

# **Borough of Hellertown, Northampton County Annex**

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

### **Primary:**

Cathy Hartranft  
Borough Manager  
685 Main Street, Hellertown, PA 18055  
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### **Alternate:**

Bryan Smith  
Engineer Representative  
85 S. Route 100 & Kessler Lane, Allentown, PA 18104  
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## **Municipal Profile**

Hellertown Borough is located in the southwestern part of Northampton County. It encompasses an area of approximately 1.3 square miles and has a population of 6,132 (2020 Census). The Borough is nearly surrounded by Lower Saucon Township and is bordered to the north by Bethlehem City. Hellertown is bordered to the west by the Saucon Creek.

Interstate 78 passes east-west through the northern part of the borough. Other major east-west roads include Friedensville Road / Water Street in the center of the Borough, and Skibo Road / East Walnut Street in the southern part of the borough. PA Route 412 (Main Street) passes north south through the western part of the borough, and Easton Road extends from the center of the borough northeast across the borough's northeastern border. Main Street is the main vehicular route for residents as well as neighboring municipalities from the south to I-78.

## 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.

Cathy Hartranft, Borough Manager Role: Primary Contact	Brian Smith, Engineer Representative Role: Engineer Representative
Christopher Scherer, Local EMC Role: Emergency Management Services	Kris Russo, Code/Zoning Officer Role: Floodplain Manager
Barry Yonney, Public Works Director Role: Public Works	Barry Isett & Associates, Borough Engineer Role: Engineer

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.

Hellertown – Lower Saucon Chamber of Commerce  
Lehigh Valley Health Network

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 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Current: Newsletter/website updates, social media – borough/police Facebook pages,  
Community events, Public meetings

Past: Same

## 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	Yes
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, GGIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Community FPA	Review permit applications for compliance with NFIP. Follow-up inspection
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)?		N/A
Is a CAV or CAC scheduled or needed?		No
<b>3. Regulation</b>		
When did the community enter the NFIP?	NFIP Community Status Book	2/8/1973
Are the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) digital or paper? How are residents assisted with mapping?	Community FPA	Digital & Paper. The Borough has GIS mapping and PDF copies of the FEMA maps overlaid with tax parcel data, so when residents ask, they can be provided either an image or print of their property.
Do floodplain regulations meet or exceed FEMA or State minimum requirements? If so, in what ways?	Community FPA	They just meet the minimum requirements
Describe the permitting process	Community FPA, State, FEMA NFIP	Building and land development plans submitted to the borough and reviewed prior to issuance of a permit.

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

<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	As of 9/22/2023 – 13 policies & \$13,003 in premiums
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	As of 9/22/2023 – 18 claims & \$228,742.85 paid to claims
How many structures are exposed to flood risk within the community?	Community FPA or GIS Analyst	N/A
Describe any areas of flood risk with limited NFIP policy coverage	Community FPA or FEMA Insurance Specialist	Silver Creek Corridor
<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.

Front Street Apartments	Saucon Valley Manor
Saucon Manor	

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

Visitors for special events at Dimmick Park; 200 – 2,000

Visitors for special events at Water Street Park; 50 – 300

Visitors to Dimmick Park Pool; 50 – 1,000

Meetings / events at Borough Hall; 20 – 150

Meetings / events at Dewey Fire Hall; 20 – 150

### 2. Economy

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

Town Center	Saucon Manor
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### 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.

Hellertown Marsh	Thomas Iron Site Open Space
Tuminello Park	Borough Parks
Silver Creek Corridor	Saucon Creek Corridor
Polk Valley Run Corridor	

**Community Assets – continued**

**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.

Buildings and structures abutting and covering Silver Creek and buildings and structures abutting Polk Valley Run.

