



# City of Niagara Falls, New York

745 Main Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

**Name of Community:** City of Niagara Falls

**Date of Progress Report:** January 23, 2023

**Name of Plan:** Niagara County 2016 and 2022 Web-Based Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

**Date of Adoption of Plan:** January 18, 2023

**5 Year CRS Expiration:** January 2028

**RE:** **NFIP Annual Flood Mitigation Progress Report**

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1. How can a copy of the Credited Plan be obtained:

The previous Niagara County 2016 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan can be obtained electronically by inquiry to the City of Niagara Falls Office of Planning and Environmental Services. The current Niagara County 2022 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan is a web-based platform that can be viewed at <https://niagara.mitigateny.org/>

2. Describe how this annual progress report was prepared and how it was submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public:

This Annual Progress Report was prepared by the City of Niagara Falls Office of Planning and Environmental Science, with input, where applicable, from the Code Enforcement Department, Department of Public Works, Engineering Department, Police Department, Fire Department, Niagara County Emergency Services Department and University at Buffalo Regional Institute.

As of the date of this report, it has been submitted to the City Council, the governing body, via email communication; released to the Niagara Gazette, the official newspaper of record for the City of Niagara, via public notice submission; and, made available to the public on the City's website under the Office of Planning and Environmental Services.

3. Provide a description of the implementation of each recommendation or action item in the action plan or area analysis report, including a statement on how the project was implemented or not implemented during the previous year:

The City of Niagara Falls had 31 action items to address as part of the 2016 Hazard Mitigation Plan, as shown in the table in Attachment 1. Many of these items have been either completed or discontinued; and, several are part of the regular participation, monitoring and/or maintenance of the City's departments, and are addressed on an on-going basis (marked as Capability on the attached table).

In 2022, there were eight (8) remaining action items that needed to be addressed by the City: CNF-4, CNF-9, CNF-12, CNF-13, CNF-14, CNF-20, CNF-24 and CNF-25. Of these items, two (2) were completed in 2022 (CNF-12 and CNF-14) and six (6) are either in progress (CNF-13 and CNF-25) or will be carried forward (CNF-4, CNF-9, CNF-20 and CNF-24) into the 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan.



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4. Discuss why any objectives were not reached or why implementation is behind schedule:

The table in Attachment 1 has details on each action item, including a statement on how each project was implemented or not implemented during 2022.

5. What are the recommendations for new projects or revised recommendations?

As part of the Niagara County 2022 web-based Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, four (4) new action items (CNIA-1 to CNIA-4) have been created, to be addressed in the coming years, which are associated with the carryover items from the 2016 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Refer to the table in Attachment 2 for the 2022 Hazard Mitigation Action Items.

Attachments: Attachment 1: 2016 Hazard Mitigation Action Items – City of Niagara Falls

