

State Hazard Mitigation Plan Municipal Survey
Response by Middlebury Emergency Management Director Tom Hanley

From: Tom Hanley <Thanley@MiddleburyPolice.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2023 3:29 PM
To: Kathleen Ramsay <KRamsay@townofmiddlebury.org>
Subject: RE: State Hazard Mitigation Plan Municipal Survey

Kathleen,

I reviewed with Jenn. There was also a suggestion by the person who submitted this that it be brought to the selectboard for a 10-minute discussion during a meeting to determine the responses. I made the bold assumption that the selectboard meeting agendas are pretty full as is and would most likely be sent to me to complete. I submitted the survey with the following responses:

1. 1. Which individuals or groups within your community would be most harmed by or have the most difficult time recovering from a natural hazard event (such as flooding, ice, wind, heat, wildfire, etc.)? We will refer to these as your "frontline community members." ***Shut-ins, people with in-home medical devices, those with psychological disorders, those with economic challenges,***
2. 2. How does the Town/City get information about the needs and interests of its frontline community members? Please describe any opportunities for engagement offered specifically for frontline community members that you currently provide, or that you want to provide if resources are available. ***Most of this information is privacy protected and not available to local emergency management. Only known anecdotally or through individual contacts.***
3. What have you already done to prepare for significant weather events in your community and protect residents from natural hazard impacts? ***Utilize the Town's emergency management plan which contains provisions and plans in the event of occurrence; the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan for mitigation.***
4. What else would you like to do to protect your residents from natural hazard impacts? ***Infrastructure improvements identified through response to prior events, employ the precepts of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, staff training in emergency management and hazard response; identify local shelters and means of moving people out of harms way,***
5. What would you need to make that happen? ***There are limits to town resources, as stated in the emergency operations plan:***
"The Town of Middlebury has limited capacity to mitigate the effects of large-scale emergencies and disasters. Public and private resources from the Town of Middlebury will be used in the event of an emergency or disaster. This application of local preparedness measures may not be sufficient in all situations."

6. If funding is a need, what are the two biggest barriers to obtaining funding?

- Limited staff capacity to apply for funding **X**
- We do not know what grants or other funding are available for projects we want to do
- Very limited grant programs or other funding available for the type of projects we want to do.
- Competing priorities at the town/city level. **X**
- Other