

9.3 Village of Ballston Spa

This section presents the jurisdictional annex for the Village of Ballston Spa. The village provided the following updates that were incorporated into this annex:

- Jurisdictional Annex Update Form (Contact Information, Profile, and Capability Assessment)

9.3.1 Hazard Mitigation Plan Point of Contact

Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact
John P. Romano, Mayor 66 Front St.; Ballston Spa, NY 12020 (518) 885 – 5711	Randy Lloyd, Building Inspector 66 Front St.; Ballston Spa, NY 12020 (518) 885 – 5711

9.3.2 Village Profile

Population

5,134 (American Community Survey 5-Year 2016 Estimates)

Location

The Village of Ballston Spa is the County Seat, located in south central Saratoga County. It lies on the border of two towns, partly in the Town of Ballston and partly in the Town of Milton. The village is southwest of Saratoga Springs. New York State Route 50 (Milton Avenue), a north-south highway, passes through the village and intersects New York State Route 67 (West High Street). County Road 63 (Malta Avenue) leaves the village to the east, connecting it to US Route 9 and Interstate 87 (The Northway).

Climate

Saratoga County, with all its municipalities, generally experiences seasonable weather patterns characteristic of the northeastern U.S. Warm summers are typically experienced, with occasional high temperatures and humidity. Midsummer temperatures typically range from 60°F to 83°F (Fahrenheit). The winters of Saratoga County are long and cold, with temperatures typically ranging from 12°F to 30°F (Fahrenheit). During the winter, temperatures are cooler than the temperatures in areas located near large bodies of water. Snow accumulates to an average depth of 68.7 inches each year.

Brief History

The village was first settled in 1771 and was incorporated as a village in 1807. The village was named for Reverend Eliphalet Ball, who came to the area from Connecticut in the early 1770's.

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Prior to the development of the village, the land at the head of the lower valley of Kayaderosseras Creek had been part of a vast hunting ground used by Native Americans.

Governing Body Format

Village government is headed by the Mayor and four Trustees. Together they form the local legislative body, the Board of Trustees. Both the Mayor and Village Trustees serve four-year terms.

Growth/Development Trends

Nothing has changed for commercial development. There are four new single family structures located on Salem Drive (completed).

9.3.3 Village-Specific Hazard Information

Detailed hazard event histories can be found in the Previous Occurrences and Losses sections of each hazard profile in Section 5. Table 9.3-1 summarizes the Village of Ballston Spa’s ranking of the natural hazards based on probability of occurrence and impacts to the village.

Table 9.3-1 Village of Ballston Spa Hazard Ranking

Rank #	Hazard Type	Probability of Occurrence	Risk Ranking Score ^a	Hazard Ranking ^b
N/A	Drought	No information provided	No information provided	No information provided
4	Earthquake	Rare	11	Low
1	Flood (riverine, flash, coastal and urban flooding)	Frequent	54	High
N/A	Extreme Temperature	No information provided	No information provided	No information provided
3	Ground Failure	Rare	6	Low
N/A	Invasive Species	No information provided	No information provided	No information provided
2	Severe Storm (windstorms, thunderstorms, hail, lightning and tornados)	Frequent	51	High
1	Severe Winter Storm (heavy snow, blizzards, ice storms)	Frequent	54	High
N/A	Wildfire	No information provided	No information provided	No information provided

- a. Risk ranking score = Probability x Impact
- b. High = Total hazard priority risk ranking score of 31 and above; Medium = Total hazard priority risk ranking of 16-30; and Low = Total hazard risk ranking below 15
- c. N/A = Not available. The Village of Ballston Spa did not rank the new hazards profiled in the 2019 HMP Update. The rankings in this table reflect the village’s ranking of the hazards in the previous HMP.

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9.3.4 Capability Assessment

This section identifies the following capabilities of the local jurisdiction:

- Legal and regulatory capability;
- Administrative and technical capability;
- Fiscal capability; and,
- Community classification.