Attachment 2: 2022 Hazard Mitigation Action Items – City of Niagara Falls



# City of Niagara Falls, New York

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## **Attachment 1 –**

## **2016 Hazard Mitigation Action Items – City of Niagara Falls**

2016 Hazard Mitigation Action Items - City of Niagara Falls

Action #	Action Name	Action Description	Update Status	Status Details	Update of the Problem and/or Solution	Actual Cost	Actual Timeframe of Implementation	Update as of January 2023
CNF-1	Drainage System Improvements	Improve and replace inadequate drainage systems throughout the municipality, particularly on Cayuga Island east of the North Grand Island Bridge.	Completed	Continually monitored, maintained, and upgraded as needed by NF Water Authority (NFWA).	Improved by NFWA through projects such as Iroquois St sewer replacement - <a href="https://nfwb.org/niagara-falls-iroquois-st-sewer/">https://nfwb.org/niagara-falls-iroquois-st-sewer/</a>	Unkown (Part of NFWA operational budget costs)	2022	Ongoing
CNF-2	PPE Purchase and Training	Purchase personal protective equipment and train municipal employees and firefighters in the use of the equipment.	Capability	The City employees and officials have PPE and are trained.	This has become a standard procedure especially since COVID-19.	Part of operational budget. Est. \$300K	N/A	N/A
CNF-3	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	Complete a comprehensive emergency management plan to include standard operating procedures for the most significant hazards impacting the municipality.	Completed	CNF has a current EMP.	Current City EMP is reviewed and coordinated with County.	Part of operational budget	N/A	N/A
CNF-4	Purchase of Emergency Generators	Purchase of Emergency Generators for city buildings including City Hall, City Corporation Yard, City Water and Sewer Building City Courthouse/Police Building and Fire Dept. office.	Carryover	Partially complete.	Courthouse/Police Building has emergency generator. Soliciting quotes for Corporation Yard. Water and Sewer Buildings are not the responsibility of the City.	Need to get quotes for cost of generator.	1-2 years	Partially complete and partially converted to 2022 action CNIA-3
CNF- 5	Water Filtration Plant Emergency Power Installation	Emergency Back-up Power to Water Filtration Plant- Including cost for the generator, proper installation of the foundation for generator, the transfer switches needed to supply power to the plant and the proper fuel storage to keep the unit running for a protracted period.	Discontinued	Coordinating with NF Water Authority.	Responsibility of the NF Water Authority	N/A	N/A	N/A
CNF-6	City Hall Hardening	Harden City Hall, including increased protection of HVAC system through air monitors and automatic shut off switches.	Capability	Regular monitoring, maintenance and upgrades as needed.	Funding allocated from ARPA funds to address buildings	Part of operational budget	N/A	N/A
CNF-7	EOC Enhancements	Enhance the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) within the Municipal Building including but not limited to additional access to telecommunications networks, computer networks, public safety/public works communication systems and media outlet/sources.	Completed	City Public Safety Building is maintained to be fully functional as EOC.	The EOC is located in the City's Public Safety Building and is fully functional.	Part of operational budget	2022	N/A
