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TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Selectboard Regular Meeting
Order of Agenda for Monday January 11, 2021, at 6:00 PM, Via Zoom

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81985957249?pwd=aEdjc2k1eVpTQzdpalUyT1BsWnAzUT09>

Webinar ID: 819 8595 7249

Passcode: 647647

Dial-in, audio-only: (929) 205 6099

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Great Barrington Selectboard will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on town's website, at www.townofgb.org. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so by following the instructions at the top of the agenda. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

*****ALL VOTES ARE ROLL CALL*****

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a. August 10, 2020 Minutes
3. SELECTBOARD'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS
4. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT
 - a. Housatonic Water Works Updates
 - b. Lake Mansfield Ice Signage
 - c. Library Updates-staffing/services
 - d. Hand Sanitizer Stations-Crosswalk Flags
5. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. WEB Du Bois Proclamation-GB WEB Du Bois Committee
 - b. Borrowing-Karen
 - c. Retroactive Blanket Premium Borrowing-Karen
 - d. Adoption of the Great Barrington Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - e. Police Oversight/review Committee discussion

6. CITIZEN SPEAK TIME

Citizen Speak Time is an opportunity for the Selectboard to listen to residents. Topics of particular concern or importance may be placed on a future agenda for discussion. This time is reserved for town residents only unless otherwise permitted by the chair, and speakers are limited to 3 minutes each.

7. SELECTBOARD'S TIME

8. MEDIA TIME

9. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT SELECTBOARD MEETING

Regular Meeting January 25, 2021

Goal Setting Meeting January 27, 2021

Regular Meeting February 8, 2021

Regular Meeting February 21, 2021

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several vertical strokes on the left and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Pruhenski, Town Manager

Pursuant to MGL. 7c. 30A sec. 20 (f), after notifying the chair of the public body, any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting of a public body, or may transmit the meeting through any medium. At the beginning of the meeting, the chair shall inform other attendees of any such recordings. Any member of the public wishing to speak at the meeting must receive permission of the chair. The listings of agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

From: [Randy Weinstein](#)
To: [Amy Pulver](#)
Cc: [Emily DeVoti](#); [Gwendolyn Hampton VanSant](#); [Tim Likarish](#)
Subject: Agenda item for selectboard meeting
Date: Thursday, December 24, 2020 1:35:20 PM
Attachments: [PROCLAMATION \(2\) \(1\) \(1\) \(1\) \(1\) \(1\) \(2\).docx](#)

Hi Amy,

I'd like to put an item on the next available selectboard meeting agenda. Please see attachment. The agenda would allow members time to discuss and approve a proposed annual town WEB Du Bois Day, which would occur every February 23rd. Members have already seen this and appear to like it.

Many thanks, and have a wonderful holiday.

Randy

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

W.E.B. Du Bois: PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the Town of Great Barrington recognizes that W.E.B. Du Bois was born, raised, and educated in Great Barrington; and

Whereas, the Town of Great Barrington honors W.E.B. Du Bois via road signs proclaiming the “Birthplace of W.E.B. Du Bois,” supporting the W.E.B. Du Bois Childhood Homesite, and the naming of the W.E.B. Du Bois Regional Middle School; and

Whereas, the Town of Great Barrington is charged “to preserve and promote Great Barrington native W.E.B. Du Bois’s legacy as a scholar and activist for freedom, civil rights, progressive education, economic justice, and racial equality”; and

Whereas, the Town of Great Barrington recognizes February 23 as the birthday of W.E.B. Du Bois, the premier architect of the Civil Rights Movement;

Now Therefore, Be it Resolved by the Selectboard that the Town of Great Barrington shall also recognize W.E.B. Du Bois Legacy Day (Du Bois Day), annually, on February 23.

Be it Further Resolved, the Town of Great Barrington shall provide a Town-sponsored program that celebrates W.E.B. Du Bois’s life and legacy.

Be it Further Resolved, the Town of Great Barrington encourages businesses, organizations, and public entities to recognize Du Bois Day as a day of reflection and celebration.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Great Barrington to be affixed this day () in the year two thousand and twenty.

