

Bergen County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Public Meeting #3

October 7, 2025
1:00 pm

Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL



Welcome

Meet the Project Team!

Michael Marsh

Client Project Manager

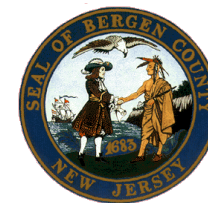
Bergen County Office of Emergency
Management

Brittany Dremluk, AICP, PP

Consultant Project Manager

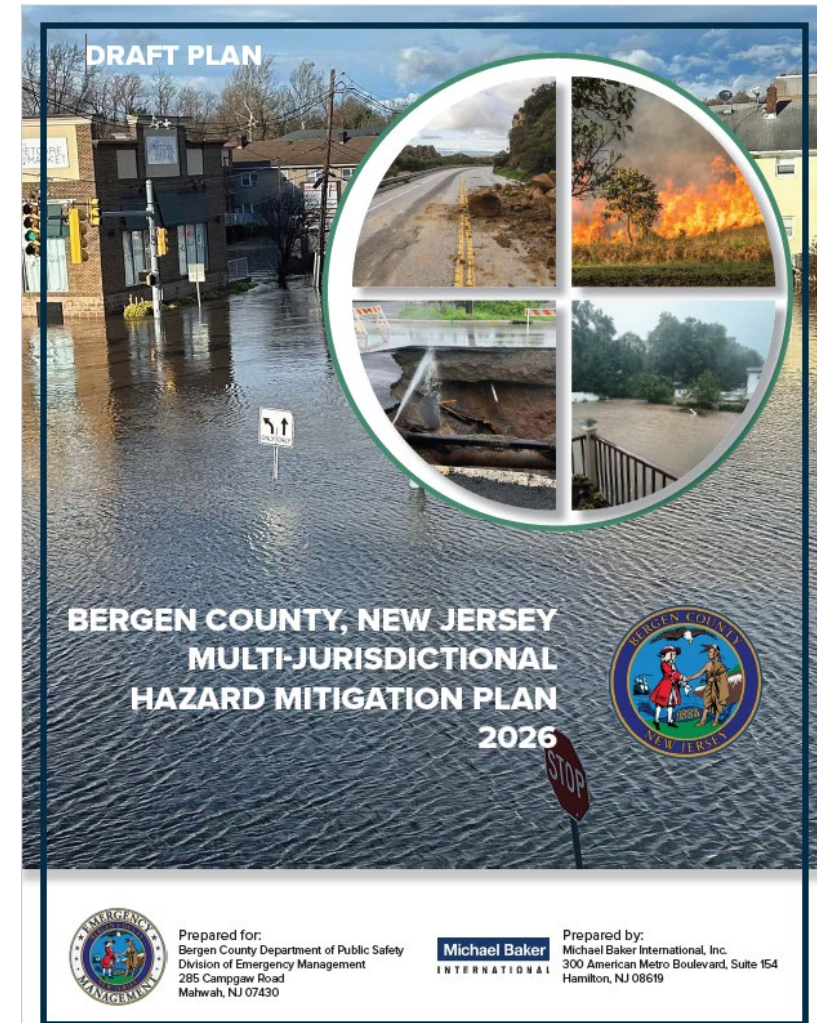
Taylor Harrington, Hazard Mitigation Planner

Michael Baker International, Inc.



Agenda

1. **Project Overview**
 - Purpose
 - Schedule
2. **Highlight of Draft Plan Sections**
3. **Next Steps**
4. **Open Discussion**



The last update to the Bergen County Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved by FEMA on June 7, 2021

Project Overview

Purpose of Hazard Mitigation

Hazard mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters.

State, tribal, and local governments engage in hazard mitigation planning **to identify risks and vulnerabilities** associated with disasters and **develop long-term strategies for protecting people and property** from future hazard events.



Project Schedule



DRAFT PLAN



**BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN
2026**



Prepared for:
Bergen County Department of Public Safety
Division of Emergency Management
285 Campgaw Road
Mahwah, NJ 07430

Michael Baker
INTERNATIONAL

Prepared by:
Michael Baker International, Inc.
300 American Metro Boulevard, Suite 154
Hamilton, NJ 08619

