

Adopted: 8-10-22

Resolution 2022-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MICHAELS ADOPTING THE 2022 TALBOT COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN AS THE TOWN'S 2022 HAZARD MITIGATION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN

WHEREAS, THE TOWN OF ST. MICHAELS, a Municipality of Talbot County, recognizes the Federal Disaster Act of 2000 requiring that all States and local jurisdictions develop, submit, and update hazard mitigation plans that may reduce the impacts of hazards; and

WHEREAS, an adopted hazard mitigation plan is required as a condition of future federal funding for hazard mitigation projects; and

WHEREAS, the Town of St. Michaels participated in the planning process along with other units of local government within the County to prepare the 2022 TALBOT COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of St. Michaels hereby adopts the 2022 TALBOT COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN as an official plan; and

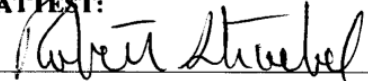
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Talbot County Department of Emergency Services is authorized to submit on behalf of St. Michaels, the adopted 2022 TALBOT COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for final review and approval.

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN INTRODUCED AND PASSED by a yea or nay vote of the Commissioners of St. Michaels on this 10 day of August, 2022.

David H. Breimhurst, President	- yea
Joyce D. Harrod, Vice President	- yea
Alfred R. Mercier, Treasurer	- yea
T. Coleman duPont	- yea
Katrina D. Whittington	- yea


I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above Resolution was passed by a yea and nay vote of the Commissioners of St. Michaels on this 10 day of August, 2022.

ATTEST:



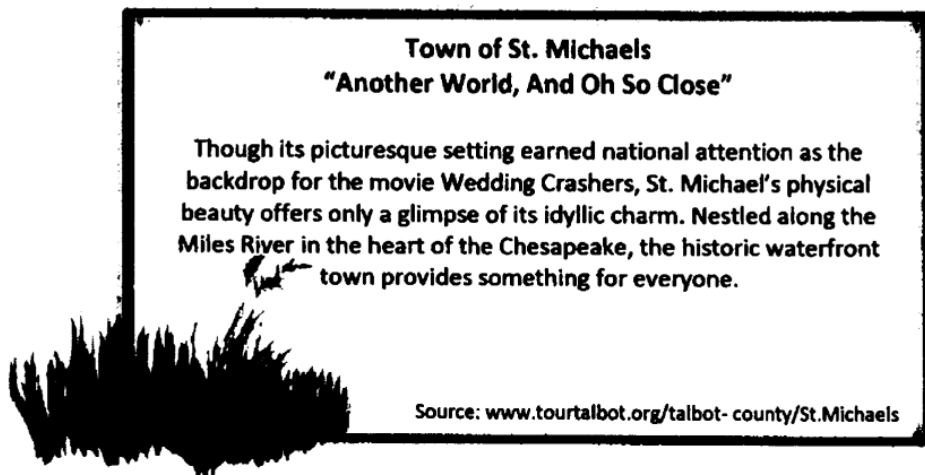
Robert Straebel, Town Administrator

THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MICHAELS

By:  (SEAL)

David H. Breimhurst, President

12.4 TOWN OF ST. MICHAELS SYNOPSIS & PERSPECTIVE



12.4.1 HAZARDS

Natural hazards identified within this Plan that impact or have the potential to impact the Town of St. Michaels include: Coastal Hazards, Flood, Winter Storm, Tornado, High Wind, Thunderstorm, Drought, Extreme Heat, and Emerging Infectious Diseases. The highest risk hazard, by a significant margin, is flood. Both tidal flooding and heavy rains result in flood issues. The projected sea level rise forecasted by NOAA in the next 30 years will augment these flooding issues and negatively impact all properties adjacent to the St. Michaels waterfront.

Public Perspective

Public survey results from respondents that indicated they live in St. Michaels show levels of concern for natural hazards. Citizens of St. Michaels are most concerned with flood (12 responses), coastal hazards (11 responses), and emerging infectious diseases (11 responses). Residents of St. Michaels feel that flood and coastal hazards particularly impact their community. According to the survey, citizens are least concerned with drought, extreme heat, and thunderstorm.

In terms of social vulnerability, responses from the survey indicate that residents perceive the following groups to be particularly at risk from the impacts of flood, coastal hazards, and emerging infectious diseases: (1) age, (2) medical issues/disability, and (3) socioeconomic status.

SECTION 3 – MITIGATION STRATEGIES, PLAN MAINTENANCE & IMPLEMENTATION

CHAPTER 12: MUNICIPAL SYNOPSIS & PERSPECTIVE

Q3 Please indicate your level of concern for each hazard using the drop down menu.

