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Community Profile

Town of Aguilar

Las Animas County
Hazard Mitigation Plan

2022

Local Planning Team

Table AGL.1: Aguilar Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Adam Casillas	Emergency Manager	Town of Aguilar
Tyra Avila	Town Clerk/Administrator	Town of Aguilar

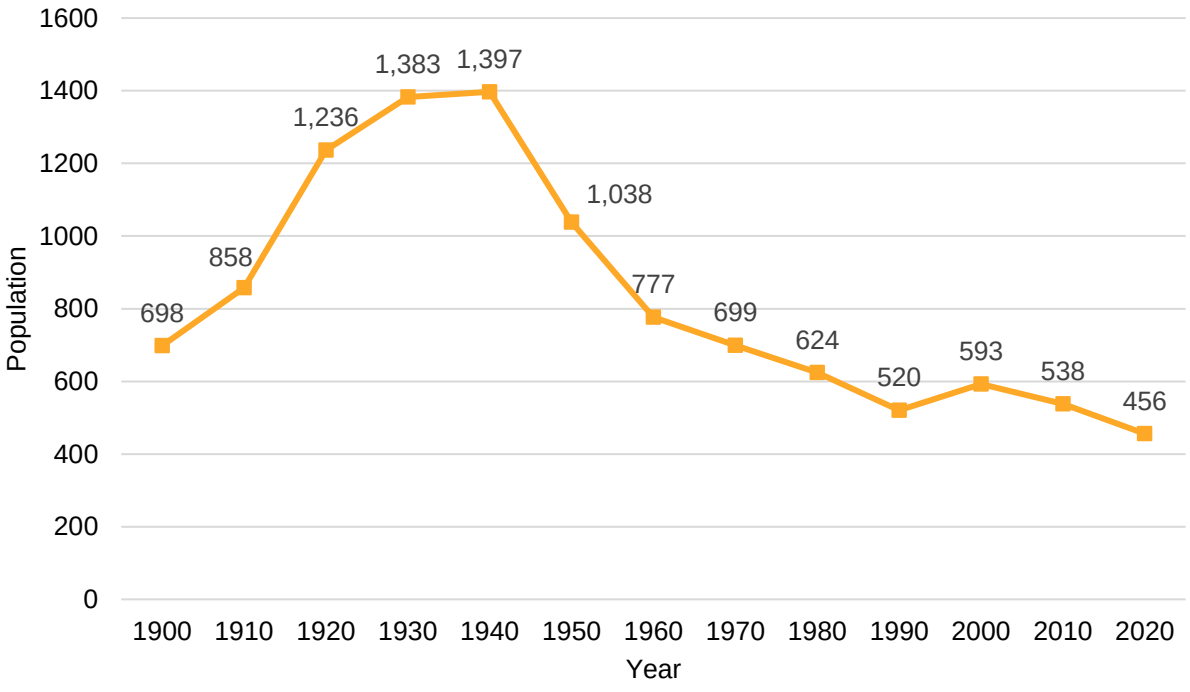
Location and Geography

The Town of Aguilar is in northwestern Las Animas County and covers an area of 0.4 square miles. The Borrego Ditch flows through the southeast portion of the community, Gonzalez Canyon flows west to east through the center of town, and the Apishapa River is located directly south and east.

Demographics

The following figure displays the historical population trend for the Town of Aguilar. This figure indicates that the population of Aguilar has been declining since 2000 to 456 people in 2020. A declining population can lead to more unoccupied housing that is not being maintained and is then at risk to high winds and other hazards. Furthermore, with fewer residents, there is decreasing tax revenue for the community, which could make implementation of mitigation projects more fiscally challenging. Aguilar's population accounted for 3% of Las Animas County's population in 2020.[1]

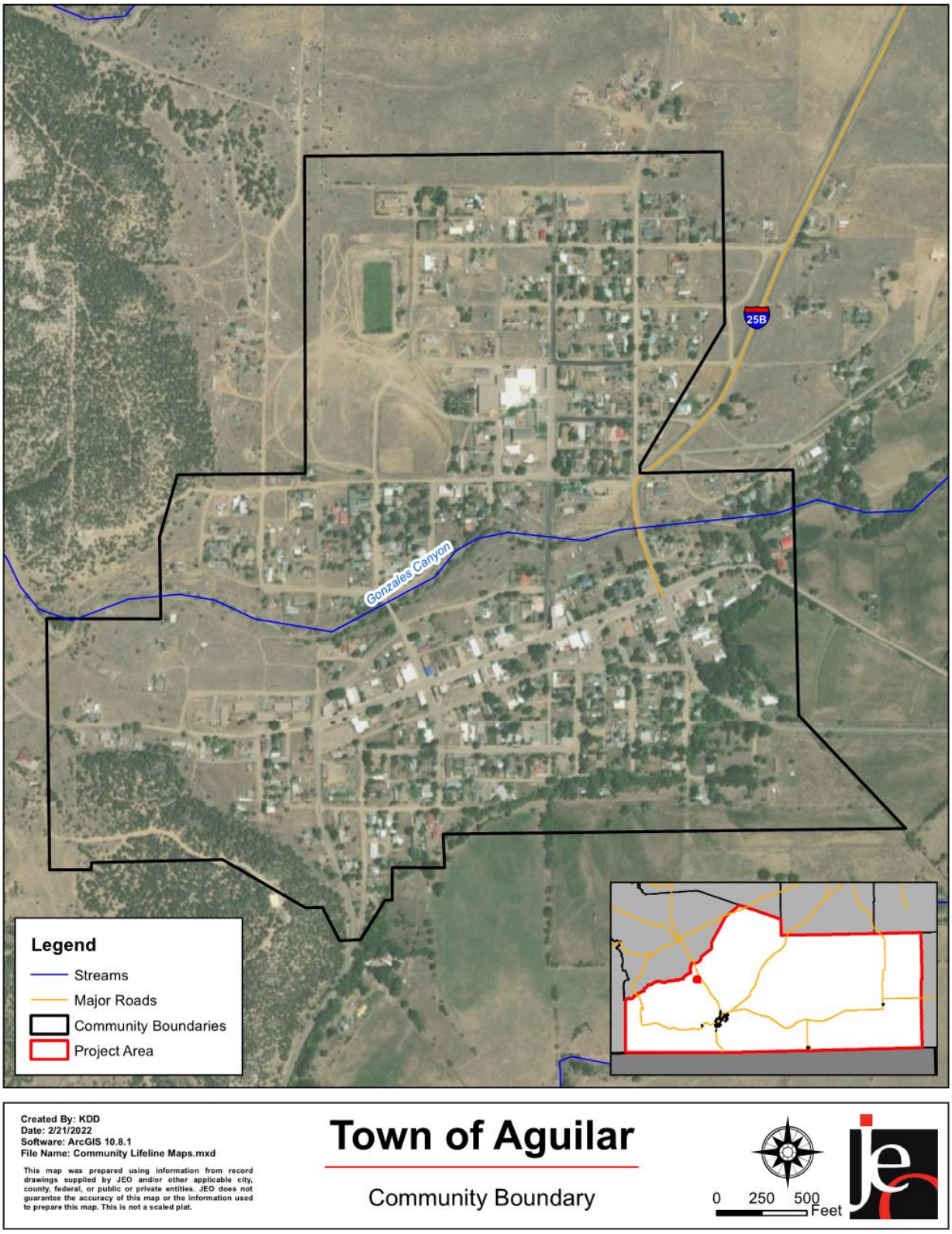
Figure AGL.1: Population 1900 - 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

1 United States Census Bureau. "2020 Decennial Census: P1: DEC Redistricting Data." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

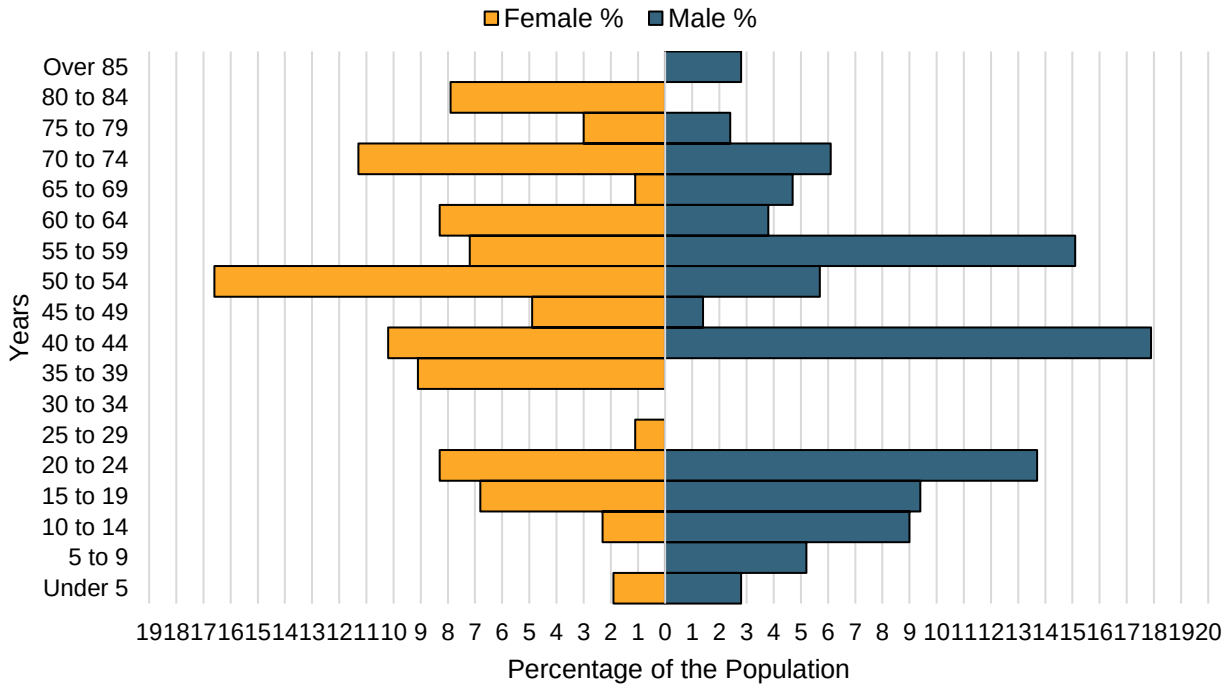
Figure AGL.2: Town of Aguilar



The young, elderly, and minority populations may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Looking at Aguilar's population:

- **35% is non-white.** Since 2010, Aguilar grew more ethnically diverse. In 2010, 20% of the Aguilar's population was non-white. By 2020, 35% was non-white.[1]
- **47.8 median age.** The median age of Aguilar was 47.8 years old in 2019. The population grew younger since 2010, when the median age was 56.2.[2]

Figure AGL.3: Aguilar's Population Pyramid



The figure above shows Aguilar's population percentage broken down by sex and five-year age groups. Aguilar's population is aging with a higher percentage of the population above 40 years of age.

Employment and Economics

Low-income populations, long distance commuters, and the unemployed may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Aguilar's population has:

- **17.8% of people living below the poverty line.** The poverty rate (17.8%) in the Town of Aguilar was higher than the state's poverty rate (10.3%) in 2019.[3]
- **$34,875 median household income.** Aguilar's median household income in 2019 ($34,875) was $37,456 lower than the state ($72,331).[3]
- **9.0% unemployment rate.** In 2019 Aguilar has a higher unemployment rate (9.0%) when compared to the state (4.3%).[3]

2 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0101: Age and Sex." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

3 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

- **37.7% of workers commuted 30 minutes or more to work.** More workers in Aguilar commuted 30 minutes or more to work than compared to workers commuting less than 15 minutes (37.7% compared to 17.4%).[4]

Major Employers

Major employers in the community include Ringos, Mercantile, Aguilar School District, and TOA. In addition, many people travel to Trinidad, Walsenburg, and Pueblo for employment.

Housing

The age of housing may indicate which housing units were built prior to the development of state building codes. Those houses and vacant housing may be more vulnerable to hazard events if they are poorly maintained. Unoccupied housing may also suggest that future development may be less likely to occur. Communities with a substantial number of mobile homes may be more vulnerable to the impacts of high winds, tornadoes, and severe thunderstorms if those homes are not anchored correctly. Renter-occupied housing depends on the initiative of landlords for proper maintenance and retrofitting to be resilient to disasters. They are less likely than homeowners to have flood insurance, or to know their risks to flooding and other hazards. Aguilar's housing stock has:

- **60.3% of housing built prior to 1970.** Aguilar has a larger share of housing built prior to 1970 than the state (60.3% compared to 26.4%).[5]
- **23.7% of housing units vacant.** Aguilar has a higher vacancy rate (23.7%) compared to the rest of the state (10.0%).[5]
- **13.9% mobile and manufacture housing.** The Town of Aguilar has a larger share of mobile and manufactured housing (13.9%) compared to the state (4.0%).[5]
- **68.9% renter-occupied.** The rental rate of Aguilar was 68.9% in 2019. This is higher than the state's rate of 65.2%.[5]

Governance

A community's governance indicates the number of boards or offices that may be available to help implement hazard mitigation actions. The Town of Aguilar is governed by a mayor and a town board; other governmental offices and departments that may be involved in implementing hazard mitigation initiatives are listed below.

- Town Clerk / Administrator
- Deputy Clerk/Court Clerk
- Utility Supervisor – Gas & Water
- Marshal
- Planning Commission
- Town Attorney
- Municipal Court Judge
- Administrative Assistant
- Emergency Manager
- Floodplain Administrator

4 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0802: Means of Transportation to Work by Selected Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

5 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Bureau American Community Survey: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the community's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

Municipal funds are limited to maintaining current facilities and systems, with a large portion ($6.2 million) already dedicated to the water augmentation pond. Funds have stayed the same in recent years.

