



## 1. JURISDICTIONAL ANNEXES

### 38.1 VILLAGE OF THERESA

This jurisdictional annex to the Jefferson County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) provides information to assist public and private sectors in the Village of Theresa with reducing losses from future hazard events. This annex is not guidance of what to do when a disaster occurs; its focus is on actions that can be implemented prior to a disaster to reduce or eliminate damage to property and people. The annex presents a general overview of Theresa, describes who participated in the planning process, assesses Theresa's risk, vulnerability, and capabilities, and outlines a strategy for achieving a more resilient community.

### 38.2 HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING TEAM

The Village of Theresa identified primary and alternate HMP points of contact and developed this plan over the course of several months, with input from many Village departments.

Table A summarizes local officials who participated in the development of the annex. Additional documentation of the Village's planning activities through Planning Partnership meetings is included in Volume I.

Table A. Hazard Mitigation Planning Team

Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact
Name/Title: Scott McConnell, Mayor Address: 124 Commercial Street, Theresa, NY 13691 Phone Number: (315) 628-4425 Email: smcconnell@villageoftheresany.com	Name/Title: Tara Leeson, Village Clerk Address: 124 Commercial Street, Theresa, NY 13691 Phone Number: (315) 628-4425 Email: tleeson@villageoftheresany.com
<b>National Flood Insurance Program Floodplain Administrator</b>	
Name/Title: Jordan Bridge, Floodplain Administrator Address: 124 Commercial Street, Theresa, NY 13691 Phone Number: (315) 628-4425 Email: bridge.jordan9@gmail.com	
<b>Additional Contributors</b>	
Name/Title: Scott Sampson, Superintendent of Public Works Method of Participation: Information	

### 38.3 COMMUNITY PROFILE

#### 38.3.1 Community Classifications

Table B summarizes classifications for community programs available to Theresa.

Table B. Community Classifications

Program	Participating? (Yes/No)	Classification	Date Classified
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)	No	-	-
Community Rating System (CRS)	No	-	-
Firewise Communities classification	No	-	-
National Weather Service StormReady Certification	No	-	-
Public Protection (ISO Fire Protection Classes 1 to 10)	No	-	-



NYSDEC Climate Smart Community	No	-	-
Other: Organizations with mitigation focus (advocacy group, non-government)	No	-	-

N/A = Not applicable

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### 38.3.2 Community Profile

The Village of Theresa has an area of one square mile and is located in the northern part of the County. The Village is completely within the Town of Theresa which is bordered by the Town of Alexandria to the north, the Town of Antwerp and Town of Philadelphia to the east, the Town of LeRay to the south, and the Town of Orleans to the west. Numerous state highways run directly through the Village of Theresa.

According to the U.S. Census, the 2020 population for the Village of Theresa was 752 which makes up 0.6 percent of the county population. Data from the 2022 American Community Survey indicates that 3.7 percent of the population is 5 years of age or younger, 9.4 percent is 65 years of age or older, zero percent is non-English speaking, 14.1 percent is below the poverty threshold, and 11.7 percent is considered disabled.

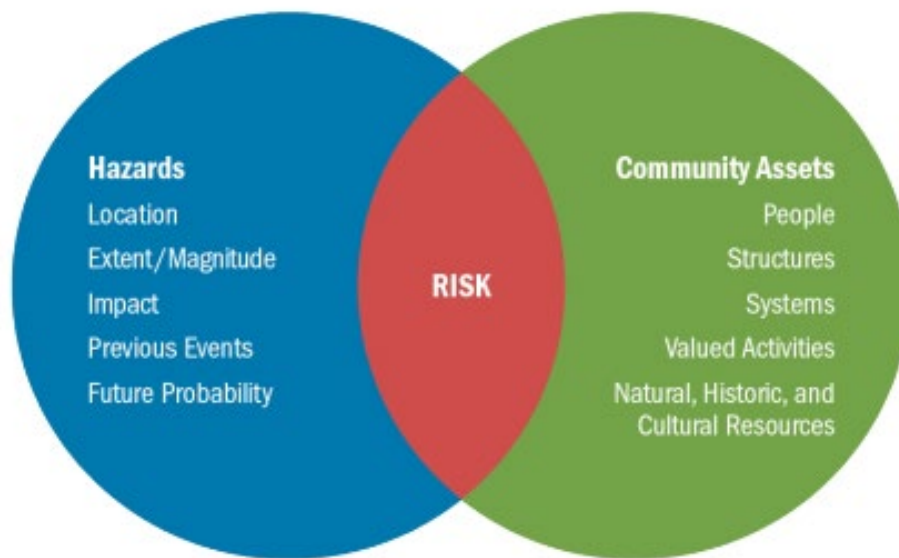
### 38.4 JURISDICTIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT

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The hazard profiles in Volume I provide detailed information regarding each planning partner's vulnerability to the identified hazards, including summaries of Theresa's risk assessment results and data used to determine the hazard ranking. Key local risk assessment information is presented below.

Each jurisdiction has unique assets, vulnerabilities and overall risk. A multi-jurisdictional plan needs to identify every hazard (from the whole planning area). In hazard mitigation planning, risk is the potential for damage or loss when natural hazards interact with people or assets. These assets may be buildings, infrastructure or natural and cultural resources. A risk assessment is a robust, data-driven analysis. It explains what might happen. It also finds where the local jurisdiction is vulnerable to hazards.

Each community must describe how the selected hazards affect its jurisdiction. Some hazards will have similar effects across the area: extreme temperatures, windstorms, winter weather, drought, heavy rain, etc. Some have a smaller location and will vary based on geography. Multi-jurisdictional plans must explain these differences.



Risk is the relationship, or overlap, between hazards and community assets. The smaller the overlap, the lower the risk.

### 38.4.1 Hazard Area

Hazard area maps provided below illustrate the probable hazard areas impacted within the Village are shown in Figure 1 through Figure 2. These maps are based on the best available data at the time of the preparation of this plan and are adequate for planning purposes. Maps are provided only for hazards that can be identified clearly using mapping techniques and technologies and for which Theresa has significant exposure. The maps show the location of potential new development, where available.



