



5. TOWN OF ASHFORD

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

5.1 HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM

The Town of Ashford 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 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 5-1 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 5-1. Hazard Mitigation Planning Team

Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact
Name/Title: John Pfeffer, Supervisor Address: 9377 Route 240, West Valley NY 14171 Phone Number: 716-801-1838 Email: ashfordnysupervisor@gmail.com	Name/Title: Keith Butcher, Highway Superintendent Address: 5460 Fox Valley Road, West Valley NY 14171 Phone Number: (716) 942-3243 Email: ashfordnysupervisor@gmail.com
National Flood Insurance Program Floodplain Administrator	
Name/Title: Lawrence Feldman, Code Enforcement Officer Address: 9377 Route 240, West Valley NY 14171 Phone Number: 716-942-6016 Ext. 5 Email: lfeldmanceo@gmail.com	

5.2 COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Town of Ashford lies in the north-central part of Cattaraugus County in western New York State. The Town of Ashford has a total area of 51.9 square miles. Cattaraugus Creek, Connoisarauley Creek, Gooseneck Creek, Indian Creek, Buttermilk Creek, and Nigh Creek all flow through the town. The town is bordered to the north by the Towns of Concord and Sardinia (in Erie County), to the east are the Towns of Yorkshire and Machias, to the south is the Town of Ellicottville, and to the west is the Town of East Otto.

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 4 percent of the



population is 5 years of age or younger, 23.9 percent is 65 years of age or older, 0 percent is non-English speaking, 5.5 percent is below the poverty threshold, and 18.7 percent is considered disabled.

5.3 JURISDICTIONAL CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT AND INTEGRATION

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

5.3.1 Planning and Regulatory Capability and Integration

Table 5-2 summarizes the planning and regulatory tools that are available to Ashford.

Table 5-2. 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
CODES, ORDINANCES, & REGULATIONS				
Building Code	Yes	Local Law #2 2006: New York State Uniform Prevention and Building Code	Local	Code Enforcement Officer
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? This local law shall provide for administration and enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Protection and Building Code (Uniform Code) in the Town of Ashford. This local law is adopted pursuant to Section 10 of Article 2 of the Municipal Home Rule Law. Except as otherwise provided within this law, state law, or within the Uniform Code, all premises regardless of use, are subject to the provisions which follow.				
Zoning/Land Use Code	No	-	-	-
How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?				
Subdivision Code	No	-	-	-
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
Site Plan Code How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Stormwater Management Code How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Post-Disaster Recovery/ Reconstruction Code How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Real Estate Disclosure Requirements 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.	Yes	Property Condition Disclosure Act, NY Code - Article 14 §460-467	State	NYS Department of State, Real Estate Agent
Growth Management How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Environmental Protection Ordinance(s) How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance 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"> 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; 2. require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction; 3. control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters; 4. control filling, grading, dredging, and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages; 5. regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters, or which may increase flood hazards to other lands; and 6. qualify and maintain participation in the National Flood Insurance program 7. provide minimum lot size, setbacks, and other standards to regulate development. 	Yes	Local Law #1, 1988 – Flood Damage Prevention	Local	Building Inspector / Code Enforcement
Wellhead Protection 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
Emergency Management Ordinance How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Climate Change Ordinance How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Other How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
PLANNING DOCUMENTS				
General/Comprehensive Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The Master Plan includes goals to minimize soil erosion and flooding caused from development planned in the two identified planning districts, preserve the benthic and biota in the Special Flood Hazard Area, maintain sufficient emergency services, support and expand the local tourism economy, and draft the Town of Ashford Zoning Code. The Master Plan is referred to in the following plans and codes: Zoning, Urban Development, Short Term Funding, Agriculture Protection, Water/Wastewater Development	Yes	Town of Ashford NY Master Plan, 8/14/2019	Local	Town Board/Planning Board
Capital Improvement Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Disaster Debris Management Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Floodplain Management or Watershed Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Stormwater Management Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Open Space Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Urban Water Management Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Habitat Conservation Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Economic Development Plan 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
Community Wildfire Protection Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Community Forest Management Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Transportation Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Agriculture Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Climate Action/ Resilience/Sustainability Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Tourism Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Business/ Downtown Development Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Other How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
RESPONSE/RECOVERY PLANNING				
Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk? The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan refers to the National Incident Management System and County Emergency Services.	Yes	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, 2006	Local	Supervisor
Continuity of Operations Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Substantial Damage Response Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment 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
Post-Disaster Recovery Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Public Health Plan How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-
Other How has or will this be integrated with the HMP and how does this reduce risk?	No	-	-	-

5.3.2 Development and Permitting Capability

Table 5-3 summarizes the capabilities of Ashford to oversee and track development.

Table 5-3. Development and Permitting Capability

	Yes/No	Comment
Do you issue development permits? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you issue development permits, what department is responsible? If you do not issue development permits, what is your process for tracking new development? 	Yes	Code Enforcement
Are permits tracked by hazard area? (For example, floodplain development permits.)	Yes	Code Enforcement
Do you have a buildable land inventory? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have a buildable land inventory, please describe 	Yes	Available in the Town Master Plan
Describe the level of buildout in your jurisdiction.	N/A	According to the 2019 Master Plan, 23.33 percent of the Town's land is vacant and could be used for future development.

5.3.3 Administrative and Technical Capability

Table 5-4 summarizes potential staff and personnel resources available to Ashford and their current responsibilities that contribute to hazard mitigation.

