

Littleton Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Public Meeting #1

November 16, 2023
Littleton Planning Board

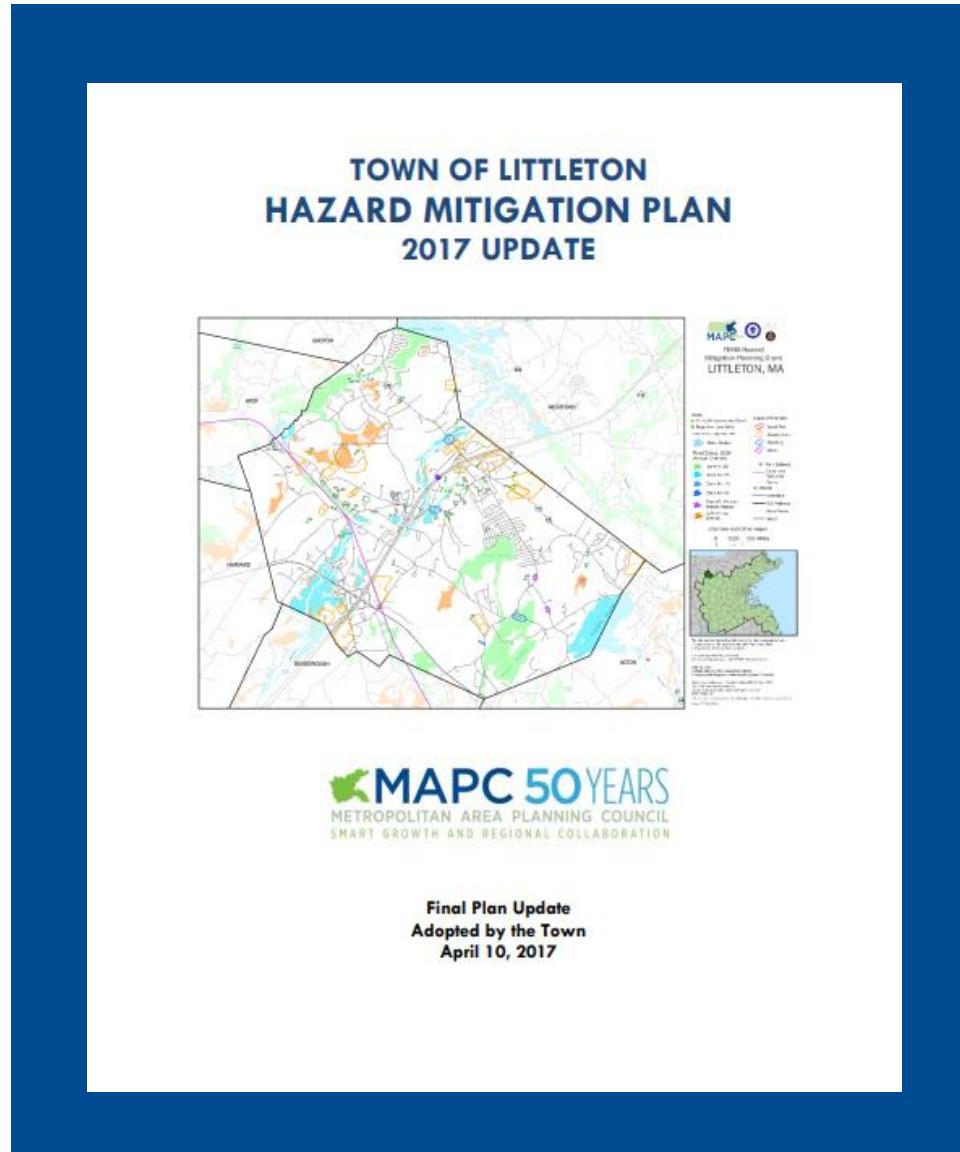
Martin Pillsbury and Jenifer Wallitsch
Metropolitan Area Planning Council



Background: Hazard Mitigation

Overview of Hazard Mitigation Planning

- **Disaster Mitigation Act:**
FEMA guidelines for local Hazard Mitigation Plans
- **Pre-Disaster Mitigation:** plan for resilience before disaster
- **5-year plan update cycle:**
Update plan data and community priorities
- **FEMA grant eligibility:**
Approved plan required for FEMA mitigation grants



Overview of Hazard Mitigation Planning

Reducing impacts of natural hazards through strategies including policy, projects, and programs.