Figure 1. Theresa Flood and Coastal Erosion Hazard Area Extent and Location Map

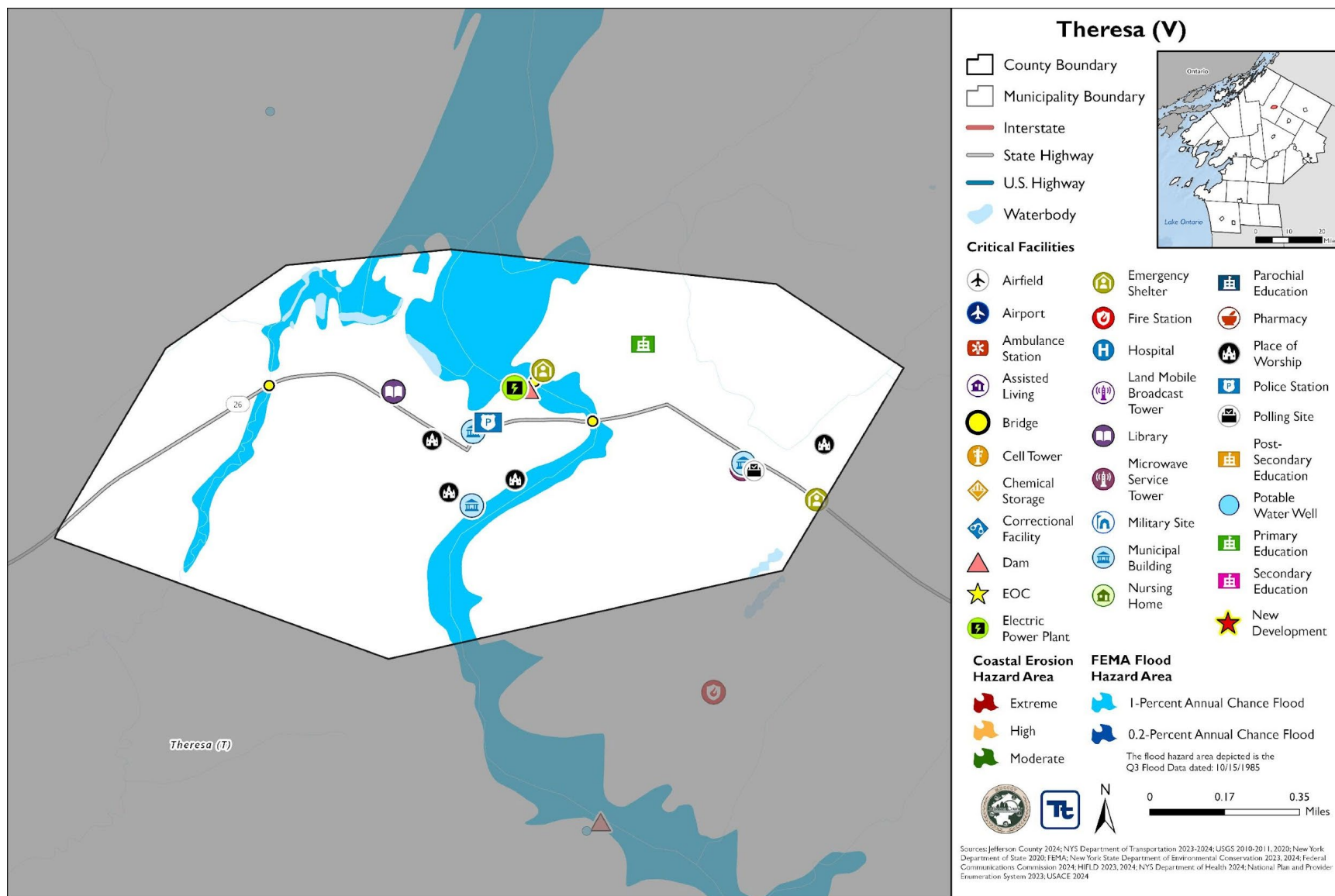
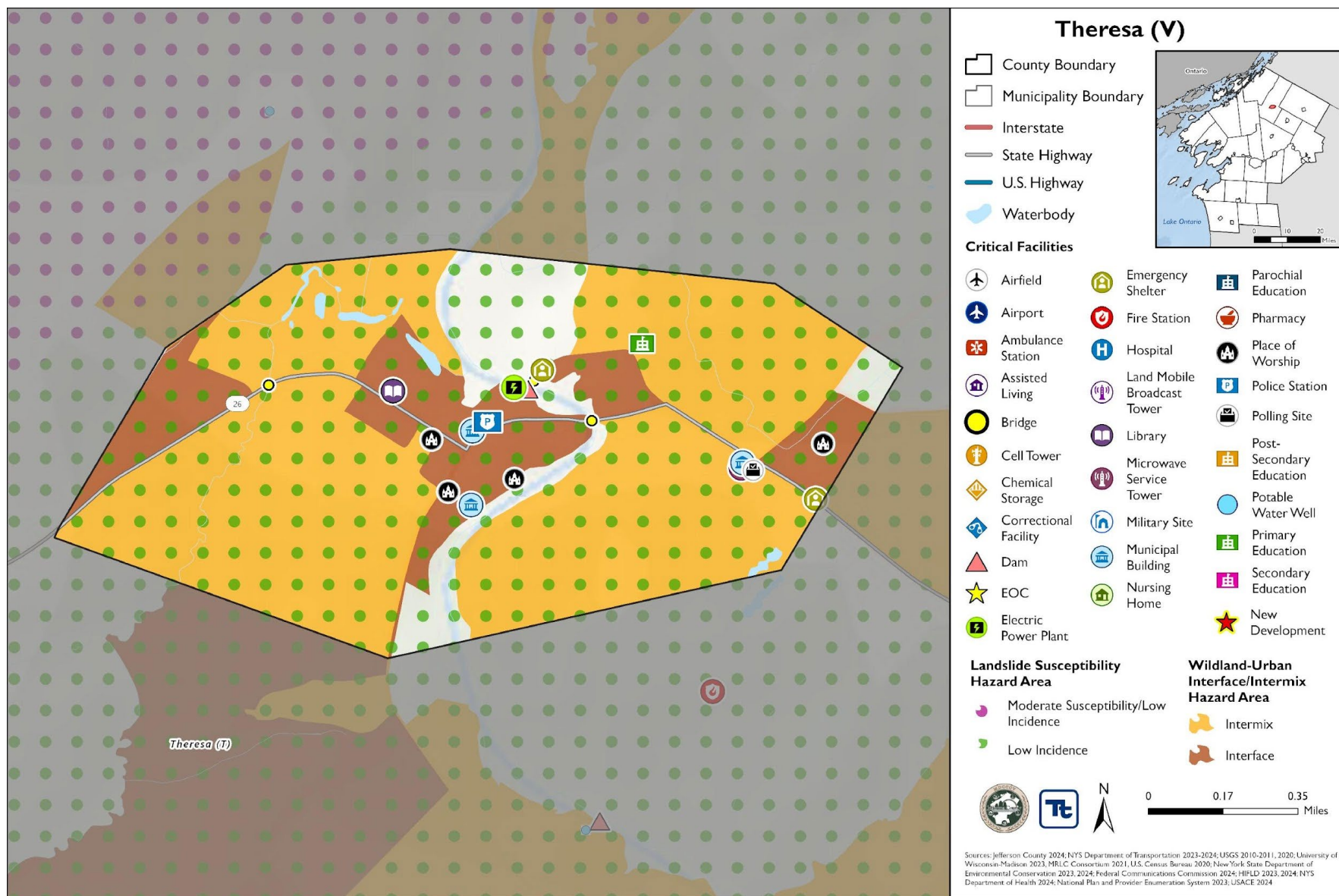




