



SECTION 5. CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

2020 HMP Changes

- The sections in the 2020 have been realigned to increase the readability of the plan. In the 2015 HMP, the capability assessment section was presented in Section 6 as part of the mitigation strategy. For the 2020 HMP update, the capability assessment was expanded and presented in Section 5 as a stand-alone section with capabilities expanded in each jurisdictional annex as well in Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes).

According to FEMA's *Mitigation Planning How-To Guide #3*, a capability assessment is an inventory of a community's missions, programs, and policies and an analysis of its capacity to carry them out. Each jurisdiction has a unique set of capabilities available to accomplish mitigation and reduce long-term vulnerability to future hazard events. Capabilities include authorities, policies, programs, staff, and funding. Reviewing existing capabilities helps identify capabilities that currently implement mitigation and leads to loss reductions or that have the potential to be implemented in the future.

This assessment is an integral part of the planning process. The assessment process enables identification, review, and analysis of current federal, state, and local programs, policies, regulations, funding, and practices that could either facilitate or hinder mitigation.

During the original planning process, Essex County and participating jurisdictions identified and assessed their capabilities in the areas of existing programs, policies, and technical documents. By completing this assessment, each jurisdiction learned how or whether they would be able to implement certain mitigation actions by determining the following:

- Limitations that could exist on undertaking actions.
- The range of local and state administrative, programmatic, regulatory, financial, and technical resources available to assist in implementing their mitigation actions.
- Actions deemed infeasible, as they are currently outside the scope of capabilities.
- Types of mitigation actions that could be technically, legally (regulatory), administratively, politically, or fiscally challenging or infeasible.
- Opportunities to enhance local capabilities to support long term mitigation and risk reduction.

During the plan update process, all participating jurisdictions were tasked with developing or updating their capability assessment, paying particular attention to evaluating the effectiveness of these capabilities in supporting hazard mitigation and identifying opportunities to enhance local capabilities to integrate hazard mitigation into their plans, programs, and day-to-day operations.

County and municipal capabilities in the Planning and Regulatory, Administrative and Technical, and Fiscal subjects can be found in the Capability Assessment section of each jurisdictional annex in Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes).



5.1 UPDATE PROCESS SUMMARY

The purpose of the capability assessment is to understand the planning, regulatory, administrative, technical, and financial capabilities present in Essex County. This assessment helps the County and its jurisdictions identify strengths and opportunities that can be used to reduce losses from hazard events and reduce risks throughout Essex County.

To complete the capability assessment, the contracted consultant met with Essex County and each municipality one-on-one to review the capability assessment from the 2015 HMP and update accordingly. In addition to in-person meetings, the consultant reviewed plans and codes/ordinances to enhance the information provided by the jurisdictions.

A summary of the various federal and state capabilities available to promote and support mitigation and reduce risk in Essex County are presented below. Information provided by the County and municipalities are presented in Volume II, Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) of this plan update.

5.2 PLANNING AND REGULATORY CAPABILITY

Planning and regulatory capabilities are based on the implementation of ordinances, policies, local laws and state statutes, and plans and programs that relate to guiding and management growth and development. Planning and regulatory capabilities refer not only to the current plans and regulations, but also to the jurisdiction’s ability to change and improve those plans and regulations as needed. The following provides the planning and regulatory capabilities for Essex County.

5.2.1 Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – Federal and State

Table 5-1. Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – Federal and State

Capability		
Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA)	Description:	The DMA is the current federal legislation addressing hazard mitigation planning. It emphasizes planning for disasters before they occur. It specifically addresses planning at the local level, requiring plans to be in place before Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant funds are available to communities. This plan is designed to meet the requirements of DMA, improving eligibility for future hazard mitigation funds.
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	HMPs designed to meet the requirements of DMA will remain eligible for future FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance funds
	Hazard:	All natural hazards
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Description:	The NFIP is a federal program enabling property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance as a protection against flood losses in exchange for state and community floodplain management regulations that reduce future flood damages. The Flood Hazard Profile in Section 4.3.6 (Flood) provides information on recent legislation related to reforms to the NFIP. All municipalities in Essex County actively participate in the NFIP. As of September 30, 2018, there were 4,221 NFIP policies in Essex County. There have been 4,752 claims made, totaling over \$110.3 million for damages to



Capability		
		structures and contents. There are 450 NFIP Repetitive Loss properties and 62 Severe Repetitive Loss properties in the county.
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Full compliance and good standing under the NFIP are application prerequisites for all FEMA grant programs for which participating jurisdictions are eligible under this plan.
	Hazard:	Flood
NFIP Community Rating System (CRS)	Description:	<p>As an additional component of the NFIP, CRS is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS: (1) reduce flood losses, (2) facilitate accurate insurance rating, and (3) promote the awareness of flood insurance. Municipalities, and the county as a whole, could expect significant cost savings on premiums if enrolled in the CRS program.</p> <p>As of April 2019, the Township of Fairfield (Class 6is actively participating in the CRS program. The Townships of Belleville and Montclair are Class 10 however their status is rescinded. Other communities in Essex County noted they explored the possibility of participating.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	CRS premium discounts on flood insurance range from 5 percent for Class 9 communities up to 45 percent for Class 1 communities.
	Hazard:	Flood
Municipal Land Use Law	Description:	<p>The State of New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law (L.1975, c. 291, s. 1, effective August 1, 1976) is the legislative foundation for the land use process in the State of New Jersey, including decisions by Planning Boards and Zoning Boards of Adjustment. It defines the powers and responsibilities of boards and is essential to their functions and decisions. It also provides the required components of a municipal master plan.</p> <p>Every municipal agency must adopt and can amend reasonable rules and regulations, consistent with this act or with any applicable ordinance, for the administration of its functions, powers, and duties. These plans help jurisdictions review their land use plans and policies with public participation. The Municipal Land Use Law requires that each municipality prepare a comprehensive plan and update that plan every 10 years.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	State of New Jersey
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All
State of New Jersey Hazard Mitigation Plan (2019 Update)	Description:	The State of New Jersey HMP includes an evaluation of the state’s overall pre- and post-hazard mitigation policies, programs, and capabilities; the policies related to development in hazard-prone areas; and the state’s funding capabilities. The State of New Jersey HMP thoroughly describes the federal and state programs available to Essex County to promote mitigation. The State of New Jersey HMP was used as a resource in developing Essex County’s HMP update.
	Responsible Agency:	NJOEM
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All
Critical Area Protection Policy	Description:	The following NJDEP programs both protect critical natural resources, and provide funding for the State, municipalities, and counties to purchase land for



