



TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
NFIP COMMUNITY # 330101
1 GROVE STREET, PETERBOROUGH, NH 03458
(603) 924-8000

CRS Activity 510

Annual Progress Report on Implementation of Credited Plan

Date this Annual Progress Report was prepared: December 28, 2023

Name of Community: Town of Peterborough, New Hampshire

Name of Hazard Mitigation Plan: "Hazard Mitigation Plan 2021 Update for the Town of Peterborough New Hampshire"

Date of Adoption of Plan: November 16, 2021

5 Year CRS Expiration Date: July 16, 2025

1. How can a copy of the credited Hazard Mitigation Plan (Floodplain Management Plan) or Repetitive Loss Area Analysis be obtained?

The Peterborough Hazard Mitigation Plan is available in print at the Town Hall in the Office of Planning and Building (formerly the Office Community Development) and at the Peterborough Town Library. The Plan is also made available on the Town's website, here: <https://www.townofpeterborough.com/>. Interested parties may reach out to the Office of Planning and Building for more information on how they may obtain a copy by calling (603) 924-8000.

2. Describe how *this annual progress report* (not the credited Hazard Mitigation Plan or Repetitive Loss Area Analysis) was prepared and how it was submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public:

This annual progress report has been prepared by conducting a thorough review of the current Hazard Mitigation Plan and its strategies to mitigate potential hazards. In preparing this progress report, input was sought from various Departments in order to confirm the progress on various mitigation strategies.

Upon completion of this progress report, the following steps were immediately taken:

- a) A copy was submitted to the Select Board for their acknowledgment,
- b) A press release was sent to multiple local news sources alerting readers of this reports completion and includes information on where to find the document and what the Hazard Mitigation Plan is, and,
- c) This report was made available to the public by posting it on the Town's website, posting it in the Town's newsletter, and making a print copy available at the Town Hall in the Office of Planning and Building (formerly the Office of Community Development.)

3. Provide a description of the implementation of each recommendation or action item in the action plan or area analysis report, including a statement on how the project was implemented or not implemented during the previous year:

The 2016 Peterborough Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies existing mitigation techniques and proposed mitigation techniques.

MITIGATION TECHNIQUES	DESCRIPTION OF IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS
<i>EXISTING</i>		
1) Communication between Town Departments	<p>Implemented prior 2024, the Town has continually sought communication improvements between Town Departments and implemented them where applicable. In 2022, no new communication techniques were brought on, but Departments continued to utilize implemented techniques, including but not limited to, Microsoft Teams and provision of work cell phones.</p> <p>Refer to proposed mitigation strategy #2 for more information.</p>	Completed, ongoing
2) Emergency Back-up Power	<p>Prior to 2024, this goal was implemented by provision of 14 permanent and 1 portable generators. MacDowell Dam has 2 portable generators that are available to use.</p>	Completed, ongoing
3) Fire Department Training	<p>Implemented prior to 2024; there is monthly training for all members; this was continued in 2023.</p>	Completed, ongoing
4) Flood Warning System	<p>Prior to 2024, this strategy was implemented by installing gauges in the Contoocook River at Noone Falls with internet connection to the NWS information and a direct telephone line at MacDowell Dam. This strategy is completed but considered ongoing for the opportunity to implement enhancements to the warning system.</p>	Completed, ongoing

5) NH Public Works Mutual Aid	Implemented prior to 2024 and the Town continues to participate in this program.	Completed, ongoing
6) Police Department Training	Implemented prior to 2024 and non-certified officers have continued to receive Police Academy trainings and certified officers continue to receive additional trainings in various areas.	Completed, ongoing
7) Police Mutual Aid Agreements	Implemented prior to 2024 and in 2023, mutual aid agreements with neighboring towns were continued.	Completed, ongoing
8) Southwestern NH Fire Mutual Aid	Implemented prior to 2024 but identified in 2016 that this system is not always 100% effective and resulted in the proposed mitigation strategy #4.	Completed, ongoing
9) State Police Online Telecommunication System	Implemented prior to 2024 by providing the Police Department with computer access to the state police databased for various issues and events.	Completed
10) Warning Systems	Implemented prior to 2024 by providing a fire horn at the Fire Station, establishing connection to radio and TV stations for emergencies, and use of the Town's Nixel web-based warning system. This strategy is recommended to remain on the list so that the Town can enhance and improve the system as improved technology becomes available.	Completed, ongoing
11) Wastewater Treatment Facility Emergency Response Guide	Implemented prior to 2024 through a set of procedures that defines staff responsibilities and SOP's to be followed in response to emergency situations. A new guide was adopted at the end of 2022 and is valid for another five years.	Completed
12) Online access to town infrastructure maps	Implemented prior to 2024 by providing online access to all GIS maps and data of critical infrastructure. In 2023, data was updated as needed.	Completed, ongoing

