

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE ANNEX FOR THE TOWN OF FRANKLIN

**Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments
Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of Annex

The purpose of this HMP annex is to provide an update to the natural hazard risk assessment and capability assessment provided in the previous HMP, and to evaluate potential hazard mitigation measures and prioritize natural mitigation projects specific to mitigating the effects of natural hazards on the town of Franklin. Background information and the regional effects of pertinent natural hazards are discussed in the main body of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Thus, this annex is designed to supplement the information presented in the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP with more specific detail for Franklin and is not to be considered a standalone document.

The primary goal of this hazard mitigation plan annex is to identify particular vulnerability to natural hazards and potential mitigation measures for such natural hazards in order to ***reduce the loss of or damage to life, property, infrastructure, and natural, cultural, and economic resources***. This includes the reduction of public and private damage costs. Limiting losses of and damage to life and property will also reduce the social, emotional, and economic disruption associated with a natural disaster. Franklin, with an approved Mitigation Plan, may apply for assistance from FEMA directly as a subgrantee through the state of Connecticut under the various grant programs.

1.2 Setting

Franklin was originally referred to as the "West Farms" section of Norwich. The first permanent settler, John Ayer, arrived in Franklin in 1663. The area remained known as such until the first book of town records which states that the first town meeting was held on June 20, 1786. The town is 12,590 acres (19.67 square miles) in size and lies on the northern border of New London County. Franklin borders Windham (north), Lebanon (west), Bozrah (south), Norwich (southeast), and Sprague (east). The most significant surface water bodies include a small portion of the Yantic River lies in the extreme southern end of town and the Susquetonscut Brook which flows northwest-southeast across the southwestern portion of town. The three major transportation routes through town consist of Routes 32, 87 and 207.

1.3 Plan Development

The 2005 HMP and its annexes were developed through a series of meetings and the completion of written questionnaires, personal interviews, and workshops as described in the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP update. Since that time, the HMP has been available in municipal offices and available to emergency personnel. Residents were encouraged to contact the First Selectman or the Deputy Fire Marshall/Director of Civil Preparedness with any concerns regarding emergency response or potential projects related to natural hazard damage.

Based on the existing plan, existing information, and hazards that have occurred since 2005, SCCOG determined that the following data collection program would be sufficient to collect data to update the Multi-Jurisdictional plan and each annex.

- The SCCOG issued a press release on November 20, 2011 announcing a public information meeting on the multi-jurisdictional HMP update. This press release was published in the

Norwich Bulletin and The Day. This notice was also posted on the SCCOG website. The public information meeting was held on December 13, 2011 at the SCCOG office.

- ❑ A data collection meeting was held with the First Selectman on January 19, 2012 to discuss the scope and process for updating the plan and to collect information. The First Selectman coordinated the local planning team which included the Director of Emergency Management. The meeting focused on reviewing each section of the existing hazard mitigation plan and annex, critical facilities, and various types of hazards that have affected Franklin and that should be addressed in the update.
- ❑ The draft that is sent for State review will be posted on the town website (www.franklinct.com) as well as the SCCOG website (www.seccog.org) for public review and comment. In addition, a hard copy will be made available in the SCCOG office in Norwich. A press release will announce the availability of the HMP for review. This will provide residents, tribal members, and other stakeholders throughout the SCCOG region the opportunity to review and comment on a relatively complete draft with all annexes. Comments received from the public will be incorporated into the final draft where applicable following State and Federal comments.

The adoption of this HMP update by Franklin will be coordinated by SCCOG and the First Selectman. The HMP update must be adopted within one year of conditional approval by FEMA, or Franklin will need to update the HMP and resubmit it to FEMA for review. The adoption resolution is located in Appendix A of this annex.

1.4 Progress Monitoring

Following adoption, the First Selectman will continue to administer this HMP (as he has since 2005) under the authority of the Town of Franklin and will be the local coordinator of the HMP. The First Selectman will coordinate with responsible departments as listed in Table 11-1 and ensure that the recommendations of this HMP are considered or enacted. Refer to Section 1.8 of the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP for a description of how the local coordinator will perform progress monitoring. The majority of recommendations in this annex can be accomplished within or with only a slight increase in the operating budgets of the various departments. Projects that require capital improvements or additional funding will need to be approved by Franklin's Board of Selectmen.

Franklin plans to have the HMP on file in Town Hall, available to all departments, providing a valuable resource in making growth decisions. See Section 2.5 for recommendations related to integrating the findings of this HMP into town planning documents. Franklin will continue to encourage town residents to contact the First Selectman's Office or the Department of Public Works with concerns related to natural hazards via the town's website and in applicable municipal offices as often as possible. Such announcements will also state that the HMP is available for public review at the Janet Carlson Calvert Library and Town Hall. This level of public coordination is believed sufficient given the relatively disaster-resilient nature of the town and the relatively low number of residents.

The Franklin First Selectman will review the status of plan recommendations each year. The First Selectman will be in charge of overseeing recommended projects and coordinating an annual meeting with applicable departments (those listed in Table 11-1) and other interested

departments. Refer to Section 1.8 of the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP for a list of matters to be discussed at the annual meeting, including a review of each recommendation and progress achieved to date, or reasons for why the recommendation has not been enacted. The First Selectman's Office will keep a written record of meeting minutes and the status of the recommendations. These records of progress monitoring will form the basis for the next HMP update.

The Town of Franklin understands that the multi-jurisdictional HMP and this annex will be effective for five years from the date of FEMA approval of the first SCCOG jurisdiction regardless of the date of adoption by SCCOG. The First Selectman's Office will coordinate with SCCOG for the next HMP update which is expected to occur in 2016-2017.

2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE

2.1 Physical Setting

The Town of Franklin is approximately 20 square miles in area and is located in north central New London County, approximately 40 miles southeast of the City of Hartford. Franklin is bordered by the Town of Sprague to the east, the City of Norwich to the southeast, the Town of Bozrah to the southwest, and the Town of Lebanon to the west.

Franklin is a rural community with a 2010 U.S. Census population of 1,922. The community is spread out over a large area of land. The Franklin Swamp Wildlife Management Area, which is just over 680 acres of open space dedicated to wildlife preservation, is located in the center of town. There are several ponds in Franklin including Gagers Pond, Mahoney Pond, and Kahn Pond. The two major rivers in town are the Yantic River and the Susquetonscut River. The Yantic River flows for approximately 850 feet from west to east crossing the southern tip of Franklin, while the Susquetonscut River flows from northwest to southeast across the southeast portion of town.

Franklin contains various bedrock types, which lie in fairly diagonal bands having a generally northeast-southwest orientation. There are no known faults in Franklin. Bedrock geology across the town has two major formations: Scotland Schist and Hebron Gneiss. The third largest formation is Canterbury Gneiss, while Lebanon Gabbro, the Yantic Member of Tatnic Hill, and the Quartzite Unit in Scotland Schist complete the bedrock formations in town. The predominant formations are described below:

- ❑ Scotland Schist: Consists of gray to silvery, locally rusty, fine- to medium-grained schist;
- ❑ Hebron Gneiss: Consists of interlayered dark-gray schist and greenish gray, fine- to medium-grained calc-silicate gneiss;
- ❑ Canterbury Gneiss: Consists of light grey, medium-grained, variably foliated, locally strong lineated gneiss.

In respect to Franklin's surficial geology, the town is covered primarily by glacial till. Till contains an unsorted mixture of clay, silt, sand, gravel, and boulders deposited by glaciers as a ground moraine. The remaining portions of Franklin are covered by swamp, sand and gravel, and alluvium associated with floodplains and watercourses throughout the town. The amount of stratified drift present in the town is important as areas of stratified materials are generally coincident with floodplains. These materials were deposited at lower elevations by glacial streams, and these valleys were later inherited by the larger of our present day streams and rivers. Even smaller watercourses with glacial till surficial material can cause flooding.

2.2 Land Use and Development Trends

According to the University of Connecticut Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR), land use in Franklin includes but is not limited to agriculture, deciduous and coniferous forests, forested and non-forested wetland, turf and grass and other grasses, barren land, agriculture, open water, utility ROWs, and developed land cover. The majority of town is covered by either deciduous or coniferous forest.

Franklin is currently a rural town characterized by a slightly increasing population since the advent of the Connecticut Turnpike (I-95) in 1956. Both residential and commercial development increased following the establishment of Route 2 and I-395. One of the largest employers in Franklin up until very recently was Franklin Mushroom Farms, but the business has closed and the building is in poor condition. Several large agricultural and nursery employers operate in the town. The New England Central Railroad runs through Franklin linking freight service to Montreal, Canada.

The continued expansion of the Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun Casinos to the southeast has contributed to a slight increase in residential development, while easy access to Route 2 places Franklin within commuting distance from Hartford. While most of the Town does not have access to water and sewer service, expansion of water and sewer service is being considered in the south end of town where existing service is provided by Norwich Public Utilities.

Since the last HMP was adopted, a significant proposal has been advanced in the Town of Franklin. The proposal consists of two mixed-use projects. "Franklin Hills Estates and Country Club" is made up of approximately 337 acres of land and extends east of Route 32. This site is zoned Planned Recreational Development District which allows for a golf course community. "Poppins Hills" extends west from Route 32 and is made up of approximately 274 acres with plans to acquire additional acreage totaling 311 acres.

The Franklin Hills and Poppins Hills project collectively includes a golf courses and golf course clubhouse (200 seats); 250-unit hotel; health spa; beauty salon; 120 condominium units; and an active adult community of 800 residential units, a community center, a 3,000 square foot bank, a 3,000 square foot pharmacy, and a 2,000 square foot convenience store. Build-out of the project is expected over the next five years. Although construction has not yet begun in either of the two developments, the situation demonstrates that the Town of Franklin is potentially poised for significant growth relative to its current rural population.

