

Borough of Pompton Lakes
Passaic County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
Activity 510 of The Community Rating System (CRS) Rating Program
Annual Progress Report

October 12, 2022

Name of Community: Borough of Pompton Lakes

Name of Plan: Passaic County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

Date of Adoption of Plan: October 23, 2020

5 Year CRS Expiration Date: 2025

RE: ***Update on The Passaic County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Activity 510 of the Community Rating System (CRS) Rating Program Pompton Lakes, New Jersey, NFIP community NO. 34528***

Below is an update to Section 9.10 of the 2020 Passaic County and All Municipalities Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan) which, in part, serves as the Borough's Floodplain Management Plan under Community Rating System (CRS) Activity No. 510. **Note that the 2020 plan update replaced the 2015 plan on October 23, 2020.** Copies of this progress report have been provided to the Borough's governing body by copying the Mayor and Council, local media and the State NFIP Coordinating office.

The final version of the Plan is available to the public and can be obtained on the Passaic County website <http://www.passaiccountynj.org> and on the Borough of Pompton Lakes website www.pomptonlakes-nj.gov.

Action Items

Mitigation:

1. Support the mitigation of vulnerable structures via retrofit (e.g. elevation, flood proofing) or acquisition/relocation to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as a priority when applicable.

Priority: High

Status: Due to the Federal Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Ida in Passaic and Other New Jersey counties (4614-DR-NJ), grant funds are expected in 2021 for elevating at risk homes in the floodplain. Additionally, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA), Division of Disaster Recovery and Mitigation has funded, up to \$5 million, the cost of elevating homes. Funding was provided to Fairfield in 2021 and Lincoln Park in 2020.

2022 – Floodplain Manager/Construction Official attends educational seminars and offers residents updated flood protection technology and new flood resistant technics (inflatable and water activated barriers) available to homeowners.

2. Complete drone survey of areas that are prone to snags and silting. Use this information to complete desnagging and desilting operations.

Priority: High

Status: The prior drone flyovers have proven useful for determining the location of shoals and downed trees and will continue with the Flood Advisory Board on an annual basis.

2022 – Continue efforts to survey and expand areas by drone, kayak and by foot in flood prone areas. New drone GPS technology provides the exact location of the area in need of mitigation.

3. Address the river construction issues on the Ramapo River at the Dawes Highway Bridge by working with the State and County to construct either a set of bypass channels or another diversion or storage structure.

Priority: High

Status: Awaiting Funding

2022 – Ongoing discussions to replace Dawes Highway Bridge with County. Work in progress. The history of the bridge is being investigated by the County. Ramapo River ongoing project.

4. Continue the acquisition and removal of homes along River Edge Drive, with the intention of construction additional flood storage along the Ramapo River.

Priority: High

Status: River Edge Drive is in Repetitive Loss Area 1 and includes 15 repetitive loss properties. The entire road is in the floodway. Funding is currently available from FEMA Region II for property acquisition and can be pursued.

2022 – Continue to urge the 8 remaining residents to vacate property and relocate. Property to become part of flood storage area – reclaimed space. Morris Canal Greenway offers passive recreation and the trails allow for absorption of water.

5. Work with the NJDEP to secure an ongoing permit for stream clearing.

Priority: High

Status: Following Hurricane Ida, the NJDEP issued revised (September 4, 2021) guidance on stream cleaning and debris removal :permits-by-rule” as well as “Permits-by-certification” for in-kind replacement of public infrastructure within the Flood Hazard Areas. The guidance is attached. The Borough is currently working under an existing permit from the NJDEP.

2022 – Secure permits to continue stream cleaning, desnagging and remove debris/ trees from rivers that flowed down from upstream.

6. Work with USGS and NWS for a new stream gage at the convergence of the Wanaque River and the Pequannock River

Priority: High

Status: Pending

2022 – Presently Pequannock River and Wanaque River gauges in use. To be determined - placement of new gauge may give off a false rise in river levels when rivers converge.