Highlight of Draft Plan Sections

Community Profile



Section Highlight

Recent and Future Development in Bergen County, by Municipality

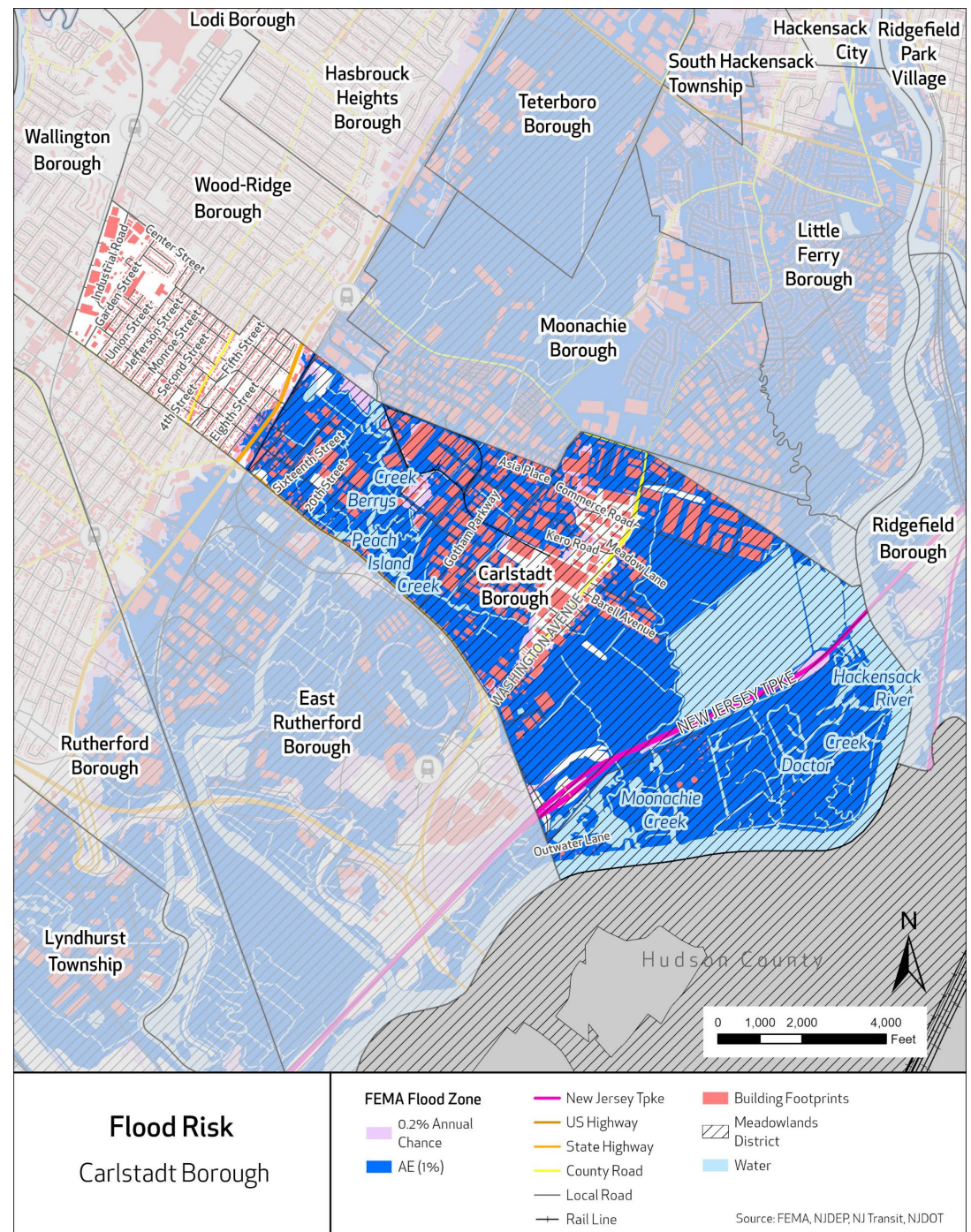
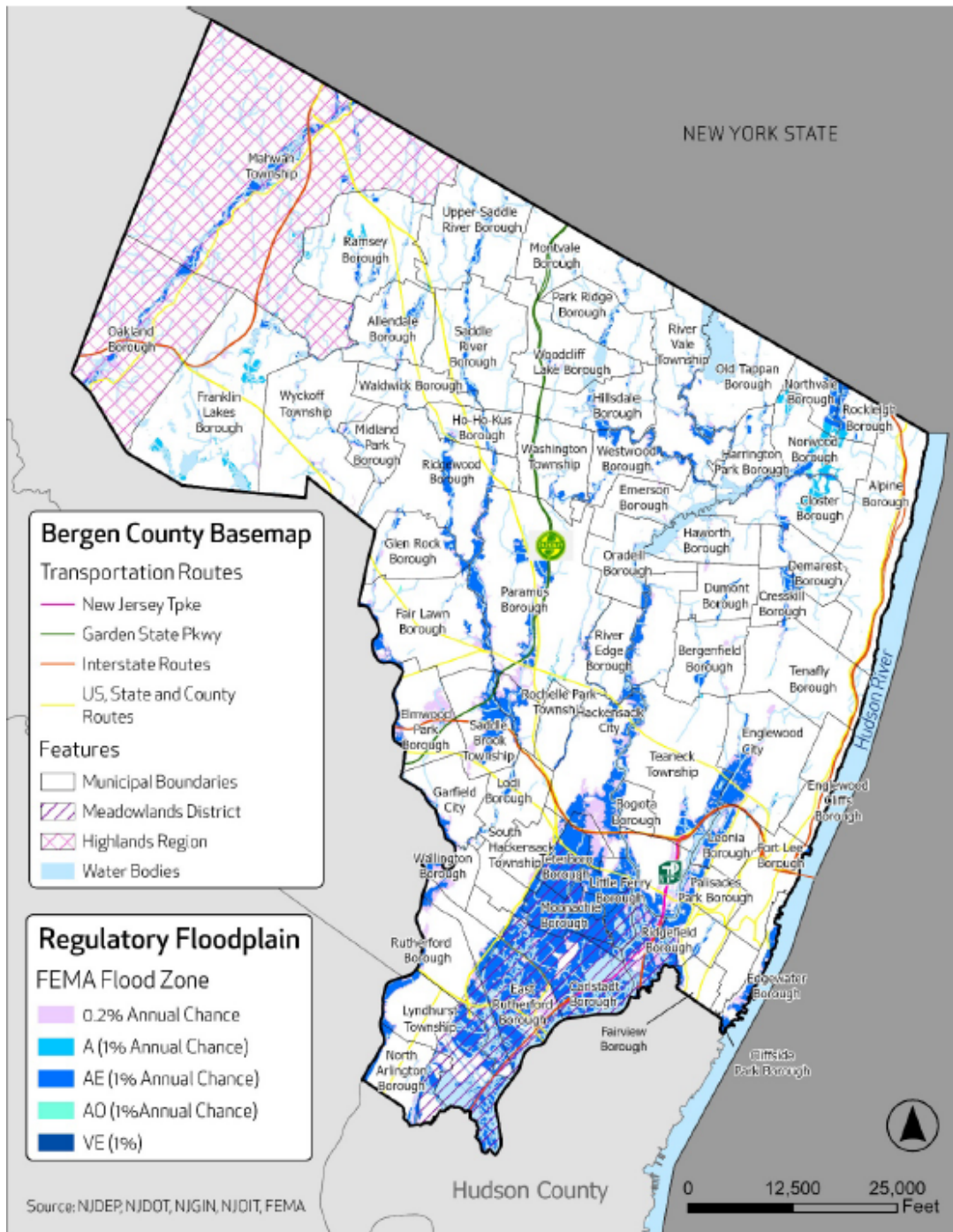
Municipality	Recent and Future Development
Bergenfield Borough	Recent development in the borough includes a development of about 30 units on Home Place, as well as North Washington Square at Hickory, which completed construction in 2021 and contains about 60 units. Neither development is located within the floodplain. Several areas in the borough have been designated as redevelopment areas. Including two areas with redevelopment plans, Washington Avenue and Main Street as well as West Church Street. The plans include the construction of multi-family residential mixed-use buildings, with ground-floor retail and a mandatory 20% set aside for affordable housing, totaling a maximum of 220 units. In addition to these two areas with redevelopment plans, there are several designated areas in need of redevelopment in Bergenfield, one of which (Area G) is located within the floodplain.
Bogota Borough	Two large residential developments have come up in the borough since the last plan, 'The Atwater' and 'The Gabriel'. Among these, The Atwater, a 430-unit residential complex was built at 1000 W Fort Lee Road, in a regulatory floodplain. However, it was elevated by three feet to mitigate flooding. Meanwhile, the Gabriel, a recently built 220-unit apartment complex located at 51 Queen Anne Road, is not in a floodplain. No major development in the next five years is anticipated by the borough. Four townhome projects on Fort Lee Road have been approved but these are not large developments. These townhomes will not be located in a flood zone.
Carlstadt Borough	At 333 Washington Ave., a 100,000-square-foot industrial building for modern logistics is being developed by Goodman. The two-acre parcel was home to an aging 40,000-square-foot building. This parcel is in the floodplain.
Cliffside Park Borough	The borough is largely built out, and recent years have seen no recent large-scale development or redevelopment of residential or commercial parcels throughout Cliffside Park. The borough has been strict in their requirements for upcoming new development. There is a notable (potential) residential redevelopment, currently proposed at under 30 units, that to date (2025) has not been approved by the borough. No existing redevelopments are in progress or have been recently approved in Cliffside Park. Ongoing infrastructural improvements, particularly related to stormwater management, have been completed and are scheduled to continue in the borough. One project, addressing a low-point water collection at Oakdene Avenue, has been approved by DEP and is now going out for bid (in early 2025). The borough is utilizing approximately \$10 million in grant funds to upgrade an aging sanitary sewer system and storm sewer system as well as increasing flow capacity.

