

Hazard Mitigation Programs Update

Buyouts

- Across all HMA grant programs, 142 buyout properties have been awarded, with an additional 110 properties in FEMA review pending award.
- Demolition has been completed on 55 awarded properties, and demolition services are underway for 39 additional properties.
- VEM continues implementation activities while awaiting additional award determinations from FEMA.

BRIC 2023

- BRIC 2023 was previously canceled and has since been reinstated.
- FEMA is reviewing previously submitted applications that were not awarded to determine eligibility for funding.
- VEM is awaiting further communication from FEMA regarding the status and timing of Vermont applications.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- The current FMA funding cycle is open.
- Due to the abbreviated application period and the lack of recent funding awards, VEM does not anticipate submitting applications this cycle.

BRIC FY24/FY25

- VEM provided technical assistance, application development support, and project development sessions to eligible applicants.
- Priority was given to projects that had been developed prior to the cancellation of the earlier BRIC cycle.
- Municipal capacity continues to be a significant challenge, with many communities citing limited staff resources as a barrier to application development even with VEM support.
- The BRIC Project Review Committee met on June 16, 2026, and approved a full slate of projects under Vermont's \$2 million state set-aside allocation, as well as two projects for submission under the nationally competitive funding category.

Future BRIC and FMA Rounds

- FEMA has advised that the next BRIC and FMA Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs) are expected in late summer 2026.

Local Hazard Mitigation Planning

- 190 municipalities currently have FEMA-approved, unexpired Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMPs).
- 67 municipalities currently have expired plans.
- An additional 18 plans will expire by the end of 2026 and 74 more by the end of 2027 if planning grant funding delays continue.
- Funding uncertainty has significantly disrupted Vermont's long-established mitigation planning cycle and has made it difficult for municipalities and Regional Planning Commissions to plan staffing, consultant procurement, and project schedules.
- Vermont currently has 63 municipalities awaiting BRIC 2023 planning funding, 112 municipalities awaiting HMGP-4720 planning funding, and 78 municipalities awaiting HMGP-4810 planning funding.
- Approximately half of the LHMPs submitted for review in 2026 were funded locally or through non-FEMA sources, reflecting increasing pressure on communities to self-fund planning efforts.
- Vermont is also awaiting funding for the next State Hazard Mitigation Plan update, which is required for eligibility under many FEMA mitigation and disaster recovery programs.