

Western Connecticut Council of Governments Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2026-2031

Municipal Annex for **Town of Westport**

110 Myrtle Avenue
Westport, CT 068
Draft: October 2026



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of Annex

The purpose of this Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) annex is to provide a community-specific hazard risk assessment, capability analysis, and evaluation and prioritization of hazard mitigation measures and projects. Background information and the regional effects of pertinent natural hazards are discussed in the main body of the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG) Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. This annex is designed to supplement the information presented in the Multi-Jurisdictional HMP with more specific detail for the Town of Westport and is not to be considered a standalone document.

The primary goal of this HMP, including this Municipal Annex, is to identify natural hazard risks and mitigation opportunities in order to reduce the loss of or damage to life, property, infrastructure, and natural, cultural, and economic resources. This includes the reduction of public and private damage costs. Limiting losses of life and damage to property will also reduce the social, emotional, and economic disruption associated with a natural disaster.

2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE

2.1 Geography

2.1.1 Physical Setting

Incorporated in 1835, the Town of Westport is located in southern Fairfield County and is home to a population of 27,141 (2020 U.S. Census). Westport is bordered by the municipalities of Norwalk and Wilton to the west, Fairfield to the east, Weston to the north, and Long Island Sound to the south. Refer to Figure 2-1 for a map showing the location of Westport within the WestCOG region.

Westport is a coastal community, with several rivers and streams flowing throughout the community. The town is characterized by predominantly low-density residential development with commercial and business uses along Route 1. The Saugatuck River flows south through the center of the town, cutting through the suburban and urban areas before it eventually flows into Long Island Sound. Sherwood Millpond is also located in Westport on the coast. Westport is low lying at only 26 feet of elevation. Both the train station and a total of 26% of town residents live within the 100-year floodplain. The terrain of Westport makes the town vulnerable to an array of natural hazards.

The Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) has developed a statewide land cover dataset derived from the 2023 Annual National Land Cover Dataset (NLCD). Areas identified as developed open space are maintained grasses such as residential and commercial lawns or golf courses. The land cover, by percent of total land, for Westport is shown in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1: Land Cover by Area

Land Cover Class	Percent of Total Land
Developed	25%
Developed Open Space	59%
Forest	13%
Agriculture	<1%

Source: University of Connecticut Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR)

2.1.2 Land Use

According to Westport's 2017 Plan of Conservation and Development, approximately 95% of the town is zoned for residential use (mostly single-family), about 4% is zoned for business uses, and about 1% is zoned for other uses. Most higher density development and commercial activity lies around of south of Route 1. The areas north of Route 1 are primarily larger lot residential neighborhoods, in comparison to the smaller lots found to the south.

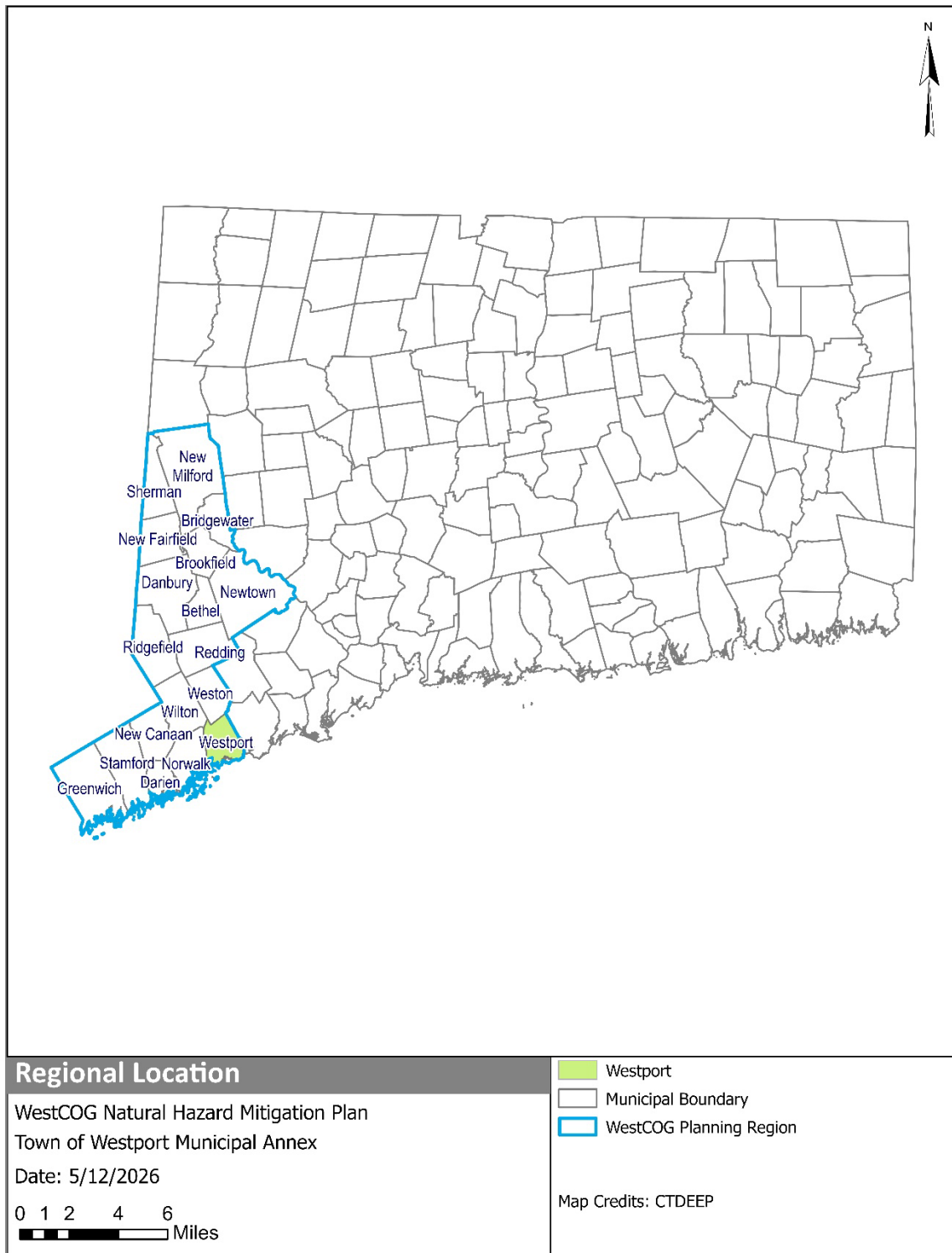


Figure 2-1: Location Map

2.1.3 Climate and Climate Change

Current Conditions

Over the course of the year, the temperature in Westport typically varies from 23°F to 83°F and is rarely below 9°F or above 90°F. The warm season lasts from June 3 to September 17, with an average daily high temperature above 73°F. The hottest month of the year is July, with an average high of 82°F and a low of 67°F. The cold season lasts from December 4 to March 13, with an average daily high temperature below 46°F. The coldest month of the year is January, with an average low of 24°F and high of 37°F.

Precipitation falls throughout the year in Westport. The wetter season lasts from April 1 to December 11, with a greater than 29% chance of a given day being a wet day. The chance of a wet day peaks at 35% on May 30. The smallest chance of a wet day is 22% on January 29.

The most rain falls during the month of April with an average total accumulation of 3.7 inches. The least rain falls in February, with an average total accumulation of 2.1 inches.

The snowy period of the year lasts from November 19 to April 6, with a sliding 31-day liquid-equivalent snowfall of at least 1.0 inches. The most snow falls during February, with an average snowfall of 7.6 inches.

Climate data was sourced from Weather Spark based on analysis of the years 1980 to 2016.

Climate Change

Climate change projections for Connecticut were sourced from the 2019 Connecticut Physical Climate Science Assessment Report, developed by the University of Connecticut (UConn) Atmospheric Sciences Group and commissioned by the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) with funding from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). All projections are based on the IPCC high CO₂ emission scenario (RCP8.5).

Temperature

Annual temperatures have been increasing throughout Connecticut and are projected to continue to do so in the future. By mid-century, the average annual temperature is projected to increase by 5°F. Seasonal average temperatures are also expected to rise, with the greatest increase (6°F) experienced in summer (June to August). The number of nights when the temperature remains above 68°F will quadruple from 10 days per year to more than 40, and the number of extremely hot days will increase from more than 4 per year to 48 per year.

Precipitation

Rainfall data in "Technical Paper No. 40" by the U.S. Weather Bureau (now the National Weather Service) (Hershfield, 1961) dates from the years 1938 through 1958. According to these data, the 24-hour rainfall amount for a 50% annual-chance storm in Fairfield County is 3.3 inches.

The continued increase in precipitation only heightens the need for hazard mitigation planning as the occurrence of floods may change in accordance with the greater precipitation.

The Northeast Regional Climate Center (NRCC) has partnered with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to provide a consistent, current regional analysis of rainfall

extremes (<http://precip.eas.cornell.edu/>). In 2020, this dataset listed the 24-hour rainfall amount for a 50% annual-chance storm in Westport as 3.45 inches.

The NOAA Atlas 14, released on September 30, 2015, puts the 24-hour rainfall amount for a 50% annual-chance annual storm in Westport at 3.49 inches.

These precipitation amounts and more details are summarized in Table 2-1, below.

Table 2-1: 24-Hour Rainfall Amounts by Annual-Chance Occurrence

Source	24-Hour Rainfall Amount (inches) by Annual-Chance Occurrence		
	50%	4%	1%
Technical Paper No. 40	3.3	5.7	7.2
NRCC	3.45	6.37	8.95
NOAA Atlas 14	3.49	6.51	8.30

Annual precipitation has been increasing statewide and is projected to continue to increase. By mid-century, annual precipitation is projected to increase by 8.5%, with the greatest increase (13.4%) occurring in the winter months. Extreme precipitation events are projected to increase in both frequency and magnitude. Based on this increase and the precipitation figures above, by 2050, Westport can expect the 24-hour rainfall amount for a 50% annual-chance storm to be around 3.7 to 3.8 inches or greater.

Impervious surfaces and infrastructure in town have increased over time as well, leading to increased runoff and peak discharge.

Despite overall increases in precipitation, drought risk is projected to rise, especially during summer, due to shifting precipitation patterns and rising potential evapotranspiration (plants taking up more water in hotter temperatures and longer growing seasons).

2.1.4 Drainage Basins and Hydrology

Westport is divided among five sub-regional watersheds as shown in Table 2-2. All of the water that passes through Westport eventually empties into Long Island Sound.

Table 2-2: Sub-Regional Drainage Basins

Drainage Basin	Overall Sub-regional Area (sq. mi)	Area within Town (sq. mi)	Area within Town (acres)	Percent of Town
Aspetuck River	23.05	2.08	1333.64	10%
Sasco Brook	10.21	1.88	1203.47	9%
Saugatuck River	48.55	7.61	4872.01	38%
Southwest Shoreline	11.08	7.93	5047.45	39%
West Branch Saugatuck River	11.92	0.57	364.11	3%
Total	n/a	20.18	12916.85	

Source: Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection GIS Data

Westport is entirely encompassed within the Southwest Coast drainage basin, which drains directly into Long Island Sound. Of the five sub-regional drainage basins and their respective streams, the Southwest Shoreline running along Westport is the largest, followed by the Saugatuck River in the western part of town.

The Saugatuck River is approximately 24 miles long and originates at Sugar Hollow Pond in Danbury, Connecticut. The Saugatuck Basin drains 48.55 square miles of land and ultimately flows directly into Long Island Sound.

2.2 **Society, Culture, and Government**

2.2.1 Population and Demographic Setting

According to the 2020 U.S. Census, Westport had a population of 27,141 with 1,357 persons per square mile. The Connecticut State Department of Public Health estimates Westport's 2026 population at 27,528. The American Community Survey (ACS) projects a population decline, with estimates putting the population at only 16,376 in 2030.

