

TOWN OF HOPEDALE



Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness

Summary of Findings Report

June 2021



ABOUT THE AUTHORS

CMRPC Mission

The Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission is a regional partnership serving the planning and development interests of 40 member communities in southern Worcester County in Massachusetts. Our primary mission is to improve the quality of life for those who live and work in our region.

We do this by (1) addressing growth and development issues that extend beyond community boundaries; (2) maintaining the region's certification for federal transportation improvement funds; (3) providing technical knowledge and resources to assist local government in addressing specific land use, economic or environmental problems resulting from growth or decline, and (4) building strong working relationships with member communities, state and federal officials, as well as the range of area stakeholders.

Our History and Progress

Founded by the Massachusetts Legislature in 1963, the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) provides a variety of services to its constituencies and brings a regional perspective to planning and development. One of 13 regional planning agencies in Massachusetts, CMRPC serves the city of Worcester and 39 surrounding communities in the southern two-thirds of Worcester County. CMRPC's programs include Transportation, Regional Services, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and Community Planning.



FEDERAL TITLE VI/NONDISCRIMINATION PROTECTIONS

The Central Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMMPO) hereby states its policy to operate its programs, services and activities in full compliance with federal nondiscrimination laws including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and related federal and state statutes and regulations. Title VI prohibits discrimination in federally assisted programs and requires that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, including limited English proficiency, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal assistance. Related federal nondiscrimination laws administered by the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, or both prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, sex, and disability. These protected categories are contemplated within the CMMPO's Title VI Programs consistent with federal and state interpretation and administration. Additionally, the CMMPO provides meaningful access to its programs, services, and activities to individuals with limited English proficiency, in compliance with US Department of Transportation policy and guidance on federal Executive Order 13166.

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CONTENTS

About the Authors.....	1
CMRPC Mission.....	1
Our History and Progress.....	1
Contents	2
Executive Order 569 and the Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program.....	3
Hopedale: A Profile.....	4
Community Resilience Building Workshop.....	5
Workshop Overview	5
Summary of Findings	7
Top Hazards	8
Vulnerable Areas.....	9
Current Concerns and Challenges Presented by Hazards and Climate Change	11
Specific Categories of Concerns and Challenges.....	13
Infrastructure Concerns	13
Societal Concerns.....	15
Environmental Concerns	16
Infrastructure Strengths.....	18
Environmental Strengths.....	20
Infrastructure Actions	23
Societal Actions.....	23
Environmental Actions	24
Top Recommendations	24
Public Comments	28
Next Steps.....	28
CRB Workshop Participants.....	29
CRB Workshop Project Team	30
Citation	30
Acknowledgements.....	31
Appendix.....	32

EXECUTIVE ORDER 569 AND THE MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

In September 2016, Massachusetts Governor Baker signed Executive Order 569, directing multiple state agencies to develop and implement a statewide comprehensive climate adaptation plan with the best climate-change data available. Recognizing that many adaptation solutions are local in nature, a key commitment of Executive Order 569 is to assist local governments in completing their own assessments and resiliency plans. The MVP Grant and Designation Program represents the first step in fulfilling this commitment.

The MVP program provides planning grants to municipalities to complete vulnerability assessments and develop action-oriented resiliency plans. Funding is used by cities and towns to hire an MVP-certified consultant who is trained to provide technical assistance and complete a community's vulnerability assessment and resiliency plan using the Community Resilience Building Framework. Towns and cities are free to choose the consultant of their choice from a list of certified MVP providers. The Town of Hopedale invited the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission to lead them in this planning effort.

Communities that complete the MVP planning process become certified "MVP Communities" and are eligible for Action Grant funding and other opportunities through the Commonwealth.



<https://www.mass.gov/news/governor-baker-signs-legislation-directing-24-billion-to-climate-change-adaptation>

HOPEDALE: A PROFILE

The Town of Hopedale, Massachusetts saw its first colonial recorded establishment in 1669, when Benjamin Albee set a grist mill to grind corn for colonial settlers. Before that, the late precontact period (around 1620), is hypothesized to have been used by the Native American Nipmuck people for hunting, fishing, and agricultural development.

In 1669, Adin Ballou and his followers (the Practical Christians) purchased acres in downtown Hopedale in 1842 in order to establish Fraternal Community Number One. This was a social experiment of thirty houses, a chapel, workshops, and 170 people, to combine farming and manufacturing, merging Christian and socialist ideologies in attempt to create a new kind of utopian town (Unitarian Universalist Association, The Hopedale Community). Hopedale became a hub of social strides including women's rights and abolition (Town of Hopedale, A History of Hopedale).

At the valley of the upper Mill River, Hopedale is located on the southeastern end of Worcester County (Town of Hopedale, A History of Hopedale). The town is 5.3 square miles, and bordered by Massachusetts Towns Milford, Upton, Mendon, and Bellingham. Hopedale is west of Route 140, with Route 16 running through the Town. The Mill River, which flows into the Blackstone River, runs through Hopedale, contributing to a rich history of agriculture in Hopedale (Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Hopedale Reconnaissance Report).

Today, the total population of Hopedale is estimated to be around 5,951 residents (2018 American Community Survey). The population has seen a slight increase (around 1%) since 2010, when there were an estimated 5,902 residents. The median age of residents in Hopedale is around 45 years old, with 23.9% under 18 years old and 16.7% over 65 years old. A largely white community, Hopedale is around 97.6% White. About 2.2% of residents are Hispanic or Latino (of any race). Only about 0.6% of the population are Black or African American. 0.4% of residents are Asian. The median household income resides at \$107,550, with 4.1% of the population living below the poverty line (2018 American Community Survey).

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING WORKSHOP

The Town of Hopedale contracted with the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) on October 2, 2020 to serve as the MVP provider, including completing the Community Resiliency Building (CRB) workshop. Through the Community Resilience Building (CRB) process, stakeholders actively engaged in an ongoing discussion to determine the top hazards related to climate change that currently impact or have the potential to impact Hopedale. The project coordinators and CMRPC met on November 3, 2020 and December 4, 2020 to begin the initial of this planning process. And on January 22, 2021, a small group of Town Officials, Board Members, and community leaders convened to form the 'Core Team' which, together with CMRPC staff, organized and planned the CRB Workshop over the course of five meetings.

The Town of Hopedale's CRB workshop was scheduled to be held during the month of March 2021. The workshop would take place over the course of two separate virtual meetings. The first meeting would be held for three hours. The first hour would be dedicated to welcoming and introducing participants to the workshop, familiarizing with all of ZOOM's functions, and discussing a brief overview the day's objectives. The remaining two hours would be dedicated to identifying features, location, and ownership of vulnerabilities and strengths in Town. The second meeting was reserved for completion of the prior meetings work and to develop actionable items to improve resiliency throughout the Town of Hopedale.