VOTE OF THE SELECTBOARD

I, the Clerk of the Selectboard of the Town of Great Barrington, Massachusetts (the “Town”), certify that at a meeting of the board held January 11, 2021, of which meeting all members of the board were duly notified and at which a quorum was present, the following votes were unanimously passed, all of which appear upon the official record of the board in my custody:

Voted: that the maximum useful life of the departmental equipment listed below to be financed with the proceeds of the borrowing authorized by the vote of the Town passed May 1, 2017 (Article 4) is hereby determined pursuant to G.L. c.44, §7(1) to be as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Borrowing Amount</u>	<u>Maximum Useful Life</u>
Highway Dump Truck	\$190,000	8 Years
Antennae Replacement	70,000	6 Years

Further Voted: that the maximum useful life of the departmental equipment listed below to be financed with the proceeds of the \$309,500 borrowing authorized by the vote of the Town passed May 7, 2018 (Article 4, item iv) is hereby determined pursuant to G.L. c.44, §7(1) to be as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Borrowing Amount</u>	<u>Maximum Useful Life</u>
Highway Dump Truck	\$180,000	8 Years

Further Voted: that the sale of the \$4,990,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2021 Bonds of the Town dated January 26, 2021 (the “Bonds”) to Piper Sandler & Co. at the price of \$5,426,453.96 and accrued interest is hereby approved and confirmed. The Bonds shall be payable on July 15 of the years and in the principal amounts and bear interest at the respective rates, as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
2021	\$515,000	4.00%	2029	\$255,000	4.00%
2022	470,000	4.00	2030	250,000	1.00
2023	445,000	4.00	2031	250,000	1.00
2024	445,000	2.00	2032	250,000	1.10
2025	410,000	4.00	2034	315,000	1.30
2026	375,000	4.00	2037	195,000	2.00
2027	340,000	3.00	2040	195,000	2.00
2028	280,000	4.00			

Further Voted: that the Bonds maturing on July 15, 2034, July 15, 2037 and July 15, 2040 (each a “Term Bond”) shall be subject to mandatory redemption or mature as follows:

Term Bond due July 15, 2034

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2033	\$175,000
2034*	140,000

*Final Maturity

Term Bond due July 15, 2037

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2035	\$65,000
2036	65,000
2037*	65,000

*Final Maturity

Term Bond due July 15, 2040

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2038	\$65,000
2039	65,000
2040*	65,000

*Final Maturity

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Bonds, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated December 29, 2020, and a final Official Statement dated January 7, 2021 (the “Official Statement”), each in such form as may be approved by the Town Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the Bonds shall be subject to redemption, at the option of the Town, upon such terms and conditions as are set forth in the Official Statement.

Further Voted: that the Town Treasurer and the Selectboard be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a continuing disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the Town, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Bonds for the benefit of the holders of the Bonds from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the Town Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures and continuing disclosure procedures in such forms as the Town Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such procedures are currently in place, to review and update said procedures, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Bonds and to comply with relevant securities laws.

Further Voted: that any certificates or documents relating to the Bonds (collectively, the “Documents”), may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be regarded as an original and all of which shall constitute one and the same document; delivery of an executed counterpart of a signature page to a Document by electronic mail in a “.pdf” file or by other electronic transmission shall be as effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart signature page to such Document; and electronic signatures on any of the Documents shall be deemed original signatures for the purposes of the Documents and all matters relating thereto, having the same legal effect as original signatures.

Further Voted: that each member of the Selectboard, the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

I further certify that the votes were taken at a meeting open to the public, that no vote was taken by secret ballot, that a notice stating the place, date, time and agenda for the meeting (which agenda included the adoption of the above votes) was filed with the Town Clerk and a copy thereof posted in a manner conspicuously visible to the public at all hours in or on the municipal building that the office of the Town Clerk is located or, if applicable, in accordance with an alternative method of notice prescribed or approved by the Attorney General as set forth in 940 CMR 29.03(2)(b), at least 48 hours, not including Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, prior to the time of the meeting and remained so posted at the time of the meeting, that no deliberations or decision in connection with the sale of the Bonds were taken in executive session, all in accordance with G.L. c.30A, §§18-25, as amended, further suspended, supplemented or modified by the Executive Order of the Governor of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, Chapter 30A, §20 dated March 12, 2020.

Dated: January 11, 2021

Clerk of the Selectboard

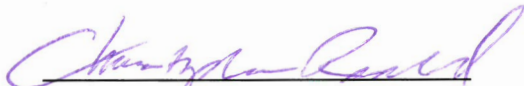
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY


TITLE: Local approval of the Great Barrington Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan

BACKGROUND: The Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed over the course of 2019 and early 2020. It updates the previous plan, from 2012, and it was developed in concert with the Town's Climate change planning process. Now that we have received MEMA and FEMA approvals of the final draft document, the final step is local approval by the Board.

