

# Sharon Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

## Public Meeting #1

December 19, 2023  
Zoom

Martin Pillsbury  
Metropolitan Area Planning Council

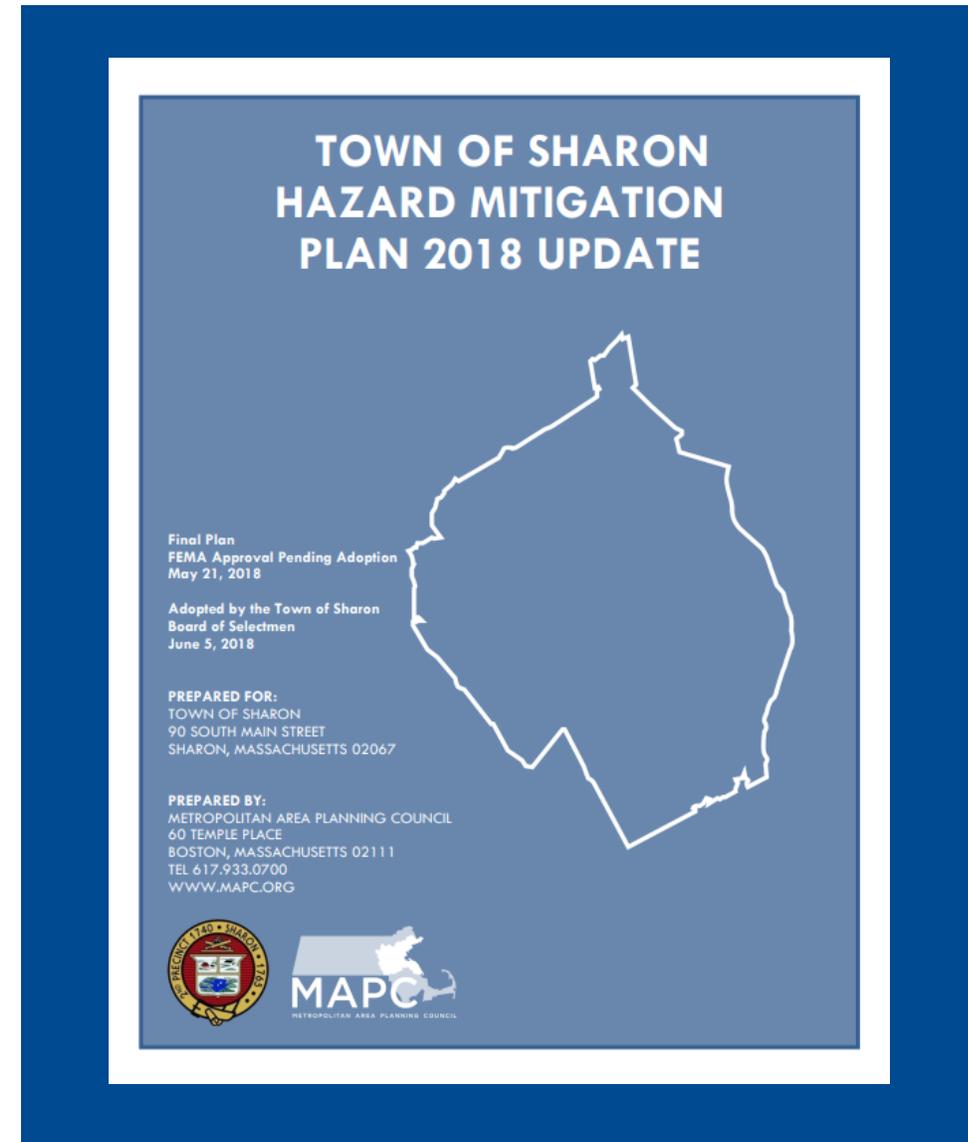


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# **Background: What is Hazard Mitigation?**

# Overview of Hazard Mitigation Planning

- **Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000:**  
*FEMA guidelines for local & state Hazard Mitigation Plans*
- **Pre-Disaster Mitigation:**  
Plan for resilience *before* disaster
- **5-year plan update cycle:**  
*Update plan data and community mitigation strategies*
- **FEMA grant eligibility:**  
*Approved plan makes the Town eligible for FEMA project grants*



# Overview of Hazard Mitigation Planning

*Mitigation: Reducing impacts of natural hazards through strategies including policy, projects, and programs.*

1. What preventative actions are being taken **now** to reduce risks and damages?
2. What **additional** actions can be taken in the future to increase resilience?