Figure 2. Theresa Landslide and WUI Hazard Area Extent and Location Map







## 38.4.2 Previous Event History

The history of natural and non-natural hazard events in Theresa is detailed in Volume I, where each hazard profile includes a chronology of historical events that have affected the County and its municipalities. Table C provides details on loss and damage in Theresa during hazard events since the last hazard mitigation plan update.

Table C. Presidential Disaster Declaration History in Theresa

Dates of Event	Event Type (Disaster Declaration)	Summary of Event	Summary of Damage and Losses in Theresa
November 18-22, 2022	Severe Winter Storm (EM-3589)	A winter storm caused more than six feet of snow to accumulate in Jefferson County. This intense snowfall has created extremely dangerous travel conditions, and as a result, numerous road closures and travel bans.	The Village did not incur any documented damages and losses.
October 31 – November 1, 2019	Severe Storm, Flood (DR-4472)	A storm system brought record breaking rains, damaging wind gusts (45 to 50 mph), a small Lake Ontario seiche, and river flooding to the region. Thousands of power outages occurred across the area, and wind-related damage closed hundreds of roads and did countless tree damage. High winds and lakeshore flooding continued into November 1.	The Village did not incur any documented damages and losses.
May 2 – August 6, 2017	Flood (DR-4348)	Six months of wet weather led to an over-accumulation of waters in Lake Ontario. Flooding from the lake began impacting areas in May and continued until early autumn. Waves destroyed public and private break walls all along the lake shore. Thousands of homes and buildings were affected flood waters. Several homes dropped off bluffs. In some areas shoreline erosion of 50 to 100 feet deep occurred. Sanitary sewer systems in lakeside communities were affected. Beaches, marinas, and state parks were closed all summer long with unknown economic losses to mainly seasonal businesses. In late May, the Governor imposed a 5-mph speed limit within 600 feet of the Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence River shore. By summer's end, damage estimates reached \$10 Million in Jefferson County.	The Village did not incur any documented damages and losses.
November 17-26, 2014	Severe Winter Storm, Flood (DR-4204)	A winter storm moved into the region, causing temperatures to drop tremendously. Lake effect snow impacted counties bordering Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. Travel restrictions were instituted due to whiteout conditions. The storm produced heavy snowfall, high winds,	The Village did not incur any documented damages and losses.



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Dates of Event	Event Type (Disaster Declaration)	Summary of Event	Summary of Damage and Losses in Theresa
		and blizzard-like conditions, resulting in road closures, travel disruptions, power outages, and damage to public and private property.	
October 27 – November 8, 2012	Severe Storm (EM-3351)	Remnants of Hurricane Sandy brought strong winds and heavy rains. Rainfall amounts of two to five inches were measured across the area with some area creeks reaching bankful. High winds downed trees and power lines. Wind gusts were measured to 60 mph. Utilities reported tens of thousands of customers without power across the entire region.	The Village did not incur any documented damages and losses.

*EM = Emergency Declaration (FEMA)*

*FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency*

*DR = Major Disaster Declaration (FEMA)*

*N/A = Not applicable*

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### 38.4.3 Local Hazard Impacts Assessment

In the table below representatives from the Village of Theresa Hazard Mitigation Planning Team assessed impacts of hazards on buildings, structures, facilities, infrastructure, community assets and systems, people and the local economy.

Table D. Local Hazard Impacts Assessment

Hazard Name	Local Impacts
Dam Failure	The lower dam has led to damage to driveways and wastewater drainage tiles.
Drought	An increase in drought events leads to an increased risk of wildfire. Droughts also result in less water for day-to-day activities.
Extreme Temperature	The Village has experienced frozen pipes, sewage lines and water main breaks. Additionally, a substation failure is also possible.
Flood	The Ralston Street Wastewater Facility, which services 151 homes, experiences flooding in the vacuum system. Its possible that the flooding could damage the dam and surrounding homes from septic failure and bridge flooding which results in limited transportation.
Geological Hazards	Geologic events may result in substation failure and power outages that could impact water and wastewater facilities.
Severe Storm	The Village has experienced trees down, electric lines down resulting in power failure, road closures, and limitations to the wastewater facilities.
Severe Winter Storm	The Village has reported power lines down, travel restrictions, and property damage
Wildfire	The Village may have limited water for fire prevention, and municipal property would be lost, and most streets are dead ends with no way out.





### 38.4.4 Vulnerable Community Assets

In the table below representatives from the Village of Theresa Hazard Mitigation Planning team assessed specific impacts to the assets included in the table below. If a community asset is not present in the municipality the Planning Team stated, 'Not Applicable.'

Table E. Vulnerable Community Assets

Community Asset	Hazard Impacts and Asset Vulnerabilities	Community Asset	Hazard Impacts and Asset Vulnerabilities
Agriculture	Not Applicable	Local Roads	The Village experienced flooding along Lafargeville Road, Ralston street, Bridge Street, Mill Street and Alexandria Bay Road.
Airports	Not Applicable	Major Employers	Not Applicable
Area: Concentration of Businesses	Not Applicable	Medical Centers (non-hospital)	Not Applicable
Area: Concentration of Residences	Same as local Road	Natural Resources	Not Applicable
Bridges	There are bridges located on Bridge Street and Mill Street that have some vulnerabilities.	Neighborhoods	No known impacts
City Hall/Courthouse	Not Applicable	Parks and Recreational Sites	Santway Park and Gilman Park are located within the Village and experience flooding concerns.
College/University	Not Applicable	Place of Worship	Not Applicable
Community Centers/Hubs	Not Applicable	Private Property	Not Applicable
Community Activities: major local events including festivals and economic drivers such as beaches, skiing, farming, fishing, etc.	Not Applicable	Public Transportation	Not Applicable
Cultural/Historic Buildings/Sites	Not Applicable	Schools (K-12)	Theresa Primary School is located in between two floodplains and is vulnerable to flooding.
Culverts	High Street and Pleasant Street have culvert pipes that need to be upsized.	Small Businesses	Not Applicable
Elder-care Facilities	Not Applicable	Supermarkets/Grocery Stores	Not Applicable
Fire/Police Stations	No known impacts	Transportation - Mobile Asset Storage	Not Applicable