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

Public water & sewer	Stormwater system
Main Street (SR 412) (north/south) corridor	Saucon Rail-trail
Overhead electric & communication line	Cell towers

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

None known

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

Dewey Fire Hall	Borough Hall
Saucon Valley Manor	Lehigh Valley Health Network Center
Public Works	Saucon Valley School Campus
Library	Post Office

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

Dimmick Park	Water Street Park
Borough Hall	Grist Mill
Hellertown Pool	Lost Cavern
Saucon Creek Greenway	Historic homes along Main Street
Pony Bridge @ Grist Mill	Old Jail

**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	2021		Joint Borough and Township			Comp Plan predated Hazard Mitigation Plan 2013	Incorporate Hazard Mitigation in Comp Plan Update (2019- 2020)	
	Capital Improvement Plan									
	Economic Development Plan									
	Continuity of Operations Plan									
	Stormwater Management Plan / Ordinance	X	3/21/05		Planning			Ordinance predated Hazard Mitigation Plan of 2013	Incorporate Hazard Mitigation in any updates	
	Open Space Management Plan (or Parks/Rec., Greenways Plan)	X	2006		Planning			Plan predated Hazard Mitigation Plan of 2013	Incorporated Hazard Mitigation in any updates	
	Natural Resource Protection Plan									
	Transportation Plan	X	2009		Planning			Transportation plan predated Hazard Mitigation Plan of 2013	Incorporate Hazard Mitigation in any updates	
	Historic Preservation Plan									
	Floodplain Management Plan	X	2022		Borough Engineer					
	Farmland Preservation									
Evacuation Plan	X	2015		Borough	Supports				Borough Hall	

**Capability Assessment – continued**

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	Disaster Recovery Plan									
	Hazard Mitigation Plan	X	2018		Zoning / Emergency Management Services			N/A		
	Emergency Operations Plan	X	10/2019		Emergency Management Services					
	Zoning Regulations	X	9/17/12		Zoning			Plan predated Hazard Mitigation Plan of 2013	Incorporate Hazard Mitigation in any updates	
	Floodplain Regulations	X	3/3/14		Zoning			Hazard Mitigation Incorporated in last update of 2014	Incorporate Hazard Mitigation in any updates	
	NFIP Participation	X								
	Building Code	X	6/21/04		Zoning			Plan predated Hazard Mitigation Plan of 2013	Incorporate Hazard Mitigation in any updates	Uniform Construction Code
	Fire Code	X	6/16/14		Zoning			International Fire Code Adopted	Incorporate Hazard Mitigation in any updates	
	Other									

**Capability Assessment – continued**

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			No change		Use Borough engineering firm
	Planners or engineers (with natural and / or human caused hazards knowledge)	X					
	Engineers or professionals trained in building and / or infrastructure construction practices (including building inspectors)	X		Zoning/Codes	No change		
	Emergency Manager	X		EMS Coordinator	No change	Continue coordination with other staff	
	Floodplain administrator / manager	X		Zoning Officer	No change	Continue coordinator with other staff	
	Land surveyors				No change		Use Borough engineering firm
	Staff familiar with the hazards of the community	X		Zoning Officer, Police Chief and EMS Coordinator			
	Personnel skilled in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and / or FEMA's HAZUS program	X					Use borough engineer firm
	Grant writers or fiscal staff to handle large / complex grants	X					Use Borough engineering firm
	Other						

**Capability Assessment – continued**

Capability			Department / Agency	Change since 2018 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
	Yes	No				
<b>3. Financial Resources</b>	Capital improvement programming	X		Council and Manager	No	Develop Specific Projects Which Mitigate Current Issues
	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	X		Manager	No	Additional funding made available
	Special purposes taxes	X		Council		
	Gas / Electricity utility fees					
	Water / Sewer fees	X		Borough Authority	No	Coordinate with borough on capital projects
	Stormwater utility fees					
	Development impact fees					
	General obligation, revenue, and / or special tax bonds	X		Council		
	Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements	X		Council and Planning	No	Saucon Valley Partnership – Lower Saucon, Hellertown and Saucon Valley School District
Other						

**Capability Assessment – continued**

Capability	✓ Program ✓ Organization	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.	X		Borough			MS4/Storm water, handouts and forms, websites
	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.	X		Saucon Creek Watershed	No		
	Other						

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	
	Administrative and Technical		X		No	
	Financial	X			No	
	Education and Outreach		X		No	