Capability	
	<p>open-space preservation and recreation, which may directly or indirectly support hazard mitigation efforts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Acres Program • Blue Acres Program • Historical Preservation Program • Farmland Preservation • Wetlands Act of 1970 (N.J.S.A. 13:9A) • Soil and Erosion and Sediment Control Act (N.J.S.A. 4:24) <p>The Wetlands Act of 1970 (N.J.S.A. 13:9A) provide rules and regulations governing development in wetland areas of New Jersey. New Jersey has 15 soil conservation districts, following county boundaries that implement the New Jersey Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Act (N.J.S.A. 4:24), which governs certain aspects of new development.</p> <p>The County of Essex established a County Recreation and Open Space Trust Fund (Ord No. O-2007-00032) pursuant to P.L. 1997, Chapter 24, which shall be funded through the collection of property tax at a rate not to exceed \$0.015 per \$100 of total County equalized real property valuation. (N.J.S.A. 40:12-15.1 et seq.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: NJDEP, Essex County Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Board</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes – the various programs (Green Acres, Blue Acres) provide funding to jurisdictions to acquire land and properties and turn into open space. The Essex County Open Space Trust Fund can be used to acquire land and to maintain the properties.</p>
	<p>Hazard: Coastal Storm, Flood, Severe Weather</p>
Uniform Construction Code (UCC)	<p>Description:</p> <p>Building codes mandate best practices and technology, much of which is designed to reduce or prevent damage from occurring when structures are under stress.</p> <p>The UCC adopts up-to-date building codes as its Building Subcode and One- and Two-Family Subcode. These Subcodes contain requirements that address construction in both A and V flood zones. Also, all new construction is required to comply with the UCC for flood zone construction.</p> <p>New Jersey has enacted legislation directing the Department of Community Affairs (NJ DCA) to adopt a radon hazard code or revise the state building code to establish “adequate and appropriate standards to ensure that schools and residential buildings within tier one areas [as defined by the state] ... are constructed in a manner that minimizes radon gas and radon progeny entry and facilitates any subsequent remediation that might prove necessary.” See N.J. Stat. Ann. 52:27D-123a.</p> <p>The Department then adopted a radon hazard sub-code which does not reference existing model standards or guidance, but which sets forth the basic requirements for a passive sub-slab or sub-membrane depressurization system. See N.J. Admin. Code 5:23-10.4. The radon control standards and procedures apply to new residential construction (and school construction) in “tier one” areas, as defined by the state, and Appendix 10-A of the sub-code lists the specific municipalities that are designated as tier one areas.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: NJ DCA</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p>
	<p>Hazard: All</p>



5.2.2 Planning and Regulatory Capabilities - County and Local

Table 5-2 summarizes the planning and regulatory capabilities of Essex County and its municipalities. Detailed information regarding these capabilities can be found in each jurisdictional annex found in Volume II, Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes).

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Table 5-2. Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – County and Local

Municipality	Master Plan	Capital Improvement Plan	Disaster Debris Management Plan	Floodplain or Watershed Plan	Stormwater Management Plan	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan	Urban Water Management Plan	Habitat Conservation Plan	Economic Development Plan	Shoreline Management Plan	Community Wildfire Protection Plan	Community Forest Management Plan	Transportation Plan	Agriculture Plan	Climate Action Plan	Tourism Plan	Business Development Plan	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment	Post-Disaster Recovery Plan	Continuity of Operations Plan	Public Health Plan	Other
Essex County	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	X
Belleville	X	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	-
Bloomfield	X	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	-
Caldwell	X	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-
Cedar Grove	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
East Orange	X	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	X	X	X	-	X	X	-
Essex Fells	X	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X
Fairfield	X	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	-
Glen Ridge	X	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	-
Irvington	X	X	-	X	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-
Livingston	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	X	X
Maplewood	X	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X
Millburn	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	X
Montclair	X	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X
Newark	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	-	X
North Caldwell	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X
Nutley	X	X	X	-	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	X	-	X	X	-	X	X	X	X
Orange	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Roseland	X	X	X	-	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-
South Orange	X	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	X
Verona	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-
West Caldwell	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	X
West Orange	X	X	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	X

Notes:

- X Jurisdiction currently has this capability in place
- No capability in place





5.3 ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITY

Administrative and technical capabilities refer to the jurisdiction’s staff and their skills and tools that can be used for mitigation planning and implementation. It also refers to the ability to access and coordinate the resources effectively. The following provides the administrative and technical capabilities for Essex County.

