Hebron

Hebron is a rural community in Tolland County, in the southeast corner of the Capitol Region. Major transportation routes through Hebron include state routes 66, 85, 207 and 316. The Town’s land area covers 37 square miles with an estimated population of 9,700. According to the U.S. Census, between 2000 and 2010, the number of housing units has increased by nearly 15% to over 3,500 units. Most of the residential development in Hebron consists of single family homes. Recently, most new development has been constructed near the center of town.

The elevation in Hebron ranges from 300 to over 650 feet above sea level. Most water drains to the Salmon River Watershed, but a small portion in the northeast drains to the Willimantic Watershed. The principal watercourses in Hebron are Fawn, Mint, Raymond and Senate Brooks. The 184 acre Amston Lake is located in the southeast portion of Town. Amston Lake’s water level is controlled by an earthen dam with a concrete spillway. The outlet of the lake is an unnamed watercourse that feeds into Raymond Brook. The dam was recently repaired and upgraded.

The Town relies on its underground water supply for its drinking water. Most residences and businesses rely on private wells for their drinking water supply. Public water, provided through a private water company, serves several neighborhoods including the Town Center and Amston Lake areas. The Town’s most extensive aquifer is located in the Raymond Brook Marsh area. The aquifer has been identified in the Aquifer Protection Zone of the Town’s Zoning Regulations. The Town actively seeks to protect sensitive lands and was recently awarded a state open space grant to purchase a 50 acre parcel near the Raymond Brook Marsh. Approximately 20% of the Town’s land area is permanently protected open space.

Challenges

Among the challenges facing Hebron in the event of a natural disaster are providing adequate water supply and emergency shelter for residents. Public water service in the Town Center has recently been extended. The Fire Department inventoried all fire ponds and dry hydrants in Town and is now working to develop a plan for additional dry hydrant locations. The Town and Chatham Health District will need to monitor the available capacity of the sewer treatment plant and ability of the town’s ground water reserves to address the needs of future development including fire suppression particularly in the event of drought. The Town is currently updating its Plan of Conservation and Development and will be assessing its infrastructure needs as part of that process.

The Town will also need to assess the capability of the RHAM middle and high school to serve as regional emergency shelters. Hebron, Andover and Marlborough share a regional middle/high school (RHAM) located in the center of the town of Hebron. The high school is being considered for use as a regional general population shelter while the middle school is being considered for use as a special needs shelter. Electrical upgrades, generators and fuel capacity sufficient to provide power to operate bathroom and cooking facilities are needed to enable the schools to be used as emergency shelters.

The three federally declared disasters of 2011 tested the Town’s ability to respond to severe snow and tropical storms. According to information from the Connecticut Department of Emergency
Management and Homeland Security, these three natural disasters of 2011 resulted in total expenses to the municipality and other public and private nonprofit agencies of $163,197. These expenses include debris and snow removal, emergency protective measures and repairs to damaged infrastructure and buildings but do not include damages experienced by private citizens and businesses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>100% of Amount Eligible for 75% Reimbursement</th>
<th>Total Damages Eligible for Public Assistance Due to 2011 Disasters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Town of Hebron</td>
<td>DR-1958-CT 2011 Snow $47,786.22 DR-4023-CT Irene August 2011 $61,537.03 DR-4046-CT Severe Weather Oct 2011 (Alfred) $35,050.27</td>
<td>$144,373.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebron Other</td>
<td>$12,081.81</td>
<td>$18,823.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hebron Total</td>
<td>$59,868.03</td>
<td>$163,196.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The loss of power is particularly challenging because the Town has hundreds of residences and businesses which rely on wells and grinder pumps. Also, the Town Hall does not have backup power. Debris management after storm events is another concern for the Town. Hebron's landfill is capped and cannot be used for debris disposal.