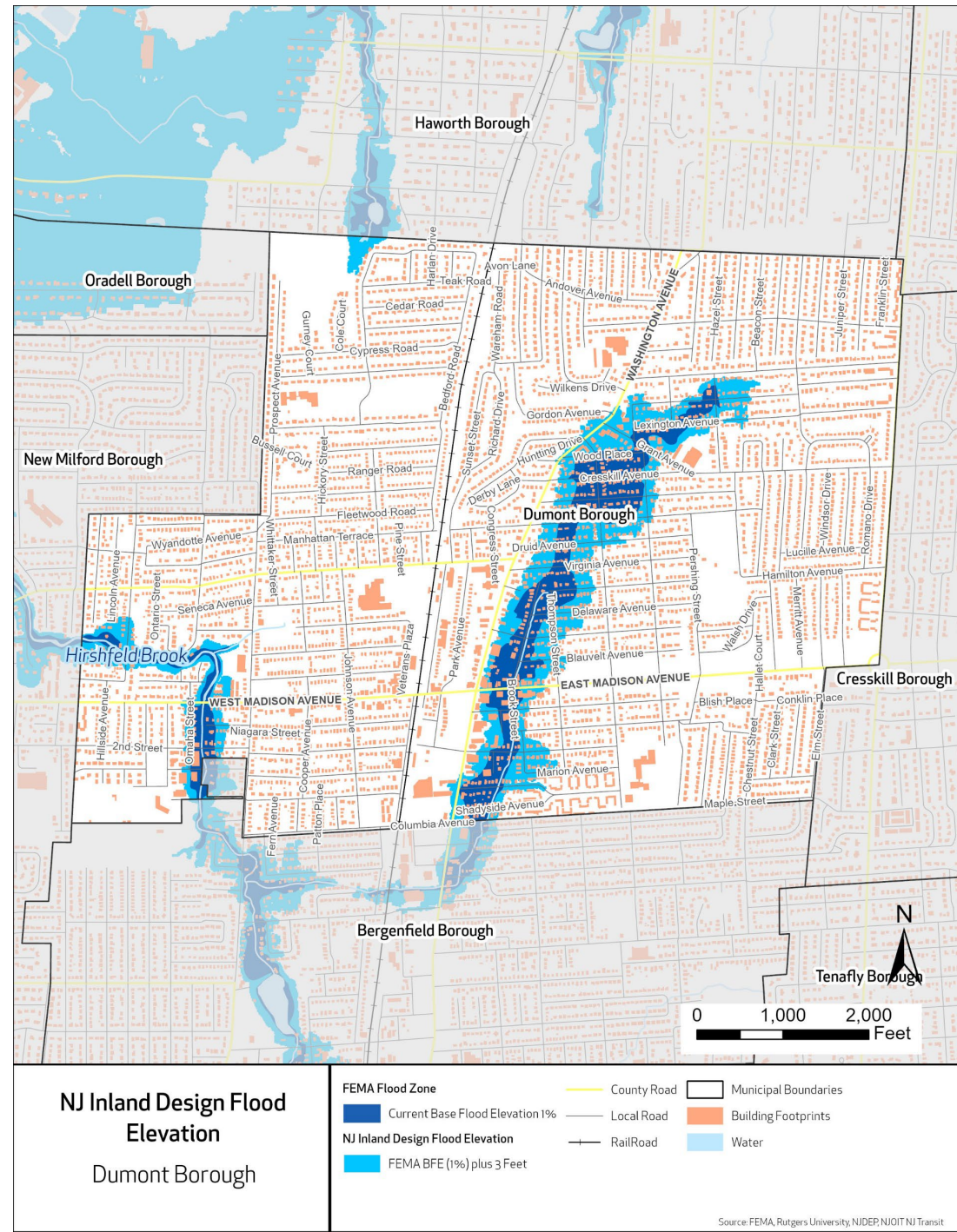
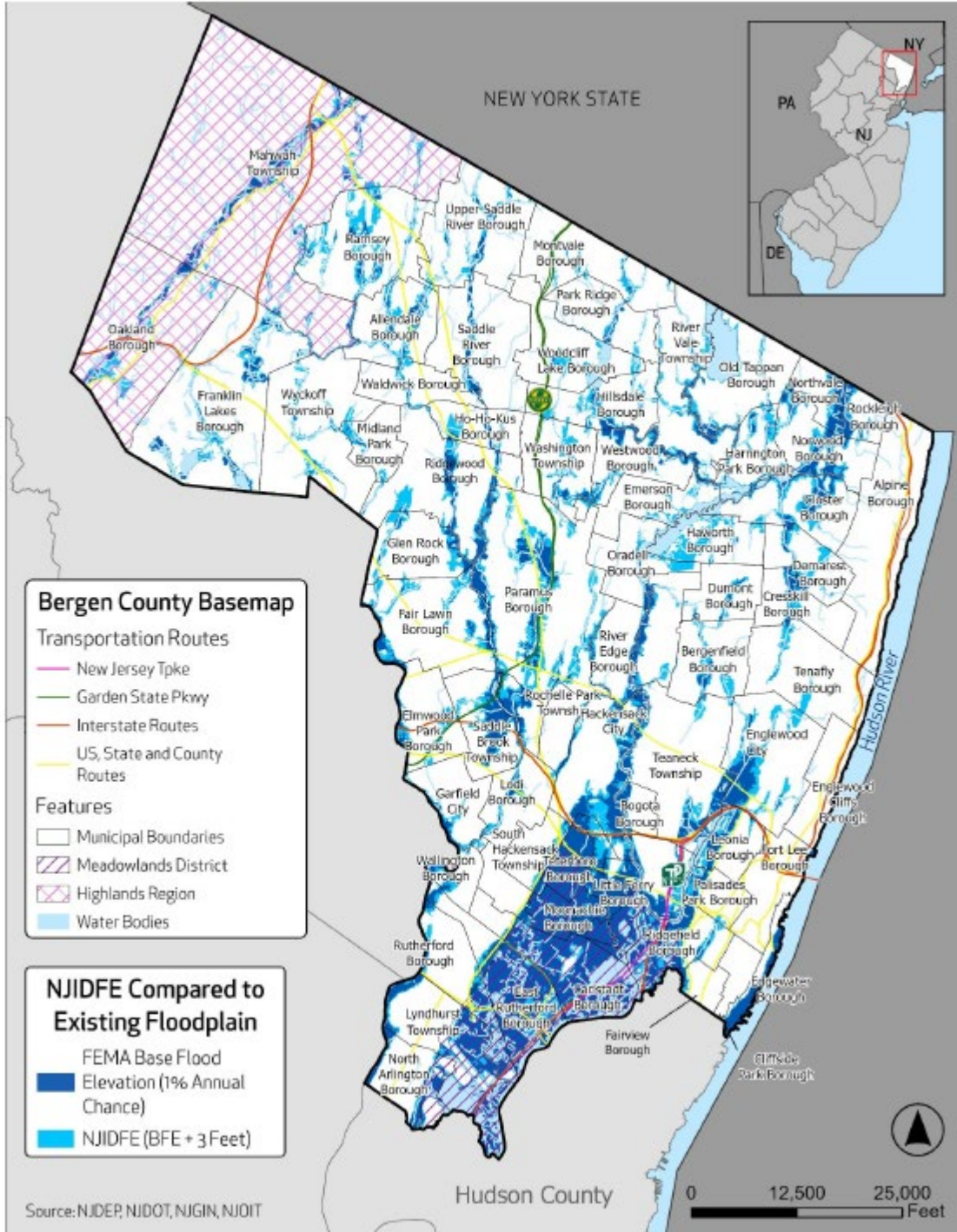
- Population and the Economy
- Built Environment
- Ecosystems and Natural Assets