## A plan for Multiple Natural Hazards



Flooding (coastal and inland)



Wind events (thunderstorms, hurricanes, tornadoes)



Winter hazards (blizzards, nor'easters)



Geologic hazards (earthquakes, landslides)



Wild Fires



Extreme temperatures and drought

# Breaking the Cycle of Disaster & Rebuilding



# Techniques for Hazard Mitigation

**Prevention** (*planning and zoning*)

**Property Protection** (*building elevation*)

**Public Education** (*public outreach*)

**Protect Natural Resources** (*wetlands, floodplains*)

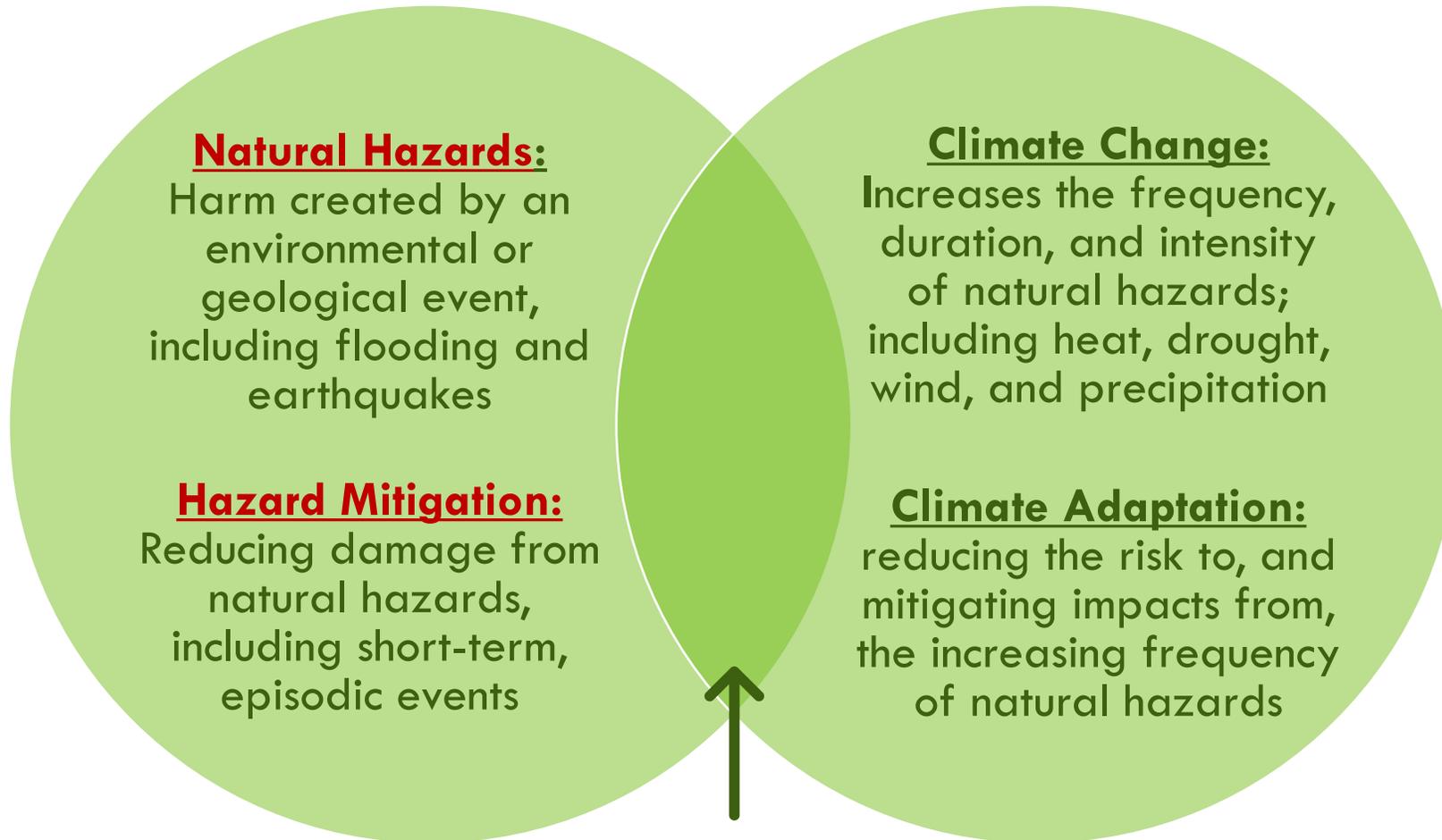
**Structural Projects** (*culverts, pumps, drainage*)