CRCOG used FEMA’s Hazus-MH model to analyze the risks that the Town of Hebron might face from a hurricane as powerful as the 1938 hurricane. The model estimates that economic losses to the town including residential and commercial damage and business interruptions due to such a Category 3 hurricane would be significant and could be over $46 million. The impacts of such a storm are summarized below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Damages from a 1938 Strength Hurricane</th>
<th>Households Displaced</th>
<th>People Needing Shelter</th>
<th>Buildings at Least Moderately Damaged</th>
<th>Buildings Completely Damaged</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Estimated Economic Losses</td>
<td>$46,100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Residential Building Losses</td>
<td>$38,940,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Commercial, Industrial &amp; Other Building Losses</td>
<td>$3,190,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Business Interruption Losses</td>
<td>$3,970,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Debris Generated</td>
<td>69,870 tons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truckloads (at 25 tons/truck) of building debris</td>
<td>140</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Town of Hebron has worked to limit its vulnerability to flood hazards. In 2004, a structure in a floodplain on Grayville Road was modified to place all mechanical equipment above flood elevation. No new construction has occurred in a floodplain since 2008. The building codes are based on FEMA requirements or reference FEMA recognized ASCE 24 construction standards. The National Flood Insurance Program has paid three property damage claims in Hebron totaling $5,043.26 to-date. Hebron has no Repetitive Loss Property claims to-date. Although flooding is not as large a concern in Hebron as in some other communities, a significant flood event could result in much damage. CRCOG used FEMA’s Hazus-MH model to analyze the risks that the Town of Hebron might face from flooding. The model estimates that economic losses to the town including residential and commercial damage and business...
interruptions due to a flood having a 1% chance of occurring any given year (the 100-year flood) would be over $4 million. The impacts of such a flood are summarized below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Damages from 100-Year Flood</th>
<th>Households Displaced</th>
<th>74</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People Needing Shelter</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings at Least Moderately Damaged</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Estimated Economic Losses</td>
<td>$4,400,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Residential Building &amp; Content Losses</td>
<td>$2,870,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Commercial, Industrial &amp; Other Building &amp; Content Losses</td>
<td>$1,520,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Business Interruption Losses</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goals, Objectives and Strategies

**GOAL: ASSURE ADEQUACY OF RESPONSE TO WINTER STORMS**

Objective 1:
Provide adequate equipment, staff and other resources to maintain passable roads and facilitate power restoration.

Strategic Actions:

1.1 Maintain and implement equipment replacement schedules.
   Lead: Public Works
   Priority: Medium
   Status: Annually through CIP
   Potential Funding Sources: General operating fund
   Timeframe: 2014-2019: to be reviewed annually during budget process

1.2 Investigate regional service sharing initiatives.
   Lead: Public Works, Administration
   Priority: Medium
   Status: Hebron has participated in several service sharing projects in the past including GIS flight and mapping project and a trails maintenance project. The Town will continue to investigate service sharing opportunities which can improve response to natural disasters.
   Potential Funding Sources: General operating fund, grants
   Timeframe: 2014-2019

1.3 Continue informal arrangements with private contractors.
   Lead: Public Works
   Priority: Medium
1.4 Continue with tree maintenance program.
Lead: Public Works
Priority: High
Status: This is a sustained effort. There is a continual need for tree maintenance.
Potential Funding Sources: General operating fund
Timeframe: 2014-2019

1.5 Expand salt/sand storage facilities.
Lead: Public Works, Administration
Priority: High
Status: This project is in the planning stage
Potential Funding Sources: CIP
Timeframe: Expected to be in place by 2015

Objective 2:
Educate public on how to prepare for hazardous conditions.

Strategic Actions:

2.1 Continue to maintain special needs population list for monitoring during emergency situations.
Lead: Emergency Management, Fire Marshal, Police
Priority: High
Status: The Town has an established and sustained public education and outreach effort to at risk population through registration in the Everbridge
Potential Funding Sources: General operations budget, EMD, Fire Marshal’s budget. Free publications from Department of Health and Fire Administration, Everbridge reverse notification system currently funded through Preparedness grant through Chatham Health District. Funding may not be in place in 2014 due to cuts in bioterrorism budget at State level. The system currently in place will be maintained throughout the 2014-2019 planning period.

2.2 Develop and disseminate public outreach materials to citizens.
Lead: Emergency Management
Priority: High
Status: Because there is a continual need to keep residents informed, the Town undertakes outreach efforts on a sustained basis. Updated materials are posted on the Town’s website and mailed to residents periodically and handed out at special interest group meetings. Efforts will continue.
GOAL: OPTIMIZE MITIGATION ACTIVITIES AGAINST NATURAL HAZARDS

Objective 1:
Minimize risk of forest fires.