Table 5-4. Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
ADMINISTRATIVE CAPABILITY		
Planning Board	Yes	Town Board
Zoning Board of Adjustment	No	-



Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
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
Construction/Building/Code Enforcement Department	Yes	Code Enforcement
Emergency Management/Public Safety Department	Yes	Supervisor is the Emergency Manager
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	-
TECHNICAL/STAFFING CAPABILITY		
Planners or engineers with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Yes	Code Enforcement
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	Yes	Supervisor is the Emergency Manager
Grant writers	No	-
Resilience Officer	No	-



Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment (available staff, responsibilities, support of hazard mitigation)
Other (this could include stormwater engineer, environmental specialist, etc.)	No	-

5.3.4 Fiscal Capability

Table 5-5 summarizes financial resources available to Ashford.

Table 5-5. Fiscal Capabilities

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

5.3.5 Education and Outreach Capability

Table 5-6 summarizes the education and outreach resources available to Ashford.

Table 5-6. Education and Outreach Capabilities

Outreach Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment
Public information officer or communications office	Yes	Town Clerk Office
Personnel skilled or trained in website development	No	-
Hazard mitigation information available on your website	No	-
Social media for hazard mitigation education and outreach	Yes	Town of Ashford website
Citizen boards or commissions that address issues related to hazard mitigation	No	-
Warning systems for hazard events	Yes	Town of Ashford website
Natural disaster/safety programs in place for schools	Yes	WVCS works with Town of Ashford for a sheltering agreement in case of emergency evacuation



Outreach Resources	Available? (Yes/No)	Comment
Organizations that conduct outreach to socially vulnerable populations and underserved populations	Yes	West Valley Senior Citizens, West Valley Food Pantry, Community Clothes Closet, Local Churches
Public outreach mechanisms / programs to inform citizens on natural hazards, risk, and ways to protect themselves during such events	Yes	Town of Ashford website, CODE RED PHONE/TEXT/TTD notification system

5.3.6 Community Classifications

Table 5-7 summarizes classifications for community programs available to Ashford.

Table 5-7. 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

5.3.7 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 5-8 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 5-8. Adaptive Capacity

Hazard	Adaptive Capacity - Strong/Moderate/Weak
Dam and Levee Failure	Moderate
Flood	Moderate
Landslide	Moderate
Pandemic	Moderate



Hazard	Adaptive Capacity - Strong/Moderate/Weak
Severe Storm	Moderate
Severe Winter Storm	Moderate
Utility Interruption	Moderate
Wildfire	Moderate
Flood	Moderate

5.4 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 5-1 is responsible for maintaining this information.

5.4.1 NFIP Statistics

Table 5-9 summarizes the NFIP policy and claim statistics for Ashford.

Table 5-9. Ashford NFIP Summary of Policy and Claim Statistics

# Policies	4
# Claims (Losses)	12
Total Loss Payments	\$37,283
# 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

5.4.2 Flood Vulnerability Summary

Table 5-10 provides a summary of the NFIP program in Ashford.

Table 5-10. NFIP Summary

NFIP Topic	Comments
Flood Vulnerability Summary	



NFIP Topic	Comments
Describe areas prone to flooding in your jurisdiction.	Low lying homes in previously flood damaged areas, homes and businesses in floodplain, homes and businesses adjacent to creeks that flood
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?	Unknown
How many properties have been mitigated (elevation or acquisition) in your jurisdiction? If there are mitigation properties, how were the projects funded?	Four via the Cattaraugus county land bank and FEMA grants
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
NFIP Compliance	
What local department is responsible for floodplain management?	Building Inspector / 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?	If the improvement is valued at 50 percent or more of the existing structure's value.
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: November 28, 2016 CAV: December 23, 1992
What is the local law number or municipal code of your flood damage prevention ordinance?	Local Law #1, 1988 – Flood Damage Prevention
What is the date that your flood damage prevention ordinance was last amended?	March 11, 1998



NFIP Topic	Comments
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?	The planning board and CEO would review variances related to flood potential or similar modifications.
Does your community plan to join the CRS program or is your community interested in improving your CRS classification?	No

5.5 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 5-11 through Table 5-13.

Table 5-11. 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
2019				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2020				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2021				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2022				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2023				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2024				
Total Permits	9	0	0	9
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0

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



Table 5-12. 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
The Town did not indicate any recent major development or infrastructure occurred between 2019 to present.					

* Only location-specific hazard zones or vulnerabilities identified.

Table 5-13. 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
The Town did not indicate any known or anticipated major development or infrastructure in the next five years.					