Legal and Regulatory Capability

Table 9.3-2 Legal and Regulatory Capability of the Village of Ballston Spa

Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances, Plans)	Local Authority (Y or N)	Prohibitions (State or Federal) (Y or N)	Higher Jurisdictional Authority (Y or N)	State Mandated (Y or N)	Code Citation (Section, Paragraph, Page Number, date of adoption)
1) Building Code	Y	N	Y	N	International Building Code – 2015
2) Zoning Ordinance	Y	N	N	N	Village Code Chapter 205; Adopted 5/13/96
3) Subdivision Ordinance	Y	N	N	N	Village Code Chapter 178; Adopted 2/12/63
4) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (if you are in the NFIP, you must have this.)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Village Code Chapter 120; Adopted 9/29/88
5) Growth Management	Y	N	N	N	See 2 above
6) Floodplain Management / Basin Plan	Y	Y	Y	N	See 4 above
7) Stormwater Management Plan/Ordinance	Y	N	Y	Y	Village Code Chapter 172; Adopted 2/12/07
8) Comprehensive Plan / Master Plan/ General Plan	Y	N	N	N	Comprehensive Plan; May 1995
9) Capital Improvements Plan (CIP)	N	N	N	N	
10) Site Plan Review Requirements	Y	Y	Y	N	Village Code Chapter 205; Adopted 2/12/63
11) Open Space Plan	N	N	N	N	
12) Economic Development Plan	Y	N	N	N	Village of Ballston Spa Commercial Revitalization Plan; July 2003

Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances, Plans)	Local Authority (Y or N)	Prohibitions (State or Federal) (Y or N)	Higher Jurisdictional Authority (Y or N)	State Mandated (Y or N)	Code Citation (Section, Paragraph, Page Number, date of adoption)
13) Emergency Response Plan	Y	N	Y	Y	Adopted February 1, 2001
14) Post Disaster Recovery Plan	Y	N	N	N	See 13 above
15) Post Disaster Recovery Ordinance	N	N	N	N	
16) Real Estate Disclosure req.	N	N	N	N	
17) Other [Special Purpose Ordinances (i.e., critical or sensitive areas)]	N	N	N	N	

Administrative and Technical Capability

Table 9.3-3 Administrative and Technical Capability of the Village of Ballston Spa

Staff/ Personnel Resources	Available (Y or N)	Department/ Agency/Position
1) Planner(s) or Engineer(s) with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Y	Village Designated Engineer (CHA)
2) Engineer(s) or Professional(s) trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	Y	Village Designated Engineer (CHA)
3) Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural hazards	Y	Village Designated Engineer (CHA)
4) NFIP Floodplain Administrator (if you are in the NFIP, you must have one.)	Y	Randy Llyod– Building/Zoning Officer
5) Surveyor(s)	Y	Village Designated Engineer (CHA)
6) Personnel skilled or trained in “Geographic Information Systems “ (GIS) applications	Y	Village Designated Engineer (CHA)
7) Scientist familiar with natural hazards in the Village of Ballston Spa.	Y	Village Designated Engineer (CHA)
8) Emergency Manager	Y	William Lewis
9) Grant Writer(s)	Y	NHA
10) Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis	Y	Village Designated Engineer (CHA)

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Fiscal Capability

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to use (Yes/No/Don't know)
1) Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	Yes; Have previously used
2) Capital Improvements Project Funding	Yes; Have previously used.
3) Authority to Levy Taxes for specific purposes	Yes
4) User fees for water, sewer, gas or electric service	Yes; Water and Sewer only; Have previously used
5) Impact Fees for homebuyers or developers of new development/homes	Yes Recreation fees for new development
6) Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes; Have previously used
7) Incur debt through special tax bonds	Yes
8) Incur debt through private activity bonds	No
9) Withhold public expenditures in hazard-prone areas	Yes
10) State mitigation grant programs (e.g. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation[NYSDEC], New York City Department of Environmental Protection [NYCDEP])	Yes
11) Other	Don't know

Community Classifications

Table 9.3-4 Community Classifications of the Village of Ballston Spa

Program	Classification	Date Classified
Community Rating System (CRS)	NP	N/A
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)	NP	N/A
Public Protection	4	ISO., 2-1-17
Storm Ready	NP	N/A
Firewise	NP	N/A

N/A = Not applicable. NP = Not participating. - = Unavailable.

The classifications listed above relate to the community's effectiveness in providing services that may impact its vulnerability to the natural hazards identified. These classifications can be viewed as a gauge of the community's capabilities in all phases of emergency management (preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation) and are used as an underwriting parameter for determining the costs of various forms of insurance. The CRS class applies to flood insurance while the BCEGS and Public Protection classifications apply to standard property insurance. CRS classifications range on a scale of 1 to 10 with class one being the best possible classification, and class 10 representing no classification benefit. Firewise classifications include a higher classification when the subject property is located beyond 1000 feet of a creditable fire hydrant and is within 5 road

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miles of a recognized Fire Station. Criteria for classification credits are outlined in the following documents:

- The Community Rating System Coordinators Manual;
- The Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule;
- The ISO Mitigation online ISO's Public Protection website at: <https://www.isomitigation.com/ppc/>;
- The National Weather Service Storm Ready website at <https://www.weather.gov/stormready/>; and,
- The National Firewise Communities website at <http://firewise.org/>.