1. What preventative actions are being taken **now** to reduce risks and damages?
2. What **additional** actions can be taken in the future to increase resilience?

A plan for Multiple Natural Hazards

-  Flooding (coastal and inland)
-  Wind events (thunderstorms, hurricanes, tornadoes)
-  Winter hazards (blizzards, nor'easters)
-  Geologic hazards (earthquakes, landslides)
-  Wild Fires
-  Extreme temperatures and drought

Breaking the Cycle of Disaster & Rebuilding



Techniques for Hazard Mitigation



Prevention (*planning and zoning*)

Property Protection (*building elevation*)

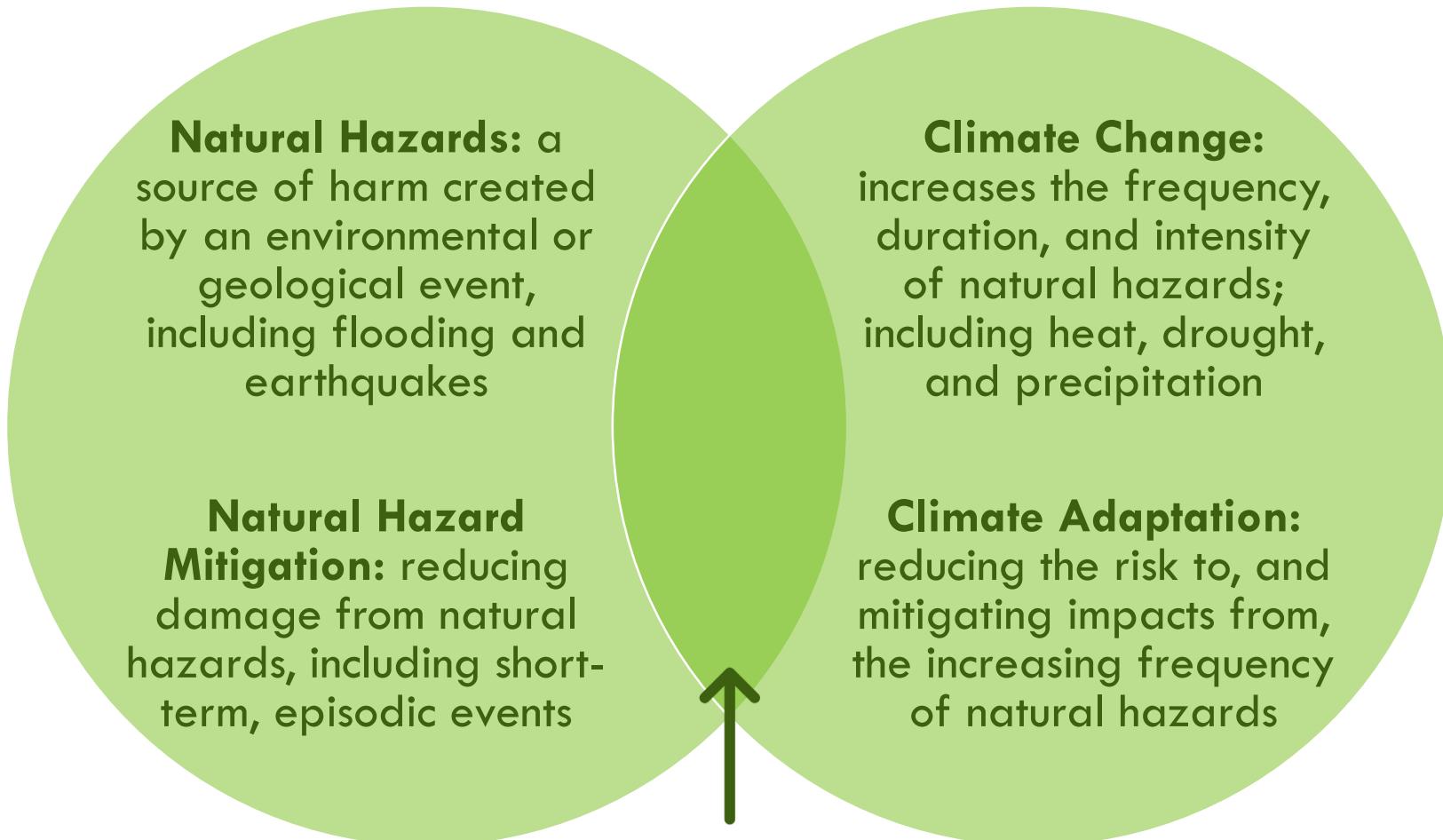
Public Education (*public outreach*)