Table AGL.2: Capability Assessment

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Planning & Regulatory Capability	Comprehensive Plan	Yes
	Capital Improvements Plan	No
	Economic Development Plan	No
	Local Emergency Operations Plan	Yes
	Floodplain Management Plan	No
	Storm Water Management Plan	No
	Zoning Ordinance	Yes
	Subdivision Regulation/Ordinance	No
	Floodplain Ordinance	Yes
	Building Codes	Yes
	National Flood Insurance Program	Yes
	Community Rating System	No
	Other (if any)	Water Restrictions
Administrative & Technical Capability	Planning Commission	Yes
	Floodplain Administration	Yes
	GIS Capabilities	Yes
	Chief Building Official	Yes
	Civil Engineering	No
	Local Staff Who Can Assess Community's Vulnerability to Hazards	Yes
	Grant Manager	No
	Mutual Aid Agreement	Yes
	Other (if any)	-
Fiscal Capability	Capital Improvement Plan/ 1- & 6-Year plan	No
	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded a grant in the past	Yes
	Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes such as Mitigation Projects	No
	Gas/Electric Service Fees	Yes
	Storm Water Service Fees	No
	Water/Sewer Service Fees	Yes
	Development Impact Fees	No

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	Yes
	Other (if any)	-
Education & Outreach Capability	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc. Ex. CERT Teams, Red Cross, etc.	No
	Ongoing public education or information program (e.g., responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	No
	Natural Disaster or Safety related school programs	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Firewise Communities Certification	No
	Tree City USA	No
	Other (if any)	-

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources to implement mitigation projects	Limited
Staff/expertise to implement projects	Moderate
Public support to implement projects	Limited
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Moderate

Plan Integration

Aguilar has several planning documents that discuss or relate to hazard mitigation. Each plan is listed below along with a short description of how it is integrated with the hazard mitigation plan. The town will seek out and evaluate any opportunities to integrate the results of the current hazard mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms and updates. Aguilar is currently working on developing a Capital Improvements Plan, Water System Emergency Response Plan, and a Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Building Code (2015)

The building code sets standards for constructed buildings and structures. Aguilar has adopted the 2015 International Building Codes with no amendments to the code made.

Comprehensive Plan (2017)

The comprehensive plan is designed to guide the future actions and growth of the community. It directs development away from the floodplain, directs housing away from chemical storage sites, encourages the elevation of structures located in the floodplain, and directs housing and vulnerable populations away from major transportation routes. An update to the comprehensive plan is currently underway and will be completed by the end of 2022. The future update will include goals aimed at safe growth, infill development, clustering of development, preservation of open space in known hazardous areas, and the identification of areas that need emergency shelters.

Floodplain Regulations (2021), Zoning Ordinance (2009), and Subdivision Regulations (2009)

The town's floodplain regulations, zoning ordinance, and subdivision regulations outline where and how development should occur in the future. These documents contain floodplain maps, discourage development in the floodplain, limit population density in the floodplain, require more than one foot of elevation for new construction in the floodplain, and discourage housing and vulnerable populations near chemical storage sites and along major transportation routes. It also identifies floodplain areas as open spaces, restricts the subdivision of land within the floodplain, and include the ability to implement water restrictions. In a future update, the local planning team would like wildfire and the wildland urban interface to be considered.

Las Animas County Local Emergency Operations Plan (2017)

Aguilar falls under the Las Animas County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). The purpose of the LEOP is to provide general guidelines and principals for planning, managing, and coordinating the response to and recovery from emergencies and disasters that may impact Las Animas County. It includes responsibilities for county departments, volunteer agencies, and local jurisdictions during a disaster event. This plan is updated every five years.

Future Development Trends

Over the past five years, several new houses were built. In addition, a new gas and convenience store and Ace Hardware were added. None of the new structures were built in the floodplain or other known hazardous areas. In the next five years, new housing and businesses are likely to be added but nothing specific has been discussed yet.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Aguilar's major transportation routes include I-25B and County Roads 43.7, 53.7, and 63.1. The most traveled route is I-25B with an average of 380 vehicles daily.[6] A Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway line is located one mile northeast of the town. Chemicals are not regularly transported through the community and no spills have occurred in the past. Transportation information is important to hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk of transportation incidents. There were no identified evacuation challenges as there are several paved routes into and out of the community.

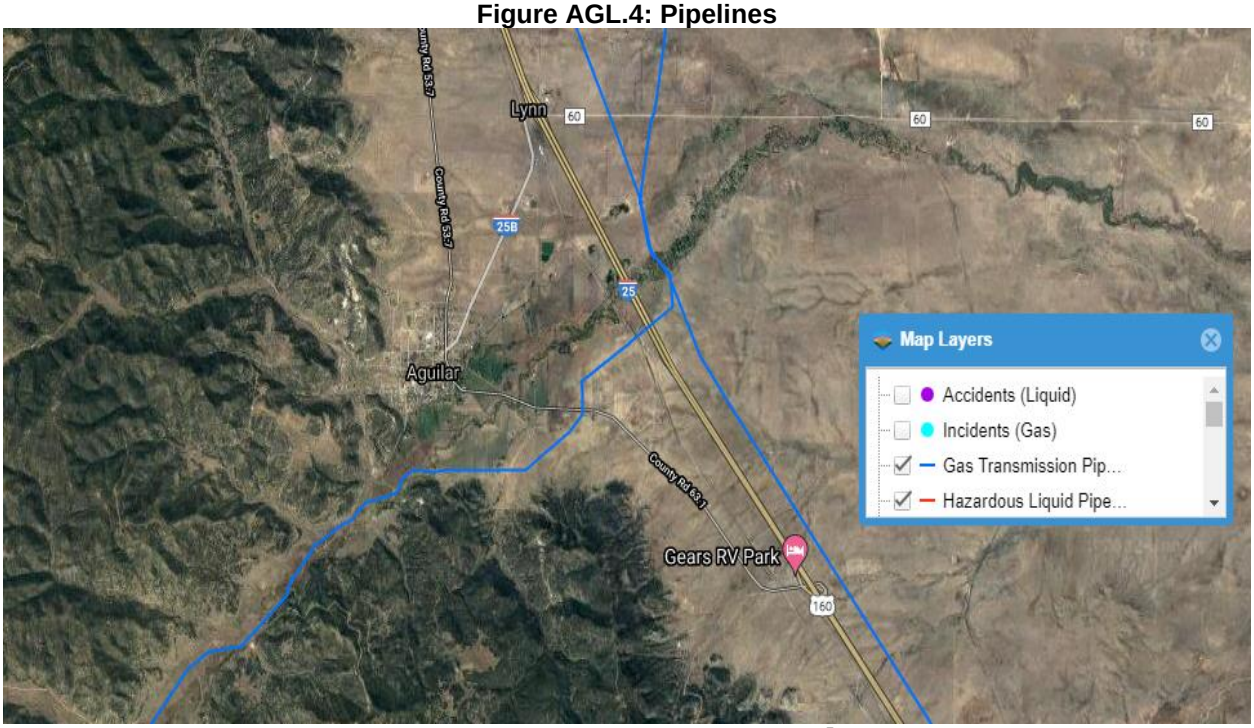
Hazardous Materials

There are two gas transmission pipelines that travel south and east of the community and can be seen on the figure below. In the event of a chemical spill, the local fire department and emergency response may be the first to respond to the incident.

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Colorado Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability, there are no chemical storage sites within or near Aguilar which house hazardous materials.

6 Colorado Department of Transportation. 2020. "Traffic Data Explorer." [map]. https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/otis/TrafficData#ui/0/1/0/criteria//71/true/true/.

Figure AGL.4: Pipelines



Source: National Pipeline Mapping System[7]

Health and Medical Facilities

There are no medical or health facilities located within the community.

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as part of this plan update. The following table lists those critical facilities identified by the local planning team.

Table AGL.3: Critical Facilities

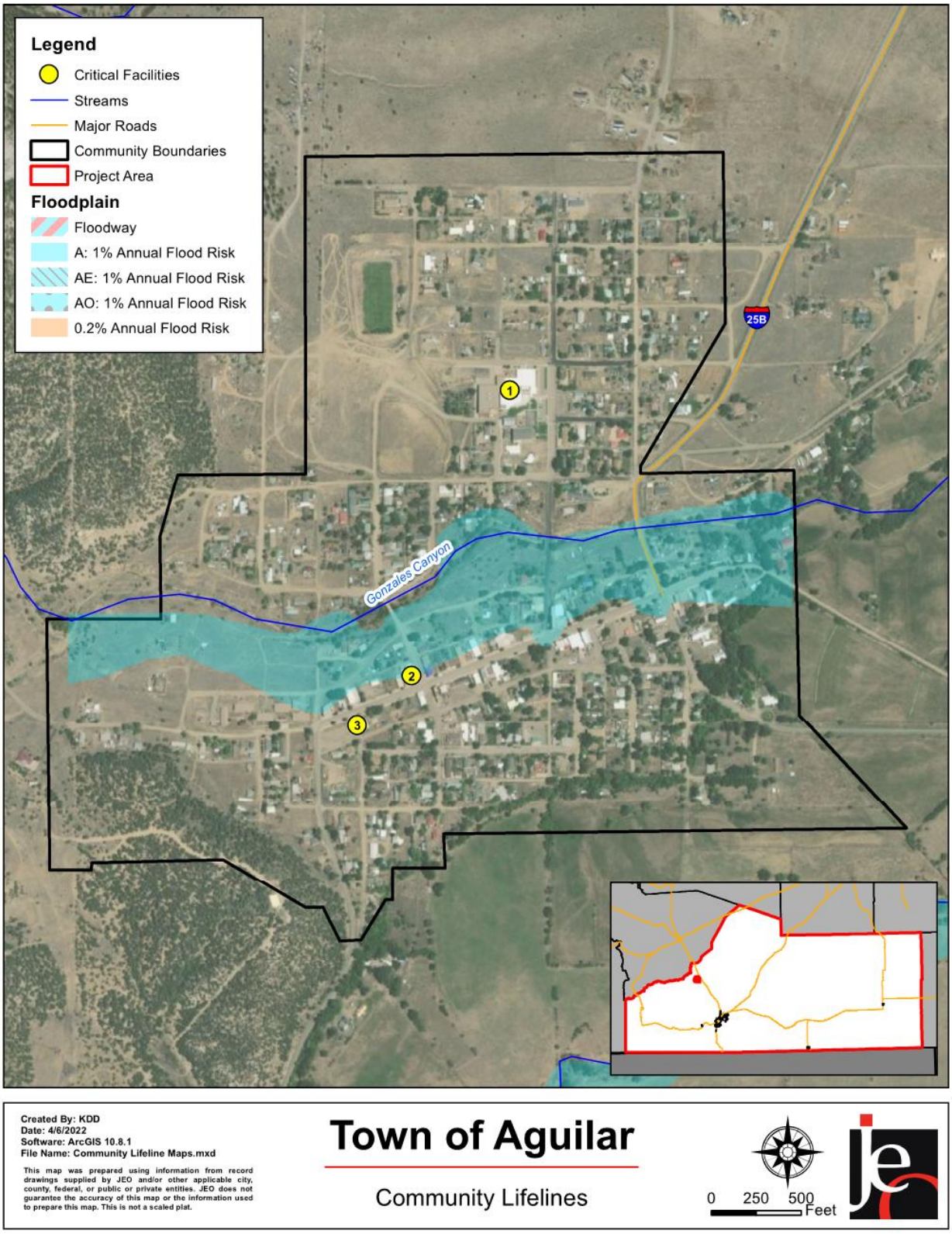
CL Number	Name	Generator (G) Shelter (S)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Aguilar Elementary and Junior-Senior High School	S	N
2	Aguilar Police Department / City Hall / Town Shop / Volunteer Fire Department	G	Y (1%)
3	Aguilar Community Center	-	N

Critical Infrastructure

Although they may not be listed in the tables above, critical infrastructure can also include power and energy infrastructure, communication infrastructure, alert sirens, water infrastructure, and wastewater infrastructure.

7 National Pipeline Mapping System. 2022. "Public Viewer." Accessed February 2022. https://pvnpms.phmsa.dot.gov/PublicViewer/.

Figure AGL.5: Community Lifelines and Floodplain



Parcel Assessment and Valuation

The planning team acquired GIS parcel data from the County Assessor to analyze the location, number, and value of assessed properties at the parcel level. The data did not contain the number of structures on each parcel. A summary of the results of this analysis is provided in the following table.

Table AGL.4: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 1% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
454	$4,633,770	104	$1,459,910	23%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Table AGL.5: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 0.2% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
454	$4,633,770	0	$0	0%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Historical Occurrences

See the upfront section for historical hazard events, including the number of events, damage estimates, and any fatalities or injuries.

Hazard Prioritization

The hazards discussed in detail below were either identified in the previous HMP and determined to still be of top concern or were selected by the local planning team from the county list as relevant hazards for the community. The local planning team prioritized the selected hazards based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the community's capabilities. For more information regarding county hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*.

Flooding

Most of the flood risk in the community comes from the 1% annual flood risk areas. The floodplain follows Gonzalez Canyon which flows west to east through the center of town. NCEI data reported two flood events that occurred in the past. One happened on August 28, 2002, and the other occurred on July 25, 2006. No damages were reported with either event. The local planning team indicated that impacts typically include road closures from water covering or running down streets.

Aguilar is a member of the NFIP, and the town's Floodplain Administrator will oversee the commitments and requirements of the NFIP. The town will continue to participate in the NFIP and comply with the Colorado Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplain (2 CCR 408-1). The initial FIRM for the town was identified in 8/28/2019 and the current effective map date is 8/28/2019. As of August 31, 2021, there is one policy in-force covering $75,000. Aguilar does not currently have any repetitive loss or severe repetitive loss structures.

Severe Wind

In January 2017, a high wind event caused approximately 85 homes to be without power for an extended period of time. Several homes were damaged and tree branches were knocked down throughout the community. The primary concern related to severe wind is power loss. Power loss can affect people who have medication that must be refrigerated, residents who need oxygen, town well operation, and heat during the winter. To help reduce the impacts of power loss and

severe wind, most power poles in the community have been replaced and two portable generators were purchased for the wells. In addition, Aguilar has recently installed Black Board Connect, which sends text messages to customers about severe weather updates.

Mitigation Strategy

Completed Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Create MOA for Emergency Water
Description	The Town of Aguilar will create a MOA with the cities of Trinidad and Walsenburg for drinking water. The MOA could then be executed in times of need as a secondary potable water source.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Drought
Status	Completed. A MOA has been updated with the cities of Trinidad and Walsenburg for drinking water.

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Communication Cell Phones
Description	Purchase communication cellphones to help staff and other agencies communicate with cell service.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$10,000
Local Funding	Town Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Emergency Manager
Status	Currently working on grants to help pay for this.