5.6 JURISDICTIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT

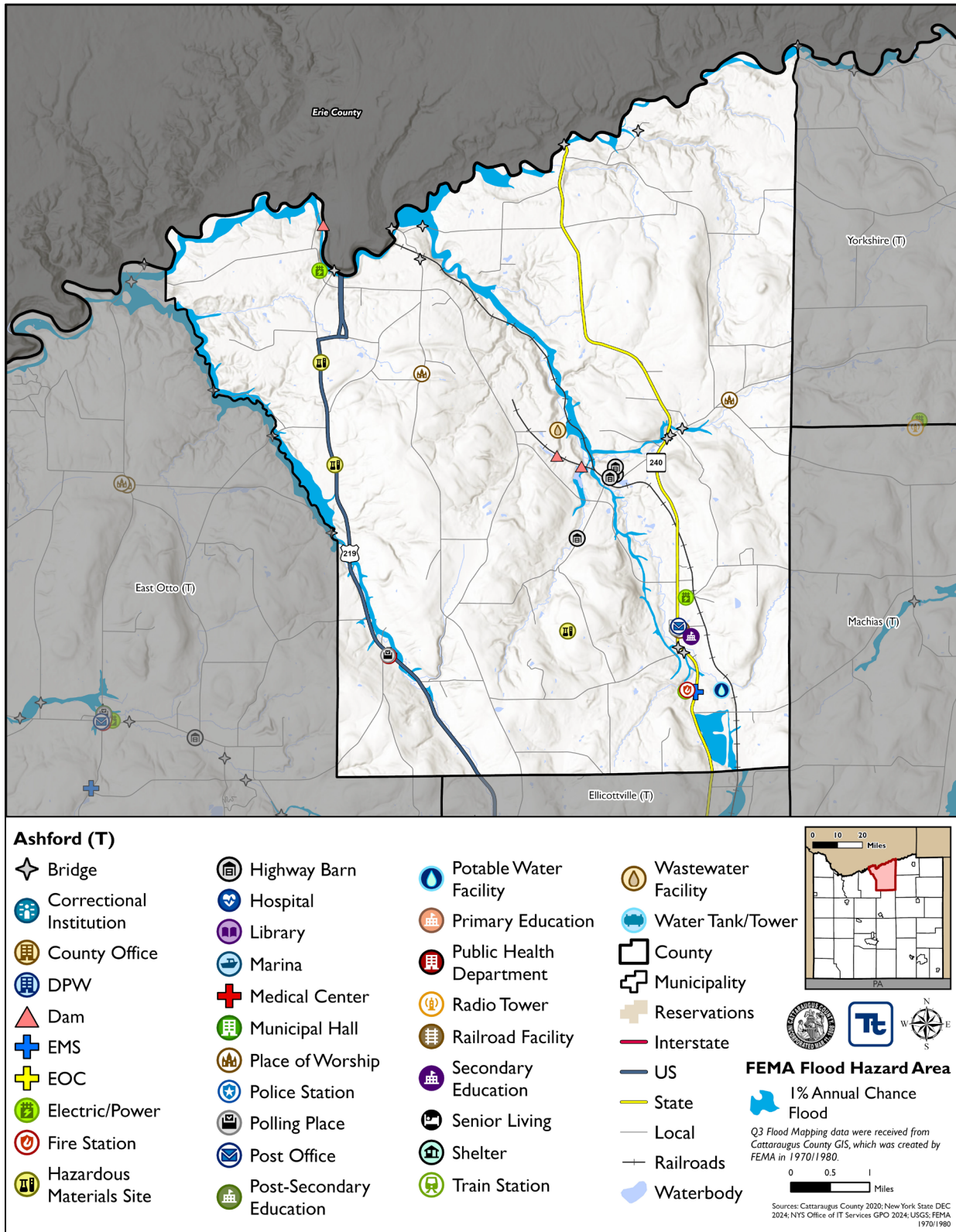
The hazard profiles in Volume I provide detailed information regarding each planning partner’s vulnerability to the identified hazards, including summaries of Ashford’s risk assessment results and data used to determine the hazard ranking. Key local risk assessment information is presented below.

5.6.1 Hazard Area

Hazard area maps provided below illustrate the probable hazard areas impacted within the Town are shown in Figure 5-1 through Figure 5-2. 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 Ashford has significant exposure. The maps show the location of potential new development, where available.



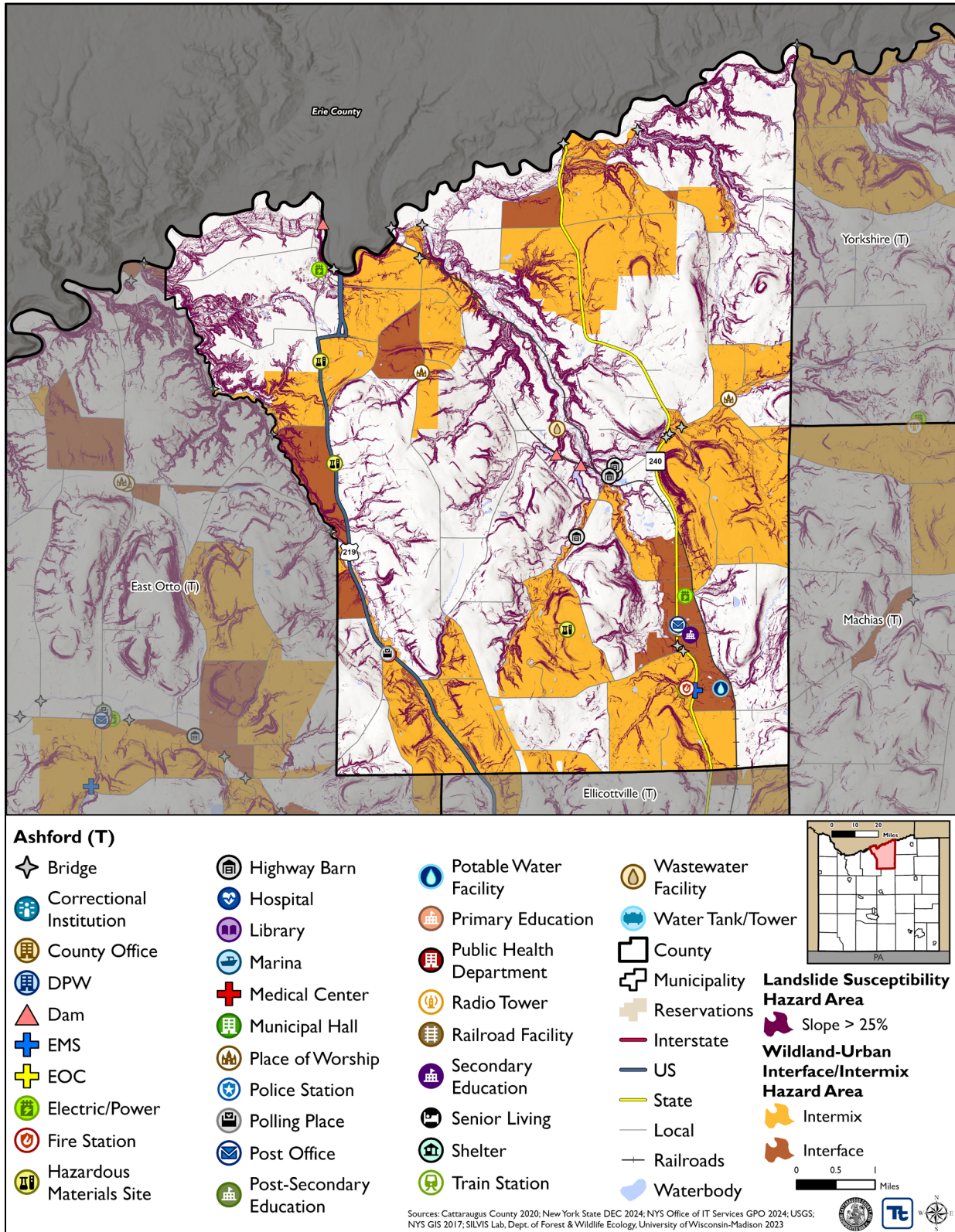
Figure 5-1. Ashford Flood Hazard Area Extent and Location Map



