



## 4. TOWN OF BENTON

This jurisdictional annex to the Yates County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) provides information to assist public and private sectors in the Town of Benton with reducing losses from future hazard events. This annex is not guidance of what to do when a disaster occurs; its focus is on actions that can be implemented prior to a disaster to reduce or eliminate damage to property and people. The annex presents a general overview of Benton, describes who participated in the planning process, assesses Benton's risk, vulnerability, and capabilities, and outlines a strategy for achieving a more resilient community.

### 4.1 HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM

The Town of Benton identified primary and alternate HMP points of contact and developed this plan over the course of several months, with input from many Town departments. The Town Supervisor represented the community on the Yates County HMP Planning Partnership and supported the local planning process by securing input from persons with specific knowledge to enhance the plan. All departments were asked to contribute to the annex development through reviewing and contributing to the capability assessment, reporting on the status of previously identified actions, and participating in action identification and prioritization.

Table 4-1 summarizes Town officials who participated in the development of the annex and in what capacity. Additional documentation of the Town's planning activities through Planning Partnership meetings is included in Volume I.

**Table 4-1. Hazard Mitigation Planning Team**

Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact
Name/Title: John Prendergast, Supervisor Address: 1000 State Route 14A, Penn Yan, NY 14527-9107 Phone Number: 315-536-7236 Email: supervisor@townofbenton.us	Name/Title: Richard Harper, Deputy Supervisor Address: 1000 State Route 14A, Penn Yan, NY 14527-9107 Phone Number: 315-536-7236 Email: harper2191@aol.com
<b>National Flood Insurance Program Floodplain Administrator</b>	
Name/Title: Thomas Fulkrod, Zoning Officer Address: 1000 State Route 14A, Penn Yan, NY 14527-9107 Phone Number: 315-536-7236 Email: zoning@townofbenton.us	
<b>Additional Contributors</b>	
Name/Title: Jeremy Delyser, Engineer Method of Participation: Provided input in the planning process.	
Name/Title: Jayson Hoover, Highway Superintendent Method of Participation: Provided input in the planning process.	



Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact
Name/Title: Bobbi Wolfe, Town Clerk Method of Participation: Provided input in the planning process.	
Name/Title: John Prendergast, Supervisor Method of Participation: Provided input in the planning process.	
Name/Title: Richard Harper, Deputy Supervisor Method of Participation: Provided input in the planning process.	
Name/Title: Thomas Fulkrod, Zoning Officer Method of Participation: Provided input in the planning process.	

## 4.2 COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Town of Benton lies along the northeastern border of Yates County in western New York State. Seneca Lake forms the eastern border of the Town, with Torrey to the southeast, Milo and Jerusalem to the south, Potter along the west and Ontario County marks the northern boundary. The Town is comprised primarily of agricultural lands with a small percentage of forested lands. The maximum elevation in the Town 1,278 feet and is located near the southern boundary of the town, north of Townline Road. The Northern portion of the Village of Penn Yan is also located at the southern boundary of the town surrounding the intersection of State Routes 364 and 14A. The topography within the town is fairly uniform, and for the most part gentle. There are some steeper areas where there are gullies or other watercourses as well as in the northeastern corner of the town approaching Seneca Lake (Tetra Tech 2020).

The Town of Benton has a total area of 44.4 square miles. Seneca Lake forms the Northeastern boundary of the town. The Kashong Creek begins in Kashong Creek Swamp on the NW edge of the town, then flowing North before exiting the town near Kidder Rd and reentering the town boundary to the East and then flowing Easterly before exiting the Town in its NE corner. Sugar Creek enters the town at its western boundary just north of Havens Corners Rd and flows southwesterly before exiting the town boundary on the western edge north of Baldwin Rd. The Town of Benton is located along NYS Route 14 & 14A. The hamlet of Bellona is located along County Rt 15 (Pre-Emption Rd) within the Town of Benton (Town of Benton n.d.). According to the U.S. Census, the 2020 population for the Town of Benton was 2,580, a nine percent decrease from the 2010 Census.

Research has shown that some populations are at greater risk from hazard events because of decreased resources or physical abilities. These populations can be more susceptible to hazard events based on a number of factors including their physical and financial ability to react or respond during a hazard, and the location and construction quality of their housing. Data from the 2017-2021 American Community Survey indicates that 8-percent of the population is 5 years of age or younger, 21.6-percent is 65 years of age or older, 3.4-percent is non-English speaking, 7.3-percent is below the poverty threshold, and 6.5-percent is considered disabled.



## 4.3 JURISDICTIONAL CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT AND INTEGRATION

Benton performed an inventory and analysis of existing capabilities, plans, programs, and policies that enhance its ability to implement mitigation strategies. Volume I describes the components included in the capability assessment and their significance for hazard mitigation planning. The jurisdictional assessment for this annex includes analyses of the following:

- Planning and regulatory capabilities
- Development and permitting capabilities
- Administrative and technical capabilities
- Fiscal capabilities
- Education and outreach capabilities
- Classification under various community mitigation programs
- Adaptive capacity to withstand hazard events

For a community to succeed in reducing long-term risk, hazard mitigation must be integrated into day-to-day local government operations. As part of the hazard mitigation analysis, planning and /policy documents were reviewed and each jurisdiction was surveyed to obtain a better understanding of their progress toward plan integration. Development of an updated mitigation strategy provided an opportunity for Benton to identify opportunities for integrating mitigation concepts into ongoing Town procedures.

### 4.3.1 Planning and Regulatory Capability and Integration

Table 4-2 summarizes the planning and regulatory tools that are available to Benton.

**Table 4-2. Planning and Regulatory Capability and Integration**

	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
<b>CODES, ORDINANCES, &amp; REGULATIONS</b>				
<b>Building Code</b>	Yes	Town Code, Chapter 30, Building Construction and Fire Prevention. Updated 2023.	State and Local	Code Enforcement Officer
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				



	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
This Chapter provides for the administration and enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code and the State Energy Conservation Construction Code in the Town. It includes the creation of an office of the Code Enforcement Officer; institutes building permit requirements; outlines instruction inspection provisions; and mandates Certificates of Compliance.				
<b>Zoning/Land Use Code</b>	Yes	Town Code, Chapter 110, Zoning. 1/16/1992	Local	Code Enforcement Officer
<p>How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?</p> <p>This chapter regulates and restricts the height, number of stories, and size of buildings and other structures, the percentage of lots that may be occupied, the size of yards, building setbacks and other open space, the density of population, and the location and use of buildings, structures and land for trade, industry, residence, or other purposes; and establishes penalties for violations.</p> <p>The intent of this chapter is to encourage appropriate and orderly physical development and general welfare; classify, designate, and regulate the location and use of buildings, structures, and land for agriculture, residential, commercial, industrial, or other uses in appropriate places. Objectives of this chapter are to provide assurance of opportunities for effective utilization of land; provide adequate community and public utility facilities; provide workable relationships of land uses to the transportation system and lessen congestion on the roads; conserve and stabilize the value of property; provide adequate open space for light and air; provide desired levels of population density; and secure safety from fire, flood, and other dangers.</p>				
<b>Subdivision Code</b>	Yes	Town Code, Chapter 98, Subdivision Regulations. 1/14/2009.	Local	Planning Board
<p>How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?</p> <p>The Planning Board of the Town of Benton is authorized and empowered to approve plats showing lots, blocks, or sites, with or without streets or highways, to approve the development of entirely or partially undeveloped plats already filed in the office of the Clerk of Yates County, and to approve preliminary plats with or without modifications. The land to be subdivided should be able to be safely used for building purposes without danger to health, or danger from fire, flood or other hazard; that proper provision shall be made for drainage, erosion control, water supply, sewerage and other needed improvements; that all proposed lots will be laid out to be in harmony with the development pattern of the neighboring properties; that the proposed streets will conform to the Official Map and will be properly related to the proposals shown on the Comprehensive Plan, and will be of a width, grade and location as to accommodate prospective traffic and facilitate fire protection and to provide access of fire-fighting equipment to buildings; and that proper provision shall be made for open spaces for parks and playgrounds. Prohibits platting for land subject to flooding, and land deemed by the Planning Board to be otherwise uninhabitable for residential occupancy or for other uses that may increase danger to health, life, or property or aggravate the flood hazard. Additionally, all flood areas indicated on area FIRM must be included in the preliminary plat. Prioritizes wetlands and slopes as areas of high conservation importance.</p>				
<b>Site Plan Code</b>	Yes	Town Code, Chapter 110, Zoning, Article 8. 1/16/1992.	Local and County	Planning Board
<p>How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?</p> <p>This chapter allows the Planning Board to review and approve site plans for special uses. The objective is to evaluate site plans in order to minimize conflicts between the site layout and design of proposed uses and existing uses and natural site conditions and thereby minimize any adverse effects affecting the health, safety, and overall welfare of the community. Prior to issuing a building permit for construction, reconstruction, or expansion, or change in use of any special use, a site plan and supporting documentation shall be submitted to the Planning Board for its review and approval. Site plans must include existing natural features such as water bodies, watercourses, wetlands, wooded areas, individual large trees, and flood hazard areas.</p>				



