

# Help Dunstable be more resilient to extreme weather events.

**Attend a public meeting** to learn what the Town is doing to improve its planning and response to winter storms, extreme heat, drought, and many other natural hazards. The public meeting will be held at the Town Hall on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm.



RSVP at [tinyurl.com/DunstablePublicMeeting](https://tinyurl.com/DunstablePublicMeeting)



**TOWN OF DUNSTABLE**

511 Main Street  
Dunstable, MA 01827



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS  
OF MGL 30A §18 – 25

BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION: **Board of Selectmen**  
SUBMITTED TO TOWN CLERK: November 2, 2023 11:00 am  
MEETING DATE: **Tuesday, November 7, 2023**  
TIME: **5:00 pm**  
LOCATION: **Dunstable Town Hall – 511 Main Street**

Topics the Chair Reasonably Anticipates will or could be Discussed:

Note: All topic placement & times are estimated and may vary *tremendously* from projections

**SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS**

1.	<i>Call to Order</i>
2.	<i>Public Forum</i>
3.	<i>350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Recognition</i>
4.	<i>Appointment of Robert Rafferty to the Advisory Board and Alan Chase to the Conservation Commission*</i>
5.	<i>MVP Update and Public Comments</i>
6.	<i>Discussion: Withdrawal from or modification of Groton Dunstable Regional School District Agreement</i>
7.	<i>November Special Town Meeting Warrant and Resident Question and Answer Period*</i>
8.	<i>Special Town Election - Early Voting*</i>
9.	<i>Town Administrator Report</i>
10.	<i>Adjourn</i>

\*Votes likely to be taken

(Note: This listing of matters reflects those reasonably anticipated by the chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.)

You can watch Board of Selectmen meetings at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/@townofdunstable3179/>

# PUBLIC MEETING

## HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN 2023 UPDATE & MVP COMMUNITY RESILIENCE BUILDING PROCESS

Dunstable, Massachusetts  
November 8, 2023

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## WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS



**David Langlais, PE**  
Town Engineer  
Hoyle Tanner



**Janet Moonan, PE**  
Project Technical Lead  
Weston & Sampson

### Dunstable's MVP/HMP Core Team:

**Jason Silva**  
Town Administrator

**Bridget Baley**  
Health Agent

**Nichole Davis**  
Hoyle Tanner

**Maria Amodei**  
Board of Health

**Leah Basbanes**  
Selectboard & Con Com

**William Farrell**  
Dunstable Fire Dept

**Dave Tulley**  
Highway Department

**John O'Brien**  
Water Commission

**Erik Hoar**  
Police Chief

**Jon Crandall**  
Emergency  
Management Director

**Mike Martin**  
Road Commission  
Chair

Thank you to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for the MVP Planning Grant Funding for this work

**Michelle Rowden**  
MVP Regional Coordinator  
EEA

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## MVP + HMP UPDATE UNDERWAY

### Town of Dunstable Undertaking:

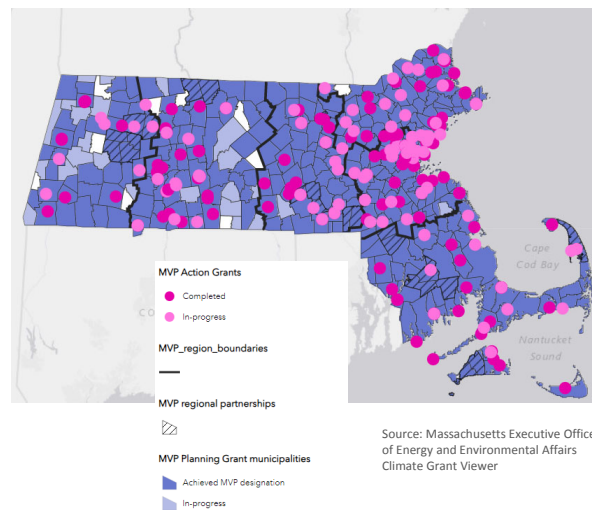
- ✓ **Community Resilience Building (CRB)** process through EEA's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Planning Grant to obtain Community Designation
- ✓ Preparation of a natural **Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)** compliant with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)



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## WHAT IS MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS (MVP)?

