**Coplay Borough, Lehigh County Annex**

**Hazard Mitigation Plan Points-of-Contact**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Primary:** | **Alternate:** |
| Tiffany Benson  Treasurer  98 South 4th Street, Coplay, PA 18037  484-357-0007  tbenson@coplayborough.org | Paul Boyle  Public Works Director  98 South 4th Street, Coplay, PA 18037  610-262-8378  publicworks@coplayborough.org |

**Municipal Profile**

Coplay Borough is located in central-eastern Lehigh County, sharing its eastern border with Northampton Borough (Northampton County). Situated along the Lehigh River, about 5 miles north of Allentown, Coplay Borough covers 0.6 square miles of land and is home to 3,348 residents (2020 Census). The Borough is surrounded by Whitehall Township to the north, south and west and by Northampton Borough (Northampton County) to the east.

The Lehigh River is the only significant body of water in the Borough and forms the borough’s eastern border.

Chestnut Street is the primary east west corridor running through Coplay Borough, connecting with Whitehall Township to the west and crossing the Lehigh River towards Northampton County to the east. North 2nd Street runs North-South through the borough, becoming Coplay Road, connecting with SR 329 to the north, and becoming N. Front Street before intersecting with SR 1014 to the south.

**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.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Tiffiany Benson, Treasurer  Role: Primary | Paul Boyle, Public Work Director  Role: Secondary |

*\*please update table as needed*

1. 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.

None

1. Describe how the public **will be engaged** in the current planning process (examples, newsletters, social media, etc.), **and how they were engaged** since the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Current: Newsletter (monthly) and Facebook

Past: Same

**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 | No |
| Is floodplain management an auxiliary function? | Community FPA | Yes |
| Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, GGIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability) | Community FPA | Per zoning ordinance |
| What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any? | Community FPA | None |
| **2. Compliance History** | | |
| Is the community in good standing with the NFIP? | State NFIP Coordinator, FEMA NFIP Specialist, or community records | N/A |
| 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)? |  | N/A |
| Is a CAV or CAC scheduled or needed? |  | No |
| **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 | Paper map, assisted by borough office |
| Do floodplain regulations meet or exceed FEMA or State minimum requirements?  If so, in what ways? | Community FPA | Meets requirements |
| Describe the permitting process | Community FPA, State, FEMA NFIP | Per zoning ordinance |
| **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 | 2 policies, unknown |
| 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 | Unknown |
| Describe any areas of flood risk with limited NFIP policy coverage | Community FPA or  FEMA Insurance Specialist | Unknown |
| **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) | 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.

Home for disabled adults

Apartment building for older residents

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

Coplay Community Days, end of August

Coplay Halloween Parade, 3rd Tuesday in October

1. **Economy**

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

Giant Food Store

1. **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.

None

1. **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.

None

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

None

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

None

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

Police station

Fire station

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

Coplay Saylor Cement Kilns

**Capability Assessment**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Capability** | * **Regulatory** * **Tools** * **Programs** | **Status** | | | **Department /**  **Agency**  **Responsible** | **Effect on Hazard Loss Reduction:**  **-Supports**  **-Neutral**  **-Hinders** | **Change since 2018 Plan?**  **+ Positive**  **- Negative** | **Has the 2018 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 | 5/11/13 |  | Council | N |  |  |  |  |
| Capital Improvement Plan |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Economic Development Plan |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Continuity of Operations Plan |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Stormwater Management Plan / Ordinance |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Open Space Management Plan (or Parks/Rec., Greenways Plan) | X | 3/8/2005 |  | Council |  |  |  |  |  |
| Natural Resource Protection Plan |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Transportation Plan |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Historic Preservation Plan |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Floodplain Management Plan | X | 10/9/01 |  | Council | N |  |  |  |  |
| Farmland Preservation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Evacuation Plan |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Disaster Recovery Plan |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Hazard Mitigation Plan | X | 2018 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Emergency Operations Plan | X | 11/12/2013 |  | Council | N |  |  |  |  |
| Zoning Regulations | X | 3/13/12 |  | Council | N |  |  |  |  |
| Floodplain Regulations | X | 10/9/01 |  | Council | N |  |  |  |  |
| NFIP Participation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |
| Building Code | X | 5/11/04 |  | Council | N |  |  |  |  |
| Fire Code | X | 7/9/96 |  | Council | N |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | None |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Capability** | * **Staff** * **Personnel** * **Resources** | **Yes** | **No** | **Department / Agency** | **Change since 2018 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 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Planners or engineers (with natural and / or human-caused hazards knowledge) | X |  | ACELA (3rd party) |  |  |  |
| Engineers or professionals trained in building and / or infrastructure construction practices (including building inspectors) | X |  | Council | No |  |  |
| Emergency Manager | X |  | Council | No |  |  |
| Floodplain administrator / manager |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Land surveyors |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Staff familiar with the hazards of the community | X |  | Council | No |  |  |
| Personnel skilled in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and / or FEMA’s HAZUS program |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grant writers or fiscal staff to handle large / complex grants |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **3. Financial Resources** | Capital improvement programming |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Special purposes taxes |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gas / Electricity utility fees |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Water / Sewer fees |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stormwater utility fees |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Development impact fees |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| General obligation, revenue, and / or special tax bonds |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Capability** | * **Staff** * **Personnel** * **Resources** | **Yes** | **No** | **Department / Agency** | **Change since 2018 Plan?**  **+ Positive**  **- Negative** | **How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?** | **Additional Comments** |
| **4. Education & Outreach** | Firewise Communities Certification |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| StormReady Certification |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Natural disaster or safety-related school programs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ongoing public education or information programs such as, responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, and environmental education. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Public-private partnership initiatives addressing disaster related issues. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Capability** |  | **Degree of Capability** | | | **Change since the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan?**  **If so, how?** | **Additional Comments** |
| **Limited** | **Moderate** | **High** |
| **5. Self – Assessment** | Planning and Regulatory |  | X |  | No Change |  |
| Administrative and Technical |  | X |  | No Change |  |
| Financial |  | X |  | No Change |  |
| Education and Outreach |  | X |  | No Change |  |