### Known or Anticipated Future Development / Redevelopment

Development / Property Name	Type of Development	Number of Structures	Location	Known Hazard Zone	Description / Status
Saucon Valley Country Club Housing Project	Residential subdivision	50+	East side of Borough / Lower Saucon Township	Silver Creek Watershed	Planning Stage. Stormwater runoff will directly impact Borough stormwater systems.
Champion Spark Plug Building	Commercial	1	North end of Borough	None Known	Planning Stage. Re-use of former superfund site for commercial use.
Saucon Valley Manor Expansion	Elderly Care	120 units	Center of Borough, Front and Thomas Streets	None Known	Phased development. New residential units to expand existing elderly housing facility.
Clauser Street Development	Residential	70 units	NW corner of the Borough	None	Preliminary Plan
Neighbors Redevelopment	Redevelopment	Unknown	SW corner of the Borough	None	For Sale

### Natural & Non-Natural Event History Specific to the Borough of Hellertown

Type of Event and Date(s)	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Local Damage(s) or Loss(es)
COVID-19 Pandemic – March, 2020	DR-4506-PA	Emergency Protective measures to combat COVID-19 Pandemic.
Remnants of Hurricane Ida – August, 2022	DR-4618-PA	Assistance to eligible individuals and families affected by this disaster.

**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	Silver Creek Corridor Stabilization and Clearing (Borough Line (east) to confluence of Saucon Creek (west)) – Excavation and clearing of deposited sediment and debris and stabilization of the streambank and bridge abutment.			X			
2	Thomas Iron Site Floodplain Restoration - In the early 1900's, the Thomas Iron site was a steel processing facility which supported neighboring Bethlehem Steel. The site is largely a low-lying area in the oxbow of the Saucon Creek. This area was filled with slag, an aggregate by-product of the steel extraction process. The fill material has reduced the historic floodplain of the Saucon Creek, just below the confluence of Silver Creek. The removal of this material and restoration of the floodplain will significantly increase the holding capacity of the Saucon Creek and reduce upstream flooding of the Silver Creek and Borough. Work to include removal of slag material, restoration of the floodplain vegetation and stream bank stabilization.	X					
3	Polk Valley Run east and west of Main Street - This shallow stream corridor frequently overruns its banks, causing significant damage to neighboring properties. In addition, the Borough Authority's sewer pumping station is often flooded. Long-term channelization of the stream corridor and re- construction of the culvert under Main Street is needed to expand the streams capacity and contain flows.	X					
4	Easton Road and Cherry Lane Stormwater - Recent development of the downstream area, outside the Borough, has restricted stormwater flow from this upper drainage area. The result has been flooding of the drainage channel and neighboring streets. Easton Road is the only other north/east bound road exiting the Borough, except Main Street. As a result, it is vital this roadway remain clear and passable at all times. Expanded stormwater improvements are required to capture and convey stormwater off the street and into the system downstream. In addition, temporary above and below grade storage is needed to prevent flooding surges.	X					

**2018 Municipal Action Plan Status – continued**

	Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)	Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
5	<p>Stormwater Improvements - The Borough Hall, public works facility &amp; police station, neighboring private properties, state, &amp; Borough streets of Water, Main &amp; Front Street flood to a condition of being impassable. The floods &amp; street closures create significant life &amp; safety concerns for the community during heavy rainfall events. Closure of State Route 412 (Main Street) cuts off a main north-south route for local &amp; regional residents looking to reach Interstate I78 &amp; the City of Bethlehem. Water Street, is one of only two east- west routes, which provide possible evacuation routes for Borough residents to higher elevations. The Borough’s main stormwater system is a combination of inlets &amp; pipes which outlet &amp; utilizes the Silver Creek as the main trunk line to the Saucon Creek. Almost 60% of the Borough, which includes the most densely developed area, surrounds the Silver Creek &amp; uses this corridor to carry away stormwater flows. The Borough proposes to make a number of improvements to the stormwater system, which will alleviate the volume of stormwater reaching the Silver Creek. Several by-pass stormwater systems would be constructed to capture &amp; convey upstream neighborhoods, &amp; convey them directly to the Saucon Creek.</p>		X				Stormwater improvements completed at Borough Hall (Main and Easton Road). Additional improvements required to the surrounding stormwater systems.
6	<p>Stormwater System Maintenance - Annual maintenance of the system is required to remove sediment, debris and trash, which collected in the stormwater inlets, pipes and stream corridors. This material, if not removed, reduces capacity and increased potential local and surrounding area flooding. Following larger events, cleanup of the deposited debris is required.</p>			X			