Workshop Overview

The virtual workshop was held on **Tuesday, March 16th from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**, and on **Tuesday, March 23rd from 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM**. To prepare participants for the workshop all presentations were pre-recorded by the Core Team and the staff at CMRPC. Upon completion of the MVP program overview presentation, Climate Projections presentation, Hazards presentation, and Matrix/ Nature Based solutions presentation, the invitation and workshop materials document were put together. The invitation included links to the ZOOM meeting, and the workshop materials document was complete with links to each presentation, table maps, two-page MVP program overview, CRB Workbook, how to use ZOOM information, and an agenda with ZOOM log-in information for each of the two meetings. Participants were instructed to watch all presentations at their leisure prior to the workshop.



The Workshop's goal was to identify the four top natural hazards that impact Hopedale and develop strategies to enhance the town's resiliency related to climate change. Following the CRB work plan process, the Town, CMRPC facilitators and planners pre-recorded four presentations:

- Overview of the CRB process
- Overview of the MVP program
- A summary of climate change projections, impacts and mitigation strategies

- A detailed profile of natural hazards in the Town of Hopedale, including the top four hazards perceived by the core team.

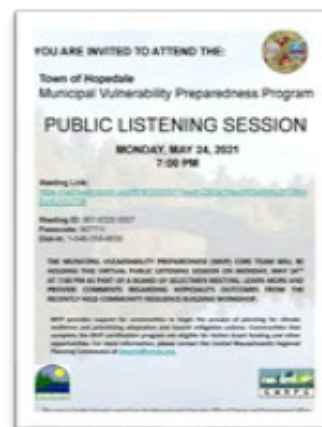
During the first virtual workshop meeting date, the group discussed the top four hazards that affect Hopedale. There was agreement between the Core Team and all participants that--in no particular order-- **flooding, severe storms (wind), winter storms/extreme cold (ice) and drought/extreme heat (wildfire/invasives)** have the greatest effects and potential impacts on the Town. Having identified these hazards, workshop attendees were then asked to work through the CRB program's matrix and mapping exercise. Table facilitators, along with CMRPC staff guided stakeholders in four small group to examine the resources throughout the Town and to identify the town's most serious concerns regarding natural and climate-related hazards that threaten their community.

The group then reconvened one week later to build upon the first day's work. The goal of the second session was to continue to identify features and begin to identify actionable items to reduce or mitigate the projected impacts of climate change. Once the group had completed the matrix, the groups gave a summary of findings by the table reporters.

Upon completion of the two-day virtual workshop, CMRPC compiled all information from the matrix into survey form. The survey was then distributed to all attendees of the workshop and was open from March 30, 2021 through April 16, 2021. The attendees' participation in the survey helped to prioritize what they believed to be the top projects in the infrastructure, society, and environmental categories. Results of the survey were used to prioritize and organize the matrix and report.

Twenty-eight (28) stakeholders attended the virtual CRB Workshop, including representatives from Town government, emergency services, the MVP Core team, Municipal Department Heads, Conservation Commission, Agriculture, local contractors and concerned citizens of Hopedale.

A public listening session to discuss MVP results and recommendations for future actions was held virtually on Monday, May 24, 2021 as part of a Board of Selectmen meeting. The listening session was properly promoted across several avenues, with fifty-one (51) people in attendance. Between the two meetings, a total of seventy-nine (79) people participated in the MVP process. Immediately following the listening session, the draft report was posted on the Town's website for further comment. The comment period was open from June 16th through June 23rd.



Summary of Findings

Overall, the workshop was received positively by all in attendance. Following the presentations, participants were asked if they agreed with the core team's identification of, in no particular order, flooding, severe storms, drought and extreme temperatures, and winter storms and extreme cold as the primary hazards facing Hopedale. All the participants agreed that these four hazards were the most relevant for Hopedale.

The Town's public buildings, historical preservation, and utilities were described as strengths, along with the water resources and recreation opportunities. The Town's location in the Blackstone River Watershed was considered to be an overall strength due to the access to many regional environmental groups. Communication access and validity were considered a vulnerability and a barrier to information distribution, though the foundation of the communication system was thought to be a benefit. Dams, culverts, and bridges were also considered vulnerable safety hazards leading to additional flooding concerns.

Another area that was widely seen as a hazard to the Town is the health and water quality of the surface waters in Town. Widespread and uncontrolled invasive species have impacted many of the ponds, streams, and rivers in Hopedale. Invasive species were also noted in the parks and forested areas across Town, threatening the native plant species in these areas and increasing wildfire risks. Other vulnerable areas mentioned were roadway flooding, runoff contamination, and beaver activity.

The compromised and limited public water supply was considered a major vulnerability by all. With one public water well having been taken offline due to contamination, and three other water sources nearing the Maximum Contaminant Level, all participants were concerned with the limited access to clean, safe drinking water. As the frequency and duration of drought increases, and as development pressures increase, the demand for clean water will also increase. Therefore, it was discussed that it will be integral to the Town's resilience to expand the public water supply, either through removing the contamination from the existing water wells, identifying and securing new water wells, or constructing additional water storage tanks.



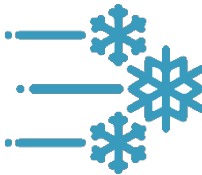

It was also discussed that there is a need to establish a series of public education campaigns regarding stormwater management, wetlands, rainwater collection, invasive species identification and management, and eco-friendly lawncare practices.

All four tables identified specific vulnerable locations that are already in need of attention and will likely face worsening impacts due to climate change. These include forested areas, the water supply, senior residents, dams, and the Draper Mill.

TOP HAZARDS

Following the presentations at the beginning of the workshop, a full-group discussion was held for approximately fifteen minutes to determine the top four hazards for breakout groups to further assess solutions. Taking climate change projections, critical infrastructure, and other considerations into account, workshop participants chose to focus on the four following hazards. They are presented in no particular order: **drought and extreme heat (wildfire and invasive species), severe storms (wind), flooding, and winter storms and extreme cold (snow and ice).**

In 2016, Hopedale experienced extreme droughts along with most of the state of Massachusetts. Severe storms, including high winds and intense rainfall, have been increasing in frequency and impact. All of these have caused disruption to the town, including localized flooding, power outages, and calling upon mutual aid agreements. With climate change, all of these natural events are expected to increase in severity and frequency.