Mitigation Action	Storm Shelter / Safe Room
Description	The Town of Aguilar would like to identify an additional shelter location for residents to go during severe weather events and power loss.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	Unknown
Local Funding	Staff Time, Town Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Emergency Manager, Town Clerk/Administrator
Status	Not Started

Kept Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Create a CERT Team
Description	The Town of Aguilar will enlist a CERT group of volunteers under the direction of the Marshal to check-in on and assist the functional and access needs population that have registered with the town.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	Less than $10,000
Local Funding	Town Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Marshal's Office
Status	In Progress

Mitigation Action	Create and Implement a Drought Response Plan
Description	The Town of Aguilar will create and implement a Drought Response Plan with drought stage contingency measures. The plan's drought stage measures would be adopted by the town and the residents would be required to adhere to the drought stage measures.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Drought
Estimated Cost	Less than $10,000
Local Funding	Town Budget
Timeline	1 Year
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Town Clerk/Administrator
Status	In Progress

Mitigation Action	Hail Education to Homeowners
Description	The Town of Aguilar will educate homeowners about the dangers of hail and how to mitigate hail damage with hail-resistant roof coverings, flashing in building designs, etc.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Hail
Estimated Cost	Less than $10,000
Local Funding	Town Budget
Timeline	Ongoing
Priority	Low
Lead Agency	Town Clerk/Administrator
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Provide Backup Generators for Critical Infrastructure
Description	The Town of Aguilar will purchase and install a permanent back-up generator for the Aguilar Housing Authority that has 18 residential units.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$40,000+
Local Funding	Unsure
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Town Clerk/Administrator
Status	Currently working on funding options.

Mitigation Action	Registry Database for Functional and Access Needs
Description	The Town of Aguilar will create and implement a registry database for the functional and access needs population to register their needs. This will allow the Marshal and volunteers to assist those in need during and after a hazard event.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	Less than $10,000
Local Funding	Town Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Town Clerk/Administrator
Status	In Progress

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin. The table below outlines who will be responsible for document review, how often it will occur, and how the public will be involved.

Table AGL.6: Plan Maintenance

Positions Responsible for Review	Frequency of Review	Public Involvement
Town Administrator, Town Board, Emergency Manager	Annually	Social Media, Website, Letters, Board Meetings

Community Profile

Town of Branson

Las Animas County
Hazard Mitigation Plan

2022

Local Planning Team

Table BRN.1: Branson Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Christine Louden	Council Member	Town of Branson

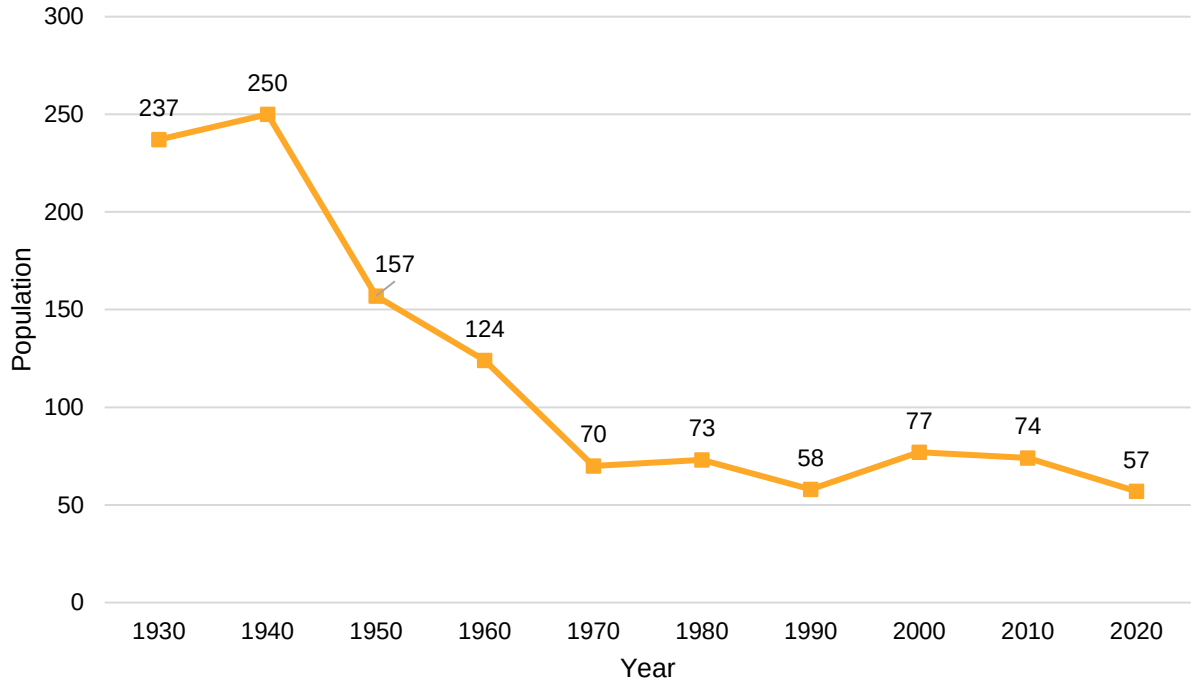
Location and Geography

The Town of Branson is in south central Las Animas County and covers an area of 0.2 square miles. The community is located 0.3 miles from the New Mexico border. Trementina Creek and Bachicha Creek both flow through the town.

Demographics

The following figure displays the historical population trend for the Town of Branson. This figure indicates that the population of Branson has been declining since 2000 to 57 people in 2020. A declining population can lead to more unoccupied housing that is not being maintained and is then at risk to high winds and other hazards. Furthermore, with fewer residents, there is decreasing tax revenue for the community, which could make implementation of mitigation projects more fiscally challenging. Branson's population accounted for 0.4% of Las Animas County's population in 2020.[8]

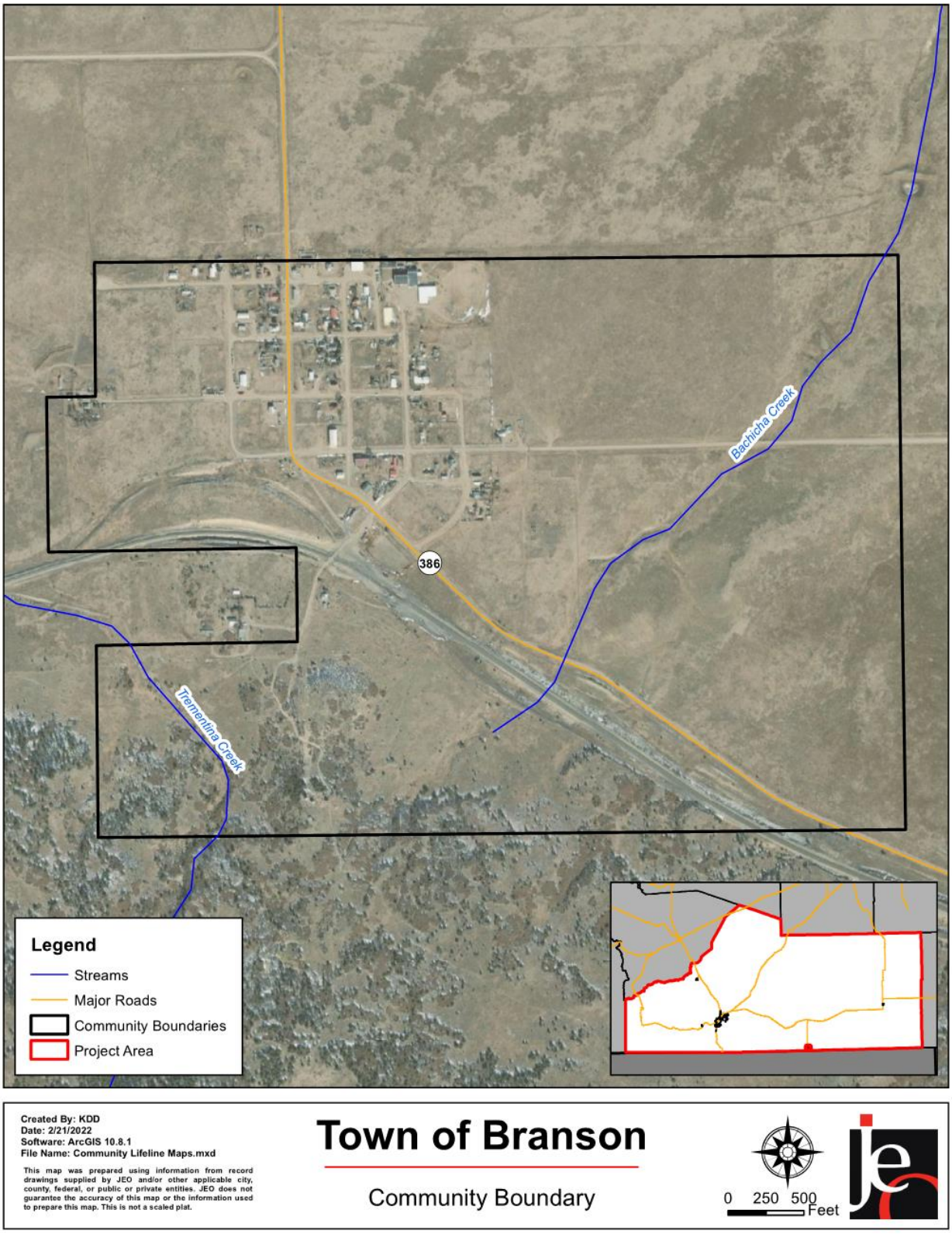
Figure BRN.1: Population 1930 - 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

8 United States Census Bureau. "2020 Decennial Census: P1: DEC Redistricting Data." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

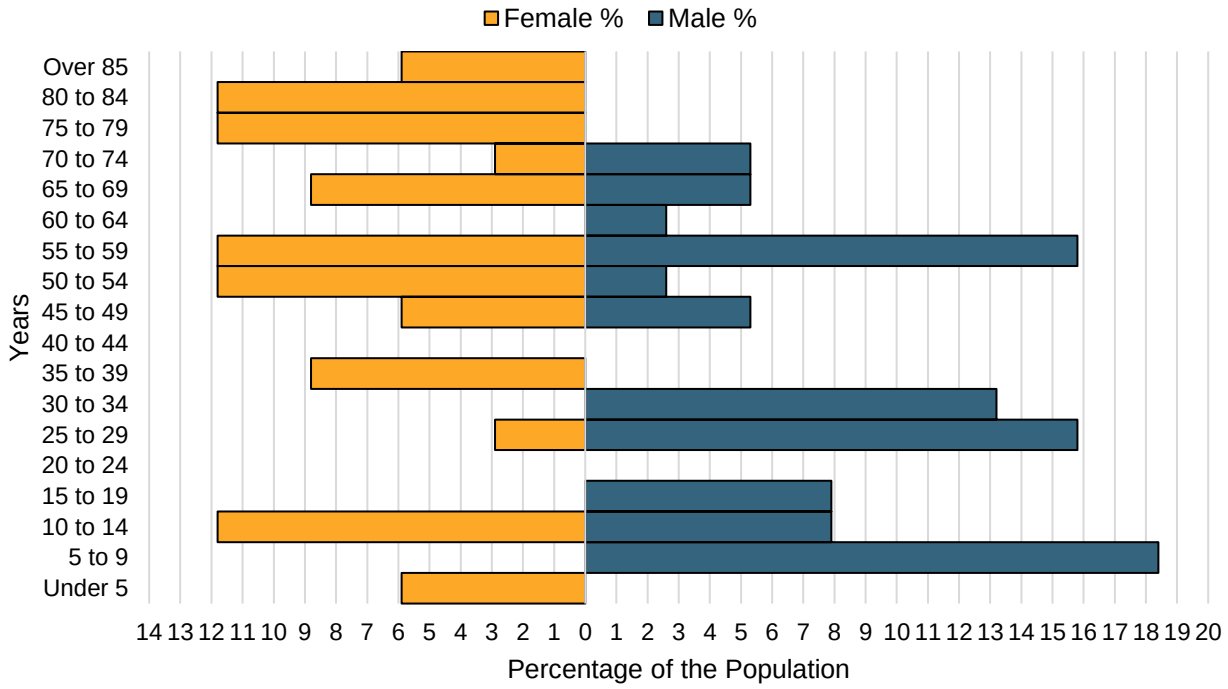
Figure BRN.2: Town of Branson



The young, elderly, and minority populations may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Looking at Branson's population:

- **21% is non-white.** Since 2010, Branson grew more ethnically diverse. In 2010, 8% of the Branson's population was non-white. By 2020, 21% was non-white.[8]
- **46.5 median age.** The median age of Branson was 46.5 years old in 2019. The population grew older since 2010, when the median age was 25.3.[9]

Figure BRN.3: Branson's Population Pyramid



The figure above shows Branson's population percentage broken down by sex and five-year age groups. Branson's population is aging with a higher percentage of the population above 45 years of age.

Employment and Economics

Low-income populations, long distance commuters, and the unemployed may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Branson's population has:

- **30.6% of people living below the poverty line.** The poverty rate (30.6%) in the Town of Branson was higher than the state's poverty rate (10.3%) in 2019.[10]
- **$31,875 median household income.** Branson's median household income in 2019 ($31,875) was $40,456 lower than the state ($72,331).[10]
- **0% unemployment rate.** In 2019 Branson has a lower unemployment rate (0%) when compared to the state (4.3%).[10]

9 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0101: Age and Sex." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

10 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

- **51.6% of workers commuted 30 minutes or more to work.** More workers in Branson commuted 30 minutes or more to work than compared to workers commuting less than 15 minutes (51.6% compared to 48.3%).[11]

Major Employers

Branson School and the U.S. Post Office are the only employers in the community. A majority of residents travel outside of the community for employment.

Housing

The age of housing may indicate which housing units were built prior to the development of state building codes. Those houses and vacant housing may be more vulnerable to hazard events if they are poorly maintained. Unoccupied housing may also suggest that future development may be less likely to occur. Communities with a substantial number of mobile homes may be more vulnerable to the impacts of high winds, tornadoes, and severe thunderstorms if those homes are not anchored correctly. Renter-occupied housing depends on the initiative of landlords for proper maintenance and retrofitting to be resilient to disasters. They are less likely than homeowners to have flood insurance, or to know their risks to flooding and other hazards. Branson's housing stock has:

- **58.1% of housing built prior to 1970.** Branson has a larger share of housing built prior to 1970 than the state (58.1% compared to 26.4%).[12]
- **38.7% of housing units vacant.** Branson has a higher vacancy rate 38.7% compared to the rest of the state (10%).[12]
- **25.8% mobile and manufacture housing.** The Town of Branson has a larger share of mobile and manufactured housing (25.8%) compared to the state (4%).[12] There are six mobile homes located throughout the town.
- **71.1% renter-occupied.** The rental rate of Branson was 71.1% in 2019. This is higher than the state's rate of 65.2%.[12]

Governance

A community's governance indicates the number of boards or offices that may be available to help implement hazard mitigation actions. The Town of Branson is governed by a town council, other governmental offices and departments that may be involved in implementing hazard mitigation initiatives are listed below.