5.3.1 Administrative and Technical Capability – Federal and State

Table 5-3. Administrative and Technical Capability – Federal and State

Capability	Description:	
Recovery Bureau	Description:	The Chief of the Recovery Bureau supervises the Mitigation, Public Assistance, and Finance Units. The Mitigation Unit undertakes hazard mitigation planning and the review of mitigation projects in advance of potential disasters, and is also activated during and immediately after disasters to evaluate existing and proposed mitigation measures in the affected areas.
	Responsible Agency:	NJOEM
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All
Mitigation Unit	Description:	The Mitigation Unit, within the Emergency Management Section, has the mission of enhancing state, county, and municipal risk reduction through the development and implementation of mitigation strategies. Hazard mitigation, by definition, is any sustained action that prevents or reduces the loss of property or human life from recurring hazards. The Mitigation Unit accomplishes this task by implementing and administering several grant-based programs in conjunction with FEMA.
	Responsible Agency:	NJOEM
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All
Preparedness Bureau	Description:	The Preparedness Unit in the Preparedness Bureau is responsible for disseminating preparedness information in advance of a disaster or potential disaster. The Preparedness Unit maintains an extensive library of natural disaster preparedness and recovery information on its Plan and Prepare website (http://ready.nj.gov/plan-prepare/index.shtml). The disaster preparedness and recovery information featured prominently on the New Jersey State Police and NJOEM website home pages (http://njsp.org/ and http://ready.nj.gov/index.shtml) is a critical part of New Jersey’s efforts to protect public health and safety and to minimize loss of life and property in the event of a disaster.
	Responsible Agency:	NJOEM
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Administrative Plan	Description:	In the event that an active disaster declaration has necessitated a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Administrative Plan, the plan is reviewed to ensure compliance with the prevailing guidance and to set forth the administrative procedures, organization, and requirements for administering the HMGP in New Jersey. The HMGP Administrative Plan is developed by the state and details the process for prioritizing post-disaster mitigation funding of local mitigation projects.
	Responsible Agency:	NJOEM
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All



Capability	
Bureau of Dam Safety & Flood Control	Description: The Bureau of Dam Safety & Flood Control leads the state's efforts filling the State NFIP Coordinator position and providing Community Rating System (CRS) support. In addition, the section's responsibilities include the funding of construction and operation of federal, state, and local flood control mitigation projects throughout the state. The section has also taken a lead role on the development and adoption of NJ Flood Hazard Area mapping, as well as an active partnership with FEMA on their Map Modernization Program efforts. The bureau assists communities participating in the NFIP and interested in joining CRS through the NJDEP Community Assistance Program Unit.
	Responsible Agency: NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: Flood, Severe Weather, Coastal Storms
Dam Safety Section	Description: The NJDEP Dam Safety Section under the Bureau of Dam Safety & Flood Control has responsibility for overseeing dam safety in the state. The primary goal of the program is to ensure the safety and integrity of dams in New Jersey, and thereby protect people and property from the consequences of dam failures. The section also coordinates with the Division of State Police, local and county emergency management officials in the preparations and approval of emergency action plans. The Dam Safety Section reviews plans and specifications for the construction of new dams or for the alteration, repair, or removal of existing dams. The section must grant approval before the owner can proceed with construction. Engineers from the Dam Safety Section evaluate each project, investigate site conditions, and check recommended construction materials. During construction, engineers identify conditions that may require design changes, check for compliance with approved plans and specifications, and approve foundations before material is placed. Existing dams are periodically inspected to assure that they are adequately maintained and owners are directed to correct any deficiencies found. The regulations require the owner to obtain a professional engineer to inspect their dams on a regular basis. These investigations include a comprehensive review of all pertinent material contained in the Section's files, a visual inspection, technical studies when necessary, and preparation of a comprehensive report.
	Responsible Agency: NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: Flood, Severe Weather, Coastal Storms
Division of Water Supply and Geoscience	Description: This Division works to ensure adequate, reliable, and safe water supply is available for the future. This goal is accomplished through the regulation of ground and surface water diversions, permitting of wells, permitting of drinking water infrastructure, monitoring of drinking water quality, and technical support for water systems to achieve compliance with all federal and state standards. Water Supply staff provides technical assistance to assist water systems during water supply emergencies, as needed to re-establish safe and adequate public water supplies, and to address routine non-compliance from significant deficiencies or poor water quality test results. The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program assists water systems in financing the cost of infrastructure through the use of federal and New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust (NJEIT) funds. Additionally, Water Supply provides operator licensing and training support as well as financial assistance through the DWSRF program.
	Responsible Agency: NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: All
New Jersey Geological and Water Survey	Description: The New Jersey Geological and Water Survey evaluates geologic, hydrogeologic and water quality data to manage and protect water resources, to identify natural hazards and contaminants, and to provide mineral resources including offshore sands



Capability	
	<p>for beach nourishment. Information provided by the survey includes GIS data and maps of geology, topography, groundwater, and aquifer recharge. In addition the data tracks wellhead protection areas, aquifer thicknesses, properties and depths, groundwater quality, drought, geologic resources, and hazards such as earthquakes, abandoned mines, karst-influenced sinkholes, and landslides.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: NJDEP</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: Drought, Earthquake, Geological</p>
Office of Planning Advocacy	<p>Description: The New Jersey Office of Planning Advocacy (OPA) supports and coordinates planning throughout the state to protect the environment, mitigate development hazards and guide future growth into compact, mixed use development and redevelopment while fostering a robust long-term economy. The OPA implements the goals of the State Development and Redevelopment Plan to achieve comprehensive, long-term planning; and integrates that planning with programmatic and regulatory land use decisions at all levels of government and the private sector.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: New Jersey Department of the State</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: Natural Hazards</p>
Office of the State Climatologist	<p>Description: The Office of the New Jersey's State Climatologist (ONJSC) generates and archives climate data. Generated data are from the New Jersey Weather and Climate Network (NJWxNet), which is an assemblage of 55 automated weather stations situated throughout the state. A decade or more of hourly observations are available from some of the stations, while others have shorter records. Since fall 2012 observations are available on a five-minute basis.</p> <p>Along with these records, ONJSC archives or has ready access to National Weather Service Cooperative Weather Station data. These are daily observations from several dozen stations at any given time over the past century. Individual stations have as many as 120 years of data while other stations have started or ceased operating since the late 1800s. Another source of generated data is the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), which includes daily observations of rain and snow from as many as several hundred volunteers throughout the state.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: Rutgers University</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: Natural Hazards</p>
New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance (NJADAPT)	<p>Description: NJADAPT focuses on climate change preparedness for New Jersey in key impact sectors (public health; watersheds, rivers and coastal communities; built infrastructure; agriculture; and natural resources).</p> <p>NJADAPT is a collaborative effort of scientists and data managers in academia, government, the private sector and non-governmental organization community who have developed a strategic plan for a New Jersey platform to host and apply climate science impacts and data. The NJADAPT website (http://www.njadapt.org/) includes a flood exposure profile for community discussions about hazard impacts; NJ Flood Mapper (which is a tool for flooding hazards and sea level rise); and Getting to Resilience (a tool used to help communities reduce vulnerability and increase preparedness).</p> <p>Responsible Agency: Rutgers University</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: Flood, Coastal Storm, Severe Weather</p>



5.3.2 Administrative and Technical Capability – County and Local

Table 5-4 summarizes the administrative and technical capabilities in Essex County. Detailed information regarding administrative and technical capabilities in the County and the municipalities can be found in each jurisdictional annex found in Volume II, Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes).