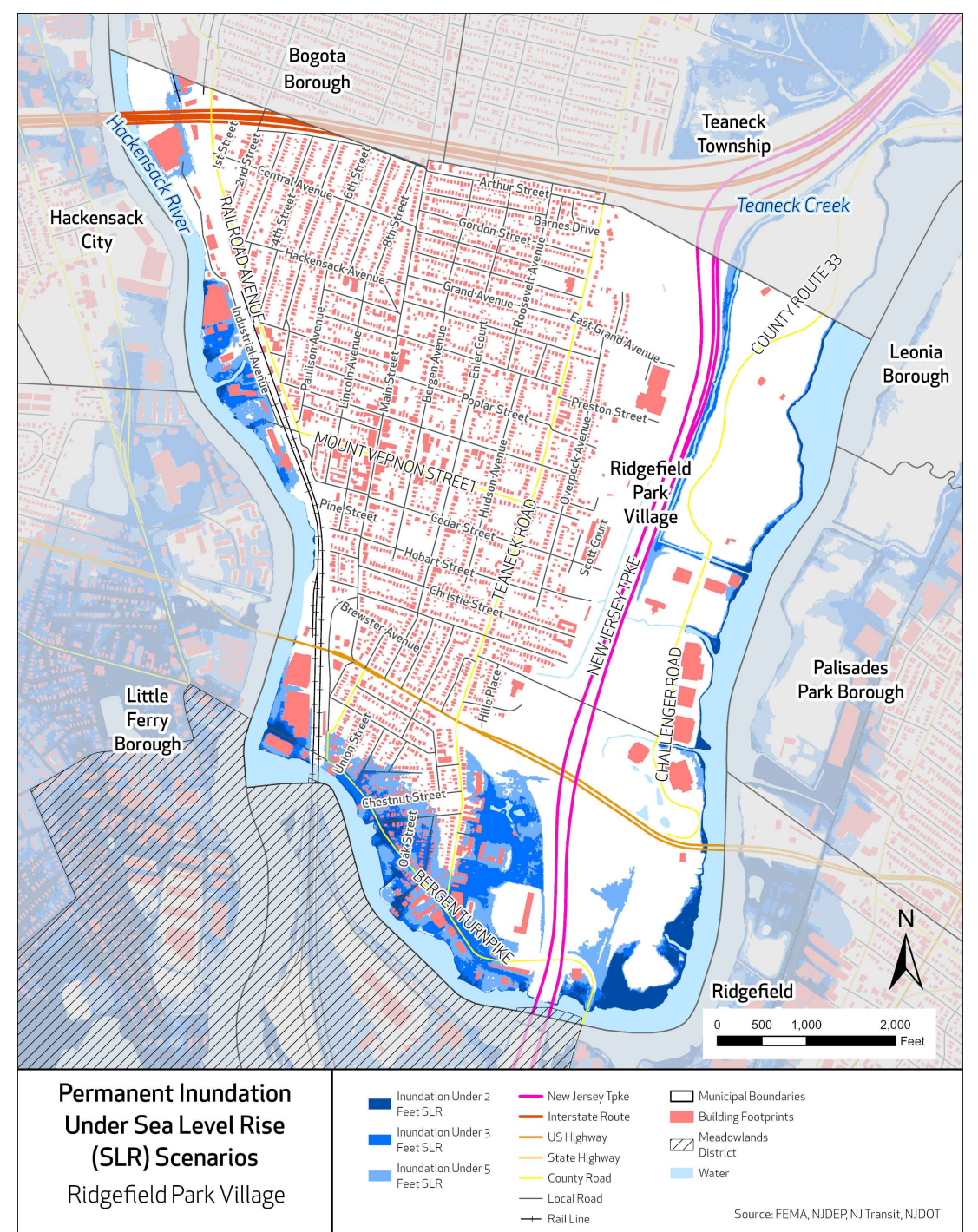
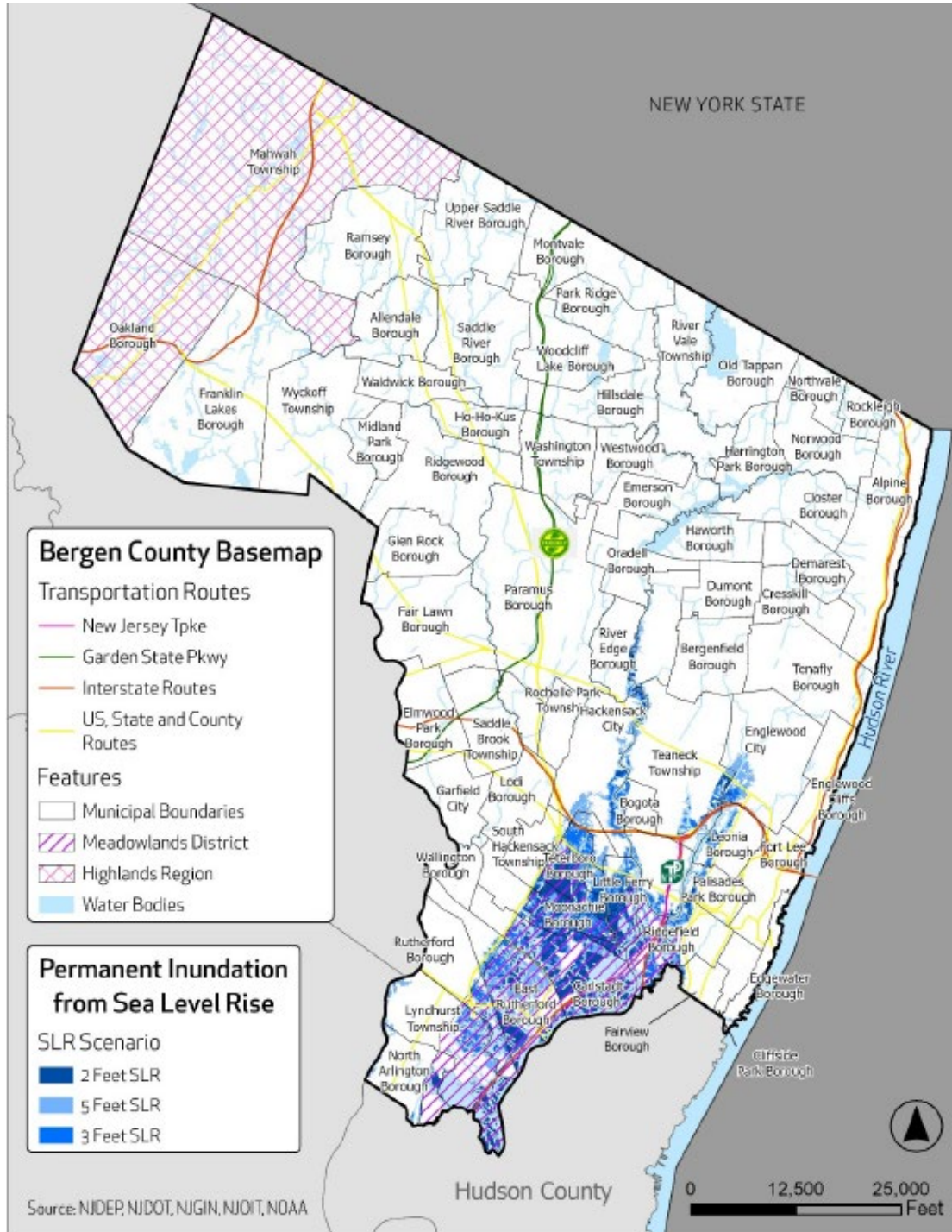
Hazard Identification

