

WESTCHESTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

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COMMISSIONER

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AGENDA:

1. Introductions
2. Department Overview
3. Department Highlights
4. New Initiatives
5. Local Municipal Issues & Priorities
6. Next Steps

WESTCHESTER COUNTY PLANNING STAFF



WESTCHESTER COUNTY PLANNING STAFF



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wi9zo0LWCCg&t=6s>

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

7 Program Divisions

- Administration
- Community Development
- Design
- Environment
- Housing
- Land Use
- Transportation



Croton Point Park Grasslands Restoration



Croton Point Park, Grasslands Restoration



Westchester RiverWalk Connection, Tarrytown, NY



Bee Line Bus System Redesign



May Fair Affordable Housing

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Affordable Housing Development Funding
- Community Development Block Grant Program
- Data Dashboards
- Flood Mitigation Funding
- Hazard Mitigation/Community Resilience
- Soil & Water Programs
- Intergovernmental Coordination
- Legacy/Open Space
- LTAP – Public Housing Authorities
- Municipal Referrals
- NYMTC Regional Transportation Planning
- Regional Issues – Boards & Commissions

NEW INITIATIVES FOR 2024

1. Transportation Planning: Mobility & Bus Redesign Recommendations; OMNY System Implementation; Complete Streets Funding Program
2. Resiliency/Sustainability Planning: Director of Flood Mitigation & Resiliency; MS4 Program
3. Community Development: Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments Study; CDBG Funding Cycle
4. Land Use: Comprehensive Plan; On-Call Planners RFP
5. Housing: Upgrade to HomeSeeker Program



PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Project is identified in reconnaissance plan
- Demonstrate need and cost effectiveness
- Must not create or exacerbate problems elsewhere
- Local share of cost at least 50%
- Hazard Mitigation Plan with local mitigation strategies
- Show how local municipality addresses flooding in comprehensive planning and regulations
- Demonstrate commitment to working collaboratively on flooding issues
- Fulfill procurement requirements
- Focused on project development, design and construction

RECONNAISSANCE PLANS

Compile and evaluate existing information and studies, combined with information from municipalities


Prepared for each major drainage basin:

- Saw Mill and Pocantico Rivers
- Bronx River
- Coastal Long Island Sound
- Peekskill – Haverstraw Bay
- Croton River and Inland LIS

Identify and evaluate flood problem areas and potential projects

Westchester gov.com

Stormwater Reconnaissance Plan for the Saw Mill River - Pocantico River Watershed Westchester County, New York