9.3.5 Mitigation Strategy

Proposed Hazard Mitigation Initiatives

Table 9.3-5 Proposed Hazard Mitigation Initiatives of the Village of Ballston Spa

Initiative	Mitigation Initiative	Applies to New and/or Existing Structures*	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Goals Met	Objectives Met	Lead Agency	Support agencies	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funding	Timeline
VBS-1a	Where appropriate, support retrofitting of structures located in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Identify facilities that are viable candidates for retrofitting based on cost-effectiveness versus relocation. Where retrofitting is determined to be a viable option, consider implementation of that action based on available funding.	Existing	Flood, Severe Storm	1, 2, 3, 5	1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 3-1, 3-5	Municipality (via NFIP Floodplain Administrator)	NYS DHSES, FEMA	High	FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs and local budget (or property owner) for cost share	Long Term
VBS-1b	Where appropriate, support purchase, or relocation of structures located in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Identify facilities that are viable candidates for relocation based on cost-effectiveness versus retrofitting. Where relocation is determined to be a viable option, consider implementation of that action based on available funding.	Existing	Flood, Severe Storm	1, 2, 3, 5	1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 3-1, 3-5	Municipality (via NFIP Floodplain Administrator)	NYS DHSES, FEMA	High	FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs and local budget (or property owner) for cost share	Long Term

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Initiative	Mitigation Initiative	Applies to New and/or Existing Structures*	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Goals Met	Objectives Met	Lead Agency	Support agencies	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funding	Timeline
VBS-2	Consider participation in incentive-based programs such as CRS.	New & Existing	Flood	1, 2, 5	1-1, 1-3, 1-6, 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 5-2	Municipality (likely through NFIP Floodplain Administrator)	NYS DHSES, ISO, FEMA	Low - Medium	Local Budget	Long Term
VBS-3	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this Plan, as defined in Section 7.0	New & Existing	All Hazards	All	All	Municipality (through mitigation planning point of contacts)	County (through Mitigation Planning Coordinator), NYS DHSES	Low – High (for 5-year update)	Local Budget, possibly FEMA Mitigation Grant Funding for 5-year update	Long term
VBS-4	Strive to maintain compliance with, and good-standing in the National Flood Insurance program.	New & Existing	Flood	1, 2, 4	1-1, 1-2, 1-3, 1-8, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4	Municipality (likely through NFIP Floodplain Administrator)	NYS DHSES, ISO, FEMA	Low - Medium	Local Budget	Long Term
VBS-5	Continue to develop, enhance, and implement existing emergency plans.	New & Existing	All Hazards	1, 3	1-1, 1-7, 3-2, 3-4, 3-5	Municipal Emergency Manager with support from County OEM and NYS DHSES	County Emergency Management, NYS DHSES	Low - Medium	Local Budget	Long Term
VBS-6	Create/enhance/ maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities.	New & Existing	All Hazards	3, 5	3-4, 5-1, 5-3	Local Emergency Management, DPW and Roads	Surrounding municipalities and County	Low - Medium	Local Budget	Ongoing – Long-term depending on initiative

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Initiative	Mitigation Initiative	Applies to New and/or Existing Structures*	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Goals Met	Objectives Met	Lead Agency	Support agencies	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funding	Timeline
VBS-7	Support County-wide initiatives identified in Section 9.1 of the County Annex.	New & Existing	All Hazards	All	All	Local departments (as applicable for specific initiative)	County and Regional agencies (as appropriate for initiative)	Low - High	Existing programs and grant funding where applicable	Long Term
VBS-8	Create/update the Emergency Action Plans for all dams located within the municipality.	Existing	Flood	1, 3	1-1, 1-6, 1-7, 3-1, 3-2, 3-4	Municipality	Watershed districts (if applicable); neighboring municipalities; County (if applicable); NYS	Medium to Low	FEMA HMA	Short Term
VBS-9	Implement dam structure repairs as required by dam safety report/protocols	Existing	Flood	3	3-1, 3-3, 3-6	Municipality	Watershed districts (if applicable); neighboring municipalities; County (if applicable); NYS	Medium	FEMA HMA	Ongoing
VBS-10	Support the Installation/Implementation of Community Emergency Alert System	New & Existing	All Hazards	1, 3, 5	1-1, 3-1, 3-3, 3-5, 3-6, 5-1	Municipality	Watershed districts (if applicable); neighboring municipalities; County (if applicable); NYS	Medium	FEMA HMA	Ongoing