Strategic Actions:

1.1 Continue to encourage installation of dry hydrants in new developments without water sources.
   Lead: Planning
   Priority: High
   Status: The Planning and Development Department routinely encourages installation of dry hydrants in areas without access to public water supplies in predevelopment and weekly staff meetings with developers and builders. It is recommended this practice continue.
   Potential Funding Sources: General Fund
   Timeframe: 2014-2019

1.2 Develop and implement timber management plan for town-owned forested land.
   Because this is expected to be a long term, multi-year project, for the 2014-2019 Plan period, the action to be taken is to complete a draft plan.
   Lead: Planning, Public Works
   Priority: Medium
   Status: Research needed
   Potential Funding Sources: Federal and state grants and local funds
   Timeframe: 2015-2019

Objective 2:
Minimize risk from flooding.

Strategic Actions:

2.1 Continue to monitor bridges and culverts for adequate flow capacity.
   Lead: Public Works
   Priority: High
   Status: Reports received periodically from the State of Connecticut Assessments will continue to be made routinely as crews are in the field.
   Potential Funding Sources: CIP and operating fund
   Timeframe: 2014 – 2019
2.2  Continue to enforce development regulations to minimize impacts on wetlands and flood zones.

**Lead:** Planning, Engineering  
**Priority:** High  
**Status:** The Planning and Development Department coordinates the development review process; conducts weekly staff meetings with potential developers and builders; ensures technical review by the Town Engineer, Fire Marshal and Chatham Health District staff; and advises the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Commission on staff recommendations. Efficient enforcement of development regulations is routine for the Department whose offices include: the Town Planner, the Building Official, the Zoning Enforcement Officer, the Wetlands Agent, and the Water Pollution Control Administrator. This effort will continue to be carried out on a routine basis as development proposals are received and construction is undertaken.

**Potential Funding Sources:** General fund  
**Timeframe:** 2014-2019

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**THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL OBJECTIVES AND MITIGATION STRATEGIES ARE PROPOSED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 2014 – 2019 PLAN UPDATE:**

**Objective 3:** Improve ability of town and residents to prepare for and respond to severe weather

**Strategic Action:**

1.1  Establish RHAM High School as a regional shelter  
*Because this is expected to be a long term, multi-year project, for the 2014-2019 Plan period, the action to be taken is to develop a scope of work for establishing the school as a shelter.*  
**Lead:** Town Administration, Region Eight Board of Education, Emergency Management CEOs from Hebron, Marlborough, Andover  
**Priority:** High  
**Status:** New  
**Potential Funding Sources:** Grant funding  
**Timeframe:** 2014-2019

1.2  Establish Town Hall as the Emergency Operations Center with generator  
**Lead:** Town Administration, Emergency Management  
**Priority:** High  
**Status:** This is a new initiative; however, an application was submitted in the spring of 2013 for funding under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for a generator. To be completed in 2014 dependent upon availability of funding.  
**Potential Funding Sources:** Grant funding  
**Timeframe:** By end of 2014
1.3 Establish the Fairgrounds as a shelter for pets and other animals and as a staging location for shuttle service to and from the shelter. Because this is expected to be a long term, multi-year project, for the 2014-2019 Plan period, the action to be taken is to develop a scope of work for establishing the school as a shelter.

Lead: Town Administration Emergency Management, Lion’s Club, supporting town Administrations, local Veterinarians

Priority: High

Status: This is a new initiative.

Potential Funding Sources: Grant funding, donations initially, no funding is in place in town budgets, but is recognized as a regional need.

Timeframe: 2014-2019

Objective 4:
Improve School Security and response to emergency situations

Strategic Action:

1.1 Establish a security review of all schools, reevaluate current school plans, and establish Standard Operations Plan (SOP) for all schools in the Town of Hebron. Because this is expected to be a long term, multi-year project, for the 2014-2019 Plan period, the action to be taken is to complete the security review and evaluation of current school plans.

Lead: Emergency Management, Hebron Schools, RHAM Regional School, Fire Marshal, Connecticut State Police (CSP)

Priority: High

Status: This is a new initiative. Planning has begun, school self-survey has been conducted winter 2013, identifying and prioritize gaps found in the survey. CSP team has conducted walkthrough 6-12-2013. Confirm findings and immediate needs to address short term, and seek funding sources for long term solutions.

Potential Funding Sources: Grants, School board funding,

Map 38: Hebron Population Density, Dams and Flood Zones