



TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, **including back up information, 8 days prior** to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: 06-14-2021 Date of Meeting: 7-15-2021
Submitted by: Chief Brian Levesque
Department: Police Time Required: 20 minutes
Speakers: Chief Brian Levesque and Cassie Mullen, Background Info. Yes: No:
Regional Planner NRPC Supplied:

CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognition/Resignation/Retirement:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Hearing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Business:	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Business:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consent Agenda:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nonpublic:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

TITLE OF ITEM

Approval of the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Plan

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

Request to approve the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Plan developed with the Nashua Regional Planning Commission

REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

RSA: Warrant Article: _____
Charter Article: Town Meeting: _____
Other: N/A

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Projector:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Requirements:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easel:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint Meeting:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Seating:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laptop:	<input type="checkbox"/>	None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Brian Levesque Address Police
Phone Number 603.420.1854 Email Address blevesque@merrimacknh.gov

APPROVAL

Town Manager: Yes No: Chair/Vice Chair: Yes No:

Hold for Meeting Date: _____



MERRIMACK POLICE DEPARTMENT

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(603)424-3774 • Fax (603)424-1760
www.merrimackpd.org

MEMO

DATE: JULY 9, 2021
TO: MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
CC: PAUL MICALI, TOWN MANAGER
FROM: BRIAN LEVESQUE, CHIEF OF POLICE
RE: AGENDA REQUEST

The Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2015 was prepared by the Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) for the Town of Merrimack, NH. NRPC staff worked closely with the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Team to write this plan. The Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Team included:

- Casey Wolfe, Assistant Planner, Community Development Department, Town of Merrimack,
- Kyle Fox, Director, Department of Public Works, Town of Merrimack, NH
- Dawn Tuomala, Public Works Department, Town of Merrimack, NH
- Dave Fredrickson, Operations Manager, Merrimack Village District
- Matthew Duke, Fire Chief, Fire Department, Town of Merrimack, NH
- Brian Levesque, Chief of Police, Police Department, Town of Merrimack, NH
- Matthew Tarleton, Deputy Chief, Police Department, Town of Merrimack, NH

NRPC staff met with the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Team for a series of 4 meetings to prepare the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2021. The primary differences between the 2021 Plan and the 2015 Plan are 1) Fluvial Erosion is no longer recognized as a hazard in the 2021 Plan, 2) Infectious Disease is now recognized by the State as a hazard, and 3) Solar and Space Weather is now recognized by the State as a hazard.

A number of existing documents were reviewed and incorporated into the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2015. The Merrimack Zoning Ordinance was used to provide information on where and how the Town builds. This was particularly helpful when mapping critical facilities corridors (Section 3.4). The Merrimack Capital Improvements Plan was used to help document the Town's fiscal capabilities (Section 1.4). The Merrimack Master Plan provided insight on future development patterns (Section 2.1) and helped to inform the analysis and prioritization of mitigation actions (Section 4.3). The Merrimack Emergency Response Plan was also used to inform the analysis and prioritization of mitigation actions. The State of New Hampshire Multi-

Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2013 provided insight when developing the description of natural hazards (Section 3.1), description of previous hazards (Section 3.2), probability of future hazards (Section 3.3), vulnerability by hazard (Section 3.5), and goals to reduce vulnerabilities (Section 4.1). Finally, the City of Nashua's Comprehensive Emergency 11 Management Plan was referenced to write the hazard descriptions used to determine Merrimack's vulnerability by hazard (Section 3.5).

The Town of Merrimack is required to update its Hazard Mitigation Plan at least every five years. This also has to be completed to be eligible for FEMA funds. We are seeking Town Council approval of the plan and reading of the certificate of adoption on record (Section 5.1). Once adopted, members of the Town Council will need to sign on the signature page. Cassie Mullen, Regional Planner II, NRPC will be available for any questions you might have.

**A copy of the
Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Plan
(in its entirety)
is located in the Town Council
Chambers and Town Manager's office.**

Thank you!

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Floodplain Management	Flood Hazard Conservation District, NFIP	Designated Flood Hazard Areas in Merrimack	Merrimack Planning Board	Excellent	No changes or improvements needed.
Administrative and Technical	Planning Dept., Planning Staff, Building Inspector, Building Official, Health Officials, Fire Dept., Police Dept., Public Works, Town Administrator, Town Council, Zoning Board, Conservation Commission, Merrimack Village District Water Works, School Budget Committee	Entire jurisdiction	Entities listed in Description	Good	Promote communication across all departments to ensure Hazard Mitigation Plan goals and actions are implemented.
Fiscal	Grant funding, Capital Improvements Program (CIP)	Entire jurisdiction	Town Council, Planning Board, Budget Committee	Good	Hazard mitigation actions should be considered for inclusion in the CIP and departmental budgets. Merrimack's Hazard Mitigation Plan should be updated at least every 5 years in order to maintain eligibility for FEMA grants.

