

## Coopersburg Borough, Lehigh County Annex

### Hazard Mitigation Plan Points-of-Contact

#### Primary:

Timothy Paashaus  
Manager  
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#### Alternate:

Anthony Struss  
Police Chief  
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### Municipal Profile

Coopersburg Borough is located in the southeastern part of Lehigh County. It encompasses an area of 0.9 square miles, and has a population of 2,386 (2010 Census). The borough is surrounded by Upper Saucon Township, but its southeastern border also touches the county line shared with Bucks County.

There are no significant bodies of water or waterways within Coopersburg Borough.

State Route 2045 (Main Street) is the primary north-south route through the borough. State Route 309 (3<sup>rd</sup> Street) runs north-south along the eastern part of the borough, connecting to points north in Upper Saucon Township and Allentown; and south to Bucks County. SR 2026 (State Street) is the primary east-west corridor through 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.

Timothy Paashaus, Manager  
Role: Primary Contact

Dennis Nace, Public Works Director  
Role: Public Works, Review / Plan

Anthony Struss, Police Chief  
Role: Contribute ideas through primary contact

Keystone Consulting Engineers, Engineer  
Role: Design / implement as needed

Mike Zweifel, Emergency Management Agency  
Role: Contribute ideas

Council members  
Role: Review / Plan

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.

St. James Lutheran – interested in assisting as shelter

Calvary Bible Fellowship Church – interested in assisting as shelter

**Municipal Participation – continued**

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.

- Social media and website as needed
- Comp team review
- Held preparedness meetings

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

Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
<b>1. Staff Resources</b>		
Is the Community Floodplain Administrator (FPA) or NFIP Coordinator certified?	Community FPA	No
Is floodplain management an auxiliary function?	Community FPA	Part of zoning reviews by Zoning Officer
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, GGIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Community FPA	Permit reviews in conjunction with zoning reviews.
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	Community FPA	None
<b>2. Compliance History</b>		
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?		No
<b>3. Regulation</b>		
When did the community enter the NFIP?	NFIP Community Status Book	
Are the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) digital or paper? How are residents assisted with mapping?	Community FPA	Paper
Do floodplain regulations meet or exceed FEMA or State minimum requirements? If so, in what ways?	Community FPA	Meet current requirements
Describe the permitting process	Community FPA, State, FEMA NFIP	FEMA NFIP

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

Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
<b>4. Insurance Summary</b>		
How many NFIP policies are in the community? What is the total premium and coverage?	State NFIP Coordinator or FEMA NFIP Specialist	
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	
How many structures are exposed to flood risk within the community?	Community FPA or GIS Analyst	
Describe any areas of flood risk with limited NFIP policy coverage	Community FPA or FEMA Insurance Specialist	
<b>5. Community Rating System (CRS)</b>		
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 ( <a href="http://www.fema.gov/floodinsurancemanual.gov">http://www.fema.gov/floodinsurancemanual.gov</a> )	N/A
What categories and activities provide CRS points and how can the Class be improved?		N/A
Does the plan include CRS planning requirements?	Community FPA, FEMA CRS Coordinator, or ISO representative	N/A

## 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.
  - Elderly – income-qualified apartments
- Types of visiting populations where large numbers of people are concentrated such as visitors for special events and students.
  - N/A, generally residents, small businesses, and recreational activity (small).

## **Community Assets – *continued***

### **2. Economy**

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

Commercial / small businesses along Rt. 309 and Main Street.

### **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.

Small streams, wet areas

No lakes, rivers, etc.

### **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.

Aging residential

Several multi-unit apartment buildings, 5 to 25 unit buildings

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

Water system – generally in good shape, ongoing replacement

Sewer lines – only lines, no system

Gas lines – owned by UGI

Roads – generally in good shape

Telephone / Internet / Cable – Frontier, RCN, Service Electric

Electric – above ground and owned by PPL

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

N/A

**Community Assets – continued**

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

1 police station  
 1 fire station  
 1 elementary school  
 Several churches – St. John, St. James, Moravian and Saucon Lodge

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

Borough hall – historical museum  
 Southern Lehigh Living Memorial Park

**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	5/25/2010		Comp Plan team	S	P		Add more info and involvement	
	Capital Improvement Plan			X	Admin	S	P			
	Economic Development Plan									
	Continuity of Operations Plan									
	Stormwater Management Plan / Ordinance	X			Infrastructure Committee	S	P			
	Open Space Management Plan (or Parks/Rec., Greenways Plan)									
	Natural Resource Protection Plan									
	Transportation Plan									
	Historic Preservation Plan			X	Comp Plan team	S	P			