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 5-2. Ashford Landslide and Wildfire Hazard Area Extent and Location Map





5.6.2 Hazard Event History

The history of natural and non-natural hazard events in Ashford is detailed in Volume I, where each hazard profile includes a chronology of historical events that have affected the County and its municipalities. Table 5-14 provides details on loss and damage in Ashford during hazard events since the last hazard mitigation plan update.

Table 5-14. Hazard Event History in Ashford

Dates of Event	Event Type (Disaster Declaration)	County Designated?	Summary of Event	Summary of Damage and Losses in Ashford
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 adhered to required mandates. There was a \$250,000 in revenue loss to Town.
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 Ashford
November 20, 2022	EM-3589	Yes	Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	The Town did not incur any documented damage or losses.

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

5.6.3 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 Ashford .

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. Ashford 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 agreed with the preliminary rankings.

Table 5-15 shows Ashford’s final hazard rankings for identified hazards of concern. Mitigation action development uses the ranking to target hazards with the highest risk.

Table 5-15. Hazard Ranking

Hazard	Rank
Dam and Levee Failure	Medium
Flood	Medium
Landslide	Low
Pandemic	Medium
Severe Storm	High
Severe Winter Storm	High
Utility Failure	Medium
Wildfire	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 5-16 identifies critical facilities in the community located in the 1 percent and 0.2 percent annual chance floodplains.



Table 5-16. 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		
Ashford 02	Bridge	X	-	2025-AshfordT-14	-
Ashford 03	Bridge	X	-	2025-AshfordT-14	-
Ashford 30	Bridge	X	-	2025-AshfordT-14	-
Ashford 33	Bridge	X	-	2025-AshfordT-14	-
Ashford 37	Bridge	X	-	2025-AshfordT-14	-
East Otto 05	Bridge	X	-	2025-AshfordT-14	-

Source: Cattaraugus County 2024

5.6.4 Identified Issues

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

- 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 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 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.
- Following emergency events, individuals may be unable to stay in their places of residence due to storm damages. Flooding from dam and levee failures can cause residences to become uninhabitable; wildfires and landslides can compromise the integrity of the structure; and severe storms and severe winter storms can lead to utility failures. The Town needs to identify locations for the placement of temporary sheltering. The Town will investigate the use of the school, highway garage, and local churches as potential locations.
- The Town 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 Town is in need of a formal process and plan to provide a framework for conducting such inspections and determinations.
- 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.
- 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.
- Landslide events are often driven by hazards such as heavy rain events, flooding, heavy snowmelt, and wildfires. Landslides can destroy the natural and built environments, causing detriment to the structures in



its path. Although numerous Town roads are exposed to the landslide hazard, there is not an inventory of these roads which may be impacted by landslides, nor is there a local law restricting construction on areas with steep slopes.

- Flood prone roads not only interrupt the movement of persons and goods but can lead to isolation issues where first responders are unable to reach their destination and cause evacuation routes to be inaccessible. Flooded road ways may be caused by debris in culverts from severe storms and severe winter storms. Roads in the Ashford Triangle (between Route 240 and White Street) may benefit from flood mitigation strategies, such as the elevation of the roadways or the hardening of the infrastructure surrounding them to reduce likelihood of flooding. Although the town has no repetitive loss properties, homes located in this area are prone to flooding during high water events.
- The Town of Ashford lacks a zoning code. The Town Master Plan identifies the development of a zoning ordinance as a goal. A zoning code regulates the built environment, outlining allowed building uses, densities, sizes, and other associated characteristics. As a result, incorporating hazard mitigation principles into the zoning code can help jurisdictions ensure that their communities are more resilient.
- The Town has an outdated Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). Hazard mitigation principles need to be integrated into the CEMP. A CEMP establishes the overall authority, roles, and functions performed during incidents. Incorporating hazard mitigation principles into a CEMP ensures hazard risk is identified.
- 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 culvert on Fox Valley Road is undersized or has been damaged from instances of flooding and the debris caused by severe storms and severe winter winters.
- Comsourally Road has been eroded due to floodwaters stemming from severe storms and melted snow from severe winter storms. The Town must identify and implement erosion-reducing measures.
- 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:
 - Ashford 02
 - Ashford 03
 - Ashford 30
 - Ashford 33
 - Ashford 37
 - East Otto 05
- 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.