One important aspect of natural hazard mitigation planning is to identify a community's demographic trends in relation to natural hazards. The FEMA National Risk Index (NRI) (Version 1.20) explores and illustrates the relationships among social vulnerability, community resilience, expected annual losses from natural hazards, and risk from those hazards. The NRI has four ratings built into the dataset:

1. Risk Index (A composite of the following three variables)
2. Expected Annual Loss
3. Social Vulnerability
4. Community Resilience

The social vulnerability incorporated into the NRI uses data from the United States Census Bureau's Community Resilience Estimate (CRE) dataset. This ten variable dataset represents the socioeconomic factors that are expected to contribute most to a community's ability to prepare for, withstand, and recover from a natural hazard event (Figure 2-2). The data used in the CRE from the 1-year American Community Survey and Population Estimates Program.

The Town of Westport is considered to have very low social vulnerability (Figure 2-3).

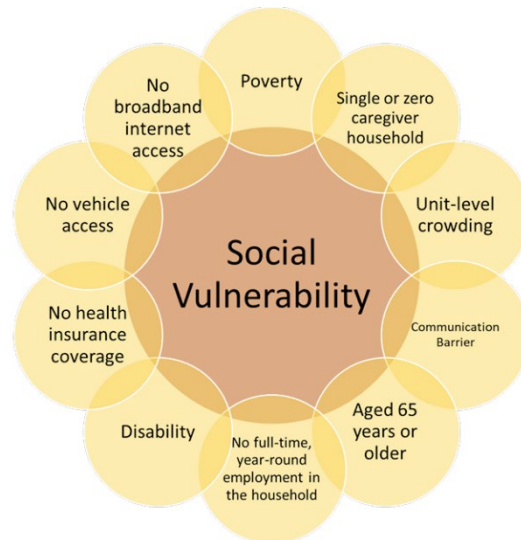


Figure 2-2 Community Resilience Estimates Vulnerability Components (Source: US Census Bureau)

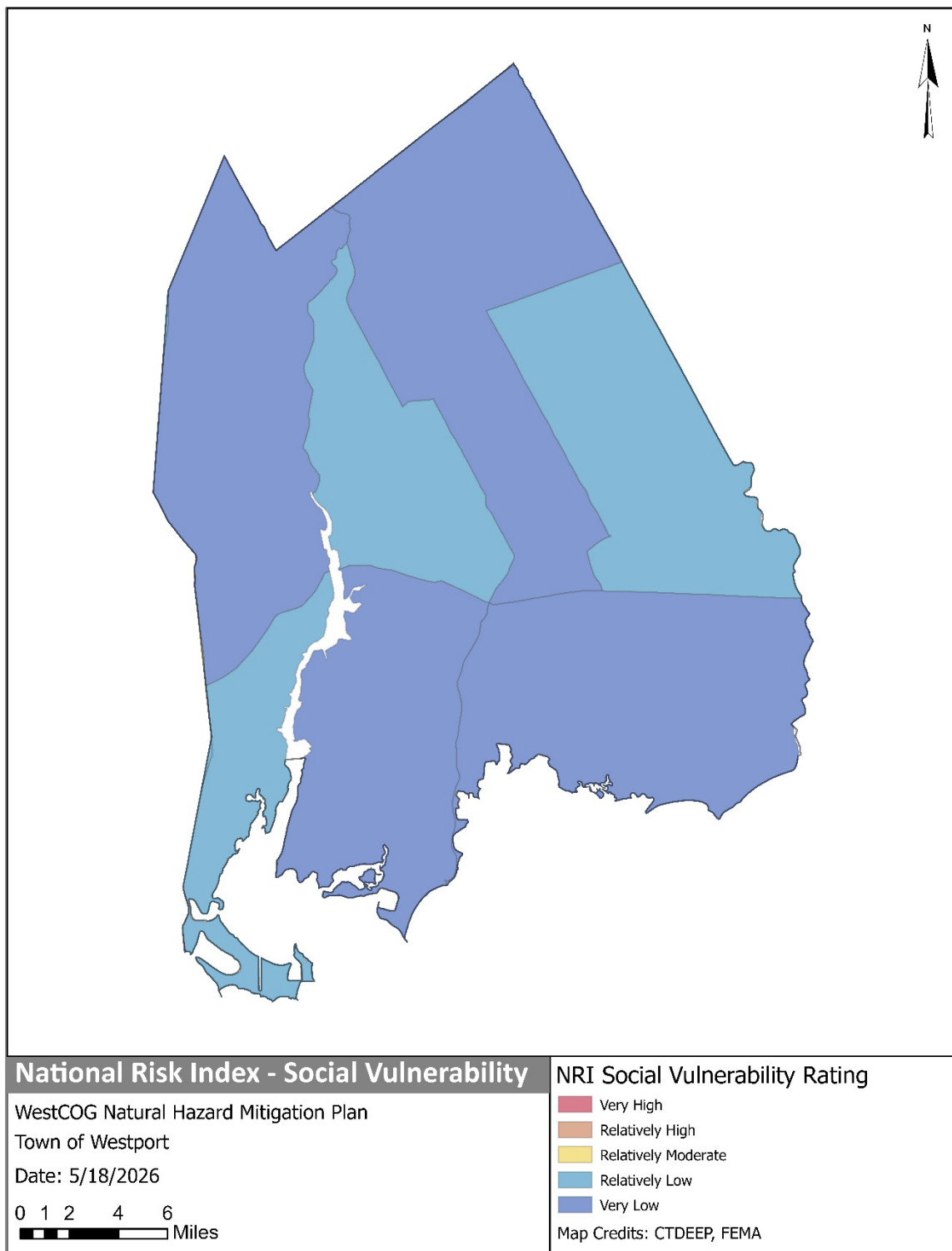


Figure 2-3 FEMA National Risk Index Social Vulnerability

2.2.2 Development Trends

Agriculture was Westport's first major industry. By the 19th century, Westport had become a shipping center in part to transport agricultural goods to market. The first railroad track was opened Dec. 27, 1848. The second track was laid in 1853, but not until the 1890s were the present tracks completed. By the end of the 19th century, there were mills and factories in town.

In the 20th century, a combination of industrialization and popularity among New Yorkers attracted to Westport resulted in a reduction of farmland. Westport changed from a community of farmers to a suburban development.

In the 1950s through to the 1970s, in part due to New Yorkers relocating from the city to the suburbs, the population tripled. This influx of people desiring a suburban lifestyle led to a building boom and the development of much of the land in town.

Now, Westport had developed into a center for finance and insurance, as well as professional, scientific, and technical services. The town center is a very desirable shopping and dining attraction in the region. The Saugatuck area, located south of downtown, has a less significant commercial impact but is also developed with non-residential land uses.

The 2017 POCD does not promote significant development in Westport, except in the Saugatuck train station area. The POCD encourages zoning for mixed-use development and multifamily housing around the rail station. The TOD area is centered around the Saugatuck Train Station, as described in *Saugatuck: A Gateway for Westport*, published in 2018. The document identifies about 70 acres extending mostly to the north of the train station as the "Primary Study Area," with a one-half-mile radius "Area of Influence" considered as well. The total area envisioned for redevelopment is 24,000 to 33,000 square feet of retail, and 128 to 172 residential units over a 12-year period. This TOD area is adjacent to the Saugatuck River estuary and therefore has some coastal flood risk. Because most of the anticipated development in Westport is in this area, the Town will be able to carefully regulate it and prevent increasing risks to flooding.

As of 2025, the Town has seen little new development, especially in high hazard areas, however, TOD in Saugatuck remains a priority. Overall, the very low townwide development pace and the closely regulated development in the TOD area will prevent vulnerabilities to natural hazards from increasing.

2.2.3 Governmental Structure

The town switched to a Representative Town Meeting style of governance in 1949. The government consists of a three-member Board of Selectmen, a Representative Town Meeting (RTM), a Board of Finance, a Board of Education, a Planning and Zoning Commission, and various other commissions, boards, and committees.

2.2.4 Historic and Cultural Resources

Historic and cultural resources include sites, structures, and objects that are significant in history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. Protection of these resources grows economies and enhances community character and following a natural disaster they can help to reinforce neighborhood connections and reestablish a sense of community and normalcy. Consideration of these resources in this HMP is critical.

Historic preservation planning helps protect historic properties and cultural resources from demolition or alteration.

Hazard mitigation planning helps protect life and property from damage caused by natural and manmade hazards. **Integrating** these two planning processes helps create safe and sustainable historic communities.

- Paraphrased from FEMA Report 386-6

Historic resources in Westport are concentrated within the Compo/Owenoke, East Bank, Evergreen Avenue, Gorham Avenue, Jesup Road, Kings Highway North, Mill Cove, Myrtle Avenue, National Hall, Violet Lane, and Westport Center Historic Districts. Resources also include the Beachside Avenue Bridge and the Saugatuck River Railroad Bridge. See Figure 2-4 for a map of historic resources in the community.

Analysis of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) database of historic resources shows that some of these resources are exposed to natural hazards, as shown in Table 2-3. There are numerous historic sites along the coast and the Saugatuck River that could be vulnerable to flooding, whether due to coastal, riverine, or poor drainage conditions.

Table 2-3: Number of Historic Assets (by parcel) Exposed to Different Hazards in Westport

Hazard	Count	Value
Dam Failure	1,285	\$350,638,610
Earthquake	713	
Flooding		
1% Annual	507	\$1,570,859,470
0.2% Annual	293	\$1,119,825,690
Storm Surge		
Category 1	354	\$1,038,415,655
Category 2	477	\$1,236,732,585
Category 3	529	\$1,440,372,985
Category 4	593	\$1,521,151,635
Hurricane/Tropical Storm	1,285	\$350,638,610
Sea Level Rise (MHHW)	108	\$386,085,895
Thunderstorm	1,285	\$350,638,610
Tornado	1,285	\$350,638,610
Winter Storm	1,285	\$350,638,610
Wildfire		
Intermix	12	\$12,678,830
Interface	6	\$8,259,700

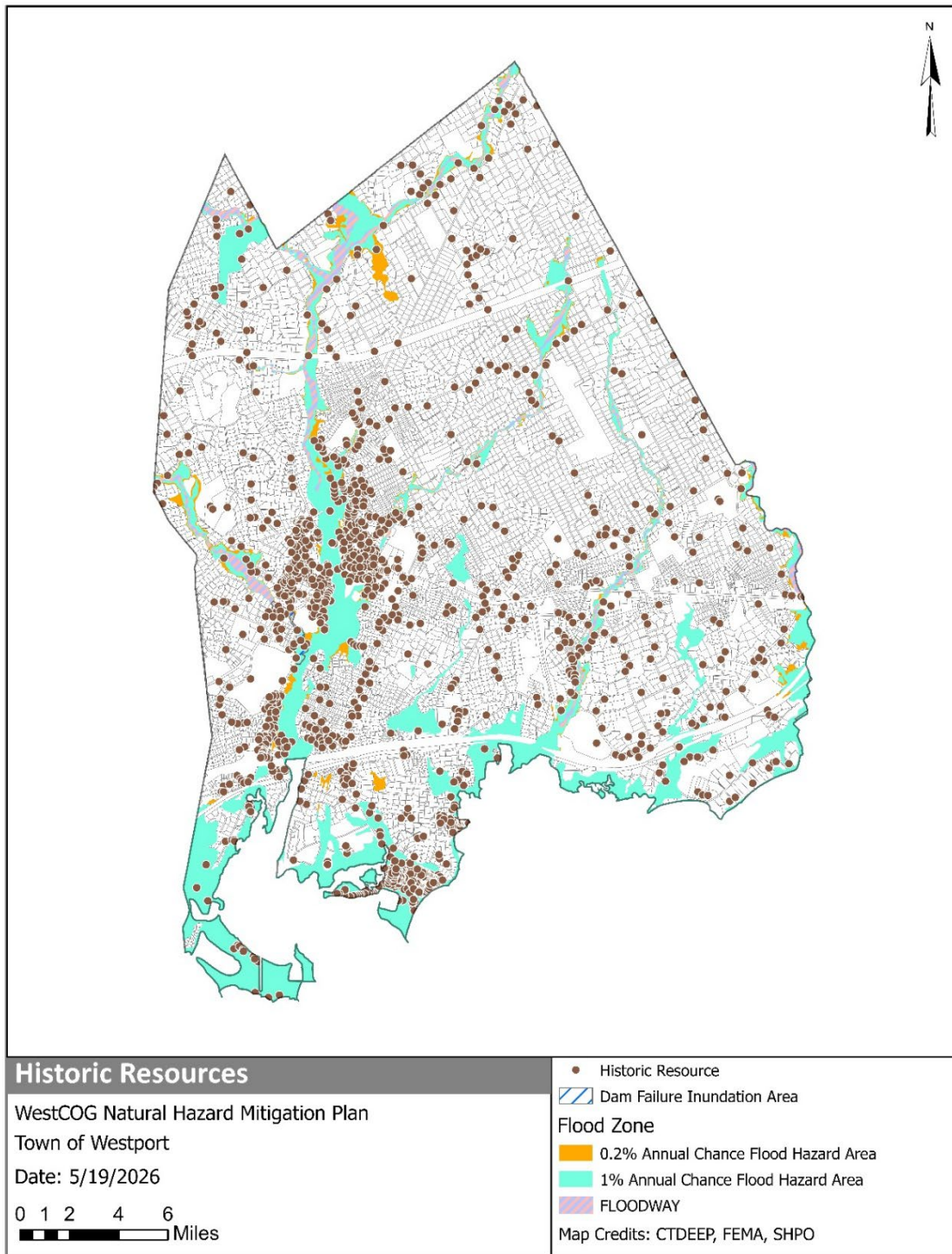


Figure 2-4: Historic Resources

Historic buildings and structures may be particularly susceptible to natural hazards because they were built prior to the establishment of more recent construction standards. Additionally, some of the structural integrity of these resources may have been degraded over the decades or centuries since their original construction. Structural retrofits and hazard mitigation methods may be challenging or restricted in cases where alteration of a resource will also diminish its cultural or historical aesthetic and value. Finally, miscommunications or lack of knowledge may lead to historic resources being damaged during the disaster recovery process.