**2018 Municipal Action Plan Status – continued**

	Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)	Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
7	<p>Retrofit structures located in hazard- prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Specifically identified are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Rentzheimer Street Bridge</li> <li>-Northampton Street Bridge</li> <li>-Main Street Culvert (Silver Creek)</li> <li>-Harris Street Bridge</li> <li>-Front Street Bridge</li> <li>-Main Street Bridge (Polk Valley Stream)</li> <li>-Water Street Bridge</li> </ul> <p>-Rail Trail Culvert (Silver Creek) Phase 1: Identify appropriate candidates for retrofitting based on cost- effectiveness versus relocation. Phase 2: Where retrofitting is determined to be a viable option, work with property owners toward implementation of that action based on available funding from FEMA and local match availability.</p>		X				A: Bridge repairs underway and to be completed in 2018.
8	<p>Purchase, or relocate structures located in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Specifically identified are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None at this time.</li> </ul> <p>Phase 1: Identify appropriate candidates for relocation based on cost- effectiveness versus retrofitting. Phase 2: Where relocation is determined to be a viable option, work with property owners toward implementation of that action based on available funding from FEMA and local match availability.</p>	X					
9	<p>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 as Initiatives (below).</p>			X			

**2018 Municipal Action Plan Status – continued**

	Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)	Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
10	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 County/municipal homepage(s) referencing the HMP webpages. Prepare and distribute informational letters to flood vulnerable property owners and neighborhood associations, explaining the availability of mitigation grant funding to mitigate their properties, and instructing them on how they can learn more and implement mitigation. 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. Work with neighborhood associations, civic and business groups to disseminate information on flood insurance and the availability of mitigation grant funding.	X					
11	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			
12	Determine if a Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC) is needed, and schedule if needed.	X					
13	Have designated NFIP Floodplain Administrator (FPA) become a Certified Floodplain Manager through the ASFPM and/or pursue relevant continuing education training such as FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis.	X					
14	Participate in the Community Rating System (CRS) to further manage flood risk and reduce flood insurance premiums for NFIP policyholders. This shall start with the submission to FEMA-DHS of a Letter of Intent to join CRS, followed by the completion and submission of an application to the program once the community's current compliance with the NFIP is established.	X					
15	Obtain and archive elevation certificates for NFIP compliance.	X					
16	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0.			X			
17	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans.			X			

**2018 Municipal Action Plan Status – continued**

	Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)	Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
18	Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.			X			
19	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, recordkeeping.			X			
20	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			
21	Amend stormwater management ordinances to regulate development of upland areas in order to reduce stormwater runoff - coordinate with Lower Saucon Township.			X			
22	Develop standards and protocols for storage, management, transport and inventory of hazardous materials within the Borough.			X			
23	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.			X			
24	Devise an employee vaccination and immunization plan to prevent an outbreak within the municipal employee ranks.			X			
25	Devise a municipal continuity of operations plan to keep essential services running in the event that a significant portion of the workforce is affected.			X			
26	Devise a public education and outreach plan regarding disease prevention.			X			
27	Provide education and outreach to residents regarding how to prevent the spread of invasive species, including quarantine procedures.			X			
28	Develop a neighborhood cleanup plan designed to remove potential breeding habitat, such as discarded tires, trash and other items in which standing water can form.			X			
29	Provide training and education for first responders to ensure effective emergency care.			X			

**2018 Municipal Action Plan Status – continued**

	Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)	Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
30	Provide education and outreach, especially in K-12, regarding drug abuse prevention.			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.