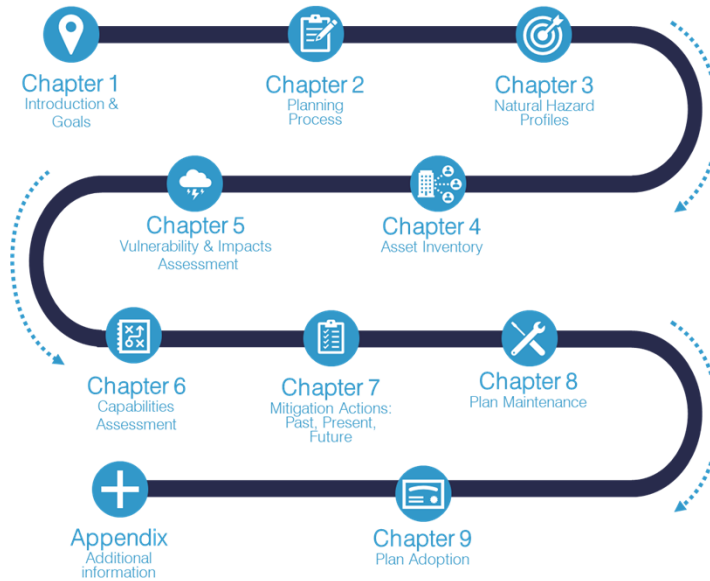
- Improved resilience and preparedness
- Collaboration with stakeholders
- Increased education, planning, and implementation
- Funding for resilience-related actions



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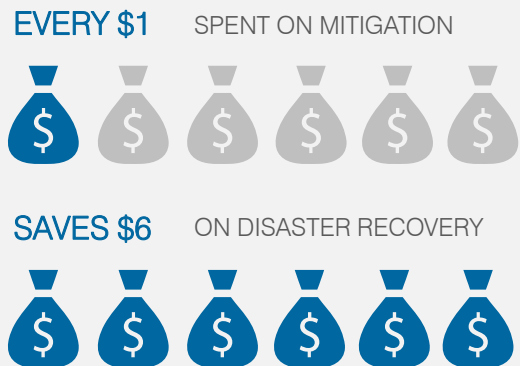
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# WHAT IS A HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (HMP)?



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# WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THIS WORK?



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# DUNSTABLE'S MILESTONE SCHEDULE



Weston & Sampson<sup>SM</sup> HOYLE TANNER

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## Before we move on...

### We want your input

Help Dunstable be more resilient to extreme weather events. Take this survey to share your experiences and help the Town improve its planning and response to winter storms, extreme heat, drought, and many other natural hazards.



[tinyurl.com/DunstableHMPsurvey](https://tinyurl.com/DunstableHMPsurvey)

Weston & Sampson<sup>SM</sup> HOYLE TANNER

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# WHY WE'RE HERE

## Weather projections:

### Changes in precipitation

- 12-42% more winter precipitation by 2070.
- EJ and Priority Populations have a 57% higher risk of flood damage than the rest of the Commonwealth.
- Annual economic flood damage increase by \$9.3 million by 2030 in MA.

### Rising temperatures

- 23-29 high heat days expected by 2050.
- Annual average temperature increase of 5.9 to 7.9 F by 2050.
- Extreme temps will increase annual transportation infrastructure maintenance cost by over \$140 million

### Severe Weather

- Precipitation amounts from heaviest storms increased by 55% since 1958.
- Lightning was responsible for \$20.4 million in damage between 2002 and 2022.

### Regional changes

- Increase in frequency and magnitude of hurricanes and nor'easters
- More risk to experiencing tornados.
- Increased fire potential.