Steps to incorporate historical and cultural preservation into hazard mitigation planning include:

- Inventory and survey historic and cultural resources
- Implement appropriate mitigation measures for those resources
- Take steps to move portable resources, such as artwork or documents, to safe locations prior to the occurrence of a hazard, if possible
- Consider these resources in emergency operations plans to prevent accidental damages during recovery efforts

Specific actions to mitigate natural hazard risks to historic resources are listed at the end of this Annex.

2.3 Infrastructure

2.3.1 Transportation

Major transportation routes in Westport include Interstate 95 and the Merritt Parkway (Route 15), which run east to west through town. The Parkway runs through the northern part of town, while I-95 runs through the southern. Between these two thoroughfares lies Route 1, the predominant commercial corridor.

In addition, the Metro North/Amtrak rail lines also run through town, just south and parallel to Interstate 95. There are two train stations in Saugatuck and Green's Farms. The CTtransit bus system is also active in town with several stops throughout the community.

2.3.2 Utilities

Aquarion Company provides public water service in many areas of Westport, and this helps ensure that an adequate quality and quantity of water is available to support public health and safety and meet community needs. Westport has regulations in place to protect water quality in the two wellfield areas in Coleytown and Canal Street.

Residents and businesses use oil, propane, or natural gas for heat. Natural gas is available from Southern Connecticut Gas. The Water Pollution Control Facility operates and maintains the town's Wastewater Treatment Plant along with seventeen pumping stations and 117 miles of sewer pipelines. Sewer service is available in many parts of town, but as a rule, it is not available north of the Merritt Parkway (Route 15).

According to geolSP (geolSP.com), access to Broadband Internet is available to most residents in Westport. There are 2 DSL Providers (MegaPath and AT&T), 1 Cable Internet provider (CSC

Holdings), and 4 Fiber Internet providers (CSC Holdings, Fibertech Networks LLC, Level (3) Communications, and Connecticut Education Network). There are also 4 Mobile Broadband (cellular) providers with service available in Westport.

2.4 **Planning and Regulatory Capabilities**

Westport has in place a number of community planning mechanisms, regulations, and policies that serve to mitigate natural hazards by limiting development in hazardous areas, requiring buildings to be constructed to certain standards, or otherwise directing development and construction toward increased resilience. These are summarized below. More specific information about how each of these capabilities is relevant to each specific natural hazard type covered in this document is presented in each hazard chapter.

2.4.1 **Review of Existing Local Plans**

The Town of Westport has a number of plans that are relevant to hazard mitigation. These are noted here:

- **Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD):** Westport's most recent POCD was adopted in 2017. It does not address natural hazard concerns within the community, or include strategies that will mitigate risks from those hazards as the community continues to develop. This will be pursued in the next update of the POCD.
- **Stormwater Management:** Westport maintains a Stormwater Management Plan. This document has been updated to comply with the requirements of the US EPA 2017 updated *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems* (MS4 General Permit).
- **Capital Improvement Plan (CIP):** Westport maintains a CIP that is updated annually and lays out capital investments for a five-year period. The CIP often includes road, drainage, and other infrastructure improvement projects relevant to hazard mitigation.
- **Economic Development Plan:** Westport is included within the Western Connecticut Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) of 2023, developed by WestCOG. The plan aligns with the COG's other efforts to promote climate sustainability and resiliency in the region.
- **Emergency Operations Plan (EOP):** Westport's EOP is reviewed annually and updated as needed. Dam failure Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) for dams with failure inundation zones that may impact Westport, and for which EAPs are available, are on file locally.
- **Watershed Management Plan:** A Watershed Management Plan has been developed for the Saugatuck-Aspetuck River Watershed. The Saugatuck River Watershed Based Plan was developed by the former South Western Regional Planning Agency (SWRPA) in 2012. This plan is focused on water quality, but can help the community mitigate inland flood risks by incorporating watershed management best practices into its planning efforts.
- **Open Space:** Westport does not maintain a stand-alone Open Space Plan; instead, open space planning is incorporated into the community's POCD.

2.4.1 **Review of Regulatory Structures**

Westport regulates development through a number of regulations, codes, and ordinances. These are summarized below. More detailed information about how these regulations relate to specific natural hazards is described in Section 3.

- **Building Code:** Westport enforces the Connecticut State Building Code locally.
- **Zoning Regulations:** Most recently updated on April 12, 2024.
- **Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations:** Most recently updated in August 2004.
- **Subdivision Regulations:** Most recently updated on April 12, 2024. Include provisions promoting control of stormwater runoff, construction of adequate emergency access and egress, and burial of utilities.

2.5 Emergency Services, Critical Facilities, Sheltering, and Evacuation

The Town considers its police, fire, and governmental facilities to be critical since these are needed to ensure that emergencies are addressed while day-to-day management of Westport continues. Table 2-4 and Figure 2-5 identifies all of these critical facilities.

Table 2-4: Critical Facilities

Facility	Address or Location	Type	Emergency Power	Shelter	In 1% Floodplain
Town Hall	110 Myrtle Ave	Town Hall			
Westport Fire Department Headquarters Westport Emergency Operations Center	515 Post Rd East	Emergency Response			
Westport Fire Department - Saugatuck	555 Riverside Ave	Emergency Response			✓
Westport Fire Department - Coleytown	61 Easton Road	Emergency Response			
Westport Fire Dept - Greens Farms	66 Center St	Emergency Response			
Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Service (WVEMS)	50 Jesup Rd	EMS			
Westport Police Department	50 Jesup Rd	Police, EMS			
DPW	110 Myrtle Ave	Public Works			
Westport Leaf Compost Facility	180 Bayberry Lane	Public Works			
Westport Transfer Station	300 Sherwood Island Connector	Public Works			
Highway Division	300 Sherwood Island Connector	Public Works			
Landmark Academy	11 Burr Road	School	✓		
King's Highway Elementary School	125 Post Rd West	School	✓		
Green's Farms School	17 Morningside Dr	School	✓		
Saugatuck Elementary School	170 Riverside Ave	School	✓		✓
CT Center for Massage Therapy	25 Sylvan Road S	School	✓		
Greens Farms Academy	35 Beachside Ave	School	✓		
Seton Academy	47 Long Lots Rd	School	✓		
Bedford Middle School	88 North Ave	School	✓		

Facility	Address or Location	Type	Emergency Power	Shelter	In 1% Floodplain
The Learning Community Day School	90 Hillspoint Rd	School	✓		
Long Lots School	13 Hyde Ln	Shelter	✓	✓	
Westport Senior Center	21 Imperial Ave	Shelter/Cooling		✓	
Coleytown Middle School	255 North Ave	Shelter	✓	✓	
Coleytown Elementary School	58 Easton Rd	Shelter	✓	✓	
Staples High School	70 North Ave	Shelter	✓	✓	
Alcoholism & Drug Dependency Council, Inc.	420 Post Rd West	Care Facility			
Jewish Family Service	431 Post Rd East	Care Facility			
Hall-Brooke Hospital	47 Long Lots Rd	Care Facility			
Aspetuck Health District	180 Bayberry Lane	Community Health Programs Administration			
Westport Library	20 Jesup Road	Cooling Center			
Museum of Contemporary Art	19 Newtown Turnpike	Cooling Center			

There are several shelters for residents throughout the town, including schools and the senior center. The town has identified the Senior Center, Library, and Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) as cooling centers.

Emergency Response

The Town's Emergency Operations Center (EOC), including its Emergency Communications Center, is located on Route 1 near the commercial center. Westport is located in the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) Region 1, consisting of 14 municipalities in southwestern Connecticut.

The Town's Department of Public Works performs tree and shrub removal and trimming on town-owned lands and rights-of-way. During emergencies and following storms, the Department responds to calls related to downed trees.

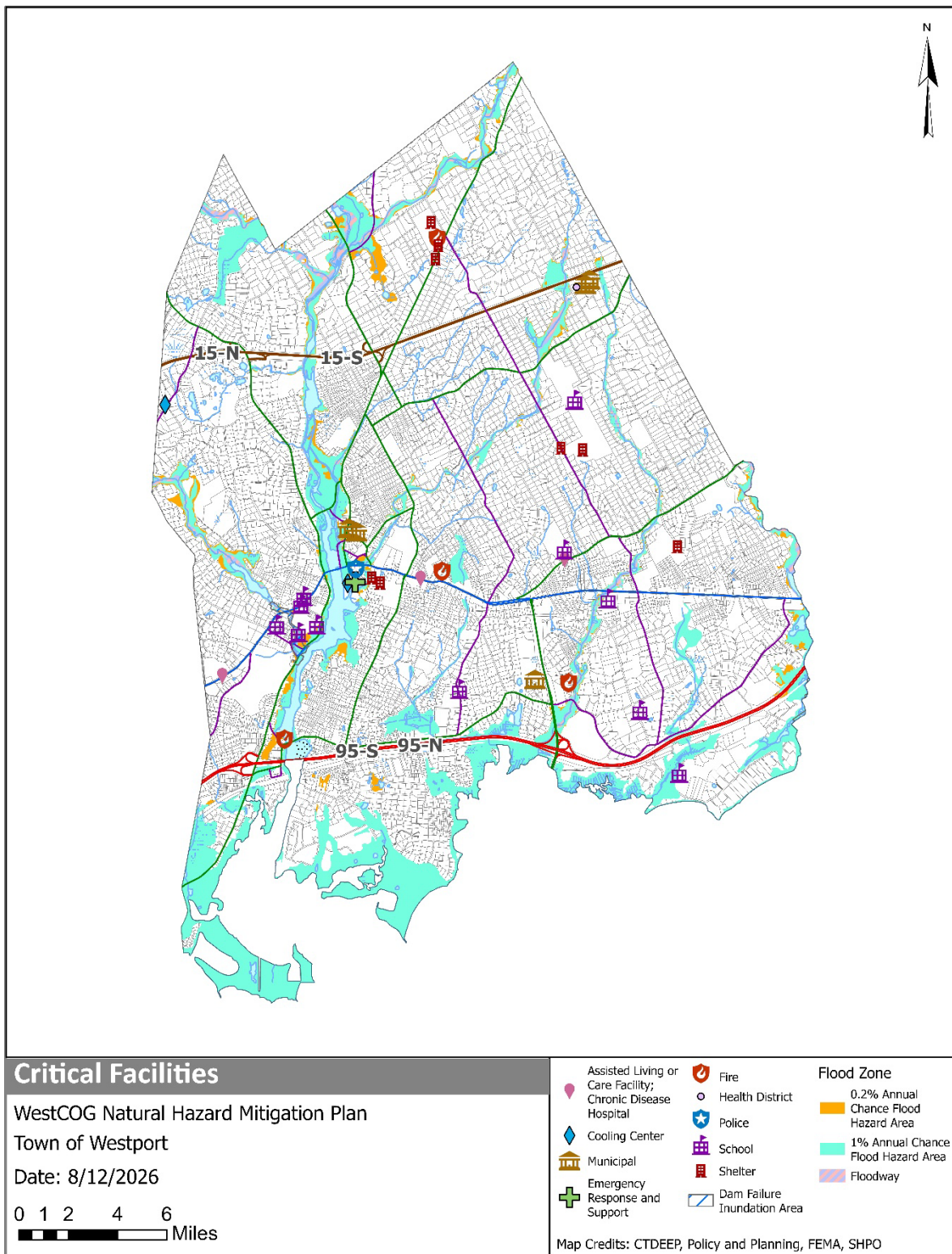


Figure 2-5: Critical Facilities

Emergency Communication Capabilities

The Town of Westport utilizes the Nixle Community Notification System for alerting residents and businesses in real-time for localized emergency situations and relevant community advisories.