 <p>Flooding.</p>	<p>DROUGHT/EXTREME HEAT</p> <p>Projecting an increase of consecutive dry days, with the driest periods in the summer and fall. This leads to increased risk and stress on drinking water systems and wildfire potential.</p>	 <p>FLOODING</p> <p>Expected increase in precipitation across all seasons. Heavy rainfall will become more frequent, increasing the risk for flash floods. Also increases non-point source pollution.</p>
 <p>WINTER STORMS/EXTREME COLD</p> <p>Annual days below freezing will decrease, winter precipitation falling as rain or freezing rain. This increases risk for ice storms and flash flooding when rain falls on frozen ground.</p>		 <p>SEVERE STORMS</p> <p>Intensity of storm events is expected to increase due to the warmer atmosphere. This will lead to increased severe thunderstorm and hurricane activity with higher wind speeds.</p>

Flooding. Extreme weather in recent years demonstrates how the various hazards impact the town. There have been numerous flooding events over the years, and this threat is only going to increase as the climate continues to change. Local dams, undersized culverts, and beaver activity have all contributed to flooding throughout Town.

Winter Storms and Extreme Cold. Winter ice storms, a regional problem, are expected to be more intense and include more mixed precipitation which is highly damaging to trees, power lines and other infrastructure.

Drought and Extreme Heat. Wildfires are expected to increase due to the impact of prolonged droughts and extreme heat. Drier forests and wooded areas will be more combustible in drought conditions. Drought will also lead to water shortages that will impact the entire town whether or not residents and businesses are on town water or have wells.

Severe Storms. Heavy wind events are a serious concern. The town and the surrounding area have experienced a recent uptick in storms with hurricane-level winds. While this phenomenon can be linked to extreme temperatures and rising precipitation rates, workshop participants felt it was serious enough to be singled out as a hazard. Thus, the fourth hazard is focused primarily on the winds associated with these storms, leaving heavy rain events to be discussed under flooding.

The workshop participants agreed that different hazards affect the town at different times of the year. Flexibility and comprehensive response by town officials is needed to ensure the safety of the citizens in different hazard situations exacerbated by climate change.

These concerns, which are largely inter-related, are based on data provided by the Massachusetts Climate Clearinghouse as well as watershed-specific data from the Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. For the Blackstone River Basin, where Hopedale is located, projections show an expected increase in precipitation overall, with the greatest increase during winter. The number of days with more than 2" of rainfall, potentially leading to inland flooding, is also expected to increase with the average expected to be close to 15 days by the year 2100 compared with approximately 10 days now. Consecutive dry days and days above 90 degrees Fahrenheit are expected to increase, leading to drought. Days at the wintery-mix level of cold are also expected to increase, leading to a greater likelihood of freezing rain and sleet in the winter. Higher wind in the summer and storm severity increases with warmer temperatures.

Vulnerable Areas

The areas in Hopedale identified by workshop participants during discussion as vulnerable to the hazards discussed include:

Forested areas throughout town are vulnerable to increasing pressures from heat, drought, and invasive insect species. The aging tree population is of concern for the overall health of the forested area covering most of the Town. Roadside trees are also a vulnerability due to a lack of a sustainable tree trimming program or a removal and replacement program. Adin Street, Dutcher Street, and Freedom Street were noted as having particularly vulnerable street trees.

Public water supply was identified as being compromised and limited in capacity. One water well was taken offline due to reaching the Maximum Contaminant Level, and three other water sources are nearing that level and will inevitably need to be taken offline as well.

VULNERABLE AREAS

- Forested Areas
- Water Supply
- Senior Residents
- Dams
- Draper Mill

Senior residents were considered vulnerable by all groups during the breakout sessions. High concentrations of senior citizens living in condensed areas were viewed as a risk in the event of evacuation. There was special concern regarding the senior housing at the Griffin-Dennett Apartments as they are close to the railroad fly ash silos. A lack of back of backup power was concerning for many due to the projected longer period of higher temperatures. In addition to better emergency planning, the availability of transportation for, and communications with, the senior population during these times is considered to be a key aspect of resiliency that needs upgrading and rethinking.

Town-wide dams were of concern to many in attendance as there are three dams in Town designated as Significant Hazards. Those are the Mill Pond Dam, Hopedale Pond Dam, and Spindeville Pond Dam. There was also a concern about the Fiske Mill Pond Dam which is upstream on the border of Upton and Milford.

Draper Mill was discussed at all four tables during the workshop. This historic mill is set to be demolished in the near future. As the Mill River runs through the Draper Mill, there was concern that once this mill is demolished, that it will have negative impacts to the ecology and geology of the Mill River, as well as increase flooding concerns downstream.

CURRENT CONCERNS AND CHALLENGES PRESENTED BY HAZARDS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Meetings with the MVP Core Team prior to the workshop as well as the helped to identify past climate-related events that significantly impacted the Town. Disaster events of concern included frequent major winter storms (as in 2015 and 2018), ice storms (2008), severe rain events (2005, 2010, 2016), tropical storms (Irene, Sandy), infestations of invasive and otherwise undesirable species (Asian Longhorn Beetle, gypsy moths, aquatic invasive species, ticks), and extended periods of drought (2015 to 2016). Hopedale does have a public water supply in place. However, it will be important for the town to secure a backup drinking water supply as the current supply is already limited, vulnerable to drought, and vulnerable to contamination.

At the workshop, CMRPC staff presented downscaled climate change data provided by Massachusetts's Executive Office of Energy and Environment Affairs (EEA) and the Northeast Climate Science Center at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Hopedale lies within the Blackstone River Basin, and should projections for the watershed hold true, by mid-century, annual average temperatures will increase in the range of 3 to 6.4 degrees from the historical baseline. Hot days over 90 degrees will increase from 8 to 29 days annually; days below freezing will fall from 19 to 38 days annually; annual precipitation will increase 1.2 to 6.3 inches. Seasonal drought conditions will become more frequent as precipitation becomes more concentrated in extreme intensity events and winter snowpack is reduced. Some of the challenges of these projected changes – many of which are already being observed – were discussed in a presentation at the workshop focused on specific hazards in the Hopedale area.

Challenges highlighted in the presentations and/or discussed as a group or in the breakout groups included the following concerns:

- Issues associated climate change will exacerbate problems that are already apparent, and the town lacks the resources to address comprehensively – flooding and storm water management, vulnerable roads, ecological damage, and vulnerable populations, all within the context of a small community.
- An increase in hot and warm days and decrease in cold days will mean greater need for cooling and less need for heating, especially among vulnerable groups such as children and seniors.
- Increased temperatures can also be expected to cause changes in the water cycle, leading to more intense rain events. Increased precipitation rates will lead to more frequent and severe flooding in areas outside of designated flood zones defined using historical data – particularly around Green Street, Rockridge Road, Adin Street, Dutcher Street, and the Downtown area.

- Increased storm intensity will likely cause more tree damage leading to power outages and road closures, higher peak river flows requiring new approaches to storm water management, and increased erosion of river and brook banks and nearby infrastructure. Severe storms will still likely damage and impact the power lines throughout the town. Tree damage will occur from intense windstorms such as recent tornadoes or from heavy snow and ice storms.
- More frequent and severe droughts will challenge water supplies and increase risks from wildfire. Increased risk of wildfire can lead to a wide range of ecological outcomes including increased damage to human property and life, removal of suitable habitat space, and changes in ecosystem services made available by forest cover.
- Invasive plant and animal species can impact public health through increasing numbers of disease carrying pests (e.g., ticks and mosquitoes) and by damaging key ecosystems such as forests and wetlands, thereby increasing wildfire and flood risks.

