

Hazard Mitigation Program

Vermont Emergency Management

Stephanie A. Smith, State Hazard Mitigation Officer
February 20, 2024

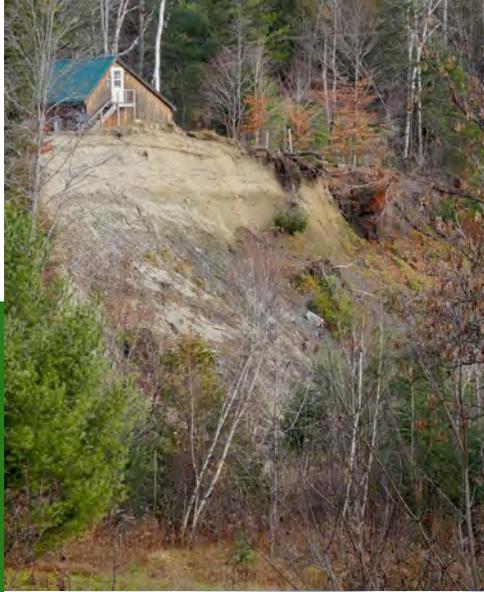
Hazard Mitigation is:

Any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property due to natural or man-made disasters.

...so basically,
removing the vulnerability.



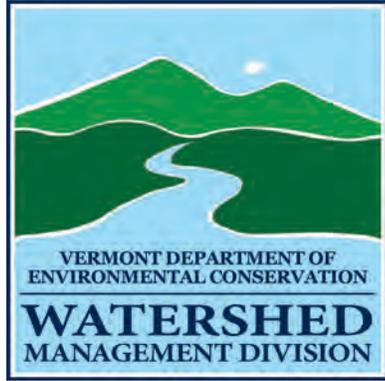
VERMONT STRONGER



**A SAFE AND
RESILIENT
VERMONT**

in the face
of climate
change and
natural
disasters.





Flood Resilient Communities Fund

Building watershed resilience in the face of climate change



FEMA

*Managed and implemented by
Vermont Emergency Management

Hazard Mitigation Grant

Program (HMGP) (*\$75+ million anticipated*)

Flood Mitigation Assistance –
Swift Current (*\$40 million*)

Building Resilient Infrastructure
and Communities (BRIC)

Eligible Project Types:

- Property Buyouts
 - Properties at flood risk
 - Properties at risk from landslides
- Floodplain Restoration
- Culvert and Bridge Upsizing
- Road Relocation or Resilience Improvements
- Structural Elevations
- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Development
- Other Planning and Scoping Activities



Property Buyouts:

- Voluntary for the property owner *AND* community
- Properties do not need to have past damage
- Eligible within the FEMA mapped Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and the total project cost is under \$360,000 *OR* Substantial Damage in July
- Landslide buyouts with letter from State Geologist (imminent risk)
- Pre-event value appraisal or current market value
- State managed program
- State is covering the match for property buyouts

Property Elevations:

- Voluntary for the property owner *AND* community – municipality as sub-applicant
- Properties do not need to have past damage
- Eligible within the FEMA mapped Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and the total project cost is under \$228,000
- 25% non-federal match, in some cases, 90% or 100% federal funding is available
- Substantial Damage properties with flood insurance may be eligible for “increased cost of compliance” to be used towards match
- Flood insurance is required on the property in perpetuity

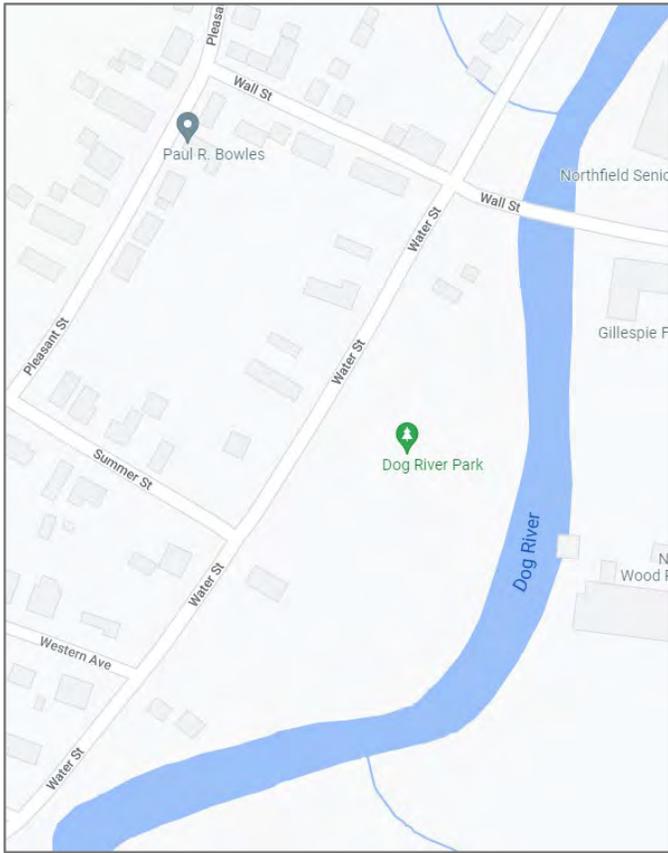
FEMA Funding Sources:

- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)**
 - Funding based on July flooding event, anticipating \$75+ million
 - Projects require a 25% local match
 - State funding is currently available to cover the match for buyout projects
 - Deadline for **Pre-Application Form** is June 21, 2024, full applications due in late 2024
 - A Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) is required, except for most property buyouts and elevations
 - **Eligible applicants**: municipalities, state agencies, other governing entities, specific non-profits if it relates to a critical facility
 - **Best use**: implementation of projects (e.g., buyouts, culverts/bridges, floodplain restoration, dam removal)

FEMA Funding Sources:

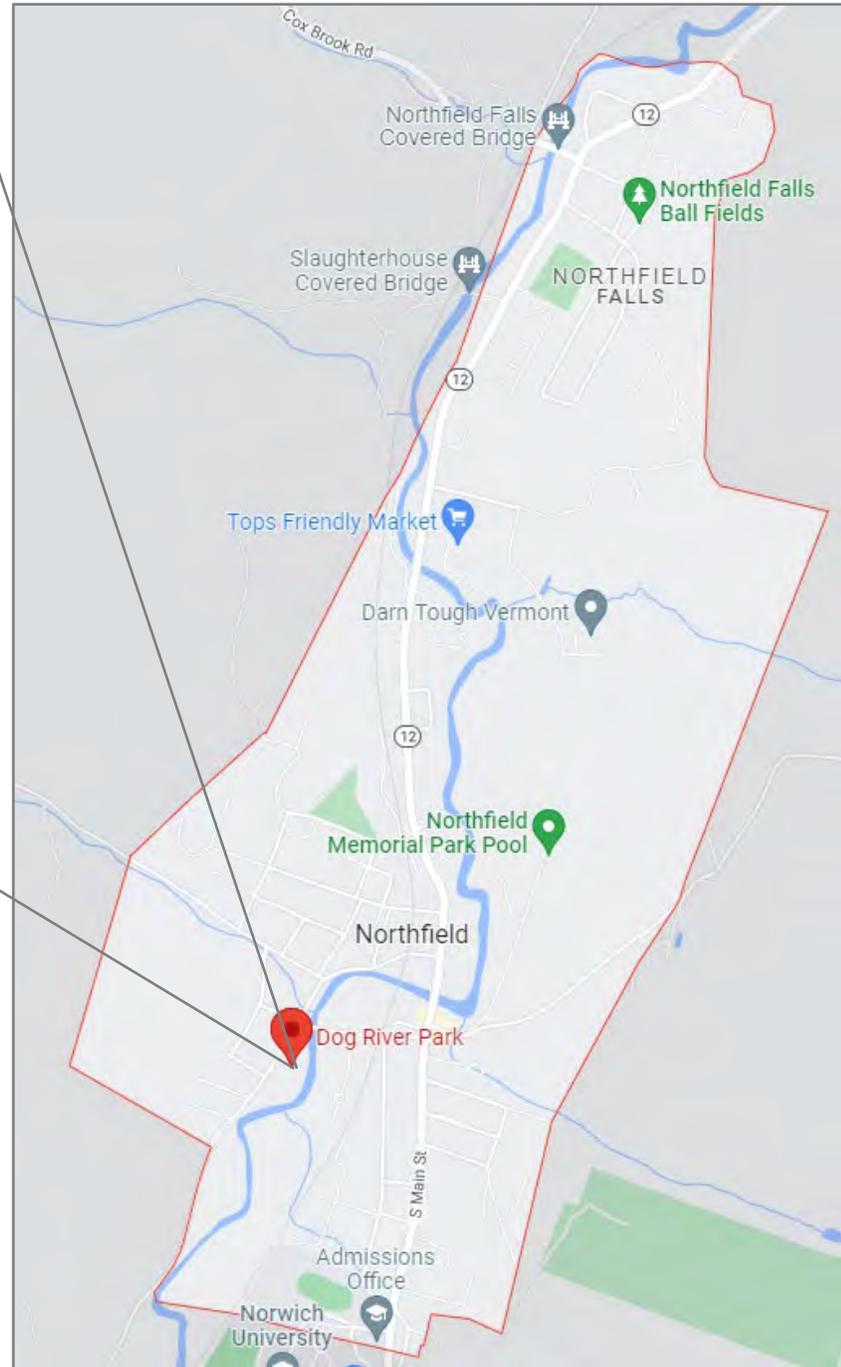
- **Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Swift Current**
 - Funding based on July flooding event, \$40 million available
 - Requires properties to have flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
 - Some properties will be eligible for 90% of 100% federal share
 - State deadline to FEMA is **May 15, 2024**
 - Property buyout and elevation project will receive priority if you have contacted VEM by **March 29, 2024**
 - **Eligible applicants**: municipalities, state agencies, other governing entities, specific non-profits if it relates to a critical facility
 - **Best use**: implementation of individual property projects, including buyouts, elevations, and structural relocation