	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
<b>Stormwater Management Code</b>	Yes	Town Code, Chapter 110, Zoning. 1/16/1992.	Local and County	Planning Board
<p>How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?</p> <p>Adequate and comprehensive drainage systems should be provided to convey the stormwater runoff originating within and outside a proposed development as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Drainage systems shall have sufficient capacity to accommodate the potential future runoff based upon the probable land use and ultimate development of the total watershed upland of the development.</li> <li>2. Preservation of natural watercourses is generally preferable to the construction of drainage channels.</li> <li>3. Interior drainage systems shall be designed to accommodate a ten-year storm.</li> </ol>				
<b>Post-Disaster Recovery/ Reconstruction Code</b>	No	-	-	-
<p>How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?</p> <p>Not applicable</p>				
<b>Real Estate Disclosure Requirements</b>	Yes	Property Condition Disclosure Act, NY Code - Article 14 §460-467	State	NYS Department of State, Real Estate Agent
<p>How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?</p> <p>In addition to facing potential liability for failing to disclose under the exceptions to "caveat emptor," a home seller must make certain disclosures under the law or pay a credit of \$500 to the buyer at closing. While the PCDA requires a seller to complete a standardized disclosure statement and deliver it to the buyer before the buyer signs the final purchase contract, in practice, most home sellers in New York opt not to complete the statement and instead pay the credit.</p>				
<b>Growth Management</b>	No	-	-	-
<p>How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?</p> <p>Not applicable</p>				
<b>Environmental Protection Ordinance(s)</b>	No	-	-	-
<p>How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?</p> <p>Not applicable</p>				
<b>Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance</b>	Yes	Chapter 35 Flood Damage Prevention. 1/14/2009	Federal, State, County and Local	Zoning Officer
<p>How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?</p> <p>It is the purpose of this chapter to promote the public health, safety and general welfare and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities.</li> <li>B. Require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction.</li> <li>C. Control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of floodwaters.</li> <li>D. Control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages.</li> <li>E. Regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert floodwaters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands.</li> </ol>				



	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
F. Qualify for and maintain participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.				
<b>Wellhead Protection</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Emergency Management Ordinance</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Climate Change Ordinance</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Other: Erosion</b>	Yes	Town Code, Chapter 110, Zoning, 1/16/1992.	Local and County	Planning Board
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? In order to ensure that land development will occur with minimum soil erosion, the Planning Board may require the developer to consult with the Soil Conservation Service and the Soil Conservation Service shall determine whether or not to require that the following procedures be put into practice. Such procedures may include:				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exposing the smallest practical area of land at any one time during the development.</li> <li>2. Provision of temporary vegetation and/or mulching to protect critical areas.</li> <li>3. Provision of adequate drainage facilities, which may include swales and sedimentation basins, to accommodate increased runoff caused by changed soil and surface conditions during and after development.</li> <li>4. Adjusting the development plan to the topography and soils so as to minimize erosion potential.</li> <li>5. Retention and protection of existing vegetation wherever possible.</li> <li>6. Installation of permanent final vegetation and structures as soon as practicable.</li> <li>7. Provision of adequate protective measures when slopes in excess of 15% are graded.</li> <li>8. Installation of temporary sedimentation basins as required by the Soil Conservation Service.</li> </ol>				
<b>PLANNING DOCUMENTS</b>				
<b>General/Comprehensive Plan</b>	Yes	Comprehensive Plan, 2/13/13	Local	Planning Board
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The Town of Benton Comprehensive Plan is the guide for the efforts of the Town to regulate development in the best overall interest of the community. The original version of the comprehensive plan was produced in 1991 and revised in 2001. In 2011 the Town Board brought together members of the Town Board and members of the Town Planning Board with interested members of the public, to form a new review committee.				
The growth of the Finger Lakes wine industry has created an influx of tourists. Tourism has become one of the largest industries in the region. This factor, and the passing of years, prompted a review of the Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning Laws.				
Objectives include continuing to work with other agencies and the public on completing a watershed management plan for the Seneca Lake Watershed; consider affording SEQR Critical Environmental Area Status to the most environmentally sensitive areas in the Town; ensuring the provision of a comprehensive system of fire, police and emergency services to protect life and property throughout the community; and working with County and local emergency management services.				



	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
<b>Capital Improvement Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Disaster Debris Management Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Floodplain Management or Watershed Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Stormwater Management Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Open Space Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Urban Water Management Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Habitat Conservation Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Economic Development Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Community Wildfire Protection Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Community Forest Management Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Transportation Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				





	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
<b>Agriculture Plan</b>	Yes	Yates County Agricultural Development and Farmland Enhancement Plan (2004)	County	Yates County IDA
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The Agricultural Development and Farmland Enhancement Plan was prepared to help guide local planning board members, agricultural and farmland protection board members and elected officials in their review of development applications that affect farmlands. Land use planning and zoning with regard to agriculture cannot be rigid – the flexibility to adapt based on circumstances is critical. Many large farming operations involve a variety of land uses that may include housing for farm workers, the manufacturing of agricultural products, trucking operations, machinery repair, warehousing, or retail sales of farm products.				
<b>Climate Action/ Resilience/Sustainability Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Tourism Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Business/ Downtown Development Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Other</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>RESPONSE/RECOVERY PLANNING</b>				
<b>Emergency Operations Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Continuity of Operations Plan</b>	Yes	Pandemic Continuity of Operations Plan (3/8/2021)	County	Yates County Emergency Management
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The purpose of this plan is to protect the health and safety of County employees, contractors, customers, clients, members of the public all while maintaining continuity of County operations. In accordance with amended New York State Labor Law section 27-c and New York State Education Law paragraphs k and l of subdivision 2 of section 2801-a (as amended by section 1 of part B of chapter 56 of the laws of 2016), as applicable.				
<b>Substantial Damage Response Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				





	Jurisdiction has this? (Yes/No)	Citation and Date (code chapter or name of plan, date of enactment or plan adoption)	Authority (local, county, state, federal)	Responsible Person, Department or Agency
<b>Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				
<b>Post-Disaster Recovery Plan</b>	Yes	NYS Long-Term Recovery Plan (March 2023)	State	NYSDHSES
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? This volume includes the provisions for implementing long-term recovery activities and functions, including mitigation, as provided for under the Federal Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and a variety of Federal-State programs. Volume 3 also recognizes the primacy of local governments in the implementation of long-term recovery plans and, depending on the nature and impact of the disaster, new programs that might be necessary to implement at the county or local level.				
<b>Public Health Plan</b>	Yes	Yates County Comprehensive Regional Community Health Assessment Plan (2022-2024)	County	Yates County Public Health
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The goals of the CHIP are to prevent chronic disease and promote well-being and prevent mental and substance disorders.				
<b>Other</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? Not applicable				

### 4.3.2 Development and Permitting Capability

Table 4-3 summarizes the capabilities of Benton to oversee and track development.

**Table 4-3. Development and Permitting Capability**

	Yes/No	Comment
Do you issue development permits?	Yes	Code Enforcement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you issue development permits, what department is responsible?</li> <li>If you do not issue development permits, what is your process for tracking new development?</li> </ul>		
Are permits tracked by hazard area? (For example, floodplain development permits.)	No	-
Do you have a buildable land inventory?	Yes	Town Zoning map
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you have a buildable land inventory, please describe</li> </ul>		



	Yes/No	Comment
Describe the level of buildout in your jurisdiction.	N/A	There is not much space remaining to develop, although residential growth is taking the form of single-family home development on scattered roadside lots or small subdivisions.

### 4.3.3 Administrative and Technical Capability

Table 4-4 summarizes potential staff and personnel resources available to Benton and their current responsibilities that contribute to hazard mitigation.

