

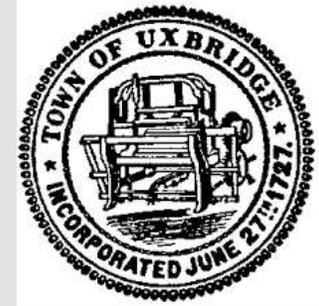
2018 Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program

Public Listening Session

Uxbridge, MA

October 22, 2018

Uxbridge Town Hall, Selectmen's Room



Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program Overview

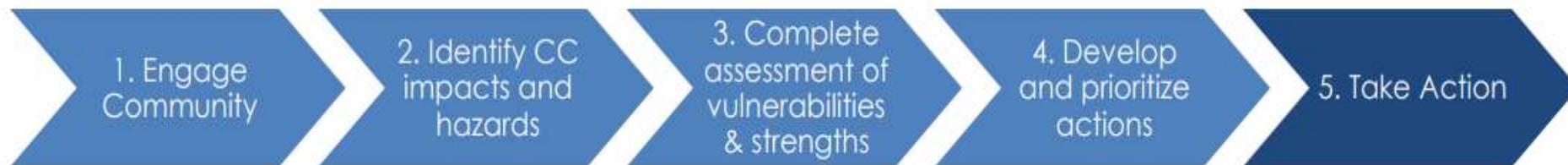
- The MVP grant program provides support for Massachusetts communities to begin the process of planning for and implementing climate resilience
- Communities who complete the MVP planning program become certified as an *MVP Community* and are eligible for MVP action grants and bonus points on some other state grants (MassWorks, etc.)
- Based on the Community Resilience Building framework from the Nature Conservancy and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- 71 communities designated in 1st round; another 82 now underway in 2nd



MVP Planning Program Objectives

- Define extreme weather, natural and climate-related hazards
- Identify existing and future vulnerabilities and strengths
- Develop and prioritize actions for the community and broader stakeholder networks
- Identify opportunities for the community to advance actions to reduce risks and build resilience

State and local partnership to build resiliency to climate change



MVP vs. Hazard Mitigation Planning

- MVP overlaps somewhat with Hazard Mitigation Planning, but MVP is more focused on climate change in the long-term
- Uxbridge's Hazard Mitigation Plan update is underway now
- 5-year plan is reviewed and approved by MEMA and FEMA with very specific requirements that make municipalities eligible for mitigation grants, if, and when there is a disaster declaration
- MVP is more of a consensus- and awareness-building exercise than a step-by-step analysis and plan

MVP Process

- Community-driven process led by a project coordinator with a core team of Town officials, staff and volunteers representing central administration, planning and economic development, public works, public health, fire/EMS, police, conservation, senior center, schools and other key stakeholders who care about the future health and resilience of the community.
- Uxbridge Core Team met 3 times to guide process (10-12 members)
- CMRPC was selected as the MVP service provider (state-certified team)
- Uxbridge MVP workshop held on September 25 with 27 attendees, not including high school student scribes
 - Invitation-only workshop
 - Listening session today is open to the public