2.3 Drainage Basins and Hydrology

Franklin drains to two regional basins; the Shetucket and Yantic Rivers. The town is divided among five sub-regional basins: Beaver Brook, Pease Brook, Shetucket River, Susquetonscut Brook and Yantic River. All drainage basins eventually drain to the Thames River via the Shetucket or Yantic Rivers. The Thames River flows to New London and Groton, which flank its mouth at the Long Island Sound.

The Shetucket River and Beaver Brook regional basins drain either directly or ultimately to the Shetucket River regional basin, while the Pease Brook, Susquetonscut Brook, and Yantic River basins drain either directly or eventually to the Yantic River.

Gagers Pond is a large impoundment located at the north-central section of Franklin. The pond is an impoundment of Beaver Brook created by the Gagers Pond Dam. Beaver Brook flows from the southeast end of the pond in an easterly direction, crossing under Route 207 four times before entering the adjacent Town of Sprague. Several tributaries discharge to Beaver Brook within the town, including Bailey Brook, Ayers Brook, Mountain Brook (the outflow of the Mahoney Pond Dam), and Bellow Brook.

2.4 Governmental Structure

Franklin is governed by a Town Meeting and Board of Selectmen form of government. The Town Meeting is the legislative body of the Franklin and the Board of Selectmen is responsible for the administration of town policies. The authority of town officials is granted by Connecticut General Statutes. Various Boards and Commissions are composed of elected and appointed officials who supervise, manage and organize the diverse functions of local government.

Many municipal departments, commissions, and boards are involved with hazard mitigation. The various town departments, boards and commissions which play a role in the implementation of this plan include:

- First Selectman
- Wetlands Enforcement Officer/Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission
- Zoning Enforcement Officer/Planning & Zoning Commission
- Recreation Commission
- Building Official
- Director of Health
- Public Works Department
- Emergency Management Office
- Representative to the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority
- Agriculture and Conservation Commission
- Fire Department

The following subsections describe general departmental responsibilities, and duties related to hazard mitigation. Where applicable, one or more of the six types of mitigation (prevention, property protection, natural resource protection, structural projects, emergency services, and public education) are identified as relevant for each department.

First Selectman

It is the First Selectman's duty to ensure that the town's residents and business people are safe. The First Selectman is the Local Coordinator of the subject Plan. The First Selectman is charged with the duty of maintaining, updating and coordinating any changes to the subject Plan.

Wetlands Enforcement Officer/Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

The Wetlands Enforcement Officer enforces the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations.

Zoning Enforcement Officer/Planning & Zoning Commission

The Zoning Enforcement Officer enforces the local zoning and subdivision regulations, provides staff assistance to the Planning and Zoning Commission, and performs long-term planning activities related to land use and community development.

The Zoning Enforcement Officer provides assistance to the Health Department and Building Department and is responsible for housing and economic development planning. The Zoning Enforcement Officer enforces the zoning regulations.

Because the Zoning Enforcement Officer assists the applicable commissions with administration of the Zoning Regulations, Subdivision Regulations, and Inland Wetland Regulations, the department is responsible for elements of almost all six facets of mitigation (prevention, property protection, natural resource protection, structural projects, emergency services, and public education).

Recreation Commission

The Recreation Commission is involved in the planning and upkeep associated with the recreation areas in town. The members work alongside many other departments in regards to different topics relative to recreational sites.

Building Official

The Building Official administers Franklin's building inspection program adhering to and enforcing all code requirements of the State of Connecticut relating to building construction. Additional responsibilities include administering and enforcing all related state codes for the safety, health, and welfare of persons and properties in town, supervising departmental policies and procedures, and providing technical assistance to town officials.

The Building Official has a unique responsibility when it comes to hazard mitigation as he or she is responsible for overseeing a number of codes such as those related to wind damage prevention as well as those related to flood damage prevention. Although other departments and commissions may review development plans and develop or revise regulations, many important types of pre-disaster mitigation are funneled through and enforced by the Building Department. For example, the Building Department enforces A-zone standards for floodproof construction and building elevations, maintains elevation certificates, and enforces building codes that protect against wind and fire damage. Thus, the types of mitigation that are administered by the Building Department include prevention and property protection.

The primary role of the Building Department during disaster situations is to provide damage assessment, inspect damaged buildings and issue permits for temporary structures and actions necessary to maintain safety standards.

Director of Health

The Director of Health works alongside the Building Official and other employees to maintain high quality of health in town.

Public Works Department

Franklin has a Public Works Department whose responsibilities include construction and maintenance of roadways, sidewalks, and drainage systems; maintenance of all parks and school properties; street sweeping, sanding, and snow removal; the preservation, care and removal of trees within the Franklin's rights-of-way and/or public places; and maintenance of town vehicles and equipment.

As is common throughout Connecticut, Public Works Departments are often charged with implementing numerous structural projects that are related to hazard mitigation. Specifically,

roadway/infrastructure maintenance and complaint logging/tracking are the two primary duties of the Public Work Department. For example, the Public Works Department tracks, plans, prepares for, and responds to flooding, inundation, and/or erosion of roads and infrastructure such as the sewer pumping station and the wastewater treatment plants. The Public Works Department also conducts snow removal and deicing on roads; tree and tree limb removal in rights-of-way; and maintains and upgrades storm drainage systems to prevent flooding caused by rainfall.

Because of the duties described above, the Public Works Department is often the de facto first responder during emergencies. The Public Works Department must maintain access prior to and throughout events to provide the Police and Fire Departments proper egress to respond to emergencies.

Emergency Management Office

The mission of the Emergency Management Office is to maximize survival of people, prevent and/or minimize injuries, and preserve property and resources in Franklin by making use of all available manpower, equipment, and other resources in the event of natural or technological disasters or national security threats. In addition to coordinating activities during disasters, the Emergency Management Office coordinates all early warning activities and is involved in educating the public on how to react during emergency situations. The Franklin Fire Department plays a vital role in assisting the Emergency Management Office with coordination of emergency activities.

Franklin is registered with the State of Connecticut's Alerts "Everbridge" System. The system uses the state's Enhanced 9-1-1 database for location-based notification to the public for life-threatening emergencies. The Town encourages residents to submit their contact information such that they can be notified in case of an emergency.

Department of Fire – Rescue – EMS

The Franklin Volunteer Fire Department provides fire emergency and rescue services. The Fire Department is the primary agency involved with hazard mitigation through emergency services and public education.

Police Department

The town does not have a police department or a resident state trooper. When police services are needed, they contact the Connecticut State Police Troop K in the Town of Colchester. Colchester is located two towns to the west of Franklin at a driving distance of approximately 15 miles. Duties related to natural hazard mitigation include planning and coordination of personnel, equipment, shelters, and other resources necessary during an emergency. The types of mitigation that are directly administered by the police include mainly emergency services and public education. Communication and coordination with the Fire Department is critical before, during, and after natural hazard emergencies. The town must work closely with State Police Troop K to ensure that, in the event of a natural disaster, their involvement in preparation and involvement throughout the event is fully understood by both parties.

Additional Groups

In addition to town offices, the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army provide services related to mitigation and emergency management. The American Red Cross and the Salvation Army help provide shelter and vital services during disasters and participates in public education activities.

2.5 Review of Existing Plans and Regulations

Franklin has several sets of plans and regulations that address elements of hazard mitigation and disaster preparedness.

Plan of Conservation and Development – The Town is currently updating its Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). All open space plans are part of this document. The document also includes language regarding flooding, steep slopes, and drainage design.

Emergency Operations Plan – Franklin has an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) that is updated annually which includes a flooding section. The EOP is signed by the Town Selectman, approved by the Board of Selectman and extends the duties and powers of the First Selectman and/or his designee in the event of a declared emergency. In the event of an emergency the public will be notified and kept informed as events unfold and situations change.

Franklin Elementary School Snow Removal Plan – Snowload became a serious issue during the intense snow storms in January and February of 2011. In response, Franklin developed a Snow Removal Plan to prohibit damage to the school.

Zoning and Subdivision Regulations – Hazard prevention includes identification of risks and the use of land-use regulatory and other available management tools to prevent future damage. The Town of Franklin has planning and zoning tools in place that incorporate floodplain management. The town's planning and zoning regulations and the building department's enforcement of the Connecticut Basic Building Code are all important existing regulatory mechanisms that address hazard prevention and incorporate floodplain management. Flood damage prevention is covered by Section 9.14, "Special Flood Hazard Area Requirements" of Franklin's *Regulation Book* (June, 2008). This section is the town's articulation of the NFIP regulations. Stormwater requirements are enumerated in Section 11.5 entitled "Drainage." The stormwater regulations provide required design practices and technical standards for drainage system networks in regards to site development within town.

Wetland Regulations – The town's inland wetlands and watercourses regulations are important regulatory mechanisms that addressed hazard prevention and incorporate floodplain management. Franklin's regulations regarding the protection of wetland and watercourses which describes regulated a "regulated activity" in Section 2. Largely, a regulated activity is described as "removal or deposition of material, or any obstruction, construction, alteration or pollution, of such wetlands or water course, or within 50' of wetlands or watercourses...", not including activities described in Section 4 of the *Regulation Book*.

Franklin also has a tree warden and a limited budget for annual tree trimming (\$3,000). The town trims a few roads each year, while the electric utility, Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P) trims trees along power lines.

2.6 Critical Facilities, Sheltering Capacity, and Evacuation

The Town considers that several categories of facilities are critical for these are needed to ensure that emergencies are addressed while day-to-day management of the community continues. In addition, locations with populations that may be at additional risk during an emergency are also considered to be critical. Critical facilities are presented on figures throughout this annex and summarized in Table 2-1. A few notable categories of critical facilities are discussed below.