**Emergency Services Protection**  
(*protection of emergency facilities & infrastructure*)



# Natural Hazards and Climate Change

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**Adapting to the expected impacts  
of climate change is a form  
of hazard mitigation**

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# The Planning Process

# Plan Development Process



# Process Guided by the Local Hazard Mitigation Team

## Local Team Role:

- Participate in four meetings
- Review and endorse plan goals
- Provide local data/expertise on critical facilities and hazards
- Review & endorse the updated mitigation strategy for the plan

## Representatives from:

- Town Administrator
- Fire Department
- Police Department
- Public Works
- Conservation
- Civil Defense
- Health Dept.
- Building Dept.
- Recreation Dept.

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# What We've Heard

# What We've Heard: Examples of Critical Facilities & Infrastructure

## Municipal Facilities

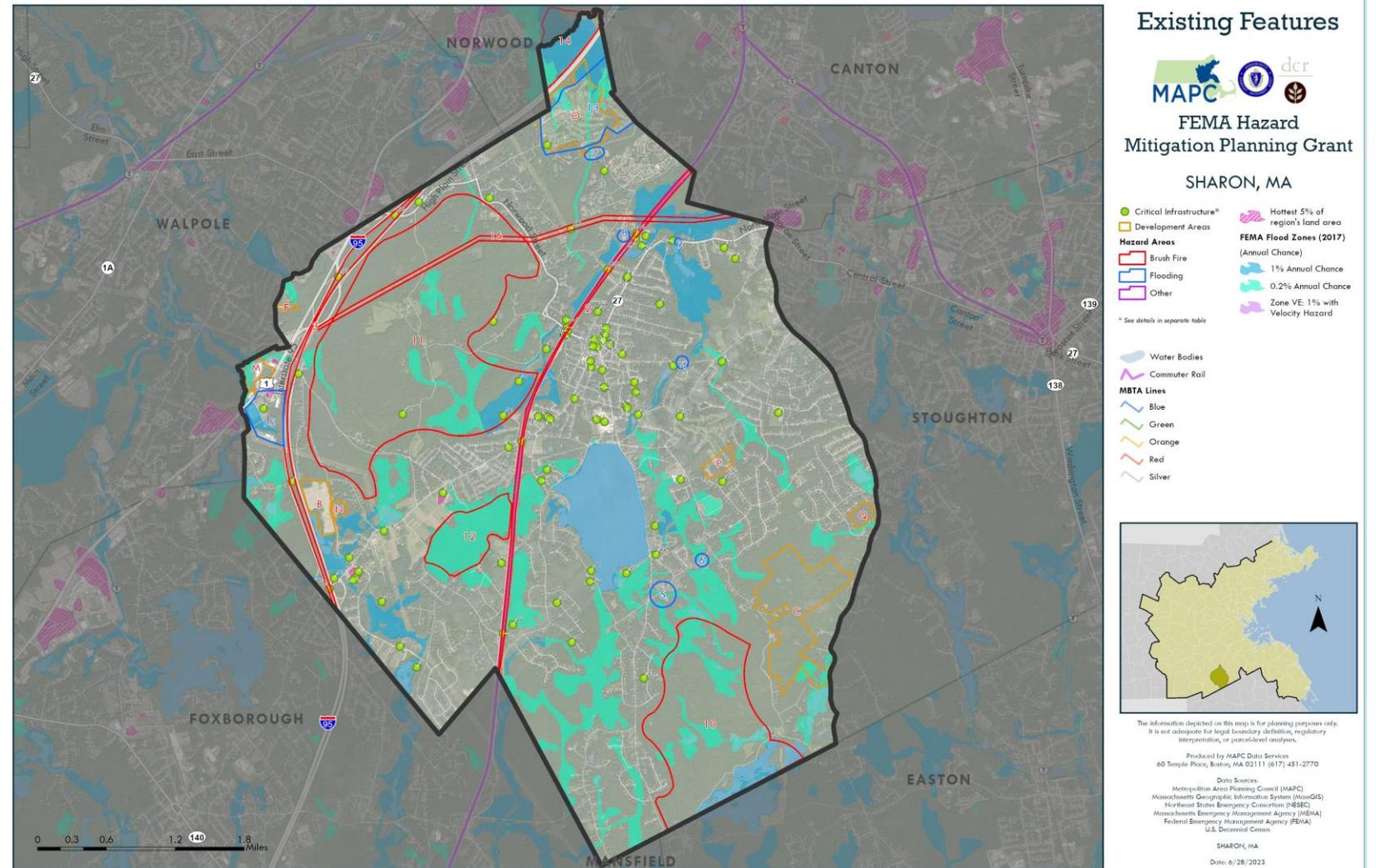
- Town Hall
- Public Safety Facilities
- DPW Facility
- Emergency Ops. Ctr.