For your reference the final draft plan is posted on the Planning Department page of the Town website.

RECOMMENDATION: The Selectboard vote to adopt the Great Barrington Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan and authorize the Chair to sign the accompanying resolution.

WRITTEN BY:  **DATE:** 1/7/21
Assistant Town Manager /
Director of Planning and Community Development

APPROVED BY:  **DATE:** 1/7/21
Town Manager

Town of Great Barrington

A RESOLUTION OF ADOPTING THE

the Great Barrington Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan

WHEREAS the Town of Great Barrington recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within the Town of Great Barrington; and

WHEREAS the Town of Great Barrington has prepared a hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as the Great Barrington Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS the Great Barrington Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the Town of Great Barrington from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS adoption by the Great Barrington Selectboard demonstrates their commitment to the hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the Great Barrington Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS, THAT:

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 40. the Great Barrington Selectboard adopts the Great Barrington Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan.

ADOPTED by a vote of ____ in favor and ____ against, and ____ abstaining, this ____ day of _____, 2021.

Signature: _____

Print Name: Stephen Bannon

Title: Chair

ATTEST: _____

LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN REVIEW TOOL - APA

Town of Great Barrington, MA

The *Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool* demonstrates how the Local Mitigation Plan meets the regulation in 44 CFR §201.6 and offers States and FEMA Mitigation Planners an opportunity to provide feedback to the community.

- The Regulation Checklist provides a summary of FEMA’s evaluation of whether the Plan has addressed all requirements.
- The Plan Assessment identifies the plan’s strengths as well as documents areas for future improvement.
- The Multi-jurisdiction Summary Sheet is an optional worksheet that can be used to document how each jurisdiction met the requirements of each Element of the Plan (Planning Process; Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment; Mitigation Strategy; Plan Review, Evaluation, and Implementation; and Plan Adoption).

The FEMA Mitigation Planner must reference this *Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide* when completing the *Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool*.

Jurisdiction: Town of Great Barrington	Title of Plan: Great Barrington Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan	Date of Plan: July, 2020
Single or Multi-jurisdiction plan? Single jurisdiction	New Plan or Plan Update? Update	
Local POC & Title: Chris Rembold, Assistant Town Mgr., Dir of Planning & Community Development Agency/Address: Town of Great Barrington 334 Main Street Great Barrington MA 01230 Phone Number: 413-528-1619 ext. 108 E-Mail: crembold@townofgb.org	Regional Point of Contact: N/A Title: Agency/Address: Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, 1 Fenn St, Suite 201 Pittsfield, MA 01201 Phone Number: 413-442-1521 E-Mail:	

State Reviewer: Jeffrey Zukowski	Title: Hazard Mitigation Planner	Date: 11/20/2020; 12/24/2020 &
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FEMA Reviewer: Sean Loughlin Brigitte Ndikum-Nyada	Title: Community Planner Community Planner	Date: 11/27/2020 – 12/14/2020 12/14/20-12/18/20; 12/28/20;
Date Received in FEMA Region I	11/23/2020; 12/24/2020 &	
Plan Not Approved	12/18/2020	
Plan Approvable Pending Adoption	12/28/2020	
Plan Adopted		
Plan Approved		

SECTION 1:

REGULATION CHECKLIST

INSTRUCTIONS: The Regulation Checklist must be completed by FEMA. The purpose of the Checklist is to identify the location of relevant or applicable content in the Plan by Element/sub-element and to determine if each requirement has been ‘Met’ or ‘Not Met.’ The ‘Required Revisions’ summary at the bottom of each Element must be completed by FEMA to provide a clear explanation of the revisions that are required for plan approval. Required revisions must be explained for each plan sub-element that is ‘Not Met.’ Sub-elements should be referenced in each summary by using the appropriate numbers (A1, B3, etc.), where applicable. Requirements for each Element and sub-element are described in detail in this *Plan Review Guide* in Section 4, Regulation Checklist.