**TABLE 2-1
Critical Facilities**

Facility	Address or Location	Emergency Power Supply?	Shelter?	In Floodplain?
<i>Emergency Services</i>				
Volunteer Fire Department	5 Tyler Drive	Yes	Yes	No
<i>Municipal Facilities</i>				
Town Hall	7 Meetinghouse Hill	Yes	Yes	No
Public Works Town Garage	171 Pond Road	No	No	No
Shelter: Franklin Elem. School	206 Pond Road	No	Yes	No
<i>Health Care / Senior Living</i>				
Elisha Brook (elderly housing)	56 New Park Ave	No	No	No
Private Group Home	Route 32	No	No	No
State Group Home	Old Route 87	Yes	No	No
Holton Road Group Home (State)	86 Holton Road	Yes	No	No
<i>Other Infrastructure / Facilities</i>				
Norwich Orthopedic Group	82 New Park Avenue	No	No	No
A B C's & 123's LLC	79 Connecticut 32	No	No	No
Reach For the Stars Learning	841 Route 32 # 1	No	No	No

Fire Department Facilities

Franklin has one Volunteer Fire Department Station. The station is staffed completely by volunteer firefighters and is equipped with a generator. Additionally, the building has shower facilities. Recently, it was utilized as a washing and charging station following Tropical Storm Irene and Winter Storm Alfred. The Volunteer Fire Department is located at 5 Tyler Drive. Although the fire station is located near a tributary to Gagers Pond, it is not located in a special flood hazard area.

Municipal Facilities

The Town Hall, located at 7 Meeting House Hill Road is the EOC, which is the most secure town-owned building and is equipped with a generator. Franklin recently upgraded its radio system, which has portable, vehicular, and base radios which are used at/by the Town Hall, the Fire Department, and the Public Works Department. Franklin can also communicate with several of its neighboring towns on the system. The radio base station is at Town Hall.

Shelters

Emergency shelters are considered to be an important subset of critical facilities as they are needed in emergency situations. These are not to be confused with safe rooms or individual storm shelters, such as designated rooms in certain buildings that are meant to provide increased levels of protection from winds. A primary shelter should have the ability to operate with a standby source of power such as an emergency generator. While FEMA's mitigation programs are not able to fund generators, other funding programs are available for purchase of generators. The most notable example is the "Emergency Operations Center and Emergency Shelter Generator Grant Program" administered by Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS). This program specifically targets emergency operations centers and shelters, and awards can only be made for municipal facilities.

As noted in the Town's EOP, the Fire Department, the Town Hall, and the Elementary School have been designated as the primary, secondary, and backup shelters, respectively, in Franklin. None of these facilities have been certified by the American Red Cross (ARC). Currently, the Elementary School does not have a generator. The sheltering capacity of Town Hall (103 seated) and the Fire Department (214 seated) are considerably less than the Elementary School. Franklin should make it a priority to acquire a generator for the Elementary School and certify at least one of the shelter facilities with the ARC.

Communications

The town conducts an ongoing evaluation to its emergency communication capabilities alongside its annual EOP update. The town recently upgraded its portable radios, giving Franklin interdepartmental and inter-municipal communication capability. Additionally, the town is pursuing funding to purchase new radios in 2013. The town is also working with the State of Connecticut to resolve the recognition problem relative to town residents which the CT Alerts "Everbridge" System is currently having.

Evacuation Routes

Franklin does not have a published evacuation map, but rather utilizes state or local roads to exit the town. Major roadways include Route 207, Route 32, Route 87 and Baltic Road. The SCCOG Long Range Regional Transportation Plan (FY 2011-2040) addresses the adequacy of the existing transportation system in southeast Connecticut to move large numbers of people in the event of some type of disaster. Just beyond the southern town boundary are Route 2, and Interstate 395 lies just east of the southern portion of town.

Franklin also has handicapped-accessible vans to transport seniors during weekdays (Tuesday and Thursday, by appointment). Additionally, the town leases school buses for public transportation. Franklin has a list of people who may need additional assistance during an emergency which is updated monthly by the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA). As a result, all residents who do not utilize VNA services are not on this list. Those residents that do not offer their special needs information to the town are unaccounted for during an emergency situation when the town is prioritizing course of action relevant to residents' needs.

2.7 Status of 2005 Plan Recommendations

The previous HMP included several general recommendations related to mitigating natural hazards. The recommendations and a summary of actions taken over the past several years towards those actions are listed below. Where progress was indicated, the progress was paid for out of the City's operating budget.

- ❑ Property Acquisition of Floodprone Properties along the Yantic River – FEMA acquired the majority of the floodprone houses in this area before 2000. The Old Route 32 bridge over the Yantic River has long ago been removed. There is one floodprone house remaining on Yantic Road that straddles the Franklin/Norwich boundary that is only accessible from Norwich. The Town of Franklin does not plan to acquire the property.
- ❑ Evaluate the Hazard Resistant Nature of Critical Facilities – Franklin has completed a generator survey and identified necessary upgrades. The town also has identified its critical facilities and is aware that none are floodprone. None are believed to have been constructed to have special resistance to natural hazards. The evaluation is ongoing as part of the annual EOP update.
- ❑ Comprehensive Evaluation of Emergency Communication Capabilities Throughout Town – The evaluation of Emergency Communication Capabilities throughout town is ongoing along with the annual EOP update. Franklin recently upgraded its portable radios and now has interdepartmental and inter-municipal communication capabilities. The town also plans to purchase new radios in 2013, as they are on a narrow band that will be phased out by the Federal Communications Commission.
- ❑ Develop a Flood Audit Program – Franklin's flood ordinance is in the town's zoning regulations. Areas with bad drainage have been identified and are being upgraded as the capital improvement budget allows. Few structures in town actually experience overbank flooding damage, so this part of the audit program is informal.
- ❑ Floodproofing of Structures – A floodprone residence on Route 87 and near Susquetonscut Brook was recommended in the last plan for floodproofing. The owner has not approached the town about grant funding, and Franklin is unaware if the owner has performed improvements. The town does not currently plan to pursue grant funding for flooding projects.
- ❑ Drainage Improvements on Birch Heights Road – Franklin finished this drainage upgrade several years ago. Holton Road and Robinson Hill Road drainage upgrades were also recently finished. There are no additional drainage projects proposed at this time. The drainage issue on Route 32 is caused by private runoff, but the Connecticut DOT would need to improve the street drainage.
- ❑ Flooding and Erosion on State Roads – The Connecticut DOT is currently performing two projects to upgrade drainage culverts under Route 207.
- ❑ Review of Town Transportation Facilities to Identify Critical Risks – Franklin does not have a formal transportation plan. This review is performed annually during the EOP update.
- ❑ Hazardous Materials Spills on Major Roadways / Railroads – There is a section in the EOP discussing the potential for this issue. It is not a directly a natural hazard issue. There are some

railroad spurs but they go to private industries and commercial buildings and are therefore not a minor concern to Franklin. This recommendation is not carried forward in this HMP update.

- ❑ Implement a Reverse 9-1-1 System to Relay Important Information During an Emergency – The town is registered with the State of Connecticut’s CT Alerts “Everbridge” System. However, the system is not recognizing Town residents. The Town is continuing to work with the State of Connecticut on this issue.
- ❑ Distribute or Post Public Information Regarding Hazards in the Town Hall – Public information is posted in the Town Hall prior to and during emergencies. The town also sends out a quarterly newsletter that often contains seasonal information about how to protect oneself from natural hazards, such as lightning safety. During Tropical Storm Irene and Winter Storm Alfred, town staff delivered informational flyers to homes without power to keep them informed of shelters and major road issues.
- ❑ Evaluate Emergency Shelters, Update Supplies, and Check Communication Equipment – The evaluation of emergency shelters and the updating of supplies and the review of communication equipment are conducted at least annually or following any use of the facilities.
- ❑ Maintain Emergency Personnel Training as Well as Maintaining and Updating Emergency Equipment and Response Protocols – The town maintains an annual schedule of emergency personnel training. Additionally, the town maintains and updates emergency equipment and response protocols. Equipment is upgraded to the extent the budget allows.
- ❑ Evaluate and Consider Burying Power Lines Underground and Away from Possible Tree Damage – The town has no current plans for such a project, as it is simply too expensive given Franklin’s limited budget. One commercial zone in the town requires that new utilities be placed underground if possible.
- ❑ Complete an Earthquake Survey of all Critical Facilities and Infrastructures – A specific survey has not been performed in regards to earthquakes and town structures.
- ❑ Complete Catch Basin and Culvert Surveys to Identify Structures in Need of Maintenance or Replacement – Catch basin and culvert surveys are conducted annually as part of regularly scheduled cleaning activities.
- ❑ Complete a Survey of Fire Hydrants to Assess Vulnerabilities and Capabilities for Fire Protection – Franklin has dry hydrants in outlying areas. The locations are believed to be sufficient for fire coverage, and the town has no plans to install additional dry hydrants. The Franklin Volunteer Fire Department has access agreements with property owners to get to the hydrants since they are almost all on private property. Norwich Public Utilities provides water service on New Park Avenue so hydrants are also available in this area.

3.0 INLAND FLOODING

3.1 Setting / Historical Record

In general, Franklin endures very few flooding problems and the potential for flooding is largely concentrated in areas along established SFHAs. The areas impacted by overflow of river systems are generally limited to river corridors and floodplains. Indirect flooding that occurs outside floodplains and localized nuisance flooding along tributaries is also a common problem in different areas in Franklin.