Protect Natural Resources (*wetlands, floodplains*)

Structural Projects (*culverts, pumps, dams*)

Emergency Services Protection
(*protection of emergency facilities & infrastructure*)

Natural Hazards and Climate Change



Adapting to the expected
impacts of climate change is
a form of hazard mitigation

The Planning Process

Plan Development Process



Process Guided by the Local Hazard Mitigation Team

Local Team Role:

- Participate in four meetings
- Establish and endorse project goals
- Provide updated data and local expertise
- Finalize mitigation actions for the final plan

Representatives from:

- Town Administrator
- Planning Administrator
- Fire Department
- Elder and Human Services
- Police Department
- Conservation Department
- Public Works Department
- Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments



What We've Heard

What We've Heard: Examples of Critical Facilities & Infrastructure

Municipal Facilities

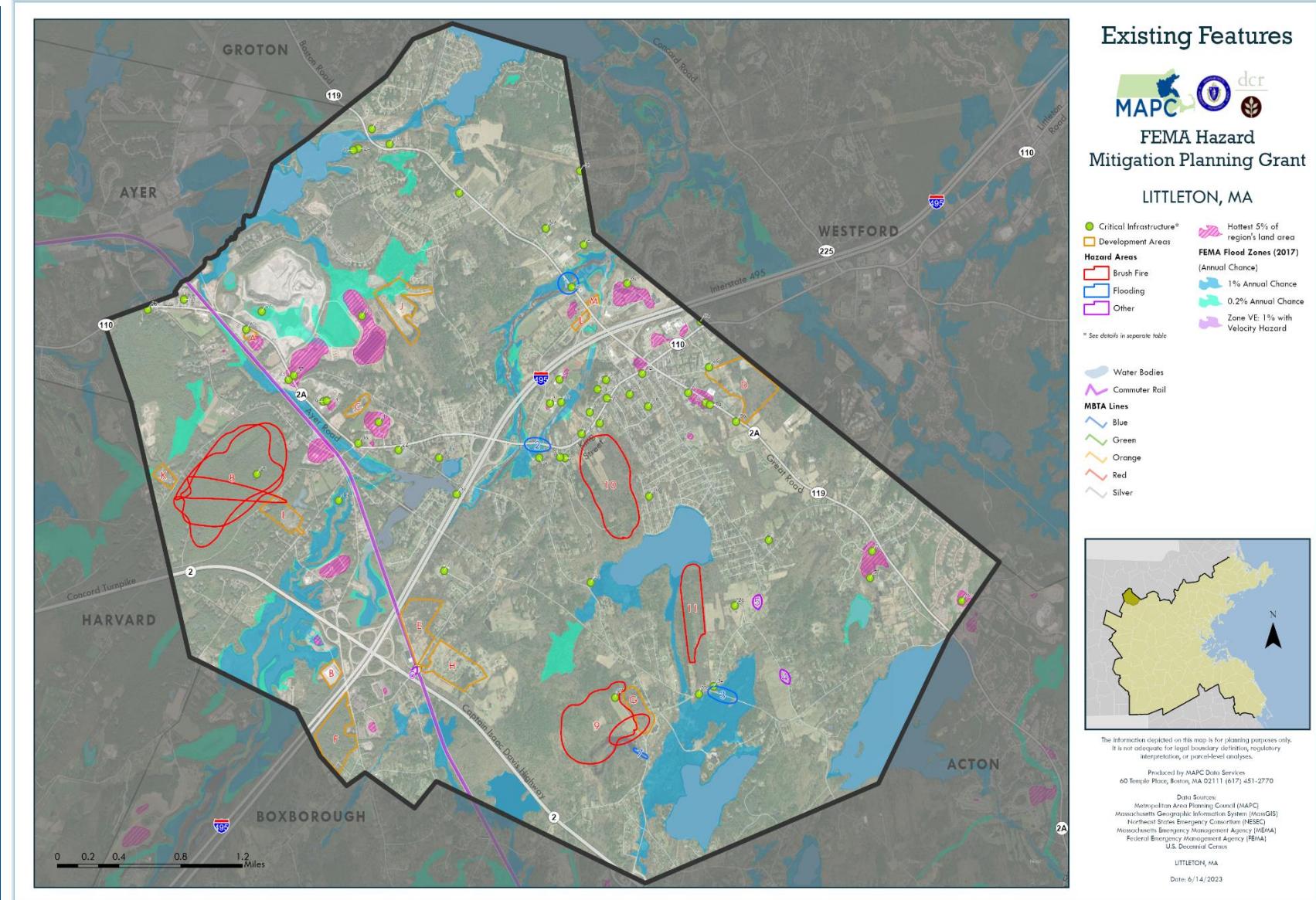
- Town Hall
- Fire Station
- Police Station