December, 2012

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION

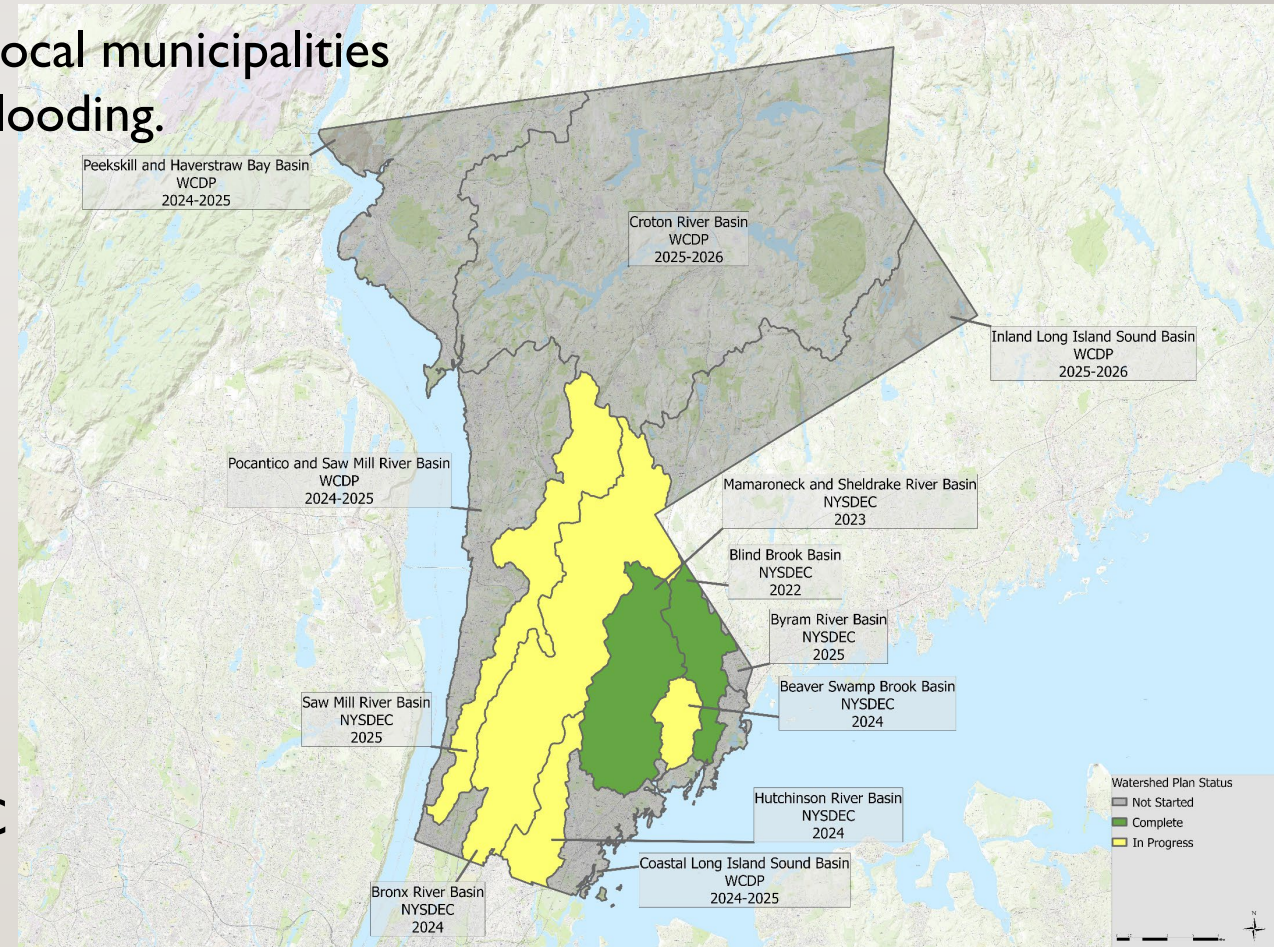
NYSDEC RESILIENT NY

NYSDEC is preparing watershed plans, working with local municipalities and key stakeholders, to identify projects to mitigate flooding.

Schedule:

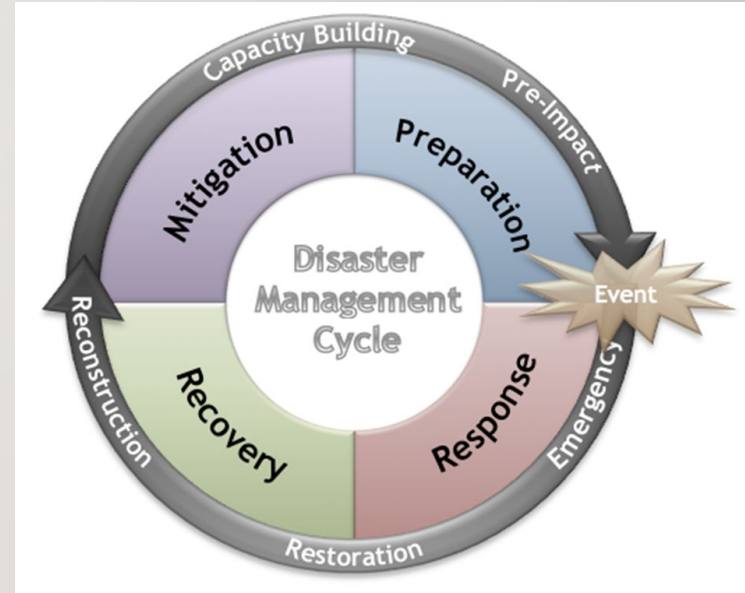
- ✓ Blind Brook, 2022
- ✓ Mamaroneck-Sheldrake, 2023
- Beaver Swamp Brook, 2024
- Bronx River, 2024
- Saw Mill River, 2024
- Hutchinson River, 2025
- Byram River, 2025

The County will prepare plans, following the NYSDEC methodology, for the remaining watersheds.



