

## 8.23 - Jurisdictional Annex, Village of Valley Falls

This section presents the jurisdictional annex for the Village of Valley Falls. The jurisdiction's governing body passed a formal resolution to participate in this multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan update. A copy of their resolution is maintained at the local government offices and at the Rensselaer County Bureau of Public Safety.

### 8.23.1 Contact Information

The jurisdiction's resolution to participate identified a Primary Point of Contact and an Alternate for this hazard mitigation plan update. These individuals represented the jurisdiction on the county-wide Core Planning Group and led a local team of Jurisdictional Assessment Team Members who undertook various local activities related to the plan update.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN POINTS OF CONTACT						
Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact		Alternate Point of Contact			
Name: Kirk Lipinski Title: Chief, Fire Department Address: 11 Charles Street Valley Falls, NY 12185 Phone Number: 518-753-6230 E-mail Address: <a href="mailto:klipinski90@gmail.com">klipinski90@gmail.com</a>	Name: Jay Overocker Title: Mayor Address: 11 Charles Street Valley Falls, NY 12185 Phone Number: 518-753-6230 E-mail Address: <a href="mailto:vftrusteeipo@gmail.com">vftrusteeipo@gmail.com</a>		Name: Brian Backstrom Title: Board Member Address: 11 Charles Street Valley Falls, NY 12185 Phone Number: 518-753-6230 E-mail Address: <a href="mailto:bbackstrom@gmail.com">bbackstrom@gmail.com</a>			
Jurisdictional Assessment Team Members						
Local Jurisdiction Role/Position	Name	Email	Phone	Date of Invitation	Method of Invitation	Agreed to participate?
Land Use/ Community Planner	none					
Emergency Manager	Jay Overocker ; Kirk Lipinski	<a href="mailto:vftrusteeipo@gmail.com">vftrusteeipo@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:klipinski90@gmail.com">klipinski90@gmail.com</a>	(518) 753-6230	18-Apr-19	Monthly Village Board meeting	Yes
Floodplain Manager/ Administrator	none					
Public Works Director / City Engineer	none					
Building Code Official	via Jay Overocker	<a href="mailto:vftrusteeipo@gmail.com">vftrusteeipo@gmail.com</a>	(518) 753-6230	18-Apr-19	Monthly Village Board meeting	Yes
Fiscal/Budget Officer	Jay Overocker ; Brian Backstrom	<a href="mailto:vftrusteeipo@gmail.com">vftrusteeipo@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:bbackstrom@gmail.com">bbackstrom@gmail.com</a>	(518) 753-6230	18-Apr-19	Monthly Village Board meeting	Yes
Manager/Administrator	none					
Elected Officials	Jay Overocker - mayor ; Brian Backstrom; Denile Pardo; John Sassatelli; Justin Speanburgh	<a href="mailto:vftrusteeipo@gmail.com">vftrusteeipo@gmail.com</a>	(518) 753-6230	18-Apr-19	Monthly Village Board meeting	Yes
Local Hospital	none					
Major University	none					
Significant Business	none					
Neighboring County 1	(n/a-Valley Falls not on border)					
Neighboring County 2	(n/a-Valley Falls not on border)					
Neighboring County 3	(n/a-Valley Falls not on border)					
Neighboring County 4	(n/a-Valley Falls not on border)					
Tribal Group/Nation	none					

## 8.23.2 JURISDICTION PROFILE

### 8.23.2.1 Location and Land Area

The Village of Valley Falls is located in northern Rensselaer County, in the eastern part of New York State. The Village lies within on the boundary of two towns, Pittstown and Schaghticoke.

It shares a border with Schaghticoke to the north; Pittstown to the south and east; and both the Town and Village of Schaghticoke to the west.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census Bureau, Rensselaer County has a total area of 665 square miles (1,720 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 652 square miles (1,690 km<sup>2</sup>) is land and 13 square miles (34 km<sup>2</sup>) (1.9%) is water. Of that, the Village of Valley Falls has a total area of 0.5 square miles (1.2 km<sup>2</sup>), of which 0.4 square miles (1.1 km<sup>2</sup>) is land. There are no waterbodies.

### 8.23.2.2 Population

According to the 2010 U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the population of the Village of Valley Falls is estimated to be 466 persons.

### 8.23.2.3 Demographics

Of a total area of 0.41 square miles (2010 Census data), the land area is 0.39 square miles and population per square mile is 1,088.7 persons.

Of the total population, there are 86.4 males per 100 females (all ages). Persons under 18 years comprise 27.3% of the population, and 10.9% are persons 65 years and over (2010 Census). Young and old subsets of the population may have unique needs as far as care requirements and potential cognitive and/or mobility limitations before, during, and after a disaster.

The number of persons who speak a language other than English is 5, or 1.0%, of which 0.0% speak English less than "very well". Persons not speaking English well may have trouble understanding instructions regarding disaster preparation, response, and recovery.

Regarding education, of persons age 25 years and older, 88.9% are high school graduates or higher, and 19.4% have received their bachelor's degree or higher (2000 Census data). Higher education can help enhance skills associated with cognition and evaluation of risk. Higher education can, therefore, foster an overall improved perception of risk, particularly where individuals may not have prior direct experience preparing for, responding to, or recovering from a particular hazard in their daily lives.

Regarding families and living arrangements, from 2013 to 2017 there were 179 total households and 2.60 persons per household. Persons living alone sometimes have less of a direct social circle for support before, during, and after a disaster.

The Census Bureau classifies all people not living in housing units (house, apartment, mobile home, rented rooms) as living in group quarters. The two types of group quarters are Institutional (correctional facilities, nursing homes, mental hospitals) and Non-Institutional (college dormitories, military barracks, group homes, missions, shelters). The Census Bureau maintains no group quarters information for this municipality. The needs of persons living in group quarters are unique, and residents are likely to have access and functional needs and unique care requirements before, during, and after a disaster.

According to 2017 ACS, the median household income was \$74,583; the per capita income in past 12 months (2017) was \$38,520; and the percentage of persons in poverty was 4.0%. Lower income persons have limited financial resources to draw from in both a pre- and post-disaster scenario and are likely to require support as they prepare for, and recover from, hazard events.

The total of noninstitutionalized civilians with a disability is 12.6%, and percentage of people with a disability over age 65 years is 30.6%. The total percentage of persons (civilian, noninstitutionalized) without health insurance is 1.4%. Persons with disabilities have access and functional needs such as cognitive or mobility limitations that may put them at greater risk before, during, and after a hazard event.

#### 8.23.2.4 Brief History

The area that is now Rensselaer County was inhabited by the Algonquian-speaking Mohican Indian tribe at the time of European encounter. Kiliaen van Rensselaer, a Dutch jeweler and merchant, purchased the area in 1630, as part of the Dutch colony New Netherland. The land passed from English rule (1664) to Dutch control (1673), then back to English rule (1674), until American independence in 1776. Rensselaer County was created in 1790s from an area that was originally part of the very large Albany County. In 1807 the county reorganized.

Originally called Pittstown, the name was changed to the Village of Valley Falls sometime before 1860. The Village of Valley Falls was incorporated in 1904. The village straddles the Hoosic River. As was common for most communities along the river, the descent of water and the construction of dams made water-powered mills the early industries in the village.

#### 8.23.2.5 Governing Body Format

The governing body of the 0.39 square mile Village of Valley Falls consists of a Mayor and Village Board, who all serve the Village's 466 residents on a volunteer basis. Members of this governing body are elected by the people. The Village has no departments. Aside from the Mayor and Village Board, the Village employs a Clerk and Treasurer each of whom serve minimal hours annually; these two positions are paid and are the only staff members.

#### 8.23.2.6 Growth/Development Trends

Performing an assessment of growth and development trends is one step of a hazard mitigation plan update. This look into the future is important because development in hazard areas could put more people and property in harm's way and, in turn, could work to increase potential disaster-related damages and losses at a time when the mitigation plan's purpose is to reduce the potential for damages emanating from natural disasters.

An evaluation of growth/development trends was undertaken by each participating jurisdiction as part of the development of the initial plan in 2011. As part of this plan update, the Village of Valley Falls reviewed and updated its prior feedback to reflect current conditions in the community as of early 2019.

The Village of Valley Falls did not note any major residential or commercial development taking place, or any major infrastructure development planned or expected for the next 5 years in the municipality. There is very little vacant land in the Village of 0.39 square miles in land area. Most development activity that occurs is home renovations or rebuilds undertaken by individual home owners. The Village’s library and church undertake occasional construction projects.

New Development/Potential Development in the Municipality						
Property Name	Type (Residential or Commercial)	No. of Structures	Address	Block and Lot	Known Hazard Zone	Description /Status
Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported	Not reported

The Village of Valley Falls enforces state building codes and NFIP requirements to protect new development from the effects of natural hazards. There are no buildings in the floodplain except the old abandoned and burned out brick mill. The Village has contracted out building code enforcement services to the Town because of the limited staff resources and capabilities of the Village government.