Project Case Studies



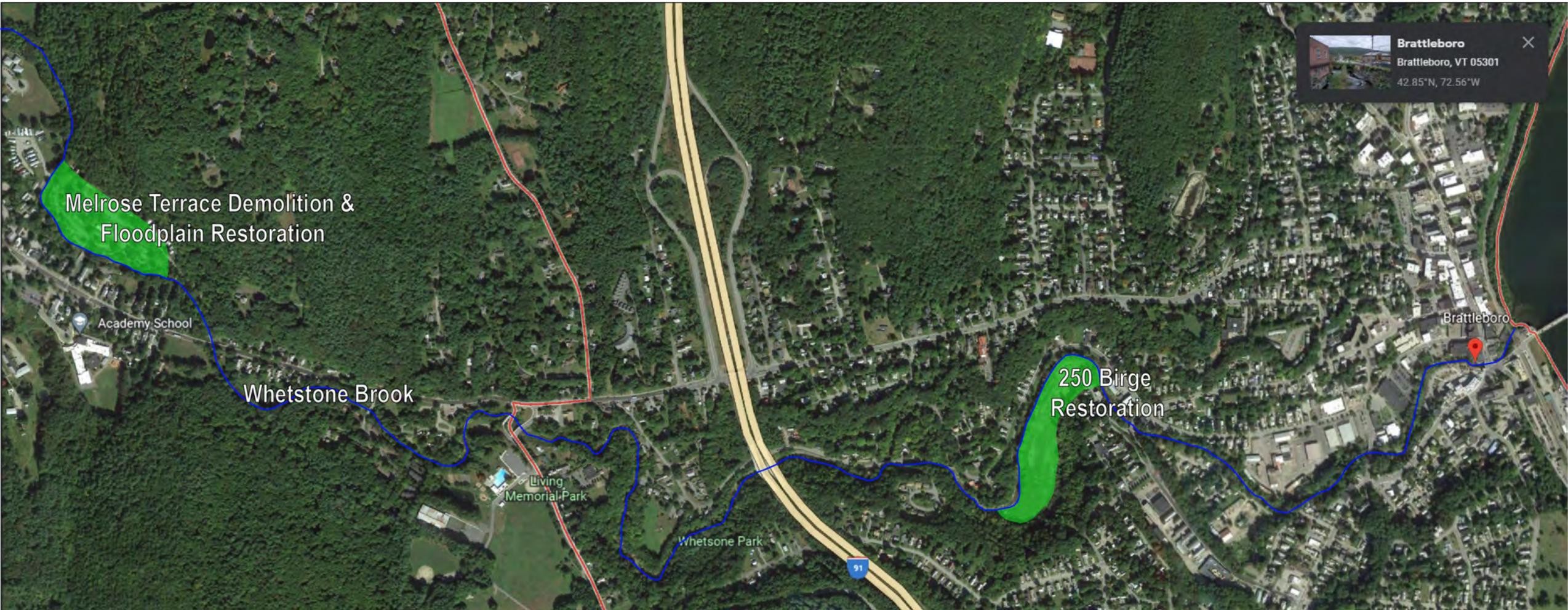
Water Street Neighborhood
Buyouts, Restoration &
Community Park