## 2024 Mitigation Action Plan

Mitigation Action	Mitigation 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
<b>1</b> Silver Creek Corridor Stabilization and Clearing (Borough Line (east) to confluence of Saucon Creek (west)) – Excavation and clearing of deposited sediment and debris and stabilization of the streambank and bridge abutment.	15	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	Medium	High	FEMA Mitigation Grants w/ local budget for cost share	Hellertown Borough	Short-term	Existing

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

Mitigation Action	Mitigation 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
<p><b>2</b> Thomas Iron Site Floodplain Restoration - In the early 1900’s, the Thomas Iron site was a steel processing facility which supported neighboring Bethlehem Steel. The site is largely a low-lying area in the oxbow of the Saucon Creek. This area was filled with slag, an aggregate byproduct of the steel extraction process. The fill material has reduced the historic floodplain of the Saucon Creek, just below the confluence of Silver Creek. The removal of this material and restoration of the floodplain will significantly increase the holding capacity of the Saucon Creek and reduce upstream flooding of the Silver Creek and Borough. Work to include removal of slag material, restoration of the floodplain vegetation and stream bank stabilization.</p>	15	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	Medium	High	FEMA Mitigation Grants w/ local budget	Hellertown Borough	Short-term	Existing

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

	<b>Mitigation Action</b>	<b>Mitigation Action Category</b>	<b>Mitigation Technique Category</b>	<b>Hazard(s) Addressed</b>	<b>Priority (H / M / L)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Potential Funding</b>	<b>Lead Agency / Department</b>	<b>Implementation Schedule</b>	<b>Applies to New and / or Existing Structures</b>
<b>3</b>	Polk Valley Run east and west of Main Street - This shallow stream corridor frequently overruns its banks, causing significant damage to neighboring properties. In addition, the Borough Authority's sewer pumping station is often flooded. Long-term channelization of the stream corridor and re- construction of the culvert under Main Street is needed to expand the streams capacity and contain flows.	16	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	High	High	FEMA Mitigation Grants w/ local budget for cost share	Hellertown Borough (w/ support from private, Borough Authority, PennDOT)	Long-term	Existing

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

	<b>Mitigation Action Category</b>	<b>Mitigation Technique Category</b>	<b>Hazard(s) Addressed</b>	<b>Priority (H / M / L)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Potential Funding</b>	<b>Lead Agency / Department</b>	<b>Implementation Schedule</b>	<b>Applies to New and / or Existing Structures</b>
<p><b>4</b> Easton Road and Cherry Lane Stormwater – Recent development of the downstream area, outside the Borough, has restricted stormwater flow from this upper drainage area. The result has been flooding of the drainage channel and neighboring streets. Easton Road is the only other north / east bound road exiting the Borough, except Main Street. As a result, it is vital this roadway remain clear and passable at all times. Expanded stormwater improvements are required to capture and convey stormwater off the street and into the system downstream. In addition, temporary above and below grade storage is needed to prevent flooding surges.</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>Structure &amp; Infrastructure</p>	<p>Flood</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>High</p>	<p>FEMA Mitigation Grants w/ local budget for cost share</p>	<p>Hellertown Borough (w/ support from PennDOT, City of Bethlehem private)</p>	<p>Long-term (depending on funding)</p>	<p>Existing</p>

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

Mitigation Action	Mitigation 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
<p><b>5</b> Stormwater Improvements - Boro Hall, PW facility &amp; PD station, neighboring private properties, state, &amp; Boro streets of Water, Main &amp; Front St's. flood to a condition of being impassable. Floods &amp; street closures create significant life &amp; safety concerns for the community during heavy rainfall events. Closure of SR 412 (Main Street) cuts off a main N-S route for local &amp; regional residents looking to reach Interstate I78 &amp; Bethlehem City. Water St., is one of only two E-W routes, which provide possible evacuation routes for Boro residents to higher elevations. Boro's main stormwater system is a combination of inlets &amp; pipes which outlet &amp; utilizes the Silver Creek as the main trunk line to the Saucon Creek. (see below)</p>	14	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	Medium	High	FEMA Mitigation Grants w/ local budget for cost share	Hellertown Borough (w/ support from PennDOT)	Long-term (depending upon funding)	Existing
<p><b>Action Item #5 continued:</b> Almost 60% of the Boro, which includes the most densely developed area, surrounds the Silver Creek &amp; uses this corridor to carry away stormwater flows. The Boro proposes to make a number of improvements to the stormwater system, which will alleviate the volume of stormwater reaching the Silver Creek. Several bypass stormwater systems would be constructed to capture &amp; convey upstream neighborhoods, &amp; convey them directly to the Saucon Creek.</p>									