Table 5-4. Administrative and Technical Capability – County and Local

Capability	Description:	
Office of Emergency Management	Description:	The Essex County Sheriff's Office – Office of Emergency Management (ECSO OEM) works closely with all Essex County municipalities, all public safety disciplines and critical private/public sector entities to engage in comprehensive disaster planning for Essex County. In addition to serving as a liaison to local, county, state and federal agencies, the ECSO OEM also serves as a liaison to utility companies and private sector companies within our region. These partners are key players who help support response and recovery efforts during emergencies. ECSO OEM is leading the 2020 Essex County HMP update and hosting information about the HMP on their website (https://www.essexsheriff.com/oem-category/2020-mid-plan-update/), including links to the citizen survey and informational brochure.
	Responsible Agency:	Essex County Sheriff's Office
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All
Essex County Department of Public Works	Description:	The Essex County Department of Public Works (the Department) maintains public infrastructure, and ensures a healthy, safe and natural environment. They are committed to providing efficient and effective high-quality customer service to the citizens and visitors of Essex County. Public Works Crews are always at work building and maintaining County infrastructure, ensuring wastewater and stormwater systems are fully operational, and ensuring roads are safe. The Department consists of six divisions responsible for a variety of activities. These range from the construction and maintenance of roads and highways in the unincorporated areas of the county, to the management of the region's public facilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division of Engineering • Division of Planning • Division of Buildings & Grounds • Division of Roads & Bridges • Division of Fleet Management • Division of Environmental Affairs <p>The Department supported the update of the 2020 Essex County HMP and sat on the Steering Committee for the planning process.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	Essex County Department of Public Works
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	The Capital Improvements Plan is updated each year by the Engineering Division and the Department. This includes mitigation-related projects such as county roadway improvements, drainage improvements on county roads, and various studies for county-owned structures and facilities. The County also includes projects that will assist with making the County more resilient to future storms.
	Hazard:	All
Division of Planning	Description:	The Division of Planning operates under the auspices of the Department. Functions include responsibility for long-range planning relating to development and conservation of land and resources in the County. This includes studies pertaining to the census, safety, land use, traffic, storm water, and transportation facilities. The Division of Planning includes the operations of the Essex County Planning Board, Essex County Construction Board of Appeals, and the Essex County Transportation Advisory Board.



Capability	
	<p>The Division of Planning supported the update of the 2020 Essex County HMP and sat on the Steering Committee for the planning process.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: Essex County Department of Public Works</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Essex Regional Health Commission	<p>Description: The Essex Regional Health Commission (the Commission) was established in 1967 as the Suburban Municipal Air Pollution Commission for the sole purpose of air pollution control. The Commission was and still is a consortium of municipalities which together formed a regional health commission. Through a joint agreement with member municipalities, it is an exemplary model of shared services, offering cost efficient, regional programs working in close coordination with local health departments of Essex County. From each of the thirteen currently participating municipalities, an appointed Commissioner serves on the governing body.</p> <p>The Commission is also a subcontractor to the Essex County Health Department, established for the purposes of meeting the standards of the County Environmental Health Act. The Essex County Department of Health is the certified lead agency for the provision of environmental services within Essex County under the auspices of the County Environmental Health Act. The Commission currently provides the County programs for air, noise, water pollution, pesticides, and various pilot programs in all twenty two municipalities in Essex County.</p> <p>The Commission supported the update of the 2020 Essex County HMP and sat on the Steering Committee for the planning process.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: Essex County Health Department</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Essex County Transportation Advisory Board	<p>Description: The Essex County Transportation Advisory Board works with and advises the Division of Planning and serves as the principal non-staff advisor and commenter concerning the goals, policies, plans and direction of transportation planning in Essex County. The goal of the Board is to contribute to the improved effectiveness and efficiency of the Essex County transportation system through a participatory public forum which discusses and resolves transportation problems in Essex County.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: Essex County Division of Planning</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Essex County Environmental Commission	<p>Description: The Essex County Environmental Commission provides advice, outreach and education to the office of the Essex County Executive, Board of Chosen Freeholders and the municipal Environmental Commissions in order to protect, restore and renew Essex County's natural resources and to increase environmental awareness, ensuring that all Essex County citizens can enjoy a healthy environment and an enhanced quality of life within a sustainable regional community. The Essex County Environmental Commission is supported through the Essex County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: Essex County Department of Public Works</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Hudson Essex Passaic Soil Conservation District	<p>Description: The Hudson Essex Passaic Soil Conservation District, serving three counties, is a special purpose subdivision of the State of New Jersey Dept of Ag: Division of Ag & Natural Resources. HEPSCD is one of 15 soil conservation districts in New Jersey empowered to conserve and manage soil and water resources in cooperation with the State Soil Conservation Committee. The District addresses stormwater, soil erosion and sedimentation issues that result from land disturbance activities (primarily construction). District certification of plans for qualifying projects is a prerequisite to local construction permits. The mission of the New Jersey</p>