### 8.23.3 HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

The following hazards represent those that were deemed to be significant hazards of concern for the Village of Valley Falls:

Profiled Hazards in the Village of Valley Falls													
Jurisdiction	Atmospheric Hazards						Hydrologic Hazards			Geologic Hazards		Other Hazards	
	Extreme Temperatures (Coldwave/Heat Wave)	Hurricane/Tropical Storm	Lightning	Tornado	Wind	Winter Storm	Drought	Flood			Earthquake	Landslide <sup>4</sup>	Wildfire <sup>5</sup>
								Flooding <sup>2</sup>	Dam Failure <sup>1</sup>	Ice Jam <sup>3</sup>			
Valley Falls, Village of	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		■	

Notes: (1) Based on presence of a High hazard dam (NYSDEC classification) either in the municipality or close upstream on a watercourse flowing through that municipality and feedback from the County Planning Department. (2) Based on identification of improved property in mapped FEMA flood hazard zones. (3) Based on historical records, Flood Insurance Studies, and local information as well as feedback from the County Planning Department. (4) Based on identification of improved property in mapped high incidence or high susceptibility landslide risk zones, plus those municipalities in which details of individual landslide events are available. (5) Based on identification of improved property in mapped wildfire hazard zones.

### 8.23.4 NOTABLE HAZARD EVENT OCCURRENCES SINCE 2011

Rensselaer County has a long history of natural hazard events occurring, as detailed in Section 3 of this plan. A summary of historical events is provided in each of the hazard profiles of Section 3 and includes a chronology of events that have affected the County and its municipalities.

NOAAs NCEM records 1,141 hazard event occurrences from 1950 to 2018 causing 1 fatality, 116 injuries, \$27,679,000 in property damage, and \$305,800 in crop damage. The table below

presents a summary of 415 events that are included in NOAA’s NCDC records for Rensselaer County since the prior 2011 HMP was prepared to summarize the recent range and impact of natural hazard events potentially affecting the County and its municipalities. For details of events prior to 2011, refer to Section 3 of this plan.

Natural Hazard Event History (January 2011 through December 2018)					
Event Type	Count	Fatalities	Injuries	Property Damage	Crop Damage
Blizzard	2	0	0	\$0	\$0
Cold/Wind Chill	28	0	0	\$0	\$0
Excessive Heat	3	0	0	\$0	\$0
Extreme Cold/Wind Chill	8	0	0	\$0	\$0
Flash Flood	20	0	0	\$320,000	\$0
Flood	16	0	0	\$10,000	\$0
Frost/Freeze	6	0	0	\$0	\$0
Hail	29	0	0	\$0	\$0
Heat	17	0	0	\$0	\$0
Heavy Rain	1	0	0	\$0	\$0
Heavy Snow	13	0	0	\$0	\$0
High Wind	17	0	0	\$0	\$0
Lightning	1	0	0	\$50,000	\$0
Storm Surge/Tide	1	0	0	\$0	\$0
Strong Wind	22	0	0	\$48,000	\$4,000
Thunderstorm Wind	141	0	7	\$0	\$0
Tropical Storm	2	0	0	\$0	\$0
Winter Storm	28	0	0	\$0	\$0
Winter Weather	60	0	0	\$0	\$0
Total	415	0	7	\$428,000	\$4,000

Since 1954, Rensselaer County has been designated as eligible for at least one form of FEMA assistance in 16 Federally-declared major disasters and eight Federally-declared emergencies. Since the adoption of the 2011 HMP, Rensselaer County has been designated as eligible for at least one form of FEMA assistance in three of the state’s 12 Federally-declared major disasters (2011 through 2018).

Rensselaer County Disaster Declarations, 2011-2018					
Declaration Year	Event Incident Period	Declaration Type	Disaster Type	Disaster Number	Rensselaer County Designation
2017	March 14-15, 2017	Major Disaster Declaration	Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	DR-4322	Declared for PA only
2011	September 7-11, 2011	Emergency Declaration	Tropical Storm Lee	EM-3341	Declared for PA Category B
2011	August 26, 2011 through September 5, 2011	Major Disaster Declaration	Hurricane Irene	DR-4020	Declared for PA and IA
2011	December 26-27, 2010	Major Disaster Declaration	Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm	DR-1957	Declared for PA Category B

Source: FEMA, online at <https://www.fema.gov/disasters>, queried on July 11, 2019  
 PA= FEMA’s Public Assistance Program  
 IA= FEMA’s Individual Assistance Program  
 Category B= FEMA’s Public Assistance Program Category B (Emergency Protective Measures)

Some more recent notable events in the Village of Valley Falls since 2011 include:

August 28, 2011 – Irene

The remnants of Hurricane Irene brought heavy to extreme rainfall throughout Rensselaer County.

October 29-30, 2012 – Sandy

Rainfall in Rensselaer County was not excessively heavy and did not cause notable flooding, thanks to dry antecedent conditions. Wind gusts of 40 to 60 mph were common from the afternoon of the 29th until the early morning hours of the 30th.

June 25, 2014 – Heavy Rain and Flooding

Heavy rain led to flash flooding on North Street in Valley Falls. Rapid runoff led to the erosion of the ground beneath a 100 year old, two-apartment house. The home's owner estimated that about 300 cubic yards of land was lost beneath the home in about a five minute period. Although the home's foundation remained intact, a small porch lost all the ground underneath it. Ten thousand dollars in damages are identified in the NCEI event record.



Flood damaged home on North Street in Valley Falls, June 2014  
(timesunion.com)

June 30, 2017 to July 1, 2017 - Severe Storms and Flooding

Numerous strong to severe thunderstorms occurred across Rensselaer County. Thunderstorm winds caused damages throughout the county, downing trees and power lines, and heavy rains caused flooding in many areas of the county.

### 8.23.5 NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Village of Valley Falls entered FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) on June 5, 1985 but was suspended from the program on January 17, 2016.

- Total number of policies<sup>1</sup>: 0
- Insurance in force<sup>2</sup>: \$0
- Total number of losses: 2
- Total claims paid: \$647
- Repetitive Loss Properties: 0
- Severe Repetitive Loss Properties: 0

The Village of Valley Falls provided the following NFIP Administrator Input in 2019, for inclusion in the 2019 HMP.

Name: <u>Jay Overocker, Mayor</u>		Title: <u>Acting Floodplain Manager/Floodplain Administrator/NFIP Coordinator</u>					
Community: <u>Village of Valley Falls</u>		Email and Phone: <u>vvfrusteeipo@gmail.com (518) 753-6230</u>					
<b>Worksheet 2 - NFIP</b>							
<i>Note: This form should be filled out by your floodplain administrator. Submittals should be returned via email to Jay Wilson at jwilson@renesco.com. Feel free to contact Anna Foley of AECOM if you have questions, at <a href="mailto:anna.foley@aecom.com">anna.foley@aecom.com</a>. All communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) provided FEMA with a floodplain management ordinance and a designated floodplain administrator as a prerequisite to enter the program. All participating communities must provide the information below. Please return a copy of your floodplain management ordinance to us with this submittal.</i>							
Adoption Date of your Current Floodplain Management Ordinance	Date of Entry into NFIP <sup>1</sup>	Position or Title of Your Jurisdiction's Designated Floodplain Manager/Administrator (may also be called NFIP Coordinator)	Is this person a Certified Floodplain Manager?	Is floodplain management an auxiliary function?	Is your community in good standing with the NFIP?		
n/a	n/a	Mayor (acting NFIP coordinator)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (i.e., permit review, GIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability, etc.):							
n/a – <b>The Village is presently suspended from the NFIP.</b>							
Describe barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community (if applicable):							
Our municipality of fewer than 450 total residents, a total annual Village property tax levy of less than \$60,000, and only two part-time staff (Village Clerk and Village Treasurer) limits the functions we undertake, including running an NFIP program. The Village is presently suspended from the NFIP.							
When was most recent FEMA Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact (CAC)? <sup>2</sup>	Is a CAV or CAC scheduled or needed?	Does the current floodplain management ordinance exceed FEMA or State minimum requirements? If so, describe how.	Is training of staff regarding NFIP issues planned?	Does your community intend to continue to enforce the floodplain management requirements including regulating new construction in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs)?	Does your community participate in the CRS? If so, state your Class.	Does your community intend to continue its participation in the CRS program?	If your community is not currently participating in the CRS program, are you intending to initiate the process during the next planning cycle?
Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No* * Class _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Describe any outstanding compliance issues (i.e., current violations):							
<b>The Village's current NFIP status is suspended.</b>							
<sup>1</sup> Your date of entry into the NFIP can be found at: <a href="http://www.fema.gov/cis/NY.html">http://www.fema.gov/cis/NY.html</a> (column "Reg-Emer Date").							
Rensselaer County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – NFIP Worksheet				NFIP-1			

<sup>1</sup> Policies in Force from [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) on 02/21/19, data current as of 09/30/18.

<sup>2</sup> Insurance in Force from [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) on 02/21/19, data current as of 09/30/18.