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Initiative	Mitigation Initiative	Applies to New and/or Existing Structures*	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Goals Met	Objectives Met	Lead Agency	Support agencies	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funding	Timeline
VBS-11	Create a mitigation support fund to provide matching funds on an ongoing basis for municipality and residential mitigation projects which will fund cost-sharing portions of projects and be replenished during the annual budget cycle	New & Existing	All Hazards	1, 2, 3, 5	1-3, 1-9, 2- 5, 3-1, 5-2	Municipality		Medium	Operating budget	Ongoing
VBS-12	Investigate and implement mitigation actions that would protect the St. Mary's School from the flood hazard. The school is located within the flood hazard area.	Existing	Flood, Severe Storm	1, 3	1-1, 3-4, 3- 6	Municipality	School District	Low (Could be high once action is decided and implemented)	Local (FEMA HMA and local match for implementation of action)	Ongoing – Long-term depending on initiative
VBS-13	Investigate and implement mitigation actions that would protect the Union Fire Department from the flood hazard. The Fire Department is located in the flood hazard area.	Existing	Flood, Severe Storm	1, 3	1-1, 3-4, 3- 6	Municipality	Fire Department	Low (Could be high once action is decided and implemented)	Local (FEMA HMA and local match for implementation of action)	Ongoing

*Does this mitigation initiative reduce the effects of hazards on new and/or existing buildings and/or infrastructure?

Notes: Short term = 1 to 5 years; Long Term= 5 years or greater; OG = On going program; DOF = Depending on funding; NA = Not applicable; PDM = Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program.

Analysis of Mitigation Actions

This table summarizes the participant's mitigation actions by hazard of concern and the six mitigation types to illustrate that the Village has selected a comprehensive range of actions/projects.

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Table 9.3-6 Analysis of Mitigation Actions of the Village of Ballston Spa

Hazard of Concern	Type of Mitigation Action					
	Prevention	Property Protection	Public Education and Awareness	Natural Resource Protection	Emergency Services	Structural Projects
Drought	VBS-3, VBS-7, VBS-11	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-5, VBS-6, VBS-7, VBS-10	VBS-3, VBS-7
Earthquake	VBS-3, VBS-7, VBS-11	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-5, VBS-6, VBS-7, VBS-10	VBS-3, VBS-7
Extreme Temperatures	VBS-3, VBS-7, VBS-11	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-5, VBS-6, VBS-7, VBS-10	VBS-3, VBS-7
Flooding (riverine, flash, coastal and urban flooding)	VBS-2, VBS-3, VBS-4, VBS-7, VBS-8, VBS-11	VBS-1a and b, VBS-2, VBS-3, VBS-4, VBS-7, VBS-12, VBS-13	VBS-1a and b, VBS-2, VBS-3, VBS-4, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-2, VBS-3, VBS-5, VBS-6, VBS-7, VBS-8, VBS-10	VBS-3, VBS-7, VBS-9
Ground Failure	VBS-3, VBS-7, VBS-11	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-5, VBS-6, VBS-7, VBS-10	VBS-3, VBS-7
Invasive Species	VBS-3, VBS-7, VBS-11	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-5, VBS-6, VBS-7, VBS-10	VBS-3, VBS-7
Severe Storms (windstorms, thunderstorms, hail, lightning and tornados)	VBS-2, VBS-3, VBS-4, VBS-7, VBS-11	VBS-1a and b, VBS-2, VBS-3, VBS-4, VBS-7, VBS-12, VBS-13	VBS-1a and b, VBS-2, VBS-3, VBS-4, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-2, VBS-3, VBS-5, VBS-6, VBS-7, VBS-10	VBS-3, VBS-7
Severe Winter Storm (heavy snow, blizzards, ice storms)	VBS-3, VBS-7, VBS-11	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-5, VBS-6, VBS-7, VBS-10	VBS-3, VBS-7
Wildfire	VBS-3, VBS-7, VBS-11	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-7	VBS-3, VBS-5, VBS-6, VBS-7, VBS-10	VBS-3, VBS-7

