

Coopersburg Borough, Lehigh County Annex

Hazard Mitigation Plan Points-of-Contact

Primary:

Timothy Paashaus
 Manager
 5 North Main Street, Coopersburg, PA 18036
 610-282-3307
 tpaashaus@coopersburgborough.org

Alternate:

Anthony Struss
 Police Chief
 5 North Main Street, Coopersburg, PA
 18036
 610-282-1444
 astruss@coopersburgpd.org

Municipal Profile

Coopersburg Borough is located in the southeastern part of Lehigh County. It encompasses an area of 0.9 square miles and has a population of 2,447 (2020 Census). The borough is surrounded by Upper Saucon Township, but its southeastern border also touches the county line shared with Bucks County. There are no significant bodies of water or waterways within Coopersburg Borough.

State Route 2045 (Main Street) is the primary north-south route through the borough. State Route 309 (3rd Street) runs North-South along the eastern part of the borough, connecting to points north in Upper Saucon Township and Allentown, and south to Bucks County. SR 2026 (State Street) is the primary east-west corridor through the borough.

Municipal Participation

1. Identify municipal stakeholders to be involved in the planning process such as, floodplain administrator, public works, emergency management, engineers, planners, etc., and include their specific role in the process.

Timothy Paashaus, Manager Role: Primary Contact	Keystone Consulting Engineers, Engineer Role: Design/Implement as needed
Dennis Nace, Public Works Director Role: Public Works, Review/Plan	Mike Zweifel, Emergency Management Agency Role: Contribute as needed
Anthony Struss, Police Chief Role: Contribute as needed through Primary Contact	Council Members Role: Review/Plan

**please update table as needed*

2. Identify community stakeholders such as; neighborhood groups, religious groups, major employers / businesses, etc., that will be informed and / or involved in the planning process and describe how they will be involved.

St. James Lutheran – interested in assisting as shelter

Calvary Bible Fellowship Church – interested in assisting as shelter

Municipal Participation - *continued*

3. Describe how the public **will be engaged** in the current planning process (examples, newsletters, social media, etc.), **and how they were engaged** since the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Current: Social media and website as needed, Comp team review, and held preparedness meetings

Past: Same

Compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
1. Staff Resources		
Is the Community Floodplain Administrator (FPA) or NFIP Coordinator certified?	Community FPA	No
Is floodplain management an auxiliary function?	Community FPA	Part of zoning reviews by Zoning Officer
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, GGIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Community FPA	Permit reviews in conjunction with zoning reviews
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	Community FPA	None
2. Compliance History		
Is the community in good standing with the NFIP?	State NFIP Coordinator, FEMA NFIP Specialist, or community records	Yes
Are there any outstanding compliance issues (i.e., current violations)?		No
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visits (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC)?		Unknown
Is a CAV or CAC scheduled or needed?		No
3. Regulation		
When did the community enter the NFIP?	NFIP Community Status Book	N/A
Are the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) digital or paper? How are residents assisted with mapping?	Community FPA	Paper
Do floodplain regulations meet or exceed FEMA or State minimum requirements? If so, in what ways?	Community FPA	Meet current requirements
Describe the permitting process	Community FPA, State, FEMA NFIP	FEMA NFIP
4. Insurance Summary		
How many NFIP policies are in the community?	State NFIP Coordinator or FEMA NFIP Specialist	N/A

Compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) - *continued*

Topic	Identify source of information, if different from the one listed.	Additional Comments
What is the total premium and coverage?		
How many claims have been paid in the community? What is the total amount of paid claims? How many substantial damage claims have there been?	FEMA NFIP or Insurance Specialist	N/A
How many structures are exposed to flood risk within the community?	Community FPA or GIS Analyst	N/A
Describe any areas of flood risk with limited NFIP policy coverage	Community FPA or FEMA Insurance Specialist	N/A
5. Community Rating System (CRS)		
Does the community participate in CRS?	Community FPA, State, or FEMA NFIP	No
If so, what is the community's CRS Class Ranking?	Flood Insurance Manual (http://www.fema.gov/floodinsurancemanual.gov)	N/A
What categories and activities provide CRS points and how can the Class be improved?		N/A
Does the plan include CRS planning requirements?	Community FPA, FEMA CRS Coordinator, or ISO representative	N/A

Community Assets

Community assets are defined to include anything that is important to the character as well as the function of a community, and can be described in four categories, they are; people, economy, natural environment and built environment. Please identify the community assets and location under each category.