## Section 8.23 - Jurisdictional Annex, Village of Valley Falls

Name: <u>Jay Overocker, Mayor</u>		Title: <u>Acting Floodplain Manager/Floodplain Administrator/NFIP Coordinator</u>						
Community: <u>Village of Valley Falls</u>		Email and Phone: <u>vftrusteejpo@gmail.com (518) 753-6230</u>						
Provide an explanation of your local floodplain permitting process:								
None – the Village is presently suspended from the NFIP.								
<b>Does your community intend to continue floodplain identification and mapping services including any local requests for map updates?</b>	<b>Does your community intend to initiate/continue the buyouts of repetitive loss properties?</b>	<b>Does your community intend to commit staff or resources to improve local mapping or code administration in the future?</b>	<b>Does your community intend to provide local outreach to promote the sale of flood insurance?</b>	<b>Does your community intend to participate in RiskMAP meetings and planning initiatives?</b>	<b>Does your community intend to continue to implement structural improvements to mitigate against flooding - culverts, drainage basins, etc.?</b>	<b>Does your community intend to continue to implement home improvement programs designed to minimize basement flooding?</b>	<b>Does your community intend to continue to implement roadway improvements to reduce damage from future flooding events?</b>	<b>Does your community intend to implement plans and programs in coordination with a local or regional drainage/sewer authority?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Does your community intend to adopt the new FEMA Advisory Base Flood Elevations?</b>		<b>As Floodplain Manager, did you (or your predecessor at the time) actively participate in the development of the initial Hazard Mitigation Plan?</b>		<b>As Floodplain Manager, are you actively participating in the development of this Hazard Mitigation Plan Update?</b>		<b>Have there been any changes to your community's local floodplain management program since the last version of the plan in 2011?</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsure		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
* If you answered "yes", that there have been changes to your local program since 2011, please describe:								
Provide a description of your community assistance and monitoring activities:								
Our municipality of fewer than 450 total residents, a total annual Village property tax levy of less than \$60,000, and only two part-time staff (Village Clerk and Village Treasurer) limits the functions we undertake, including any community assistance and monitoring activities. <b>The Village is presently suspended from the NFIP.</b>								
<b>NFIP participating communities are required to update/revise their floodplain management ordinance to ensure that it complies with the latest FEMA regulations. Will your community continue to commit to this program requirement?</b>				<b>NFIP participating communities are also required to update/revise their floodplain management ordinance to be consistent with the latest FIRMs. Will your community continue to commit to this program requirement?</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsure; the Village is presently suspended from the NFIP				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsure; the Village is presently suspended from the NFIP				
<small>Note: NFIP policy statistics by community are maintained at: <a href="http://bsa.nfipstat.fema.gov/reports/1011.htm#NJT">http://bsa.nfipstat.fema.gov/reports/1011.htm#NJT</a>          NFIP claims data by community is maintained at: <a href="http://bsa.nfipstat.fema.gov/reports/1040.htm#34">http://bsa.nfipstat.fema.gov/reports/1040.htm#34</a>          Information about structures at risk of flooding can be found in the current Hazard Mitigation Plan.          All NFIP participating communities should encourage local residents to purchase and maintain flood insurance.</small>								
Rensselaer County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – NFIP Worksheet						NFIP-2		

### 8.23.6 ASSET IDENTIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION

An inventory of geo-referenced assets in Rensselaer County has been created in order to identify and characterize property and persons potentially exposed to the identified hazards. Section 3b of the plan presents the asset identification and characterization process in great detail. The following table presents an overview of assets in Rensselaer County<sup>3</sup> and the subset of those assets that fall within the Village of Valley Falls.

<sup>3</sup> The County totals are included here for readers to understand the proportion of countywide assets that lie within this municipality.

Asset Inventory																			
Jurisdiction	Improved Property (RCV <sup>4</sup> )	Emergency Facilities					Critical Infrastructure and Utilities										Other Key Facilities		Historic and Cultural Resources
		Fire Stations	Police Stations	EMS / Ambulance Stations	Hospitals	Shelters <sup>5</sup>	Wastewater Facilities	Water Treatment Facilities	Airports	Railroads (Passenger/ Freight Station)	Electric Power Facilities	Communications Facilities	Oil Facilities	Hazardous Materials Sites	Natural Gas Facilities	Ports	Schools	Residential Senior Care Facilities <sup>6</sup>	
Rensselaer County	\$33,333,947,000	44	9	19	2	33	8	1	0	13	1	6	5	60	1	12	64	3	84
Village of Valley Falls	\$81,394,000	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rensselaer County	Population, Census 2010:		159,429																
Village of Valley Falls	Population, Census 2010:		466																
Rensselaer County	Vulnerable Population, Census 2010 (under 5 years, and over 64 years)		30,429																
Village of Valley Falls	Vulnerable Population, Census 2010 (under 5 years, and over 64 years)		77																

<sup>4</sup> Replacement Cost Value

<sup>5</sup> Specific shelter data is protected information and is not released to the public unless and until necessary during a disaster.

<sup>6</sup> \* As per the County Department of Economic Development and Planning, these figures only encompass the senior centers which are not residential facilities.

Exposure – Assets in the Floodplain

Land. Approximately nine percent of land in the Village of Valley Falls is located in the 100-year floodplain.

Land in the 100-year Floodplain			
Municipality	Land Area of Municipality (Acres)	Land in the 100-year Floodplain (Acres)	Percent of Land in the 100-Year Floodplain (%)
Valley Falls, Village of	308	29	9%

Improved Property. Approximately two percent of improved property in the Village of Valley Falls is located in the 100-year floodplain.

Improved Property in the 100-year Floodplain			
Municipality	Replacement Cost Value (RCV) Structure and Contents (\$)	RCV in the 100-year Floodplain (\$)	Percent of RCV in the 100-Year Floodplain (%)
Valley Falls, Village of	\$81,394,000	\$1,772,249	2%

Population. Approximately one percent of the population of the Village of Valley Falls resides in the 100-year floodplain.

Population in the 100-Year Floodplain			
Municipality	Total Population (Census 2010)	Estimated Population in the 100 year Floodplain	Percent of Population in the 100 year Floodplain
Valley Falls, Village of	466	3	1%

Critical Facilities The following critical facilities (emergency facilities, critical infrastructure and utilities, and other key facilities, as presented in Section 3b) are located in the floodplain in the Village of Valley Falls.

Critical Facilities in the Floodplain			
Municipality	Type of Facility	Name of Facility	Flood Zone <sup>7</sup>
Valley Falls, Village of	Wastewater Facility	Village of Valley Falls Wastewater Facility	X500

Historic and Cultural Resources. No listed historic or cultural resources are located in the floodplain in the Village of Valley Falls.

<sup>7</sup> 100-year floodplain = A/AE/AO; 500-year floodplain = X500

### 8.23.7 POTENTIAL FUTURE DAMAGES

Estimated annual losses provided in this section are based on best available data, and the methodologies applied result in an approximation of risk. Loss estimates should be used to understand relative risk from hazards.

Uncertainties are inherent in any loss estimation methodology, arising in part from incomplete scientific knowledge concerning natural hazards and their effects on the built environment. Uncertainties also result from approximations and simplifications that are necessary for a comprehensive analysis (i.e., incomplete inventories, demographics or economic parameters

The following table provides estimated average annual losses from HAZUS-MH 4.0 runs, where available. For hazards for which HAZUS modules are not available, historic damages have been distributed across municipalities based on their proportion of improved property. It is important to note that this table reflects estimates of average annual damages. For any hazard, individual event damages could be substantially (orders of magnitude) higher.

For the Village of Valley Falls, the hazard with the highest estimated average annual losses is tornado.

Summary of Annual Loss Estimates – Village of Valley Falls <sup>8</sup>													
Municipality	Replacement Cost Value of Improvements (\$)	Extreme Temperatures	Hurricane/ Tropical Storm - Wind	Hurricane/ Tropical Storm – Wind + Flood	Lightning	Tornado	Wind	Winter Storm (Ice Storm/ Snow Storm)	Drought	Flood	Earthquake	Landslide	Wildfire
		NOAA NCEI, 1996-2018	HAZUS	NOAA NCEI, 1996-2018	NOAA NCEI, 1996-2018	NOAA NCEI, 1996-2018	NOAA NCEI, 1996-2018	NOAA NCEI, 1996-2018	NOAA NCEI, 1996-2018	NOAA NCEI, 1996-2018	HAZUS	HAZUS	NOAA NCEI, 1996-2018
Valley Falls, Village of	\$81,394,000	\$3	\$3	\$211	\$26	\$1,157	\$293	\$82	\$0	\$240	\$21	\$0	\$0

<sup>8</sup> \* **It is important to note that this table reflects estimates of average annualized damages. For any hazard, individual event damages could be substantially higher.**

### 8.23.8 HAZARD RANKINGS AND KEY RISK FINDINGS

Hazard rankings for the Village of Valley Falls are provided in the table below. Hazard priorities are based on each hazard's likelihood of occurrence, potential consequences, relative risk and average annualized losses. Rows are shaded red for High Hazard Priority; yellow for Moderate Hazard Priority; and green for Low Hazard Priority.