5.7 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.



5.7.1 Past Mitigation Action Status

Table 5-17 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.

5.7.2 Additional Mitigation Efforts

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



Table 5-17. 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-Ashford-001	Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	Flood	FPA	<p>Problem: The Town of Ashford is unaware of the location of the flood damage prevention ordinance.</p> <p>Solution: The town will adopt an updated flood damage prevention ordinance to maintain NFIP compliance.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed 2. The County has the local law stored. NYS DEC confirmed the copy was correct. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. The County has the local law stored. NYS DEC confirmed the copy was correct.
2020-Ashford-002	FPA Training	Flood	Administration	<p>Problem: Floodplain administration staff require additional training.</p> <p>Solution: The Town FPA and staff who assist with floodplain administration will attend trainings and workshops offered by FEMA and NYS to develop additional floodplain administration skills.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Progress 2. Searching for viable training opportunities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include 2. Not applicable 3. Not applicable
2020-Ashford-003	Wildfire Outreach	Wildfire	Administration	<p>Problem: Additional public education on wildfire risk is needed.</p> <p>Solution: The town will conduct outreach to residents, business owners, and organizations about what they can do to protect their structures from wildfires.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Progress 2. Outreach is conducted via social media and CODE RED phone alerts to inform public of NY burn ban and any additional wildfire potential outside of burn ban. Town will work to create materials containing mitigation measures residents and business owners can take. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include 2. Not applicable 3. Not applicable
2020-Ashford-004	Identification of Temporary and Permanent	All Hazards	Administration	<p>Problem: The Town of Ashford needs to identify locations for the placement of temporary housing and permanent housing.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No Progress 2. Town prioritized other projects 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include 2. Change to temporary sheltering 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 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.
	Housing Locations			Solution: The Town of Ashford will work with Cattaraugus County to identify regional locations for temporary and permanent housing.		
2020-Ashford-005	Zoning Ordinance	All Hazards	Administration	<p>Problem: The Town of Ashford lacks a zoning code. The Town Master Plan identifies the development of a zoning ordinance as a goal.</p> <p>Solution: The town will develop a zoning ordinance, using information from the hazard mitigation plan.</p>	<p>1. No Progress</p> <p>2. Town prioritized other projects</p>	<p>1. Include</p> <p>2. Not applicable</p> <p>3. Not applicable</p>
2020-Ashford-006	Emergency Operations Plan	All Hazards	OEM	<p>Problem: The Emergency Operations Plan requires update.</p> <p>Solution: The town will update the Emergency Operations Plan, using information collected during the hazard mitigation plan update.</p>	<p>1. No Progress</p> <p>2. Town prioritized other projects</p>	<p>1. Include</p> <p>2. Not applicable</p> <p>3. Not applicable</p>
2020-Ashford-007	Backup Power at Ashford Community Center	Utility Failure	Engineer, OEM, Highway	<p>Problem: The Ashford Community Center requires backup power. The Center serves as a shelter for students at West Valley Central. Critical facilities require backup power.</p> <p>Solution: The Town Engineer will research what size generator is necessary to supply backup power to the Ashford Community Center. The town will then install the backup power generator and necessary electrical components.</p>	<p>1. Completed</p> <p>2. Generator was installed</p>	<p>1. Discontinue</p> <p>2. Not applicable</p> <p>3. Generator was installed</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-Ashford-008	Backup Power at Highway Barn	Utility Failure	Engineer, OEM, Highway	<p>Problem: Critical facilities require backup power. The Highway Barn lacks a backup power source. Parents from the school depend on the Highway Barn for sheltering.</p> <p>Solution: The Town Engineer will research what size generator is necessary to supply backup power to the Highway Barn. The town will then install a backup power generator and necessary electrical components.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed 2. Generator was installed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discontinue 2. Not applicable 3. Generator was installed
2020-Ashford-009	Upsize Fox Valley Road Culvert	Flood, Severe Storm	Highway Department	<p>Problem: The culvert on Fox Valley Road near Stady is undersized.</p> <p>Solution: The Highway Department will replace the culvert with a larger sized culvert.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No Progress 2. Funding constraints 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include 2. Not applicable 3. Not applicable
2020-Ashford-010	Flood Mitigation in Ashford Triangle	Flood, Severe Storm	NFIP Floodplain Administrator, supported by homeowners	<p>Problem: Although the town has no repetitive loss properties, homes located in the Ashford triangle (between Route 240 and White Street) are prone to flooding during high water events.</p> <p>Solution: Conduct outreach to 30 flood-prone property owners and provide information on mitigation alternatives. After preferred mitigation measures are identified, collect required property-owner information and develop a FEMA grant application and BCA to obtain funding to implement acquisition/purchase/moving/elevating residential homes in the flood prone areas</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No Progress 2. Homeowners are unwilling to relocate/sell 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include 2. Not applicable 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 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.
				that experience frequent flooding (high risk areas).		
2020-Ashford-011	Comsourally Road Erosion Protection	Severe Storm, Landslide	Engineer, Highway Department	<p>Problem: Comsourally Road has a history of erosion which threatens the roadway during storm events.</p> <p>Solution: The Town Engineer will conduct an engineering study to determine the causes of erosion and the most cost-effective mitigation actions to prevent future erosion events. The Highway Department will conduct the identified roadway improvements.</p>	1. No Progress 2. Funding constraints	1. Include 2. Not applicable 3. Not applicable
2020-Ashford-012	Landslide Study	Landslide	Engineer	<p>Problem: Numerous town roads are exposed to landslide.</p> <p>Solution: The Town Engineer will conduct an assessment to determine the extent of the landslide risk and potential mitigation actions that can be put in place. The Highway Department will conduct cost effective mitigation actions once identified.</p>	1. In Progress 2. FEMA funding acquired to develop mitigation strategies	1. Include 2. Not applicable 3. Not applicable