**Capability Assessment – continued**

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	Floodplain Management Plan									
	Farmland Preservation									
	Evacuation Plan			X	Emergency Management Agency	S	P			
	Disaster Recovery Plan									
	Hazard Mitigation Plan	X	7/2006		County/LVPC	S	P	N/A		
	Emergency Operations Plan			X	Emergency Management Agency					
	Zoning Regulations	X	2006	X	Admin/Council	S	P		Working on major update for 2018	
	Floodplain Regulations									
	NFIP Participation									
	Building Code	X	2006		3rd party					
	Fire Code	X	2009		3rd party					
	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
	<b>2. Administrative &amp; Technology</b>	Planners (with land use / land development knowledge)	X		Keystone Consulting Engineers	N	
Planners or engineers (with natural and / or human-caused hazards knowledge)		X		Keystone Consulting Engineers	N		
Engineers or professionals trained in building and / or infrastructure construction practices (including building inspectors)		X		Keystone Consulting Engineers and Barry Isett & Associates	N		
Emergency Manager		X		Emergency Management Agency/County	N		
Floodplain administrator / manager		X		Keystone Consulting Engineers	N		
Land surveyors		X		Keystone Consulting Engineers	N		
Staff familiar with the hazards of the community		X		Admin	N	Education/ Training	
Personnel skilled in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and / or FEMA's HAZUS program		X		Keystone Consulting Engineers	N		
Grant writers or fiscal staff to handle large / complex grants		X		Staff and Keystone Consulting Engineers	N		
Other							

**Capability Assessment – continued**

Capability		Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2013 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
<b>3. Financial Resources</b>	Capital improvement programming		X				
	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)		X				
	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				
	Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements		X				
	Other						

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
<b>4. Education &amp; Outreach</b>	Firewise Communities Certification		X				
	StormReady Certification		X				
	Natural disaster or safety-related school programs	X		School District	N		
	Ongoing public education or information programs such as, responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, and environmental education.	X		Admin/Council	N	More Education and Outreach	
	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		Local churches/ Staff	N	Added Emergency Awareness meetings and outreach	
	Other						

**Capability Assessment – continued**

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			
	Administrative and Technical		X			
	Financial		X		Yes, improved financial status	
	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
Stone Harvest	Residential	38	West State Street & Gun Club Road	No	Under construction
Oxford Ridge	Residential	26	North 2nd Street	No	Under construction
Multiple industrial lots	Commercial	9 acres	Rt. 309 & Station Avenue	No	Planning

**Natural & Non-Natural Event History Specific to Coopersburg Borough**

Type of Event and Date(s)	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Local Damage(s) or Loss(es)
Winter Storm Jonas – 1/2016	DR-4267-PA	
Extreme cold (polar vortex)	N/A	Nothing governmentally, residential plumbing issues
Spotted lanternfly	N/A	Tree damage (future)
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	Work with the electric utilities to move towards underground electric wires, starting with at least Main Street to prevent electric interruption.	X				X	Not likely in the near future. Action not carried through to 2018 Action Plan.
2	Maintain fleet of vehicles and equipment for emergency response			X			New police vehicles and equipment Working with fire company to improve
3	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0			X			
4	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans			X			Comp team meets monthly & occasionally works on updates/improvements.
5	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			
6	Continue to construct storm sewers to help alleviate flooding.		X	X			Added several inlets. New developments have improved water run-off facilities.

**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	Maintain fleet of vehicles and equipment for emergency response	Structure and Infrastructure	All	High	Medium	Borough budget; available public protection and emergency services grant programs	Borough	Ongoing	N/A
2	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)	Local 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
3	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans	Local Plans and Regulations	All Hazards	High	Low	Local Budget	Municipality with support from PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
4	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	Local budget, FEMA HMA grant programs	Municipality with support from County, PEMA	Short-, long-term (depending upon funding)	N/A
5	Continue to construct storm sewers to help alleviate flooding.	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	Medium	High	Local Budget	Borough	Ongoing	Existing

**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
6	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 and Regulations	Pandemic & Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality, working with County EMA and PA Department of Health	Ongoing	N/A
7	Devise an employee vaccination and immunization plan to prevent an outbreak within the municipal employee ranks.	Local Plans and Regulations	Pandemic & Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A
8	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 and Regulations	Pandemic & Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A
9	Devise a public education and outreach plan regarding disease prevention.	Education & Awareness	Pandemic & Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A
10	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
11	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
12	Provide training and education for first responders to ensure effective emergency care.	Local Plans and Regulations	Drug Overdose Crisis	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A
13	Provide education and outreach, especially in K12, 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 reappropriation 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