



## 18. TOWN OF FREEDOM

This jurisdictional annex to the Cattaraugus County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) provides information to assist public and private sectors in the Town of Freedom 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 Freedom, describes who participated in the planning process, assesses Freedom’s risk, vulnerability, and capabilities, and outlines a strategy for achieving a more resilient community.

### 18.1 HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM

The Town of Freedom 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 Highway Superintendent represented the community on the Cattaraugus 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 18-1 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 18-1. Hazard Mitigation Planning Team

Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact
Name/Title: James Haggerty, Highway Superintendent Address: 1188 Eagle Street, P.O. Box 89, Sandusky, NY 14133 Phone Number: (716) 258-8187 Email: jhaghwsuper@gmail.com	Name/Title: Mindy Holland, Town Clerk Address: 1188 Eagle Street, P.O. Box 89, Sandusky, NY 14133 Phone Number: (716) 492-0961 ext. 1 Email: Clerk@freedomny.org
<b><i>National Flood Insurance Program Floodplain Administrator</i></b>	
Name/Title: Pat Cummings, Code Enforcement Address: 1188 Eagle Street, P.O. Box 89, Sandusky, NY 14133 Phone Number: (716) 353-1834 Email: ce@freedomny.org	

### 18.2 COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Town of Freedom is located in the northeast corner of Cattaraugus County in western New York State. The Town of Freedom has a total area of 40.67 square miles. The town is bordered to the north by Arcade in Wyoming. To the east of the town is the Town of Centerville in Allegany County, west are the towns of Yorkshire and Machias and the Town of Farmersville is to the south.

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 2022 5-Year American Community Survey indicates that 5.3 percent of the



population is 5 years of age or younger, 17.4 percent is 65 years of age or older, 0 percent is non-English speaking, 10.7 percent is below the poverty threshold, and 13.3 percent is considered disabled.

## 18.3 JURISDICTIONAL CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT AND INTEGRATION

Freedom 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 Freedom to identify opportunities for integrating mitigation concepts into ongoing Town procedures.

### 18.3.1 Planning and Regulatory Capability and Integration

Table 18-2 summarizes the planning and regulatory tools that are available to Freedom.

Table 18-2. 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	Local Law 2, 2022: Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code	State, Local	Code Enforcement Officer
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? This local law provides for the administration and enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (the Uniform Code) and the State Energy Conservation Construction Code (the Energy Code) in this Town. This local law is adopted pursuant to section 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law. Except as otherwise provided in the Uniform Code, the Energy Code other state law, or other section of this local law, all buildings, structures, and premises, regardless of use or occupancy, are subject to the provisions this local law.				
<b>Zoning/Land Use Code</b>	Yes	Land Use Ordinance of 1975	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
Provides minimum requirements for the construction of structures in the Town, including construction in designated Flood Hazard Areas and Floodways, and for the issuance of building permits, special use permits and variances.				
<b>Subdivision Code</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
<b>Site Plan Code</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
<b>Stormwater Management Code</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
<b>Post-Disaster Recovery/ Reconstruction Code</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
<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
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? 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.				
<b>Growth Management</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
<b>Environmental Protection Ordinance(s)</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
<b>Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance</b>	Yes	Local Law #3, 1991 – Flood Damage Prevention	Federal, State, County and Local	Code Enforcement Officer
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? It is the purpose of this local law to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, to reduce degradation of the environment, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed to:				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 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>2. 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>3. control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;</li> <li>4. control filling, grading, dredging, and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;</li> <li>5. regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters, or which may increase flood hazards to other lands; and</li> <li>6. qualify and maintain participation in the National Flood Insurance program</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
<b>Wellhead Protection</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Emergency Management Ordinance</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Climate Change Ordinance</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Other</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>PLANNING DOCUMENTS</b>				
<b>General/Comprehensive Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The goals herein reflect the hopes, desires, needs, and wants of the Town's residents. These will broadly shape and give guidance to the Town's future policy making decisions. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Retain the rural, pastoral, and agricultural character of the Town while providing and supporting opportunities for measured development in well suited areas.</li> <li>2. Provide a quality living environment and encourage the sustainability and availability of a variety of housing types including single family homes, multi-unit housing, vacation, and seasonal homes, and preexisting and potential future building sites.</li> <li>3. To encourage and promote business, commercial, and industrial ventures using sound planning and smart growth principles to enhance, promote and protect the economic stability of the town</li> <li>4. Protect, maintain, and enhance the pastoral character of the Town through careful planning.</li> <li>5. To provide for adequate and increased public assembly areas and continued maintenance of all town property.</li> </ol>	Yes	Town of Freedom Comprehensive Plan, 2024	Local	Town Board
<b>Capital Improvement Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Disaster Debris Management Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Floodplain Management or Watershed Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Stormwater Management Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Open Space Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-



	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>Urban Water Management Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Habitat Conservation Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Economic Development Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Community Wildfire Protection Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Community Forest Management Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Transportation Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Agriculture Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The plan includes recommendations to address critical structural and industry-wide concerns that impact the long-term viability of agriculture in Cattaraugus County; for improving conditions specific to health and well-being of local agricultural enterprises through training, business planning, network development, mentoring, finance, research and development support, and similar services; and to offer programs and processes that address the land use issues facing both towns and farmers.	Yes	Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan	County	EDPT
<b>Climate Action/ Resilience/Sustainability Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Tourism Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Business/ Downtown Development Plan</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
<b>Other</b> How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-



	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>RESPONSE/RECOVERY PLANNING</b>				
<b>Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan</b>	Yes	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)	County	OES
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The CEMP defines the scope of preparedness and emergency management activities necessary in the County. This document assigns responsibility to organizations and individuals for carrying out specific actions that exceed routine responsibility at projected times and places during an emergency; sets lines of authority and organizational relationships and shows how all actions will be coordinated; identifies how people and property are protected; and identifies personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other resources available within the jurisdiction or by agreement with other jurisdictions.				
<b>Continuity of Operations Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
<b>Substantial Damage Response Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
<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?				
<b>Post-Disaster Recovery Plan</b>	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
<b>Public Health Plan</b>	Yes	Health Department Strategic Plan 2022–2025	County	Health Department
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The Cattaraugus County Health Department’s (CCHD) Strategic Planning Process began in April 2022 using the resources of the New York State Department of Health NYS Public Health Corp Fellows. As a part of this process, the fellows reviewed the 2018–2021 strategic plan for past successes and failures and discussed what was needed for future success. Both an external assessment, in which county demographic data, economic factors, health outcomes, and community health assessment findings that have the potential to affect the agency and strategies were examined, and an internal assessment of a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis was completed.				
<b>Other: Community Needs Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan</b>	Yes	Community Needs Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan	County	Health Department
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The 2022–2024 OGH/BRMC Community Service Plan (CSP) and the CCHD’s Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHA-CHIP) were conducted to identify significant health needs as outlined by the New York State Department of Health’s 2022–2024 Prevention Agenda, where applicable. It also provides critical information OGH/BRMC, the CCHD, and others in a position to make a positive impact on the health of the region’s residents. The CSP/CHA-CHIP enables the health department, hospital, and other community partners to strategically establish priorities, develop interventions, and direct resources to improve the health of residents living in the service area. The CSP/CHA-CHIP includes a detailed examination of priority areas identified in the NYS Prevention Agenda: (1) prevent chronic diseases; (2) promote a healthy and safe environment; (3) promote healthy women, infants and children; (4) promote well-being and prevent mental health and substance use disorders; and (5) prevent communicable diseases. The Prevention Agenda is a six-year effort to make New York the healthiest state. Developed in collaboration				