1. REGULATION CHECKLIST		Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met	Not Met
Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans)				
ELEMENT A. PLANNING PROCESS				
A1. Does the Plan document the planning process, including how it was prepared and who was involved in the process for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(1))	Pages 3 – 6 (Ch. 2); Appendix A	X		
A2. Does the Plan document an opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, agencies that have the authority to regulate development as well as other interests to be involved in the planning process? (Requirement §201.6(b)(2))	Pages 3 – 5 (Ch. 2); Appendices A – D	X		
A3. Does the Plan document how the public was involved in the planning process during the drafting stage? (Requirement §201.6(b)(1))	Page 3 – 6 (Ch. 2); Appendix A	X		
A4. Does the Plan describe the review and incorporation of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information? (Requirement §201.6(b)(3))	P. 7	X		
A5. Is there discussion of how the community(ies) will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(iii))	Page 138 (Ch. 6)	X		
A6. Is there a description of the method and schedule for keeping the plan current (monitoring, evaluating and updating the mitigation plan within a 5-year cycle)? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(i))	Page 138 (Ch. 6)	X		
ELEMENT A: REQUIRED REVISIONS				
ELEMENT B. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT				
B1. Does the Plan include a description of the type, location, and extent of all-natural hazards that can affect each jurisdiction(s)? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i))	Pages 22 – 109	X		

1. REGULATION CHECKLIST		Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met	Not Met
Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans)				
B2. Does the Plan include information on previous occurrences of hazard events and on the probability of future hazard events for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(i))	Pages 22 – 109, Historic Data and Probability sections	X		
B3. Is there a description of each identified hazard’s impact on the community as well as an overall summary of the community’s vulnerability for each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii))	Pages 28 – 109, Vulnerability Assessment sections	X		
B4. Does the Plan address NFIP insured structures within the jurisdiction that have been repetitively damaged by floods? (Requirement §201.6(c)(2)(ii))	Page 31	X		
<u>ELEMENT B: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>				
ELEMENT C. MITIGATION STRATEGY				
C1. Does the plan document each jurisdiction’s existing authorities, policies, programs and resources and its ability to expand on and improve these existing policies and programs? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3))	Page 111	X		
C2. Does the Plan address each jurisdiction’s participation in the NFIP and continued compliance with NFIP requirements, as appropriate? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(ii))	Page 31; Page 111	X		
C3. Does the Plan include goals to reduce/avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(i))	Page 9	X		
C4. Does the Plan identify and analyze a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects for each jurisdiction being considered to reduce the effects of hazards, with emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(ii))	Pages 113 – 136 (Ch. 4)	X		
C5. Does the Plan contain an action plan that describes how the actions identified will be prioritized (including cost benefit review), implemented, and administered by each jurisdiction? (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(iv)); (Requirement §201.6(c)(3)(iii))	Pages 110 – 136 (Ch. 4)	X		
C6. Does the Plan describe a process by which local governments will integrate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms, such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate? (Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(ii))	Page 138	X		
<u>ELEMENT C: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>				
ELEMENT D. PLAN REVIEW, EVALUATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION (applicable to plan updates only)				
D1. Was the plan revised to reflect changes in development? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3))	Pages 11 - 21	X		

1. REGULATION CHECKLIST		Location in Plan (section and/or page number)	Met	Not Met
Regulation (44 CFR 201.6 Local Mitigation Plans)				
D2. Was the plan revised to reflect progress in local mitigation efforts? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3))	Table 4.1; Appendix B, pages 113-115 (revised)	X		
D3. Was the plan revised to reflect changes in priorities? (Requirement §201.6(d)(3))	Pages 3 – 9	X		
<u>ELEMENT D: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>				
ELEMENT E. PLAN ADOPTION				
E1. Does the Plan include documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval? (Requirement §201.6(c)(5))	Forthcoming, Page 137 (Ch. 5)			
E2. For multi-jurisdictional plans, has each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan documented formal plan adoption? (Requirement §201.6(c)(5))	N/A			
<u>ELEMENT E: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>				
ELEMENT F. ADDITIONAL STATE REQUIREMENTS (OPTIONAL FOR STATE REVIEWERS ONLY; NOT TO BE COMPLETED BY FEMA)				
F1.				
F2.				
<u>ELEMENT F: REQUIRED REVISIONS</u>				

SECTION 2: PLAN ASSESSMENT

A. Plan Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement

This section provides a discussion of the strengths of the plan document and identifies areas where these could be improved beyond minimum requirements.

Recommended Corrections:

- P. 55, paragraph one, refers to Figure 3.15 for tornadoes reported in MA, however, that appears to be Figure 3.17. This is a possible typo.
- P. 96, paragraph one, refers to Figure 3.22 for soil types in MA, however, that appears to be Figure 3.25. This is a possible typo.
- P. 112, third sentence, refers to Table 3.17 for the mitigation projects, however, that appears to be Table 4.1. This is a possible typo.