As the climate continues to change and natural disasters increase in frequency and strength there will be a greater need to communicate with residents, businesses, and other institutions. Changing climate will dictate the need for enhanced communications systems and related infrastructure and flexible emergency response and evacuation plans. These flexible response and evacuation plans will be particularly important for the senior citizens who live alone and do not have access to a vehicle.

SPECIFIC CATEGORIES OF CONCERNS AND CHALLENGES

The following topics were identified by workshop attendees as concerns or challenges related to Hopedale's changing climate and natural hazards.

Infrastructure Concerns



Bridges, Culverts, & Dams

During the workshop, all four tables identified bridges, culverts, and dams in Town as a vulnerability. Participants noted the bridges on Freedom Street, Mill Street, and Mellen Street as in need of repairs. Mellen Street was closed due to the condition of the bridge historically. And The Mill Street bridge next to Spindleville manufacturing plant is of special concern because of its historical significance.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Bridges, Culverts, & Dam
- Roadways
- Water & Sewer
- Structures

Culverts were listed as a vulnerability town-wide, and the culverts on Cook Street, Dutcher Street, Mendon Street, and along Route 16 were specifically named. Many of the culverts in Town are old, historic, or undersized. Clogging and maintenance were discussed as a concern, and it is unknown if there is an inventory of all culverts in Town.

Dams were discussed in detail at all four tables during the workshop. There are three Significant Haard dams in Hopedale. Those are the Mill Pond Dam, Hopedale Pond Dam, and Spindleville Pond Dam. The Mill Pond Dam, located on the border of Hopedale and Milford, was described as being in rough shape and has not been maintained since 2013. The Hopedale Pond Dam, sometimes referred to as the Freedom Street Dam, could result in a disaster downstream if the dam were to fail and flood. The dam cannot be shut off, and has structural and mechanical issues. And the Spindleville Pond Dam, despite being rebuilt within the last decade, is in need of maintenance due to debris accumulation from frequent storms. In addition to these dams within Town, the Fiske Mill Pond Dam, on the border of Upton and Milford were mentioned as a concern upstream.

Roadways

Roads across Town were listed as a vulnerability for a variety of concerns including flooding, drainage, and street tree damage. It was noted that town-wide, roads are starting to crack and fall apart. Participants discussed flooding and icing concerns along Green Street, Rockridge Road, Adin Street, Cemetery Street, and Hope Street. The area by the airport and the industrial park were also described as being unable to handle stormwater, and buildings downtown and along Dutcher Street have had a history of damp basements. Adin Street, Dutcher Street, and Freedom Street were also identified as having vulnerable street trees. The trees along these streets are at risk of falling or dropping limbs due to wind and winter ice storm damage. In addition to these concerns, participants also noted that Fitzgerald Drive, Hopedale Street, and Freedom Street are impacted by heavy traffic and snow drifting. The intersection at Route 16 and Hopedale Street was noted as a dangerous intersection needing a traffic light.

Water & Sewer

Water sourcing was noted as a top priority during the workshop. Approximately 95% of the Town is on the public water system, and there is almost always a water ban during periods of drought, so the majority of residents have limited water availability. Participants also noted that the water supply was contaminated with polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) due to mosquito spraying, further limiting the amount of available drinking water. It was identified that one of the Town's water wells had to be shut down recently due to PFAS contamination. There are three other water sources in Town nearing the Maximum Contaminant Level, and will inevitably need to be shut down as well, leaving only two of the six water sources operational. New construction and development pressures were discussed as putting a strain on the already limited water supply. This lack of available water also increases the risk of wildfire. There are no cisterns in Town, and many of the hydrants are vulnerable to drought. Hydrants of concern are located on Moore Road, Tillotson Road, and Lapworth Circle. With the projected increase in temperatures and consecutive dry days, access to clean and safe water will be integral to the Town's resiliency.

While 95% of the Town is on the public water supply, only a small portion of the Town is on the public sewer system. Therefore, the majority of residents have private septic systems that they must maintain. As such, there was concern that these private sewer systems are prone to issues during flooding and severe storm events, especially older systems. This may lead to further contamination of the water supply for homes nearby.

Structures

Participants also noted that many buildings in Town are at risk. It was discussed that the Town Hall, located at 78 Hopedale Street, is functioning, but requires upgrades and repairs. There was also concern that the lack of sufficient parking is an issue, limiting access to the site. The Bancroft Library, despite having a good foundation, was noted as a vulnerability due to its heavy oak doors that are unsecured. The Little Red Shop Museum, located at 12 Hopedale Street, concerned participants because it is very susceptible to power outages and has already had to be relocated three times. And the Hopedale Junior Senior High School, located at 25 Adin Street, was noted as needing an upgraded generator, as the current generator does not power the kitchen. It was also noted that the school experiences flooding nearby which could impact access. Participants mentioned that the buildings and houses downtown often have damp basements, and this will only worsen as the frequency and duration of heavy rain events increases. One of the biggest problems that the Town will need to address is the potential impact that the removal of the Draper Mill will have on the Mill River and to the infrastructure downstream. Removing the mill will change the flow and course of the Mill River, which could threaten town buildings, such as the bathhouse or the Highway Department, and other critical infrastructure.



SOCIETAL

- Communication
- At-Risk Populations
- Outreach & Education

Communication

With the likelihood of increased storm events and other severe weather, it will be necessary to communicate disaster preparedness information with the residents of Hopedale. However, many participants discussed that communication in Town is a vulnerability. Hopedale is fortunate to have a CodeRED system that allows the Town to send emergency notification messages to all residents who are signed up for the program. It can also send emergency responses wirelessly in the event of the loss of landlines. However, this system is only successful if a larger number of residents are signed up for the program and understand how it functions. It was noted during the workshop that a lot of residents have not signed up for the emergency alerts, and that the sign-up location is not easily accessible. In addition to concerns with the CodeRED system, participants mentioned that it is unknown who manages the Town social media pages and Town website, and as such, the information on these sites is not always updated. And frequent power outages from trees falling on power lines leaves the already vulnerable communication systems at more risk.