All drainage complaints are reviewed by the First Selectman, but may be compiled by other departments such as the Public Works. SFHAs in Franklin are delineated on a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS). The FIRM delineates areas within Bozrah that are vulnerable to flooding and was most recently published on July 18, 2011 combined with the remainder of New London County. The majority of the watercourses and water bodies in Franklin are mapped as Zone A, with the exception of the section of the Susquetonscut Brook downstream of Meeting House Hill Road that is mapped as Zone AE.

3.2 Existing Programs, Policies, and Regulations

The town has in place a number of measures to mitigate for flood damage. These include regulations, codes, and ordinances preventing encroachment and development near floodways; and monitoring efforts and emergency services. The Town attempts to mitigate flood damage and flood hazards by utilizing a wide range of measures: restricting activities in floodprone areas, replacing bridges, promoting flood insurance, acquiring floodprone structures, maintaining drainage systems, through education and outreach, and utilizing warning systems. As outlined in Section 2.6 above, the town's flood regulations are included in Section 9.14 of the *Regulation Book*, which is the town's articulation of the NFIP regulations. Additionally, stormwater design regulations are included in Section 11.5 of the document. Drainage complaints are directed to the First Selectman. Recent and ongoing flood mitigation is described below.

3.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

This section discusses specific areas at risk to flooding within the Town. Inland flooding due to poor drainage and other factors is also a persistent hazard in the Town and can cause minor infrastructure damage, expedite maintenance, and create nuisance flooding of yards and basements.

3.3.1 Vulnerability Analysis of Areas along Watercourses

Town officials have not specified that any specific areas along watercourses in town are particularly susceptible to flooding. Nevertheless, there are a number of rivers and brooks that run through Franklin and present possible flood flooding problems during heavy storms. In general, there is limited development within the floodplains of these watercourses.

Franklin has several major transportation routes throughout town. These routes include Route 32, Route 207, Route 87, and Baltic Road. The potential for emergency response disruption exists due to a portion of Routes 87 and 207 lying in Zones AE and A.

Flooding near roads that may impede vehicle travel include Route 207-Pond Road where Beaver Brook intersects the road at multiple locations with the potential for the road to become impassable for vehicles during heavy storms. Other roads potentially affected include, Under the Mountain Road, Plains Road, and Kahn Road. Although there are no structures in these flood zones, vehicle travel and thus emergency response to outlying areas may be hampered. Other problem areas include:

- ❑ The Yantic River forms the southern boundary of the community. The small segment of the Yantic River within the Town of Franklin has become a source of frequent overbank flooding. There are several houses in the floodplain in this area. The Susquetonscut Brook is a flooding concern because of the potential of development in portions of its floodplains.
- ❑ The March 2010 storms caused a guardrail and part of the road to wash out on Old Route 32 near the Yantic River. The Town received funding to replace the guardrail and stabilize the bank with riprap.
- ❑ Holton Road has a new drainage system that addressed nuisance flooding.
- ❑ Route 32 has two areas with a significant drainage problem. The problem is caused by heavy rainfall moving rocks and debris down the steep hillsides onto the roadway. This clogs the catch basins and leads to overflows, ponding, and erosion. The State has closed sections of Route 32 recently due to drainage issues such as during the March 2010 storms.

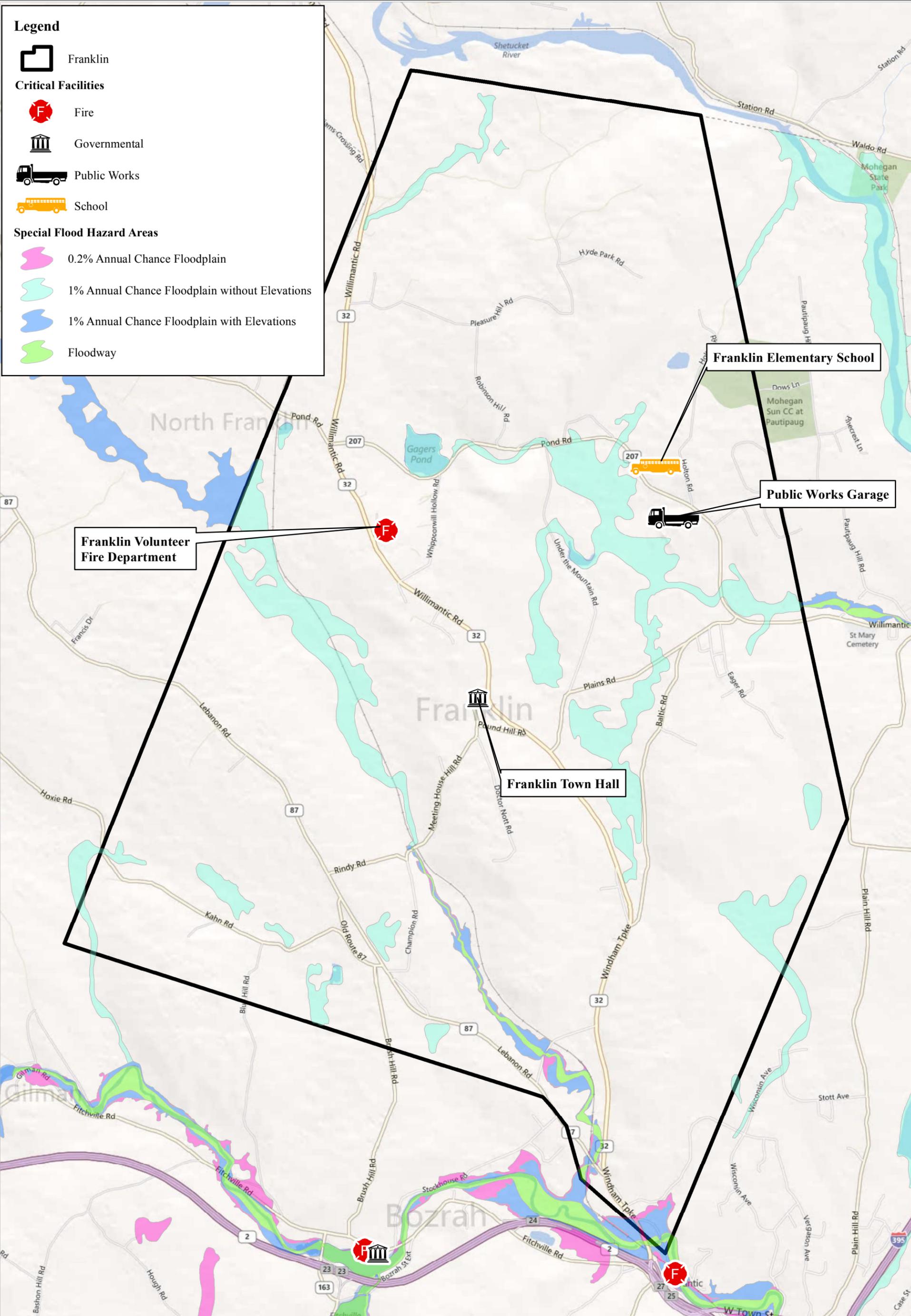
3.3.2 Vulnerability Analysis of Private Properties

Buildings located in flood hazard areas are primarily residential but also include some commercial and industrial structures. Most of the structures that are threatened by flooding are located within the 100-year floodplain. Based on a review of the Franklin's Flood Insurance Rate Maps and topographic maps, residential structures that are subject to flooding during significant flood events are located along the Yantic River section of the town. Repetitive flood insurance claims have been filed at three properties in Franklin. These repeat claims demonstrate that repeated flooding has occurred.

According to the 2010 FEMA FIRM GIS data layers, a total of 22 acres are located within the 0.2 percent annual chance flood hazard area, while 991 acres are located in Zone A, and 113 acres are located in Zone AE. These floodplains are depicted on Figure 3-1.

In general, development in the mapped floodplains is limited in Franklin. The primary Zone A and Zone AE areas are associated with Beaver Brook, McCarthys Brook, and Susquetonscut Brook. The software platform *ESRI® ArcMap™ 10.0* was utilized along with Bing Maps Hybrid aerial mapping to determine the number of properties located within Zones A or AE in Franklin. There are approximately two structures with at least a portion of the structure located within the mapped 100-year floodplain of the Susquetonscut Brook, with one additional structure in the mapped 500-year floodplain. The only other development within a mapped floodplain is along Kahn Road, where two structures are located within the 100-year floodplain of an unnamed watercourse.

- Legend**
-  Franklin
 - Critical Facilities**
 -  Fire
 -  Governmental
 -  Public Works
 -  School
 - Special Flood Hazard Areas**
 -  0.2% Annual Chance Floodplain
 -  1% Annual Chance Floodplain without Elevations
 -  1% Annual Chance Floodplain with Elevations
 -  Floodway



SOURCE(S):
 Base Map:
 "Bing Maps Road" Datalayer
 (c) 2010 Microsoft Corporation and its data suppliers
 "Critical Facilities" Datalayer
 Town of Franklin, 2012
 Special Flood Hazard Areas
 FEMA, 2011

Figure 3-1: FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas

Location:
Franklin, Connecticut



SCCOG HMP Update
Town of Franklin Annex

Map By: SMG
 MMI#: 3570-05
 MXD: H:\3570-05\GIS\Maps\Franklin\Figure3-1.mxd
 1st Version: 06/27/2012
 Revision: 6/29/2012
 Scale: 1 in = 2,750 ft


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Town officials have expressed concern about Old Route 32 in the southeast corner of the town along the Yantic River. Flooding of the Yantic River corridor was problematic for many years until a FEMA buyout of the majority of homes in this area prior to the year 2000 left few floodprone structures remaining. One repetitive loss property was removed during this buyout program. Franklin officials noted that one house still remains in the area and is still potentially threatened by flooding. This house is accessed from the City of Norwich.

Birch Heights, located off Baltic Road in the eastern portion of the town, is a residential development constructed in the early 1970s. At the time of construction, Franklin did not have any zoning regulations to address stormwater issues. Town officials are often contacted regarding flooding and erosion of properties in this subdivision along with a residence on Route 87 closest to the Susquetonscut Brook for the same reasons.