This system provides notifications via telephone calls, text, and social media.

The Town of Westport utilizes the CT Alert notification system to alert residents of emergency situations. This system allows the state to direct geographically specific emergency notification telephone calls into affected areas. Various media outlets are also used to relay information to the public.

Various media outlets are also used to relay information to the public. These resources are identified in Table 2-5.

Table 2-5: Media Outlets Used for Public Information Distribution

Outlet	Media Type
Stamford Advocate	Newspaper
Westport News	Newspaper
The Hartford Courant	Newspaper
Staples Radio WWPT 90.3 FM	Radio
Cablevision (Channel 12)	Television
Channel 79, the Westport Public Access Channel	Television

Changes to Emergency Services since the Previous HMP

The Town has acquired two portable generators that can be used for shelters or pump stations if backup power sources fail. These generators utilize standard outlets, and the Town is continuing to upgrade facilities to accommodate these portable generators if necessary.

3.0 HAZARD ASSESSMENT

3.1 FLOODING (COASTAL, INLAND, AND ICE JAMS)

3.1.1 Setting

The potential for flooding exists across Westport, with the majority of major flooding occurring along established riverine and coastal SFHAs. The areas impacted by overflow of river systems are generally limited to river corridors and floodplains. Indirect flooding that occurs outside floodplains and localized nuisance flooding along tributaries can also be a concern. This type of flooding occurs particularly along roadways as a result of inadequate drainage and other factors. Coastal flooding can occur during a severe storm event by way of storm surge, and can also occur as nuisance flooding, which is experienced during extremely high tide events. The frequency of flooding in Westport is considered likely for any given year, with flood damage potentially having significant effects during extreme events.

A regulatory floodplain with AE designation has been mapped along the Aspetuck and Saugatuck rivers. There are also regulatory floodplain areas with a VE or an AE designation along the Long Island Sound shoreline. The Areas identified as providing flood storage are identified with A Zone designations, meaning they are regulated as floodplain, but flood elevations have not been established. The Patrick Wetlands and the area near Greens Farms Road and High Street distribute these traits. Floodplain and floodway designations have also been established along the rivers with AE designations. Refer to Figure 2-5 for the areas of Westport susceptible to flooding based on FEMA flood zones.

In general, potential flooding problems in Westport are concentrated along the multiple rivers and the coastline. Town officials have reported that nuisance flooding along the coast is becoming more of a concern, especially in the area of Saugatuck Shores and Canal Road.

Coastal flood events, especially storm surge during hurricanes and tropical storms, can cause some of the most severe damage with high economic impacts to municipal and residential properties. Figure 3-1 shows hurricane storm surge inundation zones.

3.1.2 Capabilities

Westport has historically been proactive in flood mitigation with the town participating in several FEMA mitigation programs prior to the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Some specific past efforts include:

- 1995 Repetitive Loss Plan
- 1997 Hazard Mitigation Plan
- 2000 Flood Management Plan

The Town primarily attempts to mitigate future flood damage and flood hazards by restricting building activities in floodprone areas. Westport also uses regulations to protect the normal functioning of the natural drainage systems and to prevent inappropriate development in

floodplains and coastal areas. The regulations are in accordance with the CT DEEP, FEMA, and NIFP requirements.

The town owns a high-water rescue truck and is looking to acquire a second. This vehicle allows for easier access during flooding events, as well as snow events if necessary.

Floodplain Management, NFIP, and CRS

The town has consistently participated in the NFIP since July 19, 1974, and intends to continue participation in the NFIP. SFHAs in Westport are delineated on a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS). The FIS and FIRMs for the town were most recently revised in 2013. The town also participates in the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) program, which recognizes and rewards more stringent floodplain regulations. By participating in the program, residents receive a discount on flood insurance.

The NFIP administrator for the Town oversees the enforcement of NFIP regulations. The degree of flood protection established by the variety of regulations in the Town meets the minimum requirements for regulatory purposes under the NFIP. The Town has a minimum elevation standard to include one foot of freeboard.

The Town's Planning and Zoning Commission uses the 1% annual chance flood lines from the FIRM delineated by FEMA to determine floodplain areas. Site plan standards require that all proposals be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage, that public facilities and utilities be located and constructed to minimize flood damage, and that adequate drainage is provided.

Ordinances, Regulations, and Plans

Regulations, codes, and ordinances that apply to flood hazard mitigation in conjunction with and in addition to NFIP regulations are listed below, with examples of sections and content with specific relevance to flood mitigation.

Zoning Regulations:

- 31-7: Regulations Applying to All Districts - Setbacks from Waterbodies, Watercourses and Wetlands, restricting structures within 25 feet of a wetland or waterbody.
- 31-11.3: Regulations Applying to All Districts - Flood Protection Requirements
- 54-22: Design Standards: Flood Prone Areas

Inland Wetland and Watercourse Regulations:

- Chapter 30 - Environmental & Natural Resources: Inland Wetlands. The purpose of this division is to establish a means by which the Town may more effectively enforce its Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations, known as the Regulations for the Protection and Preservation of Wetlands and Watercourses, with the implementation of fines for violations.
- Chapter 31 - Flood and Erosion Control Board. The Flood and Erosion Control Board shall have all the powers and duties conferred or imposed by law on Flood and Erosion Control Boards.

Plan of Conservation and Development:

- Focuses on development, conservation, and infrastructure related strategies
- Preserve resources, such as historic and open space, guide development, and improve overall quality of life.
- Continue to preserve open space which provides flood storage.
- Highlights the need for coastal flood mitigation.
- Recommends non-structural applications for erosion control in coastal development and projects.

Drainage and Street Flooding

The Town Department of Public Works (DPW) is in charge of the maintenance of the town's drainage systems and performs clearing of bridges and culverts, and other maintenance as needed. The town has a catch basin cleanout program.

Some roadways in town with flooding concerns include:

- Hiawatha Lane
- Berkeley Road
- Black Birch Road
- Saugatuck Shores
- Post Road East/Myrtle Avenue
- Main Street

Public Information

The town receives regular weather updates through the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) Region 1 email alerts as well as watches and warnings through the National Weather Service. Tidal gauges in Bridgeport and Stamford help town officials watch for flooding conditions and respond accordingly.

Actions Completed and New Capabilities

The Town is in the process of updating its POCD and is actively working to integrate natural hazard mitigation into the next update.

3.1.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

Flooding can impact properties along the various river corridors in town, as well as those along the coastline. With climate change projections showing more intense precipitation events in the future, flooding in any of these areas may be exacerbated under future conditions. Areas that already experience flooding may see higher levels, while areas that may not be a concern now may face flooding issues in the future. While future conditions are uncertain, there are currently some areas in town that are presently experiencing flooding challenges.

Repetitive Loss Properties

There are 213 repetitive loss properties (RLPs) located in Westport; 209 are residential, and 4 are commercial. 187 RPLs are located within a 1% flood zone. They are concentrated along the coast, but there is also a significant number along the Saugatuck River.

Many of the RLPs and Severe RLPs (SRLPs) in town have been elevated or completely rebuilt and ultimately mitigated for flooding. Some concerning properties do remain unelevated and unmitigated. The town is hopeful to acquire some of these properties in the near future in the event that funding is available.

Critical Facilities

Two critical facilities are located within 100-year flood zones. The fire department is critical to emergency response during a hazard event, and Saugatuck Elementary School is critical for day to day operations and an evacuation priority. The at-risk facilities include:

- Westport Fire Department Saugatuck
- Saugatuck Elementary School

At-Risk Areas

While FEMA flood zones have similar risk levels, there are some areas in Westport that experience flooding more frequently and are at a greater risk of frequent flooding for various reasons. Riverine areas include:

- Muddy Brook: several culverts are undersized and need to be upgraded
- Dead Man Brook: several culverts along the stream are undersized and need to be upgraded. The Jessup Road bridge abutments were severely damaged in the flood of September 13, 2026, causing a road closure that persisted through fall 2026.

During the floods of July 21 and September 13, 2026, severe flooding occurred in areas where it had not previously been a problem, including small streams along Sue Terrace and Fresenius Road. These stream flow in a southerly direction toward the Route 1 corridor. Property owners reported basement and first floor flooding.

Several specific undersized culverts in town are causing flooding concerns, including Violet Lane, Myrtle Avenue, and Post Road East. Also, flooding along some private roadways is a concern for the town; however, due to their ownership, the Town finds mitigation more challenging. Other at-risk roadways were previously discussed in the drainage and street flooding narratives.

Aside from riverine and infrastructure risks, Westport's coastline is also at risk of flooding. This may be attributed to astronomically high tides, or nuisance flooding, or due to storm surge. Certain areas, such as Canal Road and Saugatuck Shores, frequently experience nuisance flooding. Low-lying coastal areas are at risk of coastal flooding or storm surge, while those that are coastal and in proximity to a river may see compounded flooding during extreme events.

Town staff have also noted a concern with regard to privately-owned and maintained roads; the associations responsible for these roads sometimes do not perform the maintenance or upgrades necessary to ensure adequate drainage and flood control. This can result in blocked or washed-out roads and the need for municipal intervention to perform emergency stabilization or rescue residents.

Saugatuck River

The river has several delineated floodplains and therefore may be considered the most at-risk areas along the river. Within Westport and along the river, there are 17 RLPs, indicating past flood challenges. There are several road crossings over the river in the downtown area, which may present challenges in regard to infrastructural capacity during a heavy event.

Long Island Sound Coastline

The shoreline of Westport is primarily residential, with pockets of commercial activity. The entire coastline is all identified to have low lying, coastal stretched which may be at risk of both nuisance and storm surge flooding. There are 178 repetitive loss properties.

3.2 DAM FAILURE

3.2.1 Setting

Dam failures can be triggered suddenly, with little or no warning, and often from other natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes. Dam failures often occur during flooding when the dam breaks under the additional force of floodwaters. In addition, a dam failure can cause a chain reaction where the sudden release of floodwaters causes the next dam downstream to fail. While flooding from a dam failure generally has a moderate geographic extent, the effects are potentially catastrophic. Fortunately, a major dam failure is considered very unlikely in any given year.

3.2.2 Capabilities

Dam failure inundation areas are included in the CT Alert emergency notification system contact database. The town has the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the Aquarion-owned dams on file in the event of a potential failure. The Nash Pond dam is the only high hazard dam in town.

Following moderate to major flooding events, staff of the Westport Engineering Department attempt to visually inspect Class B dams and report any obvious problems to the Dam Safety Unit of DEEP. Dam Safety inspects these dams in approximately 5-year intervals.

An EAP for the Candlewood Lake Dam was prepared in 2004 by Northeast Utilities Service Company for First Light Power. The plan addresses the requirements of FERC Project No. 2576 and includes Candlewood Lake Dam, Lake Candlewood Dike #2, North Lanesville Dike, and Middle Lanesville Dike on Candlewood Lake. The EAP contains a Dam Breach Analysis for the main dam and dikes, and Inundation Maps for a "sunny day" failure and failure under 100-year flood conditions.