Capability	
	<p>Conservation Partnership is to provide leadership in the planning and implementation of natural resource management programs for the agricultural and development communities and the general public through a locally based delivery system in coordination with local, state and federal partners.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: State of New Jersey Dept of Agriculture</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Sustainable Jersey	<p>Description: Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. By supporting community efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and improve environmental equity, Sustainable Jersey aims to empower communities to build a better world for future generations. The organization also offers a certification program. Sustainable Jersey certification is a designation for municipal governments in New Jersey. All actions taken by municipalities to score points toward certification must be accompanied by documentary evidence and is reviewed. The certification is free and completely voluntary.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: Essex County Environmental Commission</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Sustainable Essex Alliance (SEA)	<p>Description: Regional hubs have formed across New Jersey and are comprised of municipal and schools green team and environmental commission members, municipal and county representatives, and business, community and nonprofit leaders.</p> <p>The hub in Essex County is called the Sustainable Essex Alliance (SEA) is a coalition of local municipal green teams and sustainability organizations working together to create solutions for local environments and economies.</p> <p>The Alliance is currently pursuing a renewable community energy aggregation program to provide residents of Essex County with the option of 100% green energy. The Alliance has also initiated the NJ Home Performance with ENERGYSTAR™ Program and Comfort Partners Program that offer rebates and financing for energy efficiency upgrades, insulation, and helpful assessments to reduce bills and environmental impact.</p> <p>Participating communities include: Belleville, Bloomfield, Caldwell, Cedar Grove, East Orange, Essex Fells, Fairfield, Glen Ridge, Irvington, Livingston, Maplewood, Millburn, Montclair, Newark, North Caldwell, Nutley, Orange, Roseland, South Orange, Verona, West Caldwell, and West Orange.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: Sustainable Jersey</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
County and Municipal Emergency Management Coordinators	<p>Description: According to NJSA Appendix A:9-33 et seq. (Chapter 251 P.L. 1942, as amended by Chapter 438, P.L. 1953) each municipality appoints a Municipal Emergency Management, serving a term of three years, and is responsible for planning, activating, coordinating and conducting emergency management operations within the municipality. The County holds regular meetings and Coordinators attend training/exercises.</p> <p>For example the UASCI region provided funding to Kean University Fire Safety to provide training on the utilization of tenders in community. Several Essex County municipalities attended including: Belleville, Cedar Grove, Montclair and North Caldwell https://www.keanfiresafety.com/uasi/</p> <p>Responsible Agency: Municipalities</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: No</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>



5.4 FISCAL CAPABILITIES

Fiscal capabilities are the resources that a jurisdiction has access to or is eligible to use to fund mitigation actions. The table below provides a list of programs, descriptions, and links for those jurisdictions seeking funding sources. This table is not intended to be a comprehensive list, but rather a tool to help begin identifying potential sources of funding.

Table 5-5. Fiscal Capabilities

Capability	
Federal	
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	<p>Description: The HMGP is a post-disaster mitigation program. FEMA makes these grants available to states by after each federal disaster declaration. The HMGP can provide up to 75 percent funding for hazard mitigation measures and can be used to fund cost-effective projects that will protect public or private property or that will reduce the likely damage from future disasters in an area covered by a federal disaster declaration. Examples of projects include acquisition and demolition of structures in hazard prone areas, flood-proofing or elevation to reduce future damage, minor structural improvements, and development of state or local standards. Projects must fit into an overall mitigation strategy for the area identified as part of a local planning effort. All applicants must have a FEMA-approved HMP (this plan).</p> <p>Additional information regarding the HMGP is available on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program</p> <p>Essex County has received HMGP funding, including funding to purchase generators to provide continuity of operations during utility failures.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: FEMA</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p>
	<p>Hazard: All</p>
Flood Mitigation Assistance Program	<p>Description: The FMA program combines the previous Repetitive Flood Claims and Severe Repetitive Loss Grants into one grant program. The FMA provides funding to assist states and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the NFIP. The FMA is funded annually; no federal disaster declaration is required. Only NFIP insured homes and businesses are eligible for mitigation in this program. Funding for FMA is very limited and, as with the HMGP, individuals cannot apply directly for the program. Applications must come from local governments or other eligible organizations. The federal cost share for an FMA project is at least 75 percent. For the non-federal share, at most 25 percent of the total eligible costs must be provided by a non-federal source; of this 25 percent, no more than half can be provided as in-kind contributions from third parties. At minimum, a FEMA-approved local flood mitigation plan is required before a project can be approved. The FMA funds are distributed from FEMA to the state. NJOEM serves as the grantee and program administrator for the FMA program.</p> <p>The FMA program is detailed on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/flood-mitigation-assistance-grant-program.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: FEMA</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p>
	<p>Hazard: Flood, Severe Weather, Coastal Storms</p>
Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program	<p>Description: The PDM program is an annually funded, nationwide, competitive grant program. No disaster declaration is required. Federal funds will cover 75 percent of a project's cost up to \$3 million. As with the HMGP and FMA, a FEMA-approved local HMP is required to be approved for funding under the PDM program.</p>



Capability	
	<p>The PDM program is detailed on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/pre-disaster-mitigation-grant-program.</p> <p>Essex County used the PDM program to fund this 2020 HMP update.</p>
	Responsible Agency: FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: All
Individual Assistance	<p>Description: Individual Assistance (IA) provides help for homeowners, renters, businesses, and some non-profit entities after disasters occur. This program is largely funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration. For homeowners and renters, those who suffered uninsured or underinsured losses could be eligible for a Home Disaster Loan to repair or replace damaged real estate or personal property. Renters are eligible for loans to cover personal property losses. Individuals are allowed to borrow up to \$200,000 to repair or replace real estate, \$40,000 to cover losses to personal property, and an additional 20 percent for mitigation. For businesses, loans could be made to repair or replace disaster damages to property owned by the business, including real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and supplies. Businesses of any size are eligible. Non-profit organizations, such as charities, churches, and private universities are eligible. An Economic Injury Disaster Loan provides necessary working capital until normal operations resume after a physical disaster but are restricted by law to small businesses only.</p> <p>IA is detailed on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/individual-disaster-assistance.</p>
	Responsible Agency: FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: All
Public Assistance	<p>Description: Public Assistance (PA) provides cost reimbursement aid to local governments (state, county, local, municipal authorities, and school districts) and certain non-profit agencies that were involved in disaster response and recovery programs or that suffered loss or damage to facilities or property used to deliver government-like services. This program is largely funded by FEMA with both local and state matching contributions required.</p> <p>PA is detailed on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit.</p>
	Responsible Agency: FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: All
Department of Homeland Security Grant Program	<p>Description: The Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. In FY 2019, the total amount of funds available under HSGP was \$1.095 billion.</p> <p>HSGP is comprised of three interconnected grant programs including the State Homeland Security Program, Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI), and the Operation Stonegarden. Together, these grant programs fund a range of preparedness activities, including planning, organization, equipment purchase, training, exercises, and management and administration.</p> <p>Essex County is part of the Jersey City/Newark UASI region. The UASI program provides funding to address the unique multi-discipline planning, operations, equipment, and training and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas and to assist in building and sustaining capabilities related to terrorism prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery.</p> <p>Additional information regarding HSGP is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/homeland-security-grant-program.</p>
	Responsible Agency: FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes



