Fountain Hill Borough, Lehigh County Annex

Hazard Mitigation Plan Points-of-Contact

Primary:
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Alternate:
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Municipal Profile

The Borough of Fountain Hill is located in eastern Lehigh County, and is part of the Allentown / Bethlehem metropolitan area. Fountain Hill is primarily a residential municipality, with an estimated population of 4,597 (2010 Census). Fountain Hill is surrounded by the City of Bethlehem (Northampton County) to the east; Lower Saucon Township (Northampton County) to the south; and Salisbury Township to the west. The Lehigh River forms the borough's northern boundary, separating it from the City of Bethlehem (Lehigh County). The total area of the borough is approximately 0.7 square miles.

The Lehigh River forms the borough's northern border south of Bethlehem, and is the only waterway in the Borough. The other main aquatic feature is the Lechauweki Springs, which is the site of a passive park with a pond, an island gazebo, historic interpretive signs, trails and picnic areas.

While the borough maintains 23 miles of municipal roads, there are no highways within its boundaries. Broadway and Delaware Avenue provide direct connections to the City of Bethlehem to the east, and Salisbury Township and Allentown to the west. State Route 378 passes a short distance east of the Borough.

Municipal Participation

1. Identify municipal stakeholders to be involved in the planning process such as, floodplain administrator, public works, emergency management, engineers, planners, etc., and include their specific role in the process.

Jason Quarry, Public Works Supervisor
Role:
Don Sabo, Emergency Management
Role:
Ed Bachert, Police Chief
Role:
Jill Smith / Designee, Hanover Engineering
Role:

Dave Boeher, Fire Chief
Role:
Ray Anthony, Fire Marshall
Role:
Anthony Branco, Executive Administrator
Role:

2. Identify community stakeholders such as; neighborhood groups, religious groups, major employers / businesses, etc., that will be informed and / or involved in the planning process and describe how they will be involved.

Lehigh Valley Housing
Cedarbrook Annex

St. Luke's University Health Network (SLUHN)
Bethlehem School District

3. Describe how the public **will be engaged** in the current planning process examples, newsletters, social media, etc., **and how they were engaged** since the 2013 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Unknown for 2013 to date.
Fire Department and Police Department social media bursts

Compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
1. Staff Resources		
Is the Community Floodplain Administrator (FPA) or NFIP Coordinator certified?	Community FPA	Floodplain permits reviewed by the Engineer and issued by the Zoning Officer.
Is floodplain management an auxiliary function?	Community FPA	Yes. Only addressed when a subdivision plan comes in.
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, GGIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Community FPA	All permits are received by the Zoning Officer and then reviewed by an inspection agency to comply with Building Codes. The Engineer also reviews for any floodplains, steep slopes, etc.
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	Community FPA	Small staff trying to do multiple jobs, as well as the financial restraints faced by the Borough.
2. Compliance History		
Is the community in good standing with the NFIP?	State NFIP Coordinator, FEMA NFIP Specialist, or community records	Yes
Are there any outstanding compliance issues (i.e., current violations)?		No
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visits (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC)?		Unknown
Is a CAV or CAC scheduled or needed?		Unknown

Compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) – *continued*

Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
3. Regulation		
When did the community enter the NFIP?	NFIP Community Status Book	Unknown
Are the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) digital or paper? How are residents assisted with mapping?	Community FPA	Currently maps are paper. Walk-in requests for assistance. New maps will be both, per the FEMA contact person.
Do floodplain regulations meet or exceed FEMA or State minimum requirements? If so, in what ways?	Community FPA	The Borough meets all the requirements of the PA Floodplain Management Act (Act 1978-166) as well as all FEMA regulations.
Describe the permitting process	Community FPA, State, FEMA NFIP	Zoning Officer receives a permit, the permit is sent to the Engineer and Inspection Agency for review and approval. Hearings are held if required.
4. Insurance Summary		
How many NFIP policies are in the community? What is the total premium and coverage?	State NFIP Coordinator or FEMA NFIP Specialist	1
How many claims have been paid in the community? What is the total amount of paid claims? How many substantial damage claims have there been?	FEMA NFIP or Insurance Specialist	Unknown
How many structures are exposed to flood risk within the community?	Community FPA or GIS Analyst	0
Describe any areas of flood risk with limited NFIP policy coverage	Community FPA or FEMA Insurance Specialist	2.6% of the Municipal land area is located within 1% annual chance flood area.
5. Community Rating System (CRS)		
Does the community participate in CRS?	Community FPA, State, or FEMA NFIP	No
If so, what is the community's CRS Class Ranking?	Flood Insurance Manual (http://www.fema.gov/floodinsurancemanual.gov)	Unknown
What categories and activities provide CRS points and how can the Class be improved?		Unknown
Does the plan include CRS planning requirements?	Community FPA, FEMA CRS Coordinator, or ISO representative	

Community Assets

Community assets are defined to include anything that is important to the character as well as the function of a community, and can be described in four categories, they are; people, economy, natural environment and built environment. Please identify the community assets and location under each category.

