

## 9.16 TOWN OF LAFAYETTE

This section presents the jurisdictional annex for the Town of LaFayette.

### A.) HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN POINT OF CONTACT

Primary Point of Contact	Alternate Point of Contact
Adrian Shute, Supervisor PO Box 193, LaFayette, NY 13084 315-677-8186 <a href="mailto:tolsuper@aol.com">tolsuper@aol.com</a>	Dave Knapp, Deputy Supervisor PO Box 193, LaFayette, NY, 13084 315-727-1779 <a href="mailto:dmknapp@aol.com">dmknapp@aol.com</a>

### B.) TOWN PROFILE

#### *Population*

4,953 (estimated 2007 U.S. Census)

#### *Location*

The Town of Lafayette is located in southern Onondaga County, approximately 3 miles south of the City of Syracuse. It is bordered by the Town of Onondaga and the Onondaga Town Indian Reservation to the northwest, the Town of DeWitt to the north, the Town of Pompey to the east, the towns of Fabius and Tully to the south and the Town of Otisco to the west. Development within the Town has been sparse. The majority of the land is agricultural or woodland. Within the flood plains of the town, development is limited to single family residences and small businesses. Butternut Creek flows into the Jamesville Reservoir located in the northeast corner of the Town. Onondaga Creek flows north into the Onondaga Dam Reservoir area located in the Onondaga Town Indian Reservation. North-south highways Interstate 81 and US Route 11 intersect US Route 20 by LaFayette hamlet. New York State Route 11A is a north-south highway in the town that parallels US-11. Hamlets in the town include Baileys Settlement, Big Bend, Cardiff, Collingwood, LaFayette and Onativia. Tully Valley is located on NY-11A in the southwest part of LaFayette.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the town has a total area of 39.6 square miles (102.6 km<sup>2</sup>), with 39.2 square miles (101.7 km<sup>2</sup>) of it land and 0.3 square miles (0.9 km<sup>2</sup>) of it (0.88-percent) water.

#### *Climate*

Onondaga County generally experiences seasonable weather patterns characteristic of the northeastern U.S. Cyclonic systems and cold air masses affect the County's weather, making winters cold with snow. During the summer and parts of spring and autumn, temperatures rise during the daytime and fall rapidly after sunset. Summer temperatures typically range from about 76°F to 81°F (Fahrenheit). Winter high temperatures are usually in the middle to upper 30°F, with minimum temperatures of 14°F expected. Overall, the average high temperature for the County is approximately 57°F and the average low temperature is approximately 37°F. Snow accumulates to an average depth of 121 inches each year.

#### *Brief History*

The town is within the former Central New York Military Tract, but was partly in an area reserved for members of the Onondaga tribe. The first settler arrived around 1797. Land was purchased from the



Onondagas in April 1817 and resold to settlers in 1822. The Town of LaFayette was formed in 1825 from parts of the Towns of Pompey and Onondaga. It was named from the Marquis de La Fayette, who was at that time here, passing through the county early in June.

***Governing Body Format***

The Town of LaFayette is governed by a supervisor and four councilors.

***Growth/Development Trends***

At this time, no major residential/commercial development and major infrastructure development has been identified for the next five (5) years.