Franklin has no formalized program currently in place to identify the location or the number of structures that are susceptible to flooding. A formalized program would be valuable in directing hazard mitigation efforts to locations with the greatest risk. Such an inventory program would be the first step in completing a Flood Audit which would provide early flood warning, guidance and technical information regarding flood risks to property owners, as well as prioritize future property protection projects. The completion of a Flood Audit would be an important step in the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System by which towns can qualify for a reduction in flood insurance rates.

There are portions of commercial properties that have been identified as located within the Zone A or AE floodplain and are considered to possibly be susceptible to flooding damage. In particular, town officials have expressed concern for a storage facility on Murphy Road located within or adjacent to a flood zone and as such may be susceptible to damage. The structure is located in Zone AE.

The Town recognizes that some number of private properties may suffer flood damage that is not reported because the structures are not insured under the NFIP. These residents and business owners are likely repairing structures on their own. Flood mitigation as recommended in this plan will likely help many of these properties owners.

3.3.3 Vulnerability Analysis of Critical Facilities

The list of critical facilities provided by Franklin (in Table 2-1 above) was used with Bing Maps aerial photography to locate each critical facility throughout the town. None of the critical facilities are floodprone or located in flood hazard areas.

3.4 Potential Mitigation Measures, Strategies, and Alternatives

A number of measures can be taken to reduce the impact of a flood event. These include measures that prevent increases in flood losses by managing new development, measures that reduce the exposure of existing development to flood risk, and measures to preserve and restore natural resources. Full descriptions of methods can be found in the regional plan, and general and specific recommendations are presented in Section 11 of this annex.

4.0 COASTAL FLOODING & STORM SURGE

4.1 Setting / Historic Record

Franklin is not located along the coastline or along any tidally-influenced river. It is also not located in a potential hurricane surge zone. No coastal flooding or storm surge has affected the town since the last HMP. Therefore, Franklin is considered to be immune to the direct effects of coastal flooding and storm surge.

4.2 Existing Programs, Policies, and Mitigation Measures

Franklin does not require any regulations to restrict development due to coastal flooding hazards.

4.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

No areas of Franklin are vulnerable to coastal flooding or storm surge.

4.4 Potential Mitigation Measures, Strategies, and Alternatives

No mitigation measures for reducing the impact of coastal flooding or storm surge are necessary or are proposed within Franklin.

5.0 HURRICANES AND TROPICAL STORMS

5.1 Setting / Historic Record

Several types of hazards may be associated with tropical storms and hurricanes including heavy or tornado winds, heavy rains, and flooding. Wind hazards are widespread and can affect any part of Franklin. However, some buildings within town are more susceptible to wind damage than others.

The last major hurricane or tropical storm wind event to affect Franklin was in the form of Tropical Storm Irene in August 2011. Branches, trees, utility lines, and other items fell throughout town, while areas along roads and near residences being the hardest hit areas. Some residents were without electricity for up to a week following the storm. Town staff delivered informational flyers to homes without power, keeping residents informed of shelters and major road issues during the storm.

5.2 Existing Programs, Policies, and Mitigation Measures

Existing mitigation measures appropriate for flooding were discussed in Section 2.0. These include the ordinances, codes, and regulations that have been enacted to minimize flood damage.

Wind loading requirements are addressed through the state building code. The 2005 Connecticut State Building Code was amended in 2009 and adopted with an effective date of August 1, 2009. The code specifies the design wind speed for construction in all the Connecticut municipalities, with the addition of split zones for some towns. Effective December 31, 2005, the design wind speed for Franklin is 105 miles per hour. Franklin has adopted the Connecticut Building Code as its building code.

Connecticut is located in FEMA Zone II regarding maximum expected wind speed. The maximum expected wind speed for a three-second gust is 160 miles per hour. This wind speed could occur as a result of either a hurricane or a tornado. The American Society of Civil Engineers recommends that new buildings be designed to withstand this peak three-second gust.

Parts of trees (limbs) or entire tall and older trees may fall during heavy wind events, potentially damaging structures, utility lines, and vehicles. Tree damage can occur anywhere in the town. The town has a tree warden, along with a limited budget for trimming trees of \$3,000 per year. The town seeks to trim trees along a few roads each year. The entire town lost power and some areas were out of power for up to a week following Tropical Storm Irene in 2011.

CL&P also trims trees along power lines and Northeast Utilities' electrical transmission lines within municipal borders. CL&P completed five days' worth of work in Franklin in late January 2012. The Algonquin Gas Company also performs trimming along its natural gas transmission line in town. Northeast Utilities also trims along its electrical transmission lines within municipal borders.

Prior to severe storm events, Franklin ensures that warning/notification systems and communication equipment are working properly and prepares for the possible evacuation of impacted areas.

5.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

Franklin is located well away from the shoreline; however the town is still vulnerable to hurricane and tropical storm wind damage. Of particular concern are the blockage of roads and the damage to the electrical power supply from falling trees and tree limbs. Many of the roads are narrow and bordered by private forest land, which is not cleared back from the right-of-way to prevent serious problems resulting from high winds.

Damage to trees and buildings, and resulting power outages, as a result of winds has historically been one of the most problematic issues facing Franklin during storms including high winds. Mitigating damage to utility lines and infrastructure and property and injury or loss of life must be implemented. Mitigation for wind damage is therefore a large component in the success of common storms which impact Franklin. As a result, the following further describes the importance of ongoing tree maintenance in town.

The town wishes to bury power lines underground and away from possible tree damage, although its limited budget does not accommodate this activity. In regards to requirements for new utilities to be placed underground wherever possible, only one commercially zoned area in Franklin holds such a requirement. To prevent wind damage, the Town should update its current regulations to require all new utilities be placed underground and not specifically the lone industrial area. Whenever possible, the town should look for opportunities to have projects relocate utilities underground.

Although the Tree Warden actively enforces the tree ordinance, time and budgetary constraints reportedly hamper his ability to be as effective as needed to help prevent wind problems. Pruning tree limbs should be considered in addition to removal of older or dying trees. The town should look to work tree trimming/pruning into applications for projects within town and, wherever possible, seek an increase in funding improve upon its tree maintenance and pruning operation.

Additionally, the town should implement the education of wind events and other natural hazards into educational curriculums for children in town wherever reasonable. For example, the town should tie into "National Hurricane Preparedness Week" which is organized by NOAA and, in 2012, ran from May 27th to June 2nd. As discussed earlier, tying into national hazard educational weeks sponsored by governmental agencies increases the availability of information to the town, decreasing the amount of funds and resources the town needs to allocate towards such cause.

5.4 Potential Mitigation Measures, Strategies, and Alternatives

General potential mitigation measures that can be taken to reduce the effects of wind damage from hurricanes and tropical storms were discussed in Section 5.7 and in Section 11.2.3 of the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP. General and specific recommendations pertinent to all natural hazards and wind damage that could affect the town are listed in Section 11 of this annex.

6.0 SUMMER STORMS AND TORNADOES

6.1 Setting / Historic Record

Similar to hurricanes and winter storms, wind damage associated with summer storms and tornadoes has the potential to affect any area of Franklin. Furthermore, because these types of storms and the hazards that result (flash flooding, wind, hail, and lightning) might have limited geographic extent, it is possible for a summer storm to harm one area within town without harming another. Such storms occur in Franklin each year, although hail and direct lightning strikes to areas within Franklin are rarer. No tornadoes have occurred within the town since the last HMP.

Only one entry in the NCDC database could be found for recent summer storms that impacted Franklin. On July 26, 2011, an approaching cold front triggered scattered severe thunderstorms across Southern Connecticut producing damaging wind gusts across the region. A tree was reported down across Franklin Heights Road in Franklin.

6.2 Existing Programs, Policies, and Mitigation Measures

Warning is the most viable and therefore the primary method of existing mitigation for tornadoes and thunderstorm-related hazards. The NOAA National Weather Service issues watches and warnings when severe weather is likely to develop or has developed, respectively. As previously mentioned, Franklin can access National Weather Service forecasts via the internet as well as listen to local media outlets (television and radio) to receive information about the relative strength of the approaching storm. This information provides the town the opportunity to make a decision whether or not to activate its EOP and encourage residents to take protective measures wherever appropriate. Dispatch services are responsible for monitoring weather reports and relaying information as appropriate.

Aside from warnings, several other methods of mitigation for wind damage are employed by the town as explained in Section 5.2 within the context of hurricanes and tropical storms. In addition, the Building Code includes guidelines for the proper grounding of buildings and electrical boxes to protect against lightning damage.

As previously explained Franklin has a full time tree warden who conducts tree trimming on a few roads annually. However, the budget is limiting and will limit the capabilities of the town to complete necessary annual maintenance until an increase in budget happens.

6.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

Summer storms are expected to occur each year and are expected to at times produce heavy winds, heavy rainfall, lightning, and hail. All areas of Franklin are equally likely to experience the effects of summer storms. Tornadoes are far less frequent than less powerful summer storms and, although they can cross all areas of town, Franklin is not likely to experience a tornado in any given year.

Most thunderstorm damage, typically associated with summer storms, is caused by straight-line winds exceeding 100 mph. Experience has generally shown that wind in excess of 50 miles per hour (mph) will cause significant tree damage during the summer season as the effects of wind on

trees is exacerbated when the trees are in full leaf. The damage to buildings and cable utilities due to downed trees has historically been the biggest problem associated with wind storms. Heavy winds can take down trees near power lines, leading to the start and spread of fires and widespread power outages. Such fires can be extremely dangerous during the summer months, especially during dry and drought conditions. Downed trees affecting utility structures are of great concern to Franklin, especially during dry and drought conditions as not all utilities are located underground.