## Infrastructure

- Sewer Pump Stations
- Wells & Water Tanks
- Bridges & Culverts
- Dams

## Community Facilities

- Sharon Public Schools
- Nursing Homes
- Places of Worship
- Child Care Facilities



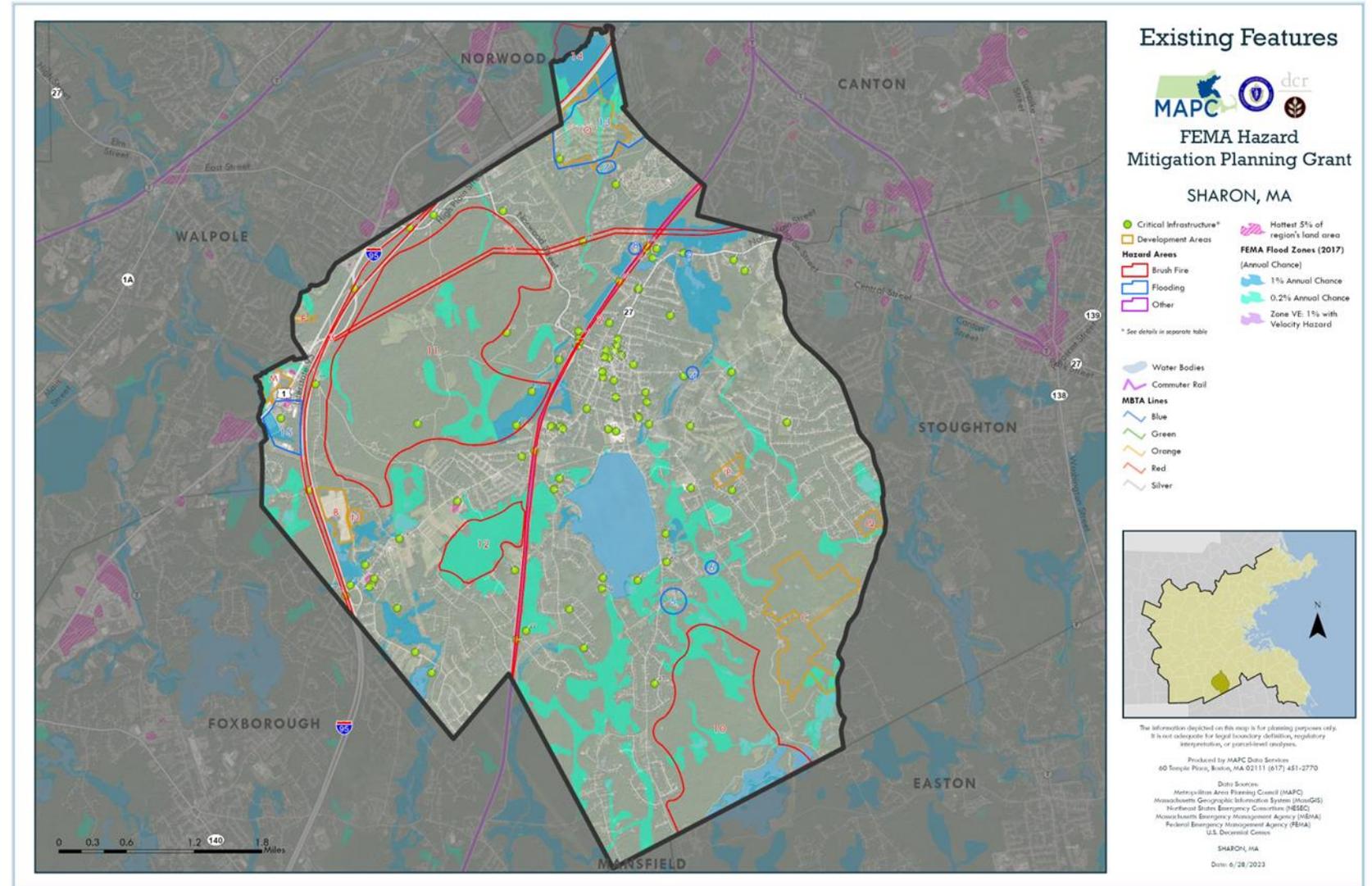
# What We've Heard: Examples of Local Hazard Areas