COUNTYWIDE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

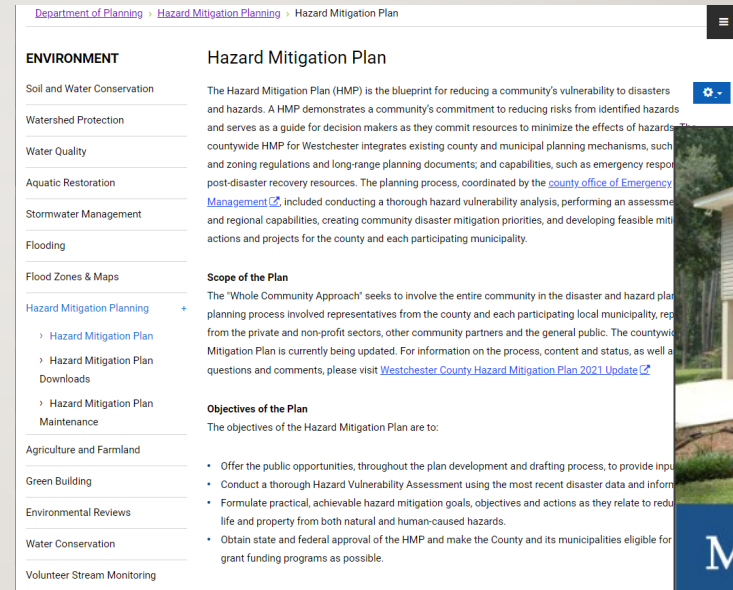
- PLANNING PARTNERS:
 - County Government
 - Steering Committee:
 - Emergency Services/Emergency Management
 - Planning
 - County departments
 - Local municipalities
 - Every local municipality invited to participate



COUNTYWIDE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

- Multi-Jurisdictional
- Multi-Hazard
- Process and Timeline
- Incorporation into Comprehensive Plans

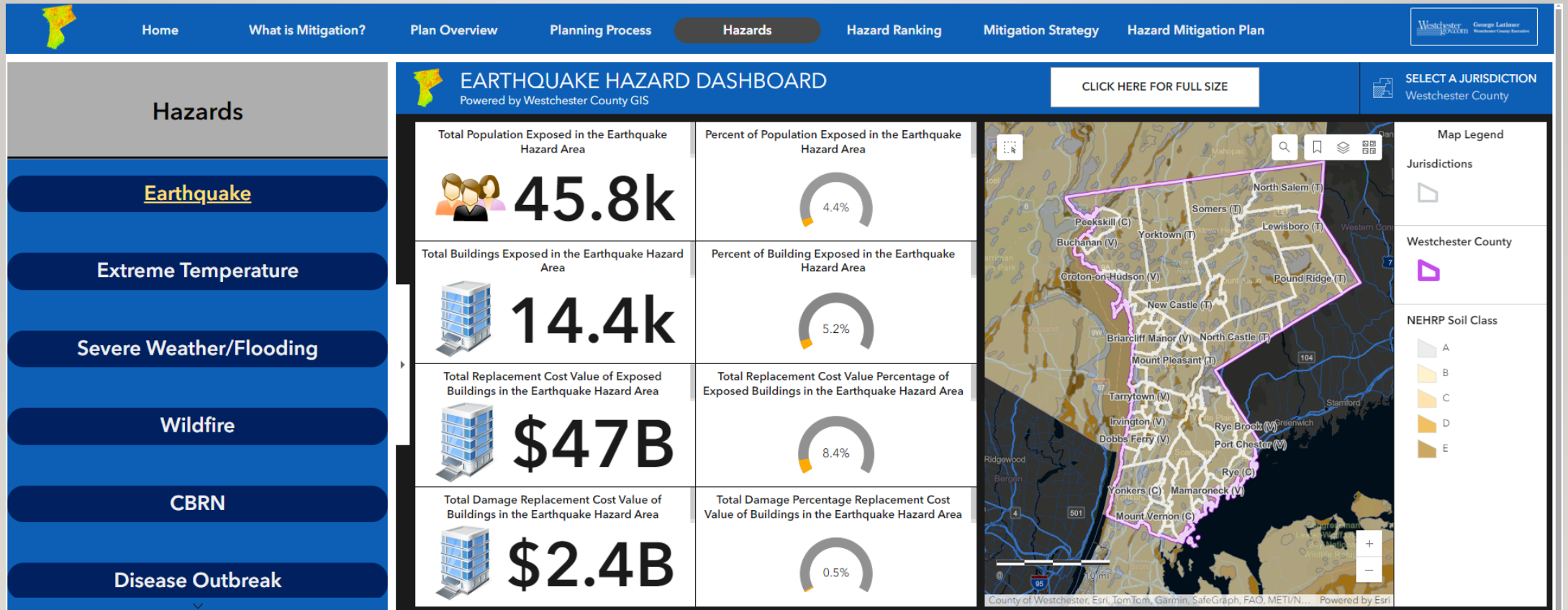
Section 1	Introduction
Section 2	Plan Adoption
Section 3	Planning Process
Section 4	County Profile
Section 5	Risk Assessment
Section 6	Mitigation Strategies
Section 7	Plan Maintenance Procedures
Section 8	Planning Partnership
Section 9	Jurisdictional Annexes