- Clerk
- Utility Superintendent
- Treasurer
- Water Systems Manager

Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the community's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

11 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0802: Means of Transportation to Work by Selected Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

12 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Bureau American Community Survey: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

Municipal funds are limited to maintaining current facilities and systems and there is very little money for new capital projects. Funds have stayed the same over recent years.

Table BRN.2: Capability Assessment

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Planning & Regulatory Capability	Comprehensive Plan	No
	Capital Improvements Plan	No
	Economic Development Plan	No
	Local Emergency Operations Plan	Yes
	Floodplain Management Plan	No
	Storm Water Management Plan	No
	Zoning Ordinance	No
	Subdivision Regulation/Ordinance	No
	Floodplain Ordinance	No
	Building Codes	No
	National Flood Insurance Program	No
	Community Rating System	No
	Other (if any)	-
Administrative & Technical Capability	Planning Commission	No
	Floodplain Administration	No
	GIS Capabilities	No
	Chief Building Official	No
	Civil Engineering	No
	Local Staff Who Can Assess Community's Vulnerability to Hazards	Yes
	Grant Manager	No
	Mutual Aid Agreement	No
	Other (if any)	-
Fiscal Capability	Capital Improvement Plan/ 1- & 6-Year plan	No
	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded a grant in the past	Yes
	Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes such as Mitigation Projects	Yes
	Gas/Electric Service Fees	No
	Storm Water Service Fees	No
	Water/Sewer Service Fees	Yes
	Development Impact Fees	No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	No
	Other (if any)	-
Education & Outreach Capability	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.	No

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
	Ex. CERT Teams, Red Cross, etc.	
	Ongoing public education or information program (e.g., responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	No
	Natural Disaster or Safety related school programs	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Firewise Communities Certification	No
	Tree City USA	No
	Other (if any)	-

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources to implement mitigation projects	Limited
Staff/expertise to implement projects	Limited
Public support to implement projects	Limited
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

Branson does not have any local planning documents. However, the town falls under the Las Animas County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). The purpose of the LEOP is to provide general guidelines and principals for planning, managing, and coordinating the response to and recovery from emergencies and disasters that may impact Las Animas County. It includes responsibilities for county departments, volunteer agencies, and local jurisdictions during a disaster event. This plan is updated every five years.

Future Development Trends

Over the past five years, one home has been demolished and no new homes were built. In the next five years, one house is planned to be built and the town is applying for the Revitalizing Main Street Grant through the Colorado DOT to pave one road that leads to the school.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Branson's major transportation corridor includes State Highway 389. It is traveled by an average of 90 vehicles daily.[13] The Town has one Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway line traveling east to west on the southern edge of the community. The local planning team indicated that there is no regular transportation involving chemicals through the community. No spills or large transportation incidents have occurred in the past. Transportation information is important to hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk of transportation incidents. There were no identified evacuation challenges as there are three paved routes into and out of the community.

13 Colorado Department of Transportation. 2020. "Traffic Data Explorer." [map]. https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/otis/TrafficData#ui/0/1/0/criteria//71/true/true/.

Hazardous Materials

In the event of a transportation chemical spill, the local fire department and emergency response may be the first to respond to the incident. According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Colorado Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability, there are no chemical storage sites within or near Branson which house hazardous materials. There are also no pipelines located near Branson.

Health and Medical Facilities

There are no medical or health facilities located within the community.

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as part of this plan update. The following table lists those critical facilities identified by the local planning team.

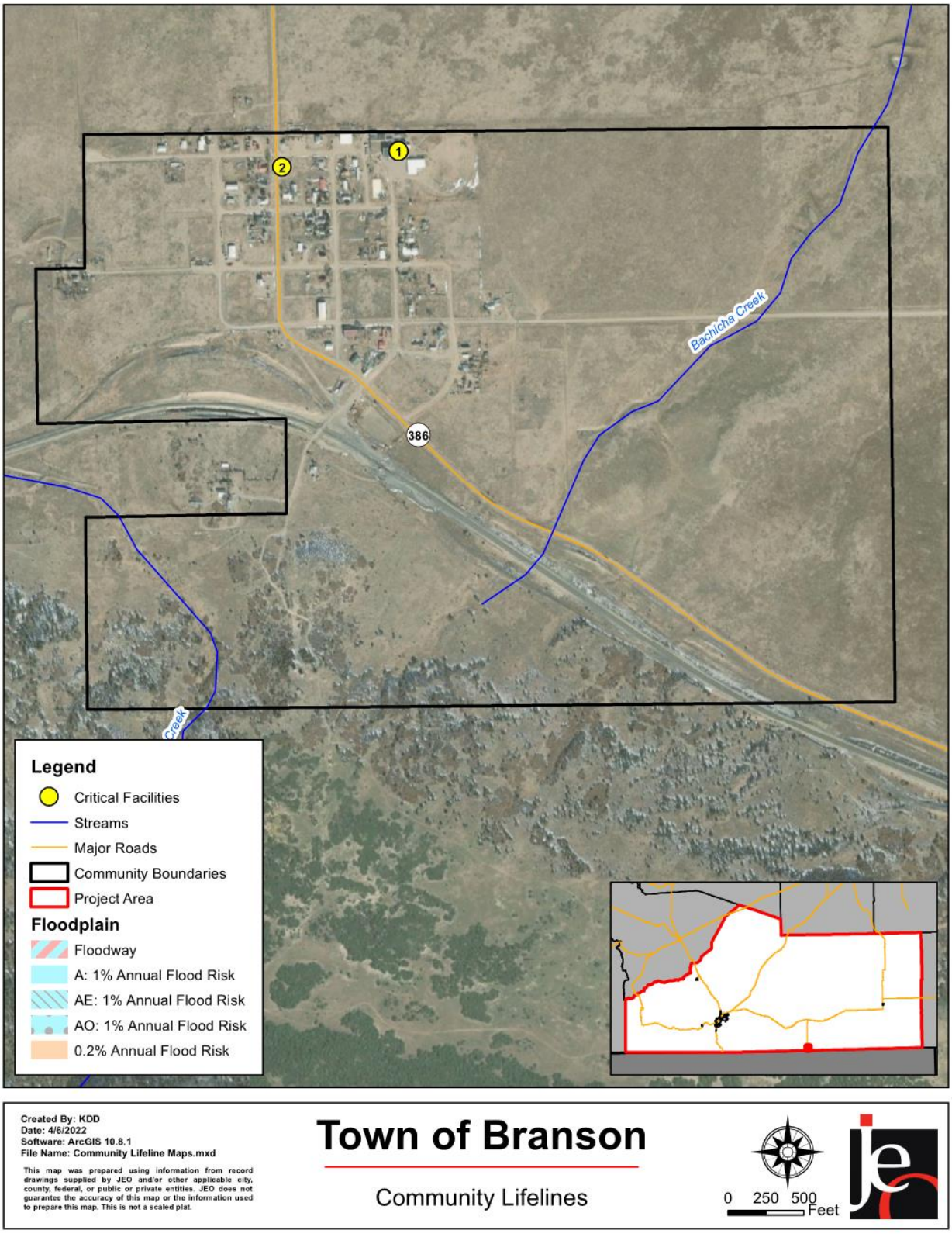
Table BRN.3: Critical Facilities

CL Number	Name	Generator (G) Shelter (S)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Branson Schools	-	N
2	U.S. Post Office	-	N

Critical Infrastructure

Although they may not be listed in the tables above, critical infrastructure can also include power and energy infrastructure, communication infrastructure, alert sirens, water infrastructure, and wastewater infrastructure.

Figure BRN.4: Community Lifelines and Floodplain



Parcel Assessment and Valuation

The planning team acquired GIS parcel data from the County Assessor to analyze the location, number, and value of assessed properties at the parcel level. The data did not contain the number of structures on each parcel. A summary of the results of this analysis is provided in the following table.

Table BRN.4: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 1% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
126	$2,309,490	0	$0	0%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Table BRN.5: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 0.2% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
126	$2,309,490	0	$0	0%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Historical Occurrences

See the upfront section for historical hazard events, including the number of events, damage estimates, and any fatalities or injuries.

Hazard Prioritization

The hazards discussed in detail below were either identified in the previous HMP and determined to still be of top concern or were selected by the local planning team from the county list as relevant hazards for the community. The local planning team prioritized the selected hazards based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the community's capabilities. For more information regarding county hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*.

Flooding

While flooding was not identified as a top hazard of concern, localized flooding from heavy rains or drainage issues could still occur. There are no identified flood hazard areas in the community. Branson is not a member of the NFIP because of administration costs, time constraints, a lack of past flooding events, and no identified flood hazard areas. However, the town will still comply with Colorado Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplain (2 CCR 408-1). Compliance will be overseen by the Town Council. NFIP participation will be reviewed if capabilities change in the future.

Severe Wind

Past wind events have knocked down trees and branches. Fortunately, this has not caused damage to roofs or power lines but the potential for damages still exists. The primary concern related to severe wind is loss of power. Most power lines in the community are above ground. To reduce the likelihood of power loss, trees are regularly trimmed around power lines and poles.

Wildfire

Wildfire has not impacted the community in the past. Though it did not reach the town, a wildfire in Branson Mesa in June of 2017 could have impacted the town and water system if it was not contained. Primary concerns related to wildfire include fire response. Branson has a small volunteer fire department and one truck, so a large wildfire could easily overwhelm the town. If

needed, the town can receive help from neighboring fire departments and the state firefighters. Trees are regularly trimmed to reduce dry timber and the town is kept mowed to reduce fuel load.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Provide Backup Generators for Critical Infrastructure
Description	Identify buildings and pieces of infrastructure that need backup power generation. Purchase a backup generator for those buildings or pieces of infrastructure.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$40,000+ per Generator
Local Funding	Budget
Timeline	5+ Years
Priority	Low
Lead Agency	Town Council
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Tree Trimming
Description	Trim trees in the community that are near power lines and power poles and trim trees to help reduce the amount of fuel load for wildfires.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Severe Wind, Wildfire, Winter Storms, Tornadoes
Estimated Cost	$500 - $1,000 a year
Local Funding	Budget
Timeline	Ongoing
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Town Council
Status	This is an ongoing action as issues are identified.

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin. The table below outlines who will be responsible for document review, how often it will occur, and how the public will be involved.

Table TRD.6: Plan Maintenance

Positions Responsible for Review	Frequency of Review	Public Involvement
Town Council, Mayor	Bi-Annually	Town Council Meetings

Community Profile

Town of Cokedale

Las Animas County
Hazard Mitigation Plan

2022

Local Planning Team

Table CKD.1: Cokedale Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
John Gilmore	Mayor	Town of Cokedale
Jason Swetky	Mayor Pro-tem	Town of Cokedale
Kathy Kumm	Town Clerk	Town of Cokedale

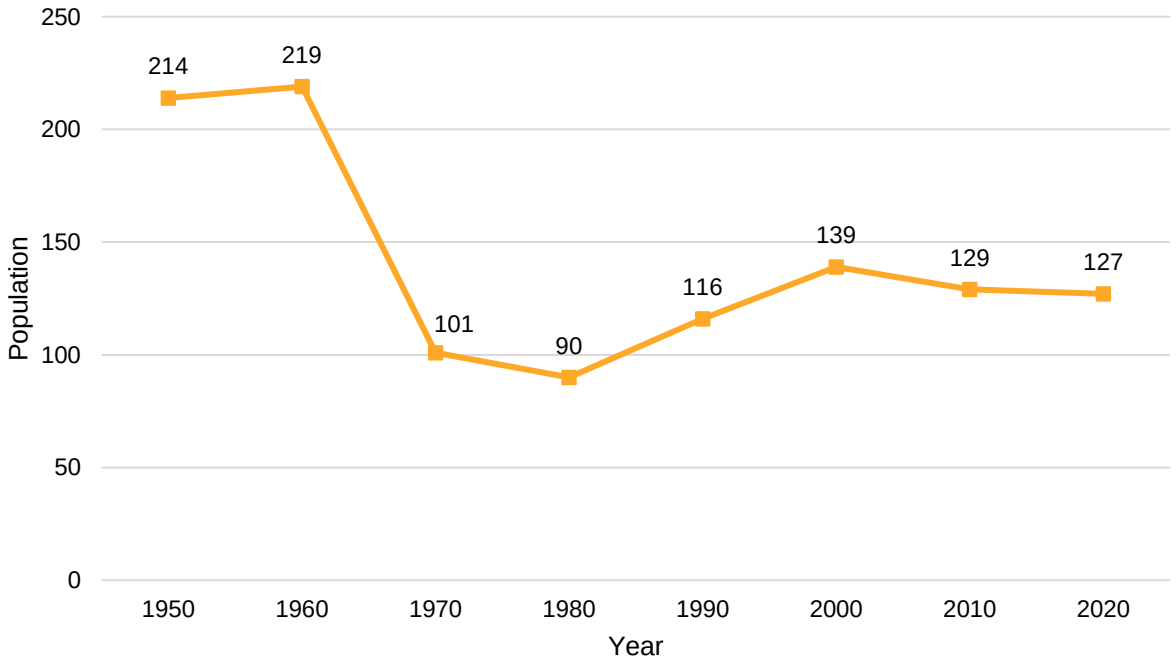
Location and Geography

The Town of Cokedale is in western Las Animas County and covers an area of 0.2 square miles. The community is located 15 minutes west of the City of Trinidad and was once a mining town. Trinidad lake is located less than a mile southeast of the town and Reilly Canyon flows through the community. Cokedale is located in the foothills of the Sangre DeCristo Mountains.