1. People

- Concentrations of vulnerable populations such as the elderly, physically or mentally disabled, non-English speaking, and the medically or chemically dependent.

Elderly – income-qualified apartments

- Types of visiting populations where large numbers of people are concentrated such as visitors for special events and students.

N/A, generally residents, small businesses, and recreational activity (small).

2. Economy

- Major employers, primary economic sectors such as agriculture and commercial centers where losses would have a severe impact on the community.

Commercial / small businesses along Rt. 309 and Main Street.

Community Assets - *continued*

3. Natural Environment

- Those areas / features that can provide protective functions that reduce the magnitude of hazard events such as, wetlands or riparian areas, and other environmental features important to protect.

Small streams, wet areas No lakes, rivers, etc

4. Built Environment

- Existing structures such as, concentrations of buildings that may be more vulnerable to hazards based on location, age, construction type and / or condition of use.

Aging residential

Several multi-unit apartment buildings, 5 to 25 unit buildings

- Infrastructure systems such as water and wastewater facilities, power utilities, transportation systems, communication systems, energy pipelines and storage.

Water system – generally in good shape, ongoing replacement

Sewer lines – only lines, no system

Gas lines – owned by UGI

Roads – generally in good shape

Telephone / Internet / Cable – Frontier, RCN, Service Electric

Electric – above ground and owned by PPL

- High potential loss facilities such as, dams, locations that house hazardous materials, military and / or civilian defense installations.

N/A

- Critical facilities such as, hospitals, medical facilities, police and fires stations, emergency operations centers, shelters, schools and airports / heliports.

1 police station

1 fire station

1 elementary school

Several churches – St. John, St. James, Moravian and Saucon Lodge

- Cultural / historical resources such as, museums, parks, stadiums, etc.

Borough Hall – historical museum

Southern Lehigh Living Memorial Park

Capability Assessment

Capability	✓ Regulatory ✓ Tools ✓ Programs	Status			Department / Agency Responsible	Effect on Hazard Loss Reduction: -Supports -Neutral -Hinders	Change since 2018 Plan? + Positive - Negative	Has the 2018 Plan been integrated into the Regulatory Tool/Program ? If so, how?	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
		In Place	Date Adopted or Updated	Under Development						
1. Planning & Regulatory	Comprehensive Plan	X	5/25/10		Comp Plan Team	S	P		Add more info and involvement	In process of developing new goals with public input
	Capital Improvement Plan			X	Admin	S	P			
	Economic Development Plan									
	Continuity of Operations Plan									
	Stormwater Management Plan / Ordinance	X			Infrastructure Committee	S	P			Stormwater review for new development
	Open Space Management Plan (or Parks/Rec., Greenways Plan)									
	Natural Resource Protection Plan									
	Transportation Plan									
	Historic Preservation Plan			X	Comp Plan Team	S	P			
	Floodplain Management Plan									
	Farmland Preservation									
	Evacuation Plan			X	Emergency Management Agency	S	P			
	Disaster Recovery Plan									Need improved coordination between police, fire, EMA
	Hazard Mitigation Plan	X	2018		County/LVPC	S	P	N/A		
Emergency Operations Plan			X	Emergency Management Agency						

Capability Assessment - continued

Capability	✓ Regulatory ✓ Tools ✓ Programs	Status			Department / Agency Responsible	Effect on Hazard Loss Reduction: -Supports -Neutral -Hinders	Change since 2018 Plan? + Positive - Negative	Has the 2018 Plan been integrated into the Regulatory Tool/Program ? If so, how?	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
		In Place	Date Adopted or Updated	Under Development						
Zoning Regulations		X	2006	X	Admin/Council	S	P		Working on major update for 2018	Zoning requires certain setbacks and rules from streams and flood areas
Floodplain Regulations		X								Updated ordinance and continuing to improve facilities and educating staff/resident Zoning requires certain setbacks and rules from stream and flood areas
NFIP Participation										
Building Code		X	2006		3 rd Party					Barry Isett is the 3 rd party. Although it is in place, rental inspections are difficult to do well
Fire Code		X	2009		3 rd Party					
Other		X			3 rd Party					Substantial damage management plan, would use 3 rd party or insurance adjuster. Public works monitors infrastructure and public buildings