1. **People**
   - Concentrations of vulnerable populations such as the elderly, physically or mentally disabled, non-English speaking, and the medically or chemically dependent.

     St. Luke's University Health Network
     Cedarbrook

   - Types of visiting populations where large numbers of people are concentrated such as visitors for special events and students.

     N/A

2. **Economy**

   Major employers, primary economic sectors such as agriculture and commercial centers where losses would have a severe impact on the community.

   St. Luke's University Health Network

3. **Natural Environment**

   Those areas / features that can provide protective functions that reduce the magnitude of hazard events such as, wetlands or riparian areas, and other environmental features important to protect.

   N/A

4. **Built Environment**
   - Existing structures such as, concentrations of buildings that may be more vulnerable to hazards based on location, age, construction type and / or condition of use.

     Fountain Hill offices
     Police Department
     Fountain Hill Public Works

Community Assets – *continued*

- Infrastructure systems such as water and wastewater facilities, power utilities, transportation systems, communication systems, energy pipelines and storage.

  Sewage pumping station
  St. Luke's University Health Network

- High potential loss facilities such as, dams, locations that house hazardous materials, military and / or civilian defense installations.

  Bethlehem water reservoir

- Critical facilities such as, hospitals, medical facilities, police and fires stations, emergency operations centers, shelters, schools and airports / heliports.

  St. Luke's University Health Network   Fountain Hill Police and Fire Department
  Ambulance   Fountain Hill Elementary School
  Fountain Hill offices   Fountain Hill Public Works

- Cultural / historical resources such as, museums, parks, stadiums, etc.

  N/A

Capability Assessment

Capability	✓ **Regulatory** ✓ **Tools** ✓ **Programs**	Status			Department / Agency Responsible	Effect on Hazard Loss Reduction: -Supports -Neutral -Hinders	Change since 2013 Plan? + Positive - Negative	Has the 2013 Plan been integrated into the Regulatory Tool/Program ? If so, how?	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
		In Place	Date Adopted or Updated	Under Development						
1. Planning & Regulatory	Comprehensive Plan	X	2007		Borough	S				
	Capital Improvement Plan									
	Economic Development Plan									
	Continuity of Operations Plan									
	Stormwater Management Plan / Ordinance	X	2008		Borough	S				
	Open Space Management Plan (or Parks/Rec., Greenways Plan)	X	1973		Borough	S				
	Natural Resource Protection Plan	X	1973		Borough	S				
	Transportation Plan									
	Historic Preservation Plan	X	2008		Borough	N				
	Floodplain Management Plan	X	2007		Borough	S				
	Farmland Preservation									
	Evacuation Plan									
	Disaster Recovery Plan									
	Hazard Mitigation Plan	X	2006		County	S		N/A		
	Emergency Operations Plan	X	2016		Emergency Management	S				
	Zoning Regulations	X	2008		Borough	S				
	Floodplain Regulations	X	2008		Borough and Engineering	S				
	NFIP Participation									
	Building Code	X	2004		Borough	S				
	Fire Code	X	2016		Borough	S				
	Other									

Capability Assessment – *continued*

Capability	✓ Staff ✓ Personnel ✓ Resources	Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2013 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
2. Administrative & Technology	Planners (with land use / land development knowledge)	X		Administration			3rd party agency
	Planners or engineers (with natural and / or human-caused hazards knowledge)	X		Administration			3rd party agency
	Engineers or professionals trained in building and / or infrastructure construction practices (including building inspectors)	X		Administration			3rd party agency
	Emergency Manager	X		Fire Department			volunteer
	Floodplain administrator / manager						
	Land surveyors	X		Administration			3rd party agency
	Staff familiar with the hazards of the community	X		Public Works			
	Personnel skilled in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and / or FEMA's HAZUS program	X		Administration			3rd party agency
	Grant writers or fiscal staff to handle large / complex grants						
	Other						