Northfield

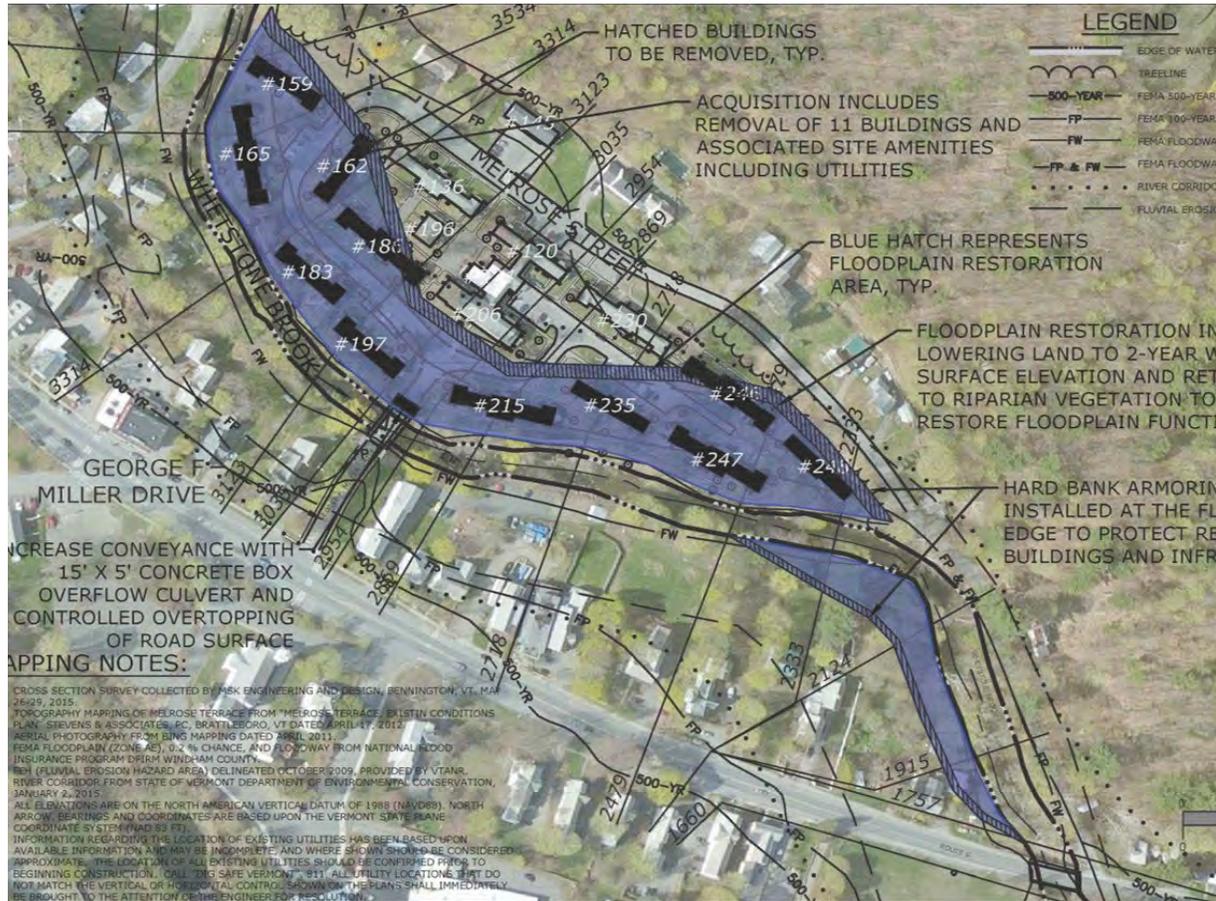




Property Buyouts and Floodplain Restoration



Brattleboro



Melrose Terrace Demolition, Culvert & Floodplain Restoration

Melrose Terrace Park



December 2022 Flooding







WHETSTONE BROOK - FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION SITE PLAN, BRATTLEBORO, VT



Brandon



Center Street Overflow Culvert

Cambridge Trail Bridge Upsizing & Floodplain Restoration



Original Trail Bridge

Contact:

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Hazard Mitigation Grants:
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