Hazard Rankings – Village of Valley Falls					
Hazard	Future Probability	Potential Consequence	Relative Risk	Hazard Priority	Average Annualized Losses <sup>9</sup>
Extreme Temperatures (Coldwave/ Heat Wave)	Low	Low	Low	Low	\$3
Hurricane/ Tropical Storm	Low	High	Moderate	Moderate	\$3 Wind; \$211 Wind + Flood
Lightning	High	Low	Low	Low	\$26
Tornado	Low	High	High	High	\$1,157
Wind	High	Low	High	High	\$293
Winter Storm (Ice Storm/Snow Storm)	High	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	\$82
Drought	Low	High	Low	Low	\$0
Flood	High	High	High	High	\$240
Earthquake	Low	High	Moderate	Moderate	\$21
Landslide	Low	Low	Low	Low	\$0
Wildfire	Low	Low	Low	Low	\$0

Key risk findings identified by the Village of Valley Falls JAT as representing the highest local priorities for mitigation are:

- The Village is presently suspended from the NFIP. The Village Board does not have an understanding of why they were suspended from the program or if there are any steps to take to be reinstated.
- The old mill site is in the floodplain. There is a possibility of debris entering the river during flood conditions, with associated debris impact and contamination issues downstream. Site is contaminated and floods.
- Drainage issue near playground. Water drains to a field, which then drains to homes on Route 67. Flooding occurs.
- There is no existing drainage system at corner of Edward and Ella.
- Land use in the floodplain would be better controlled if the ordinance was current to reflect the 2016 FEMA flood maps. The Village is presently suspended from the NFIP.
- Residents could benefit from additional information on hazards, risks, and hazard mitigation measures they can take on their own properties to reduce damages and improve resident safety before, during and after a hazard event.

<sup>9</sup> Source: NOAA NCEI, except as noted. \$0 in average annualized losses had no damages recorded for events between 1996 and 2018. Actual annual damages are unquantifiable but higher.

- Ensure that local comprehensive plans incorporate natural disaster mitigation techniques.
- Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to comply with latest FEMA regulations.
- Staff changes in the Village affect municipal understanding of its responsibilities regarding participation in the NFIP and administration of the local floodplain management ordinance. Training is needed.

Mitigation projects to address these key risks are included as part of the Village’s overall hazard mitigation strategy.

### 8.23.9 OUTREACH TO THE PUBLIC AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

As part of this 2019 Plan Update, the Village of Valley Falls undertook various activities to: (a) alert the public and other stakeholders to the fact that the HMP Planning Committee was working to develop the update; and (b) provide the public and other stakeholders with a forum to ask questions and submit comments and suggestions on the process. Outreach activities undertaken by the Village of Valley Falls included:

Outreach Activities			
Date of Activity	Type of Activity	Activity Details	Lead Department and/or Staff Title Who Undertook Activity
[2-21-19]	[Public forum]	[Summarized County’s efforts on Hazard Mitigation Plan update; discussed municipal participation and activities; discussed roles of Village lead agents]	[The Village has no municipal departments. Village Trustee Brian Backstrom and Village Clerk Janet Weber facilitated the public discussion]
[3-21-19]	[Public forum]	[Summarized County’s efforts on Hazard Mitigation Plan update; discussed municipal participation and activities; discussed resolution for participation]	[The Village has no municipal departments. Village Trustee Brian Backstrom facilitated the public discussion]
[4-18-19]	[Public Forum]	[Presented resolution for municipal participation to Board for action. Discussed paperwork requirements for municipal participation in County planning process.]	[The Village has no municipal departments. Village Trustee Brian Backstrom facilitated the public discussion]
[5-16-19]	[Public Forum]	[Discussed paperwork requirements for municipal participation in County planning process, timelines, and County’s planning process.]	[The Village has no municipal departments. Village Trustee Brian Backstrom facilitated the public discussion]
[6-20-19]	[Public Forum]	[Discussed paperwork requirements for municipal participation in County planning process, timelines, County’s planning process, and roles of Village lead agents.]	[The Village has no municipal departments. Village Trustee Brian Backstrom facilitated the public discussion]
[August 2019]	[Online Outreach]	[Post on Village’s Facebook page]	[Village Trustee John Sassatelli (Facebook manager)]
[August 2019]	[Community Outreach]	[Posting of fact sheet in Village Office, Community Hall; Valley Falls Free Library; Valley Falls Post Office]	[Village Clerk Janet Weber; Library Board President Ralph Marino; Village Trustee Brian Backstrom]

The Village of Valley Falls received one comment to date as a result of its outreach activities.

Comments Log									
#	Comment	Comment Submitted By	Comment Submitted To	Comment Submitted on Date	How was comment submitted?	Disposition (Concur; non-concur; will evaluate)	Response / Action Proposed	Responsible Party	Action Taken
1	Drainage issue near playground. Water drains to a field, which then drains to homes on Route 67 causing flooding problems	Resident	Trustee Brian Backstrom, who brought the comment forward to the Village Board	2019	VERBAL	Concur	Will add as an action item in the village's mitigation strategy	Brian Backstrom	None to date

### 8.23.10 CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

This section describes the following capabilities of the local jurisdiction:

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

#### 8.23.10.1 Legal and Regulatory Capability

The table below summarizes the regulatory tools that are available to the Village of Valley Falls. The Village reviewed its responses from the 2011 HMP and has updated its prior feedback to reflect present-day conditions.

Legal and Regulatory Capability			
Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances, Plans)	Do you have this? (Y or N)	Enforcement Authority	Code Citation (Section, Paragraph, Page Number, Date of Adoption)
a. Building code	Y		
b. Zoning ordinance	N		
c. Subdivision ordinance or regulations	N		
d. Special purpose ordinances (floodplain management, stormwater management, hillside or steep slope ordinances, wildfire ordinances, hazard setback)	N		

Legal and Regulatory Capability			
Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances, Plans)	Do you have this? (Y or N)	Enforcement Authority	Code Citation (Section, Paragraph, Page Number, Date of Adoption)
requirements)			
e. Growth management ordinances (also called "smart growth" or anti-sprawl programs)	N		
f. Site plan review requirements	N		
g. General, comprehensive or master plan	N		
h. A capital improvements plan	N		
i. An economic development plan	N		
j. An emergency response plan	Y		
k. A post-disaster recovery plan	N		
l. A post-disaster recovery ordinance	N		
m. Real estate disclosure requirements	N		
n. Other			

### 8.23.10.2 Administrative and Technical Capability

The table below summarizes potential staff and personnel resources available to the Village of Valley Falls. The Village reviewed its responses from the 2011 HMP and has updated its prior feedback to reflect present-day conditions.

Administrative and Technical Capability		
Staff / Personnel Resources	Available (Y or N)	Department / Agency / Position
a. Planner(s) or engineer(s) with knowledge of land development and land management practices	N	
b. Engineer(s) or professional(s) trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	N	
c. Planners or Engineer(s) with an understanding of natural and/or human-caused hazards	N	
d. Floodplain manager	Y*	Mayor
e. Surveyors	N	
f. Staff with education or expertise to assess the community's vulnerability to hazards	N	
g. Personnel skilled in GIS and/or HAZUS	N	
h. Scientists familiar with the hazards of the community	N	
i. Emergency manager	N	
j. Grant writers	N	
k. Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis	N	
*All communities participate in the National Flood Insurance Program; as such, they are required by the regulations to have an appointed floodplain manager.		

## 8.23.10.3 Fiscal Capability

The table below summarizes financial resources available to the Village of Valley Falls. The Village reviewed its responses from the 2011 HMP and has updated its prior feedback to reflect present-day conditions.

Fiscal Capability	
Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to use (Yes/No/Don't know)
a. Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	Don't know
b. Capital improvements project funding	Yes
c. Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes
d. Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric service	Yes
e. Impact fees for homebuyers or developers for new developments/homes	No
f. Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes
g. Incur debt through special tax and revenue bonds	Yes
h. Incur debt through private activity bonds	No
i. Withhold spending in hazard-prone areas	No
j. State mitigation grant programs	Don't know
k. Other	

### 8.23.10.4 Overall Capabilities

The Village of Valley Falls’ 2019 assessment of its overall capabilities to implement hazard mitigation strategies in each of the above categories, in addition to their local assessment of how these capabilities could be expanded and/or improved to reduce risk, is presented in the table below.

Overall Capabilities				
Overall legal and regulatory capability to implement hazard mitigation strategies	Overall technical capability to implement hazard mitigation strategies	Overall fiscal capability to implement hazard mitigation strategies	Overall administrative capability to implement hazard mitigation strategies	Community’s willingness to enact policies and programs that reduce hazard vulnerabilities
Low	Low	Low	Low	Moderate
How these capabilities can be expanded and/or improved to reduce risk:				
Our municipality of fewer than 450 total residents, a total annual Village property tax levy of less than \$60,000, and only two part-time staff (Village Clerk and Village Treasurer) who are very minimally compensated. All other positions in the Village government are unpaid volunteers. This limits the functions we are able to undertake, including hazard mitigations strategies.				

### 8.23.10.5 Community Classifications

The table below summarizes classifications for community program available to the Village of Valley Falls.

Community Classifications		
Program	Classification	Date Classified
Community Rating System (CRS) *	N/A; NP	
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)	N/A; NP	
Public Protection	N/A; NP	
Storm Ready	N/A; NP	
FireWise	N/A; NP	

Notes:

- = Unavailable

N/A = Not applicable

NP = Not participating.

\* CRS Ranking as of April 2019

The classifications listed above relate to the Village of Valley Falls’ ability to provide effective services to lessen its vulnerability to the natural hazards identified. These classifications can be viewed as a gauge of the community’s capabilities in all phases of emergency management (preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation) and are used as an underwriting parameter for determining the costs of various forms of insurance. The CRS Class applies to flood insurance, while the BCEGS and Public Protection classifications apply to standard property insurance. CRS classifications range on a scale of 1 to 10 with Class 1 being the best possible classification, and Class 10 representing no classification benefit.

FireWise classifications include a higher classification when the subject property is located beyond 1,000 feet of a creditable fire hydrant and is within five road miles of a recognized fire station.