Infrastructure

- Pump Stations
- Town Wells
- Water Towers
- Mill Pond Dam

Community Facilities

- Littleton Schools
- Shattuck St Housing
- Life Care Center
- Acton Medical
Associates



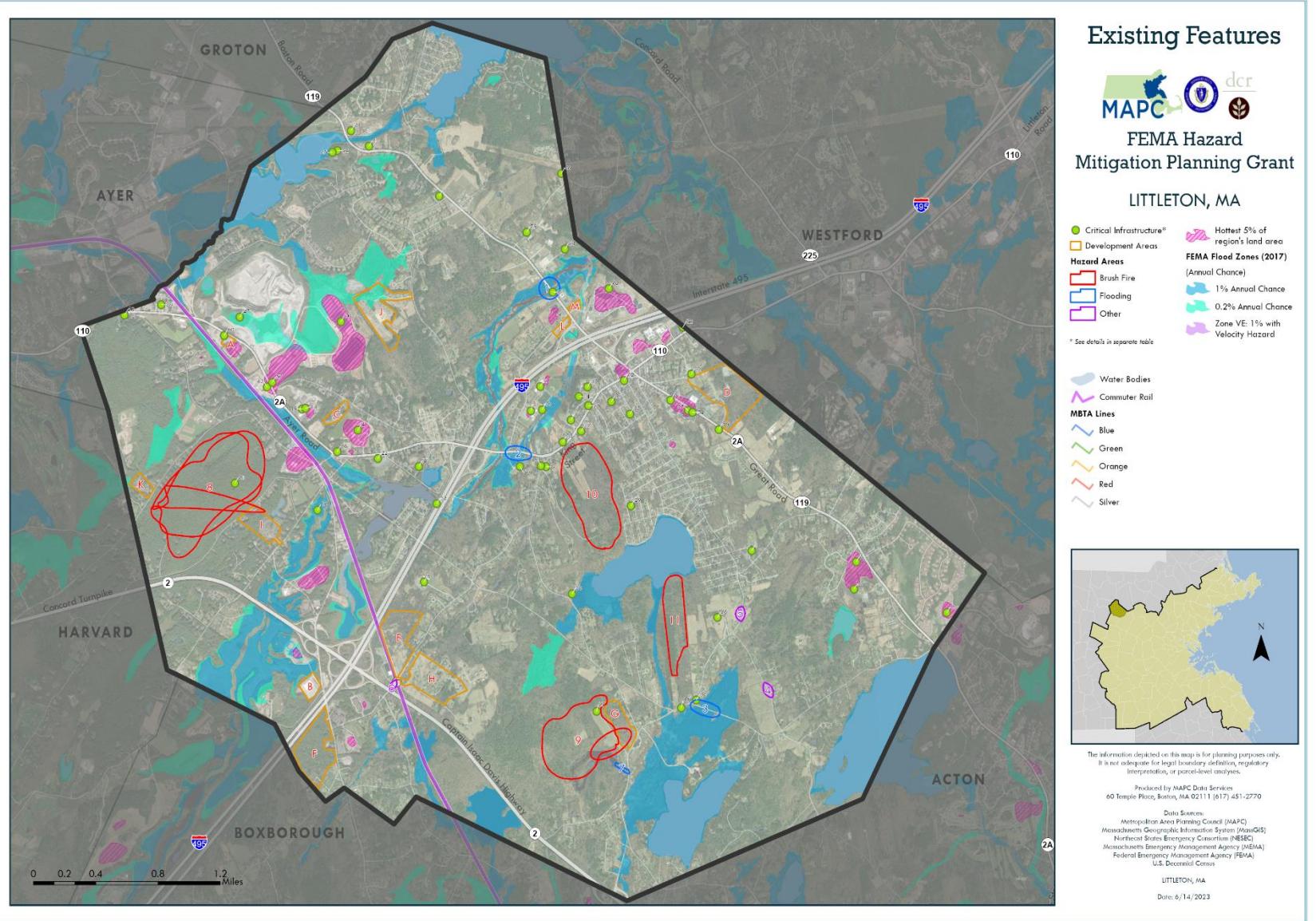
What We've Heard: Examples of Local Hazard Areas