The EAP describes the thorough maintenance and monitoring schedule for all structures. This includes continuous staffing at the Rocky River Station; weekly inspections of the dikes; monthly weir and piezometer readings; and annual inspections by FERC representatives. Water levels in Candlewood Lake are continuously monitored via a signal transmitted through an underground cable. Tailrace levels in the Housatonic River are also monitored continuously via a mounted staff gage. Monitors have also been installed at weirs downstream of the Danbury Dike, Middle Lanesville Dike, the Main Dam, and the Canal Dike.

The EAP specifies that representatives of the Rocky River Project are responsible for notifying Brookfield government officials in the event of an emergency.

Actions Completed and New Capabilities

The Town's dam failure mitigation capabilities have improved since adoption of the previous plan through increased dam monitoring and dam safety enforcement capabilities at the state level, as well as the digitization and inclusion of dam failure inundation areas into the CTAlert system.

3.2.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

As of March 2026, there were 32 DEEP-inventoried dams within the Town of Westport. Dams and dam failure areas, where available, are shown in Figure 2-5. One of these dams is a Class C, or high hazard dam, and five others are a Class B, or significant hazard dam. As shown in Table 3-1, the higher hazard dams located in the town pose a risk to Westport.

Table 3-1: High Hazard Dams with Potential to Affect the Town of Westport

#	Name	Location	Class	Owner
15801	Nash Pond Dam	Nash Pond, Westport	C	Private
15804	Aspetuck River	Aspetuck River, Westport	BB	Private
15802	Lee's Pond Dam	Lee's Pond, Westport	B	Private
15805	Westport Pond Dam	Westport Pond, Westport	B	Town of Westport
15806	Greenacre Lane Pond Dam	Greenacre Lane Pond, Westport	B	Private
15827	West Parish Trib Pond Dam	WESTPORT	BB	Private

Failure of a high hazard dam can affect properties downstream of the impoundment both in and outside of town, with potential large inundation zones traveling along each respective waterway.

The Nash Pond Dam is 105 feet in length, with a maximum height of 24 feet. It is a masonry structure, and impounds roughly 58 acres at normal water levels with a contributing watershed of 3.05 square miles.

The Aspetuck River dam is 190 feet in length and 12 feet high. The dam impounds a total watershed area of 20.8 square miles, with a total pond area of 1.5 acres.

The Lee's Pond Dam is a 200-foot-long and 17-foot-high masonry dam. This dam impounds roughly 97 acres, with a contributing watershed of 77.50 square miles.

The Westport Pond Dam, owned by the Town of Westport, is 75 feet in length, 4 feet high, and is located along Deadman Brook. The dam impounds approximately 2.25 square miles of watershed, with a pond size of about 1.0 square miles.

Greenacre Lane Pond Dam is a 50-foot-long masonry dam that is about 4 feet high. The dam is located along an unnamed stream and has an area of about 0.5 square miles.

The West Parish Trib Pond Dam is a privately owned, two foot high, 20 foot long dam. The dam impounds a small pond along an unnamed tributary along the Muddy Brook. The dam is located west of West Parish Road, which the tributary crosses shortly downstream of the impoundment.

Changes and Improvements

Westport continues to be at low risk from dam failure. The Town has installed, and now maintains, warning gauges on local dams.

3.3 HURRICANES AND TROPICAL STORMS

3.3.1 Setting

A hurricane striking Westport is considered a possible event each year and could cause critical damage to the town and its infrastructure. Several types of hazards may be associated with tropical storms and hurricanes including heavy or tornado winds, heavy rains, and flooding. While only some of the areas of Westport are susceptible to flooding or storm surge damage caused by hurricanes, wind damage can occur anywhere in the town. Hurricanes, therefore, have the potential to affect any area within the Town of Weston. A hurricane striking the town is considered a possible event each year and could cause critical damage to the town and its infrastructure.

Connecticut is located in FEMA Zone II regarding maximum expected wind speed. The maximum expected wind speed for a three-second gust is 160 mph. The American Society of Civil Engineers recommends that new buildings be designed to withstand this peak three-second gust.

3.3.2 Capabilities

Wind loading requirements are addressed through the state building code. The State Building Code has been amended several times in the past two decades. The 2005 Code was amended in 2009, 2011, 2013, 2016, and 2018. The code was then updated and amended in 2022, with the current code having been updated and effective as of October 1, 2022. The code specifies the design wind speed for all municipalities in Connecticut. The design wind speed for the Town of Westport is 110 miles per hour for a Category 1, 120 miles per hour for a Category 2, 130 miles per hour for a Category 3, and 135 miles per hour for a Category 4 or greater. Westport has adopted the Connecticut Building Code as its building code. The Town website provides links to the State Building Codes so that developers can find wind design standards.

Westport has a tree warden, an annual tree maintenance program for public property, and the DPW maintains the necessary equipment to clean up downed tree limbs, brush, and debris following major wind events. Staging areas have been identified for short-term storage, and an agreement with Sherwood Island State Park was reached for temporary storage and processing following major storm events.

Education and preparedness are critical components in reducing vulnerability to severe storm events. Westport officials continue to visit schools and educate children about the risks from natural hazards and necessary preparedness actions. Town staff have also attended trainings on

mitigation measures from FEMA, Building Officials & Code Administrators International Inc., and the DEEP.

The Town has also devoted significant resources to ensure that emergency responders are prepared during a severe storm event. A weather monitoring station is employed, and emergency communications facilities have been updated to withstand high winds. The Aspetuck Health District, in cooperation with the American Red Cross, the Westport Housing Authority, the Department of Human Services, and the local Visiting Nurse agencies, continued to maintain a list of residents requiring additional services and support during emergencies. The Town also regularly reviews the Westport Emergency Operations Plan, providing updates as needed.

Actions Completed and New Capabilities

When working with Eversource, there is a community liaison, as well as a Subject Matter Expert (SME), who is employed by the town. This SME is a former electric employee and has extensive knowledge of the system in town and the electric infrastructure. The SME assists in power restoration efforts during an event.

3.3.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

Most of the damage to the town from historical tropical cyclones has been due to the effects of flooding and wind. Areas of known and potential flooding problems are discussed in Section 3.1

The Town of Westport is vulnerable to hurricane damage from wind and flooding, and from any tornadoes accompanying the storm. In fact, most of the damage to the town from historical tropical cyclones has been due to the effects of flooding. Factors that influence vulnerability to tropical cyclones in the town include building codes currently in place, local zoning and development patterns, and the age and number of structures located in highly vulnerable areas of the community.

Changes and Improvements

The Town of Westport continues to mitigate hurricane and tropical storm damage via flood mitigation strategies and tree maintenance efforts.

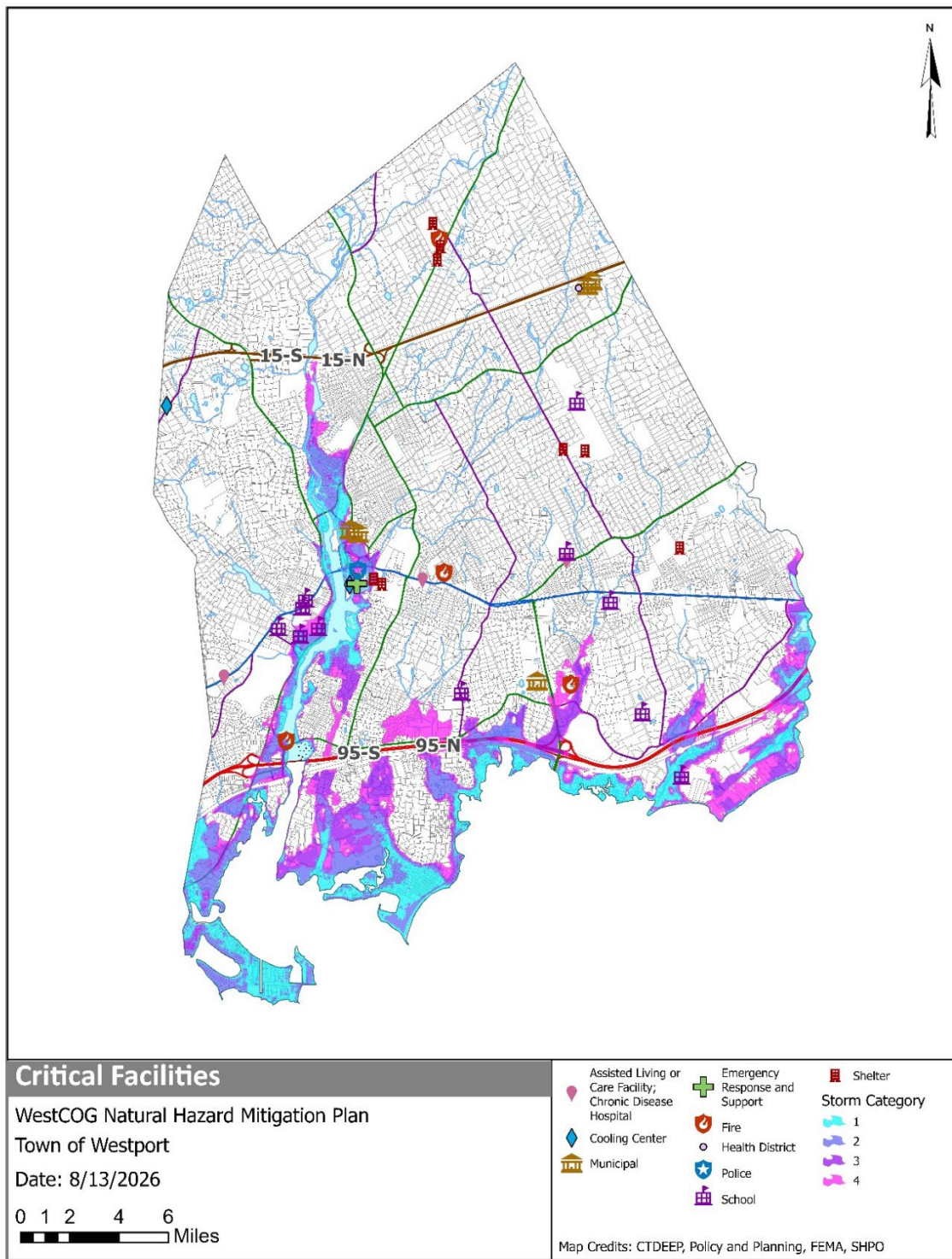


Figure 3-1: Storm Surge Inundation Zones

3.4 SUMMER STORMS AND TORNADOES

3.4.1 Setting

Summer storms and tornadoes have the potential to affect any area within the Town of Westport. Because these types of storms and the hazards that result (flash flooding, wind, hail, and lightning) might have a limited geographic extent, it is possible for a summer storm to harm one area within the town without harming another.

Based on the historic record, it is considered highly likely that a summer storm that includes lightning will impact Westport each year, although lightning strikes have a limited effect. Strong winds and hail are considered likely to occur during such storms, but also generally have limited effects. A tornado is considered a possible event in Fairfield County each year that could cause significant damage to a small area.

3.4.2 Capabilities

The town's capabilities regarding the mitigation of high wind events are described in Section 3.3.2.

Warning is the primary existing mitigation method for tornadoes and thunderstorm-related hazards. The NOAA National Weather Service issues watches and warnings when severe weather is likely to develop or has developed, respectively. Westport's emergency communication capabilities are described in Section 2.5.

Actions Completed and New Capabilities

Westport's summer storm and tornado capabilities continue to be strong.

3.4.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

The entire Town of Westport is at relatively equal risk for experiencing damage from summer storms and tornadoes. Based on the historic record, a few summer storms have resulted in costly damages to the Town. Most damages are relatively site specific and occur to private property (and therefore are paid for by private insurance). For municipal property, the town budget for tree removal and minor repairs is generally adequate to handle summer storm damage.