CNF-8	Critical Municipal Infrastructure Hardening	Hardening of critical municipal infrastructure with security features including shatter proof glass and key card security to City municipal complex (police, courts, and general administration); City's fresh water storage supply; City's highway and water/sewer departments; and City's fresh and waste water pumping stations.	Completed	Critical municipal infrastructure is maintained to be fully secure with emergency plans and backup power.	Monitored regularly, maintained and improved as needed	Part of operational budget	2022	N/A
CNF-9	Obtain Interoperable Communication System for Public Works	Obtain public safety/public works interoperability communication system that includes portable communication and paging capabilities.	Carryover	Currently Trucks radios do not work. No way to communicate without using personal cell phones.	Upon transfer over to digital system there will be the capability to accomplish.	Part of operational budget	ongoing	Converted to 2022 action CNIA-2
CNF-10	Assess HazMat Response Capabilities	Identify and assess existing capabilities (and develop plan to build additional capabilities if necessary) to respond effectively to hazardous materials incidents.	Capability	Continued training at awareness level using Niagara County Haz-Mat and NF Air Base for support.	Coordinated and handled by City Fire Department. Niagara County Haz-Mat and NF Air Base for support.	Part of operational budget	N/A	N/A
CNF-11	Assess Transportation Incident Response Capabilities	Identify and assess existing capabilities (and develop plan to build additional capabilities if necessary) to prevent and respond effectively to transportation accidents throughout the City.	Capability	Fire Dept is staffed 24/7 for emergency response.	Coordinated and handled by City Fire Department.	Part of operational budget	N/A	N/A
CNF-12	Enhancements to the Corporation Yard on New Road	Project will include hardening of property to address security concerns, replacement of compromised fuel storage and delivery system, provided redundant power, replace outdated electrical service, install card access control and camera monitoring system, and provide for both primary and secondary communications system.	Completed	Replacing in 2022.	Installing new security Fence and access to Corporation Yard.	Bid awarded	Will Start 2022 and be completed in 2022	Completed in 2022
CNF-13	Improve Response and Recovery Capabilities to Severe Weather Events	Build capacity to respond to and recover from significant weather related events. Proposed project will include acquisition of portable lighting to support emergency operations, replace outdated and unreliable snow fighting equipment, purchase portable generators and dewatering devices, provide storage facilities, enhance communications, acquire Public Service radio frequencies, and replace outdated tree removal equipment.	In-Progress	Coordinate with County Emergency Services, making upgrades using ARP funding.	Some new equipment being purchased through ARP.	Part of operational budget	2022	Equipment has been ordered in 2022 will receive in 2023