	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
--	---------------------------------	--	---	--

with 140 organizations, the plan identifies New York’s most urgent health concerns, and suggests ways local health departments, hospitals, and partners from health, business, education, and community organizations can work together to solve them.

### 18.3.2 Development and Permitting Capability

Table 18-3 summarizes the capabilities of Freedom to oversee and track development.

Table 18-3. Development and Permitting Capability

	Yes/No	Comment
Do you issue development permits? <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>	Yes	Code Enforcement
Are permits tracked by hazard area? (For example, floodplain development permits.)	Yes	Floodplain
Do you have a buildable land inventory? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you have a buildable land inventory, please describe</li> </ul>	No	-
Describe the level of buildout in your jurisdiction.	N/A	20%

### 18.3.3 Administrative and Technical Capability

Table 18-4 summarizes potential staff and personnel resources available to Freedom and their current responsibilities that contribute to hazard mitigation.

Table 18-4. Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE CAPABILITY</b>		
Planning Board	No	-
Zoning Board of Adjustment	No	-
Planning Department	No	-
Mitigation Planning Committee	No	-
Environmental Board/Commission	No	-
Open Space Board/Committee	No	-
Economic Development Commission/Committee	No	-
Public Works/Highway Department	Yes	Highway Department



Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
Construction/Building/Code Enforcement Department	Yes	Code Enforcement
Emergency Management/Public Safety Department	No	-
Maintenance programs to reduce risk (stormwater maintenance, tree trimming, etc.)	No	-
Mutual aid agreements	No	-
Human Resources Manual - Do any job descriptions specifically include identifying or implementing mitigation projects or other efforts to reduce natural hazard risk?	No	-
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	No	-
Personnel skilled or trained in GIS and/or Hazus applications	No	-
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.)	No	-

### 18.3.4 Fiscal Capability

Table 18-5 summarizes financial resources available to Freedom.



Table 18-5. Fiscal Capabilities

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to Use? (Yes/No)
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG, CDBG-DR)	No
Capital improvement project funding	No
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	No
User fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	No
Impact fees for homebuyers or developers of new development/homes	No
Stormwater utility fee	No
Incur debt through general obligation bonds	No
Incur debt through special tax bonds	No
Incur debt through private activity bonds	No
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

### 18.3.5 Education and Outreach Capability

Table 18-6 summarizes the education and outreach resources available to Freedom.

Table 18-6. 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	No	-
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	-

### 18.3.6 Community Classifications

Table 18-7 summarizes classifications for community programs available to Freedom.



Table 18-7. 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)	No	-	-
National Weather Service StormReady Certification	No	-	-
Firewise Communities classification	No	-	-
New York State Climate Smart Communities	No	-	-
Other: Organizations with mitigation focus (advocacy group, non-government)	No	-	-

N/A = Not applicable

— = Unavailable

### 18.3.7 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 18-8 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 18-8. Adaptive Capacity

Hazard	Adaptive Capacity - Strong/Moderate/Weak
Dam and Levee Failure	Moderate
Flood	Moderate
Landslide	Moderate
Pandemic	Moderate
Severe Storm	Moderate
Severe Winter Storm	Moderate
Utility Failure	Moderate
Wildfire	Moderate

## 18.4 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 18-1 is responsible for maintaining this information.



### 18.4.1 NFIP Statistics

Table 18-9 summarizes the NFIP policy and claim statistics for Freedom.

Table 18-9. Freedom NFIP Summary of Policy and Claim Statistics

# Policies	6
# Claims (Losses)	4
Total Loss Payments	\$81,006.26
# Repetitive Loss Properties (NFIP definition)	0
# Repetitive Loss Properties (FMA definition)	0
# Severe Repetitive Loss Properties	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: FEMA 2024

### 18.4.2 Flood Vulnerability Summary

Table 18-10 provides a summary of the NFIP program in Freedom.

Table 18-10. NFIP Summary

NFIP Topic	Comments
<b>Flood Vulnerability Summary</b>	
Describe areas prone to flooding in your jurisdiction.	Clear Creek
Do you maintain a list of properties that have been damaged by flooding?	No records available
Do you maintain a list of property owners interested in flood mitigation?	Yes, currently no owners are interested.
How many homeowners and/or business owners are interested in mitigation (elevation or acquisition)?	None at this time
Are any RiskMAP projects currently underway in your jurisdiction? If so, state what projects are underway.	No
How do you make Substantial Damage determinations?	Code Enforcement would contact a structural engineer
How many Substantial Damage determinations were declared for recent flood events in your jurisdiction?	Zero
How many properties have been mitigated (elevation or acquisition) in your jurisdiction?	Zero



NFIP Topic	Comments
If there are mitigation properties, how were the projects funded?	
Do your flood hazard maps adequately address the flood risk within your jurisdiction? If not, state why.	Will adequately address after FEMA approves an updated version
<b>NFIP Compliance</b>	
What local department is responsible for floodplain management?	Code Enforcement
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?	Yes, County GIS
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?	More localized (or on site) training to Cattaraugus County so training is more feasible to do with limited staffing.
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?	Code Enforcement
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	Limited staffing and financial resources
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)?	CAC: Not applicable CAV: September 3, 2010
What is the local law number or municipal code of your flood damage prevention ordinance?	Local Law #3, 1991 – Flood Damage Prevention
What is the date that your flood damage prevention ordinance was last amended?	October 25, 1991
Does your floodplain management program meet or exceed minimum requirements? If exceeds, in what ways?	Meets minimum requirements
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?	Planning Board ensures a SEQUER compliance in regards to new constructions and variances
Does your community plan to join the CRS program or is your community interested in improving your CRS classification?	No