Capability Assessment - *continued*

Capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Staff ✓ Personnel ✓ Resources 	Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2018 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
2. Administrative & Technology	Planners (with land use / land development knowledge)	X		Barry Isett Engineers	N		
	Planners or engineers (with natural and / or human-caused hazards knowledge)	X		Barry Isett Engineers	N		
	Engineers or professionals trained in building and / or infrastructure construction practices (including building inspectors)	X		Barry Isett & Associates	N		
	Emergency Manager	X		Emergency Management Agency/County	N		
	Floodplain administrator / manager	X		Borough Engineer-McCarthy, Borough Manager, Public Works Staff	N		
	Land surveyors	X		Barry Isett Engineers	N		
	Staff familiar with the hazards of the community	X		Admin	N	Education and Training	
	Personnel skilled in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and / or FEMA's HAZUS program	X		Public Works	N		Public works has GIS capabilities for water/sewer/storm roadways/public land
	Grant writers or fiscal staff to handle large / complex grants	X		Manager & Comp Team	N		Fire dept uses a paid grant writer
Other	X					3 rd party building inspector/insurance adjuster for substantial damage management plan.	

Capability Assessment - continued

Capability	✓ Staff ✓ Personnel ✓ Resources	Yes	No	Department / Agency	Change since 2018 Plan? + Positive - Negative	How can these capabilities be expanded and improved to reduce risk?	Additional Comments
3. Financial Resources	Capital improvement programming						
	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)						
	Special purposes taxes						
	Gas / Electricity utility fees						
	Water / Sewer fees						
	Stormwater utility fees						
	Development impact fees						
	General obligation, revenue, and / or special tax bonds	X					General fund used for gaps and insurance coverages
	Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements						
	Other	X					Have used HMGP in the past and plan to apply post-next disaster. COVID relief was the last federal award

Capability Assessment - continued

4. Education & Outreach	Firewise Communities Certification					
	StormReady Certification					
	Natural disaster or safety-related school programs	X		School District	N	
	Ongoing public education or information programs such as, responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, and environmental education.	X		Admin/Council	N	More education and outreach and improvement needed
	Public-private partnership initiatives addressing disaster related issues.					
	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.	X		Local churches and staff	N	Added Emergency Awareness meetings and outreach
	Other	X				Send information on the back of utility bills 4 times a year

Capability		Degree of Capability			Change since the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan? If so, how?	Additional Comments
		Limited	Moderate	High		
5. Self – Assessment	Planning and Regulatory		X			
	Administrative and Technical		X			
	Financial		X		Yes, improved financial status	
	Education and Outreach		X			

Known or Anticipated Future Development / Redevelopment

Development / Property Name	Type of Development	Number of Structures	Location	Known Hazard Zone	Description / Status
Stone Harvest	Residential	38	West State Street & Gun Club Road	No	Under Construction
Oxford Ridge	Residential	26	North 2 nd Street	No	Under Construction
Multiple industrial lots	Commercial	9 acres	Rt. 309 & Station Avenue	No	Planning

Natural & Non-Natural Event History Specific to Coopersburg Borough

Type of Event and Date(s)	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Local Damage(s) or Loss(es)
Winter Storm Jonas – 1/2016	DR-4267-PA	N/A
Extreme cold (polar vortex)	N/A	Nothing governmentally, residential
Spotted lanternfly	N/A	Tree damage (future)
Pennsylvania COVID-19 Pandemic – 1/2020	DR-4506-PA	Emergency Protective measures to combat COVID-19 Pandemic

2018 Municipal Action Plan Status

Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)		Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
1	Maintain fleet of vehicles and equipment for emergency response.			X			New police vehicles and equipment working with fire company to improve
2	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0.			X			
3	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans.			X			Comp team meets monthly & occasionally works on updates/improvements
4	Work with regional agencies (i.e. County and PEMA) to help develop damage assessment capabilities at the local level through such things as training programs, certification of qualified individuals (e.g. code officials, floodplain managers, engineers).			X			
5	Continue to construct storm sewers to help alleviate flooding.		X	X			Added several inlets. New developments have improved water run-off facilities
6	Coordinate with the County Emergency Management Agency and PA Department of Health, which is responsible for setting up points of distribution and providers for immunizations.			X			
7	Devise an employee vaccination and immunization plan to prevent an outbreak within the municipal employee ranks.			X			
8	Devise a municipal continuity of operations plan to keep essential services running in the event that a significant portion of the workforce is affected.			X			

2018 Municipal Action Plan Status - *continued*

	Existing Mitigation Action (from 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan)	Status					Additional Comments
		No Progress / Unknown	In Progress	Continuous	Completed	Discontinued	
9	Devise a public education and outreach plan regarding disease prevention.			X			
10	Provide education and outreach to residents regarding how to prevent the spread of invasive species, including quarantine procedures.			X			
11	Develop a neighborhood cleanup plan designed to remove discarded tires, trash and other items in which standing water can form.			X			
12	Provide training and education for first responders to ensure effective emergency care.			X			
13	Provide education and outreach, especially in K12, regarding drug abuse prevention.			X			

Notes:

1. Actions not carried through to the 2023 Action Plan are so noted.
2. To maintain National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) compliance, actions related to the NFIP were carried through to the 2023 Action Plan even if identified by the municipality as completed.

