



Board of Selectmen
Beetlebung Corner, P.O. Box 119
Chilmark, MA 02535

August 17, 2021

Select Board Members,

It is my great pleasure to announce the state and federal approval of the *Dukes County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2021*. This effort took several years and much effort from the Town and the MVC. Each Board must now formally consider and adopt the plan with the result being formal final approval by FEMA (Department of Homeland Security- Federal Emergency Management Agency).

The plan is the result of very productive Community Resilience Building workshops through the State's MVP Program, great effort at data gathering and assessment, followed by thoughtful consideration of mitigation strategies. There was considerable involvement by a range of local stakeholders. Town Administrator, Tim Carroll, was the lead for the Town, and was outstanding in that role. During planning sessions three years ago, consensus was achieved in support for the strategies in the plan.

For the past two years, the plan has been through an arduous approval process by MEMA (Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency) and FEMA. Both approvals have been achieved.

The Board's adoption is the next step. The adoption resolution text is attached, and should be printed on your letterhead. It is our understanding that the Board will meet on at least one Tuesday in September. Please consider the adoption then, if not sooner. We would also like some time to make a short presentation, if you share that desire.

Following your adoption, FEMA will release the final approval, good for 5 years. One advantage of plan approval is that the Town will once again be eligible for a share of federal funding for the infrastructure projects in the plan. Based on approval of the 2021 plan, one Vineyard town is expected to receive a FEMA mitigation grant award of \$10 million as part of a \$17 million slope stabilization & revetment resiliency project.

Jo-Ann Taylor was the Project Manager; following her retirement in 2020, Dan Doyle has become the lead contact here at the Martha's Vineyard Commission. He may be reached at 508-338-7316 or doyle@mvcommission.org. The document is linked [here](#), on our website.

Sincerely,

Adam Turner, Executive Director

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