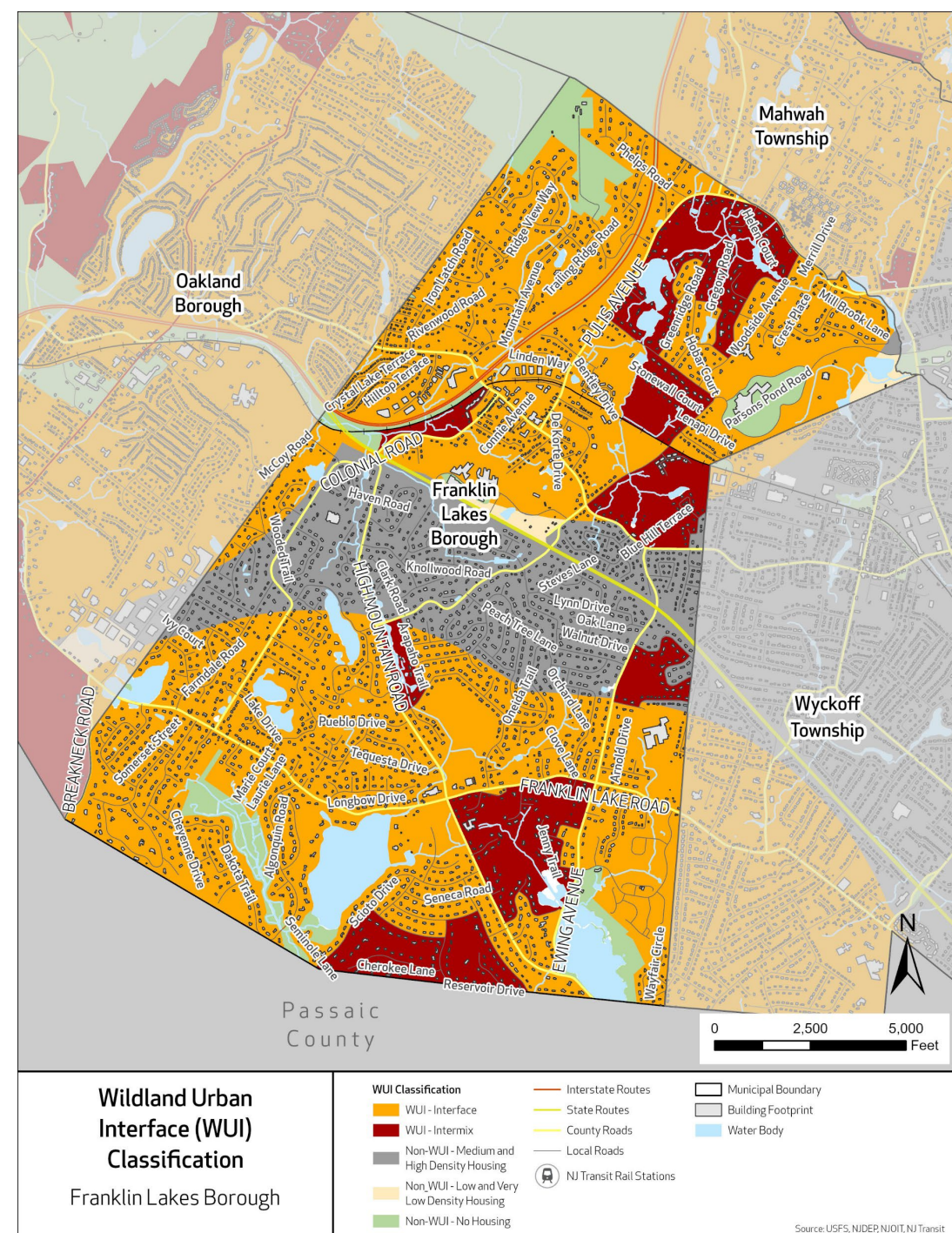
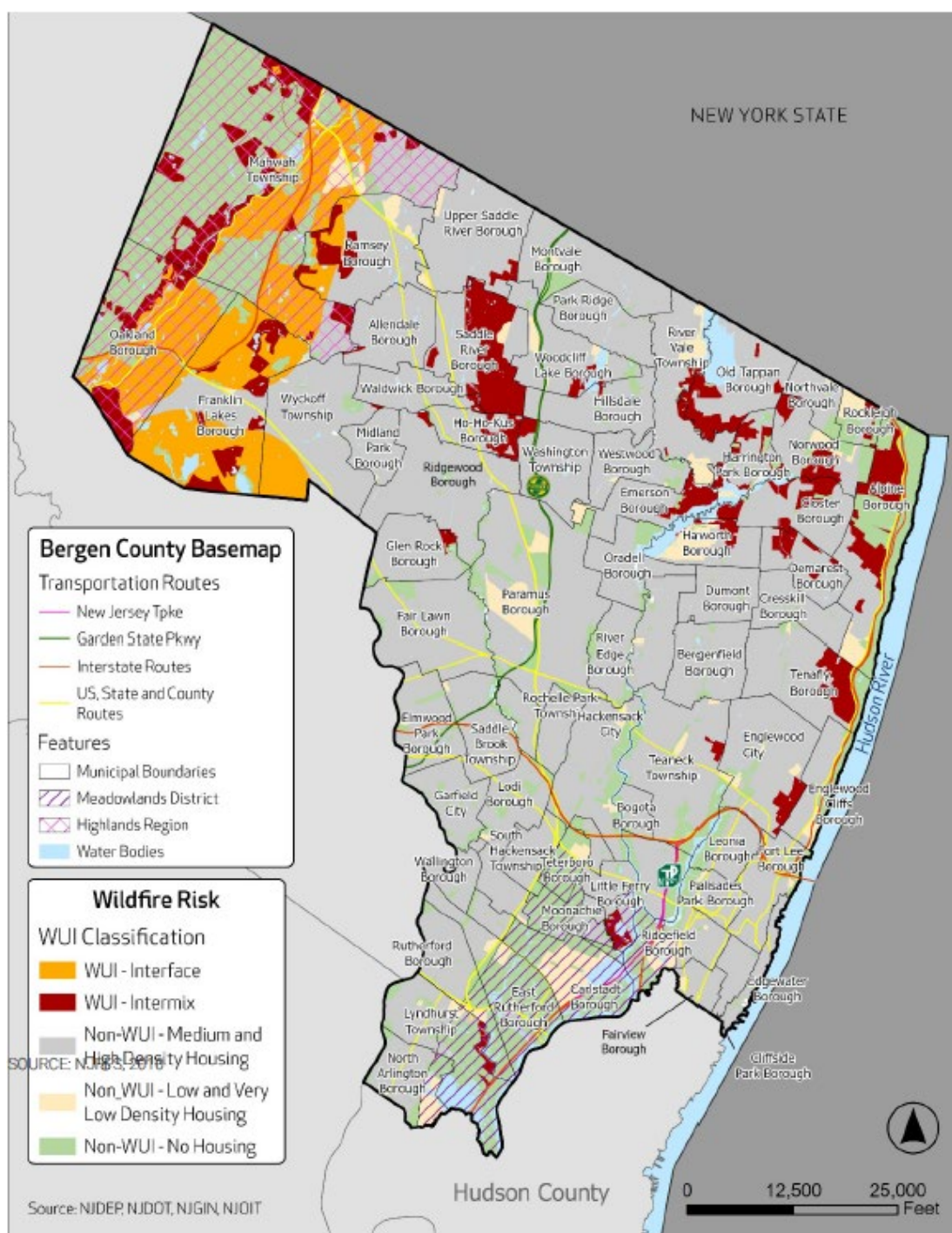