## 18.5 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 18-11 through Table 18-13.



Table 18-11. 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	2	0	0	2
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
<b>2021</b>				
Total Permits	1	0	0	1
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
<b>2022</b>				
Total Permits	4	0	0	4
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
<b>2023</b>				
Total Permits	3	1	0	4
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
<b>2024</b>				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0

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

Table 18-12. Recent Major Development and Infrastructure from 2019 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
Invenergy	Commercial	1	407 Zimmer Road	None	Office & Storage
Edelweiss Farms	Agriculture	4	10826 Osmun Road	None	Farming
Invenergy Windmills	Commercial	27	Location in Freedom	None	Wind Energy

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



Table 18-13. 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
Schwab Transport	Commercial	1	10064 Pigeon Hill Road	None	Office/workshop

## 18.6 JURISDICTIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT

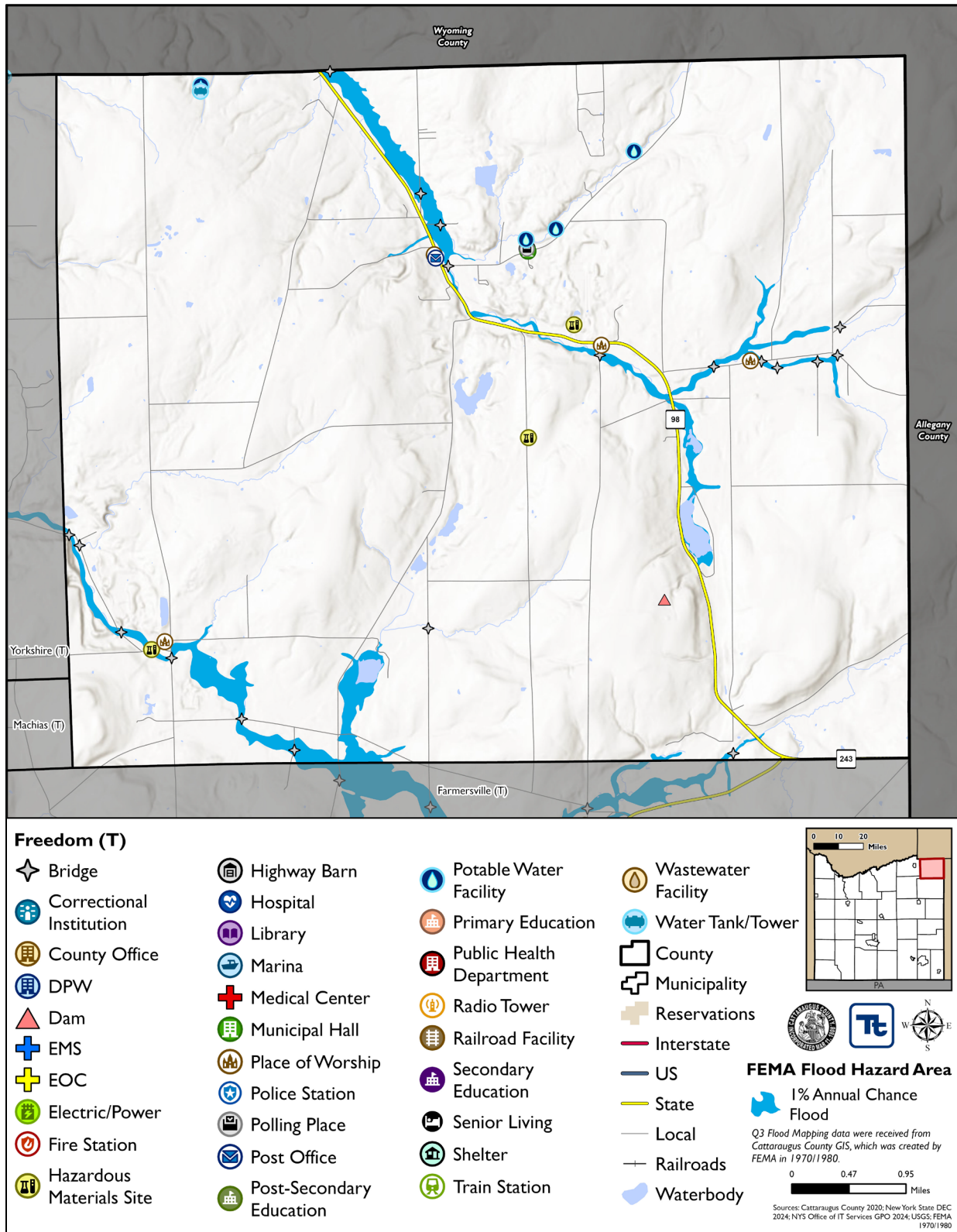
The hazard profiles in Volume I provide detailed information regarding each planning partner’s vulnerability to the identified hazards, including summaries of Freedom’s risk assessment results and data used to determine the hazard ranking. Key local risk assessment information is presented below.

### 18.6.1 Hazard Area

Hazard area maps provided below illustrate the probable hazard areas impacted within the Town are shown in Figure 18-1 through Figure 18-2. These maps are based on the best available data at the time of the preparation of this plan and are adequate for planning purposes. Maps are provided only for hazards that can be identified clearly using mapping techniques and technologies and for which Freedom has significant exposure. The maps show the location of potential new development, where available.