2016 Hazard Mitigation Action Items - City of Niagara Falls

Action #	Action Name	Action Description	Update Status	Status Details	Update of the Problem and/or Solution	Actual Cost	Actual Timeframe of Implementation	Update as of January 2023
CNF-14	Public Safety Enhancements and Critical Infrastructure Hardening	Project will include: acquire, equip, and train first responders to be able to respond to high water emergencies, provide Chemical Protective Clothing for all first responders, redundant radio capability, and traffic control hardware. In addition the project will include Phase I of hardening Critical Infrastructure to include: <input type="checkbox"/> City Hall <input type="checkbox"/> Drinking water distribution system <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital	Completed	See CNF-8.	Hospital is not a government-run facility	Part of operational budget	2-3 years	Ongoing
CNF-15	Alternative EOC Improvements	This project includes those enhancements that will allow the facility (Robins Drive) to serve as an alternate to the proposed EOC (at the proposed Courthouse) as well as a base of operations for assisting agencies and staging area for resources. Project will include redundant power, security, building renovation, replace and repair fuel delivery system to include back-up power.	Discontinued	See CNF-7. City Public Safety Building is maintained to be fully functional as EOC.	The EOC is located in the City's Public Safety Building and is fully functional	N/A	N/A	N/A
CNF-16	Traffic Safety Improvements to Evacuation Corridors	Project will include enhancing bridge construction on city streets and reducing vulnerability to seismic event (natural and manmade), traffic reengineering and contra flow capability.	Capability	Part of on-going repair construction work by City.	City has an on-going street repair/construction program and has performed work on bridges with the City and will continue this program	Part of operational budget	N/A	N/A
CNF-17	Continuity of Operation and Services	Project will include the enhancement of capability of both emergency and non-emergency (but essential) services. Project will address communications, mobility, and tracking of resources.	Capability	Continually reviewed and upgraded as needed. Transitioning to digital.	Upon essential services moving to digital system there will be capability for coordination	Part of operational budget	N/A	N/A
CNF-18	Drainage Ditch Cleaning	Clean drainage ditches annually to mitigate against impacts from flooding.	Discontinued	Storm sewers maintained by NFWA. City does not have ditches.	Not applicable in the City	N/A	N/A	N/A
CNF-19	Compile Data on Epidemic Trends	Work with the local health department to capture and maintain municipal level data on health and epidemic trends.	Capability	Coordinate with County Health Dept.	Work with the County Health Department	Part of operational budget	N/A	N/A
CNF-20	Flood-proofing of Critical Facilities	Flood-proofing police stations and public works facilities in flood-prone areas.	Carryover	In planning process.	Evaluating options to reduce chance of flooding	Unknown/TBD	N/A	Converted to 2022 action CNIA-4
CNF-21	CRS Program Participation	Continued participation in the CRS program.	Capability	The City participates in CRS.	Planning Department working with FEMA	Part of operational budget	N/A	N/A
CNF-22	Storm Sewer Improvements	Improve storm sewers including the replacement of undersized culverts in the center part of city north to south to Niagara River.	Discontinued	The storm sewer system is maintained by the NF Water Authority.	City is not responsible for improvements and replacements of storm sewers	N/A	N/A	N/A
CNF-23	Identification and Hardening of Infrastructure Vulnerable to Ice Storms	Work with public works departments and local utilities to identify vulnerable infrastructure, move overhead power lines underground, and move sanitary water lines below the freeze line of record. Phase 1: Coordinate with power utilities to identify the most vulnerable areas where power lines are repeatedly damaged by ice storms. Also identify the location where water lines are subject to freezing. Phase 2: Move vulnerable water lines below the freeze line of record. Phase 3: Work with power utilities, local land owners, and DPW to move overhead power lines in vulnerable areas to underground utilities	Discontinued	Combined with CNF-8. Critical municipal infrastructure is maintained to be fully secure with emergency plans and backup power	Monitored regularly, maintained and improved as needed	Part of operational budget	N/A	N/A
CNF-24	Tree Trimming to Reduce Severe Weather Damages	Encourage utility companies and property owners to improve tree trimming practices around power lines along easements.	Carryover	Work with National Grid for trimming around power lines.	Regular maintained as needed, coordinate with utilities.	Part of operational budget	ongoing	Converted to 2022 action CNIA-1
CNF-25	Installation of Generator Systems	Install total building emergency generator systems at City Hall and City Police Station	In-Progress	New 2022 action will purchase generator that will be able to run gas pumps in case of power outage.	City Police Station has generator not at City Hall	Need to get quotes for cost of generator.	1-2 years	Will be completed in 2023
CNF-26	Construction of Berms and Barriers at Critical Facilities	Identify the at-risk municipal buildings and construct berms/barriers around them to protect them from Bomb/IED attacks.	Discontinued	Low priority; limited resources.	Municipal buildings deemed safe and berms/barriers would be unnecessary.	N/A	N/A	N/A
CNF-27	Critical Facility Hardening	Harden critical facilities from impacts to transportation hazardous materials incidents in at-risk areas.	Discontinued	Combined with CNF-8.	Monitored regularly, maintained and improved as needed	Part of operational budget	N/A	N/A
CNF-28	Water Quality Testing	Conduct regularly scheduled water quality tests on municipal water.	Discontinued	Regularly monitored by NF Water Authority.	Water Quality Testing is not performed by the City. This function is performed by the NF Water Authority	N/A	N/A	N/A
CNF-29	Purchase of Generators for Sewer Lift Stations	Purchase back-up generators for sewer lift stations.	Discontinued	Now responsibility of NF Water Authority.	Water Authority Function	N/A	N/A	N/A