Demographics

The following figure displays the historical population trend for the Town of Cokedale. This figure indicates that the population of Cokedale has been declining since 2000 to 127 people in 2020. A declining population can lead to more unoccupied housing that is not being maintained and is then at risk to high winds and other hazards. Furthermore, with fewer residents, there is decreasing tax revenue for the community, which could make implementation of mitigation projects more fiscally challenging. Cokedale's population accounted for 0.9% of Las Animas County's population in 2020.[14]

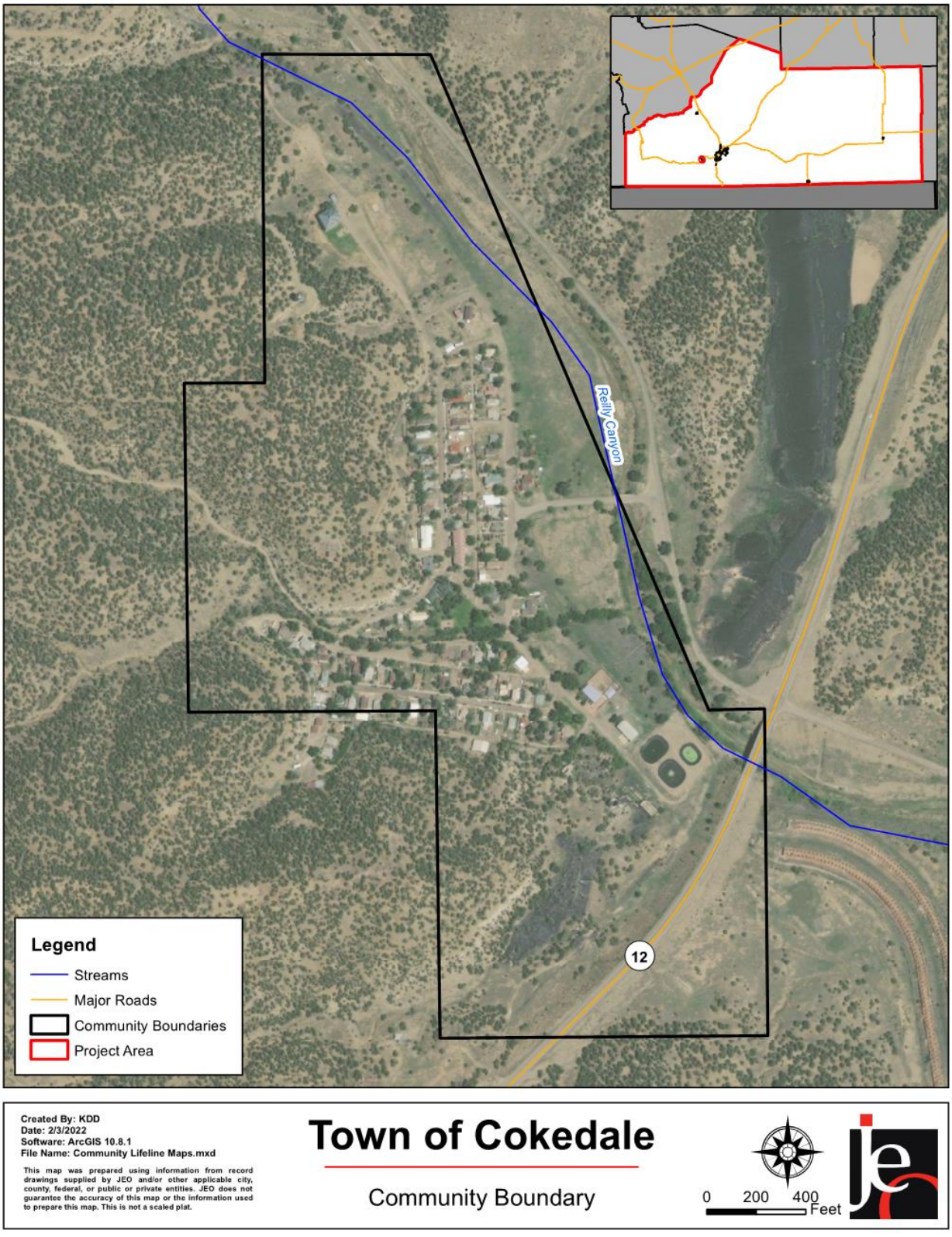
Figure CKD.1: Population 1950 – 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

14 United States Census Bureau. "2020 Decennial Census: P1: DEC Redistricting Data." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

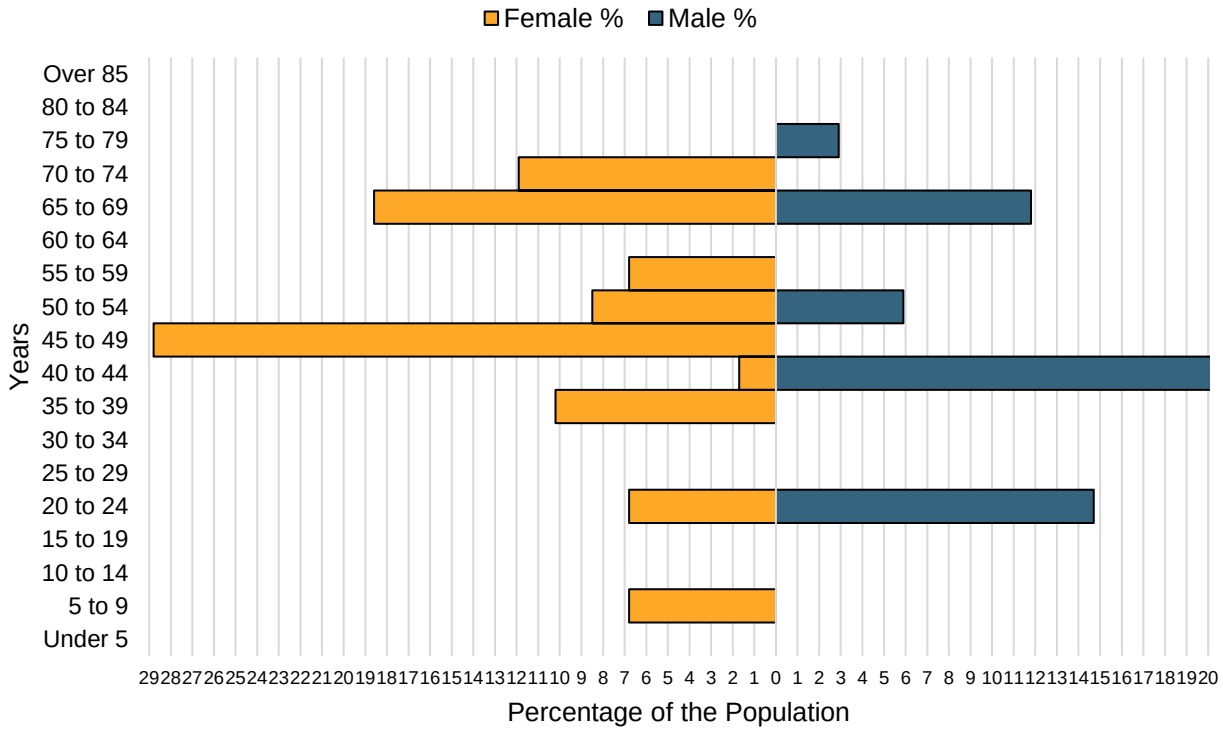
Figure CKD.2: Town of Cokedale



The young, elderly, and minority populations may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Looking at Cokedale's population:

- **20% is non-white.** Since 2010, Cokedale grew more ethnically diverse. In 2010, 9% of the Cokedale's population was non-white. By 2020, 20% was non-white.[14]
- **54.4 median age.** The median age of Cokedale was 54.4 years old in 2019. The population grew older since 2010, when the median age was 33.9.[15]

Figure CKD.3: Cokedale's Population Pyramid



The figure above shows Cokedale's population percentage broken down by sex and five-year age groups. Cokedale's population has a higher percentage of the population above 45 years of age. This likely indicates an aging and declining population in the years to come.

Employment and Economics

Low-income populations, long distance commuters, and the unemployed may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Cokedale's population has:

- **18.3% of people living below the poverty line.** The poverty rate (18.3%) in the Town of Cokedale was higher than the state's poverty rate (10.3%) in 2019.[16]
- **$41,250 median household income.** Cokedale's median household income in 2019 ($41,250) was $31,000 lower than the state ($72,331).[16]
- **29.3% unemployment rate.** In 2019 Cokedale had a higher unemployment rate (29.3%) when compared to the state (4.3%).[16]

15 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0101: Age and Sex." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

16 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

- **8% of workers commuted 30 minutes or more to work.** More workers in Cokedale commuted 30 minutes or more to work than compared to workers commuting less than 15 minutes (8% compared to 0%).[17]

Major Employers

The major employers in Cokedale are the New Elk Mine owned by Evergreen and various marijuana outlets. A large number of residents commute to the City of Trinidad for employment.

Housing

The age of housing may indicate which housing units were built prior to the development of state building codes. Those houses and vacant housing may be more vulnerable to hazard events if they are poorly maintained. Unoccupied housing may also suggest that future development may be less likely to occur. Communities with a substantial number of mobile homes may be more vulnerable to the impacts of high winds, tornadoes, and severe thunderstorms if those homes are not anchored correctly. Renter-occupied housing depends on the initiative of landlords for proper maintenance and retrofitting to be resilient to disasters. They are less likely than homeowners to have flood insurance, or to know their risks to flooding and other hazards. Cokedale's housing stock has:

- **95.2% of housing built prior to 1970.** Cokedale has a larger share of housing built prior to 1970 than the state (95.2% compared to 26.4%).[18]
- **48.6% of housing units vacant.** Cokedale has a higher vacancy rate 48.6% compared to the rest of the state (10%).[18]
- **0% mobile and manufacture housing.** The Town of Cokedale has a smaller share of mobile and manufactured housing (0%) compared to the state (4%).[18]
- **48.1% renter-occupied.** The rental rate of Cokedale was 48.1% in 2019. This is higher than the state's rate of 65.2%.[18]

Governance

A community's governance indicates the number of boards or offices that may be available to help implement hazard mitigation actions. The Town of Cokedale is governed by a mayor and a board of trustees; other governmental offices and departments that may be involved in implementing hazard mitigation initiatives are listed below.

- Town Clerk/Office Manager
- Code Enforcement
- Maintenance
- Water
- Wastewater
- Volunteer Fire Department

17 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0802: Means of Transportation to Work by Selected Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

18 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Bureau American Community Survey: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the community's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

Municipal funds are limited to maintain current facilities and system with most going towards water and wastewater repairs. The town anticipates municipal funds to increase due to the approval of a 1% sales tax.

Table CKD.2: Capability Assessment

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Planning & Regulatory Capability	Comprehensive Plan	No
	Capital Improvements Plan	No
	Economic Development Plan	No
	Local Emergency Operations Plan	Yes
	Floodplain Management Plan	No
	Storm Water Management Plan	No
	Zoning Ordinance	Yes
	Subdivision Regulation/Ordinance	Yes
	Floodplain Ordinance	No
	Building Codes	Yes
	National Flood Insurance Program	No
	Community Rating System	No
	Other (if any)	Burn Ban, Open burning prohibited year-round
Administrative & Technical Capability	Planning Commission	No
	Floodplain Administration	No
	GIS Capabilities	No
	Chief Building Official	No
	Civil Engineering	No
	Local Staff Who Can Assess Community's Vulnerability to Hazards	Yes
	Grant Manager	No
	Mutual Aid Agreement	Yes
	Other (if any)	-
Fiscal Capability	Capital Improvement Plan/ 1- & 6-Year plan	Yes
	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded a grant in the past	Yes
	Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes such as Mitigation Projects	Yes
	Gas/Electric Service Fees	No
	Storm Water Service Fees	Yes
	Water/Sewer Service Fees	Yes

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
	Development Impact Fees	Yes
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	Yes
	Other (if any)	-
Education & Outreach Capability	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc. Ex. CERT Teams, Red Cross, etc.	No
	Ongoing public education or information program (e.g., responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	No
	Natural Disaster or Safety related school programs	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Firewise Communities Certification	No
	Tree City USA	No
	Other (if any)	-

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources to implement mitigation projects	Limited
Staff/expertise to implement projects	Limited
Public support to implement projects	Limited
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

Cokedale has several planning documents that discuss or relate to hazard mitigation. Each plan is listed below along with a short description of how it is integrated with the hazard mitigation plan. The town will seek out and evaluate any opportunities to integrate the results of the current hazard mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms and updates.

Building Code (2018)

The building code sets standards for constructed buildings and structures. The town has adopted the 2018 International Building Codes with no amendments made.

Las Animas County Local Emergency Operations Plan (2017)

Cokedale falls under the Las Animas County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). The purpose of the LEOP is to provide general guidelines and principals for planning, managing, and coordinating the response to and recovery from emergencies and disasters that may impact Las Animas County. It includes responsibilities for county departments, volunteer agencies, and local jurisdictions during a disaster event. This plan is updated every five years.

Water System Emergency Response Plan (2018)

A water system emergency response plan serves as a guideline for water operators and administration to minimize the disruption of normal services to consumers and to provide public health protection during an emergency event. The document identifies several natural and human-caused events and discusses the water system's response during those events.

Zoning Ordinance (Update in Progress) and Subdivision Regulations (2008)

Cokedale's zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations outline where and how development should occur in the future. Due to the age of the documents, they have not been integrated with the HMP. The community will review the HMP for any opportunities to integrate information into the current zoning ordinance update.