Criteria for classification credits are outlined in the following documents:

- The Community Rating System Coordinators Manual
- The Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule
- The ISO Mitigation online ISO's Public Protection website at <http://www.isomitigation.com/ppc/0000/ppc0001.html>
- The National Weather Service Storm Ready website at <http://www.weather.gov/stormready/howto.htm>
- The National FireWise Communities website at <http://firewise.org/>

### 8.23.11 PLAN FOR DISPLACED RESIDENTS

New York State requires that intermediate and long-term housing options must be available for relocating displaced residents to maintain post-disaster social and economic stability. Intermediate and long-term housing options for displaced residents were evaluated as part of the 2019 HMP Update. Additional information can be found in Appendix C.

### 8.23.12 PLAN FOR EVACUATION NEEDS AND SHELTERING

The Village of Valley Falls has an emergency response plan<sup>10</sup>. It does not have a post-disaster recovery plan or a post-disaster recovery ordinance<sup>11</sup>. Rensselaer County has an existing Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) documenting the County's plan for evacuation and sheltering measures during hazard events. The Plan is posted online at: <http://www.rensco.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Rensselaer-County-CEMP.pdf>. As part of this hazard mitigation plan update, the Rensselaer County reviewed their existing CEMP and determined that updates were necessary at this time. Updates to the CEMP are being completed at this time. Once finalized and approved, the County will post the updated CEMP at the same address and will follow procedures in its updated CEMP in all future disasters. The County BPS indicated that there are no designated evacuation routes.

Appendix B contains updated shelter data provided by the Red Cross in 2018. Shelter locations are not made public until facilities are actually opened for an event and therefore, pages of Appendix B that include shelter information are nonpublic. Since every possible shelter is not opened during every event, the data is not made public in order to ensure that individuals in need of shelter do not seek it at facilities which may remain closed during a particular event. The Village of Valley Falls has access to shelter data and will coordinate with the Red Cross as part of their standard operating procedures if and when a need is identified for local shelters to be opened in the community.

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<sup>10</sup> Source: Local Capability Assessment

<sup>11</sup> Source: Local Capability Assessment

### 8.23.13 FUTURE NEEDS - RISK/VULNERABILITY

The Village of Valley Falls has identified no future needs to better understand risk/vulnerability in the community.

### 8.23.14 PLAN INTEGRATION

For a community to succeed in reducing risk in the long term, the information and recommendations of the hazard mitigation plan must be integrated into day-to-day local government operations. Throughout the planning process, partnerships are formed between departments and agencies, and sustained actions between these partners will increase the community's resilience to disasters. "Plan integration" can be thought of as the process whereby a local government incorporates the mitigation plan findings and projects into other planning mechanisms (governance structures that are used to manage local land use development and community decision making).

It is the intention of the Village of Valley Falls to incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of daily municipal operations. The balance of this subsection describes local accomplishments over the last planning cycle (2011-2019), and targeted activities for the next planning cycle (2019-2024).

Demonstration of Progress over the Last Planning Cycle (2011-2019) – The Village of Valley Falls undertook the following plan integration mechanisms over the last planning cycle:

- The Village of Valley Falls does not have departments. Its municipal government is comprised of only two regular paid employees, Clerk and Treasurer, both serving only minimally part-time. Other staff members include a volunteer Mayor and volunteer Board Members also working part-time as needed to perform municipal functions. The Village staff members communicated verbally over the plan maintenance phase regarding hazard mitigation and mitigation planning.
- The Village of Valley Falls does not have a building department. Services are contracted to the Town. The Town enforces standards established in the current State-adopted IBC. The Village and Town coordinate regularly as needed.
- The Village of Valley Falls considered whether enforcement beyond FEMA NFIP minimum requirements would be prudent for the community; however, this approach was rejected because there are no homes in the mapped floodplain. The Village is presently suspended from the NFIP as of January 2016. The Village Mayor serves as the acting NFIP Coordinator. The Village does not have a building department; these services are contracted to the Town.
- The Village does not have formal job descriptions. Staff members perform municipal functions as needs arise. Staff members are volunteer except for a minimally compensated part time clerk and treasurer. Therefore, no job descriptions could be revised to include mitigation-related duties to further institutionalize mitigation. The Village's only staff members (part time volunteer Mayor, Board; and part time minimally compensated Clerk, and Treasurer) fulfill these duties as needed.

- The Village considered whether capital or operating budgets could be revised to include a line item for mitigation project funding. However, doing so was not determined to be a viable approach because the Village has fewer than 450 residents and a total annual Village property tax levy of less than \$60,000.
- The Village of Valley Falls does not have a planning department, master plan, general plan, or comprehensive plan. It does not have subdivision or site plan review criteria. There is no planning vehicle in place for the village to modify to add a hazard element or mitigation for natural hazards.
- The Village has not formally reached out to partner groups in the community to identify those who may be willing to donate goods or services and create a database of contact information and indicated goods/services. However, that said, the Village of Valley Falls is a geographically small and tight-knit community of 0.39 square miles in land area and only has 450 residents plus a library, fire company, church, and auto repair shop. The church is already on the Red Cross shelter list. The Village's residents and businesses work together closely on a daily basis and come together in times of need to provide support and assistance.
- The Village of Valley Falls has actively sought citizen volunteers to help implement mitigation programs and activities. Village staff is all volunteer, plus a part time clerk and part time treasurer. Board members are volunteers and implement mitigation programs and activities. Additional citizen support beyond these positions mentioned was considered but not pursued as it has not been needed but would be requested and arranged if needs are identified in the future.

Targeted Plan Integration Activities for the Next Planning Cycle (2019-2024) – The Village of Valley Falls plans to implement the following plan integration mechanisms into local government operations from this point forward through the next planning cycle:

- The Village's CPG member can solicit support for further integration of hazard mitigation into the daily activities of the community as a whole during meetings with Village Board volunteers. The Village of Valley Falls does not have departments. It has only two regular employees, Clerk and Treasurer, both serving only minimally part-time; as well as a volunteer part time Mayor and Village Board. Communications amongst Village staff are handled verbally (not via formal written correspondence). The Village does not have a master, general, or comprehensive plan.
- Adopt and enforce the minimum building standards established in the current State-adopted IBC (NY edition) via its arrangements with the Town.
- The Village is presently suspended from FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program. The Village will explore reinstatement in the program over the next planning cycle. No residential properties exist within designated floodplain zone). If the Village is reinstated, CRS will possibly be considered by the Board.
- The Village has no Planning Committee, Zoning Committee, Building Department, or Comprehensive Plan or Master Plan. However, Village can enact local laws regarding allowable development, and will consider adoption of such laws to mitigate hazards as aligned with the County's plan if deemed applicable.

- The Village does not have job descriptions, as it has only two regular employees, Clerk and Treasurer, both serving only minimally part-time. Duties of Mayor and Fire Chief, however, will be specified to include hazard mitigate-related duties and coordination with County plan.
- The Village does not have departments/agencies and therefore cannot issue directives to require departments/agencies in the community to carry out certain hazard mitigation activities. This will be handled through revision of duties expected of Mayor and Fire Chief.
- Reach out to state agencies for assistance with natural hazard mitigation activities.
- The Village will possibly consider increasing resilience by limiting the extension of public infrastructure in high hazard areas.
- Reduce the vulnerability of future development in high hazard areas by reviewing development regulations and modifying where needed. Village is considering plans to mitigate road flooding at one street corner that flows into a field and then to residences, occasionally causing basement flooding.
- Use the risk assessment to inform future updates of the community emergency operations plan, evacuation plan, and/or post disaster recovery plan. The Village does not have an emergency operations plan, evacuation plan, or post disaster recovery plan.
- Implement hazard mitigation activities through existing plans and policies.
- Village is planning to attend hazard mitigation trainings sponsored by County.

### 8.23.15 MITIGATION STRATEGY

This subsection sets forth the mitigation strategy for the Village of Valley Falls. It describes:

- Progress on 2011 HMP Initiatives
- Past Mitigation Accomplishments
- Proposed 2019 HMP Mitigation Initiatives
- Action Worksheets

#### 8.23.15.1 Progress on 2011 HMP Initiatives

The following table was completed by the Village of Valley Falls HMP Committee Members. It summarizes the progress that was made on the local hazard mitigation initiatives that were set forth in the community's mitigation strategy from the initial HMP in 2011.

There have been no significant changes in development, development plans, or governmental priorities since the initial plan was prepared in 2011.