**Known or Anticipated Future Development / Redevelopment**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Development /**  **Property Name** | **Type of Development** | **Number of Structures** | **Location** | **Known Hazard Zone** | **Description / Status** |
| 250 N 2nd Street | Residential | 6, each 8 units | 250 N 2nd St | None | Through zoning, beginning of planning stage |

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Event and Date(s)** | **FEMA Disaster #**  **(if applicable)** | **Local Damage(s) or Loss(es)** |
| Micro-burst rain/hailstorm – June 30, 2015 | PEMA CPAGP | Excessive roof, siding, gutter, auto, trees, electric wires to entire borough |
| Winter Storm Jonas – January 23, 2016 | DR-4267-PA | $16,000 |
| Pennsylvania COVID-19 Pandemic – 1/2020 | DR-4506-PA | Emergency Protective measures to combat COVID-19 Pandemic |

**2018 Municipal Action Plan Status**

| **Existing Mitigation Action**  **(from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)** | | **Status** | | | | | **Additional Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No Progress /**  **Unknown** | **In Progress** | **Continuous** | **Completed** | **Discontinued** |
| **1** | Work with local utilities, during utility outages. |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **2** | Maintain adequate fleet of vehicles and equipment to handle anticipated emergency response. |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **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. |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **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 Boroughs homepage referencing the HMP webpages. Use email notification system and newsletters to better educate the public on flood insurance, the availability of mitigation grant funding, and personal natural hazard risk reduction measures. Work with neighborhood associations, civic and business groups to disseminate information on flood insurance and the availability of mitigation grant funding. |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **5** | Begin and/or continue the process to adopt higher regulatory standards to manage flood risk (i.e. increased freeboard, cumulative substantial damage/improvements) and sinkhole risk (e.g. carbonate bedrock standards). |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **6** | Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0. |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **7** | Complete the ongoing updates of the  Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans. |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **8** | Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations. |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **9** | 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. |  |  | X |  |  |  |
| **10** | 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 |  |  |  |

**Notes:**

1. Actions not carried through to the 2023 Action Plan are so noted.
2. To maintain National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) compliance, actions related to the NFIP were carried through to the 2023 Action Plan even if identified by the municipality as completed.

**2023 Mitigation Action Plan**

| **Mitigation Action** | | **Regional Action Category** | **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** | Work with local utilities, during utility outages. | 17 | Structure & Infrastructure | Windstorm/  Tornado,  Winter Storm,  Utility  Interruption | High | Medium | Borough  Budget | Borough; working with utilities | Short-term | Existing |
| **2** | Maintain adequate fleet of vehicles and equipment to handle anticipated emergency response. | 19 | Structure & Infrastructure | All Hazards | High | Medium | Borough  Budget; available public  protection and  emergency  services grant programs | Borough | Ongoing | N/A |
| **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. | 3 | Local Plans & Regulations | Flood | High | Low-Medium | Local Budget | Municipality  (via Municipal  Engineer/NFIP Floodplain  Administrator) with support from PEMA,  ISO FEMA | Ongoing | New & Existing |
| **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 Boroughs homepage referencing the HMP webpages. Use email notification system and newsletters to better educate the public on flood insurance, the availability of mitigation grant funding, and personal natural hazard risk reduction measures. Work with neighborhood associations, civic and business groups to disseminate information on flood insurance and the availability of mitigation grant funding. | 4 | Education  & Awareness | All Hazards | High | Low-Medium | Municipal Budget | Municipality with support  from Planning Partners,  PEMA, FEMA | Short-term | N/A |
| **5** | Begin and/or continue the process to adopt higher regulatory standards to manage flood risk (i.e. increased freeboard, cumulative substantial damage/improvements) and sinkhole risk (e.g. carbonate bedrock standards). | 5 | Local Plans & Regulations | Flood;  Subsidence  Sinkholes | High | Low | Municipal Budget | Municipality  (via Municipal  Engineer/NFIP Floodplain  Administrator) with support from PEMA, FEMA. LVPC for Carbonate  Bedrock  Standard model ordinance. | Short-term | New & Existing |
| **6** | Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0. | 9 | 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)  w/ support  from Planning  Partners  (through their  P-o-C’s),  PEMA | Ongoing | New & Existing |
| **7** | Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans. | 10 | Local Plans & Regulations | All Hazards | Medium | Low | Municipal Budget | Municipality with support from PEMA | Ongoing | New & Existing |
| **8** | Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations. | 11 | Education & Awareness | All Hazards | Medium | Low | Municipal Budget | Municipality w/ support from  Surrounding municipalities and County | Ongoing | New & Existing |
| **9** | 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. | 12 | Education & Awareness | All Hazards | Low | Medium | Municipal Budget | Municipality with support  from County,  PEMA, FEMA | Short-term | N/A |
| **10** | 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). | 13 | Education & Awareness | All Hazards | Medium | Medium | Municipal budget,  FEMA  HMA grant programs | Municipality with support  from County,  PEMA | Short-term (depending upon funding) | 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 andCommunities
* **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