13) Culvert and Storm Drain Maintenance	Implemented prior to 2024 but there has been continually maintenance.	Completed, ongoing
14) Water hydrants	Implemented prior to 2024 by archiving the exact GPS locations of all hydrants. The Town budgets \$5,000 annually for the repair, maintenance, and replacement of hydrants.	Completed
15) Utility poles	Implemented prior to 2024 by archiving the exact GPS locations of all poles.	Completed
16) Leak detection system for water system	Implemented prior to 2024 by conducting water audits to monitor water usage and ensuring that all repairs are up-to-date. This system is in continued use. In 2017, the Town performance a comprehensive leak detection audit.	Completed, ongoing
17) NH DOT Bridge Inspection Program	Implemented prior to 2024 by participating in the DOT Bridge Inspection Program where all bridges are inspected on a regular basis and DOT reports back to the Town on identified issues/problems. The Town continued their participation in this program during 2023 and will continue into 2024.	Completed, ongoing
18) Road and Sidewalk Reconstruction	Implemented prior to 2024 by the Public Works Director developing a plan for the continued repair and reconstruction of town roads and sidewalks. This is an ongoing effort to make repairs as needed and in2023, funds continued to be set aside for planned reconstruction and repair projects for FY2024 and beyond.	Completed, ongoing
19) Road and bridge construction standards	Implemented prior to 2024 by providing specific construction standards, materials, and stormwater management regulations for all Town roads and bridges. During 2023, there was no change to these standards. The Town continues to annually budget \$400,000 to bring degraded roads up to standard.	Completed

20) Snow removal policy	Implemented prior to 2024 by adopting the policy which ensures all town roads are cleared of snow. During 2023, there was no change made to this policy.	Completed
21) Water supply vulnerability assessment	Implemented prior to 2024, this assessment identifies which components of the water supply system could be vulnerable to vandalism and/or terrorism. This assessment was updated in 2015 and is still valid today.	Completed
22) Capital reserve funds for large equipment	Implemented prior to 2024 by creating a plan for the future purchase of large equipment by setting aside money each year. The Capital Improvements Plan Committee continued to meet in late 2023 to continue this work for the FY25 budget.	Completed, ongoing
23) Community rating system	Implemented prior to 2024 by participating in FEMA's National Flood Insurance Policy (NFIP) Program which offers discounts on insurance premiums for Peterborough residents and businesses in return for the Town participating in certain NFIP activities. Refer to proposed mitigation strategy #11 for an update on implementation in 2021.	Completed, ongoing
24) Contingency emergency plan for DPW Elm Street fuel tanks	Implemented prior to 2024 by developing a basic procedure to be followed in the event of fuel spills at the DPW Highway Garage. This emergency plan is still valid today.	Completed
25) Local Emergency Operations Plan	Implemented prior to 2024 by preparing an emergency response plan addressing how the Town will react to any type of emergency. An updated plan was adopted in 2022 and is valid for another 5 years.	Completed
26) Fleet maintenance	Implemented prior to 2024 by hiring full-time mechanics to maintain all Town vehicles. This item continued to be implemented in 2024.	Completed