<https://planning.westchestergov.com/hazard-mitigation-planning/hazard-mitigation-plan-downloads>

COUNTYWIDE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Interactive website to disseminate information and better engage the public



<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/8da6d2acf5814115893b6fc5b3b25a50/page/Home/>

IMPLEMENTATION AND ANNUAL UPDATES

Tetra Tech Baseline Assessment Tool to track mitigation strategies and progress

TETRA TECH BAToolSM – Mitigation Module My Profile

2021 Westchester County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Total # Jurisdictions: 44

Reporting Progress

- Review Not Started: 26
- Review In Progress: 8
- Review Complete: 10

Plan Approval Date	12/21/2021
Plan Expiration Date	12/21/2026
Review Cycle Frequency	annual
Review Cycle Open	03/15/2022
Review Cycle Close	03/15/2023

Click [here](#) to open the jurisdiction dashboard


Jurisdiction	Review Cycle Open Date	Review Cycle Close Date	Point of Contact	# of Actions	# Actions the Review is Complete	% of Actions the Review is Complete
Ardsley, Village of	03/15/2022	03/15/2023	Larry Tomasso, David DiGregorio	11	11	100%
Dobbs Ferry, Village of	03/15/2022	03/15/2023	Jennifer Dorman, Richard Leins	17	17	100%
Eastchester, Town of	03/15/2022	03/15/2023	Margaret Uhle, Patricia George	8	0	0%
Elmsford, Village of	03/15/2022	03/15/2023	Antonio Capicotto, Michael Mills	9	0	0%

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HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING RESOURCES

Plan Development, Implementation and Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation: Integrating Best Practices into Planning




James C. Schwab, Editor

APPA American Planning Association
Planning Advisory Service
Report Number 569

Integrating Hazard Mitigation Into Local Planning

Case Studies and Tools for Community Officials

March 1, 2013



APPA American Planning Association
FEMA

January/February 2021

PAS MEMO

Building Resilience Through Plan Integration

By Joseph DeAngelis, ACSJ, Johamary Peña, Alexandra Gomez, Jaime Masterson, ACSJ, and Philip Berke

Plans provide visions for the future and the structure for making that future possible. But many communities are awash in a sea of plans, ranging across topic areas and local geographies and over widely varying timelines and implementation schedules. Conflicting policies across plans is especially problematic in the context of mitigating hazards and adapting to the impacts of climate change. A comprehensive plan that identifies a waterfront district for economic development may openly conflict with a recent climate adaptation plan that calls for long-term retreat due to sea level rise. Prioritizing funding for road infrastructure in this area could result in expensive roads that lack adaptations for sea level rise and create incentives for development in an area that should be undergoing coastal retreat. As this example illustrates, broken links between plans and tenuous connections to policy and decision making can have serious long-term impacts on a community.

For climate and hazard resilience, ensuring that plans result in complementary policies that build resilience in at-risk geographies is crucial to long-term community health and safety. Though planners and planning departments may not control or oversee all plans in a community, they can play a major role in identifying and minimizing potential conflicts.

This is easier said than done. Finding local plans and understanding how they might conflict is a tall order. The sheer number of local plans may be daunting; they may address overlapping and ill-defined geographies; and their resulting actions and policies may be diffuse and difficult to quantify. These challenges are further heightened in resource-constrained communities that suffer from legacies of environmental injustice, racism, and inequality. How can planners ensure that the local networks of plans is internally consistent and builds local resilience? How can they work to be sure that that community's most significant constraints on funding, capacity, and resources can also integrate in the work of plan alignment and integration?

The American Planning Association, through an ongoing research partnership with the University of North Carolina's Coastal Resilience Center (CRC), hopes to help answer these questions. This research primarily builds upon the Plan Integration for Resilience Scorecard (PIRS). Developed for the CRC by Phil Berke and Jamie Masterson at Texas A&M University, this is an innovative method for understanding and assessing the internal consistency of local plans through spatial analysis as a way to improve community resilience (Figure 1).

This PAS Memo shares this work with planners to help them ensure their communities' plans are consistent and aligned. It identifies major challenges to creating consistent and aligned plans, and it describes the ways in which local collaboration and spatial analysis as outlined by the PIRS method can help streamline efforts to reduce vulnerability to hazards and climate change. Finally, it places the PIRS method within a framework for planning practice and outlines the utility of this method from envisioning stages through plan making and implementation.

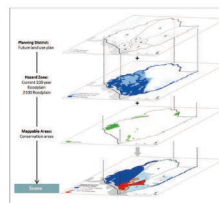


Figure 1. PIRS offers a multileveled spatial approach to integrating plans for community resilience. PIRS Guidebook.