Future Development Trends

Over the past five years, the number of year-round residents has increased, vacancies have decreased, and repairs to the water tank have been made. No new structures were developed in the floodplain or other known hazardous areas. There are currently no planned new housing developments or new businesses.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

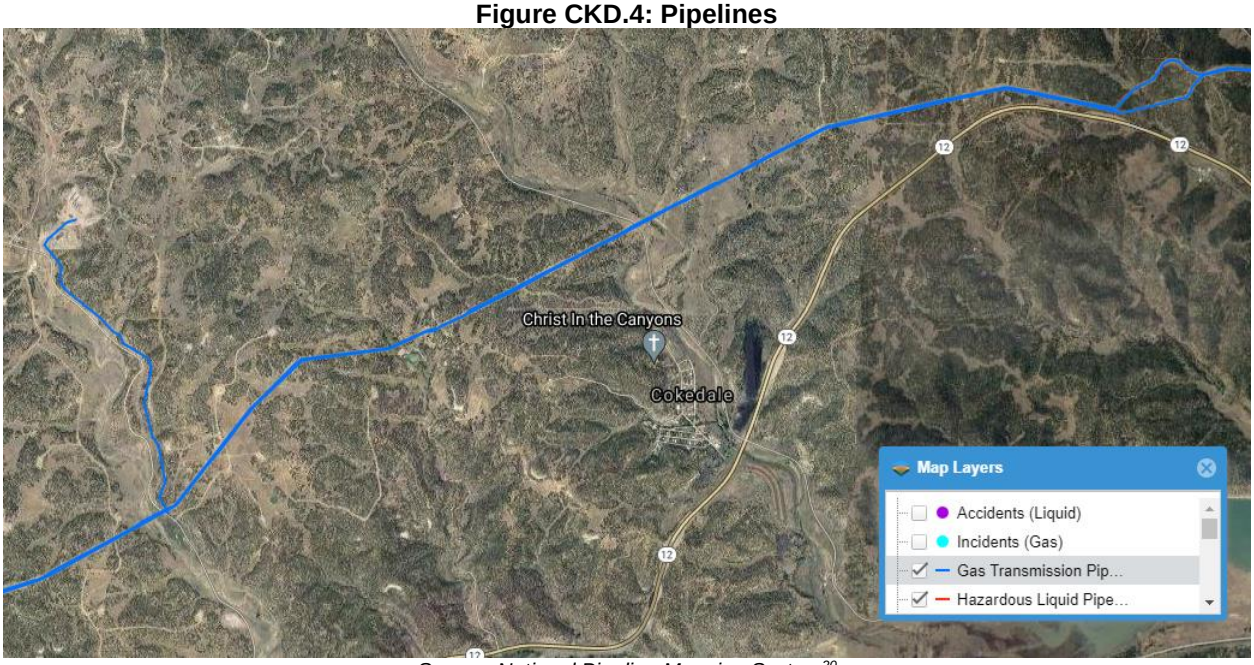
Cokedale's major transportation corridor includes State Highway 12. It is traveled by an average of 1,900 vehicles daily.[19] There are no rail lines near the community. Transportation information is important to hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk of transportation incidents. The town has identified evacuation routes. Challenges for evacuation include paved access routes into and out of the community. Currently there is only one paved access route, which does have a bridge across Reilly Canyon. If that bridge was damaged or impassible, residents could be evacuated through an unpaved ranch road which connects to Church Street. This leads to a jeep trail and eventual access to County Road 57.7.

Hazardous Materials

Petroleum, coal, and fracking chemicals are all transported along local routes in the town. There is one gas transmission pipeline less than a mile north of Cokedale. No chemical spills have occurred locally. In the event of a chemical spill, the local fire department and emergency response may be the first to respond to the incident.

19 Colorado Department of Transportation. 2020. "Traffic Data Explorer." [map]. https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/otis/TrafficData#ui/0/1/0/criteria//71/true/true/.

Figure CKD.4: Pipelines



Source: National Pipeline Mapping System[20]

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Colorado Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability, there are no chemical storage sites within or near Cokedale which house hazardous materials.

Health and Medical Facilities

There are no medical or health facilities located within the community.

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as part of this plan update. The following table lists those critical facilities identified by the local planning team.

Table CKD.3: Critical Facilities

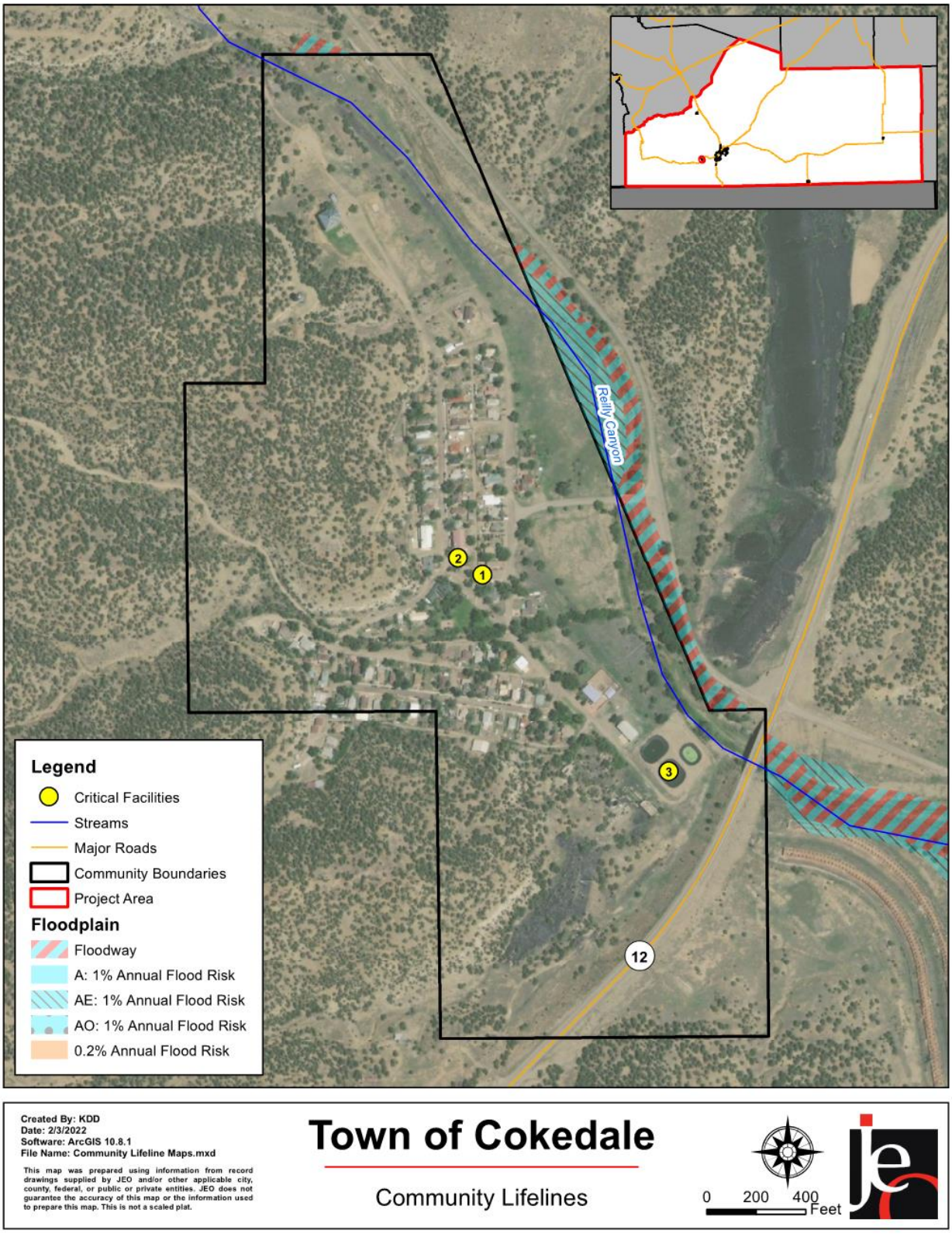
CL Number	Name	Generator (G) Shelter (S)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Fire Department	-	N
2	Town Hall	-	N
3	Wastewater Lagoon	-	N

Critical Infrastructure

Although they may not be listed in the tables above, critical infrastructure can also include power and energy infrastructure, communication infrastructure, alert sirens, water infrastructure, and wastewater infrastructure.

20 National Pipeline Mapping System. 2022. "Public Viewer." Accessed February 2022. https://pvnpms.phmsa.dot.gov/PublicViewer/.

Figure CKD.5: Community Lifelines and Floodplain



Parcel Assessment and Valuation

The planning team acquired GIS parcel data from the County Assessor to analyze the location, number, and value of assessed properties at the parcel level. The data did not contain the number of structures on each parcel. A summary of the results of this analysis is provided in the following table.

Table CKD.4: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 1% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
109	$674,960	0	$0	0%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Table CKD.5: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 0.2% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
109	$674,960	0	$0	0%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Historical Occurrences

See the upfront section for historical hazard events, including the number of events, damage estimates, and any fatalities or injuries.

Hazard Prioritization

The hazards discussed in detail below were either identified in the previous HMP and determined to still be of top concern or were selected by the local planning team from the county list as relevant hazards for the community. The local planning team prioritized the selected hazards based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the community's capabilities. For more information regarding county hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*.

Drought

Concerns related to drought include water shortages and increased wildfire danger. Recent drought events have occurred in 2002, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2018, and 2020. Cokedale gets its water from the City of Trinidad. Water is piped directly into Cokedale and is stored in a 158,00-gallon tank. From there, the water system is gravity fed. Water quality is not a concern as the City of Trinidad treats the water. Cokedale follows any restrictions implemented by the City of Trinidad. However, the town has no ability to enforce any of the restrictions.

Flooding

While not identified by the community as a hazard of top concern, flooding could occur from Reilly Canyon. There is no mapped floodplain within the community, however the floodway and 1% annual flood risk area is likely to follow Reilly Canyon as shown outside the community boundaries. NCEI data reported one flash flood in the community, but no damages were reported from the event. Cokedale is not a member of the NFIP. This is due to several reasons including the administrative costs of joining, time constraints of the town council and clerk, a lack of historical flooding impacts, and no mapped floodplain within the community. However, the town will still comply with Colorado Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplain (2 CCR 408-1). Compliance will be overseen by the Town Board. If circumstances change, the town will review NFIP participation.

Hail
NCEI data since 1996, report eight hail events with no damages. However, the local planning team indicated that hail is annual occurrence in the community. These events typically occur during the summer months and have caused damages to roofs. The only community owned building that has hail resistant building materials and roof is the Mercantile Building. However, all community owned buildings and structures are insured against hail damages. The local planning team identified several trees in the park and lining the streets that need to be trimmed or removed.

Lightning
Lightning strikes occur very regularly on the Cokehills and areas surrounding the community. These lightning strikes have the possibility to start wildfires, cause power outages, and damage buildings. The most recent wildfire caused by lightning occurred in the summer of 2021 and typically occur multiple times a year. No damages have occurred because of lightning strikes.

Subsidence
In the past, sinkholes have opened up in the town's ballpark and on roadways. All sinkholes have been repaired and resulted in limited damages. The repair process includes collapsing the sides in and adding more fill material. If a large sinkhole occurred in a populated area or near a building it could cause large damages. The locations most common to sink holes include the ballpark and Elm Street.

Winter Storms
The local planning team identified a blizzard in 2006 that caused a lot of damage in the area. The town received FEMA aid and required the county's assistance to help clean up. Primary concerns with winter storms include impassable roads, long term power outages, and elderly individuals being stranded in their homes. With the median age being 54 years, much of Cokedale's population is at risk. Currently none of the identified critical facilities have back-up power generators. To reduce the risk from future events the community would like to harden the Mercantile Building into an emergency response center and shelter location and purchase backup generators for the wastewater lagoons, training center, and Mercantile Building.

Mitigation Strategy

Completed Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Public Education of All Hazards
Description	Supply educational pamphlet to residents so they can mitigate their homes from natural hazard events.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Status	This project has been completed. Pamphlets and other public education have been given to residents.

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Tree Trimming
Description	Trim or remove hazardous trees located in the park and lining streets that are on public property.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Hail, Severe Wind, Tornadoes, Winter Storms
Estimated Cost	$100+ per Tree
Local Funding	General Budget
Timeline	Ongoing
Priority	Low
Lead Agency	Maintenance Department
Status	Not Started

Kept Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Hardening and Retrofitting the Mercantile Building for Use as an EOC
Description	Engineer, design, and construct a retrofitted and hardened EOC for the town. The Mercantile building will be retrofitted and hardened by the use of tornado, wind, fire, hail, ground movement, and impact resistant materials (windows, doors, roofing, construction, siding, roof bracings); dry-proofing buildings; upgrading to higher standard insulation; installing lightning rods and grounding systems; retrofitting for low-flow plumbing; replacing landscaping with drought and fire-resistant plants; implementing higher standards for foundations, and using R-value building materials to resist heat.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	Greater than $100,000
Local Funding	General Budget
Timeline	5+ Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Administration
Status	Currently in the planning stages but have been unable to obtain funding for the project.

Mitigation Action	Provide Backup Generators for Critical Infrastructure
Description	The Town of Cokedale will purchase and install back-up generators for the wastewater lagoons, the training center, and the Mercantile Building.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$10,000 - $100,000
Local Funding	General Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Town Clerk
Status	Currently in the planning stages and in the process of securing funding for the project.

Removed Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Create Defensible Space Around Homes
Description	Educate and provide assistance to homeowners with clearing space around their property to mitigate wildfires.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Wildfire
Status	Cokedale itself is well mitigated within the town borders. However, the town does not have the authority to mitigate private property surrounding it.

Mitigation Action	Thin Brush and Trees
Description	Provide the assistance and tools to clear brush and dead trees that can be ignited in a wildfire.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Wildfire
Status	The biggest danger to Cokedale is outside the town borders, so nothing more can be done for this project.

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin. The table below outlines who will be responsible for document review, how often it will occur, and how the public will be involved.

Table CKD.6: Plan Maintenance

Positions Responsible for Review	Frequency of Review	Public Involvement
Mayor, Town Board, Clerk	Bi-Annually	Board Meetings, Website, Newsletter

Community Profile

Town of Kim

Las Animas County
Hazard Mitigation Plan

2022

Local Planning Team

Table KIM.1: Kim Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Bud Broce	Mayor	Town of Kim

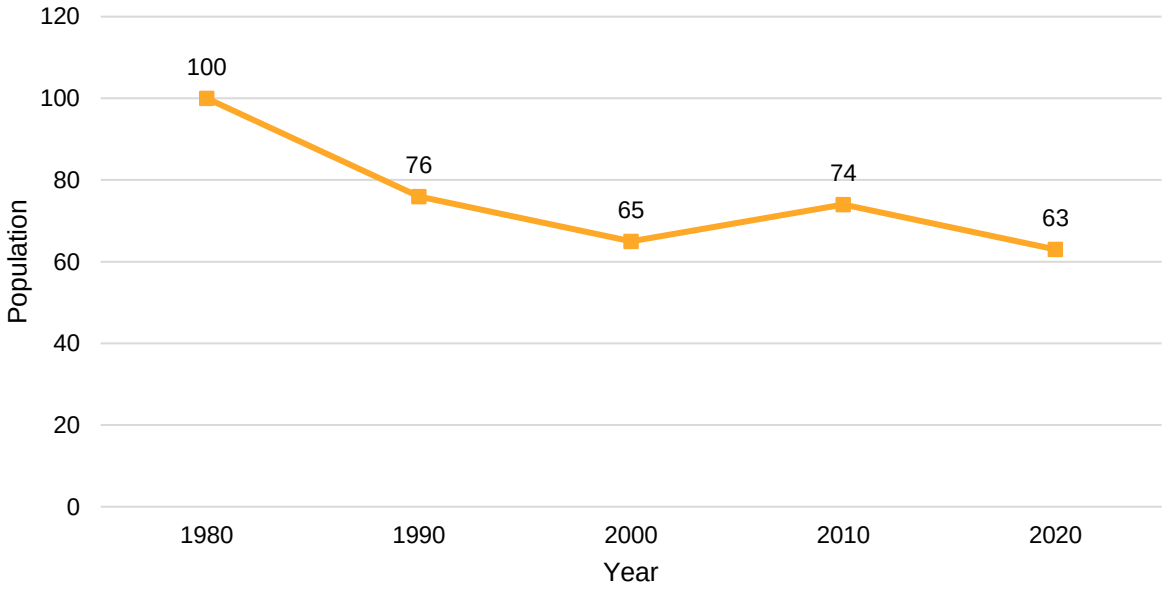
Location and Geography

The Town of Kim is in eastern Las Animas County and covers an area of 0.38 square miles. There are no lakes, creeks, or rivers near the community. Kim is located near the Camanche National Grasslands.