**C.) NATURAL HAZARD EVENT HISTORY SPECIFIC TO THE TOWN**

Type of Event	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Date	Preliminary Damage Assessment
Snowstorm / Extreme Cold	Not applicable	February, 1961	\$80,000 (countywide)
Flood	Not applicable	July, 1970	\$250,000 (countywide)
Snowstorm	Not applicable	March, 1971	\$806,000 (countywide)
Snowstorm / Extreme cold	Not applicable	February, 1972	\$803,000 (countywide)
Flood (Tropical Storm Agnes)	DR-338	June, 1972	\$1,600,000 (countywide)
Flood	Not applicable	March, 1973	\$200,000 (countywide)
Snowstorm	Not applicable	December, 1973	\$83,000 (countywide)
Severe Storms and Flooding	DR-447	July, 1974	\$7,200,000 (countywide)
Severe Storms, Heavy Rain, Landslides, Flooding	DR-487	September, 1975	\$6,300,000 (countywide)
Flood	Not applicable	April, 1976	\$313,000 (countywide)
Blizzard	Not applicable	January, 1977	\$2,100,000 (countywide)
Flood	Not applicable	October, 1981	\$833,000 (countywide)
Tornado (F3)	Not applicable	May, 1983	\$2,500,000 (countywide)
Snowstorm	Not applicable	February, 1984	\$156,000 (countywide)
Tornado (F1)	Not applicable	July, 1986	\$250,000 (countywide)
Mudboil / Land Subsidence	Not applicable	June, 1991	Otisco Road Bridge collapsed (Tully Valley)
Blizzard and Extreme Cold	EM-3107	March, 1993	\$455,000 (countywide)
Flood / Landslide	Not applicable	April, 1993	Largest landslide in New York State since early 1900's occurred in Tully Valley; resulted in a 40 foot deep by a mile wide crater
Snowstorm	Not applicable	April, 1993	\$100,000 (countywide)
Thunderstorm / Winds	Not applicable	August, 1993	\$600,000 (countywide)
Severe Storm and Flooding	DR-1095	January, 1996	\$7,600,000 (countywide)

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Type of Event	FEMA Disaster # (if applicable)	Date	Preliminary Damage Assessment
Flood	Not applicable	November, 1996	\$100,000 (countywide)
Thunderstorm / Winds / Tornado	Not applicable	May, 1998	\$200,000 (countywide)
Thunderstorm / Winds	Not applicable	August, 1998	\$200,000 (countywide)
Severe Storm	DR-1244	September, 1998	\$90,000,000, 3 fatalities, 7 injuries (countywide)
Thunderstorm / Winds	Not applicable	July, 1999	\$750,000 (countywide)
Severe Storms	DR-1335	May/September, 2000	Not available
Snowstorms	Not applicable	December, 2002 / January, 2003	\$353,000 (countywide)
Flood	Not applicable	June, 2002	\$2,000,000 (countywide)
Snowstorm (President's Day Storm)	Not applicable	February, 2003	\$153,000 (countywide)
Ice Storm	DR-1467	April, 2003	\$2,900,000 (countywide)
Severe Storms and Flooding	DR-1564	August / September 2004	\$2,000,000 (countywide); washed out roads
Severe Storm and Flooding	Not applicable	April, 2005	\$100,000 (countywide); road closures and flooded basements
Landslide	Not applicable	April, 2005	Several farm fields inundated with water, sand and gravel
Flood	Not applicable	July, 2005	\$500,000 (countywide)
Severe Storms and Flooding	Not applicable	June/July, 2006	\$29,000 (countywide)
Lake Effect Snowstorm / Extreme Cold	Not applicable	February, 2007	\$3,000,000 (countywide)

***Number of FEMA Identified Repetitive Flood Loss Properties:*** 1  
***Number of FEMA Identified Severe Repetitive Flood Loss Properties:*** 0

Source: FEMA Region II, 2009  
 Note: Repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss data as of February 2009.



## D.) NATURAL HAZARD RISK/VULNERABILITY RISK RANKING

Rank #	Hazard type	Estimate of Potential Dollar Losses to Structures Vulnerable to the Hazard <sup>a,c</sup>	Probability of Occurrence	Risk Ranking Score (Probability x Impact)	Hazard Ranking <sup>b</sup>
3	Earthquake	\$1,823,976 <sup>c,e</sup>	Rare	16	Low
3	Flood	\$5,799,000 <sup>c,e</sup>	Frequent	18	Low
2	Ground Failure	Not available <sup>f</sup>	Frequent	24	Medium
1	Severe Storm	< \$50 <sup>c,d,g</sup>	Frequent	48	High
1	Severe Winter Storm	\$16,640,800 <sup>c,d</sup>	Frequent	48	High