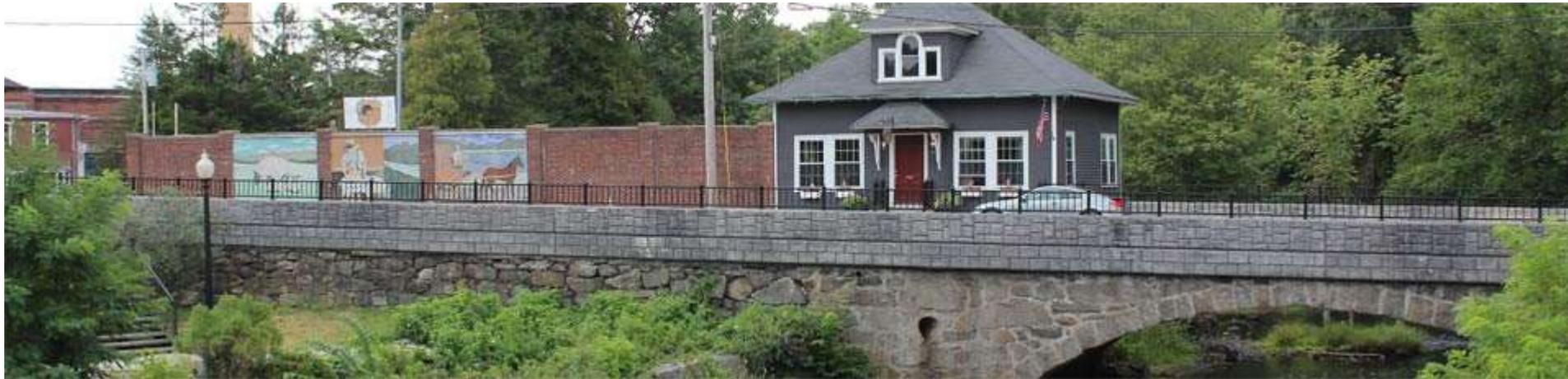
Top Hazards Identified at MVP Workshop

- Flooding
- Winter Storms
- Droughts/Wildfires
- Severe Storms



Primary Topic Areas

- Infrastructure
- Society
- Environment



Environment

Priority Features

- ▶ Dams
- ▶ Culverts/Drainage
- ▶ Stormwater
- ▶ 21E Sites

Local Strengths

- ▶ Existing Systems - Expand/Upgrade
- ▶ Strong Committees
- ▶ State Parks
- ▶ Lots of Land

Strategies

- ▶ Ensure dams are monitored and assessed by ODS; Owners are identified and educated; Develop plans for Whitins and Iron Stone dams
- ▶ Review options for expanding water supply and possibly service area; improve water conservation
- ▶ Develop area flood resilience plans; Review subdivision regulations; Consider stormwater utility fees; enable LID/nature-based solutions
- ▶ Assessments on soil dumps and 21E sites; New bylaws; Monitor Kempton Plume

Society

Priority Features

- ▶ Vulnerable Populations
- ▶ Community Networks
- ▶ Emergency Preparedness Plan
- ▶ Shelters and Evacuation Plans

Local Strengths

- ▶ Volunteer groups
- ▶ Faith-based groups
- ▶ Businesses and Non-profits
- ▶ Code RED

Strategies

- ▶ Update emergency preparedness plan; ensure plan meets Regional and State Standards
- ▶ Identify members of groups who may require additional assistance or supplies during emergencies (e.g. seniors); Include in plan
- ▶ Improve communications (both within Town gov. and with residents); update IT/website (see also Infrastructure)
- ▶ Develop long-term capital plan for facilities and infrastructure resilience
- ▶ Develop and implement shelter plans; Update evacuation route planning, esp. Aldrich St. (see also Infrastructure)



Infrastructure

Priority Features

- ▶ Water System and Supply
- ▶ Communication and IT
- ▶ Financial Models and Grants
- ▶ DPW Facility

Local Strengths

- ▶ Existing Water/Sewer Systems
- ▶ Mutual Aid in Fire Emergency
- ▶ New Fire Department Building
- ▶ Code RED and Social Media

Strategies

- ▶ Determine ability to install or improve wellfields and tanks; expand capacity; prepare for droughts; protect aquifers from contamination
- ▶ Expand and formalize shelters (see also Societal topics)
- ▶ Develop interdepartmental IT plan and resources database; improve communication with public; Website; Hire consultant/coordinator
- ▶ Relocate DPW facilities/services; install generator
- ▶ Improve drainage/stormwater systems

Next Steps

- Final report submitted to EOEEA in Oct./Nov. 2018
 - Draft and final reports will be available on www.cmrpc.org
- Uxbridge receives “MVP Community” certification
- Annual report to ensure that resilience is a community priority by incorporating MVP results into local comprehensive planning, grant applications, budgets, capital projects, and policies
- MVP Action Grants expected to be available in late 2018
- More information:

www.mass.gov/municipal-vulnerability-preparedness-mvp-program

www.communityresiliencebuilding.com



Thank You

Contact Us for More Information

- CMRPC: Andrew Loew, aloew@cmrpc.org or Eli Goldman, egoldman@cmrpc.org
- Uxbridge Board of Selectmen: Susan Franz, SFranz@uxbridge-ma.gov
- Uxbridge Board of Health: Joann Lindenmayer, JLindenmayer@uxbridge-ma.gov