**Table 4-4. Administrative and Technical Capabilities**

Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE CAPABILITY</b>		
Planning Board	Yes	The Planning Board continues to work on issues important to the Town of Benton. Some of these include the revision of the Comprehensive Plan, regulations pertaining to the Solar projects and a variety of other issues that affect the quality of life in the Benton community.
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Yes	The Town Board appoints a Zoning Board of Appeals consisting of five members; they approve or deny variances.
Planning Department	No	-
Mitigation Planning Committee	No	-
Environmental Board/Commission	No	-
Open Space Board/Committee	No	-
Economic Development Commission/Committee	Yes	Yates County
Public Works/Highway Department	Yes	The Town has a Highway Superintendent.
Construction/Building/Code Enforcement Department	Yes	The goal of the Zoning and Code Enforcement Office is to provide assistance to the Town of Benton residents with their building, zoning and code enforcement issues. There is a Code Enforcement Officer.
Emergency Management/Public Safety Department	No	-
Maintenance programs to reduce risk (stormwater maintenance, tree trimming, etc.)	No	-
Mutual aid agreements	Yes	Highway/CEO
Human Resources Manual - Do any job descriptions specifically include identifying or implementing mitigation projects or other efforts to reduce natural hazard risk?	No	-



Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
Other	No	-
<b>TECHNICAL/STAFFING CAPABILITY</b>		
Planners or engineers with knowledge of land development and land management practices	No	-
Engineers or professionals trained in building or infrastructure construction practices	No	-
Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural hazards	No	-
Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis	No	-
Professionals trained in conducting damage assessments	Yes	Town of Benton Highway Superintendent
Personnel skilled or trained in GIS and/or Hazus applications	Yes	Yates County Planner/Real Property
Staff that work with socially vulnerable populations or underserved communities	No	-
Environmental scientists familiar with natural hazards	No	-
Surveyors	No	-
Emergency manager	No	-
Grant writers	No	-
Resilience Officer	No	-
Other (this could include stormwater engineer, environmental specialist, etc.)	Yes	Watershed Officer: The Watershed Officer is responsible for issuing permits and performing inspections on septic systems to assure they meet NYS Department of Health codes. There are many times when banks require septic system inspections as part of the sale or purchase of a residence and the Watershed Officer can assist in those situations.

### 4.3.4 Fiscal Capability

Table 4-5 summarizes financial resources available to Benton.

**Table 4-5. Fiscal Capabilities**

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to Use? (Yes/No)
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG, CDBG-DR)	No
Capital improvement project funding	Yes



Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to Use? (Yes/No)
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes
User fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	Yes
Impact fees for homebuyers or developers of new development/homes	No
Stormwater utility fee	No
Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes
Incur debt through special tax bonds	No
Incur debt through private activity bonds	Yes
Withhold public expenditures in hazard-prone areas	No
Other federal or state funding programs	No
Open Space Acquisition funding programs	No
Other (for example, Clean Water Act 319 Grants [Nonpoint Source Pollution])	No

### 4.3.5 Education and Outreach Capability

Table 4-6 summarizes the education and outreach resources available to Benton.

**Table 4-6. Education and Outreach Capabilities**

Outreach Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment
Public information officer or communications office	No	-
Personnel skilled or trained in website development	No	-
Hazard mitigation information available on your website	No	-
Social media for hazard mitigation education and outreach	No	-
Citizen boards or commissions that address issues related to hazard mitigation	No	-
Warning systems for hazard events	Yes	Yates County 911 Center
Natural disaster/safety programs in place for schools	No	-
Organizations that conduct outreach to socially vulnerable populations and underserved populations	No	-
Public outreach mechanisms / programs to inform citizens on natural hazards, risk, and ways to protect themselves during such events	No	-

### 4.3.6 Community Classifications

Table 4-7 summarizes classifications for community programs available to Benton.

**Table 4-7. Community Classifications**

Program	Participating? (Yes/No)	Classification	Date Classified
Community Rating System (CRS)	No	-	-
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)	No	-	-
Public Protection (ISO Fire Protection Classes 1 to 10)	Yes	Department – 6/6Y	2016
National Weather Service StormReady Certification	Yes	Yates County NOAA Storm Ready	Recertified – August 7, 2018
Firewise Communities classification	No	-	-
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Climate Smart Community	No	-	-
Other: Organizations with mitigation focus (advocacy group, non-government)	No	-	-

N/A = Not applicable

— = Unavailable

### 4.3.7 Adaptive Capacity

Adaptive capacity is defined as “the ability of systems, institutions, humans and other organisms to adjust to potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities, or respond to consequences” (IPCC 2022). Each jurisdiction has a unique combination of capabilities to adjust to, protect from, and withstand a future hazard event, future conditions, and changing risk. Table 4-8 summarizes the adaptive capacity for each identified hazard of concern and the Town’s capability to address related actions using the following classifications:

- Strong: Capacity exists and is in use.
- Moderate: Capacity might exist; but is not used or could use some improvement.
- Weak: Capacity does not exist or could use substantial improvement

**Table 4-8. Adaptive Capacity**

Hazard	Adaptive Capacity - Strong/Moderate/Weak
Dam Failure	Moderate
Disease Outbreak	Moderate
Drought	Moderate
Extreme Temperatures	Moderate
Flood	Moderate
Harmful Algal Bloom	Moderate
Hazardous Materials	Strong



Hazard	Adaptive Capacity - Strong/Moderate/Weak
Landslide	Moderate
Severe Storm	Strong
Severe Winter Storm	Moderate
Transportation Accidents	Moderate
Utility Failure	Moderate

## 4.4 NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

This section provides specific information on the management and regulation of the regulatory floodplain, including current and future compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The floodplain administrator listed in Table 4-1 is responsible for maintaining this information.

### 4.4.1 NFIP Statistics

Table 4-9 summarizes the NFIP policy and claim statistics for Benton.

**Table 4-9. Benton NFIP Summary of Policy and Claim Statistics**

# Policies	9
# Claims (Losses)	0
Total Loss Payments	\$0.00
# Repetitive Loss Properties (NFIP definition) <sup>a</sup>	0
# Repetitive Loss Properties (FMA definition) <sup>b</sup>	0
# Severe Repetitive Loss Properties <sup>c</sup>	0

- NFIP Definition of Repetitive Loss: The NFIP defines a repetitive loss property as any insurable building for which two or more claims of more than \$1,000 were paid by the NFIP within any rolling 10-year period since 1978.
- FMA Definition of Repetitive Loss: FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program defines a repetitive loss property as any insurable building that has incurred flood-related damage on two occasions, in which the cost of the repair, on average, equaled or exceeded 25 percent of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event.
- Definition of Severe Repetitive Loss: A residential property covered under an NFIP flood insurance policy and: (a) That has at least four NFIP claim payments over \$5,000 each, and the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeds \$20,000; or (b) For which at least two separate claims payments have been made with the cumulative amount of the building portion of such claims exceeding the market value of the building. At least two of the claims must have occurred within any 10-year period, more than 10 days apart.

Source: Yates County 2024



## 4.4.2 Flood Vulnerability Summary

Table 4-10 provides a summary of the NFIP program in Benton.

**Table 4-10. NFIP Summary**

NFIP Topic	Comments
<b>Flood Vulnerability Summary</b>	
Describe areas prone to flooding in your jurisdiction.	Areas within the SFHA
Do you maintain a list of properties that have been damaged by flooding?	No
Do you maintain a list of property owners interested in flood mitigation?	No
How many homeowners and/or business owners are interested in mitigation (elevation or acquisition)?	Unknown
Are any RiskMAP projects currently underway in your jurisdiction? If so, state what projects are underway.	No
How do you make Substantial Damage determinations?	Unknown
How many Substantial Damage determinations were declared for recent flood events in your jurisdiction?	None
How many properties have been mitigated (elevation or acquisition) in your jurisdiction? If there are mitigation properties, how were the projects funded?	None that the town knows of.
Do your flood hazard maps adequately address the flood risk within your jurisdiction? If not, state why.	Yes.
<b>NFIP Compliance</b>	
What local department is responsible for floodplain management?	Zoning Officer
Are any certified floodplain managers on staff in your jurisdiction?	No
Do you have access to resources to determine possible future flooding conditions from climate change?	No
Does your floodplain management staff need any assistance or training to support its floodplain management program? If so, what type of assistance/training is needed?	No
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services you provide (e.g., permit review, GIS, education/outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Permit review
How do you determine if proposed development on an existing structure would qualify as a substantial improvement?	Any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, for the of which equals or exceeds 50% of the market value of the structure, including land values.





NFIP Topic	Comments
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	Staff and funding
Does your jurisdiction have any outstanding NFIP compliance violations that need to be addressed? If so, state the violations.	No
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC)?	Unknown
What is the local law number or municipal code of your flood damage prevention ordinance?	Flood Damage Prevention Chapter 35 of Town Code
What is the date that your flood damage prevention ordinance was last amended?	January 14, 2009
Does your floodplain management program meet or exceed minimum requirements? If exceeds, in what ways?	The of Barrington meets the minimum for floodplain requirement.
Are there other local ordinances, plans or programs (e.g., site plan review) that support floodplain management and meeting the NFIP requirements? For instance, does the planning board or zoning board consider efforts to reduce flood risk when reviewing variances such as height restrictions?	All new construction must have site plans for that project to be reviewed by the Town Planning Board and Zoning Board, which includes height restriction.
Does your community plan to join the CRS program or is your community interested in improving your CRS classification?	No

## 4.5 GROWTH/DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

Understanding how past, current, and projected development patterns have or are likely to increase or decrease risk in hazard areas is a key component to appreciating a jurisdiction's overall risk to its hazards of concern. Recent and expected future development trends, including major residential/commercial development and major infrastructure development, are summarized in Table 4-11 through Table 4-13.