- a. Building damage ratio estimates based on FEMA 386-2 (August 2001)
- b. High = Total hazard priority risk ranking score of 40 and above  
Medium = Total hazard priority risk ranking of 20 - 39  
Low = Total hazard risk ranking below 20
- c. The valuation of general building stock and loss estimates determined in Onondaga County were based on the default general building stock database provided in HAZUS-MH MR3 (RSMeans 2006).
- d. Severe storm and severe winter storm hazard 500-year MRP loss estimate is structural value only; does not include the value of contents. For severe winter storm, the loss estimate is 5% of total general building stock value.
- e. Loss estimates for both structure and contents (500-year MRP for the flood hazard and 2,500-year MRP for the earthquake hazard).
- f. Approximately 100% of the Town's general building stock is located within the landslide hazard area.
- g. Potential losses for severe storm are underestimated by HAZUS.

## E.) CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

This section identifies the following capabilities of the local jurisdiction:

- Legal and regulatory capability
- Administrative and technical capability
- Fiscal capability
- Community classification.

## E.1) Legal and Regulatory Capability

Regulatory Tools (Codes, Ordinances., Plans)	Local Authority (Y or N)	Prohibitions (State or Federal) (Y or N)	Higher Jurisdictional Authority (Y or N)	State Mandated (Y or N)	Code Citation (Section, Paragraph, Page Number, date of adoption)
1) Building Code	Y	N	Y	Y	NYS/IBC; Local Law 3 (May 4, 1998)
2) Zoning Ordinance	Y	N	N	N	Yes
3) Subdivision Ordinance	Y	N	N	N	Yes
4) NFIP Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	Y	Y	Y	Y	Local Law 1 (Feb. 23, 1987)
5) Growth Management	N	N	N	N	
6) Floodplain Management / Basin Plan	N	Y	Y	N	
7) Stormwater Management Plan/Ordinance	Y	N	N	Y	
8) Comprehensive Plan / Master Plan/ General Plan	Y	N	N	N	
9) Capital Improvements Plan	Y	N	N	N	
10) Site Plan Review Requirements	Y	Y	Y	N	
11) Open Space Plan	Y	N	N	N	
12) Economic Development Plan	Y	N	N	N	
13) Emergency Response Plan	Y	N	N	Y	CEMP/Disaster Preparedness Plan (Updated/Approved Aug. 2003)
14) Post Disaster Recovery Plan	Y	N	N	N	Continuity of Government Ordinance – Local Law 1 (Dec. 9, 1968)
15) Post Disaster Recovery Ordinance	Y	N	N	N	
16) Real Estate Disclosure req.	N	N	Y	N	
17) Other [Special Purpose Ordinances (i.e., critical or sensitive areas)]	Y	N	N	N	

**E.2) Administrative and Technical Capability**

Staff/ Personnel Resources	Available (Y or N)	Department/ Agency/Position
1) Planner(s) or Engineer(s) with knowledge of land development and land management practices	Y	Town Engineer
2) Engineer(s) or Professional(s) trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	Y	Town Engineer
3) Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural hazards	Y	Town Engineer
4) NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Y	Robert Lamson, Code Enforcement Officer (Zoning Officer per Local Law 1)
5) Surveyor(s)	N	
6) Personnel skilled or trained in "GIS" applications	N	
7) Scientist familiar with natural hazards in the Town of LaFayette.	N	
8) Emergency Manager	Y	Emergency Response Chairman
9) Grant Writer(s)	N	
10) Staff with expertise or training in benefit/cost analysis	N	