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Community Asset	Hazard Impacts and Asset Vulnerabilities	Community Asset	Hazard Impacts and Asset Vulnerabilities
Gas Stations	Not Applicable	Utilities	The Village has Theresa Substation, which is vulnerable to utility failure from hazard events.
Highways	Route 26 is the main transportation corridor in floodplain and is vulnerable to flooding.	Wastewater Treatment Plants	The Wastewater Treatment Plant has flooded in the past leaving them offline and unable to perform continuity of operations.
Hospitals	Not Applicable	Waterfront	The Village experiences erosion of roads and boat launches that are waterfront.
Other	Not Applicable	Drinking Water Resources	When there is no power, the pumps are unable to function and there is no drinking water.



### 38.4.5 Hazard Ranking

The participating jurisdictions have differing degrees of vulnerability to the hazards of concern, so each jurisdiction ranked its own degree of risk to each hazard. The community-specific hazard ranking is based on problems and impacts identified by the risk assessment presented in Volume I.

The ranking process involves an assessment of the likelihood of occurrence for each hazard; the potential impacts of the hazard on people, property, and the economy; community capabilities to address the hazard; and changing future climate conditions. Impacts from a particular hazard may have decreased due to an implemented project or relocation of an asset that was previously at risk. Alternatively, risk may have increased because population has increased in a hazard prone area.

Table F. Hazard Ranking

Hazard Name	Frequency (2011 – present): Increased, Decreased, Stayed the Same	Impacts (2011 – present): Increased, Decreased, Stayed the Same	Description of frequency and impacts (2011 – present):	Future Events (present – 2030): Will Increase, Decrease, Stay the Same	2025 Ranking
Dam Failure	Increased	Increased		Increase	High
Drought	Same	Same	-	Same	High
Extreme Temperature	Increased	Increased	Since 2020 average temps have increased resulting in blown fuses, trees down, poles broken (cross arms) and lines down	Increase	High
Flood	Increased	Increased	Driveways and vacuum systems are out of order and wastewater treatment facility is very vulnerable.	Increase	High
Geologic Hazards	Same	Same	-	Same	Low
Severe Weather	Same	Same	-	Same	High
Severe Winter Weather	Same	Same	-	Same	High
Wildfire	Same	Same	-	Same	Medium

### 38.4.6 Critical Facilities

Table G. Critical Facilities Flood Vulnerability

Name	Type	Vulnerability		Addressed by Proposed Action	Already Protected to 0.2% Flood Level
		1% Annual Chance Event	0.2% Annual Chance Event		
None Identified					



## **Village of Theresa**

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*Source: Jefferson County 2024; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 2023, 2024; Federal Communications Commission 2024; HIFLD 2023, 2024; NYS Department of Health 2024; National Plan and Provider Enumeration System 2023; USACE 2024; NYS Department of Transportation 2023*

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The municipality does not have any identified high hazard potential dams within the jurisdiction.



## 38.5 GROWTH/DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

Understanding how past, current, and projected development patterns have or are likely to increase or decrease risk in hazard areas is a key component to appreciating a jurisdiction's overall risk to its hazards of concern. Recent and expected future development trends, including major residential/commercial development and major infrastructure development, are summarized in Table H through Table L.

### 38.5.1 Development and Permitting

Table H. Development and Permitting Capability

Question	Answer
Does your municipality or the county issue building permits for development in your community?	Yes, Village of Theresa Code Enforcement Issues Permits
What is your process for tracking building permits?	Permit number and date
Are permits tracked by hazard area? (For example, floodplain development permits.)	Yes, Floodplain
Does your community have a buildable land inventory? If yes, please describe.	Yes, The Village has areas in floodplains.

Table I. Number of Building Permits for New Construction Issued Since the Previous HMP

	New Construction Permits Issued			
	Single Family	Multi-Family	Other (commercial, mixed-use, etc.)	Total
2019	0	0	0	0
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2020				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2021				
Total Permits	0	0	1	1
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2022				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2023				
Total Permits	1	0	0	1
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0
2024				
Total Permits	0	0	0	0
Permits within SFHA	0	0	0	0



SFHA = Special Flood Hazard Area (1% flood event)

Table J. Recent Major Development and Infrastructure from 2011 to 2018

Property or Development Name	Type of Development	# of Units / Structures	Location (address and/or block and lot)	Known Hazard Zones	Description / Status of Development
Single Family Dwelling	Residential	1	100 Lafargeville Road	Zone A	Complete

Table K. Recent Major Development and Infrastructure from 2019 to Present

Property or Development Name	Type of Development	# of Units / Structures	Location (address and/or block and lot)	Known Hazard Zones	Description / Status of Development
DPW Garage	Commercial Building Garage	1	226 Commercial Street	Not Applicable	Complete

Table L. Known or Anticipated Major Development and Infrastructure in the Next Five Years

Property or Development Name	Type of Development	# of Units / Structures	Location (address and/or block and lot)	Known Hazard Zones*	Description / Status of Development
Wastewater Treatment Plant	Commercial	1	106 Morgan Street	Indian River	Not started

## 38.6 NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

The HMP Team provided information on participation in and continued compliance with the NFIP in the table below.

### 38.6.1 NFIP Statistics

Table M summarizes the NFIP policy and claim statistics for Theresa.

Table M. Theresa NFIP Summary of Policy and Claim Statistics

# Policies	0
# Claims (Losses)	0
Total Loss Payments	\$0
# Repetitive Loss Properties (NFIP definition)	0
# Repetitive Loss Properties (FMA definition)	0
# Severe Repetitive Loss Properties	0

*NFIP Definition of Repetitive Loss: The NFIP defines a repetitive loss property as any insurable building for which two or more claims of more than \$1,000 were paid by the NFIP within any rolling 10-year period since 1978.*

*FMA Definition of Repetitive Loss: FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program defines a repetitive loss property as any insurable building that has incurred flood-related damage on two occasions, in which the cost of the repair, on average, equaled or exceeded 25 percent of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event.*





*Definition of Severe Repetitive Loss: A residential property covered under an NFIP flood insurance policy and: (a) That has at least four NFIP claim payments over \$5,000 each, and the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeds \$20,000; or (b) For which at least two separate claims payments have been made with the cumulative amount of the building portion of such claims exceeding the market value of the building. At least two of the claims must have occurred within any 10-year period, more than 10 days apart.*

*Source: FEMA 2024*

## 38.6.2 National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Flood Vulnerability Summary

The HMP Team provided information on participation in and continued compliance with the NFIP in the table below.