2023 Mitigation Action Plan

Mitigation Action		Regional Action Category	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
1	Maintain fleet of vehicles and equipment for emergency response.	19	Structure and Infrastructure	All Hazards	High	Medium	Borough budget; available public protection and emergency services grant programs	Borough	Ongoing	N/A
2	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0.	9	All Categories	All Hazards	High	Low-High (for 5-year updated)	Local Budget, possibly FEMA Mitigation Grant Funding for 5-year update	Municipality (via mitigation planning point of contacts) with support from Planning Partners (through their Points of Contact), PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
3	Complete the ongoing updates of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans.	10	Local Plans and Regulations	All Hazards	Medium	Low	Local Budget	Municipality with support from PEMA	Ongoing	New & Existing
4	Work with regional agencies (i.e. County and PEMA) to help develop damage assessment capabilities at the local level through such things as training programs,	12	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	Low	Medium	Local budget, FEMA HMA grant programs	Municipality with support from County, PEMA	Short-, long-term (depending upon funding)	N/A

2023 Mitigation Action Plan - continued

Mitigation Action		Regional Action Category	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
	certification of qualified individuals (e.g. code officials, floodplain managers, engineers).									
5	Continue to construct storm sewers to help alleviate flooding.	14	Structure & Infrastructure	Flood	Medium	High	Local Budget	Borough	Ongoing	Existing
6	Coordinate with the County Emergency Management Agency and PA Department of Health, which is responsible for setting up points of distribution and providers for immunizations.	11	Local Plans and Regulations	Pandemic & Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality, working with County EMA and PA Department of Health	Ongoing	N/A
7	Devise an employee vaccination and immunization plan to prevent an outbreak within the municipal employee ranks.	10	Local Plans and Regulations	Pandemic & Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A
8	Devise a municipal continuity of operations plan to keep essential services running in the event that a significant portion	11	Local plans and Regulations	Pandemic & Infectious Disease	Medium	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A

2023 Mitigation Action Plan - continued

Mitigation Action		Regional Action Category	Mitigation Technique Category	Hazard(s) Addressed	Priority (H / M / L)	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Lead Agency / Department	Implementation Schedule	Applies to New and / or Existing Structures
	of the workforce is affected.									
9	Devise a public education and outreach plan regarding disease prevention.	4	Education & Awareness	Pandemic & Infectious Disease	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A
10	Provide education and outreach to residents regarding how to prevent the spread of invasive species, including quarantine procedures.	4	Education & Awareness	Invasive Species	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A
11	Develop a neighborhood cleanup plan designed to remove discarded tires, trash and other items in which standing water can form.	27	Local Plans and Regulations	Invasive Species	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Short-term	N/A
12	Provide training and education for first responders to ensure effective emergency care.	27	Education & Awareness	Drug Overdose	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality	Ongoing	N/A
13	Provide education and outreach, especially in K12, regarding drug abuse prevention.	4	Education & Awareness	Drug Overdose	High	Low	Municipal Budget	Municipality/School District	Ongoing	N/A

Notes:**Estimated Costs:**

- Where actual project costs have been reasonable estimated: Low = < \$10,000; Medium = \$10,000 to \$100,000; High = > \$100,000;
- Where actual project costs cannot reasonably be established at this time:
 - Low** = Possible to fund under existing budget. Project is part of, or can be part of an existing on-going program.
 - Medium** = Could budget for under existing work plan, but would require a reapportionment of the budget or a budget amendment, or the cost of the project would have to be spread over multiple years.
 - High** = Would require an increase in revenue via an alternative source (i.e., bonds, grants, fee increases) to implement. Existing funding levels are not adequate to cover the costs of the proposed project.

Potential Funding (FEMA HMA):

- **BRIC** = Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities
- **FMA** = Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program
- **HMGP** = Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- **HSGP** = Homeland Security Grant Program
- **EMPG** = Emergency Management Performance Grant

Implementation Schedule:

- **Short Term** = 1 to 5 years
- **Long Term** = 5 years or greater
- **DOF** = Depending on Funding

Applies to New and/or Existing Structures:

- **N/A** = Not Applicable