**Table 4-11. Number of Building Permits for New Construction Issued Since the Previous HMP**

	New Construction Permits Issued			
	Single Family	Multi-Family	Other (commercial, mixed-use, etc.)	Total
<b>2019</b>				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
<b>2020</b>				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0



	New Construction Permits Issued			
	Single Family	Multi-Family	Other (commercial, mixed-use, etc.)	Total
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
<b>2021</b>				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
<b>2022</b>				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
<b>2023</b>				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0

SFHA = Special Flood Hazard Area (1% flood event)

**Table 4-12. Recent Major Development and Infrastructure from 2018 to Present**

Property or Development Name	Type of Development	# of Units / Structures	Location (address and/or block and lot)	Known Hazard Zones*	Description / Status of Development
There has been no recent major development or infrastructure in the Town between 2018 to present.					

\* Only location-specific hazard zones or vulnerabilities identified.

**Table 4-13. Known or Anticipated Major Development and Infrastructure in the Next Five Years**

Property or Development Name	Type of Development	# of Units / Structures	Location (address and/or block and lot)	Known Hazard Zones*	Description / Status of Development
There are no known or anticipated major development or infrastructure in the next five years in the Town.					

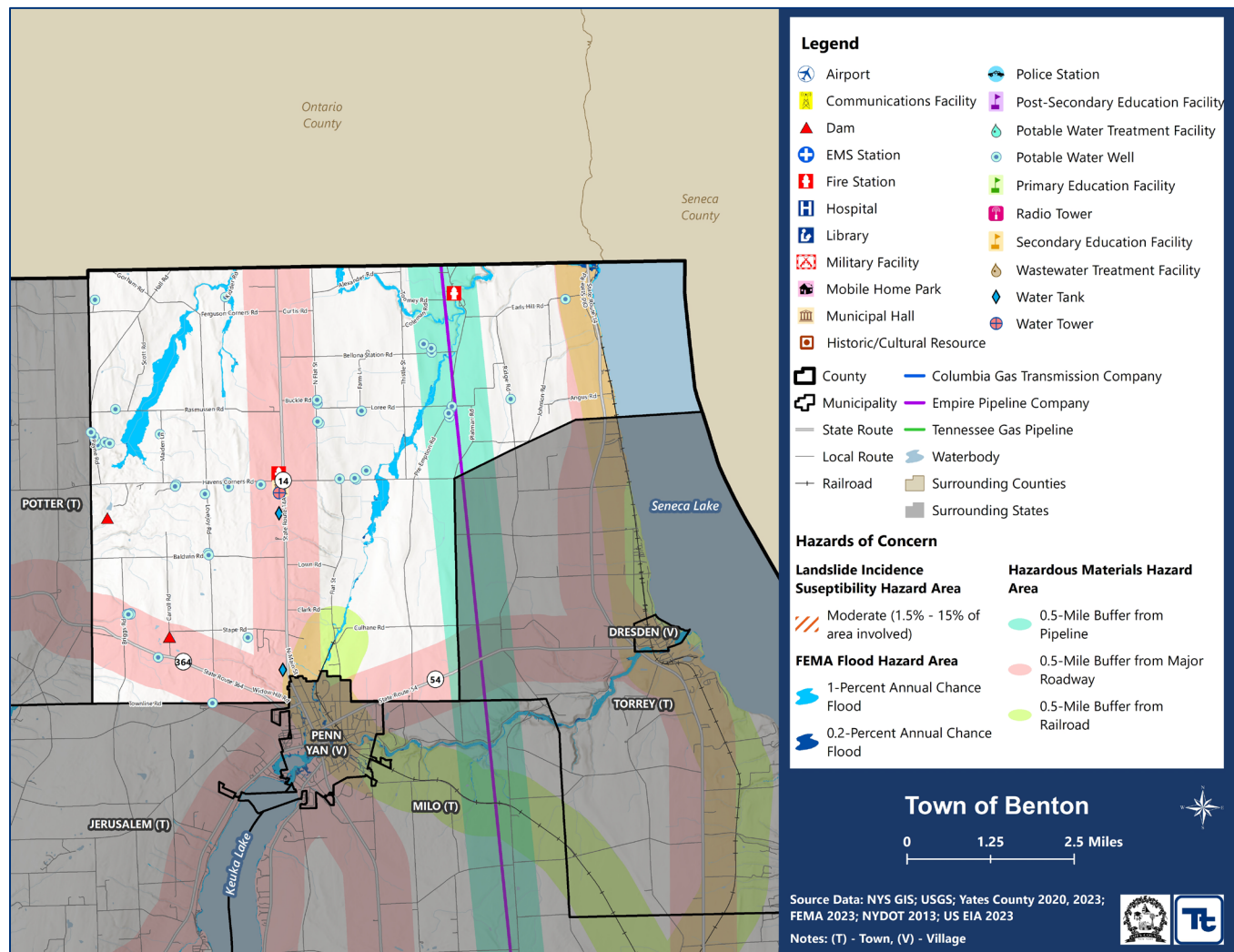
## 4.6 JURISDICTIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT

The hazard profiles in Volume I provide detailed information regarding each planning partner's vulnerability to the identified hazards, including summaries of Benton's risk assessment results and data used to determine the hazard ranking. Key local risk assessment information is presented below.

## 4.6.1 Hazard Area

The hazard area map shown in Figure 4-1 illustrates the probable hazard areas impacted within the Town. This map is based on the best available data at the time of the preparation of this plan and is adequate for planning purposes. Maps are provided only for hazards that can be identified clearly using mapping techniques and technologies and for which Benton has significant exposure. The maps show the location of potential new development, where available.

**Figure 4-1. Benton Hazard Area Extent and Location Map**



*Note: The shown flood hazard area is limited to the FEMA-defined flood hazard areas. Areas of localized flooding are not reflected in the above Figure.*



## 4.6.2 Hazard Event History

The history of natural and non-natural hazard events in Benton is detailed in Volume I, where each hazard profile includes a chronology of historical events that have affected the County and its municipalities. Table 4-14 provides details on loss and damage in Benton during hazard events since the last hazard mitigation plan update.

**Table 4-14. Hazard Event History in Benton**

Dates of Event	Event Type (Disaster Declaration)	County Designated?	Summary of Event	Summary of Damage and Losses in Benton
January 20, 2020 – May 11, 2023	Coronavirus pandemic (EM-3434), (DR-4480)	-	As of July 9, 2023, the New York Department of Health has reported 4,543 reported cases and 45 reported deaths in Yates County.	The Town was subject to closures and social distancing/masking requirements.

EM = Emergency Declaration (FEMA)

FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency

DR = Major Disaster Declaration (FEMA)

N/A = Not applicable

## 4.6.3 Hazard Ranking and Vulnerabilities

The hazard profiles in Volume I have detailed information regarding each planning partner's vulnerability to the identified hazards. The following presents key risk assessment results for Benton.

### Hazard Ranking

The participating jurisdictions have differing degrees of vulnerability to the hazards of concern, so each jurisdiction ranked its own degree of risk to each hazard. The community-specific hazard ranking is based on problems and impacts identified by the risk assessment presented in Volume I. The ranking process involves an assessment of the likelihood of occurrence for each hazard; the potential impacts of the hazard on people, property, and the economy; community capabilities to address the hazard; and changing future climate conditions. Benton reviewed the County hazard ranking and individual results to assess the relative risk of the hazards of concern to the community. During the review of the hazard ranking, the Town indicated the following rankings were accurate.

Table 4-15 shows Benton's final hazard rankings for identified hazards of concern. Mitigation action development uses the ranking to target hazards with the highest risk.

**Table 4-15. Hazard Ranking**

Hazard	Rank
Dam Failure	Low
Disease Outbreak	Medium
Drought	Medium
Extreme Temperatures	Medium
Flood	Low
Harmful Algal Bloom	Medium
Hazardous Materials	Low
Landslide	Low
Severe Storm	High
Severe Winter Storm	High
Transportation Accidents	Low
Utility Failure	Medium

*Note: The scale is based on the hazard rankings established in Volume I, modified as appropriate based on review by the jurisdiction*

## Critical Facilities

Table 4-16 identifies critical facilities in the community located in the 1 percent and 0.2 percent annual chance floodplains.

**Table 4-16. Critical Facilities Flood Vulnerability**

Name	Type	Vulnerability		Addressed by Proposed Action	Already Protected to 0.2% Flood Level (describe protections)
		1% Annual Chance Event	0.2% Annual Chance Event		
There are no critical facilities in the Town which are located in the 1- or 0.2-percent annual chance floodplains.					

Source: Yates County 2023

## 4.6.4 Identified Issues

After review of Benton's hazard event history, hazard rankings, hazard location, and current capabilities, Benton identified the following vulnerabilities within the community:

- The Town does not have any certified floodplain managers (CFM) on staff. Becoming a CFM increases the depth of understanding when dealing with FEMA floodplains. The certifications



ensures those that bare it understand the regulatory requirements and procedures needed to make floodplain management work effectively and efficiently at the community level.