Table N. NFIP Summary

NFIP Topic	Comments
Describe areas prone to flooding in your jurisdiction.	The outer banks of Lafargeville Road and Pleasant Street are located in wetland areas, and Alexandria Bay Road, Ralston Street, Bridge Street and Mill Street are vulnerable to flooding.
Who is the Community Floodplain Administrator (FPA)? Do they serve any roles other than FPA? Do they have adequate training and capacity for this role?	Jordan Bridge, Floodplain Administrator
What local department is responsible for floodplain management?	Jordan Bridge, Floodplain Administrator
Are any certified floodplain managers on staff in your jurisdiction?	No
What is the local law number or municipal code of your flood damage prevention ordinance?	Local Law No 1 of 1987 - Flood Damage Prevention
When was the latest effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) adopted, if applicable?	10/15/85
Explain NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, inspections, engineering capability, GIS, etc.)	The Village reviews the permit applications, insurance and comp forms, NYS Certified plans. The Village also conducts floodplain review and inspections at different stages.
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in your community, if any?	There are budget constraints for local officials and part time employees



NFIP Topic	Comments
Does your floodplain management staff need any assistance or training to support its floodplain management program? If yes, what type of assistance/training is needed?	Yes, free online training that is not during normal work weeks, something available 24/7 and is more localized.
How do you make Substantial Damage determinations? What is the process to make sure these structures are brought into compliance?	Engineered plans by NYS Certified Architect review process.
How do you determine if proposed development on an existing structure would qualify as a substantial improvement?	Assess whether the cost of the work exceeds percentage of structures market value.
How many Substantial Damage determinations were declared for recent flood events in your jurisdiction?	None
Does the community track the number of buildings in the floodplain? If so, how many structures are in special flood hazard area (SFHA)?	Not Applicable
How many structures (residential and non-residential) are exposed to flood risk within the community outside of the regulatory maps?	195 Population in areas
Does the community maintain elevation records? If yes, please describe.	Plans from Department of Housing and Urban Development - Federal insurance admin. - boundary maps
Are there any repetitive loss (RL) or severe repetitive loss (SRL) structures in the community? If yes, how many of each category?	None
Describe any areas of flood risk with limited NFIP policy coverage.	Not Applicable
How does the community teach property owners or other stakeholders about the importance flood insurance?	Not Applicable
What digital sources (like the FEMA Map Service Center, National Flood Hazard Layer) or non-regulatory tools does your community use?	Code Enforcement has access to annual FEMA training



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NFIP Topic	Comments
Are there other local ordinances, plans or programs (e.g., site plan review) that support floodplain management and meeting the NFIP requirements? For instance, does the planning board or zoning board consider efforts to reduce flood risk when reviewing variances such as height restrictions?	Height restrictions, Flood plain review
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC)?	CAC: June 30, 2022 CAV: Not Documented
Does your community plan to join the CRS program or is your community interested in improving your CRS classification?	No

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## 38.7 JURISDICTIONAL CAPABILITY INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

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Theresa performed an inventory and analysis of existing capabilities, plans, programs, and policies that enhance its ability to implement mitigation strategies. Volume I describes the components included in the capability assessment and their significance for hazard mitigation planning. The jurisdictional assessment for this annex includes analyses of the following:

- Planning and regulatory capabilities
- Development and permitting capabilities
- Administrative and technical capabilities
- Fiscal capabilities
- Education and outreach capabilities
- Classification under various community mitigation programs
- Adaptive capacity to withstand hazard events

For a community to succeed in reducing long-term risk, hazard mitigation must be integrated into day-to-day local government operations. As part of the hazard mitigation analysis, planning and /policy documents were reviewed, and each jurisdiction was surveyed to obtain a better understanding of their progress toward plan integration. Development of an updated mitigation strategy provided an opportunity for Theresa to identify opportunities for integrating mitigation concepts into ongoing Village procedures.



## 38.7.1 Planning and Regulatory Capability and Integration

Planning and regulatory capabilities are the plans, policies, codes, and ordinances that prevent and reduce the impacts of hazards.

### Ordinances

Jefferson County has an Emergency Management Ordinance which charges the County with maintaining a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan to identify local measures that may prevent disasters, to develop local mechanisms to coordinate local resources and personnel for service during and after disasters, support the facilitation of delivery of services to aid citizens and reduce human suffering resulting from disaster, and to provide for short- and long-term recovery and redevelopment after disasters.

Jefferson County has Site Plan and Subdivision Codes that are relevant to development within a certain distance of County interests. Development applications in the areas across the County are sent to County Planning for review to promote coordination of land use decisions and local/county impacts. These County capabilities are inclusive of Theresa and the jurisdiction often partners with the County. To learn more about these capabilities please see Jefferson County's Jurisdictional Annex.

The HMP Team inventoried its existing ordinances against the full capability list of hazard mitigation-related capabilities. The absence of other kinds of ordinances was not considered a gap in local capabilities. The table below summarizes the ordinances currently in place in the Village.

Table O. Ordinances

Capability Type	In Place in Municipality	Comments	Responsible Department / Agency / Organization
Building Codes	Yes, Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (Uniform Code) under 19 NYCRR	All of the communities in Jefferson County regulate construction through the use of a building code. The Village of Theresa adhere to the building code through County Authority. Building codes regulate construction standards and are developed for specific geographic areas of the country. They consider the type, frequency, and intensity of hazards present in the region. Structures built to applicable building codes are inherently resistant to many hazards such as strong winds, floods, and earthquakes. Due to the location specific nature of the building codes, these are very valuable tools for mitigation.	CEO
Emergency Management Ordinance	Yes	An emergency management ordinance outlines the procedures and powers of local government during times of disaster. It includes provisions for emergency declarations, evacuation orders, and the allocation of resources to respond to hazards and emergencies.	Village Planning
Environmental Protection Ordinance	Yes	An Environmental Protection Ordinance refers to laws and regulations that aim to conserve and protect the environment. These laws address issues such as pollution, resource conservation, and sustainable practices. They are created by federal, state, and local governments to ensure ecological balance for present and future generations	Village Planning