At-Risk Populations

Though the Town of Hopedale does offer some resources and services for at-risk populations, such as seniors and persons with disabilities, participants at the workshop felt that these populations will be more at risk as the climate continues to change. Elderly residents will feel the effects of climate change more than others in Town. Due to their age, they will be more vulnerable to extreme temperatures and the limited drinking water supply that will accompany drought and hot days. In addition, older residents are more susceptible to disease, particularly EEE and other insect-borne diseases, which will only increase as temperatures rise and precipitation becomes more frequent. Older residents will be more vulnerable in times of emergency when evacuation is necessary due to their reduced ability to mobilize quickly. In Hopedale, many seniors are spread throughout Town, which could make it difficult to respond to and assist these individuals in times of crisis. There are some senior housing facilities dispersed throughout town, however, many of these facilities require upgrades or additional services. The Atria Draper Place offers senior housing on Hopedale Street, but is vulnerable to power outages. And the Griffin-Dennett Apartments, managed by the Hopedale Housing Authority, is located near the Grafton-Upton Railroad fly ash silos. There was concern that if the fly ash silos were to malfunction, it could impact the air quality and be detrimental to the residents nearby. Additionally, the Griffin-Dennett Apartments are within the floodplain of the Mill River. With the planned removal of the Draper Mill, there was concern that the changes in the Mill River could negatively impact this area.

Similar to the senior population, persons with disabilities will also be more at risk as the climate changes. These individuals may not be able to drive or mobilize quickly, leaving them vulnerable

when evacuation is necessary. They might also rely on medical equipment that needs to be plugged into a power source, so without a sufficient alternative power source, these individuals may be at risk of injury during times of power outages. There are a number of assisted living facilities in Town, including The Ledges, Seven Hills, and Evergreen Center. It will be important to ensure that all of these facilities have disaster preparedness plans and sufficient backup generators so that the residents living there can shelter in place.

Outreach & Education

Participants felt that the residents of Hopedale are not well informed to handle emergencies, especially those in the vulnerable populations mentioned prior. Generally, it was agreed that climate change risks are not well understood throughout Town. It was discussed that residents have minimal understanding of wildfire hazards and fire prevention techniques. Safety and precaution information regarding drought, water use, and runoff contamination are also not well understood. On the environmental side, there was a strong desire to better educate the public on invasive species, eco-friendly lawn management practices, the dangers of standing water, and insect-borne disease. As the climate worsens, it will be important for residents in Town to be informed of both the risks of climate change and the preparedness strategies needed to combat these associated threats.

Environmental Concerns



Surface Waters

Hopedale is fortunate to have a number of water resources in Town, however, many participants were concerned about water quality and health of these resources. Those specifically mentioned were the Hopedale Pond, Spindleville Pond, Mill Pond, and Mill River. Hopedale Pond, located in the central part of Town, was noted as needing an ongoing treatment plan due to the amount of invasive species growth. There is also a significant beaver population, as well as new development around the pond. Both the beaver activity and development have resulted in more flooding issues in and around the pond. Similar to Hopedale Pond, Spindleville Pond has had significant invasive species growth. In addition, the pond also experiences frequent algae blooms, impacting the water quality of the pond and in the estuaries downstream. Spindleville Pond is located in the southern portion of Town, so there is a higher likelihood that the invasive species and algae issues will impact municipalities downstream of the pond. Mill Pond, located in the northern part of Town, also has also been impacted by invasive species growth and will need an ongoing water treatment and cleaning plan to maintain the health of the pond. Some participants described that the pond has swamp land that is difficult to maintain. The Mill River cuts vertically through the center of Hopedale and runs between each of the above-mentioned ponds. As such, it is impacted by the vulnerabilities at each of these water bodies, including the invasive species growth, algae blooms, flooding, and other water

ENVIRONMENTAL

- Surface Waters
- Trees
- Parklands & Forests

quality issues. There was also concern that the removal of the Draper Mill Dam will negatively impact both the geology and ecology of the river. Without effective management strategies, these water features will become unusable resources, limiting recreation opportunities and damaging their ecological benefits.

Trees

Participants were also concerned with the health and durability of the trees in Town. A majority of the tables mentioned invasives species as a concern for their impact on the street trees in Hopedale. Invasive plants, such as bittersweet, have been observed wrapping around hardwood trees in Town. And invasive pests, such as the winter moth and gypsy moth, have infested trees around Town and negatively impacted their health. Both types of invasives leave these trees vulnerable to severe storms and wind events, which are becoming more and more frequent. Aside from invasive species, it was also discussed that the high-water table might also be harming the health of the trees in Town. With a lack of an active tree management or removal-replacement program, these dead and dying trees may fall, creating hazards in the roadways or taking down powerlines.

Parklands & Forests

The Parklands and forested areas were widely discussed as a vulnerability due to the prevalence of invasive species, wildfire risks, and contamination. Japanese knotweed, Japanese barberry, and Oriental bittersweet have all been observed in these park and forest lands. As discussed above, invasive species can be harmful to trees, putting them at more risk of dying and falling. Invasive species also out-compete native species due to a lack of a local predator, potentially impacting and changing the ecology of an area. In addition to concerns with invasive species, it was also discussed that the overgrowth of the parklands and the leaf litter accumulation in the forests has increased the risk of brush and wildfires. And with the Grafton-Upton railroad running nearby these lands, these fire risks are higher due to the sparking that occurs. Heavy, strong winds will make these fires more difficult to control. Lastly, it was discussed that aerial pesticide spraying along the railroad tracks and to control mosquito populations, contaminated these environmental resources. It was noted that there was not enough notice regarding the mosquito spraying, so many native pollinator and plant species died.



CURRENT STRENGTHS AND ASSETS

Hopedale has taken some steps to address natural hazards and climate change over recent years. Public opinion holds that public safety is an “infrastructural strength” that will protect and strengthen the Hopedale community. Perceived environmental strengths focused mainly on the large and diverse number of natural resources and recreation opportunities that Hopedale residents can take advantage of.

Infrastructure Strengths



INFRASTRUCTURE

Utilities

Despite the need for some upgrades or improvements, participants at the workshop viewed the utilities in Town as an asset. Hopedale has four water wells to supply clean water to the public and has one water storage tower. Though the wells have experienced high levels of contamination, it was viewed as a strength to have a public water supply. And the water storage tank was described by participants as being a resilient feature that is not vulnerable to flooding. In addition, it was noted that the water treatment plant and sewer system are in the process of being updated. Though there are benefits to the water and sewer systems, efforts should be made to expand the water supply, either through identifying new wells or constructing a second water storage tank.

- Utilities
- Communication Systems
- Facilities

Solar was also discussed as a strength in the Town because it has reached its capacity. Participants described that there is no room in the power grid to add additional solar farms, which they viewed as a benefit to protect their natural resources. However, while solar farms can no longer be constructed in Town, it was discussed that solar panels are still able to be installed on residential homes and should be encouraged as an alternative energy source.