Capability		Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2013 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
3. Financial Resources	Capital improvement programming	X		Administration			
	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	X		County			
	Special purposes taxes		X				
	Gas / Electricity utility fees		X				
	Water / Sewer fees		X				
	Stormwater utility fees		X				
	Development impact fees		X				
	General obligation, revenue, and / or special tax bonds	X		Administration			
	Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements	X		Administration			
	Other						

Capability Assessment – *continued*

Capability	Program / Organization	Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2013 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
4. Education & Outreach	Firewise Communities Certification		X				
	StormReady Certification		X				
	Natural disaster or safety-related school programs		X				
	Ongoing public education or information programs such as, responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, and environmental education.	X		Administration 3rd party			
	Public-private partnership initiatives addressing disaster related issues.		X				
	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.		X				
	Other						

Capability		Degree of Capability			Change since the 2013 Hazard Mitigation Plan? If so, how?	Additional Comments
		Limited	Moderate	High		
5. Self – Assessment	Planning and Regulatory			X		3rd party assistance
	Administrative and Technical			X		3rd party assistance
	Financial			X		
	Education and Outreach	X				

Known or Anticipated Future Development / Redevelopment

Development / Property Name	Type of Development	Number of Structures	Location	Known Hazard Zone	Description / Status
940 Cherokee LLC	Subdivision	Unknown	940 Cherokee Street	Underground storm sewer	
Aldi Inc.	Subdivision	1	S.R. 2002 & Dodson Street	Underground retention field	

Natural & Non-Natural Event History Specific to Fountain Hill Borough

Type of Event and Date(s)	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Local Damage(s) or Loss(es)
Winter Storm Jonas – 1/2026	DR-4267-PA	Snow event
Pennsylvania COVID-19 Pandemic – 1/2020	DR-4506-PA	Emergency Protective measures to combat COVID-19 Pandemic.

2013 Municipal Action Plan Status

	Existing Mitigation Action (from 2013 Hazard Mitigation Plan)	Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
1	Rehabilitation, upgrading of sanitary, and storm sewer lines.			X			Still in process
2	Work with Lehigh County EMA to install Duplex Pump Grinder at Police Station, 941 Long Street. This project part of the Lehigh Countywide Generator Project, funded through 2008 LPDM.				X		Grinder is in place (~2014) and operational. Action not carried through to 2018 Action Plan.
3	Maintain compliance with and good-standing in the NFIP including adoption and enforcement of floodplain management requirements (e.g. regulating all new and substantially improved construction in Special Hazard Flood Areas), floodplain identification and mapping, and flood insurance outreach to the community. Further, continue to meet and/or exceed the minimum NFIP standards and criteria through the following NFIP-related continued compliance actions identified below.			X			Continue public education; floodplain management continues.
4	Conduct and facilitate community and public education and outreach for residents and businesses to include, but not be limited to, the following to promote and effect natural hazard risk reduction: Provide and maintain links to the HMP website, and regularly post notices on the Borough homepage(s) referencing the HMP webpages. Use email notification systems and newsletters to better educate the public on flood insurance, the availability of mitigation grant funding, and personal natural hazard risk reduction measures.			X			Continue public education.
5	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0			X			
6	Complete the on-going updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans			X			The Borough continues to monitor and update as necessary.
7	Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.			X			Ongoing
8	Identify and develop agreements with entities that can provide support with FEMA/PEMA paperwork after disasters; qualified damage assessment personnel – Improve post disaster capabilities – damage assessment; FEMA/PEMA paperwork compilation, submissions, record- keeping			X			Ongoing; continue to review and update the Emergency Op plan as necessary.

2013 Municipal Action Plan Status – *continued*

	Existing Mitigation Action (from 2013 Hazard Mitigation Plan)	**Status**					**Additional Comments**
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
9	Work with regional agencies (i.e. County and PEMA) to help develop damage assessment capabilities at the local level through such things as training programs, certification of qualified individuals (e.g. code officials, floodplain managers, engineers).			X			Ongoing

Notes:

1. Actions not carried through to the 2018 Action Plan are so noted.
2. To maintain National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) compliance, actions related to the NFIP were carried through to the 2018 Action Plan even if identified by the municipality as completed.