Element A: Planning Process

Strengths:

- The update of Hazard Mitigation Plan happened concurrently with the MVP Process, integrating these two important initiatives.
- The planning process is well documented and includes a detailed schedule of the events and meetings that contributed to development of the plan. For example, a CRB Workshop was held on 11/14/19 and included the Data Walk method of community engagement. A Public Listening Session was held on 3/9/20 and a Public Review and Comment Period was held in July of 2020 on the Town and BRPC web sites.
- This Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan is an update of the multi-jurisdictional Berkshire County Hazard Mitigation Plan from 2012. The Town retained the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission to aid in developing this single-jurisdiction plan.
- The plan update pulls information from the previous 2012 Multi-Jurisdictional Plan and the State of MA SHMCAP. Great Barrington HMP's title mirrors the State's (SHMCAP!). That's great.
- The plan contains nice maps and graphics to further explain the plan content.
- The plan contains links to references at the end of each section, which is a helpful approach to accessing sources of information.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- For future updates, consider expanding the supporting documentation of the planning process by including meeting summaries or notes. Recording the planning team's discussion and decision-making process will be useful during plan updates.

Element B: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

Strengths:

- Great Barrington enforces a floodplain bylaw, protecting zones A and A1-30 as shown on the FIRM, which reduces the level of damage that would occur in a flood event by managing development in the floodplain (P. 24). Work altering the floodplain requires a special permit (P. 111).

Opportunities for Improvement:

- The plan acknowledges that the community's FIRMs have not been updated since 1982 and, as such, are likely outdated.

Element C: Mitigation Strategy

Strengths:

- The community has a range of mitigation goals (P. 9) that are unique and customized to the community.
- The plan contains a comprehensive range of mitigation actions within Table 4.1 (local plans and regulations, structure and infrastructure projects, natural system protections, and education and awareness programs, etc.).
- Kudos to the community and the participants for identifying five top priorities to help lay out is Mitigation Strategy. Calling out societal problems and focusing on ways to solve and deal with systemic racism is fundamental to social justice and environmental planning.
- The plan contains a comprehensive and detailed table of dams within the community.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- For future updates, keep in mind that existing authorities, policies, programs and resources to accomplish hazard mitigation (C1 element) is not limited to the flood hazard. The plan can further expand upon other authorities, policies, programs and resources that the Town of Great Barrington provides in support of multiple hazards and related hazard mitigation efforts within the community.
- Of all repetitive loss properties in the Town of Great Barrington, discuss the mitigation strategy and the actions in considered to prevent future flood damage.
- To expand and strengthen the NFIP continued compliance requirement, check the new MEMA's Floodplain Management Model Bylaw: <https://www.mass.gov/guides/floodplain-management> Massachusetts 2020 Model Floodplain Bylaws: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>

Element D: Plan Update, Evaluation, and Implementation (*Plan Updates Only*)

Strengths:

- The Town of Great Barrington will officially review needed updates for the Great Barrington HMCAP on an annual basis. The HMCAP will also be integrated into the Capital Improvement Plan on an annual basis (P. 138).
- The plan notes that the Town has measures in place to limit development in identified flood hazard areas. While the population of the town is decreasing, it is noted within the plan that development pressure still exists as new business ventures are pursued, and land is purchased to construct new homes (P. 15).
- Revised HMP provided updates on the status of actions from 2012 that were not completed.

Opportunities for Improvement:

- For future updates of the plan, keep in mind that the development in hazard areas is not limited to the flood hazard. An increase in risk can apply to development within or in proximity to any hazard area.
- For future updates, consider including data on building permits, major renovations, and/or other information related to development, since the last plan update.
- Including a discussion of lessons learned about implementing mitigation actions would strengthen the plan, as would a short narrative on some "success" stories.
- The Town of Great Barrington is encouraged to consider inserting the final adoption resolution in the front of the final HMP to celebrate the community's successful completion of this document.

B. Resources for Implementing Your Approved Plan

Refer to the [Massachusetts Integrated State Hazard Mitigation and Climate Action Plan](#), [Resilient MA Climate Clearinghouse](#), and State's [Climate Action Page](#) to learn about hazards relevant to Massachusetts and the State's efforts and action plan.