Communication Systems

Similar to the utilities in Town, though improvements are needed, participants viewed the foundation of the communication system as a strength. As mentioned above, the Town of Hopedale has a CodeRED system. With this system in place, the Town has the ability to send out emergency alerts to all of the residents who have signed up for the program. It can also send emergency notifications to cellphones in the event of power outages when landlines are down. That said, there was a desire to increase engagement with this program. Social media pages and the Town website were also viewed as a strength, despite the desire to maintain these pages more efficiently. Having regularly updated social media pages and websites can help to keep the community informed and engaged on events occurring in Town.

Facilities

While participants believed that many structures require upgrades or improvements to maintain their functionality, having these facilities in the first place is a strength. The Bancroft Memorial Library, located at 50 Hopedale Street, was one facility that was noted as a strength

of the Town. Built in 1898, the library is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. More than just a library, it acts as a gathering place and a means to spread information. The library was described as having a solid foundation, and the slate roof and granite block walls are already being repaired. Hopedale Memorial Elementary School and Hopedale Junior-Senior High School were also noted as strengths. The Memorial Elementary School is located at 6 Prospect Street and serves students in Kindergarten through Grade 6. And the Junior-Senior High School is located at 25 Adin Street and serves students in Grade 7 through Grade 12. Both schools can serve as emergency shelters and have backup generators, though the Junior-Senior High School generator does not power the entire facility. Other noteworthy facilities that were mentioned during the workshop include the Hopedale Airport Industrial Park, Hopedale Country Club, and the Recycling Center.

Societal Strengths



Local Organizations & Groups

During the workshop, participants discussed many different local organizations, businesses, and community groups that are a benefit to the Town. Bright Beginnings, located at 6 Park Street, serves as a daycare and Preschool for the community. There could be an opportunity to utilize Bright Beginnings to establish an early childhood environmental education course. In addition, many participants noted that the churches in Town are a strength to the community. The four churches in Hopedale are the Hopedale Unitarian Parish, Community Bible Chapel, Sacred Heart of Jesus, and Union Evangelical Church. All were described as a gathering place and have the potential to help expand communication lines and spread information. Union Evangelical Church was specifically mentioned as it hosts Girl Scouts and Boys Scouts. And finally, participants discussed the Hopedale Foundation as an important organization for the community. The Hopedale Foundation is a private, charity foundation in Hopedale that was founded in 1959. The Foundation has served the community by giving out student loans, supporting community projects, donating to the library, and purchasing land on the Town's behalf.

Sense of Community

The Town of Hopedale prides itself on its sense of community. Participants viewed the Town's willingness to help others as a strength. There are a number of Town- and private-owned housing facilities for those at-risk populations in Town. The Hopedale Housing Authority provides State Public Housing to low-income families, elderly persons, and those with disabilities. The Town provides this housing at the Griffin-Dennett Apartments, and it was noted that at least one of the apartment buildings at this complex has a backup generator, providing electricity in the event of power outages. The Town should seek to add additional backup generators to ensure that the entire complex maintains power in the event of an outage.

SOCIETAL

- Local Organizations & Groups
- Sense of Community
- Heritage

Atria Draper Place is a privately owned retirement and assisted living facility, located at 25 Hopedale Street. This facility is close to the Bancroft Memorial Library, The Little Red Shop Museum, and Hopedale Pond, providing residents easy access to a number of recreation opportunities. The Ledges is an assisted living facility that serves as a home for adults living with developmental disabilities, mental illnesses, physical disabilities, and significant medical challenges. Located at 55 Mendon Street, The Ledges provides housing opportunities, enrichment programming and activities, employment opportunities, and training for its residents. Seven Hill Pediatric Center, an affiliate of Seven Hills Foundation, located at 34 Adin Street, is another strength of the community. Seven Hills is a 12-bed “state-of-the-art” medical complex that provides medical treatment, care, and rehabilitation services for children. And Evergreen Center, located at 45 Mendon Street, is a residential school with community living for students with developmental disabilities. The Center serves male and female children aged 6 to 22 that have been diagnosed with autism, severe intellectual impairments, developmental disabilities, physical handicaps, or have been dually diagnosed.

Aside from Town- and private-owned assisted living facilities, participants the dedication of the Town’s staff, boards and committees, and volunteers. The different boards and committees were described as very involved and wearing multiple hats. The Council on Aging and Fire Department were specifically noted for their commitment to maintaining a list of high-risk residents in the event of disasters.

Heritage

In addition to its sense of community, the Town of Hopedale also views its heritage as a strength for its many historical features help to build the character of the Town. The Hopedale Village Historic District was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2002, and includes the historic 19th century industrial village center. This district has also been included as part of the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park. The Little Red Shop Museum, located at 12 Hopedale Street, is included in this district. This museum was built in 1841 and is the oldest industrial building in Hopedale. It symbolizes the beginning of the Draper Corporation. Today, it hosts the Hopedale Historical Commission meetings. The Statue of Hope, located at the Bancroft Memorial Library, was presented to the Town in 1904, and is another key historical feature.

Environmental Strengths



Water Resources

The Town of Hopedale is fortunate to have many water resources around Town. Hopedale Pond, located in the central part of Town, is the largest body of water in Town at 95 acres with an average depth of five feet. There are several access points around the pond, including a gravel boat ramp provided by the Town. Common fish species found in the pond

ENVIRONMENTAL

- Water Resources
- Recreation Opportunity
- Regional & Local Environmental Resources

include yellow perch, bluegills, golden shiners, largemouth bass, chain pickerel, and American eel.

Two other smaller bodies of water in Hopedale are the Mill Pond and the Spindleville Pond. Mill Pond is in the northern part of Town, on the border of Milford just off of Route 140. While Spindleville Pond is downstream of Mill Pond in the south-central part of Town.

There are also two prominent rivers that run through Town: the Charles River and the Mill River. The Charles River runs along the southeastern edge of Town. And the Mill River cuts vertically through the center of Town. The Charles River is an 80-mile-long river that flows from Hopkinton, MA across to the Atlantic Ocean at Boston, MA. While the Mill River is approximately 17.1 miles long, flowing from Hopkinton, MA down to Blackstone and into Woonsocket, RI where it meets the Blackstone River.

Recreation Opportunity

Along with the numerous water resources in Town, Hopedale is fortunate to have many recreation opportunities. The Parklands, located around Hopedale Pond, were widely discussed as an important environmental feature. This land was acquired in 1899, and in 1900, Warren H. Manning designed the landscape of the park. At the Parklands, visitors can enjoy a trail system, bird watching, and access to the pond. There is also a bathing beach and bathhouse, that used to provide swimming opportunities.

At the Hopedale Town Park, located at 32 Prospect Street, residents can enjoy many passive and active recreation opportunities. The 6.18-acre park contains a playground, bandstand, tennis courts, basketball courts, and baseball field. The Town has hosted summer recreation activities, arts and crafts programs, band concerts, and other cultural events at this site.