**E.3) Fiscal Capability**

Financial Resources	Accessible or Eligible to use (Yes/No/Don't know)
1) Community development Block Grants (CDBG)	Yes
2) Capital Improvements Project Funding	Yes
3) Authority to Levy Taxes for specific purposes	Yes
4) User fees for water, sewer, gas or electric service	Yes
5) Impact Fees for homebuyers or developers of new development/homes	Yes
6) Incur debt through general obligation bonds	Yes
7) Incur debt through special tax bonds	No
8) Incur debt through private activity bonds	Don't Know
9) Withhold public expenditures in hazard-prone areas	Yes
10) State mitigation grant programs (e.g. NYSDEC, NYCDEP)	Yes
11) Other	Yes

## E.4) Community Classifications

Program	Classification	Date Classified
Community Rating System (CRS)	NP	N/A
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)	NP	N/A
Public Protection	NP	N/A
Storm Ready	NP	N/A
Firewise	NP	N/A

N/A = Not applicable. NP = Not participating. - = Unavailable.

The classifications listed above relate to the community's effectiveness in providing services that may impact its vulnerability to the natural hazards identified. These classifications can be viewed as a gauge of the community's capabilities in all phases of emergency management (preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation) and are used as an underwriting parameter for determining the costs of various forms of insurance. The CRS class applies to flood insurance while the BCEGS and Public Protection classifications apply to standard property insurance. CRS classifications range on a scale of 1 to 10 with class one (1) being the best possible classification, and class 10 representing no classification benefit. Firewise classifications include a higher classification when the subject property is located beyond 1000 feet of a creditable fire hydrant and is within 5 road miles of a recognized Fire Station.

Criteria for classification credits are outlined in the following documents:

- The Community Rating System Coordinators Manual
- The Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule
- The ISO Mitigation online ISO's Public Protection website at <http://www.isomitigation.com/ppc/0000/ppc0001.html>
- The National Weather Service Storm Ready website at <http://www.weather.gov/stormready/howto.htm>
- The National Firewise Communities website at <http://firewise.org/>

## E.) PROPOSED HAZARD MITIGATION INITIATIVES

Initiative #	Mitigation Initiative	Applies to New and/or Existing Structures*	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Goals / Objectives Met	Lead Agency	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funding	Time-line
TLA-1a	Where appropriate, support retrofitting of structures located in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Identify facilities that are viable candidates for retrofitting based on cost-effectiveness versus relocation. Where retrofitting is determined to be a viable option, consider implementation of that action based on available funding.	Existing	Flood, Severe Storm	1-1, 1-2, 1-6; 2-5, 2-6; 3-2, 3-5; 6-1	Municipality (likely through NFIP Floodplain Administrator)	High	FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs and local match	Long-term
TLA-1b	Where appropriate, support purchase, or relocation of structures located in hazard-prone areas to protect structures from future damage, with repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties as priority. Identify facilities that are viable candidates for relocation based on cost-effectiveness versus retrofitting. Where relocation is determined to be a viable option, consider implementation of that action based on available funding.	Existing	Flood, Severe Storm	1-1, 1-2, 1-6; 2-5, 2-6; 3-2, 3-5; 6-1	Municipality (likely through NFIP Floodplain Administrator)	High	FEMA Mitigation Grant Programs and local match	Long-term
TLA-2	Consider participation in incentive-based programs such as CRS.	New & Existing	Flood	1-1, 1-3, 1-7; Goal 2 – All Objectives	Municipality (likely through NFIP Floodplain Administrator)	Low - Medium	Local Budget	Long-term DOF
TLA-3	Continue to support the implementation, monitoring, maintenance, and updating of this	New & Existing	All Hazards	All Goals and Objectives	Municipality (through mitigation)	Low	Local Budget, possibly	Ongoing