PROGRESS ON 2011 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN INITIATIVES												
2011 HMP Initiative Number	Mitigation Initiative Description	2011 HMP Priority	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead and Support Agencies	Status				Status Details	Relevance		Relevance Details
					Completed	Initiated but Not Completed	Ongoing Type of Activity	Not Initiated		Still Relevant - Carry Forward to Updated Mitigation Strategy	No Longer Relevant - Omit from Updated Mitigation Strategy	
VF-1	Update floodplain management ordinance to enable the Village to better control land use in floodplain areas.	High	Flooding	Legislative Body				X	Lack of staff availability and lack of technical expertise	X		Limited development exists in relevant areas. Village exploring expanding municipal open space in such areas.
VF-2	Work with Rensselaer County IDA to have plan for flood damage at hydroelectric site at dam.	Low	Flooding	Code Enforcement				X	Lack of staff availability and lack of technical expertise		X	Working with USEPA brownfield funding to address site and transform it into municipal open space
VF-3	Work to complete cleanup and removal of hazardous waste site at site of destroyed mill. This will reduce the possibility for debris entering the river during flood conditions, and associated debris impact and asbestos contamination issues downstream.	High	Flooding	Code Enforcement, Legislative Body			X		Clean-up underway	X		
VF-CL-1	Public awareness program on Hazards, Prevention, and Mitigation: County will maintain a hazard mitigation and mitigation planning web presence (local municipal web sites to link up to this site, if they haven't already done so); all participating jurisdictions to support preparation of a joint annual hazard mitigation and mitigation planning fact sheet and its distribution; periodic discussion of hazard mitigation and the mitigation plan at other regular local meetings; use of annual flyers, newsletters, advertisements, or radio/tv announcements, etc. at the discretion of each jurisdiction (incorporating as much free information as possible from the FEMA Publications Warehouse and other appropriate sources). (public education)	High	All hazards	County-led action item. CPG Member, Village Trustee					Village does not maintain a website presence; can undertake outreach via informational postings on its Facebook page	x		County is carrying forward this County-led activity with no changes; our municipality will carry it forward as well.
VF-CL-2	Code update: Review existing local codes and ordinances against the identified hazards to determine whether there need to be any amendments to address identified hazards and, where a need is identified, modify/ amend the codes/ordinances as applicable. (prevention)	Medium	All hazards	County-led action item. CPG Member, Village Trustee					Need to modify/amend any local codes/ordinances not yet identified.	x		County is carrying forward this County-led activity with no changes; our municipality will carry it forward as well.
VF-CL-3	Code enforcement: Enforcement of NYS and Local Building Codes with Continual CEO training. (prevention)	Medium	All hazards	County-led action item. CPG Member, Village Trustee					Locally administered on an ongoing basis; our community has not yet gone to the county for support/training.	x		County is carrying forward this County-led activity with no changes; our municipality will carry it forward as well.
VF-CL-4	Ensure that local comprehensive plans incorporate natural disaster mitigation techniques through a courtesy review of draft plans by the County Planning Department (prevention)	High	All hazards	County-led action item. CPG Member, Village Trustee					Village does not have a comprehensive plan or master plan.	x		County is carrying forward this County-led activity with no changes; our municipality will carry it forward as well.

PROGRESS ON 2011 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN INITIATIVES												
2011 HMP Initiative Number	Mitigation Initiative Description	2011 HMP Priority	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Lead and Support Agencies	Status				Status Details	Relevance		Relevance Details
					Completed	Initiated but Not Completed	Ongoing Type of Activity	Not Initiated		Still Relevant - Carry Forward to Updated Mitigation Strategy	No Longer Relevant - Omit from Updated Mitigation Strategy	
VF-CL-5	Hold periodic workshops for municipalities regarding zoning and planning issues that arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation. (prevention)	Low	All hazards	County-led action item. CPG Member, Village Trustee			x		County- led activity. Municipality attends meetings/workshops as offered by the County whenever municipal staff members have schedule availability.	x		County is carrying forward this County-led activity with no changes; our municipality will carry it forward as well.
VF-NFIP-1	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to comply with latest FEMA regulations.	High	Flooding	Code Enforcement			x		Ordinance is dated 1987. Not updated because of a lack of staff availability and lack of technical expertise.	x		Ongoing type of activity; will be carried forward with no changes.
VF-NFIP-2	Designate/install a specific person to be your municipality's Floodplain Administrator.	Low	Flooding	Board of Trustees			x		Mayor so designated.	x		Ongoing type of activity (with staffing changes); will be carried forward with no changes.
VF-NFIP-3	Add/train sufficient members of staff to adequately enforce NFIP regulations/floodplain management ordinances.	High	Flooding	Board of Trustees			x		Limited village staff does not allow this function; will rely on contracted code enforcement officer.	x		Ongoing type of activity (with staffing changes); will be carried forward with no changes.
VF-NFIP-4	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to be consistent with potential future new FIRMs	Low	Flooding	Board of Trustees			x		FEMA has not issued new FIRMs since the last hazard mitigation plan was prepared.	x		Ongoing type of activity; will be carried forward with no changes.
VF-NFIP-5	Require staff involved in floodplain management and ordinance enforcement to become Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs)	Low	Flooding	Board of Trustees				x	Not agency required; municipality opted not to require CFM certification.		x	Not agency required; municipality opted not to require CFM certification.
VF-NFIP-6	Join the Community Rating System (CRS)	Low	Flooding	Board of Trustees				x	Municipality opted not to enter CRS.		x	number of homes in the floodplain is not substantial; number of policyholders is not substantial; costs outweigh benefits

### 8.23.15.2 Past Mitigation Accomplishments

NYS DHSES requires the documentation of local mitigation efforts and accomplishments since the previous hazard mitigation plan was prepared, regardless of funding source and regardless of whether the project was included in the prior plan. They note that the goal of this requirement is to provide a context for each jurisdiction's projects, act as a source of ideas for mitigation projects, and evaluate the accuracy of assumptions and engineering solutions to inform future projects, and to support future mitigation planning and its coordination with other planning, zoning, and environmental procedures within the jurisdiction.

The Village of Valley Falls has no additional past mitigation accomplishments to report.

### 8.23.15.3 Proposed 2019 HMP Mitigation Initiatives

The process for selection and prioritization of mitigation actions is described in greater detail in Section 5 of the main text. The outcomes of that overall process are summarized here.

This plan proposes the actions determined to be the most appropriate for the resources and capabilities of the community based on the experience of local officials, with input from the public and other stakeholders. The mitigation actions reflect the Village's hazards of greatest concern. Actions determined to be appropriate for the plan were reviewed during public and committee meetings. As with the 2011 Plan, this 2019 Plan Update includes a series of County-led initiatives with municipal participation to address a wider range of hazards. In addition, each local mitigation strategy proposes actions reflecting the commitment of the County and local jurisdictions to compliance with requirements of the NFIP. Potential actions were reviewed relative to potential financial as well as administrative and legal costs and the degree to which they would be endorsed by the public. Potential actions were reviewed during the meetings relative to their potential benefit of effectiveness in saving lives, protecting the natural environment, and reducing disruption and damage. Actions selected by each jurisdiction include activities to protect existing and future structures and infrastructure and enhance community resilience.

Part of enhancing community resilience involves adapting to a changing climate. In accordance with NYS Mitigation Planning Standard 9, plans developed with NYS DHSES-administered funds must include information on climate change as part of the hazard vulnerability analysis and contain strategies/projects to address increased vulnerability that may result from climate change. This requirement was established to encourage jurisdictions to plan for and accommodate climate change and sea level rise. By developing mitigating strategies and/or projects for hazards that are exacerbated by climate change, jurisdictions will better protect residents, avoid, or reduce damage to property and public infrastructure, and reduce personal hardship. In accordance with this State Standard, previous sections of this plan have presented information on how climate change may affect jurisdictional vulnerability or increased frequency of occurrence and/or severity in exposure to flooding, wildfire, drought, and extreme temperatures. Climate change is addressed by mitigating the various hazards that it exacerbates. Rensselaer County and its communities have proposed a range of hazard mitigation initiatives to

address their highest hazards including those hazards that are exacerbated by a changing climate.

Proposed 2019 HMP Mitigation Initiatives for Village of Valley Falls are shown in the following table. These include both new initiatives and initiatives that were carried forward from the 2011 HMP.

PROPOSED 2019 HMP MITIGATION INITIATIVES														
Initiative Number	Initiative Name	HMP Goal(s)/ Objective(s) Being Met	Hazard(s) to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	CF <sup>12</sup> ?	EHP <sup>13</sup> Issues?	Estimated Timeline	Project Lead (include relevant Department and Position Title)	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources <sup>14</sup>	Priority <sup>15</sup>	Action Worksheet Provided? <sup>16</sup>
* NOTE: Projects related to Critical Facilities (CF) must protect the facility to the 500-year event or worst damage scenario, whichever is greater.														
1	Playground Drainage *NEW*	3	Flooding	Drainage issue near playground. Water drains to a field, which then drains to homes on Route 67. Flooding problems	Phase 1- Evaluate further to assess the problem and identify a viable solution  Phase 2- Implement recommended project	No	No	Phase 1 – 1 year  Phase 2 – TBD depending on cost of recommended action and funding availability	Mayor and Village Board	Phase 1 - \$0 (staff time only)  Phase 2 – TBD depending on results of Phase 1	Eliminate storm drainage induced flooding of affected homes on Route 67	Phase 1 – Local budget for staff time  Phase 2 – Local budget, and possibly FEMA HMGP/PDM funding depending on the solution identified if it is a high cost project	High	No
2	Drainage System, Corner of Edward and Ella *NEW*	3	Flooding	No existing drainage system at corner of Edward and Ella	Drainage system, with culvert and necessary roadway repaving	No	No	5 years	Mayor and Village Board	\$200k	Improved environmental conditions with collection of stormwater and eliminate flooding at the intersection	EPA grant	High	No
3	Possible Reinstatement in the NFIP *NEW*	2	Flooding	The Village is presently suspended from the NFIP. The village board does not have an understanding of why they were suspended from the program or if there are any steps to take to be reinstated.	Phase 1- Village Board to evaluate and determine whether they seek to re-enter the program (if possible) or if they wish to opt out.  Phase 2- Move forward pending results of Phase 1. If seeking reentry, next step would be to consult the state NFIP Coordinator and then follow his/her instructions.	No	No	Phase 1 – 2019  Phase 2 – end of 2020	Mayor and Village Board	\$0 (staff time only)	Residents would be able to purchase flood insurance. Participation in the program results in reduced flood damages as proper construction techniques are implemented regarding flood mitigation for new construction and substantial improvements in the floodplain	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	High	Yes

<sup>12</sup> CF – Critical Facility. Please respond “Y” (yes) if the project’s purpose is to protect a critical facility, or “N” (no) if not.