2016 Hazard Mitigation Action Items - City of Niagara Falls

Action #	Action Name	Action Description	Update Status	Status Details	Update of the Problem and/or Solution	Actual Cost	Actual Timeframe of Implementation	Update as of January 2023
CNF-30	Additional monitoring of air quality in high population and industrial areas	Develop a plan from constant monitoring of emissions from high population and industrial areas to ensure thresholds are maintained.	Discontinued	Regularly monitored.	Facilities are subject to EPA requirements	N/A	As needed	N/A
CNF-31	Public Safety Enhancements	Provide for Public Safety enhancements and Critical Infrastructure Protection. Project will include: acquire, equip, and train first responders to be able to respond to high water emergencies, provide Chemical Protective Clothing for all first responders, redundant radio capability, and traffic control hardware. In addition the project will include Phase I of hardening Critical Infrastructure to include: <input type="checkbox"/> City Hall <input type="checkbox"/> Drinking water distribution system <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital	Discontinued	See CNF 14.	See CNF 14	N/A	N/A	N/A



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## **Attachment 2 –**

## **2022 Hazard Mitigation Action Items – City of Niagara Falls**

2022 Hazard Mitigation Action Items - City of Niagara Falls

Action #	Action Name	Problem Statement (Description of the problem)	Description of the solution	Included in last HMP?	Action Status	Action Status Date:	Action Status Details/Next Steps for Implementation:	Action Category
CNIA-1	Ash Tree cleanup, mulching and removal to avoid power outages	700 to 800 dead Ash trees across the city, especially at Lindburgh Ave needs where approximately 48 trees to be taken down. Falling dead ash trees falling have increased due to high winds. There are issues finding places to chip/cut down trees. Roughly 141	Additional resources and funding are required to remove ash trees. Private contractors may be required to remove particularly problematic trees. Trees and Brush need to be chipped and removed.	No	Not Started	2022	Already have removed 1,000+ dead ash trees on right-of-ways and city properties. Received bids for chipping and removal of	Property Protection & Infrastructure
CNIA-2	Digital communication system transition	Public Safety Building at 520 Hyde Park Blvd houses the communication tower, which has been impacted by wind storms and caused power outages. The Police Department at 1925 Main Street could be negatively affected if the communication tower were to be damaged.	Transition to the county wide digital communication system. The analog communication tower at 520 HPB will no longer be needed	Yes	Not Started	2022	We Acquired a number of digital radios from NCSD. A number of test runs are scheduled	Preparedness & Response
CNIA-3	Emergency generator Public Works Building	The Corporation Yard - Public Works at 1785 New Road has often lost power at the yard. There is no backup generator to keep the pumps running during a power outage. Additionally, there is no access to gas for emergency vehicles.	Purchase generator that will be able to run gas pumps in case of power outage.	No	Not Started	2022	Need to get quotes for cost of generator.	Property Protection & Infrastructure
CNIA-4	Floodproofing Study of City facilities	Flood proofing City Facilities - City Hall, John Duke Senior Center, Fire Halls	City departments will work to assess flooding concerns comprehensively, evaluate options to mitigate flooding, and then work to implement identified mitigation measures.	Yes	Not Started	2022	Evaluating options to reduce chance of flooding	Property Protection & Infrastructure



2022 Hazard Mitigation Action Items - City of Niagara Falls

Action #	Mitigation Action Type	Specifics on Action Type (if applicable)	Drought	Earthquake	Extreme	Cold	Extreme	Heat	Flooding	Land subsidence	Lightning	Snow Storm	Tornado	Seiche/Wave action	Wildfire	Wind	Climate Change	None	Other (please specify)	Location (lat/long or address)	Related to a critical facility, asset or infrastructure?	Specific cost estimate (if known)
CNIA-1	Prop Protect & Infra - Other	Removal of dead ash trees. Chip and remove from Golf Course lot.	Yes						Yes							Yes	Yes			Citywide, individual dead ash stands. Golf Course parking lot.	No	
CNIA-2	Preparedness & Response																			Citywide	Yes	\$1.7 MIL
CNIA-3	Prop Protect & Infra - Power	Need to install generator so pumps are operable in case of power outage.		Yes				Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes		Power outage.		Yes	
CNIA-4	Prop Protect & Infra - Community Infrastructure (Drainage, Utilities)	Need to examine infrastructure replacements/repairs							Yes								Yes			City Hall, John Duke Center, LaSalle Fire Halls	Yes	\$1 million to \$2 million