27) Fleet replacement program	Implemented prior to 2024 through a schedule of vehicle replacement to ensure they are all in good working order. In 2023, the fleet replacement program continued to be implemented by replacing vehicles that were scheduled for replacement.	Completed, ongoing
28) Geographic Information System (GIS)	Implemented prior to 2024, the GIS program is constantly updated and maintained. Refer to proposed mitigation strategy #9 for more on progress in 2024.	Completed
29) Master Plan	<p>Implemented prior to 2020, the Master Plan has received numerous updates to chapters. The Vision and Land Use Chapters were amended and adopted by the Planning Board in late 2021.</p> <p>The Master Plan Steering Committee finalized their work on the whole Plan in December 2023. They will reconvene in 2025 to start work over again.</p>	Completed, ongoing
30) Monadnock Community Hospital Evacuation Plan	Implemented prior to 2024 through provision of an evacuation plan which directs hospital patients to evacuate to South Meadow Middle School.	Completed
31) School Emergency Plan	Implemented prior to 2024 through the development of a plan containing procedures to be followed in the event of an incident and includes procedures for lockdowns and evacuations. This plan is updated regularly and is still valid.	Completed
32) School Response Plans	Implemented prior to 20234 through developing a plan through the Peterborough Police Department for all three schools in Town which provides police procedures to be followed in the event of an incident. This plan is regularly update and still valid.	Completed

33) All Hazards Medical Plan	Implemented prior to 2024 through provision of a set of procedures to be followed in the event of a major medical disaster. This plan is regularly update and still valid.	Completed
34) US ACOE Flood Emergency Plan	Implemented prior to 2024 through development of a procedure to follow in the event of an overflow at the MacDowell Dam; this plan is still valid as of 2023.	Completed
35) Groundwater Protection District	Implemented prior to 2024 through development and adoption of a Groundwater Protection Overlay District. Since the last annual report on this, no changes were made to this ordinance but it's regulations continue to be enforced.	Completed
36) Best Management Practices	Implemented prior to 2024 by the Planning Board, Public Works Director, Code Enforcement Officer, and Town Planner conducting reviews of all new BMPs from state and federal agencies and implementing them where applicable. As new BMPs are recommended, they are reviewed and integrated into daily operations where feasible.	Completed, ongoing
37) Drinking Water Standards	Implemented prior to 2024 by adopting New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES) standards, including that all new wells must be tested for potable water. No changes were made to these standards in the Town's zoning ordinance, but in 2023 but they continued to be enforced.	Completed
38) Floodplain Protection Ordinance	Implemented and adopted prior to 2024 by developing and adopting a floodplain ordinance which manages and regulates development in the floodplain in accordance with National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) standards and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirements. No changes were made to this ordinance since our last annual report but the regulations of the ordinance continued to be enforced.	Completed, ongoing

39) Height restrictions	Implemented prior to 2024 by setting a height limit in the Town’s construction standards based upon the Fire Department’s capacity to fight fires. No changes have been made to this height limit since its adoption and it continues to be enforced.	Completed
40) International Building Codes	Implemented prior to 2024 by setting construction standards in Town for residential and non-residential buildings. No change was made in 2023 and the International Building Codes continued to be enforced.	Completed
41) Septic System Standards	Implemented prior to 2024 by requiring the location and construction of on-site septic systems to comply with state and local standards to minimize potential damage from flooding or other hazardous events. No changes were made in 2023 but regulations continued to be enforced.	Completed
42) Shoreland Conservation Zone	Implemented prior to 2024 through the development and adoption of a Shoreland Conservation Zone (Overlay District) which restricts development within 100 feet of the shoreland. No changes were made to this ordinance since our last annual report but its regulations continued to be enforced.	Completed
43) State Fire Code	Implemented prior to 2024 through adoption and use of State Fire Code which sets construction standards related to life safety, fire prevention, fuel, and gas. No changes were made to this since our last report, but the regulations continued to be enforced.	Completed
44) Stormwater Management Regulations	Implemented prior to 2024 through the development and adoption of stormwater management regulations which set standards for the mitigation of stormwater runoff. No changes were made to these standards since our last annual report, but they continued to be enforced.	Completed