Hazard of Concern	Type of Mitigation Action					
	Prevention	Property Protection	Public Education and Awareness	Natural Resource Protection	Emergency Services	Structural Projects

Notes:

1. **Prevention:** Government, administrative or regulatory actions or processes that influence the way land and buildings are developed and built. These actions also include public activities to reduce hazard losses. Examples include planning and zoning, floodplain local laws, capital improvement programs, open space preservation, and storm water management regulations.
2. **Property Protection:** Actions that involve (1) modification of existing buildings or structures to protect them from a hazard or (2) removal of the structures from the hazard area. Examples include acquisition, elevation, relocation, structural retrofits, storm shutters, and shatter-resistant glass.
3. **Public Education and Awareness:** Actions to inform and educate citizens, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and potential ways to mitigate them. Such actions include outreach projects, real estate disclosure, hazard information centers, and school-age and adult education programs.
4. **Natural Resource Protection:** Actions that minimize hazard loss and also preserve or restore the functions of natural systems. These actions include sediment and erosion control, stream corridor restoration, watershed management, forest and vegetation management, and wetland restoration and preservation.
5. **Emergency Services:** Actions that protect people and property, during and immediately following, a disaster or hazard event. Services include warning systems, emergency response services, and the protection of essential facilities.
6. **Structural Projects:** Actions that involve the construction of structures to reduce the impact of a hazard. Such structures include dams, setback levees, floodwalls, retaining walls, and safe rooms.

Prioritization of Mitigation Initiatives

Table 9.3-7 Prioritization of Mitigation Initiatives of the Village of Ballston Spa

Initiative #	# of Objectives Met	Benefits	Costs	Do Benefits equal or exceed Costs? (Yes or No)	Is project Grant eligible? (Yes or No)	Can Project be funded under existing programs/budgets? (Yes or No)	Priority (High, Med., Low)
VBS-1a	8	H	H	Y	Y	N	M-H*
VBS-1b	8	H	H	Y	Y	N	M-H*
VBS-2	8	M	L	Y	N	Y	H
VBS-3	28	M	M	Y	N (Yes for 5 year update)	Y	H
VBS-4	11	L	L	Y	N	Y	H
VBS-5	5	M	L	Y	N	Y	M
VBS-6	35	M	L	Y	N	Y	H
VBS-7	28	H	L-M	Y	Dependant on specific initiative	Dependant on specific initiative	M-H (dependant)
VBS-8	6	M	M-L	Y	Y	Y (local match)	M
VBS-9	3	M	M	Y	Y	Y (local match)	M
VBS-10	6	M	M	Y	Y	Y (local match)	M
VBS-11	6	M	M	Y	N	Y	H
VBS-12	3	M-H	L	Y	Dependant on specific initiative	Dependant on specific initiative	M-H (dependant)
VBS-13	3	M-H	L	Y	Dependant on specific initiative	Dependant on specific initiative	M-H (dependant)

Notes: H = High. L = Low. M = Medium. N = No. N/A = Not applicable. Y = Yes.

*This initiative has a Medium priority based on the prioritization scheme used in this planning process (implementation based on grant funding), however it is recognized that addressing repetitive and severe repetitive loss properties is considered a high priority by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (NYS DHSES) (as expressed in the State HMP), and thus shall be considered a High priority for all participants in the planning process.

Explanation of Priorities

- **High Priority** - A project that meets multiple objectives (i.e., multiple hazards), benefits exceeds cost, has funding secured or is an on-going project and project meets eligibility requirements for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) or Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM) programs. High priority projects can be completed in the short term (1 to 5 years).
- **Medium Priority** - A project that meets goals and objectives, benefits exceeds costs, funding has not been secured but project is grant eligible under, HMGP, PDM or other

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grant programs. Project can be completed in the short term, once funding is completed. Medium priority projects will become high priority projects once funding is secured.

- **Low Priority** - Any project that will mitigate the risk of a hazard, benefits do not exceed the costs or are difficult to quantify, funding has not been secured and project is not eligible for HMGP or PDM grant funding, and time line for completion is considered long term (1 to 10 years). Low priority projects may be eligible other sources of grant funding from other programs. A low priority project could become a high priority project once funding is secured as long as it could be completed in the short term.

Prioritization of initiatives was based on above definitions: Yes.

Prioritization of initiatives was based on parameters other than stated above: Not Applicable.

9.3.6 Future Needs to Better Understand Risk/Vulnerability

None at this time.

9.3.7 Additional Comments

No additional comments at this time.