Risk	Hazard	Risk Assessment Category					Risk Factor
		Probability (1-4)	Impact (1-4)	Spatial Extent (1-4)	Warning Time (1-4)	Duration (1-4)	
High	Flood	3	3	3	3	2	2.9
	Hurricane/Tropical Storms	3	3	3	1	2	2.7
	Nor'easter	3	3	3	1	2	2.7
Moderate	Drought	3	1	4	1	4	2.5
	Pandemic	1	3	4	1	4	2.5
	Extreme Temperature	3	1	4	1	3	2.4
	Dam Failure	2	3	2	4	1	2.4
	Power Failure	3	1	3	3	2	2.3
	Earthquake	1	2	4	4	1	2.2
	Severe Weather- Extreme Wind	3	1	3	3	1	2.2
	Wildfire	2	2	2	3	3	2.2
	Cyber Attack	3	1	2	4	1	2.1
Low	Terrorism	1	3	1	4	1	1.9
	Severe Weather-Tornado	2	2	1	4	1	1.9
	Coastal Erosion	3	1	1	1	1	1.6
	Landslide	2	1	1	4	1	1.6
	Severe Weather-Lightning	2	1	1	3	1	1.5









Capability Assessment

- Bergen County, Regional, Stakeholder, and Municipal Capabilities
- Watershed Management Plans
- Plan Integrations

- Post Disaster Recovery Plans
- Resource Protection Ordinances
- Work with Organizations Serving Underserved Populations
- Mutual Aid Agreements



Section Highlight

Ongoing and Planned Municipal Integration Activities

Municipality	Ongoing Municipal Integration Activities with Hazard Mitigation
Allendale, Borough of	Resource protection ordinances and management plans include Floodplain Ordinance, Stormwater Management Plan, and others. The borough also has a Hazard Vulnerability Assessments Study underway.
Alpine, Borough of	Resource protection ordinance and management plans include Stormwater Ordinance, Stormwater Management Plan, and others.
Bergenfield, Borough of	Resource protection ordinances and management plans include Floodplain and Stormwater Ordinance, Stormwater Management Plan, and others.
Bogota, Borough of	Resource protection ordinances and management plans include Floodplain Ordinance, Stormwater Management Plan, and others.
Carlstadt, Borough of	Multiple plans including Floodplain Management, Stormwater Management, Watershed Management, and resource protection ordinances were adopted.
Cliffside Park, Borough of	Multiple plans including Floodplain Management, Stormwater Management, and resource protection ordinances were adopted.
Closter, Borough of	Resource protection ordinances and management plans include Floodplain Ordinance, Stormwater Management Plan, and others. Closter also has a Capital Improvement Plan to reduce impacts of natural hazards.
Cresskill, Borough of	Multiple plans including Stormwater Management, Post-Disaster Recover, and resource protection ordinances were adopted.
Demarest, Borough of	Multiple plans including Floodplain Management, Stormwater Management, Post-Disaster Recovery, and resource protection ordinances were adopted.
Dumont, Borough of	Updates to Floodplain Ordinance and Floodplain Management Plan adopt higher standards.
East Rutherford, Borough of	Multiple resource protection ordinances and management plans include Floodplain Ordinance, Stormwater Management Plan, Watershed Management Plan, and others. The borough also collaborates with organizations that work with socially vulnerable groups.