American Planning Association | planning.org

Growing Safely or Building Risk?

Floodplain Management in North Carolina

Masaki Hino, Todd K. BerDor, Jordan Barnham, Nikhil Kulkarni, Antonia Sebastian, Shane Sweeney

OPEN ACCESS

ABSTRACT
Problem, research strategy, and findings: Limiting housing and infrastructure in flood-prone places has long been recognized as critical to managing long-term risk. However, due to the difficulty of tracking development at small spatial scales, little empirical research has been conducted to explain differences between communities' floodplain development patterns. We analyzed new construction across 5 million parcels in the state of North Carolina to develop standardized measures of floodplain development and evaluated the relationships between flood risk management effort and development outcomes. Based on a sample of urban and suburban counties, we found more than 75,000 acres of vacant floodplain land currently slated for development. Although we did not capture the full range of flood risk mitigation practices, results indicate that as local development policies of new construction efforts to limit long-term risk.

Takeaway for practice: Land use planning and floodplain management have the potential to play a larger role in flood risk mitigation. Modifying federal programs to more strongly discourage floodplain development could enhance local regulation and minimize future flood exposure. Given alternative land-use-specific floodplain land use projects, climate change adaptation effort to manage development is needed to limit increases in flood risk.

Keywords: climate change adaptation, flood risk, natural hazards

In the face of escalating climate change, it's clearly time to reexamine the regulatory and investment choices that shape the built environment. As the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (2016) notes, "the potential benefits of moving out of harm's way, a growing number of communities across the world are grappling with the possibility of retreat." (Cronenberg et al., 2015; Subramanian et al., 2008; Hino et al., 2021). However, without sufficient evidence of the benefits of retreat, many communities are reluctant to pursue it. In fact, many communities are still developing in flood-prone areas, and the rate of new development in hazardous places, the population, and the economic exposure to floods are either constant or even increasing (Berke et al., 2013; Hino et al., 2021). This is a troubling trend, given that the United States is one of the most flood-prone nations in the world, with more than 100 million people living in flood-prone areas (Berke et al., 2013; Hino et al., 2021). The United States is also one of the most flood-prone nations in the world, with more than 100 million people living in flood-prone areas (Berke et al., 2013; Hino et al., 2021). The United States is also one of the most flood-prone nations in the world, with more than 100 million people living in flood-prone areas (Berke et al., 2013; Hino et al., 2021).

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nature climate change

Article

Unpriced climate risk and the potential consequences of overvaluation in US housing markets

Christoph Nolte, Adam B. Pollack, Jeremy R. Porter, and Joakim A. Weiland

Received: 8 August 2022
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Check for updates

Climate change impacts threaten the stability of the US housing market. In response to growing concerns that increasing costs of flooding are not fully captured in property values, we quantify the magnitude of unpriced flood risk in the housing market by comparing the empirical and economically efficient prices for properties at risk. We find that residential properties exposed to flood risk are overvalued by US\$21–US\$237 billion, depending on the discount rate. In general, highly overvalued properties are concentrated in counties along the coast with no flood risk disclosure laws and where there is less concern about climate change. Low-income households are at greater risk of losing home equity from price deflation, and municipalities that are heavily reliant on property taxes for revenue are vulnerable to budgetary shortfalls. The consequences of these financial risks will depend on policy choices that influence who bears the costs of climate change.

Climate change poses a range of financial and economic risks to households, communities and market sectors across the United States¹. These risks stem not only from the physical impacts of climate change, but also from how property owners, private companies and public institutions respond to growing climate hazards. Adaptation responses will not only determine the magnitude of real costs, but also whether these costs become increasingly borne by American taxpayers, or alternatively become internalized by those who are directly exposed to the physical climate impacts².

Among the natural hazards most widely experienced in the United States³, currently more than 100 million people live in the United States face a less than a 1% annual probability of flooding, with projected annual damages to residential properties exceeding US\$120 billion⁴. Increasing frequency and severity of flooding under climate change is projected to increase the number of properties exposed to flooding

¹Environmental Defense Fund, San Francisco, CA, USA; Resources for the Future, Washington, DC, USA; Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Boston University, Boston, MA, USA; Program in Applied Economics, Department of Economics, Boston University, Boston, MA, USA; ²Real Estate Institute, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL, USA; ³US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Silver Spring, MD, USA; ⁴United States Census Bureau, Washington, DC, USA; ⁵Journal of Environmental Economics and Organization

<http://planning.westchestergov.com/hazard-mitigation-planning>

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