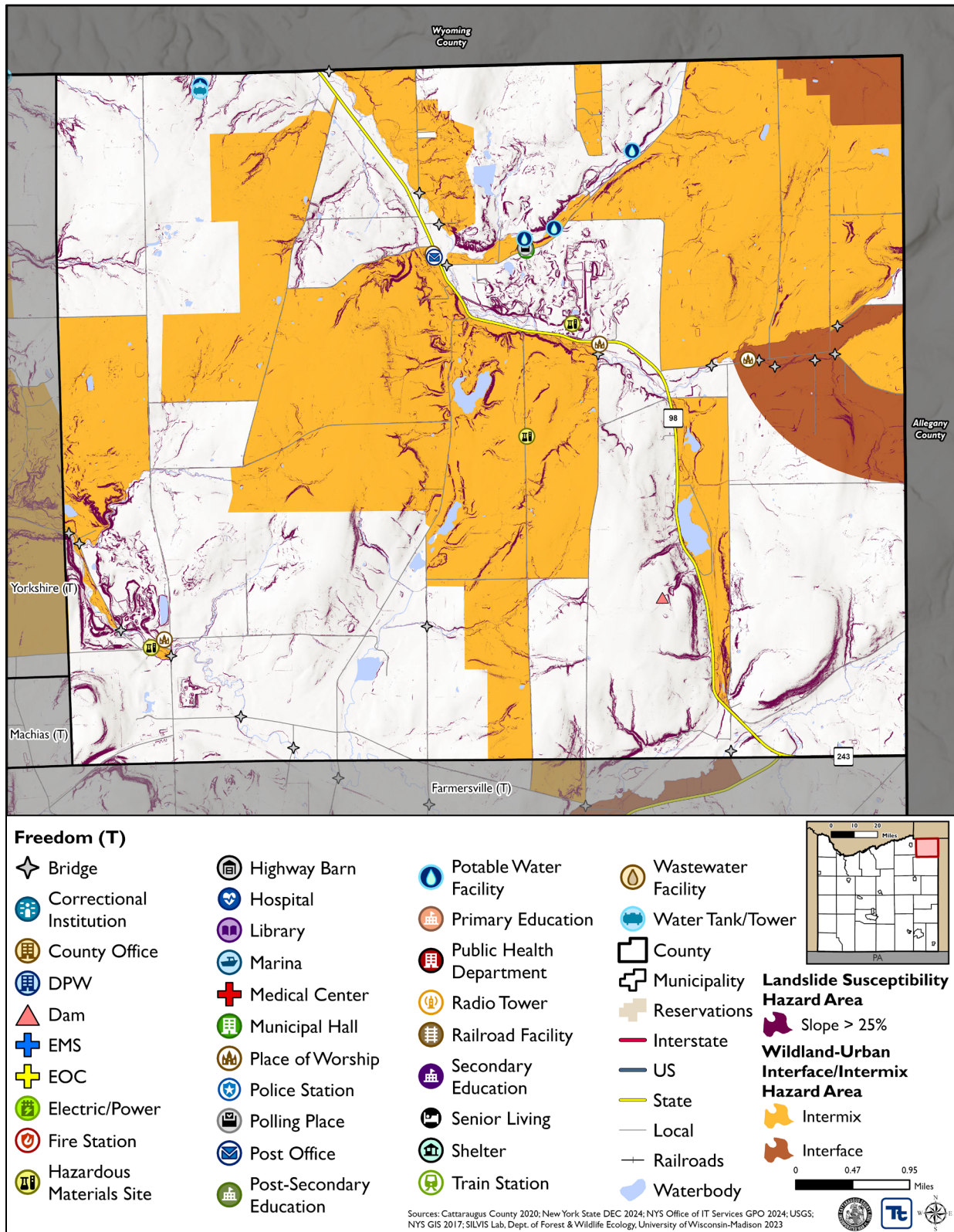
Figure 18-1. Freedom Flood Hazard Area Extent and Location Map



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.



Figure 18-2. Freedom Landslide and Wildfire Hazard Area Extent and Location Map





## 18.6.2 Hazard Event History

The history of natural and non-natural hazard events in Freedom is detailed in Volume I, where each hazard profile includes a chronology of historical events that have affected the County and its municipalities. Table 18-14 provides details on loss and damage in Freedom during hazard events since the last hazard mitigation plan update.

Table 18-14. Hazard Event History in Freedom

Dates of Event	Event Type (Disaster Declaration)	County Designated?	Summary of Event	Summary of Damage and Losses in Freedom
October 31-November 1, 2019	DR-4472	No	Severe Storms, Straight-Line Winds, and Flooding	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
March 13, 2020	EM-3434 DR-4480	Yes	COVID-19 Pandemic	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
January 12, 2020	High Wind	N/A	High wind	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
July 16, 2020	Thunderstorm Wind	N/A	Trees and wires were reported down in Gowanda.	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
July 19, 2020	Thunderstorm Wind	N/A	Multiple reports of trees down around Gowanda, Ashville Bay, Napoli and Portville.	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
August 15, 2020	Flash Flood	N/A	Marble Road and Potter Road in Lime Lake were reported to be washed out by law enforcement.	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
September 7, 2020	Thunderstorm Wind	N/A	Property damage in Olean.	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
November 15, 2020	High Wind	N/A	Property damage throughout Cattaraugus County.	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
July 13, 2021	Thunderstorm Wind	N/A	Several reports were received of trees down, trees on cars, trees on houses, and powerlines down in Salamanca, Olean, and Allegany.	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
December 11, 2021	High Wind	N/A	Dozens of reports of trees and powerlines down were received.	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
March 6, 2022	High Wind	N/A	High wind	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
July 24, 2022	Thunderstorm Wind	N/A	Trees and powerlines reported down in East Otto, Randolph, and South Dayton.	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.



Dates of Event	Event Type (Disaster Declaration)	County Designated?	Summary of Event	Summary of Damage and Losses in Freedom
November 20, 2022	EM-3589	Yes	Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.
January 2024	Windstorm	N/A	High winds and trees down	Tree removal

EM = Emergency Declaration (FEMA)  
 FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency  
 DR = Major Disaster Declaration (FEMA)  
 N/A = Not applicable

### 18.6.3 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 Freedom .

#### 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. Freedom 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 noted the following:

- The Dam and Levee Failure hazard should be decreased from a ‘Medium’ risk to ‘Low’ risk as the dams in the Town are structurally sound and face minimal risk.
- There is no risk from the Landslide hazard in the Town, as residences are not structured around them.
- The Pandemic hazard should be decreased from ‘Medium’ to ‘Low’ due to created policies and plans which mitigate risk.
- The Severe Storm hazard should be decreased from ‘High’ to ‘Medium’ due to existing programs.
- The Wildfire hazard should be decreased from ‘Medium’ to ‘Low’ due to the lack of historical occurrences and minimal structures in possible impacted areas.

Table 18-15 shows Freedom’s final hazard rankings for identified hazards of concern. Mitigation action development uses the ranking to target hazards with the highest risk.

Table 18-15. Hazard Ranking

Hazard	Rank
Dam and Levee Failure	Low
Flood	Medium
Landslide	No Risk
Pandemic	Low
Severe Storm	Medium



Hazard	Rank
Severe Winter Storm	High
Utility Failure	Medium
Wildfire	Low

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 18-16 identifies critical facilities in the community located in the 1 percent and 0.2 percent annual chance floodplains.

Table 18-16. Critical Facilities Flood Vulnerability

Name	Type	Vulnerability		Addressed by Proposed Action	Already Protected to 0.2% Flood Level (describe protections)
		1% Event	0.2% Event		
Freedom 01	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 03	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 04	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 05	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 06	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 08	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 09	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 10	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 15	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 19	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 24	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 25	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 29	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom 36	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom Bridge	Bridge	X	-	2025-FreedomT-08	-
Freedom Sand and Gravel Pit	Hazardous Materials Site	X	-	2025-FreedomT-01	-

Source: Cattaraugus County 2024

### 18.6.4 Identified Issues

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

- Freedom Sand and Gravel Pit is located in the special flood hazard area and may be vulnerable to flooding. Critical facilities must be protected to the 0.2% annual chance flood level.