Capability	
	<p>Hazard: All</p>
Fire Management Assistance Grant Program	<p>Description: Assistance for the mitigation, management, and control of fires on publicly or privately-owned forests or grasslands that threaten such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. Provides a 75% federal cost share and the state pays the remaining 25% for actual cost.</p> <p>Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/fire-management-assistance-grant-program.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: FEMA</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p>
	<p>Hazard: Wildfire</p>
Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program	<p>Description: The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated Emergency Medical Services organizations, and State Fire Training Academies. This funding is for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.</p> <p>Information regarding this grant program is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: FEMA</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p>
	<p>Hazard: -</p>
High Hazard Potential Dams Grant Program	<p>Description: The Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dams Grant Program provides technical, planning, design, and construction assistance in the form of grants to non-Federal governmental organizations or nonprofit organizations for rehabilitation of eligible high hazard potential dams.</p> <p>Information regarding this program is available on the website: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=316238.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: FEMA</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p>
	<p>Hazard: Dam Failure</p>
Small Business Administration Loan	<p>Description: The Small Business Administration (SBA) provides low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters, business of all sizes, and most private nonprofit organizations. SBA disaster loans can be used to repair or replace the following items damaged or destroyed in a declared disaster: real estate, personal property, machinery and equipment, and inventory and business assets.</p> <p>Homeowners could apply for up to \$200,000 to replace or repair their primary residence. Renters and homeowners could borrow up to \$40,000 to replace or repair personal property-such as clothing, furniture, cars, and appliances that were damaged or destroyed in a disaster. Physical disaster loans of up to \$2 million are available to qualified businesses or most private nonprofit organizations.</p> <p>Additional information regarding SBA loans is available on the SBA website: https://www.sba.gov/managing-business/running-business/emergency-preparedness/disaster-assistance.</p>
	<p>Responsible Agency: SBA</p>
	<p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p>
	<p>Hazard: All</p>
Community Development Block Grant Program	<p>Description: CDBG are federal funds intended to provide low and moderate-income households with viable communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, roads and infrastructure, housing rehabilitation and preservation, development activities,</p>



Capability	
	<p>public services, economic development, and planning and administration. Public improvements could include flood and drainage improvements. In limited instances and during the times of “urgent need” (e.g., post disaster) as defined by the CDBG National Objectives, CDBG funding could be used to acquire a property located in a floodplain that was severely damaged by a recent flood, demolish a structure severely damaged by an earthquake, or repair a public facility severely damaged by a hazard event.</p> <p>Additional information regarding CDBG is available on the website: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-entitlement/.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: HUD</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Federal Highway Administration - Emergency Relief	<p>Description: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief is a grant program through the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) that can be used for repair or reconstruction of federal-aid highways and roads on federal lands that have suffered serious damage as a result of a disaster. New Jersey Department of Transportation serves as the liaison between local municipalities and FHWA.</p> <p>Additional information regarding the FHWA Emergency Relief Program is available on the website: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/programadmin/erelief.cfm.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: U.S. DOT</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Federal Transit Administration - Emergency Relief	<p>Description: The Federal Transit Authority (FTA) Emergency Relief is a grant program that funds capital projects to protect, repair, reconstruct, or replace equipment and facilities of public transportation systems. Administered by the Federal Transit Authority at the U.S. DOT and directly allocated to Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) and Port Authority, this transportation-specific fund was created as an alternative to FEMA PA. Currently, a total of \$5.2 billion has been allocated to New Jersey-related entities.</p> <p>Additional information regarding the FTA Emergency Relief Program is available on the website: https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/emergency-relief-program/emergency-relief-program.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: U.S. DOT</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Disaster Housing Program	<p>Description: Emergency assistance for housing, including minor repair of home to establish livable conditions, mortgage and rental assistance available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).</p> <p>Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/publications/dhap.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: HUD</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
HOME Investment Partnerships Program	<p>Description: Grants to local and state government and consortia for permanent and transitional housing, (including financial support for property acquisition and rehabilitation for low income persons).</p> <p>Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/affordablehousing/programs/home/.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: HUD</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: -</p>



Capability	Description:	
HUD Disaster Recovery Assistance	Description:	Grants to fund gaps in available recovery assistance after disasters (including mitigation). Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hud.gov/info/disasterresources .
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All
Section 108 Loan Guarantee	Description:	Enables states and local governments participating in the CDBG program to obtain federally guaranteed loans for disaster-distressed areas. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/section-108/ .
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All
Smart Growth Implementation Assistance program	Description:	The Smart Growth Implementation Assistance (SGIA) program through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) focuses on complex or cutting-edge issues, such as stormwater management, code revision, transit-oriented development, affordable housing, infill development, corridor planning, green building, and climate change. Applicants can submit proposals under 4 categories: community resilience to disasters, job creation, the role of manufactured homes in sustainable neighborhood design, or medical and social service facilities siting. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth .
	Responsible Agency:	EPA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	-
Partners for Fish and Wildlife	Description:	Financial and technical assistance to private landowners interested in pursuing restoration projects affecting wetlands and riparian habitats. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fws.gov/partners/ .
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	-
Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER)	Description:	Investing in critical road, rail, transit and port projects across the nation. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.transportation.gov/tags/tiger-grants .
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. DOT
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	-
Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program	Description:	This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area, and does not include private, commercial or business undertakings. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program .
	Responsible Agency:	USDA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	-