Source: ResilientMass Plan (2023)



# NATURAL HAZARDS IMPACTING DUNSTABLE



HURRICANES / TROPICAL STORMS



FLOODING FROM PRECIPITATION



EXTREME TEMPERATURES



SEVERE WINTER WEATHER / NOR'EASTERS



LANDSLIDES



CHANGES IN GROUNDWATER



DROUGHT



WILDFIRE / BRUSHFIRE



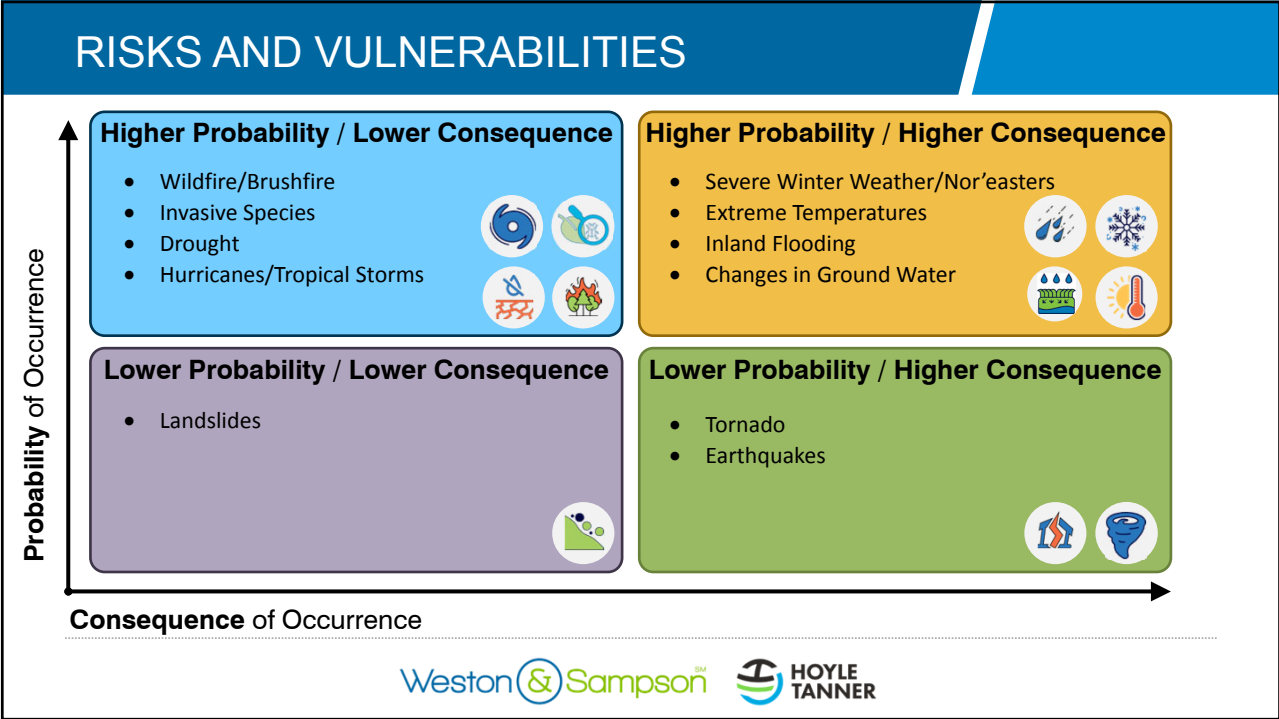
EARTHQUAKES



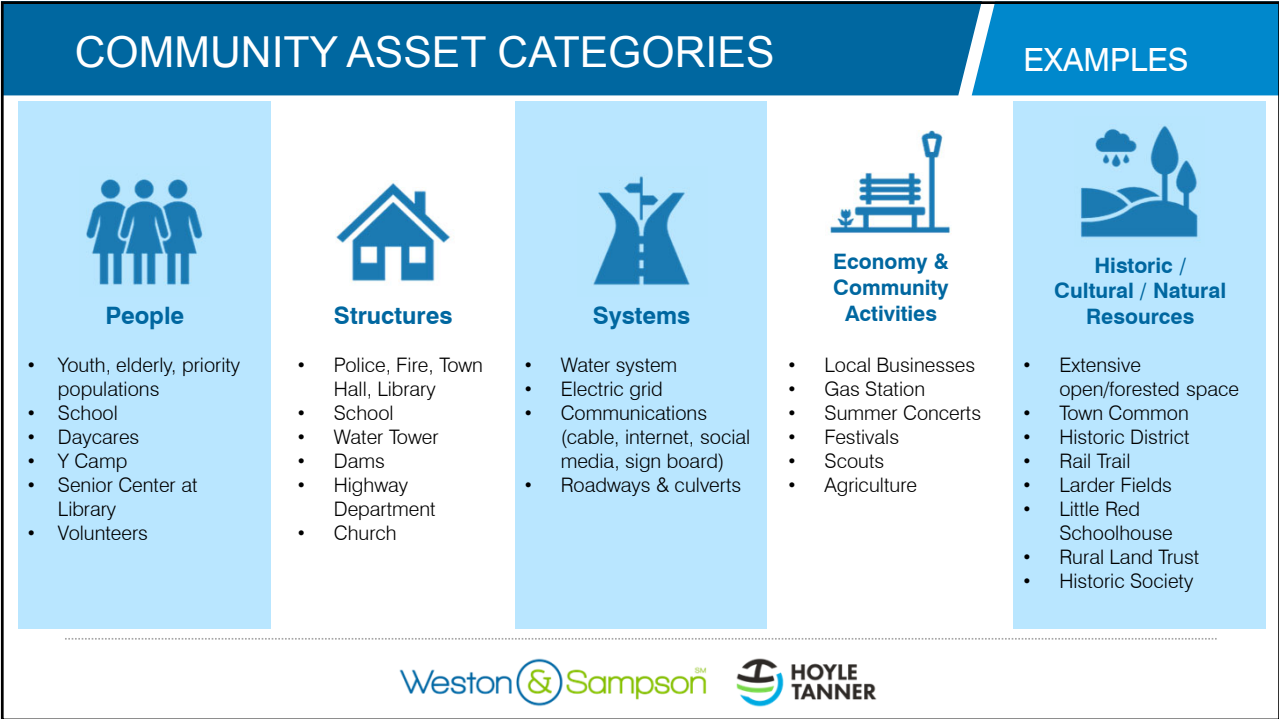
TORNADOES



INVASIVE SPECIES



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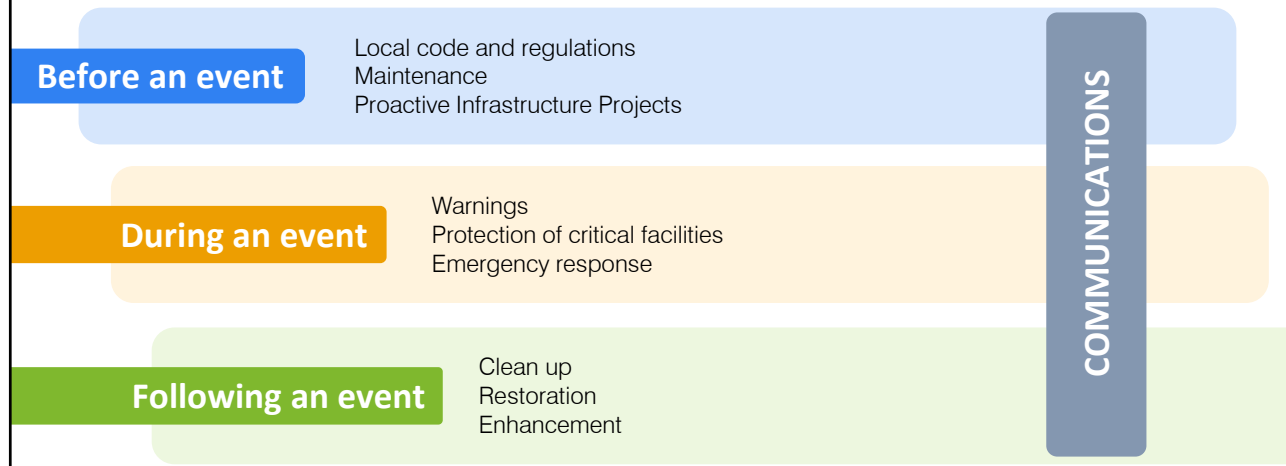