Phillips Field was also described as a strength to the Town. Located along Mellen Street, Phillips Field is a 29.21-acre parcel that contains conservation land, softball fields, a soccer field, playground, and other open space.

Regional Environmental Resources

Due to its location within the Blackstone Watershed, the Town of Hopedale is fortunate to have access to a few regional and local environmental resources. The Blackstone River Watershed Association (BRWA) was established in 1969 and has been integral in improving the water quality within the Blackstone River Watershed. The BRWA seeks to engage the public in watershed stewardship activities; educate members, supporters, and residents on watershed protection strategies; and advocate to residents, community leaders, non-profit partners, and state regulators to take actions that will help to ensure our waterways continue to provide healthy habitat and enjoyable recreational opportunities.

In addition, since Fall of 2019, the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program has been leading the Blackstone River Needs Assessment Project to bring together all of the different stakeholders

and partners across the watershed. By Fall 2021, this groups aims to identify actionable items that will help improve water quality, native habitat, and watershed resilience.

And finally, Hopedale also falls within the bounds of the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor (BHC). BHC is committed to the long term vitality of the region and partners with municipalities, nonprofits, businesses, and residents to restore, retain, and reinvigorate the Valley. They facilitate volunteer work and a variety of programs and events to connect residents to the National Heritage Corridor. Programs that the BHC focuses on include economic development, tourism, resource conservation, community planning and revitalization, education, and interpretation. The Town of Hopedale is fortunate to benefit from the different projects that these different regional environmental groups undertake.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE RESILIENCE

Workshop attendees at each table took the next step in completing the CRB Matrix by suggesting actions that would address vulnerabilities, or further bolster strengths they identified. The following actions are compiled from the matrices from all four tables at the Hopedale MVP Workshop. The completed Matrix for each table can be found in the Appendix at the end of this document.

Infrastructure Actions



Participants believed that **improved management of water** within town will be critical in building resilience. To accomplish this, the Town should pursue options to expand the water supply, develop an inventory of culverts in need of repairs and upgrades, and conduct a detailed vulnerability assessment of dams and bridges. Protecting the town's water supply through PFAS remediation or new water sources is also a major priority, given the already limited supply, PFAS contamination, and development pressures.

Alternative sources of power should be secured to maintain critical services. Alternate power supplies should be secured for the high school and senior housing around town, solar regulations should be reviewed, and a bylaw should be drafted to mandate underground utility lines for new development.

Upgrading facilities, structures, and systems in town should maintain or improve functionality. The town hall should be renovated to address maintenance needs and build long-term resiliency, and the fire department communication system should be upgraded.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Water Management
- Alternative Power Sources
- Building & System Upgrades

Societal Actions



With the risks and vulnerabilities that the Town will face as the climate changes, it will be important to **assess and address the resources they are lacking**. A communication plan should be developed to help disseminate climate and emergency planning issues – and this communication should be translated into different languages spoken by non-English speaking residents. The Town should also advocate for more public transportation and affordable housing options.

Participants felt that it will be important to **enhance community preparedness and awareness of climate-related vulnerabilities**. It was recommended that the Town identify emergency

SOCIETAL

- Improve Access
- Enhance Community Preparedness
- Historic Preservation

shelters in town, designate locations that can be used as cooling centers, and encourage the creation of a citizen's climate preparedness or sustainability committee.

As heritage was a unique strength to the town, participants felt it important to **continue to preserve its history**. The Little Red Shop Museum should be repaired, and the town should invest in a resilient enclosure for the Statue of Hope. The Town should also work with the Mass Historical Commission to discuss how historic preservation regulations can take into account climate-resilient techniques.

Environmental Actions



With a limited water supply, and vulnerabilities to water quality, it is clear **that water resource protection is a top priority**. Assessing the vulnerability of wetlands, restoring Hopedale Pond, and treating algae growth were a few of the many actions suggested to improve and maintain the Town's water resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- Water Resource Protection
- Education & Outreach
- Upgrade Policies & Bylaws

Expanding education and outreach will help build a more resilient community. Conducting a series of education campaigns about insect-borne diseases, drought-tolerant landscaping, and invasive species management should be implemented. The Town should also maintain open communication and build relationships with outside organizations and watershed partners focused on environmental issues.

Participants felt that **natural resource protection could be improved by strengthening environmental policies** in Town. Adopting a series of policies that encourage green infrastructure and low-impact development practices were discussed; as well as developing and enforcing a plan for managing invasive species.

Top Recommendations

Following the two-day virtual workshop, these actions were placed into a survey on the Survey Monkey platform so that participants could prioritize their top recommendations. Participants answered survey questions on: 1) what hazards they were most concerned with; 2) whether an action was high, medium, or low priority; 3) whether an action was a short, long, or ongoing project; and 4) which actions they

TOP RECOMMENDATIONS




- Dam & Bridge Evaluation
- Climate Vulnerability Assessment
- Culvert Inventory
- Emergency Shelter Outreach Campaign






would like to see Hopedale complete. A copy of the survey questions and the survey results can be found in the Appendix at the end of this document.

The majority of participants indicated that they were most concerned with both the possibility of increased flooding events and the possibility of extreme heat and drought as the climate continues to change. The top five priority recommendations include:

1. Expanding the water supply by identifying additional water sources, by constructing an additional water storage, or by removing contaminants in the existing supply.
2. Conducting a detailed vulnerability assessments of dams and bridges regarding climate-related hazards, prioritizing dam repair and maintenance, and evaluating the possibility of dam removal as a flood mitigation strategy.
3. Conducting a Town-wide climate vulnerability assessment to understand risks to infrastructure, water supply, and potential for flooding.
4. Identifying and creating an inventory of culverts that will need repairs/replacements to accommodate greater stormwater volume and include nature-based culvert designs as an option at each site, a mapping of all sites that experience roadway flooding and evaluate mitigation options including nature-based options for improving drainage or absorbing runoff.
5. Identifying emergency shelters in Town, designating locations that can be used as cooling center for residents to go to when needed, and ensure locations of shelters are well-publicized to all residents.

At the end of the two-day virtual workshop, Peter Peloquin thanked attendees for giving their time and attention, and commended the town for their willingness and flexibility to utilize a virtual platform giving the current public health conditions. The top recommendations on the following pages were compiled based on those actions reported out voted on by participants. Actions are organized by priority and project type. The key below describes the Category and Hazard types found in the top priority action table.