Flooding areas:

- King Street
- Nashoba Road
- Beaver Brook/Great Road
- Gilson Road

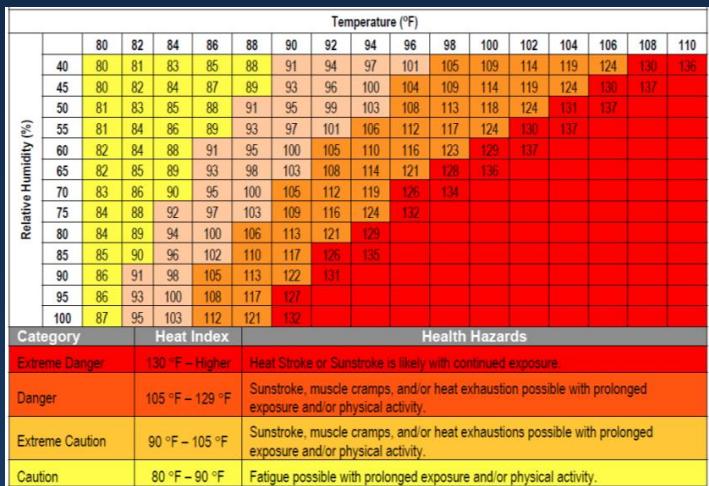
Other Hazards:

- **Snow** hazards at Nagog Hill Road and Newtown Road
- **Brushfire** hazard at Oak Hill, Morgan Property/Forest Foundation, Frost and Whitcomb Conservation Area, Smith Conversation Land and Cobb/Yapp Conversation Land