- Officials in NFIP-participating communities are responsible for regulating all development in SFHAs by issuing permits and enforcing local floodplain requirements, including Substantial Damage, for the repairs of damaged buildings. After any disaster event, they must:
  - Determine where the damage occurred within the community and if the damaged structures are in an SFHA.
  - Determine what to use for “market value” and cost to repair; uniformly applying regulations will protect against liability and promote equitable administration.
  - Determine if repairing plus improving the damaged structure equals or exceeds 50% of the structure’s pre-damage value.
  - Require permits for floodplain development.

The municipality does not have a Substantial Damage Management Plan in place, nor do they have a formal process in place when conducting substantial damage determinations. The municipality is in need of a formal process and plan to provide a framework for conducting such inspections and determinations.

- The Town does not have any organizations that conduct outreach to socially vulnerable populations and underserved populations relating to the identified hazards of concern. Identifying, communicating, and educating vulnerable populations can increase the resiliency of the Town. Furthermore, emergency responders will be able to prioritize assistance, when feasible, in an emergency to help those who need it most.
- The Town does not have a tool in place that helps evaluate the needs in their communities and who needs assistance during an emergency related to the identified hazards of concern. This can pose a risk to the life and safety of vulnerable populations in the Town.
- The undersized concrete box culvert on Baldwin Rd. is insufficient to handle overflow, leading to frequent flooding from heavy rains and associated disruptions. This issue necessitates a comprehensive hydrology study to determine the appropriate size for a new box culvert with wing walls.
- Currently there is no backup power system in place to address power outages during hazard events such as flooding, severe weather, and harsh winter conditions. This lack of a contingency plan leaves the Town vulnerable to prolonged disruptions and underscores the urgent need for a reliable backup solution to ensure continuous power supply during such critical times.
- The inlet side of the intake pipe at Sugar Creek Stream is currently experiencing blockages and instability, which hampers the efficient flow of water and increases the risk of flooding,



erosion, and potential landslides. This situation necessitates thorough cleaning and stabilization efforts to ensure the proper functioning of the intake pipe and to protect the surrounding environment from further degradation.

- The outlet end of the box culvert on Maiden Lane is failing, leading to frequent flooding and associated disruptions, including increasing the potential for landslides as a result of the oversaturated soils. Flooded roadways make it difficult for first responders to reach an incident or medical emergency, for individuals to evacuate, and interrupt daily travel.
- New floodplain maps (FIRMs) have not been adopted by the Town. Correctly displaying the areas at risk to the flood hazard is not only critical to visually show the risk, but to support grant applications for funding to mitigate the flood risk at identified locations within or around the floodplain.
- The current flood damage prevention ordinance for the Town was last amended in 1987 and does not require the minimum freeboard set by NYSDEC in 2007. While the existing ordinance may be compliant with NFIP requirements, State requirements which exceed NFIP requirements must be adhered to.

\* This issue was identified as a specific area of concern based on resident response to the Yates County Hazard Mitigation Citizen survey.

## 4.7 MITIGATION STRATEGY AND PRIORITIZATION

This section discusses the status of mitigation actions from the previous HMP, describes proposed hazard mitigation actions, and prioritizes actions to address over the next five years.

### 4.7.1 Past Mitigation Action Status

Table 4-17 indicates progress on the Town's mitigation strategy identified in the 2020 HMP. Actions that are still recommended but not completed or that are in progress are carried forward and combined with new actions as part of the mitigation strategy for this plan update. Previous actions that are now ongoing programs and capabilities are indicated as such and are presented in the capability assessment earlier in this annex.

### 4.7.2 Additional Mitigation Efforts

Benton did not identify any additional mitigation efforts completed since the last HMP.



**Table 4-17. Status of Previous Mitigation Actions**

Project Number	Project Name	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Party	Brief Summary of the Original Problem and the Solution (Project)	Action Review 1. Status (In Progress, Ongoing Capability, No Progress, Complete) 2. Provide a narrative to describe progress or obstacles that have prevented implementation	Next Steps 1. Project to be included in the 2024 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2024 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
T. Benton-1	Baldwin Rd. Box Culvert	Flood, Severe Storm	Town of Benton Hwy w/YC Soil & Water	<b>Problem:</b> Undersized concrete box Culvert <b>Solution:</b> YC Soil & Water to conduct hydrology study and replace with recommended culvert/pipe	1. No Progress 2. The Town was unable to make progress on this action due to a combination of other Town priorities and funding.	1. Include in HMP 2. Keep wording as is. 3. Not Applicable
T. Benton-2	Purchase Power	Severe Storm, Severe Winter Storm, Flood	Town of Benton Town Board	<b>Problem:</b> Sustained loss of power <b>Solution:</b> Installation of uninterruptible permanent LP gas generator to keep 24/7 operations.	1. No Progress 2. The Town was unable to make progress on this action due to a combination of other Town priorities and funding.	1. Include in HMP 2. Keep wording as is. 3. Not Applicable
T. Benton-3	Sugar Creek Stream cleaning & stabilization of inlet side of intake pipe	Flood, Landslide	Town of Benton Hwy w/YC Soil & Water	<b>Problem:</b> Stream cleaning <b>Solution:</b> Work with County Soil & Water to study creek problem and implement recommendations	1. No Progress 2. The Town was unable to make progress on this action due to a combination of other Town priorities and funding.	1. Include in HMP 2. Keep wording as is. 3. Not Applicable
T. Benton-4	Maiden Lane Box Culvert	Flood, Landslide	Town of Benton Hwy w/YC Soil & Water	<b>Problem:</b> Outlet end is failing <b>Solution:</b> Work with Soil and Water to have a study conducted on the creek problem. Within 6 months to a year after the study is complete implement the	1. No Progress 2. The Town was unable to make progress on this action due to a combination of other Town priorities and funding.	1. Include in HMP 2. Keep wording as is. 3. Not Applicable



Project Number	Project Name	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Party	Brief Summary of the Original Problem and the Solution (Project)	Action Review 1. Status (In Progress, Ongoing Capability, No Progress, Complete) 2. Provide a narrative to describe progress or obstacles that have prevented implementation	Next Steps 1. Project to be included in the 2024 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2024 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
				recommendations		
T. Benton-5	Update the municipal Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	Flood	Floodplain Administrator	<p><b>Problem:</b> The current flood damage prevention ordinance (1988) does not include NYS freeboard requirements.</p> <p><b>Solution:</b> Update the town's flood damage prevention ordinance to include the 2007 NYSDEC requirements of having the lowest floor elevated to or above the base flood elevation plus two feet for new construction and substantial improvement of residential and non-residential structures.</p>	1. Complete 2. The flood damage prevention ordinance contains language requiring new construction or substantial improvements of structures, including manufactured homes, to have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to at least two feet above the highest adjacent grade next to the proposed foundation of the structure.	1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. Action complete



Project Number	Project Name	Hazard(s) Addressed	Responsible Party	Brief Summary of the Original Problem and the Solution (Project)	Action Review 1. Status (In Progress, Ongoing Capability, No Progress, Complete) 2. Provide a narrative to describe progress or obstacles that have prevented implementation	Next Steps 1. Project to be included in the 2024 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2024 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
T. Benton-6	Vulnerable Population Registry	All Hazards	Town Board	<p><b>Problem:</b> The town does not have a tool in place that helps evaluate the needs in their communities and who needs assistance during an emergency. This can pose a risk to the life and safety of vulnerable populations in the town.</p> <p><b>Solution:</b> Develop a vulnerable population registry that allows residents who are at risk due to a disability, health issue, or anyone who may need additional assistance during a disaster or emergency. The village will conduct public outreach and education to encourage residents to registry. This system will identify where the vulnerable populations are located and how the village will need to assist them in an emergency.</p>	1. No Progress 2. The Town was unable to make progress on this action due to a combination of other Town priorities and funding.	1. Include in HMP 2. Keep wording as is. 3. Not Applicable

### 4.7.3 Proposed Hazard Mitigation Actions for the HMP Update

Benton participated in the mitigation strategy workshop for this HMP to identify appropriate actions to include in a local hazard mitigation strategy. Its comprehensive consideration of all possible activities to address hazards of concern included review of the following FEMA documents:

- FEMA 551 “Selecting Appropriate Mitigation Measures for Floodprone Structures” (March 2007)
- FEMA “Mitigation Ideas—A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards” (January 2013).

The action worksheets included at the end of this annex list the mitigation actions that Benton would like to pursue in the future to reduce the effects of hazards. The actions are dependent upon available funding (grants and local match availability) and may be modified or omitted at any time based on the occurrence of new hazard events and changes in Town priorities.

Table 4-18 indicates the range of proposed mitigation action categories. The four FEMA mitigation action categories and the six CRS mitigation action categories are listed in the table to further demonstrate the wide range of activities and mitigation measures selected.

Volume I identifies 14 evaluation criteria for prioritizing the mitigation actions. To assist with rating each mitigation action as high, medium, or low priority, a numeric rank is assigned (-1, 0, or 1) for each of the evaluation criteria. Table 4-19 provides a summary of the prioritization of all proposed mitigation actions for the HMP update.