- Undersized culverts often result in the flooding of roadways due to the inability to handle the influx of water. Debris build-up in these undersized pipes may also result in water back-flow, leading to further roadway flooding instances and impacting the integrity of the culverts. The Clear Creek Bridge culvert is undersized or has been damaged from instances of flooding and the debris caused by severe storms and severe winter winters.
- The Town faces risk from wildfires but does not have a comprehensive education and outreach program to educate residents and businesses about hazard mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery utilizing a variety of outreach methods. The Town does not currently have hazard mitigation information and outreach on the Town website.
- The Town faces risk from pandemic but does not have a comprehensive education and outreach program to educate residents and businesses about hazard mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery utilizing a variety of outreach methods. The Town does not currently have hazard mitigation information and outreach on the Town website.
- Floodplain managers require training. Those responsible for floodplain management are lacking in their knowledge of required duties. Training is sorely needed for all municipal officials and for code enforcement officials in charge of municipalities. Very little zoning precludes homeowners from building in floodplains, leading to problems later.
- The current flood damage prevention ordinance does not include the 2-foot mandated NYS freeboard requirements. While the existing ordinance may be compliant with NFIP requirements, State requirements which exceed NFIP requirements must be adhered to.
- The Town has dams within its jurisdiction. Despite not being identified as high-hazard potential dams, these structures have the potential to impact the people, property, infrastructure, and environment nearby.
- Scour on bridges can develop due to erosion. Erosion may occur due to waters impacting the bridge's structure during severe winter storms and severe storms when the precipitation causes the water movements to be more erratic. Rising waters may cause flooding conditions to further erode the structure of the bridge. The following bridges in the jurisdiction should be evaluated to determine useability and to identify potential solutions, as necessary:
  - Freedom 01
  - Freedom 03
  - Freedom 04
  - Freedom 05
  - Freedom 06
  - Freedom 08
  - Freedom 09
  - Freedom 10
  - Freedom 15
  - Freedom 19
  - Freedom 24
  - Freedom 25
  - Freedom 29
  - Freedom 36
  - Freedom Bridge



- Federal accreditation of floodwater retention structures shows the dams and levees have met and continue to meet the minimum regulatory standards set by the regulatory agencies. The accreditation of these structures show they are able to support efforts in the mitigation of flood risk.

## 18.7 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.

### 18.7.1 Past Mitigation Action Status

Table 18-17 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.

### 18.7.2 Additional Mitigation Efforts

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



Table 18-17. 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 2025 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2025 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
2020-Freedom-001	Protect Freedom Sand and Gravel Pit to the 0.2% annual chance flood event	Flood	Engineer, facility operator	<p>Problem: The Town of Freedom Sand and Gravel Pit is in the special flood hazard area and vulnerable to flooding. Critical facilities must be protected to the 0.2% annual chance flood level.</p> <p>Solution: The town will conduct a feasibility assessment to determine what additional floodproofing measures are needed at the Sand and Gravel Pit to protect it to the 0.2% annual chance level. Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elevation of facility</li> <li>• Floodproofing of facility</li> <li>• Mobile flood barriers</li> </ul> <p>Once the most cost-effective option is identified, the town will carry out the option.</p>	<p>1. No Progress</p> <p>2. Other projects took precedent.</p>	<p>1. Include</p> <p>2. Not applicable</p> <p>3. Not applicable</p>
2020-Freedom-002	Update the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	Flood	Town board	<p>Problem: The Town of Freedom lacks an updated flood damage prevention ordinance.</p> <p>Solution: the town will develop and adopt an updated flood damage prevention ordinance</p>	<p>1. No Progress</p> <p>2. Other projects took precedent.</p>	<p>1. Include</p> <p>2. Not applicable</p> <p>3. Not applicable</p>
2020-Freedom-003	Floodplain Administrator to attend training on floodplain management	Flood	County OES, Building Codes Dept.	<p>Problem: Floodplain Managers require training. Those responsible for floodplain management are lacking in their knowledge of required duties.</p> <p>Solution: Obtain/host training and certification for floodplain managers</p>	<p>1. No Progress</p> <p>2. Lack of training availability.</p>	<p>1. Include</p> <p>2. Not applicable</p> <p>3. Not applicable</p>



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 2025 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2025 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
2020-Freedom-004	Provide information to residents, business owners, and organizations about what they can do to prevent their structures from wildfires.	Wildfires	Town board	Problem: Additional public education on wildfire risk is needed  Solution: the town will develop an outreach program to educate the public about wildfires and what they can do to protect their structures.	1. No Progress 2. Other projects took precedent.	1. Include 2. Not applicable 3. Not applicable
2020-Freedom-005	Identify shelters and temporary housing location(s) for residents in the event of an emergency.	All Hazards	Town Supervisor, Town Clerk	Problem: The Town of Freedom currently does not have shelters or temporary housing locations in the event of an emergency.  Solution: The town will confirm locations and notify households and businesses through mailing	1. Complete 2. Town identified locations	1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. Town identified locations
2020-Freedom-006	Trim tree limbs away from buildings and structures.	Severe Storms; Severe Winter Storms	Municipalities and Hwy Dept	Problem: The town does not have a tree trimming program in place. It is unknown the safety of trees throughout the town. During wind events or heavy snow, falling tree branches can damage utilities and private property.  Solution: The town will develop a tree trimming maintenance program and remove trees that pose a threat to structures	1. Complete 2. Town implemented program.	1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. Town implemented program.
2020-Freedom-007	Generator for Town Hall	All Hazards	Town	Problem: Town Hall does not have back up power.	1. Complete 2. Town installed generator.	1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. Town installed generator.