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## MITIGATION ACTION

A mitigation action is a measure, project, plan, or activity proposed to reduce current and future vulnerabilities to natural hazards. These actions will create resilience for Dunstable (ability to withstand and swiftly recover from an extreme event). These actions will support adaptation to climate change.

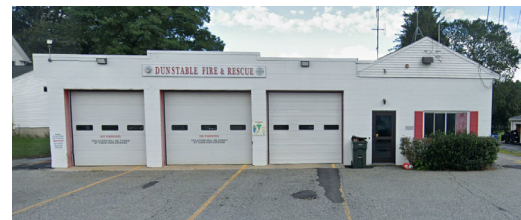


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## DUNSTABLE'S DRAFT MITIGATION ACTIONS

### Top Actions

- ✓ Fire Department Station/ Lot Resilience
- ✓ Road infrastructure evaluation and management plan
- ✓ Woodward's Mill Pond Dam Repairs
- ✓ Communication plan for priority populations



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## MITIGATION ACTIONS FROM WORKSHOPS

### Top Actions

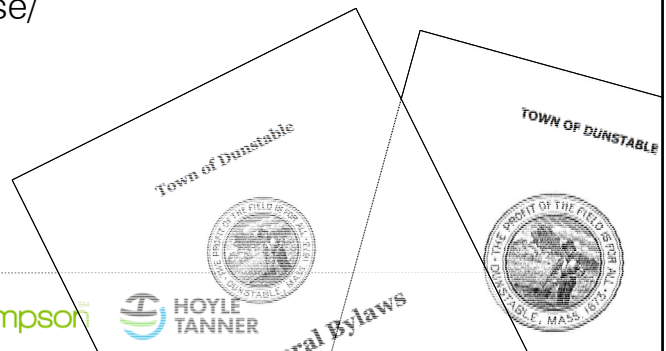
- ✓ Create cooling areas (e.g., natural approaches & structures) at Larter Field, Town Common, School parking lot
- ✓ Culverts & Dams: inventory & evaluation and flood study regarding prevention
- ✓ Education & Outreach for:
  - Invasives
  - Wells
  - Trees



## MITIGATION ACTIONS FROM WORKSHOPS

### Top Actions

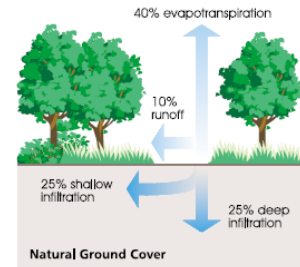
- ✓ Install mixer at water tower
- ✓ Complete a review of bylaws & regulations for climate resilience
- ✓ Add AC to school for shelter use/designation



## MITIGATION ACTIONS FROM WORKSHOPS

### Other Actions

- ✓ Implement Building Envelop Actions at Union School
- ✓ Improve access roads to open / wooded spaces for fire management and emergency response
- ✓ Mitigate potential impacts of flooding and other natural hazards at new development projects
- ✓ Flood study for DPW
- ✓ Develop policies for use for Library/Council on Aging