**Table 4-18. Analysis of Mitigation Actions by Hazard and Category**

Hazard	Actions That Address the Hazard, by Action Category									
	FEMA				CRS					
	LPR	SIP	NSP	EAP	PR	PP	PI	NR	SP	ES
Dam Failure	X			X	X		X			X
Disease Outbreak	X			X	X		X			X
Drought	X			X	X		X			X
Extreme Temperatures	X			X	X		X			X
Flood	X	X		X	X		X		X	X
Harmful Algal Bloom				X			X			
Hazardous Materials	X			X	X		X			X
Landslide	X	X		X	X		X		X	X
Severe Storm	X	X		X	X		X		X	X
Severe Winter Storm	X	X		X	X		X			X
Transportation Accidents	X			X	X		X			X
Utility Failure	X			X	X		X			X

*Local Plans and Regulations (LPR)*—These actions include government authorities, policies or codes that influence the way land and buildings are being developed and built.

*Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)*—These actions involve modifying existing structures and infrastructure to protect them from a hazard or remove them from a hazard area. This could apply to public or private structures as well as critical facilities and infrastructure. This type of action also involves projects to construct structures to reduce the impact of hazards.

*Natural Systems Protection (NSP)*—These are actions that minimize damage and losses and preserve or restore the functions of natural systems.

*Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)*—These are actions to inform and educate citizens, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and potential ways to mitigate them. These actions may also include participation in national programs, such as StormReady and Firewise Communities

*Preventative Measures (PR)*—Government, administrative or regulatory actions, or processes that influence the way land and buildings are developed and built. Examples include planning and zoning, floodplain local laws, capital improvement programs, open space preservation, and storm water management regulations.

*Property Protection (PP)*—These actions include public activities to reduce hazard losses or actions that involve (1) modification of existing buildings or structures to protect them from a hazard or (2) removal of the structures from the hazard area. Examples include acquisition, elevation, relocation, structural retrofits, storm shutters, and shatter-resistant glass.

*Public Information (PI)*—Actions to inform and educate citizens, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and potential ways to mitigate them. Such actions include outreach projects, real estate disclosure, hazard information centers, and educational programs for school-age children and adults.

*Natural Resource Protection (NR)*—Actions that minimize hazard loss and preserve or restore the functions of natural systems. These actions include sediment and erosion control, stream corridor restoration, watershed management, forest and vegetation management, and wetland restoration and preservation.

*Structural Flood Control Projects (SP)*—Actions that involve the construction of structures to reduce the impact of a hazard. Such structures include dams, setback levees, floodwalls, retaining walls, and safe rooms.

*Emergency Services (ES)*—Actions that protect people and property during and immediately following a disaster or hazard event. Services include warning systems, emergency response services, and the protection of essential facilities

**Table 4-19. Summary of Prioritization of Actions**

Project Number	Project Name	Scores for Evaluation Criteria															High / Medium / Low
		Life Safety	Property Protection	Cost-Effectiveness	Political	Legal	Fiscal	Environmental	Social Vulnerability	Administrative	Hazards of Concern	Climate Change	Timeline	Community Lifelines	Other Local Objectives	Total	
2025-BentonT-01	Substantial Damage Management Plan	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	High
2025-BentonT-02	Socially Vulnerable Populations Outreach	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	12	High
2025-BentonT-03	Vulnerable Populations Registry	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	12	High
2025-BentonT-04	Baldwin Rd. Box Culvert	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-BentonT-05	Generator for Critical Facilities	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	12	High
2025-BentonT-06	Sugar Creek Stream Cleaning and Stabilization	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-BentonT-07	Maiden Lane Box Culvert	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-BentonT-08	Certified Floodplain Manager Credentialing	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	12	High
2025-BentonT-09	FEMA FIRM Mapping	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	12	High

Note: Volume I, Section 20 (Mitigation Strategy) conveys guidance on prioritizing mitigation actions. Low (0-6), Medium (7-10), High (11-14).

**Action 2025-BentonT-01. Substantial Damage Management Plan**

<b>Action Name:</b>	Substantial Damage Management Plan
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Planning and Development Committee
<b>Supporting Agencies:</b>	Public Works
<b>Hazards of Concern:</b>	Dam Failure, Flood, Landslides, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather
<b>Description of the Problem:</b>	<p>Officials in NFIP-participating communities are responsible for regulating all development in SFHAs by issuing permits and enforcing local floodplain requirements, including Substantial Damage, for the repairs of damaged buildings. After any disaster event, they must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Determine where the damage occurred within the community and if the damaged structures are in an SFHA.</li><li>• Determine what to use for “market value” and cost to repair; uniformly applying regulations will protect against liability and promote equitable administration.</li><li>• Determine if repairing plus improving the damaged structure equals or exceeds 50% of the structure’s pre-damage value.</li><li>• Require permits for floodplain development.</li></ul> <p>The municipality does not have a Substantial Damage Management Plan in place, nor do they have a formal process in place when conducting substantial damage determinations. The municipality is in need of a formal process and plan to provide a framework for conducting such inspections and determinations.</p>
<b>Description of the Solution:</b>	The municipality will develop a Substantial Damage Management Plan, following the six-step planning process in 2021 Developing a Substantial Damage Management Plan ( <a href="https://crsresources.org/files/500/developing_subst_damage_mgmt_plan.pdf">https://crsresources.org/files/500/developing_subst_damage_mgmt_plan.pdf</a> ). This plan will outline responsibilities for Substantial Damage determinations, determining market value, and permit approval processes following a disaster event.
<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	Low
<b>Potential Funding Sources:</b>	Town Budget
<b>Implementation Timeline:</b>	Within 3 years
<b>Goals Met:</b>	1, 2
<b>Benefits:</b>	This action will provide a guidance document to determine substantial damage in the Town.
<b>Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:</b>	Socially vulnerable populations may disproportionately be impacted by substantial damages.
<b>Impact on Future Development:</b>	N/A
<b>Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:</b>	N/A
<b>Impact on Capabilities:</b>	This action will produce substantial damage guidance for Town officials to use.
<b>Climate Change Considerations:</b>	Climate change is leading to an increase in frequency and intensity of precipitation events, which also increases flooding and may lead to a main failure.
<b>Mitigation Category</b>	Local Plans and Regulations
<b>CRS Category</b>	Emergency Services, Preventative





Priority	High	
Alternatives	Action	Evaluation
	No Action	-
	Rely on state or federal resources following disaster events	Resources may not be available during major widespread events
	Establish MOUs with outside agencies to conduct Substantial Damage Determinations	A plan outlining responsibility is still necessary to prevent missing important requirements

**Action 2025-BentonT-02. Socially Vulnerable Populations Outreach**

<b>Action Name:</b>	Socially Vulnerable Populations Outreach	
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Planning and Development Committee	
<b>Supporting Agencies:</b>	Public Works	
<b>Hazards of Concern:</b>	Dam Failure, Disease Outbreak, Drought, Extreme Temperature, Flood, Harmful Algal Bloom, Hazardous Materials, Landslides, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather, Transportation, Utility Failure	
<b>Description of the Problem:</b>	The Town does not have any organizations that conduct outreach to socially vulnerable populations and underserved populations relating to the identified hazards of concern. Identifying, communicating, and educating vulnerable populations can increase the resiliency of the Town. Furthermore, emergency responders will be able to prioritize assistance, when feasible, in an emergency to help those who need it most.	
<b>Description of the Solution:</b>	Create outreach materials, or utilize those from Yates County, on hazard risks and methods of mitigation on each identified hazard of concern, for socially vulnerable populations. Methods of distribution may include Town events, the Town newsletters, social media, the Town website, and having the materials on display for the public at Town libraries and offices. Consider hiring staff to work directly with socially vulnerable populations. Outreach materials will be specified with education and information for each individual hazard of concern.	
<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	Low	
<b>Potential Funding Sources:</b>	Town Budget, HMGP	
<b>Implementation Timeline:</b>	Within 3 Years and ongoing once established capability	
<b>Goals Met:</b>	2, 3, 4	
<b>Benefits:</b>	This action will ensure there is an individual working to identify and work with the socially vulnerable populations in the Town. Furthermore, this action will create opportunities to educate and inform populations on hazard risks.	
<b>Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:</b>	Socially vulnerable populations in the Town will become educated on hazards risks. The Town will identify an individual to identify and work with these populations to ensure the most up to date information is being shared.	
<b>Impact on Future Development:</b>	N/A	
<b>Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:</b>	Educating populations on hazard risk and how to mitigate the risks can decrease the demand on utilities and emergency services including health and medical, law enforcement, and search and rescue.	
<b>Impact on Capabilities:</b>	This action will create a public education and outreach program, instituting a new capability for the Town.	
<b>Climate Change Considerations:</b>	Climate change is likely to increase the intensity and frequency of many climate related disaster events. This action will inform residents and business owners of how to reduce risk from hazards and how climate change may exacerbate those risks.	
<b>Mitigation Category</b>	Education and Awareness Programs	
<b>CRS Category</b>	Public Information	
<b>Priority</b>	High	
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
	No Action	-