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 2025 HMP or Discontinue 2. If including action in the 2025 HMP, revise/reword to be more specific (as appropriate). 3. If discontinue, explain why.
				Solution: Purchase and install a generator so that Town Hall has backup power in the event the power goes out		
2020-Freedom-008	Generator for Town Barn	All Hazards	Town	Problem: Town Barn does not have backup power.  Solution: Purchase and install a generator so that the Town Barn has backup power in the event the power goes out	1. Complete 2. Town installed generator.	1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. Town installed generator.
2020-Freedom-009	Culvert on Clear Creek Bridge on Muton Hollow and Eagle St	Flood, Severe Storm	Highway Department	Problem: Outdated culvert on Clear Creek Bridge  Solution: The town will install new culvert on Clear Creek Bridge	1. In Progress 2. Financial constraints	1. Include 2. Change to temporary shelters 3. Not applicable
2020-Freedom-010	Update the Emergency Operations Plan.	All Hazards	County, Town	Problem: Outdated Emergency Operations Plan  Solution: Update town's Emergency Operation Plan to include current hazards	1. Complete 2. Town updated emergency plan.	1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. Town updated emergency plan.
2020-Freedom-011	Update Building Code	All Hazards	County, Town	Problem: Building codes are outdated  Solution: Update building codes so buildings are built to withstand hazards they face	1. Completed 2. Building codes updated and adopted in 2022.	1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. Building codes updated and adopted in 2022.



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

Freedom 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 Freedom 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 18-18 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 18-19 provides a summary of the prioritization of all proposed mitigation actions for the HMP update.



Table 18-18. 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 and Levee Failure	X				X					
Flood	X	X		X	X		X		X	
Landslide										
Pandemic				X			X			
Severe Storm	X	X			X				X	
Severe Winter Storm	X	X			X				X	
Utility Failure		X							X	
Wildfire				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 18-19. 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-FreedomT-01	Critical Facility Protection	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	11	High
2025-FreedomT-02	Undersized Culverts	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-FreedomT-03	Wildfire Education and Outreach	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	11	High
2025-FreedomT-04	Pandemic Education and Outreach	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	11	High
2025-FreedomT-05	Floodplain Management Training	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	11	High
2025-FreedomT-06	Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Update	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	12	High
2025-FreedomT-07	Dam Owner Partnership	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-FreedomT-08	Bridge Evaluations	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-FreedomT-09	Federal Accreditation Standards	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11	High

Note: Volume I, Section 16 (Mitigation Strategy) conveys guidance on prioritizing mitigation actions. Low (0-6), Medium (7-10), High (11-14).



Action 2025-FreedomT-01. Critical Facility Protection

Lead Agency:	Critical Facility Owners and Managers		
Supporting Agencies:	Town Board		
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide <input type="checkbox"/> Pandemic	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	Freedom Sand and Gravel Pit located in the special flood hazard area and may be vulnerable to flooding. Critical facilities must be protected to the 0.2% annual chance flood level.		
Description of the Solution:	<p>The Town will conduct a feasibility assessment to determine what additional floodproofing measures are needed at the critical facilities to protect them to the 500-year flood level. The facility manager will be contacted to be informed of potential mitigation measures. Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elevation of facility</li> <li>• Floodproofing of facility</li> <li>• Mobile flood barriers</li> </ul> <p>Once the most cost-effective option is identified, the facility manager will carry out the option.</p>		
Estimated Cost:	Medium		
Potential Funding Sources:	FEMA HMA, USDA Community Facilities Grant Program, Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) Program, Town Budget		
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 Years		
Goals Met:	1, 3, 5		
Benefits:	Ensures continuity of operations of several critical facilities in the Town.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Protection of critical facilities provides an opportunity for first responders and emergency managers to maintain critical services that socially vulnerable populations rely on.		
Impact on Future Development:	The risk of significant damage occurring to the structure will be reduced, which will allow critical operations to be maintained or only briefly interrupted in severe events. This provides continued support to both current and future development in the service area.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action will protect critical facilities, maintaining the critical services that it provides.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action improves continuity of operations during a flood event, allows for a more rapid return to pre-disaster capabilities after a flood event, and faster deployment of post disaster capabilities.		
Climate Change Considerations:	This action addresses anticipated increases in flooding frequency and severity through protection to the 500-year (0.2-percent annual chance) flood level.		
Mitigation Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Systems Protection (NSP) <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Preventative Measures (PR) <input type="checkbox"/> Property Protection (PP) <input type="checkbox"/> Public Information (PI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resource Protection (NR) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input type="checkbox"/> Low
Alternatives:	<b>Action</b>		<b>Evaluation</b>
	No Action		Current problem exists
	Relocate facility		Relocation is expensive and results in loss or delay of critical services in the immediate area
	Establish plans to enter into MOU with neighboring critical facilities to provide service during flood events		Reduction in response times and delay of critical services in the immediate area.



Action 2025-FreedomT-02. Undersized Culverts

Lead Agency:	Highway Department		
Supporting Agencies:	Code Enforcement, Engineer		
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide <input type="checkbox"/> Pandemic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	Undersized culverts often result in the flooding of roadways due to the inability to handle the influx of water. Debris build-up in these undersized pipes may also result in water back-flow, leading to further roadway flooding instances and impacting the integrity of the culverts. The Clear Creek Bridge culvert is undersized or has been damaged from instances of flooding and the debris caused by severe storms and severe winter winters.		
Description of the Solution:	The Town Engineer will complete an engineering survey of the Clear Creek Bridge culvert to determine the proper size necessary to provide stormwater capacity. The Town Highway Department will complete the necessary upsizing for the culvert.		
Estimated Cost:	TBD after study is complete		
Potential Funding Sources:	FEMA HMA, CHIPS, Town Budget		
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years		
Goals Met:	1, 4		
Benefits:	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.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Areas that were previously vulnerable to frequency or severe flooding events will be less likely to be impacted by flooding events.		
Impact on Future Development:	Future development in the impacted area will be less likely to be flooded.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Transportation routes are more likely to remain open. Evacuation routes will remain intact. Access to health and medical facilities will be maintained, both for healthcare workers and the population who requires treatment for injuries and illness.		
Impact on Capabilities:	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.		
Climate Change Considerations:	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.		
Mitigation Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Systems Protection (NSP) <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Preventative Measures (PR) <input type="checkbox"/> Property Protection (PP) <input type="checkbox"/> Public Information (PI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resource Protection (NR) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input type="checkbox"/> Low
Alternatives:	Action		Evaluation
	No Action		Current problem exists
	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-FreedomT-03. Wildfire Education and Outreach