Capability	
Emergency Loan Program	Description: USDA's Farm Service Agency provides emergency loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters or quarantine. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/emergency-farm-loans/index .
	Responsible Agency: USDA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: All natural hazards
Emergency Watershed Protection program	Description: The Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program provides assistance to relieve imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fires, drought, windstorms, and other natural occurrences through the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/ewpp/ .
	Responsible Agency: USDA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: All natural hazards
Financial Assistance	Description: Financial assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns or opportunities to help save energy, improve soil, water, plant, air, animal and related resources on agricultural lands and non-industrial private forest land. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/ .
	Responsible Agency: NRCS
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: -
Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) Program	Description: Assist local, tribal, territorial, and state governments in enhancing and sustaining all-hazards emergency management capabilities. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/emergency-management-performance-grant-program
	Responsible Agency: U.S. DHS
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: All
Reimbursement for Firefighting on Federal Property	Description: Provides reimbursement only for direct costs and losses over and above normal operating costs. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/grants/firefighting_federal_property.html .
	Responsible Agency: U.S. DHS
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: Fire
Land & Water Conservation Fund	Description: Matching grants to states and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities (as well as funding for shared federal land acquisition and conservation strategies). Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/index.htm .
	Responsible Agency: National Park Service
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes



Capability	
	<p>Hazard: -</p> <p>Description: Funding to states, local and conservation organizations for outdoor recreational development, renovation, land acquisition, and planning.</p> <p>Information on this program is available on the website:</p> <p>Responsible Agency: U.S. Department of the Interior</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: -</p>
State	
New Jersey Clean Energy Program	<p>Description: New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) promotes increased energy efficiency and the use of clean, renewable sources of energy including solar, wind, geothermal, and sustainable biomass. The results for New Jersey are a stronger economy, less pollution, lower costs, and reduced demand for electricity. NJCEP offers financial incentives, programs, and services for residential, commercial, and municipal customers. Refer to https://www.njcleanenergy.com/main/about-njcep/about-njcep for additional details on NJCEP.</p> <p>The program also offers a Community Energy Plan Grant for government entities (e.g. municipality, county, Green Team or environmental commission, or other Sustainable Jersey organization within a community or county). The grant will provide funding for an entity to create a Community Energy Master Plan to align local communities with the State Energy Master Plan</p> <p>Responsible Agency: New Jersey Board of Public Utilities</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: Hazards impacted by climate change</p>
Grant and Loan Programs	<p>Description: NJDEP offers a wide variety of funding opportunities for local governments and other types of organizations to fund numerous environmentally based projects. This includes funding for: air quality, energy, and sustainability; compliance and enforcement; engineering and construction; land use management; local government assistance; natural and historic resources; site remediation and waste management programs; and water resource management.</p> <p>Information on each of the programs can be found on the NJDEP website: https://www.nj.gov/dep/grantandloanprograms/</p> <p>Responsible Agency: NJDEP</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Green Acres Program	<p>Description: Green Acres was created to meet New Jersey's growing recreation and conservation needs. This program has helped preserve over 1.2 million acres of land in New Jersey. Not only are state Green Acres funding available, but Essex County enacted its own county green acres tax to provide funding for the state program match, as well as for other recreation and open space programs (see below).</p> <p>Essex County has used the Green Acres Program to acquire open space, with a majority of land being municipal- or county-owned. Green Acres open space exists in: Belleville, Bloomfield, Caldwell, Cedar Grove, East Orange, Essex Fells, Fairfield, Glen Ridge, Irvington, Livingston, Maplewood, South Orange, Millburn, Montclair, Newark, North Caldwell, Nutley, Orange, Roseland, South Orange, Verona, West Caldwell, and West Orange.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: NJDEP</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: -</p>
Blue Acres Program	<p>Description: Blue Acres provides funding for acquisition of land in floodways of the Delaware River, Passaic River, and Raritan River and their respective tributaries, for recreation and conservation purposes. Properties (including structures) that have been damaged by, or</p>



Capability	
	<p>may be prone to incurring damage caused by, storms or storm-related flooding, or that may buffer or protect other lands from such damage, are eligible for acquisition.</p> <p>The Blue Acres Program is active in 16 municipalities currently, including Newark in Essex County.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: NJDEP</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: Flood, Severe Weather, Coastal Storm</p>
New Jersey Water Bank	<p>Description: The New Jersey Water Bank (NJWB) is a partnership between the NJDEP and the NJEIT to provide low cost financing for the design, construction, and implementation of projects that help protect and improve water quality and help ensure safe and adequate drinking water.</p> <p>The NJWB finances projects by utilizing two funding sources. The Trust issues revenue bonds which are used in combination with zero percent interest funds to provide very low interest loans for water infrastructure improvements. The NJDEP administers a combination of Federal State Revolving Fund capitalization grants, as well as the State's matching funds, loan repayments, State appropriations and interest earned on such funds.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: NJDEP and New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: Flood, Severe Weather</p>
New Jersey Redevelopment Authority	<p>Description: The New Jersey Redevelopment Authority (NJRA) is an independent state financing authority committed exclusively to the redevelopment of New Jersey's urban areas. NJRA offers several financing resources including site acquisition funding, predevelopment assistance, several development assistance resources, and technical assistance.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: -</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: -</p>
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs	<p>Description: The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJCA) is a state agency created to provide administrative guidance, financial support, and technical assistance to local governments, community development organizations, businesses, and individuals to improve the quality of life in New Jersey. NJCA offers a wide range of programs, funding, and services that respond to issues of public concern including fire and building safety, housing production, community planning and development, and local government management and finance. Among other funding sources, NJCA administers CDBG funding and is typically the CDBG-Disaster Relief funding recipient for the State of New Jersey.</p> <p>Responsible Agency: -</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: -</p>
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities	<p>Description: The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) works with private utility companies to provide analysis of natural hazard information affecting the provision of electric power, telecommunications, public water, sewage collection and treatment, and other regulated public utilities. The data are used during response and recovery efforts in the event of emergency or disaster and is also used to analyze impact of mitigation plans and projects. BPU also provides technical assistance for the Energy Resiliency Program</p> <p>Responsible Agency: BPU</p> <p>Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes</p> <p>Hazard: All</p>
Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program	<p>Description: Qualified borrowers receive loans in two equal parts: Approximately one half to three quarters comes from a 0-interest State Revolving Fund maintained by the NJDEP. The other portion comes from proceeds of highly rated tax-exempt revenue bonds sold by the Trust. Combining these two funds results in a loan that is 50 to 75% lower than traditional loan rates.</p>