According to the 2023 State Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, Fairfield County has a moderately high risk of tornado activity based on historical occurrences. Therefore, by virtue of its location in Fairfield County, the Town of Westport has moderate to high potential to experience tornado damage. In general, thunderstorms and hailstorms in Connecticut are more frequent in the western and northern parts of the state and less frequent in the southern and eastern parts. The majority of these events do not cause any measurable damage. Although lightning is usually associated with thunderstorms, it can occur on almost any day. The likelihood of lightning strikes in the Westport area is very high during any given thunderstorm, although no one area of the town is at higher risk of lightning strikes. The risk of at least one hailstorm occurring in Westport is considered moderate in any given year.

Thunderstorms are expected to impact the region about 20 days each year. The majority of these events do not cause any measurable damage. Although lightning is usually associated with thunderstorms, it can occur on almost any day. The likelihood of lightning strikes in the Westport area is high during any given thunderstorm, although no one area of the town is at a higher risk of lightning strikes. There is also risk of a hailstorm occurring at least once per year in Westport.

The risk of downbursts occurring during such storms and damaging the Town of Westport is believed to be low for any given year. All areas of the town are susceptible to damage from high winds, although more building damage is expected in densely developed corridors, such as along Route 7, and surrounding areas, while more tree damage is expected in the less densely populated, more rural areas of town.

Secondary damage from falling branches and trees is more common than direct wind damage to structures. Heavy winds can take down trees near power lines, leading to the start and spread of fires. Most downed power lines in Westport are detected quickly, and any associated fires are quickly extinguished. Such fires can be extremely dangerous during the summer months during dry and drought conditions. It is important to have an adequate water supply for fire protection to ensure the necessary level of safety is maintained.

Changes and Improvements

Westport continues to mitigate summer storms and tornadoes.

3.5 WINTER STORMS AND NOR'EASTERS

3.5.1 Setting

The entire Town of Westport is susceptible to winter storms. In general, winter storms are considered highly likely to occur each year (although major storms are less frequent), and the hazards that result (nor'easter winds, snow, and blizzard conditions) can potentially have a significant effect over a large area of the town.

Most winter weather events occur between December and March. Winter weather may include snow, sleet, freezing rain, and cold temperatures. Most deaths from winter storms are indirectly related to the storm, such as from traffic accidents on icy roads and hypothermia from prolonged exposure to cold. Damage to trees and tree limbs and the resultant downing of utility cables are a common effect of these types of events. Secondary effects include loss of power and heat, and flooding as a result of snowmelt.

3.5.2 Capabilities

The town continuously reviews snow removal procedures and explores options for reducing costs.

Prior to a winter weather event, the town ensures that all warning/notification and communications systems are ready and ensures that appropriate equipment and supplies, especially snow removal equipment, are in place and in good working order. In some known problem areas, pre-storm treatment is applied to roadways to reduce the accumulation of snow.

The town also has staging areas for debris disposal after winter storms and other high wind events.

Actions Completed and New Capabilities

In 2017 and 2018 WestCOG developed a local snow action plan, which included an update of road clearing routes and the salt distribution plan. This was part of the regional winter maintenance practices initiative led by WestCOG. Reports produced as part of that initiative are:

- Winter Maintenance Practices Baseline Assessment Report, November 2017. Prepared for WestCOG by Axiomatic, LLC
- Winter Maintenance Practices Guide, September 2018. Prepared for WestCOG by Axiomatic, LLC

3.5.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

The entire Town of Westport is at relatively equal risk for experiencing damage from winter storms, although some areas (such as icing trouble spots and neighborhoods with a high concentration of flat roofs) are more susceptible. The public assistance reimbursement from Winter Storm Alfred was \$69,000, proving that winter storms can be costly. However, many damages are relatively site specific and occur to private property (and therefore are paid for by private insurance) while repairs for power outages are often widespread and difficult to quantify to any one municipality.

The structures and utilities in Westport are vulnerable to a variety of winter storm damage. Tree limbs and some building structures may not be suited to withstand high wind and snow loads. Ice can damage or collapse power lines, render steep gradients impassable for motorists, undermine foundations, and cause "flood" damage from freezing water pipes in basements. Drifting snow can occur after large storms, but the effects are generally mitigated through municipal plowing efforts.

According to the 2023 Connecticut Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, recent climate change studies predict a shortened winter season with less frequent, but potentially more intense precipitation events. It is predicted that the number of precipitation events may shift toward more rainfall than snow, ultimately leading to a shift in precipitation type.

The elderly population in Westport is particularly susceptible to the impacts created by winter storms due to resource needs (heat, electricity loss, safe access to food, etc.).

Changes and Improvements

Westport continues to mitigate snowstorm damages.

3.6 WILDFIRES AND DROUGHT

3.6.1 Setting

Westport is generally considered a moderate to low risk area for small wildfires but a low risk area for large wildfires. Wildfires are of particular concern in outlying areas without public water service and other areas with poor access for firefighting equipment. Such areas in Westport are limited to the northern areas of the town. Hazards associated with wildfires include property damage and habitat loss.

In addition, Westport and Fairfield County overall have experienced drought challenges over recent years. The 2023 Connecticut Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan assumes that the State of Connecticut is likely to experience a drought every two to three years. This assumption is based on climate change projections that anticipate hotter, wetter conditions in the near future. Climate forecasts often suggest that while precipitation may increase, the overall pattern will generally be higher intensity storms, with longer than average dry periods between events. The State Plan also identifies that Fairfield County accounts for roughly 7.28% of the state's total number of farms, with a market value of over \$42 million in product sold from these farms.

3.6.2 Capabilities

Regulations regarding fire protection in Westport are outlined in the *Zoning Regulations* and the *Town Code of Ordinances*:

Chapter 34 - FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

- 2(a): No person, without a permit granted by the Fire Chief or his/her designee, shall kindle or maintain any outdoor fire in the Town
- 3. - Accumulation of combustible material prohibited; notice; removal
- 34-11.3 Fire Lanes - Fire lanes shall be provided on a site where required by Fire Marshal pursuant to Town Fire Lanes Ordinance. Such designated fire lanes shall be at least eight (8) feet in width and shall be marked "No Parking." No required parking or loading space shall encroach on any required fire lane.

The town's Fire Department is staffed by 64 career firefighters and operates 4 firehouses.

Actions Completed and New Capabilities

The town continues to require adequate water for firefighting in new developments.

3.6.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

According to the Connecticut DEEP, the actual forest fire risk in Connecticut is low due to several factors. First, the overall incidence of forest fires is very low. According to the 2023 State Hazard Mitigation Plan, an average of 243 fires per year occurred from 2013 to 2022; an increase from the average 109 fires per year reported in the 2019 State HMP. In 2020 alone, there were a reported 603 wildland fire events. Secondly, as the wildfire/forest fire prone areas become fragmented due to development, the local fire departments have increased access to those neighborhoods for firefighting equipment. Third, the problematic interface areas such as driveways too narrow to permit emergency vehicles are site specific. Finally, trained firefighters

at the local and state levels are readily available to fight fires in the state, and inter-municipal cooperation on such instances is common.

In the drought year of 1999, the average wildfire in Connecticut burned 5 acres, compared with the two most extreme wildfires recorded since 1986, which burned 300 acres each. Given the availability of firefighting water in Westport, including the use of nearby water bodies, it is believed that this average value for a drought year and the extreme value are applicable to the town as well.

The Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) index is used to identify areas that may be at greater risk of wildfires based on the density of development in comparison to the amount of wildfire prone vegetation. The northern areas of Westport of those that could be considered at greater risk due to moderate to high levels of development intermixed with fire prone vegetation. However, given firefighting capacity and water availability, it is likely that the town has effective capabilities to minimize damage from fires that may occur. Wildfire Risk Areas in Westport are mapped in Figure 3-2

Changes and Improvements

The town's vulnerability to wildfires continues to be low.

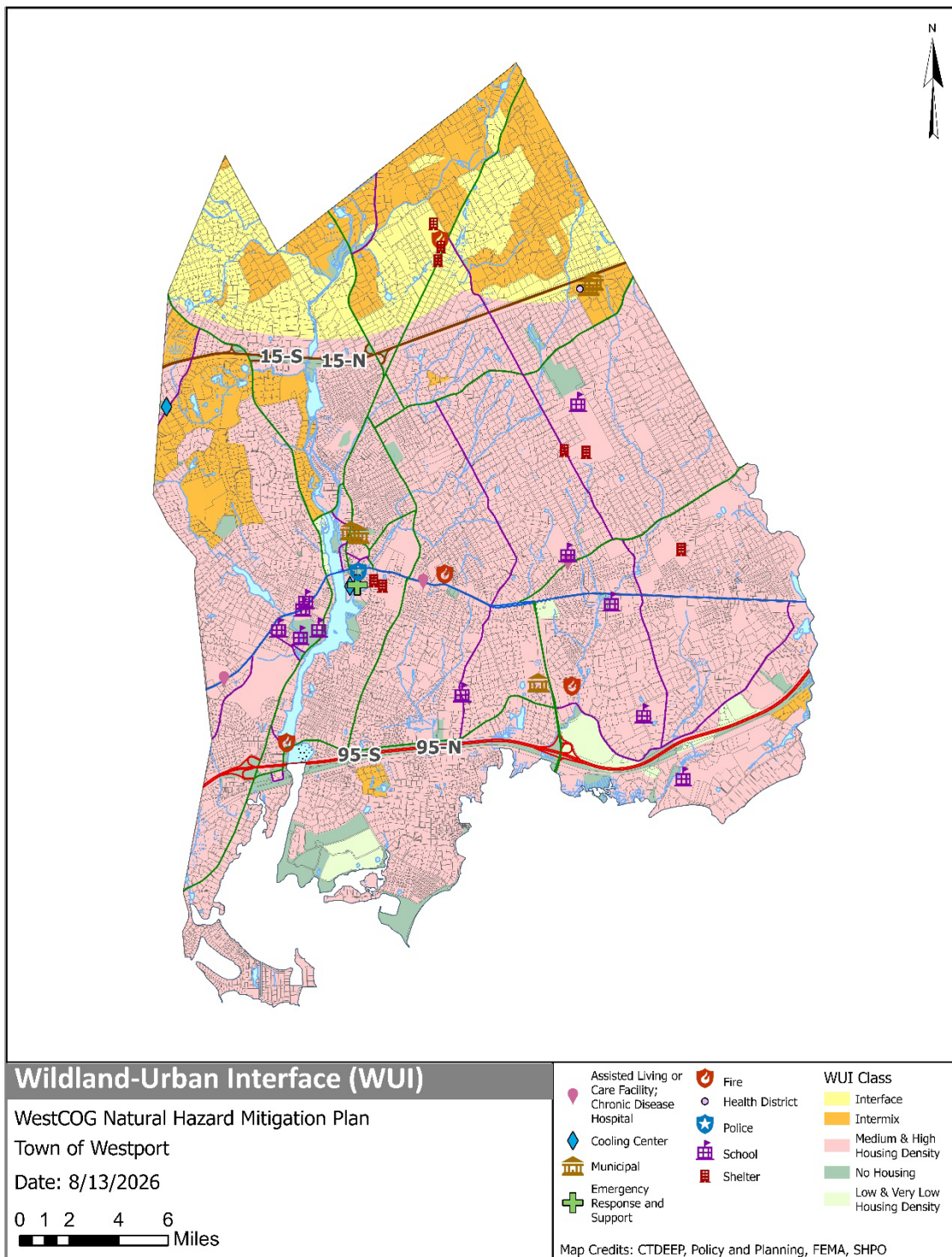


Figure 3-2: Wildfire Risk Areas

3.7 EARTHQUAKES AND LANDSLIDES

3.7.1 Setting

The entirety of Westport is susceptible to earthquake damage. However, even though earthquake damage has the potential to occur anywhere, both in town and in the northeastern United States, the effects may be felt differently in some areas based on the type of geology. In general, earthquakes are considered a hazard that may possibly occur, but that may cause significant effects to a large area.

3.7.2 Capabilities

The town has adopted the state building codes for new construction, and they are enforced by the Building Official. Due to the infrequent nature of damaging earthquakes, land use policies in town do not directly address earthquake hazards. However, various documents do indirectly discuss areas susceptible to earthquake damage and regulations that help to minimize potential earthquake damage.