	Rely on state or federal resources	Resources may be generalized and not specific to the risks in the Town
	Use only a few methods for distribution	Using only a few methods of distribution may hinder socially vulnerable populations from receiving the guidance

**Action 2025-BentonT-03. Vulnerable Populations Registry**

<b>Action Name:</b>	Vulnerable Populations Registry	
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Town Board	
<b>Supporting Agencies:</b>	Yates County	
<b>Hazards of Concern:</b>	Dam Failure, Disease Outbreak, Drought, Extreme Temperature, Flood, Hazardous Materials, Landslides, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather, Transportation, Utility Failure	
<b>Description of the Problem:</b>	The Town does not have a tool in place that helps evaluate the needs in their communities and who needs assistance during an emergency related to the identified hazards of concern. This can pose a risk to the life and safety of vulnerable populations in the Town.	
<b>Description of the Solution:</b>	Develop a vulnerable population registry that allows residents who are at risk due to a disability, health issue, or anyone who may need additional assistance during a disaster or emergency. The Town will conduct public outreach and education to encourage residents to register. This system will identify where the vulnerable populations are located and how the Town will need to assist them in an emergency.	
<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	Low	
<b>Potential Funding Sources:</b>	Town Budget, HMGP	
<b>Implementation Timeline:</b>	Within 3 Years and ongoing once established capability	
<b>Goals Met:</b>	1, 2, 3, 4	
<b>Benefits:</b>	The Town will have the location of registered members of the socially vulnerable population as well as any emergency or medical information the registrant was willing to share.	
<b>Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:</b>	Socially vulnerable populations will be able to register to have important emergency and medical information stored in a secure system for first responders.	
<b>Impact on Future Development:</b>	Future development, in particular residential, may house socially vulnerable populations.	
<b>Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:</b>	The creation of this registry will inform first responders of the location of socially vulnerable populations and to what extent assistance may be needed.	
<b>Impact on Capabilities:</b>	This action would build upon the Town's already existing public education and outreach program.	
<b>Climate Change Considerations:</b>	Climate change is likely to increase the intensity and frequency of many climate related disaster events. Socially vulnerable populations are often the most vulnerable to impacts from disasters.	
<b>Mitigation Category</b>	Education and Awareness Programs	
<b>CRS Category</b>	Public Information	
<b>Priority</b>	High	
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
	No Action	-
	Rely on state or federal resources	List may not be regularly updated with Town resident information



	Use only social media to inform residents of new system	May hinder socially vulnerable populations from receiving information
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**Action 2025-BentonT-04. Baldwin Rd. Box Culvert**

<b>Action Name:</b>	Baldwin Rd. Box Culvert	
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Town of Benton Highway Department	
<b>Supporting Agencies:</b>	YC Soil and Water	
<b>Hazards of Concern:</b>	Flood, Severe Storm	
<b>Description of the Problem:</b>	The undersized concrete box culvert on Baldwin Rd. is insufficient to handle overflow, leading to frequent flooding from heavy rains and associated disruptions. This issue necessitates a comprehensive hydrology study to determine the appropriate size for a new box culvert with wing walls.	
<b>Description of the Solution:</b>	The Town's Highway Department, in collaboration with YC Soil and Water, will conduct the hydrology study. Once the optimal solution is identified, the Highway Department will undertake the necessary replacement and maintenance work to mitigate the overflow problem and enhance the road's resilience.	
<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	TBD after Study	
<b>Potential Funding Sources:</b>	HMGP, BRIC	
<b>Implementation Timeline:</b>	Within 5 years	
<b>Goals Met:</b>	1, 2	
<b>Benefits:</b>	Overall flooding will be reduced, which will result in less frequency of road closures and reduced damage occurring to culverts and roadways during severe events. Businesses are likely to remain in place if they are able to remain open, or re-open sooner following a flood.	
<b>Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:</b>	Areas that were previously vulnerable to frequency or severe flooding events will be less likely to be impacted by flooding events.	
<b>Impact on Future Development:</b>	Future development in the impacted area will be less likely to be flooded.	
<b>Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:</b>	By increasing the capacity of the culvert, transportation routes are more likely to remain open and evacuation routes will remain intact as there will be a lower risk of roadway flooding. Furthermore, access to health and medical facilities will be maintained, both for healthcare workers and the population who requires treatment for injuries and illness.	
<b>Impact on Capabilities:</b>	Identifying the culverts that are at greatest risk of damage or failure can allow for resource staging to take place where the need is greatest ahead of a flood event.	
<b>Climate Change Considerations:</b>	Climate change is likely to result in more frequent and severe rainfall events. This action upsizes culvert sizes to meet changing stormwater needs as the result of climate change.	
<b>Mitigation Category</b>	Structure and Infrastructure Project	
<b>CRS Category</b>	Structural Project	
<b>Priority</b>	High	
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
	No Action	-
	Remove roadway	Roadway cannot be removed



	Raingardens	Raingardens are unlikely to be able to absorb enough stormwater to prevent flooding during severe rainfall events.
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**Action 2025-BentonT-05. Generator for Critical Facilities**

<b>Action Name:</b>	Generator for Critical Facilities	
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Engineering	
<b>Supporting Agencies:</b>	Town Board, Highway Department, Public Works	
<b>Hazards of Concern:</b>	Flood, Severe Weather, Severe Winter Weather	
<b>Description of the Problem:</b>	Currently there is no backup power system in place to address power outages during hazard events such as flooding, severe weather, and harsh winter conditions. This lack of a contingency plan leaves the Town vulnerable to prolonged disruptions and underscores the urgent need for a reliable backup solution to ensure continuous power supply during such critical times.	
<b>Description of the Solution:</b>	The Town Engineer will conduct a study to determine the required generator capacity to support critical facilities. Following this, the Town will purchase and install an uninterruptible permanent LP gas generator will be installed to ensure 24/7 operations.	
<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	High	
<b>Potential Funding Sources:</b>	HMGP, BRIC, USDA Community Facilities Grant Program, Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) Program, Annual Budget	
<b>Implementation Timeline:</b>	Within 5 years	
<b>Goals Met:</b>	1, 2	
<b>Benefits:</b>	This action protects public health and safety and ensures continued operation of a critical facility and its essential functions during a power outage.	
<b>Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:</b>	Protection of critical facilities provides an opportunity for first responders, utility workers, and emergency managers to stage and deploy resources to vulnerable and hazard prone areas.	
<b>Impact on Future Development:</b>	This action results in protection of a critical facility that could support future development.	
<b>Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:</b>	This action protects public health and safety and ensures continued operation of a critical facility and its essential functions during a power outage.	
<b>Impact on Capabilities:</b>	This action ensures continuity of operations to maintain capabilities.	
<b>Climate Change Considerations:</b>	Climate change is likely to increase severe weather events such as flooding, wind, and extreme temperatures that result in power failures. This action accounts for a likely increase in power failure events.	
<b>Mitigation Category</b>	Structure and Infrastructure Projects	
<b>CRS Category</b>	Emergency Services	
<b>Priority</b>	High	
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
	No Action	-
	Microgrid	Costly and difficult to implement.
	Solar panels and battery backup	Solar power is unlikely to be able to provide battery power for extended power failure events.

**Action 2025-BentonT-06. Sugar Creek Stream Cleaning and Stabilization**

<b>Action Name:</b>	Sugar Creek Stream Cleaning and Stabilization	
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Town of Benton Highway Department	
<b>Supporting Agencies:</b>	YC Soil and Water	
<b>Hazards of Concern:</b>	Flood, Landslide	
<b>Description of the Problem:</b>	The inlet side of the intake pipe at Sugar Creek Stream is currently experiencing blockages and instability, which hampers the efficient flow of water and increases the risk of flooding, erosion, and potential landslides. This situation necessitates thorough cleaning and stabilization efforts to ensure the proper functioning of the intake pipe and to protect the surrounding environment from further degradation.	
<b>Description of the Solution:</b>	To address the issues at Sugar Creek Stream, the Town Highway Department will collaborate with YC Soil and Water to conduct a comprehensive study of the creek's problems. This study will identify the root causes of the blockages and instability. Based on the findings, the Highway Department will implement the recommended actions, which may include cleaning the inlet side of the intake pipe and stabilizing the surrounding area. These measures will help restore efficient water flow, reduce the risk of flooding and erosion, and ensure the long-term stability of the intake pipe and the surrounding environment.	
<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	High	
<b>Potential Funding Sources:</b>	HMGP, BRIC,	
<b>Implementation Timeline:</b>	Within 5 years	
<b>Goals Met:</b>	1, 2	
<b>Benefits:</b>	By addressing the root causes of blockages and instability, the project aims to restore efficient water flow and reduce the risk of flooding and erosion. This will ensure the long-term stability of the intake pipe and the surrounding environment.	
<b>Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:</b>	By preventing erosion and maintaining the natural landscape, the project helps preserve the environment that many vulnerable communities rely on for their livelihoods. Overall, the Sugar Creek Stream project fosters a safer, more resilient community, ensuring that the most vulnerable are better protected against the adverse effects of natural hazards.	
<b>Impact on Future Development:</b>	Future development in the impacted area will be less likely to be flooded.	
<b>Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:</b>	The stream cleaning project will help keep transportation routes open and maintain evacuation routes, reducing the risk of roadway flooding. This will also ensure access to health and medical facilities for both healthcare workers and those needing treatment for injuries and illnesses.	
<b>Impact on Capabilities:</b>	Identifying the areas of the stream most at risk of blockages or instability will allow for resource staging in the areas of greatest need ahead of a flood event.	
<b>Climate Change Considerations:</b>	As climate change is expected to bring more frequent and severe rainfall events, this action will help manage stormwater needs resulting from climate change.	
<b>Mitigation Category</b>	Structure and Infrastructure Project	
<b>CRS Category</b>	Structural Project	
<b>Priority</b>	High	
<b>Alternatives</b>	Action	Action



