



VERMONT LEGISLATURE- HOUSE TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY  
COMMITTEE

JANUARY 30, 2020



# INTRODUCTIONS

- Erica Bornemann, Director

# RESILIENCE IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



# CLIMATE MITIGATION VS. CLIMATE ADAPTATION



## “Mitigate” climate change:

- Refers to efforts to reduce or prevent emission of greenhouse gases

## “Adapt” to climate change:

- The process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects

SO...

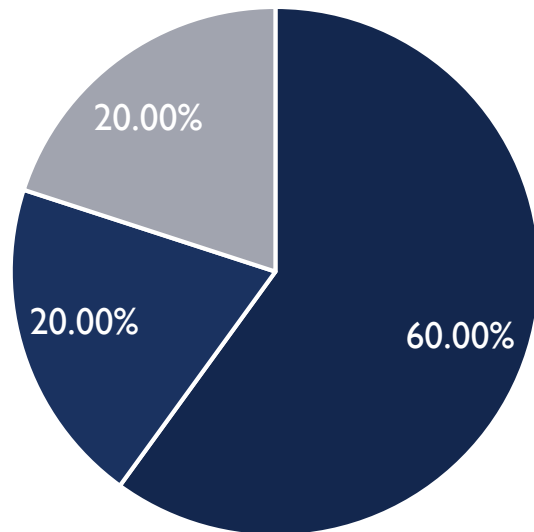
**Work that emergency managers refer to as  
“hazard mitigation”...  
is what policy makers refer to as “climate  
adaptation”.**



# EMERGENCY RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE FUND



## % Towns



■ 7.50% ■ 12.50% ■ 17.50%

## 4 Requirements

- National Flood Insurance Program (participate or have applied);
- Town Road and Bridge Standards (adopt standards that meet or exceed the 2013 template in the current: VTrans Orange Book: Handbook for Local Officials);
- Local Emergency Management Plan (adopt annually after town meeting and before May 1);
- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan - Adopt a FEMA- approved local plan (valid for five years). Or, a draft plan has been submitted to FEMA Region I for review.
- 17.5% - eligible communities also:
- Protect River Corridors from new encroachment; or, protect their flood hazard areas from new encroachments and participate in the FEMA Community Rating System. ERAF 17.5% Criteria



2018 Vermont State Hazard Mitigation Plan

*Making Vermont safer and more resilient in the face of climate change and natural disasters*

FEMA Approval: November 17, 2018



Plan Prepared by: Vermont Emergency Management

Protect, restore and enhance Vermont's natural resources to promote healthy, resilient ecosystems.

Enhance the resilience of our built environment – our communities, infrastructure, buildings, and cultural assets.

Develop and implement plans and policies that create resilient natural systems, built environments, and communities.

Create a common understanding of – and coordinated approach to – mitigation planning and action.

# STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN



# SHMP STRATEGIES



*Develop a cross-sector buyout program*



*Inventory and protect critical headwater and floodplain storage areas*



*Collaborate across flood resilience, water quality and habitat connectivity programs and funding*



*Audit State programs to assess and improve their support of mitigation goals*



*Coordinate State programs to promote development, sharing and maintenance of hazard-related data and mapping*



# HAZARD MITIGATION FUNDING





# FUNDING

- Since 2011 VEM has administered \$53 million in HMA
- Purpose- FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs provide funding for eligible mitigation activities that reduce disaster losses and protect life and property from future disaster damages including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA).
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program- Dependent on major disasters, 15% of eligible public assistance funding.
  - Pre-Disaster Mitigation- Annual program, base grant \$575,000 awarded and the rest is competitive. FY 19 national allocation is over \$250,000,000.
  - Flood Mitigation Assistance- Annual Program, competitive applications for \$70,000 with aim to reduce flood insurance claims.



# FLOODREADY VERMONT WEBSITE:

**FLOOD READY VERMONT**

What about  
**my community?**

**FLOOD READY VERMONT**

Disaster is  
**not necessary**

## Citizens Assistance Registry for Emergencies (CARE)



Questions?  
Call 2-1-1



**Would you need help in an emergency or evacuation?**

Please Note: Registering for CARE **DOES NOT GUARANTEE YOUR SAFETY!** You will still be responsible for contacting emergency personnel should you feel you are in danger.



# PREPAREDNESS



# HAZARD MITIGATION CONTACTS

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