Lead Agency:	Town Supervisor		
Supporting Agencies:	Town Board, Cattaraugus County		
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide <input type="checkbox"/> Pandemic	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	The Town faces risk from wildfires but does not have a comprehensive education and outreach program to educate residents and businesses about hazard mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery utilizing a variety of outreach methods. The Town does not currently have hazard mitigation information and outreach on the Town website.		
Description of the Solution:	Create outreach materials, or utilize those from Cattaraugus County, on wildfire risks and methods of mitigation measures. 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. Outreach materials will be specified with education and information for the wildfire hazard.		
Estimated Cost:	Low		
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget		
Implementation Timeline:	1 year		
Goals Met:	1, 2, 3, 4		
Benefits:	This action will improve the public education and outreach capabilities in the Town by including discussions on disaster preparedness and hazard mitigation to residents and business owners, which will contribute to the resiliency of the Town.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Socially vulnerable populations will learn how to prepare for and mitigate the wildfire hazard which may impact them in the Town.		
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Businesses, which may be considered critical facilities or lifelines, would be more informed on how to prepare for emergency events and mitigate the risks of the wildfire hazard. With these businesses becoming more resilient, this action would contribute to their continuity of operations.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action would build upon the County's public education and outreach capabilities and adapt it to the Town's needs.		
Climate Change Considerations:	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 the wildfire hazard and how climate change may exacerbate those risks.		
Mitigation Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Systems Protection (NSP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Preventative Measures (PR) <input type="checkbox"/> Property Protection (PP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Information (PI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resource Protection (NR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input type="checkbox"/> Low
Alternatives:	Action	Evaluation	
	No Action	Current problem exists	
	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-FreedomT-04. Pandemic Education and Outreach

Lead Agency:	Town Supervisor		
Supporting Agencies:	Town Board, Cattaraugus County		
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pandemic	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	The Town faces risk from pandemic but does not have a comprehensive education and outreach program to educate residents and businesses about hazard mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery utilizing a variety of outreach methods. The Town does not currently have hazard mitigation information and outreach on the Town website.		
Description of the Solution:	Create outreach materials, or utilize those from Cattaraugus County, on pandemic risks and methods of mitigation measures. 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. Outreach materials will be specified with education and information for the pandemic hazard.		
Estimated Cost:	Low		
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget		
Implementation Timeline:	1 year		
Goals Met:	1, 2, 3, 4		
Benefits:	This action will improve the public education and outreach capabilities in the Town by including discussions on disaster preparedness and hazard mitigation to residents and business owners, which will contribute to the resiliency of the Town.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Socially vulnerable populations will learn how to prepare for and mitigate the pandemic hazard which may impact them in the Town.		
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Businesses, which may be considered critical facilities or lifelines, would be more informed on how to prepare for emergency events and mitigate the risks of the pandemic hazard. With these businesses becoming more resilient, this action would contribute to their continuity of operations.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action would build upon the County's public education and outreach capabilities and adapt it to the Town's needs.		
Climate Change Considerations:	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 the pandemic hazard and how climate change may exacerbate those risks.		
Mitigation Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Systems Protection (NSP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Preventative Measures (PR) <input type="checkbox"/> Property Protection (PP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Information (PI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resource Protection (NR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input type="checkbox"/> Low
Alternatives:	Action	Evaluation	
	No Action	Current problem exists	
	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-FreedomT-05. Floodplain Management Training

Lead Agency:	Code Enforcement	
Supporting Agencies:	Town Board	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide <input type="checkbox"/> Pandemic	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	Floodplain managers require training. Those responsible for floodplain management are lacking in their knowledge of required duties. Training is sorely needed for all municipal officials and for code enforcement officials in charge of municipalities. Very little zoning precludes homeowners from building in floodplains, leading to problems later.	
Description of the Solution:	Where feasible, the Town will have Code staff attend trainings at FEMA's EMI in Emmitsburg Maryland for NFIP Basics and the Intermediate Floodplain management course (E0273). Where not feasible, officials will attend virtual trainings and review available resources from FEMA and ASFPM at the ASFPM ( <a href="https://www.floods.org/">https://www.floods.org/</a> ) website. Encourage staff to become Certified Floodplain Managers via the Association of State Floodplain Manager's CFM Certification Program.	
Estimated Cost:	Low	
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	1, 3, 4	
Benefits:	Providing an opportunity for staff and officials to become further educated on floodplain management practices and standards can aid in the development of plans and procedures in a way that is conscious of the flood hazard.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	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.	
Impact on Future Development:	Officials that understand best practices in floodplain management will have the opportunity to influence future development and prevent unsafe building in flood hazard areas.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	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.	
Impact on Capabilities:	Officials that attend trainings will have a more confident understanding of floodplain management principles and the basics of NFIP requirements and standards.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to result in stronger and more frequent rainfall events that will contribute to increased flood risk	
Mitigation Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Systems Protection (NSP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Preventative Measures (PR) <input type="checkbox"/> Property Protection (PP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Information (PI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resource Protection (NR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Alternatives:	<b>Action</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
	No Action	Current problem exists
	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



Action 2025-FreedomT-06. Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Update

Lead Agency:	Code Enforcement		
Supporting Agencies:	Town Board		
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide <input type="checkbox"/> Pandemic	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	The current flood damage prevention ordinance does not include the 2-foot mandated NYS freeboard requirements. While the existing ordinance may be compliant with NFIP requirements, State requirements which exceed NFIP requirements must be adhered to.		
Description of the Solution:	The Town will work with Cattaraugus County and NYSDEC to ensure its Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance is updated to adhere to NYS requirements. After obtaining the appropriate review and concurrence by the NFIP State Coordinator and the FEMA Regional Office, the Town will update and adopt the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.		
Estimated Cost:	Low		
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget		
Implementation Timeline:	Within 3 years		
Goals Met:	1, 2, 4		
Benefits:	The updated ordinance will improve floodplain management, meet NFIP and State requirements, and increase resilience of new and substantially improved structures in the floodplain.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The action will result in better regulation of construction standards within the Special Flood Hazard Area where significant risk to socially vulnerable populations exists.		
Impact on Future Development:	The action will result in stronger regulation of construction standards for future development in the Special Flood Hazard Area.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Critical facilities and lifelines located in the Special Flood Hazard Area will be required to meet the requirements set forth in the ordinance.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will improve floodplain management capabilities through better outlining of responsibilities and administrative procedures.		
Climate Change Considerations:	The updated ordinance includes the State's higher standards that are in place to address heightened flood risk due to climate change such as those for floodway rise and mandatory freeboard.		
Mitigation Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Systems Protection (NSP) <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)	
CRS Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preventative Measures (PR) <input type="checkbox"/> Property Protection (PP) <input type="checkbox"/> Public Information (PI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resource Protection (NR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services (ES)	
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input type="checkbox"/> Low
Alternatives:	Action		Evaluation
	No Action		Current problem exists
	Update only freeboard requirements		Other areas of the ordinance which need to be updated would not be
	Leave NFIP		Residents lose flood insurance coverage