5.7.3 Proposed Hazard Mitigation Actions for the HMP Update

Ashford 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 Ashford 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 5-18 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 5-19 provides a summary of the prioritization of all proposed mitigation actions for the HMP update.



Table 5-18. 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					X
Flood	X	X		X	X		X		X	X
Landslide	X	X			X					X
Pandemic	X			X			X			X
Severe Storm	X	X			X				X	X
Severe Winter Storm	X	X			X				X	X
Utility Failure	X								X	X
Wildfire	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 5-19. 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-AshfordT-01	Floodplain Management Training	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	11	High
2025-AshfordT-02	Wildfire Education and Outreach	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	11	High
2025-AshfordT-03	Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Update	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	12	High
2025-AshfordT-04	Temporary Sheltering	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-AshfordT-05	Substantial Damage Management Plan	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	13	High
2025-AshfordT-06	Pandemic Education and Outreach	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	11	High
2025-AshfordT-07	Dam Owner Partnership	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-AshfordT-08	Steep Slope Ordinance	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	10	Medium
2025-AshfordT-09	Floodprone Roads	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	12	High
2025-AshfordT-10	Zoning Code Development	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	12	High
2025-AshfordT-11	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Update	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	11	High
2025-AshfordT-12	Undersized Culverts	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	High
2025-AshfordT-13	Comsourally Road Erosion	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	12	High
2025-AshfordT-14	Bridge Evaluations	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	11	High



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-AshfordT-15	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-AshfordT-01. 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 (https://www.floods.org/) 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:	Action		Evaluation
	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-AshfordT-02. 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-AshfordT-03. 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-AshfordT-04. Temporary Sheltering

Lead Agency:	Town Supervisor		
Supporting Agencies:	Town Board, Cattaraugus County Office of Emergency Services, Neighboring Jurisdictions, American Red Cross		
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	Following emergency events, individuals may be unable to stay in their places of residence due to storm damages. Flooding from dam and levee failures can cause residences to become uninhabitable; wildfires and landslides can compromise the integrity of the structure; and severe storms and severe winter storms can lead to utility failures. The Town needs to identify locations for the placement of temporary sheltering. The Town will investigate the use of the school, highway garage, and local churches as potential locations.		
Description of the Solution:	The Town Supervisor will lead efforts to identify a suitable location to temporarily relocate residents or visitors in need of temporary sheltering. The Town will consider options to partner with neighboring jurisdictions for a regional location. The Town will contact the Cattaraugus County Office of Emergency Services for assistance as needed to identify a suitable, approved location.		
Estimated Cost:	Medium		
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget, County Budget, Neighboring Jurisdictions, American Red Cross, HSGP		
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years		
Goals Met:	1, 2, 4, 6		
Benefits:	Providing a safe, climate-controlled location for individuals in need following an emergency can provide a sense of gratitude and normalcy to an otherwise negative event. Removing individuals from at-risk locations and offering a temporary locations for impacted persons to gather, increases the safety of the overall community.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Socially vulnerable populations are often the most risk during emergencies and disaster events. Offering a safe location for these populations can ensure their health is looked after and they are removed from harm's way.		
Impact on Future Development:	The temporary sheltering facility will be able to support population increases brought in from potential future development.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action would create, or expand on already existing, critical facilities, as sheltering locations are critical facilities.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will create a new capability of the Town by offering a resource for its visitors and residents to utilize should they be in need of temporary sheltering.		
Climate Change Considerations:	The changing climate may lead to the Town, its residents, and visitors being exposed to hazards more frequently. Extreme temperatures have occurred more often in recent years which lead to drought; heavier rainfalls during severe storms have increased the occurrence of flooding. A temporary sheltering facility can provide a safe location for impacted individuals.		
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Low
Alternatives:	Action		Evaluation
	No Action		Current problem exists
	Utilize County facilities		May require signed agreements; reliant on County opening facilities
	Utilize American Red Cross facilities		Reliant on American Red Cross opening a facility



Action 2025-AshfordT-05. Substantial Damage Management Plan

Lead Agency:	Highway Department	
Supporting Agencies:	Code Enforcement, 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	<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"> 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. <p>The Town 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>	
Description of the Solution:	<p>The Town will develop a Substantial Damage Management Plan, following the six-step planning process in 2021 Developing a Substantial Damage Management Plan (https://crsresources.org/files/500/developing_subst_damage_mgmt_plan.pdf). This plan will outline responsibilities for Substantial Damage determinations, determining market value, and permit approval processes following a disaster event.</p>	
Estimated Cost:	Low	
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 3 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 4	
Benefits:	This action will provide a guidance document to determine substantial damage in the Town.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Socially vulnerable populations may disproportionately be impacted by substantial damages.	
Impact on Future Development:	Not applicable	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Not applicable	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will produce substantial damage guidance for Town officials to use.	
Climate Change Considerations:	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.	
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
	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-AshfordT-06. 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-AshfordT-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 within 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
Alternatives:	Action	
	No Action	
	Utilize information from NYS DEC	
	Utilize information from the National Inventory of Dams	
	Evaluation	
	Town will be unaware of any safety concerns for the dam or its condition	
	Owners may not be required to submit a safety plan to the State	
	Not all dams are listed on the inventory	



