**Attachment D: Sutton MVP Yearly Progress Report**



**MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM FY 23**

**MVP ACTION GRANT RFR ENV 23 MVP 02**

Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

# Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Yearly Progress Report

Date: April 15, 2022

Municipality: Sutton

Local MVP Contact Name: Jennifer Hager

1. **Please list your municipalities' top priority actions, in order of priority, identified through the MVP planning process.**

Green Infrastructure Management (Trees) - Inventory, pruning & removal of hazard trees, educate the public regarding the expansive value of this natural infrastructure, consider enactment of policies to minimize damage from chemicals and to address invasive species and insect infestations.

Infrastructure Resilience (Transite Pipe) – Evaluate public infrastructure systems, identify weaknesses including effects of climate change, and address them considering alternative design and construction methods that incorporate nature based solutions where possible.

Continuity of Operations (Generators) - Backup power for critical municipal facilities and the public services they provide.

Adaptive Water Management Systems (Dams, Culverts) – Evaluate existing manmade and natural water systems particularly those with impoundments or elements more susceptible to climate vulnerability. Formulate alternative design and management strategies as well as long term maintenance.

Please Note – These priorities have been expanded/detailed in accordance with discussion by the MVP Core Team.

1. **Has your Core Team reconvened since your Listening Session? If so, describe the process and any revisions or updates your team made to the original MVP Report. Please list your MVP Core Team members and note any new members.**

Staff/consultant departures resulted in a new MVP lead, Jennifer Hager, Planning & Economic Development Director and removal and addition of core team members. Current members are: Paul Maynard, Emergency Management Leader; Lee Dillard Adams, Resident; Matt Franz, CMRPC GIS Specialist; Robin Dresser; District Fire Chief; Matthew Stencel, Highway Superintendent; Pam Nichols, Communication Director; Cheryl Rawinski, Public Health; and William Wence, Conservation Commission Chair.

The core team met 3/24/2022 reviewed progress to date on top priorities, discussed potential adjustments and/or better definition of existing priorities as articulated above.

1. **Discuss any other work related to the MVP process or climate change resiliency in the municipality. In what ways has your municipality used the outcomes of your workshop in other planning efforts (e.g., updating existing local plans)?**

The Town enacted a local stormwater management bylaw that applies to any disturbance of land including vegetation removal in excess of 1,200 s.f. The Town incorporated climate considerations in its update of the OSRP through addition of an entirely new Community Aspiration with 3 related goals and 9 objectives/action: “Sutton will be a community that acknowledges the effects of climate and incorporates climate resilience into its open space, recreational, and historic/cultural initiatives

1. **Please list any grants that your municipality has applied for, or received, to implement actions from your MVP report. Please note grant awards or applications that advanced priority actions.**

The Town requested and received $75,000 from the State budget to fund two generators at Fire Station 2 in Manchaug Village and Fire Station 3 in Wilkinsonville. The Town applied for a $217,000 LWCF Grant for American Legion Park in Manchaug that includes pervious parking lots, tree planting and shade structures, and climate education signage.

1. **Please list any other steps that your municipality has taken towards implementing your priority actions.**

The Town used the results of the MVP process to prioritize funding and efforts on several fronts. The tree care budget was doubled and the Town is working with local utility companies more frequently to prune or remove hazard trees. Municipal funding and state funding have been secured to provide generators for two of the towns radio sites, two fire station locations, and generators are in the FY23 budget for the Senior Center. The Fire Department and Highway Departments have begun drone and physical evaluation of various critical culverts and waterways approaching various dam. The Town completed $145,000 design engineering for replacement of the transite pipes in Wilkinsonville as well as the Blackstone Street pump station to move it farther from the Blackstone River and will file a One Stop Grant by June 2022 to implement this work.

1. **Please list any potential next steps to advance priority actions during the next year. Are there any specific project ideas you would like to discuss with an MVP regional coordinator in relation to an application for a future MVP Action Grant round?**

The Town will appropriate funding at the May 2022 Town Meeting to augment the $2-3million OneStop grant it will file this year for the construction of improvements per the completed sewer pump station and line replacement design. The FY23 budget contains funding for the Senior Center generator and the FY24 budget contains a new generator for the Highway Department. AS noted above, the Town will apply for a One Stop Grant to replace the transite sewer line and move the pump station farther from the Blackstone River and will commit significant municipal funds to this project as well in FY23.

1. **Please note any difficulties or challenges the community has identified through the MVP planning process or while seeking to implement priority actions and any steps the community has identified to address these challenges.**

Sutton is a small community in terms of population and tax base, we don’t have a lot of staff or funding to tackle the myriad of competing priorities. Securing demographic data for smaller but demographically and functionally distinct areas of the community, like JUST our villages hasn’t been possible which has been a constraint.

1. **Please identify any data needs or information gaps that the state could help fill.**

None identified.