Capability	
	Responsible Agency: NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: -
New Jersey Small Cities Communities Development Block Grants	Description: The New Jersey Small Cities Communities Development Block Grants provide funds for economic development, housing rehabilitation, community revitalization, and public facilities designated to benefit people with low and moderate incomes, or to address recent local needs for which no other source of funding is available to non-entitlement counties and municipalities. Information on the program is available on the website: https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dhcr/offices/neighborhood.html .
	Responsible Agency: NJDCA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: -
New Jersey Conservation Foundation	Description: The New Jersey Conservation Foundation (NJCF) is a private, not-for-profit organization. Through acquisition and stewardship, NJCF protects strategic lands, promotes strong land use policies, and forges partnerships to achieve conservation goals. Grants to help fund preservation activities. Information on the program is available on the website: https://www.njconservation.org/what-we-do/ .
	Responsible Agency: NJCF
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: -
The New Jersey Infrastructure Bank	Description: Two programs provide and administer low interest rate loans to qualified municipalities, counties, regional authorities, and water purveyors in New Jersey. Approximately \$350 million is awarded annually. 1. NJEIT for the purpose of financing water quality infrastructure projects that enhance ground and surface water resources, ensure the safety of drinking water supplies, protect the public health and make possible responsible and sustainable economic development. 2. The New Jersey Transportation Infrastructure Bank (NJTIB) is an independent State Financing Authority responsible for providing and administering low interest rate loans to qualified municipalities, counties, and regional authorities in New Jersey for the purpose of financing transportation quality infrastructure projects. Information on the program is available on the website: https://www.njib.gov/ .
	Responsible Agency: NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: -
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	Description: The DWSRF program assists water systems in financing the cost of infrastructure through the use of federal and New Jersey Infrastructure Trust funds. Additionally, the Water Supply program provides operator licensing and training support as well as financial assistance through the DWSRF program. Information on the program is available on the website: https://www.state.nj.us/dep/watersupply/dws_loans.html .
	Responsible Agency: NJDEP
	Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes
	Hazard: -
New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT)	Description: Funding of the Program is typically federal through the Federal Highway Administration or State through the Transportation Trust Fund. Information on the program is available on the website: https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/funding.shtm .



Capability	
	Responsible Agency: NJDOT Provides Funding for Mitigation: Yes Hazard: -
Local	
Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Program	Description: Funded through the FHWA’s Federal Aid Program and administered by the New Jersey DOT, in partnership with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Program (TAP) provides federal funds for community based “non-traditional” projects designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of the nation’s intermodal system. TAP was established by Congress in 2012 under MAP-21 and is funded through a set-aside of the Federal-aid Highway Program. Responsible Agency: Essex County Division of Planning Provides Funding for Mitigation: No Hazard: Flood
Essex County Recreation and Open Space Trust Fund	Description: Recreation and Open Space Trust Fund shall be used for any or all of the following purposes or any combination thereof as determined by the governing body: A. Acquisition of lands for recreation and conservation purposes. B. Development of lands acquired for recreation and conservation purposes. C. Maintenance of lands acquired for recreation and conservation purposes. D. Acquisition of farmland for farmland preservation purposes. E. Historic preservation of historic properties, structures, facilities, sites, areas or objects, and the acquisition of such properties, structures, facilities, sites, areas or objects for historic preservation purposes. F. Payment of debt service on indebtedness issued or incurred by the County of Essex for any of the above purposes, except for Subsection C above. Responsible Agency: Essex County Recreation and Open Space Trust Fund Advisory Board Provides Funding for Mitigation: No Hazard: All

5.5 PLAN INTEGRATION

Within each annex, participating jurisdictions identified integration of hazard risk management into their existing planning, regulatory, and operational/administrative framework (“integration capabilities”) and intended integration promotion (integration actions). Volume II, Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) provides details on how each jurisdiction integrates hazard mitigation into their existing capabilities.

5.5.1 Integration Process

Hazard mitigation is a sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. Integrating hazard mitigation into a community’s existing plans, policies, codes, and programs leads to development patterns that do not increase risk from known hazards or leads to redevelopment that reduces risk from known hazards. The Essex County Planning Partnership was tasked with identifying how hazard mitigation is integrated into existing planning mechanisms. Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) details how this is done for each participating municipality and the County. During this process, many municipalities recognized the importance and benefits of incorporating hazard mitigation into future municipal planning and regulatory processes and have added new mitigation actions to support this effort.



The Planning Partnership representatives will continue to incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of daily government operations. Planning Partnership representatives will continue to work with local government officials to integrate the newly adopted hazard mitigation goals and actions into the general operations of government and partner organizations. Further, the sample adoption resolution presented in Appendix X (Sample Adoption Resolution) includes a resolution item stating the intent of the local governing body to incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of government and partner operations. By doing so, the Planning Partnership anticipates that:

1. Hazard mitigation planning will be formally recognized as an integral part of overall planning and emergency management efforts.
2. The Hazard Mitigation Plan, Comprehensive Plans, Emergency Management Plans, and other relevant planning mechanisms will become mutually supportive documents that work in concert to meet the goals and needs of County residents.

Section 7 (Plan Maintenance) provides for additional information on the implementation of the mitigation plan through existing programs.

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