<sup>13</sup> EHP – Environmental or Historic Preservation. Please respond “Y” (yes) if the project is expected to have environmental and/or historic preservation issues, or “N” (no) if not.

<sup>14</sup> Potential Funding Sources – A list of Federal and State sources of funding for hazard mitigation projects can be found in the latest NYS Hazard Mitigation Plan online at <https://mitigateny.avilabs.org/capabilities/administerfunding>. Jurisdictions should identify additional funding opportunities you may be aware of that are not on the state list.

<sup>15</sup> Priority – See “Prioritization Methodology” on the next page.

<sup>16</sup> Action Worksheet Provided. Please respond “Y” (yes) if you have filled out a detailed Action Worksheet, or “N” (no) if not. NYS DHSES State Standard 7 recommends that further consideration be given to all proposed actions by completing a NYS DHSES Action Worksheet, the State requires completion of a minimum of two NYS DHSES Action Worksheets for the jurisdiction’s highest priority projects. For jurisdictions containing a Special Flood Hazard Area, at least one of these Action Worksheets must be for a project that addresses flooding. Action Worksheets have been prepared for a minimum of two proposed mitigation initiatives. Action Worksheets are included at the end of this section, following the prioritization methodology.

PROPOSED 2019 HMP MITIGATION INITIATIVES														
Initiative Number	Initiative Name	HMP Goal(s)/ Objective(s) Being Met	Hazard(s) to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	CF <sup>12</sup> ?	EHP <sup>13</sup> Issues?	Estimated Timeline	Project Lead (include relevant Department and Position Title)	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources <sup>14</sup>	Priority <sup>15</sup>	Action Worksheet Provided? <sup>16</sup>
* NOTE: Projects related to Critical Facilities (CF) must protect the facility to the 500-year event or worst damage scenario, whichever is greater.														
4	Floodplain ordinance (2011 VF-1)	3,4	Flooding	Land use in the floodplain would be better controlled if the ordinance was current to reflect the 2016 FEMA flood maps. The village is presently suspended from the NFIP.	Update floodplain management ordinance to enable the Village to better control land use in floodplain areas.	No	No	End of 2020	Legislative Body	\$0- staff time	Reduced damages during flood event with proper construction techniques for new construction and substantial improvements in the floodplain	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	High	No
5	Mill site clean-up (2011 VF-3)	3,4	Flooding	Possibility of debris entering the river during flood conditions, with associated debris impact and contamination issues downstream. Site is contaminated and floods.	Work to complete cleanup and removal of hazardous waste site at site of destroyed mill. Phase 1 – ownership transfer Phase 2- samples and testing Phase 3 – site remediation and creation of park	No	Likely/possible environmental issues as this is the site of an old mill	Phase 1 – Ownership transfer; complete  Phase 2 – Samples and testing; end of 2020  Phase 3 – presently unknown, pending Phase 2	Code Enforcement (Village contracts with the Town) and Legislative Body	Phase 1 complete \$0  Phase 2- moderate  Phase 3 – high but order of magnitude presently unknown, pending completion of Phase 2	High- positive environmental impacts associated with site cleanup; and flood mitigation from remediating a contaminated site in the floodplain and turning it into a park	Phase 1 – EPA Grant  Phase 2 – EPA grants for cleaning  Phase 3 – TBD pending results of Phase 2	High	Yes
6	Participate in County-Led Hazard Mitigation Outreach (2011 VF-CL-1)	1	All hazards	Residents could benefit from additional information on hazards, risks, and hazard mitigation measures they can take on their own properties to reduce damages and improve resident safety before, during and after a hazard event.	Public awareness program on Hazards, Prevention, and Mitigation: County will maintain a hazard mitigation and mitigation planning web presence (local municipal web sites to link up to this site, if they haven't already done so); all participating jurisdictions to support preparation of a joint annual hazard mitigation and mitigation planning fact sheet and its distribution; periodic discussion of hazard mitigation and the mitigation plan at other regular local meetings; use of annual flyers, newsletters, advertisements, or radio/to announcements, etc. at the discretion of each jurisdiction (incorporating as much free information as possible from the FEMA Publications Warehouse and other appropriate sources). (public education)	No	No	Regularly beginning 2019 and through next plan update	County-led action item. CPG Member, Village Trustee	\$0- staff time	When the public has a better understanding of hazards and risks, they are more likely to make sound decisions for preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation-reducing damages and fostering community resiliency.	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	High	
7	Request code/ordinance review by County as needed (2011 VF-CL-2)	4	All hazards	Communities are safer and more resilient when new construction and substantial improvements take into account the latest information	Code update: Review existing local codes and ordinances against the identified hazards to determine whether there need to be any amendments to	No	No	As needed beginning 2019 through next plan update	County-led action item. CPG Member, Village Trustee	\$0- staff time	code updates integrating hazard mitigation principles will reduce damages	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	Medium	

PROPOSED 2019 HMP MITIGATION INITIATIVES														
Initiative Number	Initiative Name	HMP Goal(s)/ Objective(s) Being Met	Hazard(s) to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	CF <sup>12</sup> ?	EHP <sup>13</sup> Issues?	Estimated Timeline	Project Lead (include relevant Department and Position Title)	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources <sup>14</sup>	Priority <sup>15</sup>	Action Worksheet Provided? <sup>16</sup>
* NOTE: Projects related to Critical Facilities (CF) must protect the facility to the 500-year event or worst damage scenario, whichever is greater.														
				on hazard vulnerabilities and measures to reduce risk.	address identified hazards and, where a need is identified, modify/ amend the codes/ordinances as applicable. (prevention)						over time by requiring mitigation at the time of construction			
8	Send CEO to County-Led Training (2011 VF-CL-3)	2	All hazards	There can be a loss of institutional knowledge with staff changes. Even when staff is the same, continual training improves local capabilities and allows officials to better regulate activities in hazard areas to protect lives and property.	Code enforcement: Enforcement of NYS and Local Building Codes with Continual CEO training. (prevention)	No	No	As offered by County through next plan update	County-led action item. CPG Member, Village Trustee. **NOTE: Village contracts with the Town for Code Enforcement**	\$0- staff time	Continual training improves local capabilities and allows officials to better regulate activities in hazard areas to protect lives and property.	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	Medium	
9	Send Comprehensive Plan Update to County for Review by County Planning (2011 VF-CL-4)	2,3,4	All hazards	A long term vision for the community that doesn't take into account hazard areas can put lives and property at risk. Taking into account natural hazards and hazard mitigation measures can make the community more resilient.	Ensure that local comprehensive plans incorporate natural disaster mitigation techniques through a courtesy review of draft plans by the County Planning Department (prevention)	No	No	As needed beginning 2019 through next plan update	County-led action item. CPG Member, Village Trustee	\$0- staff time	A long term vision for the community that takes into account hazard areas can reduce the risk to lives and property and foster resiliency	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	High	
10	Attend County-Led Workshops on Natural Hazards and Hazard Mitigation (2011 VF-CL-5)	2,4	All hazards	When municipal staff aren't armed with information on zoning and planning issues that sometimes arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation, they may make decisions that don't foster community resiliency.	Hold periodic workshops for municipalities regarding zoning and planning issues that arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation. (prevention)	No	No	As offered by County through next plan update	County-led action item. CPG Member, Village Trustee	\$0- staff time	When municipal staff are armed with information on zoning and planning issues that sometimes arise regarding natural hazards and hazard mitigation, they can make decisions that foster community resiliency.	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	Low	
11	Update Floodplain Management Ordinance (2011 VF-NFIP-1)	3,4	Flooding	Outdated ordinances mean that a community is not regulating to the latest codes and standards or hazard information, and that does not foster community resiliency.	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to comply with latest FEMA regulations.	No	No	As needed beginning 2019 through next plan update	Code Enforcement	\$0- staff time	Updated ordinances mean that a community is regulating to the latest codes and standards or hazard information, thus reducing damages	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	High	