Subdivision Regulations:

- Encourage the conservation of existing undeveloped land by preserving water bodies, wetlands, watercourses, major stands of trees, steep slopes, ridge lines, significant geological features, and other areas of environmental value.
- Require that soil erosion and sediment control plans be developed for proposed projects.

Plan of Conservation and Development:

- Promotes the conservation of open space, which may include vulnerable soil types and steep slopes.

Zoning

- Limits development on land with slopes of 25% or greater.

Actions Completed and New Capabilities

Westport continues to have appropriate capabilities for mitigating earthquake events.

3.7.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

Some areas in Westport are underlain by sand and gravel, particularly in areas along the Saugatuck River and the coastline. Structures in these areas are at increased risk from earthquakes due to amplification of seismic energy and/or collapse. Most of the remaining area is underlain by glacial till and is therefore not at increased risk during an earthquake due to unstable soils.

A series of earthquake probability maps was generated using the 2009 interactive web-based mapping tools hosted by the USGS. These maps were used to determine the probability of an earthquake of greater than magnitude 5.0 or greater than magnitude 6.0 damaging the town of Westport. Results are presented in Table 3-1 below.

Table 3-1: Probability of a Damaging Earthquake in the Vicinity of Westport

Time Frame (Years)	Probability of the Occurrence of an Earthquake Event > Magnitude 5.0	Probability of the Occurrence of an Earthquake Event > Magnitude 6.0
50	2% to 3%	< 1%
100	4% to 6%	1% to 2%
250	10% to 12%	2% to 3%
350	12% to 15%	3% to 4%

Changes and Improvements

The town's vulnerability to earthquakes continues to be low.

3.8 SEA LEVEL RISE AND SHORELINE CHANGE

3.8.1 Setting

The coastal areas of Westport are susceptible to sea level rise and shoreline change. Sea level rise may not be considered a high hazard risk in and of itself; however, rising seas in conjunction with extreme weather may result in inundation farther inland than seen during past events. In addition to extreme weather, nuisance flooding may also become a more frequent issue during extreme high tides.

The State of Connecticut has adopted the recent sea level rise projections developed by the University of Connecticut, Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) as the latest planning threshold for coastal municipalities. This projection anticipates a rise of 50 cm by the year 2050.

3.8.2 Capabilities

The town has begun to see an increase in nuisance flooding and has experienced the impacts of extreme storm surge, leaving officials aware of the potential impacts of an extreme storm with elevated sea levels.

A flood study was conducted on 8 to 9 streams in town to assess for flooding concerns and infrastructure. The town also acquired a high-water rescue truck and is looking to acquire a second.

Actions Completed and New Capabilities

Westport has been increasing its sea level rise and shoreline change mitigation capabilities through studies, improvement of emergency response capabilities, and monitoring of changing sea levels.

3.8.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

The most at-risk areas are those immediately along the shoreline, with risk slightly declining moving inland. Saugatuck Shores is particularly at risk of increased nuisance flooding under future sea levels. In addition, a 100-year storm event with one foot of sea level rise has the potential to inundate many of the coastal areas, including Compo and Hale Court. Many of these areas are residential.

Changes and Improvements

The town has updated GIS resources to include coastal AE zones and has provided the building department with a database of properties located in this zone. The town has also been encouraging residents to elevate homes to comply with flood regulations and has improved bridge access to the Saugatuck Shores community.

3.9 EXTREME HEAT

3.9.1 Setting

Extreme heat can occur at any time during the warmer months and can be defined as temperatures that hover 10 degrees or more above the average high temperature for the region. The NWS defines extreme heat as a period of abnormally hot weather generally lasting more than two days. A *heat wave* typically lasts three or more days with temperatures over 90 degrees for those days. These events typically last for a prolonged period of time, can vary in extent and intensity, and are often accompanied by high humidity.

An extreme heat event or heat wave can occur anywhere throughout Connecticut and any of the WestCOG communities. According to the 2023 Connecticut State Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, Fairfield and Litchfield counties experienced, between 2012 and 2021, the greatest and least average annual number of days with temperatures greater than 90 degrees, respectively. Fairfield County experienced five days on average, while Litchfield County experienced zero days on average.

Extreme heat events are expected to increase. The WestCOG Regional Climate Assessment (2026) notes that “by 2050, in a high CO₂-emissions scenario (RCP 8.5), average temperatures are expected to rise by approximately 5°F and continue to increase thereafter.” The region is also likely to see an increase in heat wave days, summer days (where daily maximum temperatures are above 77 degrees), and tropical nights (where the daily minimum is below 68 degrees).

3.9.2 Capabilities

The Town of Westport has identified cooling centers in town which can provide respite to members of the community during an extreme heat event or heat wave. The Town also monitors the National Weather Service and local forecasts for heat warnings and advisories, in addition to guidance set forth by the State.

Actions Completed and New Capabilities

The town has identified three cooling centers in Westport.

3.9.3 Vulnerabilities and Risk Assessment

While the entire town is at risk of an extreme heat event, vulnerability can vary widely throughout the community as it does across Connecticut. To better characterize vulnerability to extreme heat, UConn CIRCA has developed a tool to aid in understanding extreme heat vulnerability for communities across the state. This tool, known as the Climate Change Vulnerability Index (CCVI), comprises dozens of factors that contribute to a community’s heat sensitivity, exposure, adaptive capacity, and, ultimately, overall heat vulnerability. The CCVI can be used to characterize heat vulnerability in Westport.

In general, the most vulnerable populations in Westport would include the young and the elderly, and those populations living in the more densely developed areas in town which may have reduced tree coverage and a greater density of impervious surface. According to the CCVI, more heat vulnerable areas in Town are concentrated along the Route 1 corridor and the Saugatuck and Town Center neighborhoods.

Changes and Improvements

The town, like all WestCOG communities, is now including extreme heat in its HMP and beginning to plan more intently to address extreme heat impacts.

4.0 MITIGATION STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

4.1 Goals and Objectives

Municipal goals and objectives have been made consistent regionally and are presented in the Multi-Jurisdictional Plan document.

4.2 Status of Mitigation Strategies and Actions from Previous HMP

The table below lists the mitigation actions developed in the previous HMP and their status. Actions to be carried forward are noted as such. Actions that have been institutionalized as capabilities are not carried forward.

Table 4-1 Status of Prior Mitigation Actions

#	Description	Status	Notes
1	Update drought management plan to be in alignment with State of Connecticut Drought Preparedness and Response Plan.	Remove	Action not needed. State and Aquarion actions related to drought are sufficient.
2	Identify locations for residents to park cars when flooding is forecast, ensure sufficient parking is available, and inform residents of the appropriate parking locations.	Carry forward with revision	Downtown parking remains the concern. Modify the action to focus on notifications.
3	Provide information on the Town website about CT DEEP training and information around small business chemical management for hazard resilience.	Remove	Action no longer needed. The Town can do this as part of its CRS participation
4	Use the CT Toxics Users and Climate Resilience Map to identify toxic users located in hazard zones within your community. Contact those users to inform them about the CT DEEP small business chemical management initiative.	Remove	Action no longer needed. The Town can do this as part of its CRS participation
5	Host a CT DEEP presentation for municipal staff and local businesses about business chemical management for hazard resilience.	Remove	Action no longer needed. The Town can do this as part of its CRS participation

#	Description	Status	Notes
6	Take one of the following actions that will mitigate natural hazard risks while also meeting Sustainable CT objectives:- Disseminate a toolkit for pre-disaster business preparedness.- Revise regulations to promote Low Impact Development.- Include the goals of this Hazard Mitigation Plan, and at least three other sustainability concepts, in your next POCD update.	Remove	Land use commissions have been promoting LID and green stormwater infrastructure. The POCD update is underway, and these will be key themes. Action can be retired.
7	Improve coordination with Eversource and UI through the community liaison.	Complete	Complete
8	Encourage the preservation of undeveloped lands within the 100-year flood zone with the use of open space purchases, donations and conservation easements.	Carry forward with revision	DEEP Open Space Funding may be more appropriate than FEMA
9	Collaborate with CIRCA on the "Resilient Connecticut" project	Carry forward with revision	The Town has not yet been provided with the opportunity to collaborate on the next phase.
10	Coordinate with CT SHPO to conduct outreach to owners of historic properties to educate them on methods of retrofitting historic properties to be more hazard-resilient while maintaining historic character.	Remove	Additional work relative to historic resources is not needed. Resources are available.
11	Coordinate with CT SHPO to conduct historic resource surveys, focusing on areas within natural hazard risk zones (flood zones, wildfire hazard zones, steep slopes) to identify historic resources at risk and support the preparation of resiliency plans across the state.	Remove	Additional work relative to historic resources is not needed. Resources are available.
12	The privately-owned Bulkley Pond Dam on Sasco Brook was breached during a severe storm event in the Fall of 2018. The Town will work with the State and other Non-Governmental Organizations to encourage the dam and surrounding property owners to formalize the breach and restore and manage the wetland system as it transitions from a pond to a wet meadow.	Complete	Complete

#	Description	Status	Notes
13	Identify a department, board, or individual to be responsible for ongoing implementation of dam safety practices, such as keeping EAPs up-to-date and on file, ensuring inspection and maintenance work is completed and documented, and performing dam failure exercises.	Remove	Multiple departments coordinate for this.
14	Incorporate a Natural Hazards Awareness Week and conduct corresponding outreach the community and all interested parties. Activities will focus on flooding and other natural hazards, including associated hazard functions, governing laws/regulations, mitigation strategies and precautions. Outreach will also be conducted throughout the year, wherever possible	Carry forward with revision	Action 14 and 16 are somewhat similar; combine and carry forward.
15	Require private marinas and yacht clubs to develop management plans that address pollution prevention and hazard mitigation.	Remove	DEEP requirements have addressed this need.
16	Provide the earthquake-related publications to the public library for inclusion with the other natural hazard publications.	Carry forward with revision	Action 14 and 16 are somewhat similar; combine and carry forward.
17	Develop a new committee to focus on flood hazard area regulations including making changes such as:- Changing SI lookback from 5 years to the life of the structure- Require a structure, even if only partially in a flood hazard zone, if designed to be fully protected as if the entire structure were in the zone- A building or structure, if located in two zones, is designed to the standards of the more restrictive flood hazard zone - Prohibit new living spaces entirely of partially over water unless water dependent uses	Carry forward with revision	The Flood and Erosion Control Board can take on these types of efforts, working with Department heads. Some of these recommended changes are already in effect or enforced. Revise to consider additional resiliency measures.

#	Description	Status	Notes
18	Adopt an ordinance that would place responsibility for stream channel maintenance on the property owner and give Westport enforcement power. Such ordinances would include stream dumping, channel maintenance, and land clearing disturbances. These ordinances would reduce the likelihood of localized flooding and could lead to additional points toward CRS reclassification.	Remove	Existing regulatory mechanisms are believed to be sufficient for this.
19	Regularly review subdivision regulations and make appropriate changes to encourage alternatives to placing lots in flood prone areas	Remove	This is a capability.
20	Request that FEMA continue to work to improve the accuracy of the updated FIRM maps, with special attention paid to unnumbered A-zones.	Remove	New FEMA maps were issued in 2023.
21	Develop public awareness information material to distribute to property owners/occupants in the dam failure inundation zones.	Remove	This is a capability.
22	Conduct a detailed flood/coastal risk assessment to improve resiliency efforts to key assets and vulnerable properties.	Carry forward with revision	While Westport has conducted focused resiliency planning in the past, additional efforts may be justified. Carry forward.
23	Pursue and support comprehensive studies that recommend specific strategies for effective erosion abatement at Compo Mill Cove.	Carry forward with revision	Funding needed to execute this work. Carry forward.
	Request that the Town, including the Board of Education, if applicable, fund studies and retain the services of a professional engineer to survey all municipally owned buildings for their ability to withstand earthquake and wind loading. Prioritize any retrofitting, giving those buildings to be used as shelters the currently being used, then consider relocating the shelter to that location. highest priority. If analysis reveals that a particular building is better suited as a shelter than one that is	Carry forward with revision	Snow loading would also be appropriate to evaluate at the same time - many schools have flat roofs. Carry forward.