7. Norton House Bridge was reconstructed without vents or flow through capabilities above the deck and must be modified with venting and a guardrail.
Priority: High
Status: Pending
2022 – Pursuing modifications for the Eastside of Norton House Bridge with the County Engineer and County Road Department for reconstruction of bridge to include vents to allow for flow through capabilities without diversion and a guardrail for road safety. The Westside of Norton House Bridge design allows for an unobstructed passage of water.
8. Regional analysis and control of the Pompton River
Priority: High
Status: Pending funding and partnerships
2022 – The Borough of Pompton Lakes does not have jurisdiction over the Pompton River so therefore adjacent Counties, State and Federal agencies should coordinate efforts and funding to address mitigation for the Pompton River.
9. The Engineering Department will design improvements to address drainage issues. Public works will carry out the improvements on Riverdale Road at Van Ness and Dawes Highway in the block between Olive and Woodlawn, Lincoln Avenue north of Hamburg up to Romaine Avenue, Magnolia Avenue and Lincoln Avenue.
Priority: High
Status: Pending local funding and design
2022 – The Engineer Department will continue to analyze potential drainage solutions for the southern end of town. Design to conform for the pitch and drainage in relation to the topography for the area in question.
10. The Borough will gather and review climate change studies that pertain to the local flood condition and develop flood actions and strategies based on this analysis.
Priority: High
Status: Pending local funding
2022 – Ongoing reports and discussions on climate change are provided during Flood Advisory Board meetings by a Climatologist to review and determine whether further action is necessary.
11. The Borough continues to complete an invasive inventory and remove invasive species and restore impacted habitats.
Priority: High
Status: Pending
2022 – The Borough received a grant through Sustainable Jersey to restore the riparian zone along the Ramapo River. The habitat restoration project will include approximately 5,000 SF of planting area adjacent to Morris Canal Greenway, along the Ramapo River in Pompton Lakes. The intent of the project is to enhance stormwater management and run-off reduction in the floodplain area

through the restoration of native floodplain plantings. Habitat restoration and removal of invasive species will encourage biodiversity and ecosystem stability by restoring both canopy cover and understory plantings and enrich the experience for park users along the passive recreational trails. The project is located within a larger area identified for floodplain habitat restoration in the *Borough of Pompton Lakes Floodplain Restoration & Implementation Plan*, October 2019, prepared by Rutgers Cooperative Extension. The project area is bounded to the west by the Morris Canal Greenway and the Ramapo River to the east. The current cover on the site is invasive scrub-shrub species, predominantly common Mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*).

12. Complete outreach and public education to property owners. Property owners on the riverbank have occasionally used the riverbank for compost and yard waste purposes. This contributes to increased flood risk.

Priority: High

Status: The CRS program provides for annual outreach to all Borough residents. The Borough ordinance prohibiting dumping is highlighted. Future outreach will highlight this important measure.

2022 – Ongoing outreach efforts to educate the negative impact caused by dumping. Public events, schools, children’s camp program, email blasts, social media, Public TV Channel 77 and Boards outreach provide information to educate the importance of not dumping.

This report was prepared by the Pompton Lakes CRS committee

ACTION ITEM #5 - Guidance Attachment

NJDEP Stream Maintenance Guidance



Tropical Storm IDA Cleanup Guidance New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Watershed and Land Management Program



September 4, 2021

Where an emergent condition exists that endangers the environment or threatens public health, safety and welfare, DEP's rules include certain provisions that facilitate repair, reconstruction and clean-up activities while protecting the health of our waterways and avoiding increased future flood damage potential. In order to facilitate post-storm recovery, the following information is available to state, county and municipal officials and may be shared with the public as well:

Emergency Authorizations, Stream Cleaning and Debris Removal

- General information for these activities can be found at: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/landuse/emergencies.html#>
- Additional guidance related to the removal of sediment and debris from within rivers and streams can be found at: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/landuse/activity/sclean.html>

In-Kind Replacement of Public Infrastructure within Flood Hazard Areas

- DEP has adopted several general permits-by-certification to facilitate emergency repairs of public infrastructure by governmental entities, most notably Flood Hazard Area general permit-by-certification 15, a checklist for which can be found at: https://www.nj.gov/dep/landuse/download/fha_043.pdf
- General permits-by-certification are instant approvals that can be obtained through the Department's online portal at: <https://www.njdeponline.com>

For Further Information Regarding the Above, Please Contact the Following DEP Representatives:

Flood Hazard Area Permits North Jersey - Contact: Dennis Contois at Dennis.Contois@dep.nj.gov South Jersey - Contact: Damian Friebel at Damian.Friebel@dep.nj.gov Tel: (609) 633-6563
Coastal Permits <i>Includes Waterfront Development, CAFRA, and Coastal Wetland Permits</i> Contact: Christopher Jones at Christopher.Jones@dep.nj.gov Tel: (609) 633-2289
Freshwater Wetlands Permits Contact: Ryan Anderson at Ryan.Anderson@dep.nj.gov Tel: (609) 984-6216
Dredging/Port/SRP Facilities Projects Contact: Suzanne Biggins at Suzanne.Biggins@dep.nj.gov Tel: (609) 633-2289