Demographics

The following figure displays the historical population trend for the Town of Kim. This figure indicates that the population of Kim has been declining since 2010 to 63 people in 2020. A declining population can lead to more unoccupied housing that is not being maintained and is then at risk to high winds and other hazards. Furthermore, with fewer residents, there is decreasing tax revenue for the community, which could make implementation of mitigation projects more fiscally challenging. Kim's population accounted for 0.4% of Las Animas County's population in 2020.[21]

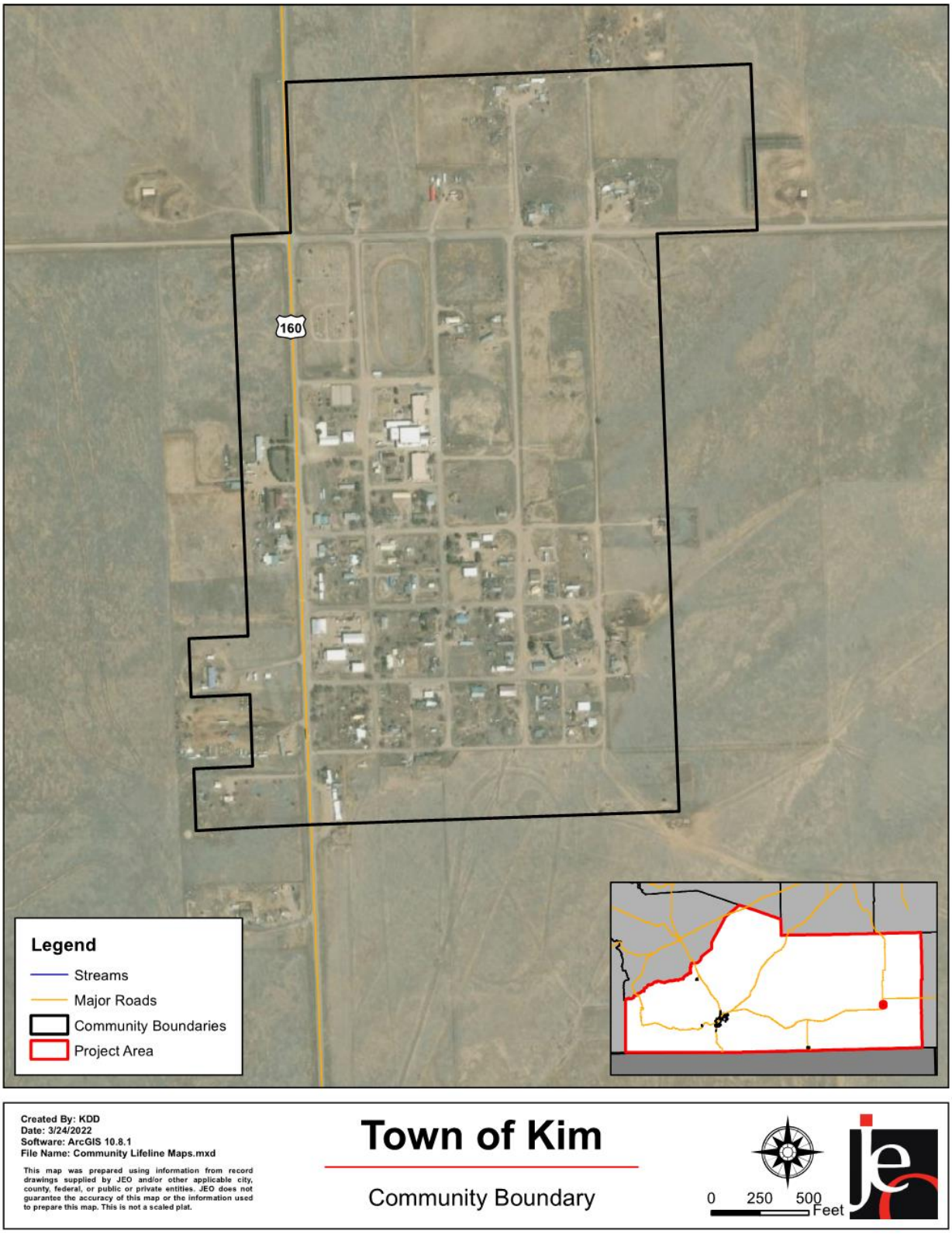
Figure KIM.1: Population 1980 – 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

21 United States Census Bureau. "2020 Decennial Census: P1: DEC Redistricting Data." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

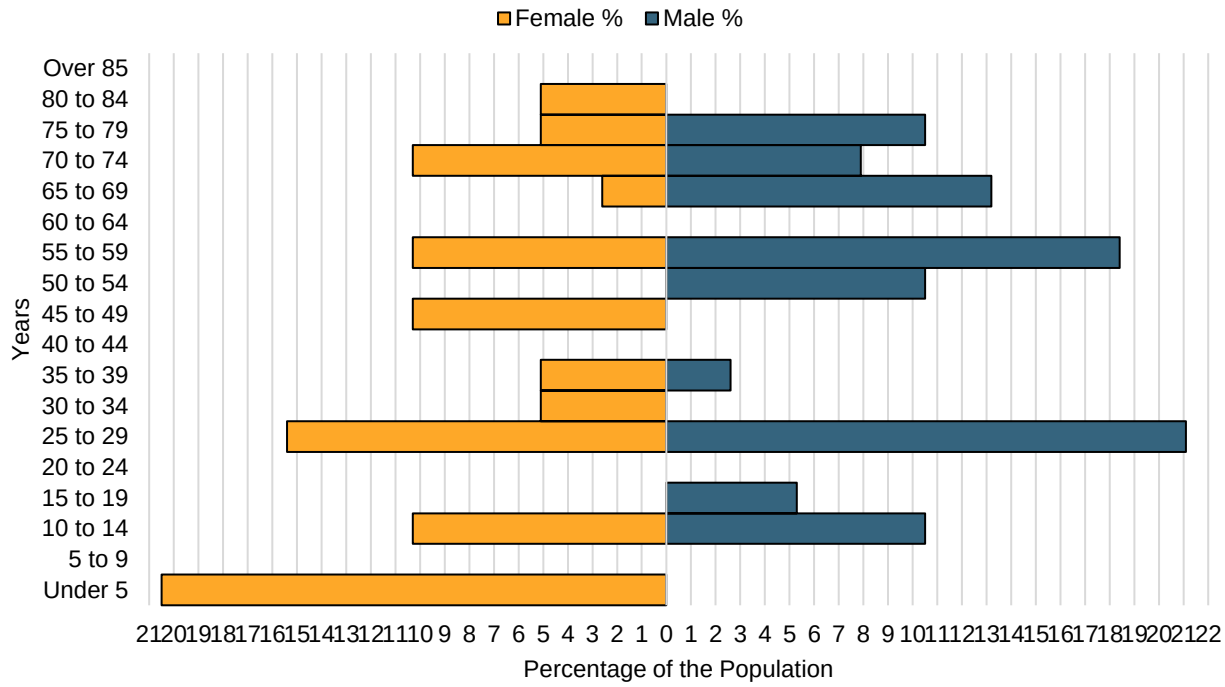
Figure KIM.2: Town of Kim



The young, elderly, and minority populations may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Looking at Kim's population:

- **22% is non-white.** Since 2010, Kim grew more ethnically diverse. In 2010, 3% of the Kim's population was non-white. By 2020, 22% was non-white.[21]
- **45.8 median age.** The median age of Kim was 45.8 years old in 2019. The population grew older since 2010, when the median age was 37.9.[22]

Figure KIM.3: Kim's Population Pyramid



The figure above shows Kim's population percentage broken down by sex and five-year age groups. Kim's population is younger with a higher percentage of the population below 30 years of age. This likely indicates a growing population in the years to come.

Employment and Economics

Low-income populations, long distance commuters, and the unemployed may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Kim's population has:

- **6.5% of people living below the poverty line.** The poverty rate (6.5%) in the Town of Kim was lower than the state's poverty rate (10.3%) in 2019.[23]
- **$31,719 median household income.** Kim's median household income in 2019 ($31,719) was $40,000 lower than the state ($72,331).[23]
- **0% unemployment rate.** In 2019 Kim has a lower unemployment rate (0%) when compared to the state (4.3%).[23]

22 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0101: Age and Sex." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

23 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

- **5.3% of workers commuted 30 minutes or more to work.** Fewer workers in Kim commuted 30 minutes or more to work than compared to workers commuting less than 15 minutes (5.3% compared to 52.6%).[24]

Major Employers

Major employers in the community include Kim Reorganized 88 School District, Las Animas County Shop, and the State of Colorado Roads Shop.

Housing

The age of housing may indicate which housing units were built prior to the development of state building codes. Those houses and vacant housing may be more vulnerable to hazard events if they are poorly maintained. Unoccupied housing may also suggest that future development may be less likely to occur. Communities with a substantial number of mobile homes may be more vulnerable to the impacts of high winds, tornadoes, and severe thunderstorms if those homes are not anchored correctly. Renter-occupied housing depends on the initiative of landlords for proper maintenance and retrofitting to be resilient to disasters. They are less likely than homeowners to have flood insurance, or to know their risks to flooding and other hazards. Kim's housing stock has:

- **56.2% of housing built prior to 1970.** Kim has a larger share of housing built prior to 1970 than the state (56.2% compared to 26.4%).[25]
- **14.6% of housing units vacant.** Kim has a higher vacancy rate 14.6% compared to the rest of the state (10%).[25]
- **14.6% mobile and manufacture housing.** The Town of Kim has a larger share of mobile and manufactured housing (14.6%) compared to the state (4%).[25] Kim has six mobile homes and a couple of modular homes. Three of the mobile homes are located close together near the school building.
- **53.7% renter-occupied.** The rental rate of Kim was 53.7% in 2019. This is lower than the state's rate of 65.2%.[25]

Governance

A community's governance indicates the number of boards or offices that may be available to help implement hazard mitigation actions. The Town of Kim is governed by a mayor and town council; other governmental offices and departments that may be involved in implementing hazard mitigation initiatives are listed below.

- Clerk
- Utility Superintendent
- Streets Superintendent
- Parks Superintendent
- Water Superintendent

24 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0802: Means of Transportation to Work by Selected Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

25 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Bureau American Community Survey: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the community's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

Kim's municipal funds are limited to maintaining current facilities and systems. Funds have stayed the same over recent years.

Table KIM.2: Capability Assessment

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Planning & Regulatory Capability	Comprehensive Plan	No
	Capital Improvements Plan	No
	Economic Development Plan	No
	Local Emergency Operations Plan	Yes
	Floodplain Management Plan	No
	Storm Water Management Plan	No
	Zoning Ordinance	No
	Subdivision Regulation/Ordinance	No
	Floodplain Ordinance	No
	Building Codes	No
	National Flood Insurance Program	No
	Community Rating System	No
	Other (if any)	-
Administrative & Technical Capability	Planning Commission	No
	Floodplain Administration	No
	GIS Capabilities	No
	Chief Building Official	No
	Civil Engineering	Yes (Contractor)
	Local Staff Who Can Assess Community's Vulnerability to Hazards	Yes
	Grant Manager	Yes (Contractor)
	Mutual Aid Agreement	Yes
	Other (if any)	-
Fiscal Capability	Capital Improvement Plan/ 1- & 6-Year plan	No
	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded a grant in the past	Yes
	Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes such as Mitigation Projects	Yes (Up to a Limit)
	Gas/Electric Service Fees	No (Town Receives a Stipend from the Electrical Utility for Maintenance)
	Storm Water Service Fees	No
	Water/Sewer Service Fees	Yes
	Development Impact Fees	No

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	No
	Other (if any)	-
Education & Outreach Capability	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc. Ex. CERT Teams, Red Cross, etc.	No
	Ongoing public education or information program (e.g., responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	No
	Natural Disaster or Safety related school programs	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Firewise Communities Certification	No
	Tree City USA	No
	Other (if any)	-

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources to implement mitigation projects	Limited
Staff/expertise to implement projects	Limited
Public support to implement projects	Moderate
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

Kim does not have any community planning documents. However, the town does fall under the Las Animas County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). The purpose of the LEOP is to provide general guidelines and principals for planning, managing, and coordinating the response to and recovery from emergencies and disasters that may impact Las Animas County. It includes responsibilities for county departments, volunteer agencies, and local jurisdictions during a disaster event. This plan is updated every five years. Any future planning documents will be evaluated for opportunities to integrate with the current hazard mitigation plan.

Future Development Trends

Over the past five years, the town had a new water tank built, repaved two blocks, and paved another block. In the next five years, the town would like to install another drinking water well and install a larger culvert at Highway 160 and Trinidad.