Initiative #	Mitigation Initiative	Applies to New and/or Existing Structures*	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Goals / Objectives Met	Lead Agency	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funding	Time-line
	Plan, as defined in Section 7.0				planning point of contacts)		FEMA Mitigation Grant Funding for 5-year update	
TLA-4	Strive to maintain compliance with, and good-standing in the National Flood Insurance program.	New & Existing	Flood	2-4; 3-5, 3-6	Municipality (likely through NFIP Floodplain Administrator)	Low	Local Budget	Ongoing
TLA-5	Continue to develop, enhance, and implement existing emergency plans.	New & Existing	All Hazards	1-4; 5-5; Goal 6 – All Objectives	Municipal Emergency Manager with support from County OEM and SEMO	Low - Medium	Local Budget	Ongoing
TLA-6	Create/enhance/ maintain mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities.	New & Existing	All Hazards	3-3; 5-2, 5-3, 5-5, 5-6; 6-5, 6-6	Local Emergency Management, DPW and Roads	Low - Medium	Local Budget	Ongoing
TLA-7	Support County-wide initiatives identified in Section 9.1 of the County Annex.	New & Existing	All Hazards	All Goals and Objectives	Local departments (as applicable for specific initiative)	Low - Medium	Local Budget	Ongoing
TLA-8	Support/Participate in the Stream Team program offered by the Onondaga County SWCD, to assist in the removal of debris, log jams, etc. in flood vulnerable stream sections.	N/A	Flood, Severe Storms	1-3, 1-7; 2-3; 4-1,4-4; 5-1, 5-2, 5-3	County, OCSWCD (Mark Burger)	Medium	Local Budget	Short-term
TLA-9	Prominently display the Town's NFIP Floodplain mapping in Town Hall, and post on the Town website, along with available information on the NFIP program.	N/A	Flood	1-7; 2-1, 2-2, 2-4, 2-5, 2-6; 3-7; 5-4	Local NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Low	Local Budget	Short (1 year)

Notes: DOF = Depending on Funding. FEMA = Federal Emergency Management Agency. Long = 5 years or greater. N/A = Not applicable. Short = 1 to 5 years. TBD = To be determined



\*Does this mitigation initiative reduce the effects of hazards on new and/or existing buildings and/or infrastructure?

## G.) ANALYSIS OF MITIGATION ACTIONS

This table summarizes the participant's mitigation actions by hazard of concern and the six mitigation types to illustrate that the Town has selected a comprehensive range of actions/projects.

Hazard of Concern	Mitigation Type					
	1. Prevention	2. Property Protection	3. Public Education and Awareness	4. Natural Resource Protection	5. Emergency Services	6. Structural Projects
Earthquake	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-5, TLA-6, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7
Flooding (riverine, flash, coastal and urban flooding)	TLA-2, TLA-3, TLA-4, TLA-7, TLA-8, TLA-9	TLA-1a and b, TLA-2, TLA-3, TLA-4, TLA-7	TLA-1a and b, TLA-2, TLA-3, TLA-4, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7, TLA-8	TLA-2, TLA-3, TLA-5, TLA-6, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7
Ground Failure	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-5, TLA-6, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7
Severe Storms (windstorms, thunderstorms, hail, lightning and tornados)	TLA-2, TLA-3, TLA-4, TLA-7, TLA-8	TLA-1a and b, TLA-2, TLA-3, TLA-4, TLA-7	TLA-1a and b, TLA-2, TLA-3, TLA-4, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7, TLA-8	TLA-2, TLA-3, TLA-5, TLA-6, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7
Severe Winter Storm (heavy snow, blizzards, ice storms)	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-5, TLA-6, TLA-7	TLA-3, TLA-7

Notes:

- 1. Prevention:** Government, administrative or regulatory actions or processes that influence the way land and buildings are developed and built. These actions also include public activities to reduce hazard losses. Examples include planning and zoning, floodplain local laws, capital improvement programs, open space preservation, and storm water management regulations.
- 2. Property Protection:** Actions that involve (1) modification of existing buildings or structures to protect them from a hazard or (2) removal of the structures from the hazard area. Examples include acquisition, elevation, relocation, structural retrofits, storm shutters, and shatter-resistant glass.
- 3. Public Education and Awareness:** Actions to inform and educate citizens, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and potential ways to mitigate them. Such actions include outreach projects, real estate disclosure, hazard information centers, and school-age and adult education programs.
- 4. Natural Resource Protection:** Actions that minimize hazard loss and also preserve or restore the functions of natural systems. These actions include sediment and erosion control, stream corridor restoration, watershed management, forest and vegetation management, and wetland restoration and preservation.
- 5. Emergency Services:** Actions that protect people and property, during and immediately following, a disaster or hazard event. Services include warning systems, emergency response services, and the protection of essential facilities.
- 6. Structural Projects:** Actions that involve the construction of structures to reduce the impact of a hazard. Such structures include dams, setback levees, floodwalls, retaining walls, and safe rooms.