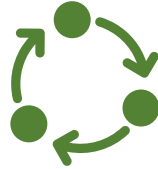
Mitigation Strategy



85 New
Actions



150 Completed
Actions



590 Ongoing
Actions



65 Withdrawn
Actions



Section Highlight

Municipal Mitigation Strategy Summary

Municipality	Overview and Progress Since Last Update	# of Completed Actions	# of Ongoing Actions	# of New Actions	# of Withdrawn Actions
Cresskill Borough	The Borough of Cresskill's overall mitigation action strategy puts a focus on preventing hazards before they begin, specifically with flood hazards as the Tenakill Brook traverses through the borough. As such, the borough has worked closely with the NJDEP in revising the "Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance", as well as updating the requirements within the "Stormwater Management Ordinance" of the borough in an attempt to restrict the intensity of flooding events and the requisite damages they cause. Multiple projects throughout the borough were completed to update the existing stormwater system and to provide the appropriate flow channels throughout the borough. As flooding has remained a major problem, the borough's priority over the next five years shall remain with upgrading the existing stormwater management system to provide flood mitigation and prevention.	3	7	1	0
Demarest Borough	The Borough has adopted all NJDEP Stormwater management ordinances. The Borough has prioritized paving of unimproved roads to add drainage upgrades. The Borough has a five-year capital improvement plan that includes funding for infrastructure upgrades.	3	11	0	1
Dumont Borough	Since the 2021 plan update, the Borough of Dumont has focused on enhancing flood resilience, improving emergency response capabilities, and enhancing backup power at essential facilities. Over the next five years, Dumont aims to prioritize projects that address emerging climate challenges, by cleaning and expanding brooks, and backup power to essential facilities.	0	3	0	2
East Rutherford Borough	The Borough of East Rutherford is working on flood prone areas currently to mitigate future flooding by updating storm drains and pipe sizes. The Public Works Department is currently cleaning and televising all other drainage in the area for future repairs. Our mission for the next update is to secure an agreement with the Borough of Wallington to mitigate flooding in our borough's westerly area. The borough has implemented a reverse 911 to alert.	4	7	1	0
Edgewater Borough	Since the 2021 plan update, the Borough of Edgewater has focused on enhancing flood resilience, improving drainage systems, improving emergency response, prioritizing our back-up power facilities and upgrading critical infrastructure to mitigate natural hazard risks. Over the next five years, the Borough of Edgewater aims to address emerging climate challenges, such as a rise in the Hudson River levels by updating flood mapping, upgrading community shelters and our emergency alert system.	3	10	0	0
Elmwood Park Borough	Since the 2021 plan update, Elmwood Park has prioritized flood mitigation efforts and emergency power resilience, including stream clearing and generator installations at critical facilities. Over the next five years, the borough will focus on mitigating repetitive flood loss properties and enhancing stormwater infrastructure, particularly in areas prone to roadway flooding. These actions are aimed at improving resident safety and ensuring access to evacuation routes during storm events.	1	1	1	1

Plan Maintenance

- **Monitoring Implementation and Evaluating Effectiveness**
- **Updating the Plan**
- **Public Participation in Plan Maintenance**

APPENDIX D. ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting Period (Year):

Jurisdiction:

Contact Name/Title:

Agency/Department:

Contact Email:

Contact Phone:

1. Did any significant hazard events occur within the past year? Any changes to your hazards of concern?

2. Have there been any reports, studies, or documentation of change in potential hazards, that you are aware of?

3. Have there been any major changes in growth or development?

4. Are there any mitigation projects underway or completed? Any actions that no longer are applicable or needed? (Brief Project Description)

5. Are there any new projects you would like to add to your mitigation strategy?

6. Have you engaged the public on hazard mitigation? If so, how?

Next Steps

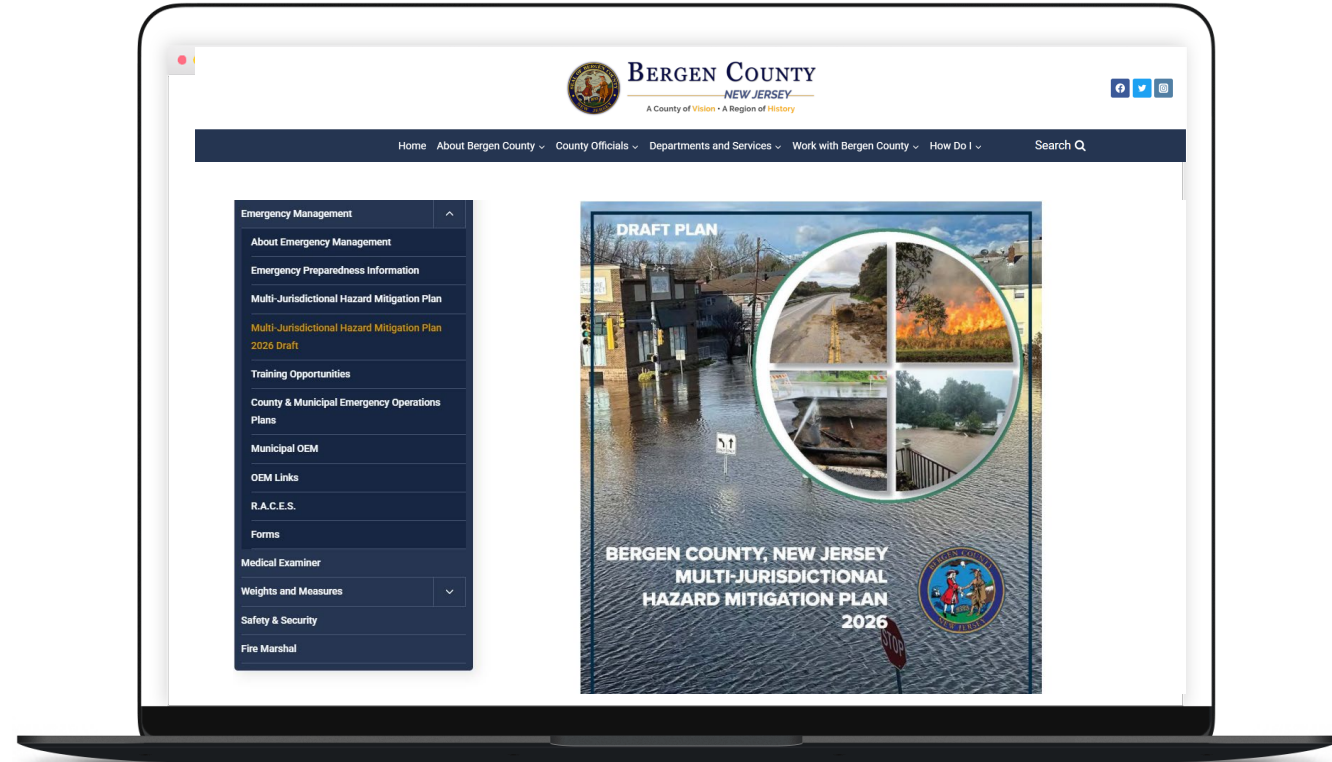
Next Steps

- Review Draft Plan and provide comments by **November 15, 2025**.

Email:

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<https://bergencountynj.gov/bergen-county-hmp-2026>





Thank You for Attending!

CONTACT US!

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