Lightning and hail are generally associated with severe thunderstorms and can produce damaging effects. All areas of town are equally susceptible to damage from lightning and hail, although lightning damage is typically mitigated by warnings and proper grounding of buildings and equipment. Hail is primarily mitigated by warning. These are considered likely events each year, but typically cause limited damage within. Most buildings within town are sufficiently constructed and meet current building codes.

Although tornadoes pose a threat to all areas of Connecticut, their occurrence is least frequent in New London County as compared with the rest of the State. Thus, while the possibility of a tornado striking Franklin exists, it is considered to be an event with a very low probability of occurrence. Instead, the state has provided NOAA weather radios to all public schools as well as to many local governments for use in public buildings. The general public continues to rely on mass media for knowledge of weather warnings. Warning time for tornadoes is very short due to the nature of these types of events, so pre-disaster response time can be limited. However, the NOAA weather radios provide immediate notification of all types of weather warnings in addition to tornadoes, making them very popular with communities. These warnings include lightning, thunderstorms, and hailstorms.

The town shall continue to work with the State of Connecticut to assure that the state's Alerts "Everbridge" system works correctly with all residents in town. After the system's functionality is confirmed, the town plans to utilize it as a warning system for its residents.

6.4 Potential Mitigation Measures, Strategies, and Alternatives

Public education, warning and comprehensive annual tree maintenance are the best techniques to mitigate damage from hail, lightning, and tornadoes. In addition to other educational documents, the town's municipal offices including the town's library should make literature available regarding appropriate design standards for grounding of structures. A list of these documents can be found in the regional plan. Delivering this literature to the public during the National Severe Weather Preparedness Week, held for the first time throughout the last full-week in April of 2012, is a unique opportunity to raise awareness and save lives. This week-long event was brought forth by a partnership between NOAA and FEMA. Additionally, Connecticut recognizes "Lightning Safety Preparedness Week" which was held during the last week of June in 2012, which is another opportunity to tie into available resources to educate the public and save lives. Potential mitigation measures are listed in Section 11.

7.0 WINTER STORMS AND NOR'EASTERS

7.1 Setting / Historic Record

Similar to summer storms and tornadoes, winter storms have the potential to affect any part of Franklin. However, unlike summer storms, winter events and the hazards that result (wind, snow, and ice) have more widespread geographic extent. The entire town is therefore susceptible to winter storms and due to its location on the shoreline can have more snowfall totals during ocean-effect snowstorms. In general, winter storms are considered highly likely to occur each year (major storms are less frequent), and the hazards that result (nor'easter winds, snow, and blizzard conditions) can potentially have a significant effect over a large area of the town.

Winter storms and nor'easters have affected Franklin since the last HMP, but only storms during the winter of 2010-2011 had a significant snow load effects. In January and February of 2011, Franklin Elementary School was threatened with a heavy snow load. The town needed to remove the snow before the structure was damaged. As a result, the town now has a Snow Removal Plan for the School.

Winter Storm Alfred in October 2011 caused downed trees and electrical outages in different areas of town, but much of the damage was attributed to wind damage rather than snow load damage.

7.2 Existing Programs, Policies, and Mitigation Measures

Existing programs applicable to winter storm winds are the same as those discussed in Sections 5.2 and 6.2. Programs that are specific to winter storms are generally those related to preparing plows and sand and salt trucks; tree trimming and maintenance to protect power lines, roads, and structures, and other associated snow removal and response preparations.

As it is almost guaranteed that winter storms will occur annually in Connecticut, it is important for municipalities to budget fiscal resources toward snow management. Snow is the most common natural hazard requiring additional overtime effort from town staff, as parking lots and roadways need constant maintenance during storms. Collectively, the Connecticut DOT and the Franklin Public Works Department (DPW) conduct the majority of plowing in Franklin. The Connecticut DOT plows the state routes in town, while Franklin DPW takes care of all municipal roads. Private roads are not plowed by the town. Plowing routes are planned and assigned, and the town owns several plows. Treated salt is used for de-icing.

Prior to winter storms, the town ensures that all warning/notification and communications systems are ready before a storm and ensures that appropriate equipment and supplies, especially snow removal equipment, are in place and in good working order.

The Building Code specifies that a weight of 30 pounds per square foot be used as the base "ground snow load" for computing snow loading for roofs. Town officials have indicated that Franklin has no significant problems with icing, and that there are no known snow load issues with private buildings. No snow issues were reported for Winter Storm Alfred in October 2011. Additional tree damage and the subsequent power outage were the primary issue.

The Snow Removal Plan for Franklin Elementary School was formulated following the problems caused by snow load in January and February of 2011. Implementation of the plan should significantly decrease or eliminate any future issues with snow load at the site.

7.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

Severe winter storms can produce an array of hazardous weather conditions, including heavy snow, blizzards, freezing rain and ice pellets, flooding, heavy winds, and extreme cold. Further "flood" damage could be caused by flooding from frozen water pipes. Often, tree limbs on roadways are not suited to withstand high wind and snow or ice loads.

This section focuses on those effects commonly associated with winter storms, including those from blizzards, ice storms, heavy snow, freezing rain, and extreme cold. Warning and education can prevent most injuries from winter storms. Most deaths from winter storms are indirectly related to the storm, such as from traffic accidents on icy roads and hypothermia from prolonged exposure to cold. Damage to trees and tree limbs and the resultant downing of utility cables are a common effect of these types of events. Secondary effects can include loss of power and heat.

7.4 Potential Mitigation Measures, Strategies, and Alternatives

Potential mitigation measures for flooding caused by nor'easters include those appropriate for flooding that were discussed in Section 3.7 of the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP and Section 11 of this annex. Winter storm mitigation measures must also address blizzards, snow, and ice hazards. General potential mitigation measures that can be taken to reduce the effects of wind damage were discussed in Section 5.7 and in Section 11.2.3 of the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP. General recommendations pertinent to all natural hazards that could affect Franklin are listed in Section 11 of this annex along with measures pertinent to reducing damage from winter storms under the categories of prevention, property protection, emergency services, public education and awareness, natural resource protection, and structural projects.

8.0 EARTHQUAKES

8.1 Setting / Historic Record

An earthquake is a sudden rapid shaking of the earth caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the earth's surface. Earthquakes can cause buildings and bridges to collapse; disrupt gas, electric, and telephone lines; and often cause landslides, flash floods, fires, avalanches, and tsunamis. Earthquakes can occur at any time and often without warning. Detailed descriptions of earthquakes, scales, and effects can be found in Section 8 of the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP.

Despite the low probability of an earthquake occurrence, earthquake damage presents a potentially catastrophic hazard to Franklin. However, it is very unlikely that the town would be at the epicenter of such a damaging earthquake. No major earthquakes have affected Franklin since the last HMP.

8.2 Existing Programs, Policies, and Mitigation Measures

The Building Codes include design criteria for buildings specific to each jurisdiction as adopted by Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA). These include the seismic coefficients for building design in Franklin. The town has adopted these codes for new construction, and they are enforced by the Building Code Enforcement office.

Due to the infrequent nature of damaging earthquakes, Franklin land use policies do not directly address earthquake hazards. However, the potential for an earthquake and emergency response procedures is addressed in the town EOP.

8.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

Surficial earth materials behave differently in response to seismic activity. Unconsolidated materials such as sand and artificial fill can amplify the shaking associated with an earthquake. As mentioned in Section 2.1, a small portion of town is covered by stratified drift. The areas covered by stratified drift are likely more at risk of earthquake damage than the areas of town underlain by glacial till. The best mitigation for future development in areas of sandy material is the application of the most stringent standards in the Building Code, exceeding the building code requirements, or, if the town deems necessary, the prohibition of new construction. The areas that are not at increased risk during an earthquake due to unstable soils are the areas underlain by glacial till. Also noted in Section 2.1, fault lines do not traverse Franklin.

The built environment in Franklin includes a wide age range of structures. Any older structures in town, especially those composed of brick and the like, would be the most prone to significant damage if an earthquake were to affect the town. Areas of steep slopes can collapse during an earthquake, creating landslides. In Franklin, the two areas along Route 32 which pose nuisance flooding issues, also move some rocks and debris down the steep hillside. If an earthquake were to affect town, the area at the base of the steep slopes would likely be impacted.

Seismic activity can also break utility lines such as water mains, gas mains, electric and telephone lines, and stormwater management systems. Damage to utility lines can lead to fires, especially in electric and gas mains. Dam failure can also pose a significant threat to developed areas during an earthquake. For this HMP, dam failure has been addressed separately in Section 10.0. As noted previously, a fair amount of utility infrastructure in town remains above ground. An

emphasis on moving existing and placing new utility infrastructure below grade must remain a priority of Franklin. Aside from the municipal efforts, a coordinated call and response with Connecticut Light & Power and Algonquin Gas will be necessary to inspect damaged utilities following an earthquake, to isolate damaged areas, and to bring backup systems online. The post-earthquake recovery process is covered in the town's EOP.

A *HAZUS-MH* analysis of the potential economic and societal impacts to the SCCOG region from earthquake damage is detailed in the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP. The analysis addresses a range of potential impacts from any earthquake scenario, estimated damage to buildings by building type, potential damage to utilities and infrastructure, predicted sheltering requirements, estimated casualties, and total estimated losses and direct economic impact that may result from various earthquake scenarios.

8.4 Potential Mitigation Measures, Strategies, and Alternatives

Due to the low probability of occurrence, potential mitigation measures related to earthquake damage primarily include adherence to building codes, emergency response services, and the placement of utility infrastructure underground. These are mitigation measures common to all hazards as noted in Section 11 of this annex. The Multi-Jurisdictional HMP also includes additional recommendations for mitigating the effects of earthquakes. The pertinent recommendations to Franklin are reprinted in Section 11 of this annex.