PROPOSED 2019 HMP MITIGATION INITIATIVES														
Initiative Number	Initiative Name	HMP Goal(s)/ Objective(s) Being Met	Hazard(s) to be Mitigated	Description of the Problem	Description of the Solution	CF <sup>12</sup> ?	EHP <sup>13</sup> Issues?	Estimated Timeline	Project Lead (include relevant Department and Position Title)	Estimated Costs	Estimated Benefits	Potential Funding Sources <sup>14</sup>	Priority <sup>15</sup>	Action Worksheet Provided? <sup>16</sup>
* NOTE: Projects related to Critical Facilities (CF) must protect the facility to the 500-year event or worst damage scenario, whichever is greater.														
12	Designate a Floodplain Administrator (2011 VF-NFIP-2)	2, 3, 4	Flooding	Staff changes	Designate/install a specific person to be your municipality's Floodplain Administrator.	No	No	2019	Board of Trustees	\$0- staff time	Proper administration of the NFIP. Sound development in floodplains and associated damage reduction. NFIP program compliance and continued municipal eligibility	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	Low	
13	Staff Training in NFIP (2011 VF-NFIP-3)	2	Flooding	Staff changes	Add/train sufficient members of staff to adequately enforce NFIP regulations/floodplain management ordinances.	No	No	2019	Board of Trustees	\$0- staff time	Proper administration of the NFIP. Sound development in floodplains and associated damage reduction. NFIP program compliance and continued municipal eligibility	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	High	
14	Update Floodplain Management Ordinance when new FIRMs are released (2011 VF-NFIP-4)	2,3,4	Flooding	Substantial improvements of existing structures, and new construction, would be at risk if the city was regulating to old FIRMs	Update/revise floodplain management ordinance to be consistent with potential future new FIRMs	No	No	As needed beginning 2019 through next plan update	Board of Trustees	\$0- staff time	Proper administration of the NFIP. Sound development in floodplains and associated damage reduction. NFIP program compliance and continued municipal eligibility	Local budget (staff time and volunteer staff)	Low	

Prioritization Methodology for Proposed 2019 HMP Mitigation Initiatives

To prioritize its mitigation initiatives, the community established a methodology to take into account several key factors. Priorities were determined by a qualitative prioritization process established by the community. A higher priority was assigned to projects where: the life/safety risk of taking no action was deemed to be unacceptably high; the project addresses one of the community's highest hazards and/or key risks; benefits were projected to equal or exceed project costs; critical facilities or key local assets were being protected; funding and staff resources were deemed to be sufficient and/or accessible for project implementation; negative impacts were not anticipated on environmental and/or historic resources or any segment of the population; and/or where there was overall support for the project from the local community (government officials, public, and stakeholders).

PRIORITIZATION METHODOLOGY FOR PROPOSED 2019 HMP MITIGATION INITIATIVES														Priority
Initiative Number	Initiative Name	Hazard(s) Addressed	Is the life/safety risk of taking no action deemed to be unacceptably high?	Does the project address one of the community's highest hazards and/or key risks?	Benefits	Costs	Are the project's benefits estimated to equal or exceed its costs?	Are critical facilities or key local assets being protected by the project?	Are funding resources sufficient and/or accessible for project implementation?	Are staff resources sufficient or available for project implementation?	Are negative impacts anticipated on environmental resources?	Are negative impacts anticipated on historic resources?	Are negative impacts anticipated on any segment of the population?	
1	Playground Drainage *NEW*	Flooding	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	N- needs grant	Y	N	N	N	High
2	Drainage System, Corner of Edward and Ella *NEW*	Flooding	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	N- needs grant	Y	N	N	N	High
3	Possible Reinstatement in the NFIP *NEW*	Flooding	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	High
4	Floodplain ordinance (2011 VF-1)	Flooding	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	High
5	Mill site clean-up (2011 VF-3)	Flood-caused river contamination	No	Yes	High	High	Y	N	N-needs grant	Y	N- cleanup with represent a positive impact	Possible (Mill is historic)	N	High
6	Participate in County-Led Hazard Mitigation Outreach (2011 VF-CL-1)	All hazards	No	Yes	Moderate	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	High
7	Request code/ordinance review by County as needed (2011 VF-CL-2)	All hazards	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Medium
8	Send CEO to County-Led Training (2011 VF-CL-3)	All hazards	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Medium
9	Send Comprehensive Plan Update to County for Review by County Planning (2011 VF-CL-4)	All hazards	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	High
10	Attend County-Led Workshops on Natural Hazards and Hazard Mitigation (2011 VF-CL-5)	All hazards	No	Yes	Moderate	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Low
11	Update Floodplain Management Ordinance (2011 VF-NFIP-1)	Flooding	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	High
12	Designate a Floodplain Administrator (2011 VF-NFIP-2)	Flooding	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Low
13	Staff Training in NFIP (2011 VF-NFIP-3)	Flooding	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	High
14	Update Floodplain Management Ordinance when new FIRMs are released (2011 VF-NFIP-4)	Flooding	No	Yes	High	Low- staff time	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Low

### Action Worksheets

NYS DHSES State Standard 7 recommends that further consideration be given to all proposed actions by completing a NYS DHSES Action Worksheet, the State requires completion of a minimum of two NYS DHSES Action Worksheets for the jurisdiction's highest priority projects. Furthermore, for jurisdictions containing a Special Flood Hazard Area, at least one of these Action Worksheets must be for a project that addresses flooding.

Action Worksheets prepared by the Village of Valley Falls are included on the following pages.

Section 8.23 - Jurisdictional Annex, Village of Valley Falls

NYS DHSES Action Worksheet			
Project Name:	Possible Reinstatement in the NFIP		
Project Number:	3		
Risk / Vulnerability			
Hazard of Concern:	Flooding		
Description of the Problem:	The Village is presently suspended from the NFIP.		
Action or Project Intended for Implementation			
Description of the Solution:	<p>Phase 1- Village Board to evaluate and determine whether they seek to re-enter the program (if possible) or if they wish to opt out.</p> <p>Phase 2- Move forward pending results of Phase 1. If seeking reentry, next step would be to consult the state NFIP Coordinator and then follow his/her instructions.</p>		
Is this project related to a Critical Facility?	Yes * <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
* Projects related to critical facilities must intend to protect to the 500-year flood event or the actual worst damage scenario, whichever is greater.			
Level of Protection:	n/a	Estimated Benefits (losses avoided):	Residents would be able to purchase flood insurance. Participation in the program results in reduced flood damages as proper construction techniques are implemented regarding flood mitigation for new construction and substantial improvements in the floodplain
Useful Life:	n/a		
Estimated Cost:	\$0		
Plan for Implementation			
Prioritization:	High	Desired Timeframe for Implementation:	2019
Estimated Time Required for Project Implementation:	1 year	Potential Funding Sources:	Local budget
Responsible Party: (Department/ Organization)	Legislative Body	Local Planning Mechanisms to be Used in Implementation, if any:	Floodplain ordinance
Three Alternatives Considered (including No Action)			
Alternatives:	Action	Estimated Cost	Evaluation
	No Action	\$0	Not viable- village remains suspended from the NFIP and in limbo
	Opt out of the NFIP	\$0	Not viable – floodplain exists and at this time, the village board does not have an understanding of why they were suspended from the program or if there are any steps to take to be reinstated.
	Phase 1 - evaluation Phase 2 – possible reentry into the NFIP	\$0	Best solution - Reevaluation by the board, with the input of the state NFIP Coordinator, will help the village use its limited resources and make the most sound decision for both the village government and its residents
Progress Report (this section to be completed at next plan update-do not fill in now)			
Date of Status Report:			
Report of Progress:			
Update Evaluation of the Problem and/or Solution:			

Section 8.23 - Jurisdictional Annex, Village of Valley Falls

NYS DHSES Action Worksheet			
Project Name:	Mill Site Cleanup		
Project Number:	5		
Risk / Vulnerability			
Hazard of Concern:	Flooding		
Description of the Problem:	Possibility of debris entering the river during flood conditions, with associated debris impact and contamination issues downstream.		
Action or Project Intended for Implementation			
Description of the Solution:	Work to complete cleanup and removal of hazardous waste site at site of destroyed mill. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase 1 – ownership transfer</li> <li>Phase 2 – samples and testing</li> <li>Phase 3 – site remediation and creation of park</li> </ul>		
Is this project related to a Critical Facility?	Yes * <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
* Projects related to critical facilities must intend to protect to the 500-year flood event or the actual worst damage scenario, whichever is greater.			
Level of Protection:	100yr +	Estimated Benefits (losses avoided):	High - positive environmental impacts associated with site cleanup; and flood mitigation from remediating a contaminated site in the floodplain and turning it into a park
Useful Life:	100yr +		
Estimated Cost:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase 1 – complete \$0</li> <li>Phase 2 – moderate</li> <li>Phase 3 – high but order of magnitude presently unknown, pending completion of Phase 2</li> </ul>		
Plan for Implementation			
Prioritization:	High	Desired Timeframe for Implementation:	Phase 1 complete; Phase 2 ongoing; Phase 3 pending
Estimated Time Required for Project Implementation:	5 years	Potential Funding Sources:	EPA grant
Responsible Party: (Department/ Organization)	Village board	Local Planning Mechanisms to be Used in Implementation, if any:	
Three Alternatives Considered (including No Action)			
Alternatives:	Action	Estimated Cost	Evaluation
	No Action	\$0	Not viable - River still receives contamination every time the site floods; old mill still presents a safety hazard to trespassers as it is not structurally sound
	Remediate the land and allow development of residential/commercial/industrial	High	Not viable - Irresponsible use of the floodplain by allowing high value assets to be built in a floodprone area
	Remediate the land and turn into a park	High	Best solution- positive environmental impacts, positive recreational benefits, and most responsible use of the floodplain allowing for flood storage and no assets that are potentially susceptible to flooding
Progress Report (this section to be completed at next plan update-do not fill in now)			
Date of Status Report:			
Report of Progress:			
Update Evaluation of the Problem and/or Solution:			