Capability Type	In Place in Municipality	Comments	Responsible Department / Agency / Organization
Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	Yes, Local Law No 1 of 1987	This ordinance is designed to protect communities from flood hazards by implementing regulations that ensures the land use and development practices account for the flood risks, requires vulnerable structures to be constructed to withstand flood damage, and to control changes to the natural floodplain and stream channels to prevent increased flood hazards.	Floodplain Administrator
Real Estate Disclosure Requirements	Yes, Property Condition Disclosure Act, NY Code - Article 14 §460-467	In addition to facing potential liability for failing to disclose under the exceptions to “caveat emptor,” a home seller must make certain disclosures under the law or pay a credit of \$500 to the buyer at closing. While the PCDA requires a seller to complete a standardized disclosure statement and deliver it to the buyer before the buyer signs the final purchase contract, in practice, most home sellers in New York opt not to complete the statement and instead pay the credit.	NYS Department of State, Real Estate Agent
Site Plan Code	Yes, Zoning Laws	Outlines steps to properly manage site plan reviews	Code Enforcement Officer
Stormwater Management Code	Yes, Zoning Laws	Outlines regulations for stormwater at residential and commercial property	Code Enforcement Officer
Subdivision Code	Yes	Subdivision ordinances offer an opportunity to account for natural hazards prior to the development of land as they formulate regulations when the land is subdivided. Subdivision design that incorporates mitigation principles can reduce the exposure of future development to hazard events.	Village Planning
Zoning/Land Use Code	Yes, Village of Theresa Zoning Law	Zoning is a useful tool to consider when developing a mitigation strategy. It can be used to restrict new development, require low-density development, and designate specific uses (e.g. recreational) in the hazard prone areas. Private property rights must be considered, but enacting a zoning ordinance can reduce or potentially eliminate damages from future hazard events.	Village Planning

## Plans

Jefferson County has an Agriculture Plan (Jefferson County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan, 2016); Climate Adaptation / Resilience Plan (North Country Regional Sustainability Plan, 2013); Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan; County Emergency Preparedness Assessment (CEPA); Continuity of Operations Plan (Jefferson County Government COOP – COG Plan, 2023); Economic Development Plan (Jefferson County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2021); Public Health Plan (Jefferson County Public Health Service Strategic Plan 2023-2027); Threat and Hazard Identification and Assessment (THIRA); Tourism Plan; Transportation Plan (Jefferson County Coordinated Transportation Plan for Mobility Services, 2021); and other recent plans that are all countywide in scope and implementation and are applicable to the Village of Theresa. To learn more about these capabilities please see Jefferson County’s Jurisdictional Annex.





The HMP Team inventoried its existing plans against the full capability list of hazard mitigation-related capabilities. The absence of other kinds of plans was not considered a gap in local capabilities. The table below summarizes the plans currently in place.

Table P. Plans

Capability Type	In Place in Municipality	Comments	Responsible Department / Agency / Organization
Agriculture Plan	Yes, Zoning Laws	The Village intends to integrate mitigation principals into the Agriculture Plan.	Code Enforcement Officer

## 38.7.2 Administrative and Technical Capability

Jefferson County Code, Fire Prevention and Building Code department currently enforces the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code in 31 municipalities that chose not to enforce the Code at the local level, including the Village of Theresa. The Department employs Code Enforcement Officers and clerical staff to ensure that new construction and areas of public assembly conform to the provisions of the State Uniform Code. Proper enforcement of the Code protects property and encourages quality development that enhances public safety and the economy of the County. The office's two major program responsibilities include existing and new building permit administration (i.e.: plan review, issuing permits, construction inspections and issuing certificates of occupancy) and mandated fire safety inspections.

Jefferson County has an Economic Development Commission (Jefferson County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy); Emergency Management (Jefferson County Office of Fire & Emergency Management), County Department of Planning; County Public Health Department (including Administration and Finance, Home Healthcare Services, Medical Examiner's Office, Emergency Medical Services); County Highway Department, among others, whose programs and services serve the entire County, including the Village of Theresa. To learn more about these capabilities please see Jefferson County's Jurisdictional Annex.

The HMP Team inventoried its existing Administrative and Technical Capabilities against the full capability list of hazard mitigation-related capabilities. The absence of other staff was not considered a gap in local capabilities. The table below summarizes staff and personnel resources.

Table Q. Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Capability Type	In Place in Municipality	Comments
Code Enforcement Official	Yes	The Code Enforcement Officer is certified.
Environmental Specialist	Yes	-
Maintenance Programs	Yes	-
Mutual Aid Agreements	Yes	-
Personnel skilled or trained in GIS and/or Hazards United States (HAZUS) – Multi-Hazards (MH) applications	Yes	-



Capability Type	In Place in Municipality	Comments
Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis	Yes	-
Professionals trained in conducting damage assessments	Yes	-
Planners or engineers with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Yes	--
Planning Board	Yes	-
Planning Department	Yes	-
Public Works/Highway Department	Yes	-
Surveyor(s)	Yes	-
Zoning Board of Appeals	Yes	-

### 38.7.3 Fiscal Capability

The table below summarizes financial resources available to Theresa.

Table R. Fiscal Capabilities

Capability Type	Has this funding capability been used since the last plan (2011)? If yes, please describe.
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG, CDBG-DR)	Yes, with the wastewater treatment projects and water infrastructure improvement projects
Capital improvement project funding	No
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes
User fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	Yes
Impact fees for homebuyers or developers of new development/homes	No
Stormwater utility fee	Yes
Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes
Incur debt through special tax bonds	No
Incur debt through private activity bonds	No



Capability Type	Has this funding capability been used since the last plan (2011)? If yes, please describe.
Withhold public expenditures in hazard-prone areas	No
Other Federal (non-FEMA) funding programs	No
FEMA funding programs	No
Other State funding programs	No
Open Space Acquisition funding programs	No
Other (for example, Clean Water Act 319 Grants [Nonpoint Source Pollution])	Yes, WIIA, Wastewater Improvement Infrastructure Grants

### 38.7.4 Education and Outreach Capability

The table below includes education and outreach programs and methods already in place that could be used to carry out mitigation activities and communicate information about hazards.