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

	<b>Mitigation Action</b>	<b>Mitigation Action Category</b>	<b>Mitigation Technique Category</b>	<b>Hazard(s) Addressed</b>	<b>Priority (H / M / L)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Potential Funding</b>	<b>Lead Agency / Department</b>	<b>Implementation Schedule</b>	<b>Applies to New and / or Existing Structures</b>
6	Stormwater System Maintenance - Annual maintenance of the system is required to remove sediment, debris and trash, which collected in the stormwater inlets, pipes and stream corridors. This material, if not removed, reduces capacity and increased potential local and surrounding area flooding. Following larger events, cleanup of the deposited debris is required.	14	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	Medium	Medium	Annual Borough Budget	Hellertown Borough (with support from PennDOT, City of Bethlehem private)	Ongoing	Existing

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

Mitigation Action	Mitigation 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
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Retrofit structures located in hazard- prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss &amp; severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Specifically identified are the following:                      -Rentzheimer Street Bridge                      -Northampton Street Bridge                      -Main Street Culvert (Silver Creek)                      -Harris Street Bridge                      -Front Street Bridge                      -Main Street Bridge (Polk Valley Stream)                      -Water Street Bridge                      -Rail Trail Culvert (Silver Creek)                      Phase 1: Identify appropriate candidates for retrofitting based on cost- effectiveness versus relocation.                      Phase 2: Where retrofitting is determined to be a viable option, work with property owners toward implementation of that action based on available funding from FEMA and local match availability.</p>	1	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	High	High	FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs and local budget (or properly owner) for cost share	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) w/ support from PEMA, FEMA	Long-term (depending upon funding)	Existing

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

	<b>Mitigation Action</b>	<b>Mitigation Action Category</b>	<b>Mitigation Technique Category</b>	<b>Hazard(s) Addressed</b>	<b>Priority (H / M / L)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Potential Funding</b>	<b>Lead Agency / Department</b>	<b>Implementation Schedule</b>	<b>Applies to New and / or Existing Structures</b>
8	<p>Purchase, or relocate structures located in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Specifically identified are the following: - None at this time.</p> <p>Phase 1: Identify appropriate candidates for relocation based on cost- effectiveness versus retrofitting.</p> <p>Phase 2: Where relocation is determined to be a viable option, work with property owners toward implementation of that action based on available funding from FEMA and local match availability.</p>	2	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	High	High	FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs and local budget (or property owner) for cost share	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) w/ support from PEMA, FEMA	Long-term (depending upon funding)	Existing

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

	<b>Mitigation Action</b>	<b>Mitigation Action Category</b>	<b>Mitigation Technique Category</b>	<b>Hazard(s) Addressed</b>	<b>Priority (H / M / L)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Potential Funding</b>	<b>Lead Agency / Department</b>	<b>Implementation Schedule</b>	<b>Applies to New and / or Existing Structures</b>
9	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 as Initiatives (below).	3	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	High	Low-Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality (via Municipal Engineer/NFIP Floodplain Administrator) w/ support from PEMA, ISO FEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

	<b>Mitigation Action</b>	<b>Mitigation Action Category</b>	<b>Mitigation Technique Category</b>	<b>Hazard(s) Addressed</b>	<b>Priority (H / M / L)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Potential Funding</b>	<b>Lead Agency / Department</b>	<b>Implementation Schedule</b>	<b>Applies to New and / or Existing Structures</b>
10	<p>Conduct and facilitate community and public education &amp; outreach for residents &amp; businesses to include, but not be limited to, the following to promote and effect natural hazard risk reduction:                      Provide &amp; maintain links to the HMP website, &amp; regularly post notices on the County / municipal homepage(s) referencing the HMP webpages. Prepare &amp; distribute informational letters to flood vulnerable property owners &amp; neighborhood associations, explaining the availability of mitigation grant funding to mitigate their properties, &amp; instructing them on how they can learn more &amp; implement mitigation. Use email notification systems &amp; newsletters to better educate the public on flood insurance, the availability of mitigation grant funding &amp; personal natural hazard risk reduction measures. Work with neighborhood associations, civic &amp; business groups to disseminate information on flood insurance and the availability of mitigation grant funding.</p>	4	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	High	Low-Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality w/ support from Planning Partners, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