Section 1.5 ~ Review and Incorporation of Existing Documents

A number of existing documents were reviewed and incorporated into the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2015. The Merrimack Zoning Ordinance was used to provide information on where and how the Town builds. This was particularly helpful when mapping critical facilities corridors (Section 3.4). The Merrimack Capital Improvements Plan was used to help document the Town's fiscal capabilities (Section 1.4). The Merrimack Master Plan provided insight on future development patterns (Section 2.1) and helped to inform the analysis and prioritization of mitigation actions (Section 4.3). The Merrimack Emergency Response Plan was also used to inform the analysis and prioritization of mitigation actions. The State of New Hampshire Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2013 provided insight when developing the description of natural hazards (Section 3.1), description of previous hazards (Section 3.2), probability of future hazards (Section 3.3), vulnerability by hazard (Section 3.5), and goals to reduce vulnerabilities (Section 4.1). Finally, the City of Nashua's Comprehensive Emergency

Management Plan was referenced to write the hazard descriptions used to determine Merrimack's vulnerability by hazard (Section 3.5).

Section 1.6 ~ Updating the Plan

The Town of Merrimack is required to update its Hazard Mitigation Plan at least every five years. In order to monitor, evaluate, and update the Mitigation Strategies identified in Table 12—Implementation and Administration, the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Team will meet annually. The Merrimack Police Chief is responsible for initiating this review and will consult with members of the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Team and the community. During this meeting, the Team will identify mitigation actions that can be conducted in the current year as well as mitigation actions that will require budget requests for the following year. These mitigation actions will be monitored throughout the year by the Team.

Changes should be made to the Plan to accommodate projects that have failed or are not considered feasible after an evaluation and review for their consistency with the benefit cost analysis, STAPLEE analysis, timeframe, community's priorities, and funding resources. Mitigation strategies that were not ranked as priorities during the 2015 update should be reviewed as well during the monitoring, evaluation, and update of this Plan to determine feasibility of future implementation. New mitigation actions or plans proposed upon adoption of this Plan should follow the benefit cost and STAPLEE analysis methods utilized in this Plan to ensure consistency with the adopted Plan and to help the Hazard Mitigation Team evaluate overall potential for success.

In addition to this annual meeting, the Hazard Mitigation Team will meet before, during, and after any hazard occurrence as part of the Town's debriefing exercise. The Hazard Mitigation Plan will be updated following this meeting to reflect changes in priorities and mitigation strategies that have resulted from the hazard event. It is especially important to incorporate updates within one year after a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

The Town of Merrimack will utilize its website, local cable channel, and existing social media outlets, including Facebook and Twitter to notify members of the public about the annual Hazard Mitigation Plan Update meeting and to involve them in the update process. Any public input that is received will be incorporated into the Plan update. In addition, following its annual meeting, the Hazard Mitigation Team will report the results of its update process to the Merrimack Town Council. The Town Council meetings are open to the public and are also broadcast on Merrimack public access cable.

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PLANNING PROCESS

Section 1.1 ~ Overview of Planning Process

The Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2015 was prepared by the Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) for the Town of Merrimack, NH. NRPC staff worked closely with the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Team to write this plan. The Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Team included:

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- Matthew Duke, Fire Chief, Fire Department, Town of Merrimack, NH
- Brian Levesque, Chief of Police, Police Department, Town of Merrimack, NH
- Matthew Tarleton, Deputy Chief, Police Department, Town of Merrimack, NH

NRPC staff met with the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Team for a series of 4 meetings to prepare the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2021. Agendas from these meetings appear in the Appendix to this Plan. In between meetings, NRPC worked directly with Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Team members to obtain additional information needed to write the Plan.

CHAPTER 5. PLAN ADOPTION

Section 5.1 ~ Formal Adoption by Governing Body

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

TOWN OF MERRIMACK, NH TOWN COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TOWN OF MERRIMACK, NH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE 2021

WHEREAS, the Town of Merrimack has historically experienced damage from natural hazards and it continues to be vulnerable to the effects of climate change, drought, earthquake, extreme temperatures, flooding, severe wind, lightning, severe winter weather, tornado, and wildfire, resulting in loss of property and life, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Merrimack has developed and received conditional approval from NH Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HSEM) for its Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2021 under the requirements of 44 CFR 201.6; and

WHEREAS, public and committee meetings were held between December 9, 2020 and March 10, 2021 regarding the development and review of the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Plan specifically addresses hazard mitigation strategies and Plan maintenance procedures for the Town of Merrimack; and

WHEREAS, the Plan recommends several hazard mitigation actions/projects that will provide mitigation for specific natural hazards that impact the Town of Merrimack, with the effect of protecting people and property from loss associated with those hazards; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this Plan will make the Town of Merrimack eligible for funding to alleviate the impacts of future hazards; now therefore be it

RESOLVED by the Merrimack Town Council:

1. The Plan is hereby adopted as an official plan of the Town of Merrimack.
2. The respective officials identified in the mitigation strategy of the Plan are hereby directed to pursue implementation of the recommended actions assigned to them.
3. Future revisions and Plan maintenance required by 44 CFR 201.6 and FEMA are hereby adopted as a part of this resolution for a period of five (5) years from the date of this resolution.

4. An annual report on the progress of the implementation elements of the Plan shall be presented to the Town Council by the Merrimack Hazard Mitigation Team.

Adopted this day, the _____ of _____, 2021.

Thomas Koenig, Chairman, Merrimack Town Council

Finlay Rothhaus, Vice Chair, Merrimack Town Council

Nancy Harrington, Merrimack Town Council

Barbara Healy, Merrimack Town Council

Nancy Murphy, Merrimack Town Council

Lon Woods, Merrimack Town Council

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has affixed his/her signature and the corporate seal of the Town of Merrimack the _____ of _____, 2021.

Witness