#	Description	Status	Notes
25	Take advantage of opportunities during redevelopment projects to retrofit existing above ground structures to make them more disaster resilient. This action seeks to go beyond the requirements associated with substantial improvement.	Carry forward with revision	This action is contingent on redevelopment projects. Carry forward.
26	Compare local floodplain regulations with Revised State Model Flood Regulations to identify any remaining opportunities for improvement	Remove	This is a capability.
27	Contact the owners of Repetitive Loss Properties and nearby properties at risk to inquire about mitigation undertaken and suggest options for mitigating flooding in those areas. This should be accomplished with a letter directly mailed to each property owner.	Carry forward with revision	This is a capability shared by the Town and WestCOG.
28	Incentivize privately owned critical facilities to evaluate the ability of the buildings to withstand hazards such as earthquakes and tornadoes, and to address and deficiencies identified. The incentive is continuing to be listed in this plan.	Remove	Additional progress in this area is not believed necessary.
29	Work with CT DEEP to validate and/or correct the RL list and update the mitigation status of each listed property.	Carry forward with revision	A regional action has been suggested in other communities with WestCOG taking the lead; discard in favor of regional action?
30	Annually conduct an emergency operations exercise for a local terrorism, sabotage, or mass casualty event.	Remove	This is a capability. The Town participates in DEMHS drills.
31	Work with utilities to place deflectors on key utility lines to reduce accumulation of ice or snow.	Complete	Complete
32	Pursue funding for other culvert replacements and upgrades	Remove	This action can be retired in favor of specific actions.
33	Upgrade undersized culverts on Muddy Brook	Carry forward with revision	This was in progress; the Town was replacing the bridge on Hillendale Road (may replace two others). Approved for LOTCIP project over Muddy Brook. This is a high priority due to significant flooding damage. Additional funding may be needed for the other two bridge upgrades.

#	Description	Status	Notes
34	Upgrade undersized culverts on Dead Man Brook	Carry forward with revision	The Town has held public information meetings on this topic. These culverts empty to an area that is only 5' wide which results in flooding. Residents are hesitant to enlarge to 25' wide since that may not help the 100-year flood. Significant flooding occurs in these areas. The ideal mitigation project may require removing several homes, which residents cannot support. Additional progress for Dead Man Brook is needed.
35	Upgrade undersized culverts on Violet Lane	Carry forward with revision (combine)	See above action relative to Dead Man Brook.
36	Upgrade undersized culverts on Myrtle Avenue	Carry forward with revision (combine)	See above action relative to Dead Man Brook.
37	Pursue the acquisition of a second high-water emergency response vehicle	Remove	Was completed, and replacement is necessary. This is a capability.
38	Identify opportunities for cooperation and coordination with private road associations regarding tree and limb management, drainage maintenance, and other access and egress concerns	Remove	These types of coordination challenges have been addressed over the years.
39	Identify additional sites for yard waste and storm debris	Complete	Completed.

4.3 **Prioritization of Strategies and Actions**

The STAPLEE method, described in the Multi-Jurisdictional document, was used to score mitigation activities. The STAPLEE matrix in Appendix A provides the total scores. Actions have been further prioritized based on implementation cost, project urgency, and municipal and public input. The strategies below are presented in priority order, with qualitative priority levels listed for each.

4.4 **Mitigation Strategies and Actions Implementation Table**

The Town proposed to initiate several new mitigation actions for the upcoming five years. Additionally, a number of actions from the previous planning period are being carried forward or replaced with revised actions. These are listed below.

APPENDIX A

Appendix A: STAPLEE Matrix

Action #	Action Description	Responsible Entity	Cost Range	Funding Sources	Timeframe	Community Priority	Type of Action	Hazard	Social Benefit	Social Cost	Technical Benefit	Technical Cost	Admin Benefit	Admin Cost	Political Benefit	Political Cost	Legal Benefit	Legal Cost	Economic Benefit	Economic Cost	Environ. Benefit	Environ. Cost	STAPLEE Score
WPT-01	Compare local floodplain regulations with Revised State Model Flood Regulations to identify opportunities for improved consistency when adopting the new FEMA maps for the Saugatuck, Southwestern CT, and Housatonic studies. Ensure that freeboard is consistent with the State Building Code.	Planning	\$0 - \$25,000	Operating Budget	2026 or when directed by the State NFIP Coordinator	High	Prevention	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	9
WPT-02	Consider and then incorporate additional resiliency measures in flood regulations and site plan reviews.	Planning, BOS	\$0 - \$25,000	Operating Budget	2027-2028	Low	Prevention	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	7

Action #	Action Description	Responsible Entity	Cost Range	Funding Sources	Timeframe	Community Priority	Type of Action	Hazard	Social Benefit	Social Cost	Technical Benefit	Technical Cost	Admin Benefit	Admin Cost	Political Benefit	Political Cost	Legal Benefit	Legal Cost	Economic Benefit	Economic Cost	Environ. Benefit	Environ. Cost	STAPLEE Score
WPT-03	Incorporate resiliency standards into review and approvals of redevelopment projects, focusing on public/private funding and incentivized development.	Planning	\$0 - \$25,000	Operating Budget	2027-2028	Low	Prevention	Multiple Hazards	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	7
WPT-04	Develop a new townwide resiliency plan that includes a flood risk assessment.	Planning, BOS	\$100,000 - \$500,000	Capital Improvement Plan, DCRF	2027-2028	High	More than one category	Multiple Hazards	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6

Action #	Action Description	Responsible Entity	Cost Range	Funding Sources	Timeframe	Community Priority	Type of Action	Hazard	Social Benefit	Social Cost	Technical Benefit	Technical Cost	Admin Benefit	Admin Cost	Political Benefit	Political Cost	Legal Benefit	Legal Cost	Economic Benefit	Economic Cost	Environ. Benefit	Environ. Cost	STAPLEE Score
WPT-05	As the opportunity arises, collaborate with CIRCA on the "Resilient Connecticut" project to advance further study in areas with flood and extreme heat risks.	Planning, BOS	\$0 - \$25,000	Operating Budget plus CIRCA funds from State and Federal sources	2028-2030	Low	More than one category	Multiple Hazards	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	7
WPT-06	Continue to participate in the WestCOG program that provides outreach to repetitive loss property owners.	Fire Department	\$0 - \$25,000	Operating Budget and COG general services budgets	Annually in 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030	Medium	Property Protection	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	8
WPT-07	Work with WestCOG to update the mitigation status of repetitive loss properties.	Planning	\$0 - \$25,000	Operating Budget and COG general services budgets	2029	Medium	Property Protection	Flooding	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	6

Action #	Action Description	Responsible Entity	Cost Range	Funding Sources	Timeframe	Community Priority	Type of Action	Hazard	Social Benefit	Social Cost	Technical Benefit	Technical Cost	Admin Benefit	Admin Cost	Political Benefit	Political Cost	Legal Benefit	Legal Cost	Economic Benefit	Economic Cost	Environ. Benefit	Environ. Cost	STAPLEE Score
WPT-08	Support pending residential elevation grant applications submitted under HMGP, FMA, and FMA Swift Current	Fire Department, BOS	\$25,000 - \$50,000	Operating Budget, FEMA HMA	2026-2029	High	Property Protection	Flooding	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	7
WPT-09	Advance design and secure funding for upsizing/replacing additional crossings of Muddy Brook.	DPW, BOS	>\$1M	Capital Improvement Plan, FEMA HMA, STEAP, PROTECT, LOTCIP	2027-2030	High	Structural Projects	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	6
WPT-10	Advance a study of flood mitigation options for concerns along Dead Man Brook.	DPW, BOS	>\$1M	Capital Improvement Plan, FEMA HMA, STEAP, PROTECT, LOTCIP	2027-2030	High	Structural Projects	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	6

Action #	Action Description	Responsible Entity	Cost Range	Funding Sources	Timeframe	Community Priority	Type of Action	Hazard	Social Benefit	Social Cost	Technical Benefit	Technical Cost	Admin Benefit	Admin Cost	Political Benefit	Political Cost	Legal Benefit	Legal Cost	Economic Benefit	Economic Cost	Environ. Benefit	Environ. Cost	STAPLEE Score
WPT-11	Increase capacity of Dead Man Brook crossings when replacing or repairing bridges and culverts.	DPW, BOS	>\$1M	FEMA HMA, FEMA Section 406, PROTECT, LOTCIP	2026-2028	High	Structural Projects	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	7
WPT-12	Replace the Jessup Road bridge at Dead Man Brook, ensuring that the new design is resilient to higher flood flows and ensures continuity of emergency access via the road.	DPW, BOS	>\$1M	FEMA HMA, FEMA Section 406, PROTECT, LOTCIP	2026-2028	High	Structural Projects	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	7
WPT-13	Address scour at Bayberry Lane crossing of Aspetuck River	DPW, BOS	>\$1M	Capital Improvement Plan, FEMA HMA, STEAP, PROTECT, LOTCIP	2028-2029	Med	Structural Projects	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	6

Action #	Action Description	Responsible Entity	Cost Range	Funding Sources	Timeframe	Community Priority	Type of Action	Hazard	Social Benefit	Social Cost	Technical Benefit	Technical Cost	Admin Benefit	Admin Cost	Political Benefit	Political Cost	Legal Benefit	Legal Cost	Economic Benefit	Economic Cost	Environ. Benefit	Environ. Cost	STAPLEE Score
WPT-14	Determine causes of flooding along small streams such as those near Sue Terrace and Fresenius Road, and pursue funding for projects such as detaining stormwater, improving conveyances, modifying drainage systems, and/or home elevations to reduce property damage.	DPW, BOS	>\$1M	Capital Improvement Plan, DCRF (for studies), FEMA HMA, STEAP	2028-2029	High	More than one category	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	8
WPT-15	Utilize new types of land acquisition funding sources to acquire land in areas of flood risk.	BOS	\$100,000 - \$500,000	Operating Budget, FEMA HMA, DEEP Open Space Grants	2026-2030	Med	Natural Resources Protection	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	7

Action #	Action Description	Responsible Entity	Cost Range	Funding Sources	Timeframe	Community Priority	Type of Action	Hazard	Social Benefit	Social Cost	Technical Benefit	Technical Cost	Admin Benefit	Admin Cost	Political Benefit	Political Cost	Legal Benefit	Legal Cost	Economic Benefit	Economic Cost	Environ. Benefit	Environ. Cost	STAPLEE Score
WPT-16	Enhance flood notifications to include residents and visitors of downtown Westport.	Fire Department	\$25,000 - \$50,000	Operating Budget	2027-2028	High	Preparedness & Emergency Response	Flooding	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	9
WPT-17	Charge a committee with conducting a Natural Hazards Awareness Week and conduct corresponding outreach. Activities will focus on flooding and other natural hazards, including associated hazard functions, governing laws/regulations, mitigation strategies and precautions. Outreach will also be conducted throughout the year.	Fire Department, Planning	\$0 - \$25,000	Operating Budget	Annually in 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030	Low	Education & Awareness	All Hazards	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5

Action #	Action Description	Responsible Entity	Cost Range	Funding Sources	Timeframe	Community Priority	Type of Action	Hazard	Social Benefit	Social Cost	Technical Benefit	Technical Cost	Admin Benefit	Admin Cost	Political Benefit	Political Cost	Legal Benefit	Legal Cost	Economic Benefit	Economic Cost	Environ. Benefit	Environ. Cost	STAPLEE Score
WPT-18	Execute a comprehensive study that recommends specific strategies for effective erosion abatement at Compo Mill Cove.	DPW	\$50,000 - \$100,000	Capital Improvement Plan, STEAP	2030-2031	Low	Natural Resources Protection	Multiple Hazards	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4
WPT-19	Conduct a structural study of schools and critical facilities to ensure that they are adequately protected relative to wind, snow, and earthquake hazards.	BOS	\$50,000 - \$100,000	Capital Improvement Plan, STEAP	2029-2030	Low	Preparedness & Emergency Response	Multiple Hazards	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	6
WPT-20	Work with Aquarion Water Company to enforce mandatory twice-per-week irrigation schedule.	BOS	\$0 - \$25,000	Operating Budget	2027-2031	Low	Education & Awareness	Drought	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4