Category	Key
Infrastructural	
Societal	
Environmental	

Hazard	Key
Severe Storms/Flooding	
Winter Storms	
Wind	
Drought	
Wildfires	

Top recommendation excel sheet will be inserted here

Top recommendation excel sheet will be inserted here (if second page is needed)

Public Comments

During the May 24, 2021 Public Listening Session, and during the June 16th – June 23rd Public Comment Period, the below comments and questions were received:

- Tim Watson asked whether a Mendon and Hopedale water supply project would be considered a regional MVP Action Grant project.
- Glenda [REDACTED] asked whether there any specific steps on the Town's side for approving the MVP Planning grant report.
- Louis Arcudi asked for clarity regarding the funding caps for MVP Action Grants.
- David Butler asked how the MVP Program started and what's the program's background.
- Rob Fahey asked would historic open spaces be included in the historic preservation sections, given that some were designated many years ago by early town founders.
- Stephanie Thomas asked for clarity regarding the concerns of the Parklands, forests, and development.

Next Steps

This planning process and list of prioritized recommendations is only the first step in building a more resilient community. The intent of the Summary of Finds Report is to identify the strengths and vulnerabilities of a Town, and to brainstorm potential actions that could help the Town build climate resilience. Once the State accepts the Summary of Findings report and deems the Town of Hopedale an MVP Designated Community, the Town should begin identifying projects that they would like to complete from the list of Recommended Actions. Based on Town interests and capabilities, should begin developing action plans to pursue these projects, and should utilize MVP Action Grants, Town resources, or other grant programs and funding opportunities to explore these ideas further.

CRB WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Name	Affiliation	Attended	Table #
Carol Villa	Board of Health	N	1
Diana Schindler	Town Administrator	Y	1
Chris Nadeau	Highway Department, Superintendent	Y	1
Lieutenant Martin	Police Lieutenant	Y	1
Hillary King	MVP Regional Coordinator	Y	1
Jeannie Herbert	Blackstone Chamber of Commerce, President	Y	1
David Guglielmi	Conservation Commission	Y	1
Zophie Greenwald	Hopedale Schools	Y	1
Chief Giovannella	Police Department, Chief	Y	1
Robyn York	Bancroft Memorial Library, Director	Y	2
Phil Shwachman	Draper Mill	N	2
Mike Penko	Metacomet Land Trust	Y	2
Marcia Matthews	Conservation Commission	Y	2
Kylie Gibbons	Representative for Sen. Fattman	Y	2
Alysia Butler	Chair, School Committee	Y	2
Mike Brown	Sewer Department, Chief Operator	Y	2
Bill York	Profession in hurricane related damage	Y	3
Nishaila Porter	Charles River Watershed Association	Y	3
Jennie Moonan	Charles River Watershed Association	Y	3
Rebecca Mongada	Weston and Sampson	Y	3
Lindsay Mercier	Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator	Y	3
Brian Kelly	Fire Department	Y	3
Linda Hickson	Historical Society	Y	3
David Butler	Water & Sewer Commission	Y	3
Nancy Arone	Adult Day Facility (The Ledges)	Y	3
Becca Solomon	Conservation Commission	Y	4
Matthew Shwachman	Draper Mill	Y	4
Liz Reilly	Resident of Hopedale	Y	4
Sara Pellegrini	Afonso Real Estate, Sales Agent	Y	4
Carole Mullen	Council on Aging	Y	4
David McMorrow	Fire Department, Deputy Fire Chief	Y	4
Joshua Fumia	High School Senior	Y	4
John DeWaele	Grafton Upton Railroad, Senior VP	Y	4
Ed Burt	Water & Sewer Commission	Y	4
Mimi Kaplan	Associate Planner, CMRPC	Y	1
Claire Bayler	Associate Planner, CMRPC	Y	1
Mary Hannah Smith	Associate Planner, CMRPC	Y	2
Zack Blais	Assistant Planner, CMRPC	Y	2
Kerrie Salwa	Principal Planner, CMRPC	Y	3
Emily Glaubitz	Associate Planner, CMRPC	Y	3
Dani Marini	Assistant Planner, CMRPC	Y	4
Julia Moore	Assistant Planner, CMRPC	Y	4
Matt Franz	Project Manager, CMRPC, IT Support	Y	ALL
Pete Peloquin	Program Coordinator, CMRPC	Y	ALL

CRB WORKSHOP PROJECT TEAM

Name	Affiliation	Role
Diana Schindler	Town of Hopedale	Town Administrator
Lindsay Mercier	Town of Hopedale	Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator
Robyn York	Town of Hopedale	Bancroft Memorial Library, Director
Tim Watson	Town of Hopedale	Water & Sewer Department, Manager
Carol Villa	Town of Hopedale	Board of Health
Becca Solomon	Town of Hopedale	Conservation Commission
Phil Shwachman	Town of Hopedale	Draper Mill
Chris Nadeau	Town of Hopedale	Highway Department, Superintendent
Carole Mullen	Town of Hopedale	Council on Aging
Marcia Matthews	Town of Hopedale	Conservation Commission
Brian Kelly	Town of Hopedale	Fire Department
Chief Giovannella	Town of Hopedale	Police Department, Chief
John DeWaele	Town of Hopedale	Grafton Upton Railroad, Senior VP
Stephen Chaplin	Town of Hopedale	Planning Board, Chair
David Butler	Town of Hopedale	Water & Sewer Commission
Mike Brown	Town of Hopedale	Sewer Department, Chief Operator
Dani Marini	CMRPC	Assistant Planner, Lead Coordinator
Mimi Kaplan	CMRPC	Associate Planner

CITATION

Town of Hopedale (2021) Community Resilience Building Workshop Summary of Findings. Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission. Hopedale, Massachusetts.

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The CMRPC would like to acknowledge the Town of Hopedale's Core Team for their time and hard work in participating in this project. These include, but are not limited to:

Diana Schindler, Town Administrator
Lindsay Mercier, Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator
Robyn York, Bancroft Memorial Library, Director
Tim Watson, Water & Sewer Department, Manager
Carol Villa, Board of Health
Becca Solomon, Conservation Commission
Phil Shwachman, Draper Mill
Chris Nadeau, Highway Department, Superintendent
Carole Mullen, Council on Aging
Marcia Matthews, Conservation Commission
Brian Kelly, Fire Department
Chief Giovanella, Police Department
John DeWaele, Grafton-Upton Railroad, Senior VP
Michael Milanoski, Grafton-Upton Railroad
Stephen Chaplin, Planning Board, Chair
David Butler, Water & Sewer Commission
Mike Brown, Sewer Department, Chief Operator

The following individuals were directly and personally involved in planning and conducting the Hopedale Community Resilience Building Workshop:

Dani Marini, Assistant Planner, CMRPC
Mimi Kaplan, Associate Planner, CMRPC
Mary Hannah Smith, Associate Planner, CMRPC
Peter Peloquin, Associate Planner, CMRPC
Matt Franz, Project Manager, CMRPC
Hillary King, Regional Coordinator, EEA

APPENDIX

- I. Agendas and Sign-In Sheets
- II. Workshop Meeting Materials
 - a. Invitation
 - b. Maps
 - c. Table Matrix
 - d. Survey
- III. Workshop Presentation
- IV. Listening Session Presentation