9.0 WILDFIRES

9.1 Setting / Historic Record

Wildfires are considered to be highly destructive, uncontrollable fires. The most common causes of wildfires are arson, lightning strikes, and fires started from downed trees hitting electrical lines. Thus, wildfires have the potential to occur anywhere and at any time in both undeveloped and lightly developed areas.

9.2 Existing Programs, Policies, and Mitigation Measures

Monitoring of potential fire conditions is an important part of mitigation. The DEEP Forestry Division uses the rainfall data recorded by the Automated Flood Warning system to compile forest fire probability forecasts. This allows the DEEP and Franklin to monitor the drier areas of the state to be prepared for forest fire conditions. The town can access this information on the internet.

Existing mitigation for wildland fire control is typically focused on Fire Department (entirely volunteer) training and maintaining an adequate supply of equipment. The Department moves to the location of the fire as quick as possible. The Fire Department has access agreements with property owners to get to hydrants since almost all are located on private property and Norwich Public Utilities provides water service near Routes 32 and 87 in the southern end of town where hydrants are available, and the town also has dry hydrants in outlying areas. Additionally, the Fire Department can place lines into streams or ponds if necessary. The amount of fire protection is believed to be sufficient for fire coverage and the town has no plans to install additional dry hydrants.

9.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

The extensive forests and fields covering the state are prime locations for a wildfire. In many areas, structures and subdivisions are built abutting forest borders, creating areas of particular vulnerability. Wildfires are more common in rural areas than in developed areas as the majority of fires in populated areas are noticed and contained in a relatively fast manner.

Wildfires have been practically non-existent in Franklin, although the threat exists with areas of inaccessible forest and many open fields used for agriculture. The northeastern section of town, north of Pleasure Hill Road, is particularly isolated with little to no access. If a fire were to occur in this area, they would need to rely on Sprague's equipment to access the area and tie hoses into surface water and/or transport water supply into the area from a roadway. However, the town does not have an ATV or off-road vehicle for firefighting, which makes such scenario a considerable vulnerability to the town. A wildfire occurred off Holton Road in 2003 or 2004 that burned approximately three acres prior to being contained. The Holton Road event is the last major wildfire in the Franklin.

Educational materials should also be made available at the Fire Department and all pertinent municipal offices. Education of homeowners on methods of protecting their homes is far more effective than trying to steer growth away from potential wildfire areas, especially given that the available land that is environmentally appropriate for development may be forested. Franklin's involvement in "Fire Prevention Week", typically the first full week in October, is an opportune

time to provide the public with fire safety material. The most budget-straining option to mitigate wildfires is to make improvements to the current water system.

9.4 Potential Mitigation Measures, Strategies, and Alternatives

Potential mitigation measures for wildfires include a combination of prevention, education, and emergency planning as presented in Section 11.

10.0 DAM FAILURE

10.1 Setting / Historic Record

Dam failures can be triggered suddenly with little or no warning and often in connection with natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes. Dam failures can occur during flooding when the dam breaks under the additional force of floodwaters. In addition, a dam failure can cause a chain reaction where the sudden release of floodwaters causes the next dam downstream to fail. While flooding from a dam failure generally has a limited geographic extent, the effects are potentially catastrophic depending on the downstream population. A dam failure affecting Franklin is considered an unlikely event each year as the town only has three known dams and none are classified higher than Class B. According to town officials, there are no known historical failures causing damage in Franklin.

The risk of a dam failure affecting Franklin is considered to be minimal as no major dams exist within Franklin or upstream along water bodies flowing through town. Dam failures have not affected the town since the time of the last HMP.

10.2 Existing Programs, Policies, and Mitigation Measures

Franklin has three known dams in town: Gager's Pond Dam (Class B), Mahoney Pond Dam (Class A), and Kahn Pond Dam (unranked). Franklin does not own any dams in town. Gager's Pond Dam is the only listed dam in Franklin include in the "Notice of a High Hazard Dam or a Significant Hazard Dam," which was last updated in March 2012. Town officials confirm that the dam remains, however it was not depicted on the town's 2005 Hazard Mitigation Plan map. The two remaining dams listed above are included in the "Connecticut Dams" datalayer which was published in 1996 by the DEEP. There may also be other small, unranked dams on private property in Franklin that are not inventoried by the Connecticut DEEP.

The dam safety statutes are codified in Section 22a-401 through 22a-411 inclusive of the Connecticut General Statutes. Sections 22a-409-1 and 22a-409-2 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies have been enacted, which govern the registration, classification, and inspection of dams. Dams must be registered by the owner with the DEEP according to Connecticut Public Act 83-38. Owners of high and significant hazard dams are required to maintain EOPs for such dams. As such, the owner(s) of Gager's Pond Dam should maintain an EOP.

10.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

The risk of dam failure impacting any areas of Franklin is minimal. Gager's Pond Dam is not located upstream of any developed areas. Route 207 and a single residence are located adjacent to the east of the dam, but are the only two significant types of infrastructure located near the dam. Both pieces of infrastructure are unlikely to be affected by a failure of the dam.

It is believed that Franklin would not be affected by the failure of any dams located outside of town. This is because dams located upstream of the town's municipal boundary are not close in proximity., and the majority of the developed areas of town are located above the 0.2% annual chance floodplain and the storm surge areas predicted for a Category Four hurricane for a failure event associated with heavy rainfall.

10.4 Potential Mitigation Measures, Strategies, and Alternative

Given that Franklin is a low-risk area to experience a dam failure, only one recommendations related to dam failure is applicable at this time as presented in Section 11 of this annex.

11.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 Summary of All Recommendations

All recommendations presented in this plan for each hazard are summarized below:

11.1.1 Recommendations Applicable to All Hazards

Regional Coordination

- Continue to promote inter-jurisdictional coordination efforts for emergency response.
- Continue to promote local and regional planning exercises that increase readiness to respond to disasters.
- Continue to evaluate communication capabilities and pursue upgrades to communication and ensure redundant layers of communication are in place within Franklin and other SCCOG communities, New London County, and the State of Connecticut.
- Continue to promote regional transportation planning through SCCOG to balance general transportation, shipping, and potential evacuation needs.
- Work with SCCOG to perform a regional study to identify the vulnerability of critical facilities that may be unable to withstand natural hazard damage. Emphasis should be placed on critical infrastructure, shelters and other sites to ensure structural integrity against various hazards and adequacy of backup supplies.
- Work with SCCOG to develop regional evacuation scenarios that include but build upon the Millstone evacuation plan.

Local Emergency Response

- Continue to review and update the Franklin EOP at least once annually.
- Add the HMP update as an annex to the town EOP.
- Continue to maintain emergency response training and equipment and upgrade equipment when possible.
- Encourage Franklin officials to attend FEMA-sponsored training seminars at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) in Emmitsburg, Maryland. All of these workshops are free of charge. Tuition, travel and lodging are provided by FEMA for the EMI training. Annual training sessions include emergency management, environmental reviews, the FEMA grant programs, the NFIP and CRS and others related to other hazards.
- Continue to evaluate emergency shelters, update supplies, and check communication equipment.

- ❑ Continue to promote dissemination of public information regarding natural hazard effects and mitigation measures into local governmental and community buildings. Specifically,
 - ⇒ Obtain copies of the disaster planning guides and manuals from the "Are You Ready?" series (<http://www.ready.gov/are-you-ready-guide>).
 - ⇒ Use national hazard mitigation weeks sponsored by governmental agencies to promote preparedness and educate the public. These weeks include: Flood Safety Awareness Week, National Hurricane Preparedness Week, National Sever Weather Preparedness Week, Lightening Safety Preparedness Week, and Fire Prevention Week.
 - ⇒ Encourage Franklin residents and other members to purchase NOAA weather radios with an alarm feature.
 - ⇒ Post hazard preparedness information on the community website. Include links to established sources at the State of Connecticut and FEMA.

Prevention

- ❑ Form a committee to review planning documents and regulations in the Planning and Community Development office and integrate appropriate elements of this HMP into those planning documents.
- ❑ Continue reviewing building plans to ensure proper access for emergency vehicles.
- ❑ Continue to require the burying of utility lines where appropriate.
- ❑ Continue to enforce the appropriate building code for new building projects and exceed code design when possible.
- ❑ Encourage Franklin residents and businesses to install and maintain lightning rods on their buildings.

11.1.2 Recommendations Applicable to Inland Flooding

- ❑ Continue to prohibit new development activities within SFHAs to the greatest extent possible within the Franklin land use regulations.
- ❑ Make available FEMA-provided flood insurance brochures at public accessible places such as the local government buildings and the Janet Carlson Calvert Library. Encourage residents to purchase flood insurance if they are located within a FEMA SFHA.
- ❑ Continue to regulate development in protected and sensitive areas, including floodplains, steep slopes and sites associated with wetlands.
- ❑ Utilize recently available extreme rainfall data to determine existing sizing of culverts. Encourage bridge replacements and culvert replacements in areas found to be undersized.

- ❑ Continue to perform catch basin and culvert surveys to determine the need for maintenance and cleaning and to identify and prioritize structures in need of replacement or upgrades.

11.1.3 Recommendations Applicable to Wind Damage from Hurricanes, Tropical Storms, Summer Storms, Tornados, and Winter Storms

- ❑ Consider allocating an increase in annual funding for tree-trimming activities, especially on the major town roads such as Pleasure Hill Road, and New Park Avenue.
- ❑ Promote the use of functional shutters for older buildings within town to guard against window breakage which can result in structural failure. Investigate funding sources to promote this relatively inexpensive type of retrofitting on a large scale.
- ❑ Consider surveying all town buildings to determine their ability to withstand wind loading, especially those designated as town shelters.
- ❑ Visit schools and educate children about the risks of natural hazard events and how to prepare for them.
- ❑ Consider adding tree maintenance and trimming language into regulations wherever possible.