Action 2025-AshfordT-08. Steep Slope Ordinance

Lead Agency:	Code Enforcement	
Supporting Agencies:	Engineering, Town Board	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Flood <input checked="" 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:	Landslide events are often driven by hazards such as heavy rain events, flooding, heavy snowmelt, and wildfires. Landslides can destroy the natural and built environments, causing detriment to the structures in its path. Although numerous Town roads are exposed to the landslide hazard, there is not an inventory of these roads which may be impacted by landslides, nor is there a local law restricting construction on areas with steep slopes.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town Engineer will complete an assessment to identify roads in Town which have slopes at grades greater than 20 percent. Once identified, Code Enforcement will work with Engineering and the Town Board to develop a local law restricting future development in these identified hazard areas.	
Estimated Cost:	Medium	
Potential Funding Sources:	FEMA HMA, Town Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	3 years	
Goals Met:	1, 4, 6	
Benefits:	This action will identify locations with steep grades (above 20 percent) and lead to the adoption of a local law to restrict future development in these hazard areas. Furthermore, the identification of the locations with the steep grades will provide the Highway Department and Engineer with future locations to implement mitigation measures to protect any nearby property and infrastructure.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	This action may identify socially vulnerable populations whose properties may be at risk to the landslide hazard. If identified, the Town may educate the populations on how to mitigate potential risks.	
Impact on Future Development:	Future development will be restricted in locations with identified steep slopes.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action has the potential to identify measures to protect infrastructure in the transportation lifeline, which will lead to the assurance of clear roadways for evacuations, regular travel, and emergency responses.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action improves the Town's regulatory capabilities.	
Climate Change Considerations:	A warmer atmosphere means storms have the potential to be more intense and occur more often, including increased periods of intense rain events. Saturated soils can lead to an increased possibility of landslide occurrences. Conversely, drier summer conditions may fuel wildfires, leading to unstable soils and resulting in landslide occurrences.	
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 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 type="checkbox"/> High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medium
Alternatives:	Action	
	No Action	
	Restrict development on slopes greater than 5 percent grade	May be too restrictive and discourage any future development
	Create inventory but do not develop local law	Would not restrict future development, could increase at risk properties and structures



Action 2025-AshfordT-09. Floodprone Roads

Lead Agency:	Highway Department		
Supporting Agencies:	Code Enforcement, Engineering		
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 type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	<p>Flood prone roads not only interrupt the movement of persons and goods but can lead to isolation issues where first responders are unable to reach their destination and cause evacuation routes to be inaccessible. Flooded road ways may be caused by debris in culverts from severe storms and severe winter storms. Roads in the Ashford Triangle (between Route 240 and White Street) may benefit from flood mitigation strategies, such as the elevation of the roadways or the hardening of the infrastructure surrounding them to reduce likelihood of flooding. Although the town has no repetitive loss properties, homes located in this area are prone to flooding during high water events.</p>		
Description of the Solution:	<p>The Town will develop specific mitigation solutions for flood-prone road systems after conducting a flood study. Possible solutions may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevation of roadways • Installation or improvement of drainage systems • Regrading of roadway and soils • Resurfacing or reshaping roadways <p>The Town will conduct outreach to properties within the vicinity of the Ashford Triangle to provide information on flood mitigation methods, including structural elevation and property acquisition.</p>		
Estimated Cost:	TBD after mitigation technique is chosen		
Potential Funding Sources:	FEMA HMA, Town Budget, CHIPS		
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years		
Goals Met:	1		
Benefits:	This action will identify measures to protect infrastructure in the transportation lifeline, which will lead to the assurance of clear roadways for evacuations, regular travel, and emergency responses.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	This action will assist socially vulnerable populations whose properties are impacted by flooding along flood-prone roads.		
Impact on Future Development:	Future development in the impacted area will be less likely to be flooded.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action will identify measures to protect infrastructure in the transportation lifeline, which will lead to the assurance of clear roadways for evacuations, regular travel, and emergency responses.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action improves the Town's reliability in terms of transportation.		
Climate Change Considerations:	A warmer atmosphere means storms have the potential to be more intense and occur more often, including increased periods of intense rain 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 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
	Relocate all flood-prone road system		Not feasible
	Raise all flood prone roads		Cost prohibitive