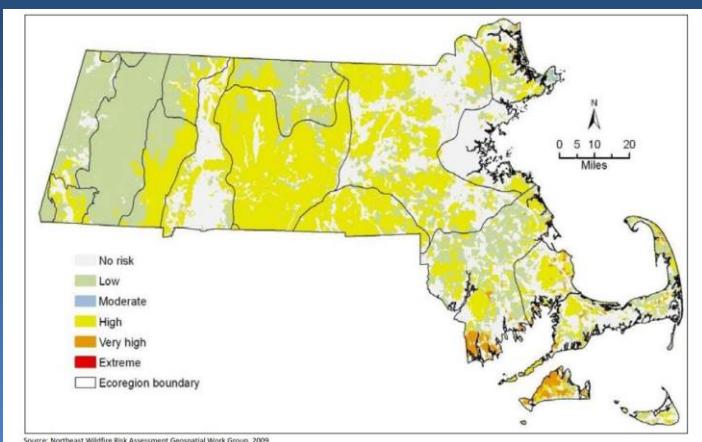


Other Natural Hazards

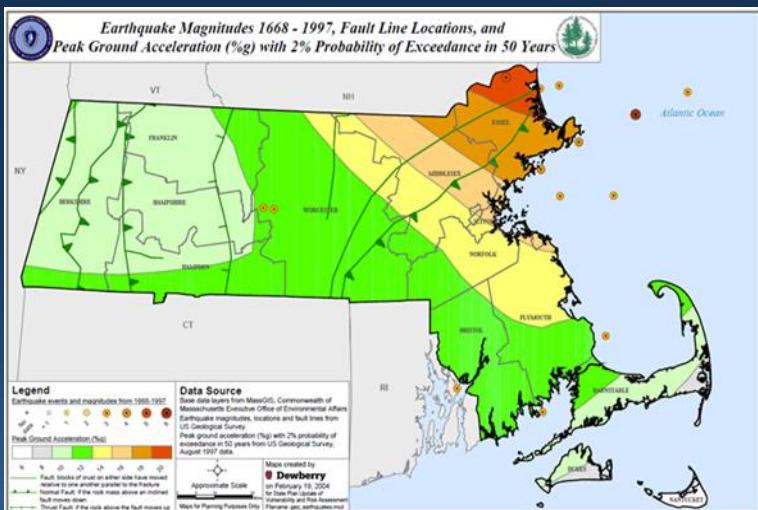
Extreme Heat



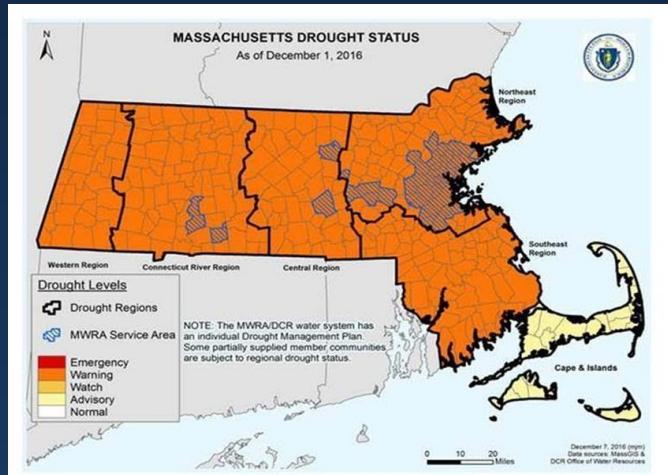
Wildfires



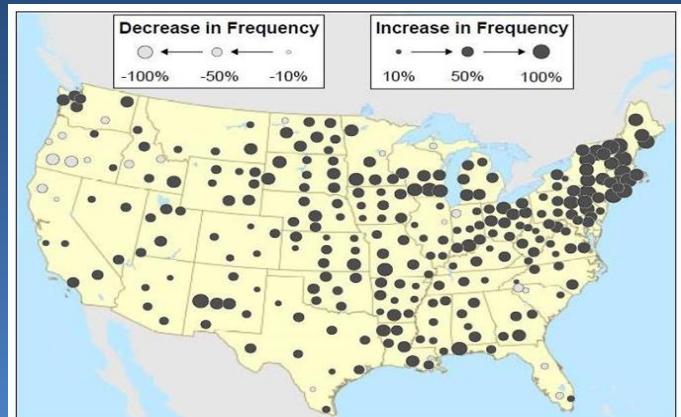
Earthquakes



Drought



Extreme Precipitation



Wind & Winter Hazards: Nor'easters/Blizzards

Storm Event	Date
Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	March 2018
Severe Winter Storm, Snowstorm, Flooding	January 2015
Severe Winter Storm, Snowstorm, Flooding	February 2013
Hurricane Sandy	October/November 2012



What We've Heard: Examples of Existing Mitigation Measures

Multiple Hazard Mitigation:

- Local Emergency Management Comm. (LEPC)
- Comp. Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)

Flood Mitigation:

- Annual Catch Basin Cleaning
- Drainage Maintenance
- Participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- Water Resources Protection
- Wetlands Protection
- Open Space Residential Design (OSRD)
- Community Preservation
- Site Plan Review

Brush Fire Mitigation:

- Permits required for outdoor burning
- Fire department review of subdivision plans for fire safety

Winter Hazard Mitigation:

- DPW conducts standard snow operations.

Wind and Winter Mitigation:

- Trees trimmed for resilience to wind and ice and snow hazards (Town contractor and National Grid)
- MA State Building Code

Next Steps

Next Steps for Developing the Plan

1. 3rd Local Team Meeting – Status of Mitigation (January)
2. 4th Local Team Meeting – Finalize Mitigation Strategy (April)
3. 2nd Public Meeting – Present Draft Plan, public comments (May)
4. Finalize Plan – submit it to MEMA & FEMA (May)
5. Town Adoption of Final Plan (August)

After FEMA approval of the plan, Littleton will be eligible for FEMA grants for hazard mitigation projects

We want to hear from you: please take our *brief* survey!

We are *interested* in:

- 1. *What hazards you are most concerned about***
- 2. *How hazards have impacted you***
- 3. *What mitigation you would like to see the Town consider***

Please visit mapc.ma/LittletonSurvey

Or scan this *QR* code:



Thank You!

Questions and Comments may be sent to:

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or

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MAPC

LittletonResilience@mapc.org

Survey: mapc.ma/LittletonSurvey