



Northwest
Regional Planning
Commission



**Fairfax Mitigation Plan Update
Outreach Planning Meeting**

Sept. 6, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

Fairfax Town Office, Buck Hollow Road, Fairfax, VT 05454

Participants: Sarah Hadd, Town Manager
Micah Genzlinger, Chief, Fairfax Fire Department
Steve Bessette, Fairfax Selectboard
Shaun Coleman, Northwest Regional Planning Commission

The meeting began at 10:30 p.m.

Shaun provided information on FEMA requirements, community outreach, timeline and participation from all sectors of the community. He reviewed a sample communication outreach strategy that was developed for other communities in Vermont. There was emphasis on community engagement strategies for the town.

There was a discussion on the history of the Fairfax Mitigation Plan. Mitigation plans are on a five-year cycle. FEMA requirements for mitigation plan approval changed at the beginning of last year.

Sarah, Micah and Steve provided input on the outreach plan and which groups should be involved including: someone from Fairfax Food Shelf such as Elizabeth Griffin, Shari Rainville from Historical Society, David Shea as business representative, and Tim Smith from Franklin County Industrial Development. Fairfax Green Adult Community center on Old Academy Road could be a good meeting site for engaging senior residents. The Fairfax local Emergency Management Plan was also reviewed for information on vulnerable populations and community groups.

Shaun also reviewed a community survey and flyer that was used by other municipalities in order to gain greater input. All agreed on the questions. Sarah suggested creating a web page for outreach efforts. NRPC can create one and post minutes, meeting notices, survey link, the draft plan and current plan and other information related to the plan update.

Shaun agreed to

- Send Sarah a draft Fairfax Mitigation Plan Outreach Plan related and updated community survey and flyer.
- Create a Fairfax Mitigation Plan project page on the NRPC website.
- Draft notes from the meeting and send notice for the next meeting.

The town agreed to:

- Review and update the Outreach Plan as needed and return a copy with any changes to Shaun.
- Contact other selectboard members and others in community to participate in the mitigation planning process.

The meeting ended at approximately 11:30 a.m.