## H.) PRIORITIZATION OF MITIGATION INITIATIVES

Initiative #	# of Objectives met	Benefits	Costs	Do Benefits equal or exceed Costs? (Yes or No)	Is project Grant eligible? (Yes or No)	Can Project be funded under existing programs/budgets? (Yes or No)	Priority (High, Med., Low)
TLA-1a	8	H	H	Y	Y	N	M-H*
TLA-1b	8	H	H	Y	Y	N	M-H*
TLA-2	9	M	L	Y	N	Y	H
TLA-3	38	M	M	Y	N (Yes for 5 year update)	Y	H
TLA-4	3	H	L	Y	N	Y	H
TLA-5	8	M	L	Y	N	Y	H
TLA-6	7	M	L	Y	N	Y	H
TLA-7	38	M-H	L-M	Y	Dependant on specific initiative	Dependant on specific initiative	M-H (dependant)
TLA-8	8	H	L - H	Y	Y	Dependant on specific initiative	M
TLA-9	8	L	L	Y	N	Y	H

Notes: H = High. L = Low. M = Medium. N = No. N/A = Not applicable. Y = Yes.

\* This initiative has a “Medium” priority based on the prioritization scheme used in this planning process (implementation dependent on grant funding), however it is recognized that addressing repetitive and severe repetitive loss properties is considered a high priority by FEMA and SEMO (as expressed in the State HMP), and thus shall be considered a “High” priority for all participants in this planning process.

### Explanation of Priorities

- **High Priority** - A project that meets multiple objectives (i.e., multiple hazards), benefits exceeds cost, has funding secured or is an on-going project and project meets eligibility requirements for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) or Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM) programs. High priority projects can be completed in the short term (1 to 5 years).
- **Medium Priority** - A project that meets goals and objectives, benefits exceeds costs, funding has not been secured but project is grant eligible under, HMGP, PDM or other grant programs. Project can be completed in the short term, once funding is completed. Medium priority projects will become high priority projects once funding is secured.
- **Low Priority** - Any project that will mitigate the risk of a hazard, benefits do not exceed the costs or are difficult to quantify, funding has not been secured and project is not eligible for HMGP or PDM grant funding, and time line for completion is considered long term (1 to 10 years). Low priority projects may be eligible other sources of grant funding from other

programs. A low priority project could become a high priority project once funding is secured as long as it could be completed in the short term.

Prioritization of initiatives was based on above definitions: Yes

Prioritization of initiatives was based on parameters other than stated above: Not applicable.