## Flooding area examples:

- Billings Street
- Morse Street
- Edgehill at Dedham Street
- Saw Mill Pond Road
- Main Street, near Massapoag Brook
- School Meadow Brook at Commercial Street

## Brushfire Hazards:

- Moose Hill
- Borderland State Park
- South of Essex Road



# Other Natural Hazards

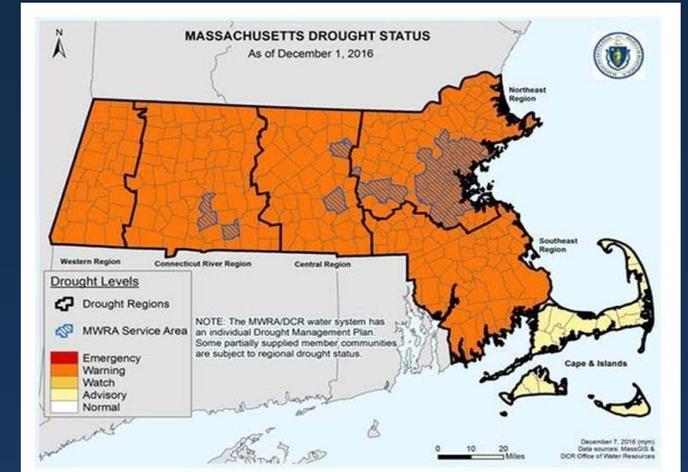
## Extreme Heat

		Temperature (°F)															
		80	82	84	86	88	90	92	94	96	98	100	102	104	106	108	110
Relative Humidity (%)	40	80	81	83	85	88	91	94	97	101	105	109	114	119	124	130	136
	45	80	82	84	87	89	93	96	100	104	109	114	119	124	130	137	
	50	81	83	85	88	91	95	99	103	108	113	118	124	131	137		
	55	81	84	86	89	93	97	101	106	112	117	124	130	137			
	60	82	84	88	91	95	100	105	110	116	123	129	137				
	65	82	85	89	93	98	103	108	114	121	128	136					
	70	83	86	90	95	100	105	112	119	126	134						
	75	84	88	92	97	103	109	116	124	132							
	80	84	89	94	100	106	113	121	129								
	85	85	90	96	102	110	117	125	135								
90	86	91	98	105	113	122	131										
95	86	93	100	108	117	127											
100	87	95	103	112	121	132											

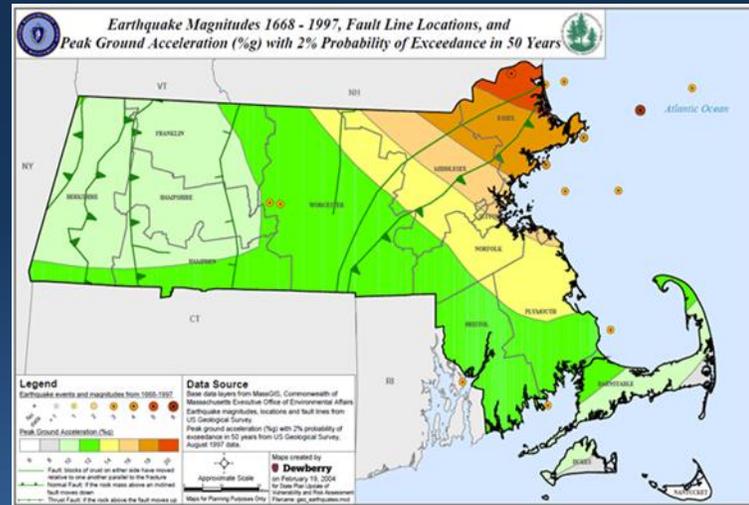
  

Category	Heat Index	Health Hazards
Extreme Danger	130 °F – Higher	Heat Stroke or Sunstroke is likely with continued exposure.
Danger	105 °F – 129 °F	Sunstroke, muscle cramps, and/or heat exhaustion possible with prolonged exposure and/or physical activity.
Extreme Caution	90 °F – 105 °F	Sunstroke, muscle cramps, and/or heat exhaustions possible with prolonged exposure and/or physical activity.
Caution	80 °F – 90 °F	Fatigue possible with prolonged exposure and/or physical activity.