45) Wetland Protection District	Implemented prior to 2024 through the development and adoption of the Wetlands Protection Overlay Zone which designates a buffer area around wetlands, where no development can occur within that buffer. Refer to proposed mitigation strategy #13 for its progress in 2023.	Completed, ongoing
PROPOSED 2016 STRATEGIES		
1) Maintain the Hazardous Tree Removal Program	The Program was implemented prior to 2024 and will continue as an on-going mitigation strategy. The Program has served as an effective tool since its implementation.	Completed, ongoing
2) Upgrade Town-wide Communications	This is an on-going mitigation strategy method to improve Town-wide communications are taken advantage of where practical.	Completed, ongoing
3) Upgrade North Dam	North Dam was studied by an engineering firm in 2016 who submitted a report providing several approaches on how the Town may address the dam and how the dam may impact public water supply. The report indicated that the dam did not pose as an immediate hazard but that over time it would require attention. In response to this report, the Town has planned for repairs to North Dam which are slated to start in FY 2028. The Town passed a warrant article at Town Meeting in 2019 to appropriate \$1,000,000 for the repair of North Dam in FY 2028.	Ongoing

<p>4) Continue to Explore Options for a Town Dispatch Center</p>	<p>In 2023, this strategy was reviewed again during a Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee meeting, and it was indicated that there may be potential for such a dispatch center to exist, depending on how plans for the proposed Fire Station and Department of Public Works work out in the coming year.</p> <p>Implementation and development of this center was not deemed a high priority in 2023 but remains a mitigation strategy for further consideration.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>5) Reconstruct the Main Street Bridge and the Granite Street Retaining Wall</p>	<p>The reconstruction of the Main Street Bridge and Granite Street Retaining Wall have been completed.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>6) Evaluate the Transcript Dam</p>	<p>The dam has been evaluated and repaired with the intention of keeping it in place.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>7) Upgrade the Downtown Canal</p>	<p>This project was completed in 2021 by repairing, and in some cases, filling in sections of the canal.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>8) Continue Improvements to Downtown Drainage</p>	<p>“Improvements to the Downtown Drainage System” has been an ongoing mitigation strategy where the Department of Public Works has been putting away \$35,000 annually for their Downtown Stormwater Separation project to assist in drainage improvements for ongoing projects and as projects are discovered.</p> <p>Prior to 2024, other steps have been taken to improve the drainage system through techniques such as installing impervious pavers and strategically placing rain gardens to assist in the downtown drainage.</p>	<p>Completed, ongoing</p>

<p>9) Continue to Enhance the Functionality of the Geographic Information System (GIS)</p>	<p>This action item is ongoing and remains as a strategy because the GIS system continues to enhance and improve its functionality. In 2023, the GIS System received regular updates to information such as, but not limited to, planimetric, buildings, pavement, and addressing.</p>	<p>Completed, Ongoing</p>
<p>10) Provide interconnectivity between the Police and Fire Stations and the Town House</p>	<p>Prior to 2024, a direct fiber connection was installed to accomplish this goal.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>11) Upgrade the Community Rating System from Class VIII to Class VII</p>	<p>This remains an ongoing goal for the Town of Peterborough. In 2023, the Town was reevaluated for their CRS class but remained in Class VIII. The reason this goal was not reached in 2020 was due to a human error in calculating the number of Points the Town would receive per NFIP Activity which resulted in coming in short on the total Points needed to get to a Class VII.</p> <p>Since then, significant steps have been taken, including but not limited to, improving the CRS activity reporting systems, expanding the breadth of Activities that the Town participates in, and working with other Town Departments so that they may also assist in receiving credit for participating in Activities.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

12) Plan for Future Road Connectivity	This strategy was proposed in 2016 and led to amendments of the Town’s road and street standards in 2016 and 2017. Further revisions were made prior to 2024 to individual District regulations within the Zoning Ordinance related to the future road connectivity of proposed projects.	Completed
13) Revisit the Wetlands Ordinance	This strategy was proposed in 2016 and, since then, the Wetlands Ordinance has been revised twice (2016 and 2019) to provide enhanced wetlands protection. Since our last annual report, no further revisions were made but regulations continued to be enforced.	Completed

4. Discuss why any objectives were not reached or why implementation is behind schedule

The “Description of Implementation” column addresses this question as it pertains to each individual strategy, where applicable. Most projects have either reached completion; are in the process of being complete because they are currently under construction; or have not yet begun either because funding or timing.

5. What are the recommendations for new projects or revised recommendations?

The “Description of Implementation” column addresses how recommendations were revised as it pertains to each individual strategy, where applicable.