Table S. Education and Outreach Capabilities

Capability Type	Is this education and outreach capability currently in use in the Municipality? If yes, please describe.
Community Newsletter	Yes, a monthly newsletter is mailed monthly with the electric bills
Hazard awareness campaigns (such as Firewise, Storm Ready, Severe Weather Awareness Week, school programs, public events)	No
Hazard mitigation information available on your website	No
Local News	Yes, the Village broadcasts emergency issues on an as needed basis and also has reported water main breaks and power outages
Natural disaster/safety programs in place for schools	No
Organizations that conduct outreach to socially vulnerable populations and underserved populations	No
Public information officer or communications office	Yes
Social media for hazard mitigation education and outreach	No
Warning systems for hazard events	Yes



## 38.7.5 Hazard Capability Assessment

Each jurisdiction has a unique combination of capabilities to adjust to, protect from, and withstand a future hazard event, future conditions, and changing risk. The HMP Team ranked the local government's capability to address risks and impacts of each hazard based on the risk and capability assessments performed above.

- *Strong: Capacity exists and effectively manages the impacts of this hazard.*
- *Moderate: Capacity exists but is not used or needs some improvement.*
- *Weak: Capacity exists and needs substantial improvement*
- *None: Capacity does not exist.*

Table T. Adaptive Capacity

Hazard	Strong, Moderate, Weak, None
Dam Failure	Weak
Drought	Weak
Extreme Temperature	Moderate
Flood	Weak
Geological Hazards	Weak
Severe Storm	Moderate
Severe Winter Storm	Moderate
Wildfire	Weak

## 38.8 MITIGATION STRATEGY AND PRIORITIZATION

This section discusses the status of mitigation actions from the previous HMP, describes proposed hazard mitigation actions, and prioritizes actions to address over the next five years.

### 38.8.1 Past Mitigation Action Status

The Village did not participate in the last plan.

### 38.8.2 Additional Mitigation Efforts

Since the adoption of the County's first HMP, Theresa has made significant mitigation progress in the following areas:

- None identified.

### 38.8.3 Identified Issues

**The Village of Theresa has identified the following vulnerabilities within their community for mitigation strategy development:**

- The Theresa Primary School and pump stations are unable to perform continuity of operations during power outage events as the facilities lack backup power. The Theresa Primary School can also act as an emergency temporary shelter with the addition of generators.



## Village of Theresa

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- Recent storm events have resulted in severe rainfall which overwhelmed culverts and roadways which caused flooding. There are numerous roadways located in the Village that are of infrastructure and flooding concerns, including Lafargeville Road, Ralston Street, Bridge Street, Mill Street, Route 26, Alexandria Bay Road, High Street, and Pleasant Street. The Village knows that other roads and culverts may also need to be upsized and mitigated.
- The status of the Village's bridges and causeway in relation to ability to withstand hazard events is unknown. Failure of bridges or causeways could result in loss to life and limitations to emergency access. The bridges located on Bridge Street and Mill Street have vulnerabilities due to deterioration and weathering and need a study to determine how to make both structurally sound and resistant to hazard impacts.
- The Village Wastewater Facility serves 151 homes and experiences flooding in the vacuum part of the system which impacts the facilities that rely on it for wastewater treatment. The facility needs flood protection measures and a reliable redundant power source.



### **38.8.4 Proposed Hazard Mitigation Actions for the HMP Update**

Theresa participated in the mitigation strategy workshop and identified hazard mitigation actions to reduce the risks and impacts of hazards the community ranked as high-risk. Hazard risk ranking was specific to each community in the County and was based on quantitative (i.e., analysis of the best available data) and qualitative risk assessment processes (i.e., evaluation of previous occurrences, likelihood of future occurrences and vulnerabilities to people and community services; buildings and critical infrastructure; the natural environment and other local priorities).

Implementation of these actions are dependent upon available funding (grants and local match availability) and local capacity and may be modified or omitted at any time based on the occurrence of new hazard events and changes in local priorities.

Volume I identifies fourteen evaluation criteria for prioritizing the mitigation actions. Below, Table U provides the prioritization criteria score for each proposed mitigation action.





Action 2025-TheresaV-01. Backup Power for Critical Facilities

Lead Agency:	Village Public Works	
Supporting Agencies:	Village Administration, Facility Managers	
Hazards of Concern:	Drought, Extreme Temperature, Flood, Geologic Hazards, Severe Storm, Severe Winter Storm, Wildfire	
Description of the Problem:	The Theresa Primary School and pump stations are unable to perform continuity of operations during power outage events as the facilities lack backup power. The Theresa Primary School can also act as an emergency temporary shelter with the addition of generators.	
Description of the Solution:	The Village will conduct numerous generator studies to determine what sized generators are needed to power the Theresa Primary School and pump stations in the event of a power outage. The Village will then acquire funding to purchase and install fixed-mounted diesel-powered generators and the necessary electrical components to supply backup power to the identified critical facilities. The Theresa Primary School will then be able to act as temporary shelters.	
Estimated Cost:	TBD after generator study	
Potential Funding Sources:	HMGP, Community Facilities Grant Program, Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) Program, Annual Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 Years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7	
Benefits:	This action protects public health and safety and ensures continued operation of a critical facility and its essential functions during a power outage.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Protection of critical facilities provides an opportunity for first responders, utility workers, and emergency managers to stage and deploy resources to vulnerable and hazard prone areas. This action also ensures drinking water access during a power outage.	
Impact on Future Development:	This action results in protection of critical facilities that could support future development.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	This action protects public health and safety and ensures continued operation of critical facilities and their essential functions during a power outage.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action ensures continuity of operations to maintain capabilities.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to increase severe weather events such as flooding, wind, and extreme temperatures that result in power failures. This action accounts for a likely increase in power failure events.	
Mitigation Category	Structure and Infrastructure Projects	
CRS Category	Emergency Services	
Priority	High	
Alternative	Action	Evaluation
	No action	-
	Microgrid	Costly and difficult to implement.
	Solar panels and battery backup	Solar power is unlikely to be able to provide battery power for extended power failure events.