2022 Hazard Mitigation Action Items - City of Niagara Falls

Action #	Estimated cost range	Estimated Benefits (losses avoided):	Estimated Time Required for Project Implementation	Lead Agency/ Department:	Action Point of Contact (Title, Name and Email)	Potential Funding Sources	Local Planning Mechanisms to be Used in Implementation (if any).	Probability of Acceptance*:	Funding Availability*:	Probability of Matching Funds*:
CNIA-1	\$1 MIL-\$5 MIL	Would avoid immeasurable impacts based on power outages, property damages, and injuries that could result from	2-3 years	DPW	John Kinney, Director of Pubic Works	HMGP		(4) Likely to be endorsed by the entire population	(1) Grant funding needed	(2) Partial funding match available
CNIA-2	\$1 MIL-\$5 MIL	Would avoid the need to maintain the outdated analog system. Provide county wide communications	1 year	NFPD	Lt. Tom Arist NFPD	City Expense		(4) Likely to be endorsed by the entire population	(1) Grant funding needed	(4) Funding match is available or funding match not required
CNIA-3	\$100K-\$500K		1 to 2 years	DPW	John Kinney, Director of Public Works	HMGP		(3) Of benefit only to those directly affected and would not adversely affect others	(1) Grant funding needed	(0) No funding match available or funding match unknown
CNIA-4	\$1 MIL-\$5 MIL	Eliminate flooding in critical facilities	2-3 years	Engineering DPW	Robert Buzzelli John Kinney	City Expense		(3) Of benefit only to those directly affected and would not adversely affect others	(0) Potential funding source unknow	(0) No funding match available or funding match unknown

2022 Hazard Mitigation Action Items - City of Niagara Falls

Action #	Benefit Cost Review*:	Environmental Benefit*:	Total Score*:	Alternative Action 1*:	Alternatives Action 1 Evaluation*:	Alternative Action 2:	Alternatives Action 2:	Is the project located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)?	Does this action preserve or create Open Space?	Are there known Environmental, Historic Preservation or Protected	Does this action protect or include assessment of risk to vulnerable	Are site photos available? If yes, please provide via email.
CNIA-1	(4) Likely to meet Benefit Cost Review	(3) Environmentally acceptable and not anticipated to be difficult to implement	14	Do nothing	If nothing was done, there would be immeasurable impacts from power outages, property damages, and	Continue trying to keep up with dead ash tree removal using existing resources	DPW staff has to handle this task in an ad-hoc manner and affects ability to address other critical	No	No	No	Yes	No
CNIA-2	(4) Likely to meet Benefit Cost Review	(4) Environmentally sound and relatively easy to implement; or no adverse impact on environment	17	Do nothing	If nothing were done continued problems with police communications	Continue to maintain the outdated technology	N/A	No	No	No	No	No
CNIA-3	(4) Likely to meet Benefit Cost Review	(4) Environmentally sound and relatively easy to implement; or no adverse impact on environment	12	Do nothing	If nothing was done we need to wait until power comes back on and then reset the gas pumps.	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	No
CNIA-4	(4) Likely to meet Benefit Cost Review	(4) Environmentally sound and relatively easy to implement; or no adverse impact on environment	11	Do nothing	These city buildings could be devastated by flooding, along with nearby residents and businesses.	N/A	N/A	No	No	No	No	No

2022 Hazard Mitigation Action Items - City of Niagara Falls

Action #	Does this action require input or designs from engineering professionals?	Have any studies, designs, or plans been completed?	If yes (studies), describe and provide copies via email, if available.	Is Final Engineering Design Complete?	Do you routinely document costs associated and resources required to address this problem?	Has a Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) been completed?	If yes (BCA), provide the Benefit Cost Ratio and Report/file via email.	If no (BCA), are resources available to complete a BCA?	Does this action protect Repetitive or Severe Repetitive Loss Properties?	Can this action support points for Community Rating System (CRS)?	Is this action addressing Climate Change?	Does this action align with a Climate Smart Communities action?	County
CNIA-1	No	No		No	Yes	No		No	No	No	No	No	Niagara
CNIA-2	No	No		No	Yes	No		No	No	No	No	No	Niagara
CNIA-3	No	No		No	No	No		No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Niagara
CNIA-4	Yes	No		No	No	No		No	Yes	No	No	No	Niagara

Action #	Jurisdiction	Ready for State/FEMA Approval?
CNIA-1	City of Niagara Falls	Yes
CNIA-2	City of Niagara Falls	Yes
CNIA-3	City of Niagara Falls	Yes
CNIA-4	City of Niagara Falls	Yes