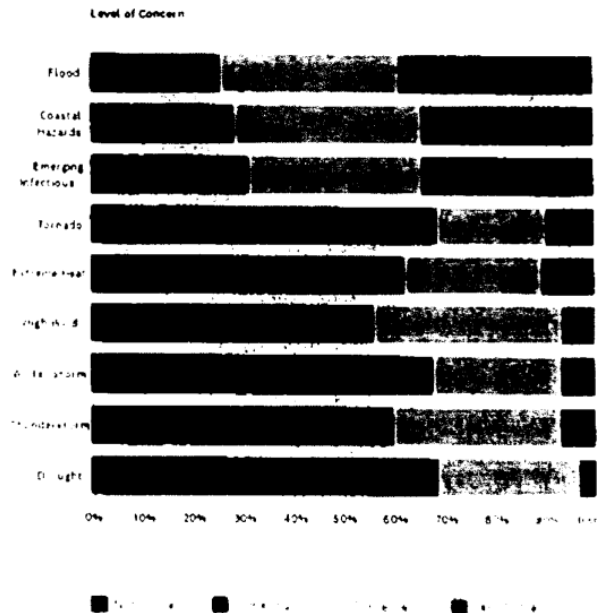


Figure 13-4: Results from Question 3 of the public survey. Responses from St. Michaels residents only.

12.4.2 REPETITIVE FLOOD ISSUES

Areas of concern within St. Michaels that experience repetitive flood issues include:

- Talbot Street (Route 33)* -- Heavy Rains
- Church Street/Muskrat Park -- Heavy Rains
- Mulberry Street & Mill Street – Tidal Flooding
- W. Harbor Road/E. Chew Avenue – Tidal Flooding

*Note: The Town of St. Michaels is very concerned with major storm flooding on Talbot Street (Route 33). In an emergency, Route 33 is the only route from St. Michaels and the Bay Hundred peninsula to Easton and Talbot County's Emergency Shelter at the Easton High School. St. Michaels fully supports Talbot County's request to the State Highway Administration on the urgency of raising Route 33 to address this flooding. The urgency of this request will continue to increase with the projected sea level rise and forecasts for more frequent, larger storms and flooding in the future.

12.4.3 AREAS OF HIGH FLOOD RISK AND VULNERABILITY

The Town of St. Michaels completed a *Stormwater and Harbor Infrastructure Assessment* in 2020. The resulting Climate Change/Sea Level Rise Commission (CC/SLRC) identified the following eight (8) areas as "at risk" around the Town:

1. E. Chew at end of the harbor.
2. W. Harbor Road along boat slips and boat ramps.
3. Mulberry Street, as it ends at the harbor.
4. Waterfront homes along Water Street.
5. Muskrat Park and Church Street.

SECTION 3 – MITIGATION STRATEGIES, PLAN MAINTENANCE & IMPLEMENTATION
CHAPTER 12: MUNICIPAL SYNOPSIS & PERSPECTIVE

6. Cherry Street and Honeymoon Bridge.
7. Mill Street and associated culvert.
8. Burns Street access to the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum (CBMM) and Crab Claw.

12.4.4 TOWN OF ST. MICHAELS MITIGATION & RESILIENCE PROJECTS

The Town of St. Michaels identified new and ongoing mitigation and resilience projects during the Plan development process.

- The stormwater system – the stormwater system is the town's most important infrastructure. The continued maintenance and operation of the distribution system, water towers and wells are a priority for the town.
- The Town of St. Michaels completed a Stormwater and Harbor Infrastructure Assessment in 2020. This assessment resulted in the creation of a Climate Change/Sea Level Rise Commission with the purpose of creating an action plan for the next 15 years. Mitigation action items outlined in that plan include:
 - Project A: Combine E. Chew and W. Harbor Road Projects (estimated design cost: \$75,000)
 - Project B: Combine Cherry Street and Honeymoon Bridge, Mill Street Culvert, and Burns Street
 - Cherry Street and Honeymoon Bridge (estimated design cost: \$33,000)
 - Mill Street and Creek/Culvert (estimated design cost: \$72,000)
 - Burns Street Visioning Study (estimated design cost: \$60,000)
 - Project C: Mulberry Street, Rain Garden Design (estimated design cost: \$30,000)
 - Project D: St. Michaels Westside Harbor Residents, Berm and Cistern Design (estimated design cost: \$28,000)
 - Project E: Muskrat Park, Raise Bulkhead and Berm and Cistern Design (estimated design cost: \$28,000)
 - The goal is to have basic plans in place for all the above projects and strategies by the end of 2025 and have completed some of the initial mitigation projects by 2030.
- There is an ongoing State Highway Administration project that will bring all sidewalks and crosswalks along Talbot Street into ADA compliance. This project began in 2021 and will be a multi-year project.
- Increase Volunteer First Responder Membership – the need for new members is an increasing problem county-wide.
- The Town has performed a Needs Assessment and Deficiency Study for the Town Office and Police Department buildings. The Town will be working to bring these offices to a level that will be sustainable and help provide for Town resilience, using green technology, meeting the standards for ADA compliance, incorporating up to date IT technology, and providing appropriate public safety standards for the buildings.
- St. Michaels hired a consultant who has completed an initial study of parking, Police Station relocation, and new Town Office/relocation related to flooding, sea level rise, and the deficiencies outlined above. St Michaels is proceeding with the planning for the potential relocation of the Town Office and the Police Station.
- The Town is very interested in partnering and working with Talbot County in relation to stormwater upgrades/maintenance and emergency response.