Action 2025-FreedomT-07. Dam Owner Partnership

Lead Agency:	Town Board	
Supporting Agencies:	NYS DEC, Dam Owners	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide <input type="checkbox"/> Pandemic	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Town has dams within its jurisdiction. Despite not being high-hazard potential dams, these structures have the potential to impact the people, property, infrastructure, and environment nearby.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town will work with the owners of the dams to ensure inspections and safety procedures are up to date. If cost-effective mitigation measures or retrofit options are identified that can increase the level of safety and length of useful life, the Dam Owner will pursue funding support, permit approval from NYS DEC, and implement the cost-effective measures.	
Estimated Cost:	Low	
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 3	
Benefits:	This action will improve the safety and security of those who live near the dams and increase the resilience of responding agencies.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The action will result in better preparedness for those living near areas where the dams are located.	
Impact on Future Development:	Future development near the dams will be more secure as safety procedures and inspections are regularly performed on the dams.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Dams are considered a critical facility. This action will create an understanding of the safety procedures in place for each identified dam and strengthen the structural integrity of dam, as needed.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will improve planning and response capabilities through the understanding of responsibilities and procedures.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change may result in an increase in the frequency and severity of weather-related disaster events, which may contribute to the likelihood of a dam failure event. This action will increase the capabilities to respond to these events.	
Mitigation Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Systems Protection (NSP) <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preventative Measures (PR) <input type="checkbox"/> Property Protection (PP) <input type="checkbox"/> Public Information (PI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resource Protection (NR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Alternatives:	Action	Evaluation
	No Action	Town will be unaware of any safety concerns for the dam or its condition
	Utilize information from NYS DEC	Owners may not be required to submit a safety plan to the State
	Utilize information from the National Inventory of Dams	Not all dams are listed on the inventory



Action 2025-FreedomT-08. Bridge Evaluations

Lead Agency:	Highway Department	
Supporting Agencies:	Cattaraugus County Engineering, Cattaraugus County Public Works, NYS DOT	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide <input type="checkbox"/> Pandemic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	<p>Scour on bridges can develop due to erosion. Erosion may occur due to waters impacting the bridge's structure during severe winter storms and severe storms when the precipitation causes the water movements to be more erratic. Rising waters may cause flooding conditions to further erode the structure of the bridge. The following bridges in the jurisdiction should be evaluated to determine useability and to identify potential solutions, as necessary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Freedom 01</li> <li>• Freedom 03</li> <li>• Freedom 04</li> <li>• Freedom 05</li> <li>• Freedom 06</li> <li>• Freedom 08</li> <li>• Freedom 09</li> <li>• Freedom 10</li> <li>• Freedom 15</li> <li>• Freedom 19</li> <li>• Freedom 24</li> <li>• Freedom 25</li> <li>• Freedom 29</li> <li>• Freedom 36</li> <li>• Freedom Bridge</li> </ul>	
Description of the Solution:	The Highway Department will work with Cattaraugus County Engineering and Public Works to evaluate each bridge to determine its current usability. The evaluation will indicate whether the County will need to replace or retrofit the identified bridges and causeways. This evaluation should be performed in partnership and/or with feedback from NYS DOT as necessary.	
Estimated Cost:	Medium	
Potential Funding Sources:	FEMA HMA, County Budget, BRIDGENY	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	1	
Benefits:	This action will ensure the bridges in the jurisdiction are structurally sound to continue in operation.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Not applicable	
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action will ensure transportation routes remain open and accessible to the public for daily use and evacuation needs; the bridges provide a point of access for first responders into communities that may have faced damage from a hazard event on either side of the bridges.	
Impact on Capabilities:	Not applicable	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase the intensity and frequency of many climate related disaster events. This action will work to ensure the structure of the bridges are impervious to erosion at their base due to rising water levels.	
Mitigation Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Systems Protection (NSP) <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preventative Measures (PR) <input type="checkbox"/> Property Protection (PP) <input type="checkbox"/> Public Information (PI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resource Protection (NR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services (ES)



Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input type="checkbox"/> Low
Alternatives:	Action		Evaluation
	No Action		Current problem exists
	Remove bridges		May cause significant traffic problems
	Replace bridges		Cost prohibitive



Action 2025-FreedomT-09. Federal Accreditation Standards

Lead Agency:	Municipal Engineer	
Supporting Agencies:	Cattaraugus County Public Works, FEMA, USACE, Dam Owners, Levee Owners	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide <input type="checkbox"/> Pandemic	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	Federal accreditation of floodwater retention structures shows the dams and levees have met and continue to meet the minimum regulatory standards set by the regulatory agencies. The accreditation of these structures show they are able to support efforts in the mitigation of flood risk.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town will partner with Cattaraugus County to assist with communications to dam and levee owners and operators. Communication with dam and levee owners and/or operators will be focused on ensuring the structure(s) are accredited and/or how to get the structure(s) accredited.	
Estimated Cost:	Low	
Potential Funding Sources:	County Budget, Jurisdictional Budget, Dam Owners, Levee Owners	
Implementation Timeline:	4 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 4, 6, 7	
Benefits:	Federal accreditation of floodwater retention structures shows the dams and levees have met and continue to meet the minimum regulatory standards set by the regulatory agencies. The accreditation of these structures show they can support efforts in the mitigation of flood risk.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Accreditation of the structures show they can support efforts in the mitigation of flood risk, including impacts on the populations, and their property, near the structures.	
Impact on Future Development:	Accreditation of the structures show they can support efforts in the mitigation of flood risk. Future development near the structures will have reduced risk to the flood hazard.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Accreditation of the structures show they can support efforts in the mitigation of flood risk. Critical facilities near the structures will have reduced risk to the flood hazard. Dams and levees are critical facilities. Accredited structures meet the minimum regulatory standards set by the regulatory agencies.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will strengthen flood risk reduction capabilities. Having an accredited structure means they can support efforts in mitigating the risk of the flood hazard.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase the intensity and frequency of many climate related disaster events, including heavy rainfalls and flooding events. Heavy rainfalls can cause additional pressure and stress on dams and levees, leading to failure. Federal accreditation of floodwater retention structures shows the dams and levees have met and continue to meet the minimum regulatory standards set by the regulatory agencies.	
Mitigation Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Plans and Regulations (LPR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Systems Protection (NSP) <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Awareness Programs (EAP)
CRS Category	<input type="checkbox"/> Preventative Measures (PR) <input type="checkbox"/> Property Protection (PP) <input type="checkbox"/> Public Information (PI)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resource Protection (NR) <input type="checkbox"/> Structural Flood Control Projects (SP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services (ES)
Priority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium
Alternatives:	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	
	Action	Evaluation
	No Action	Current problem exists
	Only work to ensure dam accreditation	Levees may not be accredited
Only work to ensure levee accreditation	Dams may not be accredited	