	No Action	No Action
	Remove roadway	Remove roadway
	Raingardens	Raingardens are unlikely to be able to absorb enough stormwater to prevent flooding during severe rainfall events.

**Action 2025-BentonT-07. Maiden Lane Box Culvert**

<b>Action Name:</b>	Maiden Lane Box Culvert	
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Town of Benton Highway Department	
<b>Supporting Agencies:</b>	YC Soil and Water	
<b>Hazards of Concern:</b>	Flood, Landslide	
<b>Description of the Problem:</b>	The outlet end of the box culvert on Maiden Lane is failing, leading to frequent flooding and associated disruptions, including increasing the potential for landslides as a result of the oversaturated soils. Flooded roadways make it difficult for first responders to reach an incident or medical emergency, for individuals to evacuate, and interrupt daily travel.	
<b>Description of the Solution:</b>	To address the issues at Maiden Lane's box culvert, the Town's Highway Department will collaborate with YC Soil and Water to conduct a comprehensive study of the creek problem. Within 6 months to a year after the study is completed, the Highway Department will implement the recommended actions. These measures will help mitigate the overflow problem, enhance the road's resilience, and ensure the long-term stability of the culvert and surrounding environment.	
<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	TBD after Study	
<b>Potential Funding Sources:</b>	HMGP, BRIC	
<b>Implementation Timeline:</b>	Within 5 years	
<b>Goals Met:</b>	1, 2	
<b>Benefits:</b>	Overall flooding will be reduced, which will result in less frequency of road closures and reduced damage occurring to culverts and roadways during severe events. Businesses are likely to remain in place if they are able to remain open, or re-open sooner following a flood.	
<b>Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:</b>	Areas that were previously vulnerable to frequency or severe flooding events will be less likely to be impacted by flooding events.	
<b>Impact on Future Development:</b>	Future development in the impacted area will be less likely to be flooded.	
<b>Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:</b>	By increasing the capacity of the culvert, transportation routes are more likely to remain open and evacuation routes will remain intact as there will be a lower risk of roadway flooding. Furthermore, access to health and medical facilities will be maintained, both for healthcare workers and the population who requires treatment for injuries and illness.	
<b>Impact on Capabilities:</b>	Identifying the culverts that are at greatest risk of damage or failure can allow for resource staging to take place where the need is greatest ahead of a flood event.	
<b>Climate Change Considerations:</b>	Climate change is likely to result in more frequent and severe rainfall events. This action upsizes culvert sizes to meet changing stormwater needs as the result of climate change.	
<b>Mitigation Category</b>	Structure and Infrastructure Project	
<b>CRS Category</b>	Structural Project	
<b>Priority</b>	High	
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
	No Action	-



	Remove roadway	Roadway cannot be removed
	Raingardens	Raingardens are unlikely to be able to absorb enough stormwater to prevent flooding during severe rainfall events.

**Action 2025-BentonT-08. Certified Floodplain Manager Credentialling**

<b>Action Name:</b>	Certified Floodplain Manager Credentialling	
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Town Floodplain Administrator	
<b>Supporting Agencies:</b>	Engineering, Town Board	
<b>Hazards of Concern:</b>	Flood	
<b>Description of the Problem:</b>	The Town does not have any certified floodplain managers (CFM) on staff. Becoming a CFM increases the depth of understanding when dealing with FEMA floodplains. The certifications ensures those that bare it understand the regulatory requirements and procedures needed to make floodplain management work effectively and efficiently at the community level.	
<b>Description of the Solution:</b>	Provide training and/or certification for Town staff with NFIP regulations and floodplain management ordinances. Encourage staff to become Certified Floodplain Managers via the Association of State Floodplain Manager's CFM Certification Program.	
<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	Low	
<b>Potential Funding Sources:</b>	Town Budget	
<b>Implementation Timeline:</b>	Within 5 years	
<b>Goals Met:</b>	1, 2	
<b>Benefits:</b>	This action will increase the NFIP capabilities of the Town and assure the Town's NFIP program has enough staff to accomplish its goals and reach NFIP compliance.	
<b>Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:</b>	Officials that are up to date on flood risk are more likely to encourage development outside areas of high flood risk, which is where socially vulnerable populations have historically resided. Safer dwellings may be developed in a less vulnerable location.	
<b>Impact on Future Development:</b>	The opportunity will exist for leaders and operators of utilities and other essential services to attend training and provide direction on ways the prepare for, plan for, and prevent interruptions in service as a result of a flood.	
<b>Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:</b>	This action will enhance the Town's current NFIP capabilities.	
<b>Impact on Capabilities:</b>	Officials that understand best practices in floodplain management have the opportunity to influence future development and prevent unsafe building in hazard areas.	
<b>Climate Change Considerations:</b>	Climate change is likely to increase the intensity and frequency of many climate related events. This action will educate staff on NFIP regulations to assist with the flood hazard.	
<b>Mitigation Category</b>	Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
<b>CRS Category</b>	Public Information	
<b>Priority</b>	High	
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
	No Action	Current problem remains
	Hire outside contractors for floodplain administration	Costly



	Establish shared service agreements for floodplain administration from neighboring municipalities	Neighboring municipalities are unlikely to have the staff capacity to take on this role
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**Action 2025-BentonT-09. FEMA FIRM Mapping**

<b>Action Name:</b>	FEMA FIRM Mapping	
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Floodplain Administrator	
<b>Supporting Agencies:</b>	Town Board, Yates County, NYSDEC, NYSDHSES, FEMA	
<b>Hazards of Concern:</b>	Flood	
<b>Description of the Problem:</b>	New floodplain maps (FIRMs) have not been adopted by the Town. Correctly displaying the areas at risk to the flood hazard is not only critical to visually show the risk, but to support grant applications for funding to mitigate the flood risk at identified locations within or around the floodplain.	
<b>Description of the Solution:</b>	The Town will actively participate in the remapping process. This participation will include providing data and information to support map revisions, identifying areas of flooding concern, providing review of preliminary maps, and adopting updated flood damage prevention local laws when the FIRMs are finalized.	
<b>Estimated Cost:</b>	Medium	
<b>Potential Funding Sources:</b>	HMGP, State Budget, County Budget, Town Budget	
<b>Implementation Timeline:</b>	Within 5 years	
<b>Goals Met:</b>	1, 2	
<b>Benefits:</b>	Updating FIRMs will provide a more complete picture of the floodplain and the overall flood hazard in Yates County. This will inform other sectors of the community, including land use, development, permitting, and codes and standards.	
<b>Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:</b>	An analysis of the floodplain will inform future community development and land use and prevent vulnerable populations from residing in areas of heightened flood risk.	
<b>Impact on Future Development:</b>	Creation of updated floodplain maps will inform efforts to increase the resilience of critical infrastructure that is present in those areas, including transportation routes, water treatment plants, and other utility services. This will also aid in preventing future development of infrastructure in these areas.	
<b>Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:</b>	An understanding of the floodplain will allow for the development of processes, plans, training and staff placement to address flooding issues in the areas of greatest concern before they occur.	
<b>Impact on Capabilities:</b>	Updated FIRMs will decide which populations and structures will require flood insurance to be built in areas of flood hazard.	
<b>Climate Change Considerations:</b>	The maps that are developed as a result of this action may not remain current or valid for the length of time that they may have in the past due to changes in floodplains and increases in extreme rainfall events.	
<b>Mitigation Category</b>	Local Plans and Regulations	
<b>CRS Category</b>	Preventative Measures	
<b>Priority</b>	High	
<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
	No action	Current problem remains
	The Town creates its own flood maps	Time consuming, cost prohibitive, may not be recognized as official documentation in grant applications





FEMA updates maps without Town input

Required changes for areas of flooding may not be incorporated