SECTION 3 – MITIGATION STRATEGIES, PLAN MAINTENANCE & IMPLEMENTATION
CHAPTER 12: MUNICIPAL SYNOPSIS & PERSPECTIVE

12.4.5 TOWN OF ST. MICHAELS CAPABILITIES

The Town of St. Michaels completed a municipal questionnaire to determine current capabilities and ongoing mitigation projects. Results of the questionnaire indicate the following hazard mitigation and resilience capabilities:

Planning and Regulatory

- ✓ The Town's Comprehensive Plan contains *Chapter 14: Climate Resilience*. The Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2015 and will receive an update within the next 2-3 years.
- ✓ The Town of St. Michaels partners with the Talbot County Emergency Operations Team and the Town Manager as well as the Police Chief to attend Emergency Operations meetings.
- ✓ In terms of Continuity of Operations, the Town coordinates with Talbot County during a natural hazard event.
- ✓ St. Michaels utilizes the International Building Code (IBC), 2021 edition.
- ✓ St. Michaels has land use authority and may issue building permits.
- ✓ The Town adopted a floodplain ordinance in 2013; it was amended in its entirety in 2016.
- ✓ St. Michaels has numerous open space parks throughout the Town. Three parks are waterfront: Hollis Park, Backcreek Park, and Muskrat Park. The Town also has a nature trail.
- ✓ The Town notifies the community of certain issues via "Constant Contact", an email service.

Administrative and Technical

The Town of St. Michaels has the following departmental and staff resources available.

Table 12-3. Town of St. Michael's Departments and Staff Resources

Land Use Authority	Land Use/Development Planning		Public Works & Engineering		Emergency Services (Police, Fire & Fire)		Facilities Management		Public Health		Planning & Administration			
	Y/N	# of Staff	Y/N	# of Staff	Y/N	# of Staff	Y/N	# of Staff	Y/N	# of Staff	Y/N	# of Staff		
Yes	Yes	3	Yes	6	Yes	9	Yes	1	No	0	Yes	1	Yes	5

Financial

- ✓ The Town's Climate Change/Sea Level Rise Committee has proposed to the Town Commissioners several mitigation projects to address the high-risk areas identified within the Harbor and Stormwater Infrastructure Study (see section 13.4.3, pages 13-16 & 13-17).
- ✓ St. Michaels has utilized Community Development Block Grant in the past, most recently in 2019 for a roof replacement at the Community Center.

Education and Outreach

- ✓ The Town of St. Michaels works with the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy (ESLC).
- ✓ Ongoing public education and outreach programs include "Coffee with a Cop" and "St. Michaels Youth & Law Enforcement" (SMYLE).

Municipal Synopsis - Town of St. Michaels (Area 1)



Municipal Synopsis - Town of St. Michaels (Area 2)



- 2022 Critical and Public Facilities
 - CF and PF within the 0.2-Percent Zone
 - Building Footprints
 - ▨ 1-Percent Annual Chance Flood Zone
 - 0.2-Percent Annual Chance Flood Zone
 - Centelines
 - Municipalities
 - Talbot County
- Town of St. Michael's Municipal Perspective:
- Hazard Vulnerability:
- Flood (Tidal)
 - Coastal Hazards
 - Heavy Rain Event Flooding
- Areas of Concern:
- Church Street - Impacted by heavy rain events
 - Mulberry & Mill Street - Impacted by tidal flooding
 - Town Hall - bulwarks breaching
 - Cherry Street - Victorian Inn impacted by flooding
- Critical and Public Facilities in FEMA Special Flood Hazard Areas:
- There is one (1) critical and public facility within the FEMA SFHA in this area of St. Michaels:
- Delmarva Power and Light on Meeting House Road.
- Data Sources: FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area, Talbot County Department of Public Works, Talbot County Critical and Public Facilities Database.