11.1.4 Recommendations Applicable to Other Damage from Winter Storms

- ❑ Make funding available to the Public Works Department each budget year for clearing snow roads and parking lots and be mindful that clearing snow from roofs may be needed in the future.
- ❑ Continue to implement the Franklin Elementary School Snow Prevention Plan and identify any additional locations that may need a similar plan in the future.
- ❑ Provide information for generally protecting residents during cold weather and for mitigating icing and insulating pipes at town residences.
- ❑ Continue to identify areas that are difficult to access during winter storm events and develop contingency plans for emergency personnel.

11.1.5 Recommendations Applicable to Earthquakes

- ❑ Ensure that Franklin departments have adequate backup supplies and facilities for continued functionality in case earthquake damage occurs to these buildings where critical facilities are housed.
- ❑ Consider preventing residential development in areas prone to collapse such as at the base of steep slopes or in areas underlain by stratified drift and most prone to liquefaction.

11.1.6 Recommendations Applicable to Wildfires

- ❑ Continue to evaluate fire flows, available water supply, and areas at risk of wildfire within Franklin.
- ❑ Consider the purchase of off-road firefighting vehicle(s)/equipment to provide additional response capability to respond to forest fires.
- ❑ Extend public water supply and fire protection to future areas identified as being particularly at risk.
- ❑ Pursue other sources of fire-fighting water where adequate supplies do not exist, such as through the installation of dry hydrants.
- ❑ Continue to support public outreach programs to increase awareness of forest fire danger, equipment usage, and protecting homes from wildfires. Educational materials should be made available at the Town Hall and at the Janet Carlson Calvert Library.
- ❑ Ensure that provisions of town regulations regarding fire protection facilities and infrastructure are being enforced.

11.1.7 Recommendations Applicable to Dam Failure

- ❑ Work with the owners of known dams such as Gager's Pond Dam to develop an EOP.

11.2 Prioritization of Specific Recommendations

As explained in Section 11.3 of the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP, the STAPLEE method was utilized in this annex to prioritize recommendations. Table 11-1 presents the STAPLEE matrix for the Town of Franklin. Each recommendation includes the town department responsible for implementing the recommendation, a proposed schedule, and whether or not the recommendation is new or originally from the previous HMP. Refer to Section 2.7 for the list of previous plan recommendations and whether or not each recommendation was carried forward into this HMP.

TABLE 11-1: TOWN OF FRANKLIN STAPLEE MATRIX FOR PRIORITIZING RECOMMENDATIONS

Implementation of Current Recommendations	Existing or New Recommendation?	Responsible Department ¹	Schedule	Cost ²	Potential Funding Source ³	Weighted STAPLEE Criteria ⁴														Total STAPLEE Score	
						Benefits							Costs								
						Social	Technical (x2)	Administrative	Political	Legal	Economic (x2)	Environmental	STAPLEE Subtotal	Social	Technical (x2)	Administrative	Political	Legal	Economic (x2)		Environmental
ALL HAZARDS																					
Regional Coordination																					
Continue to promote inter-jurisdictional coordination efforts for emergency response	New	BS, FD	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9.0						0.0	9.0	
Continue to promote local and regional planning exercises that increase readiness to respond to disasters	New	FD, FS	2012-2017	Low	OB	1	1	1	1	1	0.5	1	8.0						0.0	8.0	
Continue to evaluate communication capabilities and pursue upgrades to communication and ensure redundant equipment is available	Existing	FD, FS	2012-2017	Low	OB, CI	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9.0						0.0	9.0	
Continue to promote regional transportation planning through SCCOG	Existing	PL, FS	2012-2017	Low	OB	0.5	1	1	1	1	0.5		6.5						0.0	6.5	
Work with the SCCOG to perform a regional study of the vulnerability of critical facilities to natural hazard damage	New	FS	2012-2017	Low	OB	1	1	1	1	1	0.5		7.0						0.0	7.0	
Work with the SCCOG to develop regional evacuation scenarios that include but build upon the Millstone evacuation plan	New	PD, FD	2012-2017	Low	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1		8.0	-0.5				-0.5	-2.0	6.0	
Local Emergency Response & Public Information																					
Continue to review and update the City EOP at least once annually	Existing	FD, BS	2012-2017	Low	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9.0						0.0	9.0	
Continue to maintain emergency response training and equipment and upgrade equipment when possible	Existing	FD, BS	2012-2017	Moderate	OB, CI	1	1	1	1	1	0.5	1	8.0					-0.5	-1.0	7.0	
Encourage City officials to attend FEMA-sponsored training seminars at EMI	New	FS	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	0.5	0.5	1	1	1	1	0.5	7.0						0.0	7.0	
Continue to evaluate emergency shelters, update supplies, and check communication equipment	Existing	FS, FD	2012-2017	Low	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1		8.0						0.0	8.0	
Continue to promote dissemination of public information regarding natural hazard effects into Government buildings, with additions	Existing	FS, ZE	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9.0						0.0	9.0	
Resolve and utilize the Reverse 9-1-1 system to telephone warnings into affected areas, and add DFIRM floodplain areas to the database	Existing	FS	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1		8.0						0.0	8.0	
Prevention																					
Develop a checklist for land development applicants that cross-references the specific regulations and codes related to disaster resilience	New	ZE	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1		8.0					-0.5	-0.5	7.5	
Integrate additional elements of this HMP into the Plan of Conservation and Development during the next update	New	PZ, ZE	2012-2017	Low	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9.0					-1	-0.5	-1.5	7.5
Continue reviewing building plans to ensure proper access for emergency vehicles	New	FD	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1		8.0						0.0	8.0	
Continue to require the underground installation of utilities for all new development where possible	Existing	PZ	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	0.5		7.0	-0.5				-0.5	-1.0	6.0	
Continue to enforce the appropriate building code for new building projects	New	ZE	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1		8.0						0.0	8.0	
Encourage residents to install and maintain lightning rods on their structures	New	FD, ZE	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	0.5	1	1	1	1	0.5	7.5						0.0	7.5	
Natural Resource Protection & Open Space																					
Continue to regulate development in protected and sensitive areas including steep slopes, wetlands, and floodplains	New	PZ	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9.0						0.0	9.0	
FLOODING RECOMMENDATIONS																					
Prevention																					
Continue to prohibit new development activities within SFHAs to the greatest extent possible within town land use regulations	New	PZ	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9.0						0.0	9.0	
Require developers to demonstrate whether detention or retention of stormwater is the best option for reducing peak flows downstream	New	PZ	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	0.5	1	1	1	1	1	0.5	8.0						0.0	8.0	
Conduct an annual inspection of floodprone areas that are publically accessible. Recommend drainage improvements as appropriate.	New	PW	2012-2017	Low	OB	1	1	1	0.5	1	0.5	0.5	7.0						0.0	7.0	
Property Protection																					
Incorporate information on the availability of flood insurance into all hazard-related public education workshops	New	ZE, FS	2012-2017	Low	OB	1	1	0.5	0.5	1	1		7.0	-0.5					-0.5	6.5	
Make available FEMA-provided flood insurance brochures and encourage residents to purchase insurance if they are in a SFHA	New	ZE, FS	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1		8.0						0.0	8.0	
Make necessary changes to floodplain regulations so that all insured residents are eligible for increased cost of compliance coverage	New	ZE	2012-2017	Low	OB	1	0.5	0.5	1	1	1	0.5	7.0						0.0	7.0	
Encourage residents to submit flood insurance claims following damage events	New	All	2012-2017	Minimal	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1		8.0						0.0	8.0	
Emergency Services																					
Pursue mutual aid agreements with non-profits to provide volunteer labor for response activities	New	FS, FD	2012-2017	Low	OB	1	1	1	1	1	1		8.0						0.0	8.0	

APPENDIX A
ADOPTION RESOLUTION

**TOWN OF FRANKLIN
RESOLUTION**

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

WHEREAS, the Town of Franklin has historically experienced severe damage from natural hazards and continues to be vulnerable to the effects of flooding, thunderstorms, high wind, winter storms, wildfires, earthquakes, and dam failure, resulting in loss of property and life, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety;

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, of which the Town of Franklin is a member, has developed and received conditional approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for its Hazard Mitigation Plan Update under the requirements of 44 CFR 201.6;

WHEREAS, the Plan specifically addresses hazard mitigation strategies and Plan maintenance procedures for the Town of Franklin;

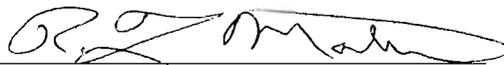
WHEREAS, the Plan recommends several hazard mitigation actions/projects that will provide mitigation for specific natural hazards that impact the Town of Franklin, with the effect of protecting people and property from loss associated with those hazards;

WHEREAS, adoption of this Plan will make the Town of Franklin eligible for funding to alleviate the impacts of future hazards;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Franklin that:

1. The Plan is hereby adopted as an official plan of the Town of Franklin;
2. The respective officials identified in the mitigation strategy of the Plan are hereby directed to pursue implementation of the recommended actions assigned to them;
3. Future revisions and Plan maintenance required by 44 CFR 201.6 and FEMA are hereby adopted as a part of this resolution for a period of five (5) years from the date of this resolution.
4. An annual report on the progress of the implementation elements of the Plan shall be presented to the First Selectman and Board of Selectmen by October 1 of each calendar year.

PASSED by the Board of Selectmen this 24th day of October, 2012.



Richard L. Matters, First Selectman



Charles W. Grant III, Selectman



Russell C. Beisiegel, Selectman