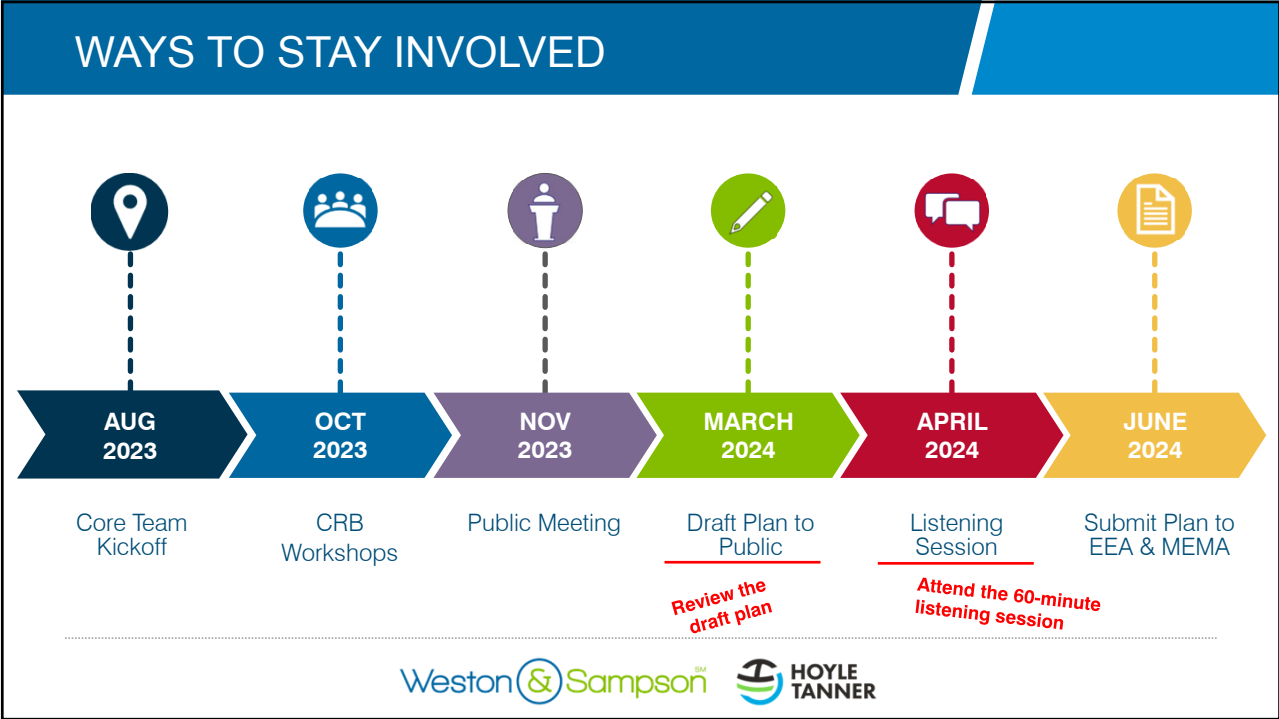
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## MITIGATION ACTIONS FROM WORKSHOPS

- ✓ Provide access to drinking water from town on public properties (e.g., water fountains, fill stations)
- ✓ Improve and create affordable senior housing options
- ✓ Adapt community activities to seasons/weather (time to avoid natural hazards)
- ✓ Develop procedure and obtain equipment for fire department to pump basements
- ✓ Gas / power / energy resilience study
- ✓ Regional Coordination re Cow Pond Dam
- ✓ Police Department resilience study
- ✓ Hydrant inventory & code identification
- ✓ In-person emergency communications plan
- ✓ Encourage sign ups for outreach systems, priority populations in particular
- ✓ Downtown flooding study
- ✓ Generators for heating/cooling at critical buildings
- ✓ Beaver management planning
- ✓ Ongoing maintenance of trees surrounding critical facilities, pre storm event
- ✓ Resilient Bandstand at Town Common



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**Thank you!**  
Questions?  
[westonandsampson.com](http://westonandsampson.com)  




**Jason Silva**  
Town Administrator

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