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<b>11</b>	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) w/ support from PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	New & Existing
<b>12</b>	Determine if a Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC) is needed, and schedule if needed.	3	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	High	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator w/ support from PADEP, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A
<b>13</b>	Have designated NFIP Floodplain Administrator (FPA) become a Certified Floodplain Manager through the ASFPM and/or pursue relevant continuing education training such as FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis.	6	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Short-term (depending on funding)	N/A

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

	<b>Mitigation Action</b>	<b>Mitigation Action Category</b>	<b>Mitigation Technique Category</b>	<b>Hazard(s) Addressed</b>	<b>Priority (H / M / L)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Potential Funding</b>	<b>Lead Agency / Department</b>	<b>Implementation Schedule</b>	<b>Applies to New and / or Existing Structures</b>
<b>14</b>	Participate in the Community Rating System (CRS) to further manage flood risk and reduce flood insurance premiums for NFIP policyholders. This shall start with the submission to FEMADHS of a Letter of Intent to join CRS, followed by the completion and submission of an application to the program once the community's current compliance with the NFIP is established.	7	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	High	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator w/ support from PADEP, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A
<b>15</b>	Obtain and archive elevation certificates for NFIP compliance.	8	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	Low	Low	Municipal Budget	NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Ongoing	N/A
<b>16</b>	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	Municipality (via mitigation planning point of contacts) w/ support from Planning Partners (through their Points of Contact), PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
<b>17</b>	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans.	10	Local plans & Regulations	All Hazards	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality w/ support from PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

	<b>Mitigation Action</b>	<b>Mitigation Action Category</b>	<b>Mitigation Technique Category</b>	<b>Hazard(s) Addressed</b>	<b>Priority (H / M / L)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Potential Funding</b>	<b>Lead Agency / Department</b>	<b>Implementation Schedule</b>	<b>Applies to New and / or Existing Structures</b>
<b>18</b>	Create/enhance/maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities for continuity of operations.	11	All categories	All Hazards	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality w/ support from surrounding municipalities and County	Ongoing	New & Existing
<b>19</b>	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, recordkeeping.	12	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	Low	Medium	Municipal Budget	Municipality w/ support from County, PEMA, FEMA	Short-term	N/A
<b>20</b>	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	Local budget, FEMA HMA grant programs	Municipality w/ support from County, PEMA	Short-, long-term (depending on funding)	N/A

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

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<b>21</b>	Amend stormwater management ordinances to regulate development of upland areas in order to reduce stormwater runoff - coordinate with Lower Saucon Township.	14	Local plans & Regulations	Flood	Medium	\$10,000	Unknown	Planning/Zoning	2 to 3 years	N/A
<b>22</b>	Develop standards and protocols for storage, management, transport and inventory of hazardous materials within the Borough.	23	Education & Awareness	Environmental Hazards/ Explosion	High	\$30,000	Unknown	EMS/Planning/ Zoning	5 years	N/A
<b>23</b>	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.	11	Local plans & Regulations	Pandemic and Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality, working w/ County EMA and PA Department of Health	Ongoing	N/A
<b>24</b>	Devise an employee vaccination and immunization plan to prevent an outbreak within the municipal employee ranks.	27	Local plans & Regulations	Pandemic and Infectious Disease	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

Mitigation Action		Mitigation 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
25	Devise a municipal continuity of operations plan to keep essential services running in the event that a significant portion of the workforce is affected.	11	Local plans & Regulations	Pandemic and Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A
26	Devise a public education and outreach plan regarding disease prevention.	27	Education & awareness	Pandemic and Infectious Disease	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A
27	Provide education and outreach to residents regarding how to prevent the spread of invasive species, including quarantine procedures.	27	Education & awareness	Invasive Species	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A
28	Develop a neighborhood cleanup plan designed to remove potential breeding habitat, such as discarded tires, trash and other items in which standing water can form.	12	Education & Awareness	Invasive Species	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A
29	Provide training and education for first responders to ensure effective emergency care.	27	Local plans & Regulations	Drug Overdose Crisis	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A

**2024 Mitigation Action Plan – continued**

	Mitigation Action	Mitigation 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
30	Provide education and outreach, especially in K-12, regarding drug abuse prevention.	27	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