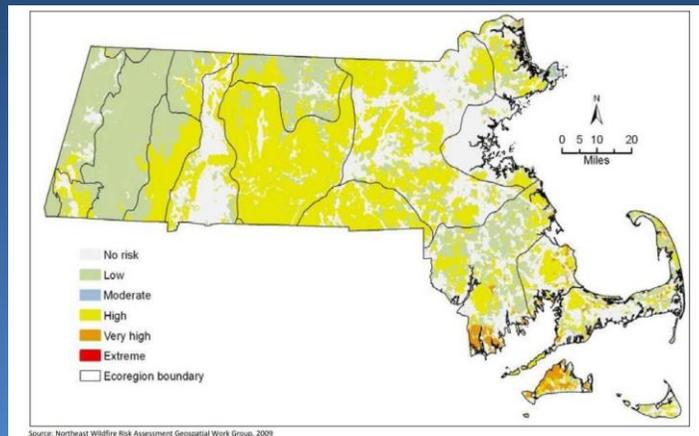
## Drought



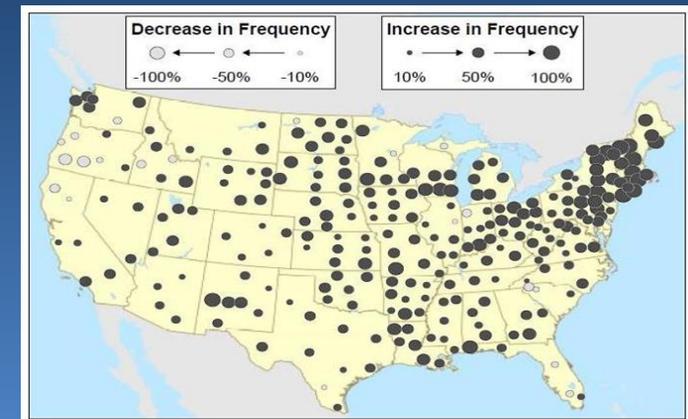
## Earthquakes



## Wildfires



## Extreme Precipitation



# Wind & Winter Hazards: Nor'easters/Blizzards

Storm Event	Date
Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	March 2018
Severe Winter Storm, Snowstorm, Flooding	January 2015
Severe Winter Storm, Snowstorm, Flooding	February 2013
Hurricane Sandy	October/November 2012



# What We've Heard: Examples of Existing Mitigation Measures

## Multiple Hazard Mitigation:

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP)  
Local Emergency Management Comm. (LEPC)  
Comp. Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)

## Flood Mitigation:

- Drainage System Maintenance
- Participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- Stormwater Management (MS4 Permit)
- Wetlands Bylaw/Subdivision/Site Plan
- Open Space Residential Development
- Community Preservation

## Brush Fire Mitigation:

- Permits required for outdoor burning
- Fire Tower on Moose Hill
- Public Education During Drought Watches

## Winter Hazard Mitigation:

- DPW conducts salting and plowing during winter storms
- Overnight parking ban (November-April)

## Wind and Winter Mitigation:

- Trees trimmed for resilience to wind and ice and snow hazards
- Tree Maintenance by Eversource

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# Next Steps

# Next Steps for Developing the Plan

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- 3<sup>rd</sup> Local Team Meeting – Review the Status of Mitigation from 2018 (January)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Local Team Meeting – Prepare Updated Mitigation Strategy (March)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Meeting – Present Draft Plan, public comments (April)
- Submit Draft Plan – Review of draft plan by MEMA & FEMA (April)
- Town Adoption of Final Plan – Select Board vote to adopt the final plan
- FEMA Approval – the Town will receive a letter approving the plan for 5 years

***After FEMA approval of the plan, Sharon will be eligible for FEMA grants for hazard mitigation projects***

# Thank You!

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**Questions and Comments may be sent to:**

**Martin Pillsbury**

MAPC Environmental Director

or

**Jiwon Park**

MAPC Land Use Planner

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