Action 2025-TheresaV-02. Flood Study and Culvert Upsize

Lead Agency:	Village Department of Public Works	
Supporting Agencies:	Village Administration, County, NYSDOT	
Hazards of Concern:	Dam Failure, Flood, Severe Storm, Severe Winter Storm	
Description of the Problem:	Recent storm events have resulted in severe rainfall which overwhelmed culverts and roadways which caused flooding. There are numerous roadways located in the Village that are of infrastructure and flooding concerns, including Lafargeville Road, Ralston Street, Bridge Street, Mill Street, Route 26, Alexandria Bay Road, High Street, and Pleasant Street. The Village knows that other roads and culverts may also need to be upsized and mitigated.	
Description of the Solution:	The Village will contract an engineer to complete an engineering survey of Lafargeville Road, Ralston Street, Bridge Street, Mill Street, Route 26, Alexandria Bay Road, High Street, and Pleasant Street in the Village that contribute to flooding to determine the proper size that is necessary to eliminate or reduce flooding. Once the potential solutions are determined, the Village will implement the best and most cost-effective solution.	
Estimated Cost:	TBD after Survey and Inventory	
Potential Funding Sources:	HMGP, FMA, CHIPS, Village Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 Years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 4, 6, 7	
Benefits:	Overall flooding will be reduced, which will result in less frequency of road closures and reduced damage occurring to culverts and roadways during severe events. Businesses are likely to remain in place if they are able to remain open, or re-open sooner following a flood.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Areas that were previously vulnerable to frequency or severe flooding events will be less likely to be impacted by flooding events.	
Impact on Future Development:	Future development in the impacted area will be less likely to be flooded.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transportation routes are more likely to remain open</li><li>• Evacuation routes will remain intact.</li><li>• Access to health and medical facilities will be maintained, both for healthcare workers and the population who require treatment for injuries and illness.</li></ul>	
Impact on Capabilities:	Identifying the culverts that are at greatest risk of damage or failure can allow resource staging to take place where the need is greatest ahead of a flood event.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is likely to result in more frequent and severe rainfall events. This action is to increase culvert sizes to meet changing stormwater needs as the result of climate change.	
Mitigation Category	Structure and Infrastructure Project	
CRS Category	Preventative Measures, Property Protection, Structural Flood Control Projects	
Priority	High	
Alternative	Action	Evaluation
	No action	-
	Elevate affected roadways	Not cost effective



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	Raingardens	Raingardens are unlikely to be able to absorb enough stormwater to prevent flooding during severe rainfall events.
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Action 2025-TheresaV-03. Bridge Study

Lead Agency:	Village Public Works, County Highway	
Supporting Agencies:	Village Planning	
Hazards of Concern:	Dam Failure, Flood, Severe Storm, Severe Winter Storm	
Description of the Problem:	The status of the Village's bridges and causeway in relation to ability to withstand hazard events is unknown. Failure of bridges or causeways could result in loss to life and limitations to emergency access. The bridges located on Bridge Street and Mill Street have vulnerabilities due to deterioration and weathering and need a study to determine how to make both structurally sound and resistant to hazard impacts.	
Description of the Solution:	The Village will consult with an engineer to identify inadequate or vulnerable bridges and causeways within the Village and replace or retrofit the identified bridges and causeways, including the Bridge and Mill Street bridges that may impact the Village's emergency services through reduction of transportation.	
Estimated Cost:	TBD after engineer study	
Potential Funding Sources:	HMGP, FMA, Village Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 Years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 4, 6, 7	
Benefits:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure will be protected from future hazard damages.</li> <li>• Ensures at least a single transportation route remains accessible to the community.</li> </ul>	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	Some populations may be more reliant and dependent on emergency services and the closure of the bridge inhibits emergency responders from being able to travel across the bridge to get to them to provide emergency services.	
Impact on Future Development:	Future development may benefit from opening the bridge because it adds another avenue that can get to new development.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensures transportation routes remain open and accessible to the public for daily use and evacuation needs.</li> <li>• Provides a point of access for first responders into communities that may have faced damage from a hazard event on either side of the bridge.</li> </ul>	
Impact on Capabilities:	Increases community resiliency to flooding events in vulnerable areas that would normally be vulnerable to prolonged isolation after high-water events.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Ensure the bridge structure is impervious to erosion at its base due to rising water levels.	
Mitigation Category	Structure and Infrastructure Project	
CRS Category	Structural Flood Control Projects	
Priority	High	
Alternative	Action	Evaluation
	No action	-
	Remove Bridge	Inhibits the transportation lifeline.



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	Rely on State to rate bridges	Village wants to repair and mitigate bridges prior to them being closed and the Village needing to provide a detour.
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Action 2025-TheresaV-04. Ralston Street Wastewater Facility

Lead Agency:	Village Public Works	
Supporting Agencies:	Village Administration, Ralston Street Wastewater Facility Managers	
Hazards of Concern:	Flood, Severe Storm, Severe Winter Storm	
Description of the Problem:	The Village Wastewater Facility serves 151 homes and experiences flooding in the vacuum part of the system which impacts the facilities that rely on it for wastewater treatment. The facility needs flood protection measures and a reliable redundant power source.	
Description of the Solution:	The Village will conduct an engineering study to determine how to best reduce the flooding in the vacuum system and will ensure that the wastewater facility has a reliable backup generator to ensure continuity of operations can continue during power outages. The Village will implement the best and most cost-effective floodproofing system.	
Estimated Cost:	TBD after floodproof measure is selected	
Potential Funding Sources:	HMGP, FMA, Village Budget	
Implementation Timeline:	Within 5 Years	
Goals Met:	1, 2, 4, 6, 7	
Benefits:	The Village will experience less flooding at the wastewater treatment plant and will be able to perform continuity of operations.	
Impact on Socially Vulnerable Populations:	The Village population that is reliant on the wastewater facility will be able to rely more on the wastewater system with the flood protections and backup power.	
Impact on Future Development:	The Village will have a reliable wastewater facility that new development may be able to rely on.	
Impact on Critical Facilities/Lifelines:	The Wastewater treatment plant is a critical facility that is protected better by this action with flood protection and backup power.	
Impact on Capabilities:	This action ensures that the Village critical facilities are better protected from hazard events and guarantees continuity of operations.	
Climate Change Considerations:	Climate change is leading to an increase in frequency and intensity of precipitation events that could contribute to flooding.	
Mitigation Category	Structure and Infrastructure Project	
CRS Category	Structural Flood Control Projects	
Priority	High	
Alternative	Action	Evaluation
	No action	-
	Construct a new wastewater system	Not cost effective
	Purchase moveable flood barriers	May not fix the problem



Table U. Summary of Prioritization of Actions

Project Number	Project Name	Scores for Evaluation Criteria															High / Medium / Low
		Life Safety	Property Protection	Cost-Effectiveness	Political	Legal	Fiscal	Environmental	Social Vulnerability	Administrative	Hazards of Concern	Climate Change	Timeline	Community Lifelines	Other Local Objectives	Total	
Action 2025-TheresaV-01.	Backup Power for Critical Facilities	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	High
Action 2025-TheresaV-02.	Flood Study and Culvert Upsize	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	High
Action 2025-TheresaV-03.	Bridge Study	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	High
Action 2025-TheresaV-04.	Ralston Street Wastewater Facility	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	High

Note: Volume I, Section 6 (Mitigation Strategy) conveys guidance on prioritizing mitigation actions. Low (0-6), Medium (7-10), High (11-14)