2018 Mitigation Action Plan

	Mitigation Action	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
1	Rehabilitation, upgrading of sanitary, and storm sewer lines.	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	High	High	Federal, State, County grant opportunities	Municipal Public Works	Short-term (depending upon funding)	Existing
2	Maintain compliance with and good standing in the NFIP including adoption and enforcement of floodplain management requirements (e.g. regulating all new and substantially improved construction in Special Hazard Flood Areas), floodplain identification and mapping, and flood insurance outreach to the community. Further, continue to meet and/or exceed the minimum NFIP standards and criteria through the following NFIP-related continued compliance actions identified below.	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	High	Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) with support from PEMA, ISO FEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
3	Conduct and facilitate community and public education and outreach for residents and businesses to include, but not be limited to, the following to promote and effect natural hazard risk reduction: Provide and maintain links to the HMP website, and regularly post notices on the Borough homepage(s) referencing the HMP webpages. Use email notification systems and newsletters to better educate the public on flood insurance, the availability of mitigation grant funding, and personal natural hazard risk reduction measures.	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	High	Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from Planning Partners, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A

2018 Mitigation Action Plan – *continued*

	Mitigation Action	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
4	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0	All Categories	All Hazards	High	Low – High (for 5-year update)	Municipal Budget, possibly FEMA Mitigation Grant Funding for 5-year update	Municipality (via mitigation planning point of contacts) with support from Planning Partners (through their Points of Contact), PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
5	Complete the on-going updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans	Local plans & Regulations	All Hazards	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
6	Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.	All Categories	All Hazards	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from surrounding municipalities and County	Ongoing	New & Existing
7	Develop and maintain capabilities to process FEMA/PEMA paperwork after disasters; qualified damage assessment personnel – Improve post-disaster capabilities – damage assessment; FEMA/PEMA paperwork compilation, submissions, record keeping.	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	High	Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality with support from County, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	NA
8	Work with regional agencies (i.e. County and PEMA) to help develop damage assessment capabilities at the local level through such things as training programs, certification of qualified individuals (e.g. code officials, floodplain managers, engineers).	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	Medium	Medium	Municipal budget, FEMA HMA grant programs	Municipality with support from County, PEMA	Short-term (depending upon funding)	NA

2018 Mitigation Action Plan – *continued*

	Mitigation Action	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
9	Implement fire inspection program in conjunction with the 2009 UCC Fire Code.	Education & Awareness	Environmental Hazards/ Explosion	High	Low	License Fees	EMS/Fire Marshal	~ 2019	New & Existing
10	Coordinate with the County Emergency Management Agency and PA Department of Health, which is responsible for setting up points of distribution and providers for immunizations.	Local plans & Regulations	Pandemic and Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality, working with County EMA and PA Department of Health	Ongoing	N/A
11	Devise an employee vaccination and immunization plan to prevent an outbreak within the municipal employee ranks.	Local plans & Regulations	Pandemic and Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A
12	Devise a municipal continuity of operations plan to keep essential services running in the event that a significant portion of the workforce is affected.	Local plans & Regulations	Pandemic and Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A
13	Devise a public education and outreach plan regarding disease prevention.	Education & Awareness	Pandemic and Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A
14	Provide education and outreach to residents regarding how to prevent the spread of invasive species, including quarantine procedures.	Education & Awareness	Invasive Species	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A
15	Develop a neighborhood cleanup plan designed to remove discarded tires, trash and other items in which standing water can form.	Education & Awareness	Invasive Species	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A
16	Provide training and education for first responders to ensure effective emergency care.	Local plans & Regulations	Drug Overdose Crisis	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A
17	Provide education and outreach, especially in K-12, regarding drug abuse prevention.	Education & Awareness	Drug Overdose Crisis	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality/ School District	Ongoing	N/A

Notes:

Estimated Costs:
- Where actual project costs have been reasonable estimated: Low = < $10,000; Medium = $10,000 to $100,000; High = > $100,000;
- Where actual project costs cannot reasonably be established at this time:
    Low = Possible to fund under existing budget. Project is part of, or can be part of an existing on-going program.
    Medium = Could budget for under existing work plan, but would require a reapportionment of the budget or a budget amendment, or the cost of the project would have to be spread over multiple years.
    High = Would require an increase in revenue via an alternative source (i.e., bonds, grants, fee increases) to implement. Existing funding levels are not adequate to cover the costs of the proposed project.

Potential Funding (FEMA HMA):
- **BRIC =** Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities
- **FMA** = Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program
- **HMGP** = Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- **HSGP** = Homeland Security Grant Program
- **EMPG** = Emergency Management Performance Grant

Implementation Schedule:
- **Short Term** = 1 to 5 years
- **Long Term** = 5 years or greater
- **DOF** = Depending on Funding

Applies to New and/or Existing Structures:
- **N/A** = Not Applicable