Technical Assistance:

FEMA

- [FEMA Climate Change](#): Provides resources that address climate change.
- [FEMA Library](#): FEMA publications can be downloaded from the library website. These resources may be especially useful in public information and outreach programs. Topics include building and construction techniques, NFIP policies, and integrating historic preservation and cultural resource protection with mitigation.
- [FEMA RiskMAP](#): Technical assistance is available through RiskMAP to assist communities in identifying, selecting, and implementing activities to support mitigation planning and risk reduction. Attend RiskMAP discovery meetings that may be scheduled in the state, especially any in neighboring communities with shared watersheds boundaries.

Other Federal

- [EPA Resilience and Adaptation in New England \(RAINE\)](#): A collection of vulnerability, resilience and adaptation reports, plans, and webpages at the state, regional, and community levels. Communities can use the RAINE database to learn from nearby communities about building resiliency and adapting to climate change.
- [EPA Soak Up the Rain](#): Soak Up the Rain is a public outreach campaign focused on stormwater quality and flooding. The website contains helpful resources for public outreach and easy implementation projects for individuals and communities.
- [NOAA C-CAP Land Cover Atlas](#): This interactive mapping tool allows communities to see their land uses, how they have changed over time, and what impact those changes may be having on resilience.
- [NOAA Sea Grant](#): Sea Grant's mission is to provide integrated research, communication, education, extension and legal programs to coastal communities that lead to the responsible use of the nation's ocean, coastal and Great Lakes resources through informed personal, policy and management decisions. Examples of the resources available help communities plan, adapt, and recovery are the Community Resilience Map of Projects and the National Sea Grant Resilience Toolkit
- [NOAA Sea Level Rise Viewer](#) and [Union for Concerned Scientists Inundation Mapper](#): These interactive mapping tools help coastal communities understand how their hazard risks may be changing. The "Preparing for Impacts" section of the inundation mapper addresses policy responses to protect communities.
- [NOAA U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit](#): This resource provides scientific tools, information, and expertise to help manage climate-related risks and improve resilience to extreme events. The "[Steps to Resilience](#)" tool may be especially helpful in mitigation planning and implementation.

State

- [Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency](#): The Massachusetts State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) and State Mitigation Planner(s) can provide guidance regarding grants, technical assistance, available publications, and training opportunities.
- Massachusetts Departments of [Conservation and Recreation](#) and [Environmental Protection](#) can provide technical assistance and resources to communities seeking to implement their hazard mitigation plans.

- <https://www.mass.gov/guides/floodplain-management> Massachusetts 2020 Model Floodplain Bylaws. <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>
- [MA Mapping Portal](#): Interactive mapping tool with downloadable data

Not for Profit

- [Kresge Foundation Online Library](#): Reports and documents on increasing urban resilience, among other topics.
- [Naturally Resilient Communities](#): A collaboration of organizations put together this guide to nature-based solutions and case studies so that communities can learn which nature-based solutions can work for them.
- [Rockefeller Foundation Resilient Cities](#): Helping cities, organizations, and communities better prepare for, respond to, and transform from disruption.

Funding Sources:

- [Massachusetts Coastal Resilience Grant Program](#): Funding for coastal communities to address coastal flooding, erosion, and sea level rise.
- [Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness](#) program: Provides support for communities to plan for climate change and resilience and implement priority projects.
- [Massachusetts Water Quality Grants](#): Clean water grants that can be used for river restoration or other kinds of hazard mitigation implementation projects.
- [Grants.gov](#): Lists of grant opportunities from federal agencies (HUD, DOT/FHWA, EPA, etc.) to support rural development, sustainable communities and smart growth, climate change and adaptation, historic preservation, risk analyses, wildfire mitigation, conservation, Federal Highways pilot projects, etc.
- [FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance \(HMA\)](#): FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Assistance provides funding for projects under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM), and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA). States, federally recognized tribes, local governments, and some not for profit organizations are eligible applicants.
- [GrantWatch](#): The website posts current foundation, local, state, and federal grants on one website, making it easy to consider a variety of sources for grants, guidance, and partnerships. Grants listed include The Partnership for Resilient Communities, the Institute for Sustainable Communities, the Rockefeller Foundation Resilience, The Nature Conservancy, The Kresge Climate-Resilient Initiative, the Threshold Foundation’s Thriving Resilient Communities funding, the RAND Corporation, and ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability.
- [USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service \(NRCS\)](#) and [Rural Development Grants](#): NRCS provides conservation technical assistance, financial assistance, and conservation innovation grants. USDA Rural Development operates over fifty financial assistance programs for a variety of rural applications.