**I.) FUTURE NEEDS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND RISK/VULNERABILITY**

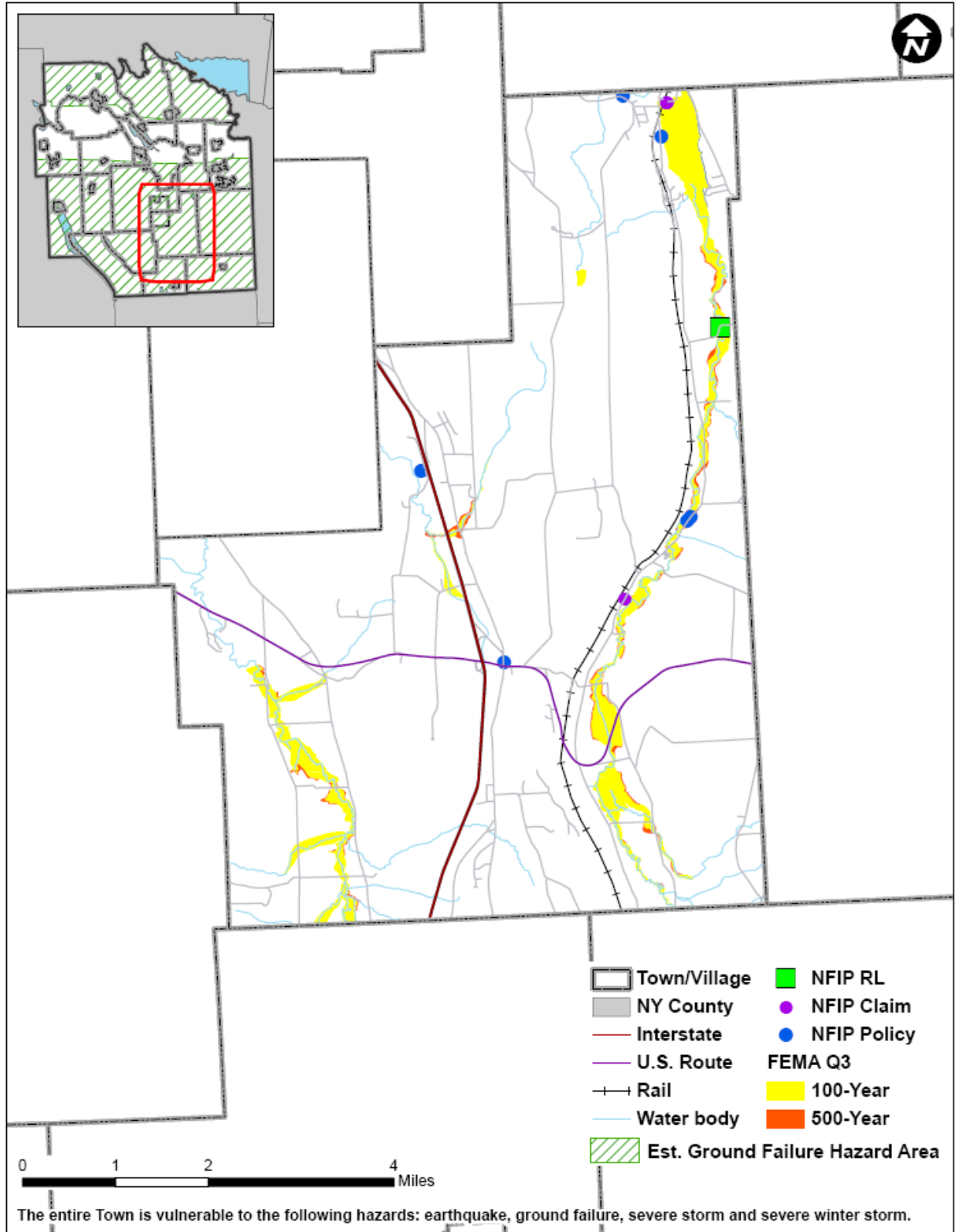
None at this time.

**J.) HAZARD AREA EXTENT AND LOCATION**

A hazard area extent and location map has been generated and is provided below for the Town of LaFayette to illustrate the probable areas impacted within the Town. This map is based on the best available data at the time of the preparation of this Plan, and is considered to be adequate for planning purposes. Maps have only been generated for those hazards that can be clearly identified using mapping techniques and technologies, and for which the Town of LaFayette has significant exposure. The County maps are provided in the hazard profiles within Section 5.4, Volume I of this Plan.

**K.) ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

No additional comments at this time.



Sources: FEMA Q3; FEMA Region II, 2008; HAZUS-MH MR3; NYSDPC, 2008

Notes: Est. = Estimated; NFIP = National Flood Insurance Program; RL = Repetitive Loss

The entire municipality is vulnerable to the following hazards: earthquake, severe storm, and severe winter storm.