Action 2025-AshfordT-10. Zoning Code Development

Lead Agency:	Town Board	
Supporting Agencies:	Code Enforcement	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood <input checked="" 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 of Ashford lacks a zoning code. The Town Master Plan identifies the development of a zoning ordinance as a goal. A zoning code regulates the built environment, outlining allowed building uses, densities, sizes, and other associated characteristics. As a result, incorporating hazard mitigation principles into the zoning code can help jurisdictions ensure that their communities are more resilient.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town will develop a zoning code, using information from the hazard mitigation plan and the appropriate under the provisions of § 263 of the Town Law of the State of New York.	
Estimated Cost:	Low	
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 4, 6	
Benefits:	The zoning code will regulate the built environment, outlining allowed building uses, densities, sizes, and other associated characteristics. As a result, incorporating hazard mitigation principles into the zoning code can help jurisdictions ensure that their communities are more resilient.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	A zoning code can restrict development within various hazard areas, including those within flood-prone areas and locations with a higher risk to landslides. This restriction can result in increased safety to the populations which would otherwise build in these areas.	
Impact on Future Development:	The development and adoption of a zoning code can prevent or restrict future development in hazard areas, reducing risk to persons, property, and the environment.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	Zoning codes can assist in outlining the development of an area which can assist when identifying response areas in the safety and security lifeline and evacuation priority areas within the transportation lifeline.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will create a new comprehensive capability for the Town.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to result in more frequent and severe rainfall events, potentially leading to an increase in the occurrence of flooding conditions and landslides. The development and adoption of a zoning code can prevent or restrict future development in hazard areas, reducing risk to persons, property, and the environment.	
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
Alternatives:	Action	
	No Action	
	Create code without following State provisions	
	Create code without incorporating hazard mitigation principles	
Evaluation		
Current problem exists		
May not reach standards		
May not promote resiliency as much as possible		



Action 2025-AshfordT-11. Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Update

Lead Agency:	Town Board	
Supporting Agencies:	Cattaraugus Office of Emergency Services	
Hazard(s) of Concern:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dam and Levee Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landslide <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pandemic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utility Failure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wildfire
Description of the Problem:	The Town has an outdated Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). Hazard mitigation principles need to be integrated into the CEMP. A CEMP establishes the overall authority, roles, and functions performed during incidents. Incorporating hazard mitigation principles into a CEMP ensures hazard risk is identified.	
Description of the Solution:	The Town will update the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), with support from the Cattaraugus Office of Emergency Services. The CEMP will integrate hazard mitigation principles into its contents, including addresses capabilities related to reduce the risk to the identified hazards of concern identified with this Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Town will send the CEMP to the County for review, followed by a State review.	
Estimated Cost:	Low	
Potential Funding Sources:	Town Budget, EMPG	
Implementation Timeline:	3 years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 4, 5	
Benefits:	The CEMP details what the Town will do during a disaster (incident command implementation, command center location and activities, specific plans by department, etc.). The creation of a CEMP will permit the Town to integrate new plans, policies, capabilities, and hazard assessments.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The section overview portion of the CEMP covers a discussion of a variety of topics, including population distribution and locations, including any concentrated populations of individuals with disabilities, others with access and functional needs, or individuals with limited English proficiency.	
Impact on Future Development:	Future development will be protected by the actions which the Town performs following the CEMP.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	The section overview portion of the CEMP covers a discussion of a variety of topics, including vulnerable critical facilities (e.g. nursing homes, schools, hospitals, infrastructure).	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action will update a planning and response capability for the Town.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change may result in an increase in the frequency and severity of weather-related disaster events. As impacts from climate change are increasingly felt, the contents in an CEMP, including in the basic plan and any annexes, may need to be updated.	
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 <input type="checkbox"/> Low
Alternatives:	Action	Evaluation
	No Action	Current problem exists
	Integrate hazard mitigation principles in only hazard appendices	The plan will miss integration opportunities in the basic plan and annexes
	Ask County to integrate hazard mitigation into the County CEMP	Town CEMP will remain undeveloped



Action 2025-AshfordT-12. Undersized Culverts

Lead Agency:	Highway		
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 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 culvert on Fox Valley Road 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 culverts in Town that are undersized and contribute to flooding to determine the proper size necessary to provide stormwater capacity. The Town Highway Department will complete the necessary upsizing for the culverts.		
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-AshfordT-13. Comsourally Road Erosion

Lead Agency:	Highway Department		
Supporting Agencies:	Code Enforcement, Engineering		
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:	Comsourally Road has been eroded due to floodwaters stemming from severe storms and melted snow from severe winter storms. The Town must identify and implement erosion-reducing measures.		
Description of the Solution:	The Town Engineer and Highway Department will identify and implement erosion-reducing measures. These measures may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elevating the roadway • Improving drainage • Strengthening underlying soils • Realigning roads and structures • Strengthening support structures • Armoring vulnerable embankments 		
Estimated Cost:	High		
Potential Funding Sources:	FEMA HMA, Town Budget, CHIPS		
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 years		
Goals Met:	1		
Benefits:	This action will identify measures to protect infrastructure in the transportation lifeline, which will lead to the assurance of clear roadways for evacuations, regular travel, and emergency responses.		
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	This action will assist socially vulnerable populations whose properties are impacted by flooding along eroded and flood-prone roads.		
Impact on Future Development:	Future development in the impacted area will be less likely to be flooded.		
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action will identify measures to protect infrastructure in the transportation lifeline, which will lead to the assurance of clear roadways for evacuations, regular travel, and emergency responses.		
Impact on Capabilities:	This action improves the Town's reliability in terms of transportation.		
Climate Change Considerations:	A warmer atmosphere means storms have the potential to be more intense and occur more often, including increased periods of intense rain events. This action will mitigate erosion along roadways and reduce likelihood of flooding impacts.		
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 ditches from roadways		Would likely increase flood risk
	Pave all roads with permeable surfaces		Cost prohibitive



Action 2025-AshfordT-14. 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"> • Ashford 02 • Ashford 03 • Ashford 30 • Ashford 33 • Ashford 37 • East Otto 05 		
Description of the Solution:	<p>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.</p>		
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-AshfordT-15. 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	