responsibility / Oversight	Time – Frame	Funding / Support	Cost / Benefit	Initial Implementation Steps
Medium / 34	St. Armand Road Culvert upgrade / Flooding, Fluvial Erosion, Landslide, Severe Winter Storm (Ice Storm)	Selectboard	FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). Vermont AOT Structures grant, Vermont Better Back Roads Program.	Medium-Term January 2020 – September 2023	High / High	Site design/engineering study. Obtain necessary permits from state.
Medium / 33	Pine Plains Road Erosion Control. Flooding, Fluvial Erosion, Landslide	Selectboard	Better Back Roads grant. Grants In Aid project funding.	Medium – Term January 2020 – September 2023	Medium /High	Site design/engineering study. Obtain necessary permits from state.

Priority / Score	<i>Hazard Addressed / Mitigation Action</i>	Responsibility / Oversight	Time – Frame	Funding / Support	Cost / Benefit	Initial Implementation Steps
Medium / 34	Rollo Road drainage improvements (1.5 miles east of the intersection with Ballard Road) / Flooding Fluvial Erosion	Selectboard	VT Grants in Aid Program. Local Funding.	Short – Term (Start May 1, 2020. End June 30, 2020	Medium – High	Funding secured. Construction to begin spring of 2020.
High / 34	Procure and install generator for water system building at the Highgate elementary school. / All-Hazards	Selectboard/School Board	VT Rural Development Grant, local funding	On-going	Medium / High	Load requirements and needs to operate as a shelter have been determined. Estimates received from different vendors following procurement procedures. Determine maintenance, liability responsibilities. Apply for funding.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting

Previous Hazard Mitigation Actions

Priority / Score	Hazard Addressed / Mitigation Action	Responsibility / Oversight	Time – Frame	Funding / Support	Cost / Benefit	Initial Implementation Steps
High / 34	Support Power Utility Efforts to Protect Utility Corridors (tree / branch removal. Severe Winter Storm (Ice Storm), Severe Thunderstorm (High Winds, Hail, Lightning)	Selectboard	Local	Short Term Start: May 2020 End: October 2020	Low / High	Support power utility standards of in identifying utility corridors in need of tree pruning.



Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting

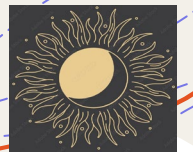
Next Steps

- Draft Plan Development
Review & Submit to FEMA

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Meeting

Comments?
Questions?

Contact: Northwest Regional Planning Commission
Shaun Coleman, Senior Planner (802)524-5958 x113 or scoleman@nrpcvt.com



Town of South Hero