Community Lifelines

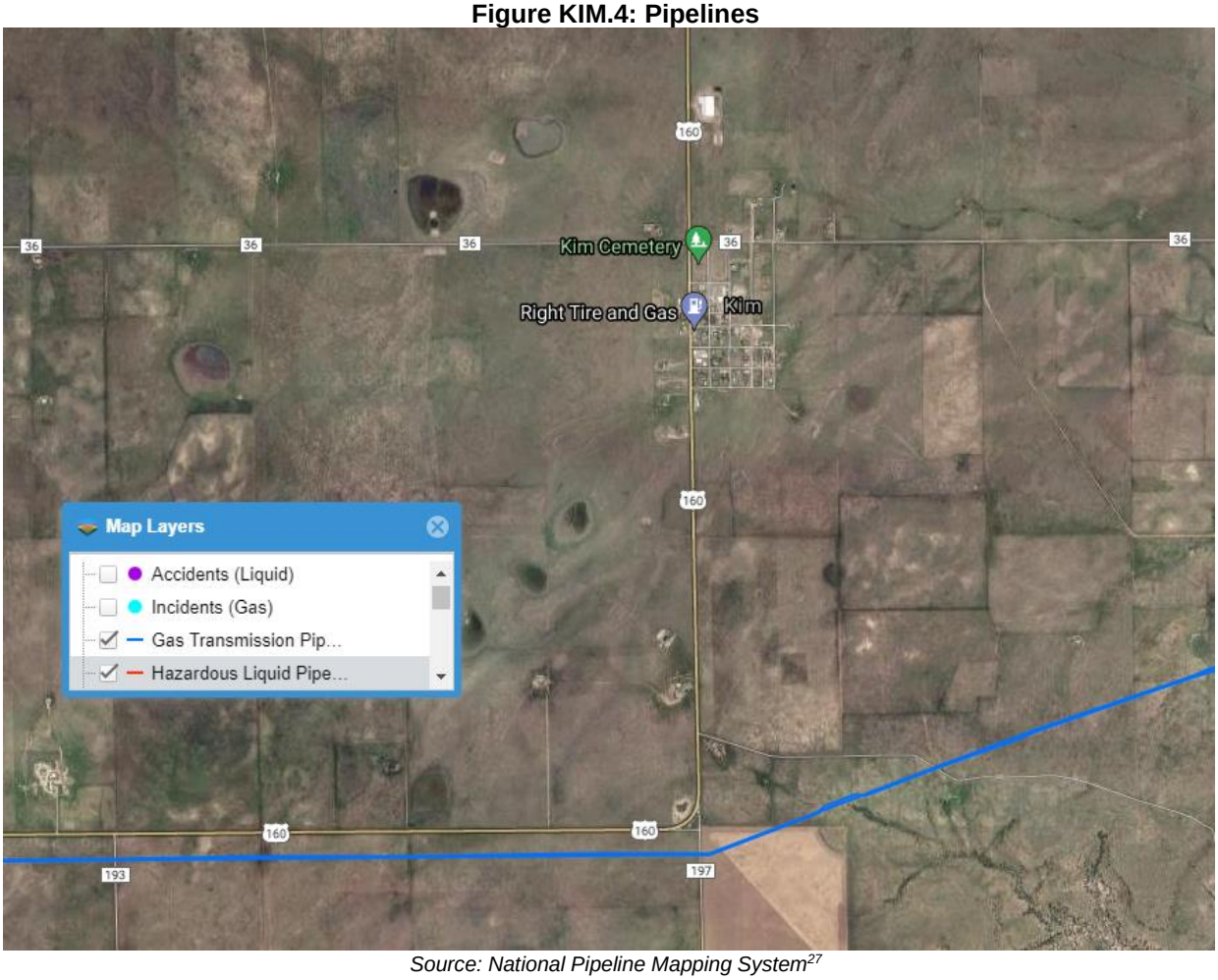
Transportation

Kim's major transportation corridors include US Highway 160 and County Road 36. The most traveled route is US Highway 160 with an average of 280 vehicles daily.[26] Highway 160 was recently designated as Gasoline, Diesel Fuel, and Liquified Petroleum Gas Route. Because of this, propane and gas are regularly transported through the community. Two miles south of town, there is a 90-degree corner and a couple of semis tip over due to high speeds every year. No spills have occurred from these tip overs. There are no rail lines near the community. Transportation information is important to hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk of transportation incidents. There were no identified evacuation challenges as there are paved roads in all four directions into and out of the community.

Hazardous Materials

There is one gas transmission pipeline that is located south of the community and can be seen on the figure below.

Figure KIM.4: Pipelines



Source: National Pipeline Mapping System[27]

26 Colorado Department of Transportation. 2020. "Traffic Data Explorer." [map]. https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/otis/TrafficData#ui/0/1/0/criteria//71/true/true/.

27 National Pipeline Mapping System. 2022. "Public Viewer." Accessed January 2022. https://pvnpms.phmsa.dot.gov/PublicViewer/.

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Colorado Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability, there is one chemical storage site within Kim which houses hazardous materials. In the event of a chemical spill, the local fire department and emergency response may be the first to respond to the incident.

Table KIM.3: Chemical Storage Sites

CL Number	Name	Generator (G)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Wallace Oil Company Kim Bulk Plant	-	N

Source: Colorado Division of Environmental Health & Sustainability, 2020

Health and Medical Facilities

There are no medical or health facilities located within the community.

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as part of this plan update. The following table lists those critical facilities identified by the local planning team.

Table KIM.4: Critical Facilities

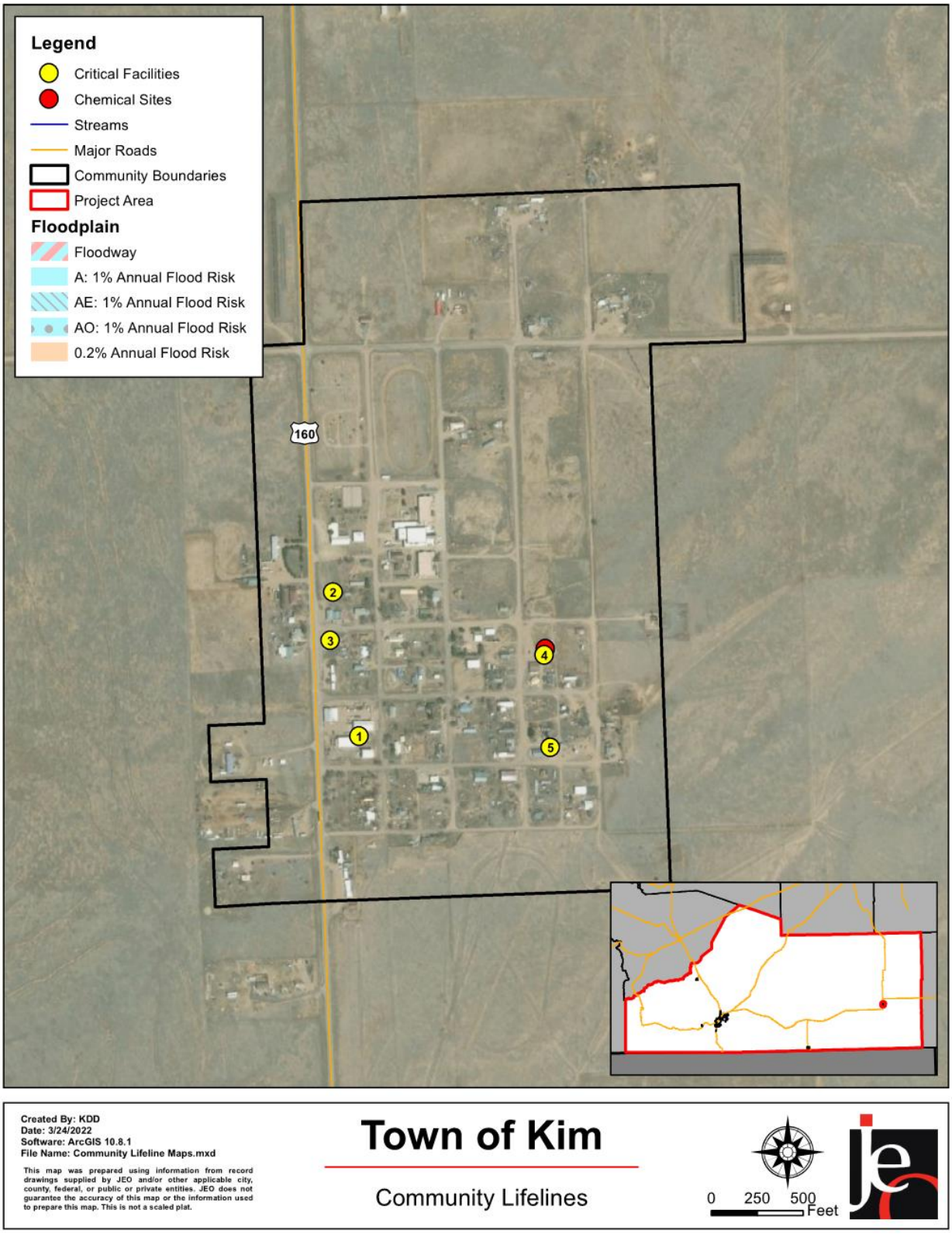
CL Number	Name	Generator (G) Shelter (S)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Fire House / County Shop	-	N
2	Fuel Pumps for Gas and Diesel #1	-	N
3	Fuel Pumps for Gas and Diesel #2	-	N
4	Fuel Pumps for Gas and Diesel #3	-	N
5	Main Water Tank	-	N
6*	Water Wells (Two Wells) #1	-	N
7**	Water Wells (Two Wells) #2	-	N

*Not mapped. Located four miles southwest of Kim.
**Not mapped. Located four miles west of Kim.

Critical Infrastructure

Although they may not be listed in the tables above, critical infrastructure can also include power and energy infrastructure, communication infrastructure, alert sirens, water infrastructure, and wastewater infrastructure.

Figure KIM.5: Community Lifelines and Floodplain



Parcel Assessment and Valuation

The planning team acquired GIS parcel data from the County Assessor to analyze the location, number, and value of assessed properties at the parcel level. The data did not contain the number of structures on each parcel. A summary of the results of this analysis is provided in the following table.

Table KIM.5: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 1% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
150	$5,622,000	0	$0	0%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Table KIM.6: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 0.2% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
150	$5,622,000	0	$0	0%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Historical Occurrences

See the upfront section for historical hazard events, including the number of events, damage estimates, and any fatalities or injuries.

Hazard Prioritization

The hazards discussed in detail below were either identified in the previous HMP and determined to still be of top concern or were selected by the local planning team from the county list as relevant hazards for the community. The local planning team prioritized the selected hazards based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the community's capabilities. For more information regarding county hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*.

Drought

The last major drought that caused water issues for the Town of Kim was approximately 20 years ago. In the event of a drought or reduced water availability the town council is able to implement either voluntary or mandatory water restrictions. The town has four wells and a water tank, and the local planning team estimates that the town can go a week with just water from the tank. The old tank is also available for water storage if needed but would need to be sanitized prior to consumption. None of the wells have back generators, so power loss is a concern because of high nitrates. Two wells have high nitrates so must be blended with the other two wells for the water to be safe for consumption. Kim would like to build a new water well to help increase the water supply and purchase backup generators for the wells and water house.

Flooding

While flooding was not identified by the local planning team as a hazard of top concern and there is no identified floodplain within the community, localized flooding could still occur from heavy rain events. Kim is not a member of the NFIP. This is due to a lack of past flooding events, no identified floodplain in the community, administrative costs, and time commitments. However, the town will still comply with Colorado Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplain (2 CCR 408-1). Compliance will be overseen by the Mayor and Town Council. If capabilities change in the future, NFIP participation will be reviewed.

Tornadoes

NCEI data reported four tornadoes occurring near the Town of Kim. However, the local planning team indicated that those were located several miles from the community and never impacted the town. While tornadoes have never impacted the town, there is still a risk of one occurring and causing major damages to buildings and property. An estimated 25% of homes have basements, for those that do not have a safe location, the local school building can be used as a public shelter. There are no tornado sirens in the community, the fire department does not do storm spotting, and the county does not offer severe weather text alerts. Notification of severe weather comes from the television or weather apps on phones. This is a concern for those who may not have access to proper notification channels. Another concern is that none of the buildings have a backup generator in the event of a power loss. Kim would like to provide backup generators for critical pieces of infrastructure and get a tornado siren.

Wildfire

Wildfire has never directly impacted the Town of Kim. The closest wildfire occurred seven years ago and was three miles from the town. The local fire department responded and put the fire out. In 2020, the large Cherry Canyon Fire was located about 20 miles from the community. Kim acted as a staging area for many of the firefighters and responders. The town also helped provide water for firefighting during the event but had to bring in outside water as their system could not meet demand. The local planning team identified six homes on the west side of the highway that are at most risk, as grasslands are directly bordering the homes. Fire response consists of the local volunteer fire department. There are five individuals that are part of the department but most live outside of the community in rural areas. Equipment includes a pumper truck, tanker truck, and two quick response trucks. This is sufficient for most events, with the biggest issue being storage for the trucks. The town's old water tank is kept full for the use by the fire department. Kim would like to construct an additional water well to increase the town's water supply and add a backup generator to the fire house.

Figure KIM.6: Cherry Canyon Fire

Source: Las Animas County

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Localized Flood Reduction Project
Description	The Town of Kim would like to increase the size of the culvert located at approximately Highway 160 and Trinidad
Hazard(s) Addressed	Flooding
Estimated Cost	$10,000+
Local Funding	General Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Town Council
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	New Well
Description	The current wells experience significant drawdowns during the summer months. An additional well will help increase the town's water supply during drought events.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Drought
Estimated Cost	Unknown
Local Funding	General Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Town Council
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Provide Backup Generators for Critical Infrastructure
Description	Three backup generators are needed for the town. One for the wells, one for the water house, and one for the fire house.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$40,000+ per Generator
Local Funding	General Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Town Council, Fire Department
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Tornado Siren
Description	Evaluate the need for a tornado siren in the community. If needed, purchase a tornado siren.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Tornadoes
Estimated Cost	$15,000+
Local Funding	General Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Town Council
Status	Not Started

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin. The table below outlines who will be responsible for document review, hot often it will occur, and how the public will be involved.

Table KIM.7: Plan Maintenance

Positions Responsible for Review	Frequency of Review	Public Involvement
Mayor, Town Council	Bi-Annually	Public Council Meeting

Community Profile

Town of Starkville

Las Animas County
Hazard Mitigation Plan

2022

Local Planning Team

Table STK.1: Starkville Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Rose Holman	Clerk	Town of Starkville
Caroline Glaze	Board Trustee	Town of Starkville
Charles Glaze	Mayor	Town of Starkville

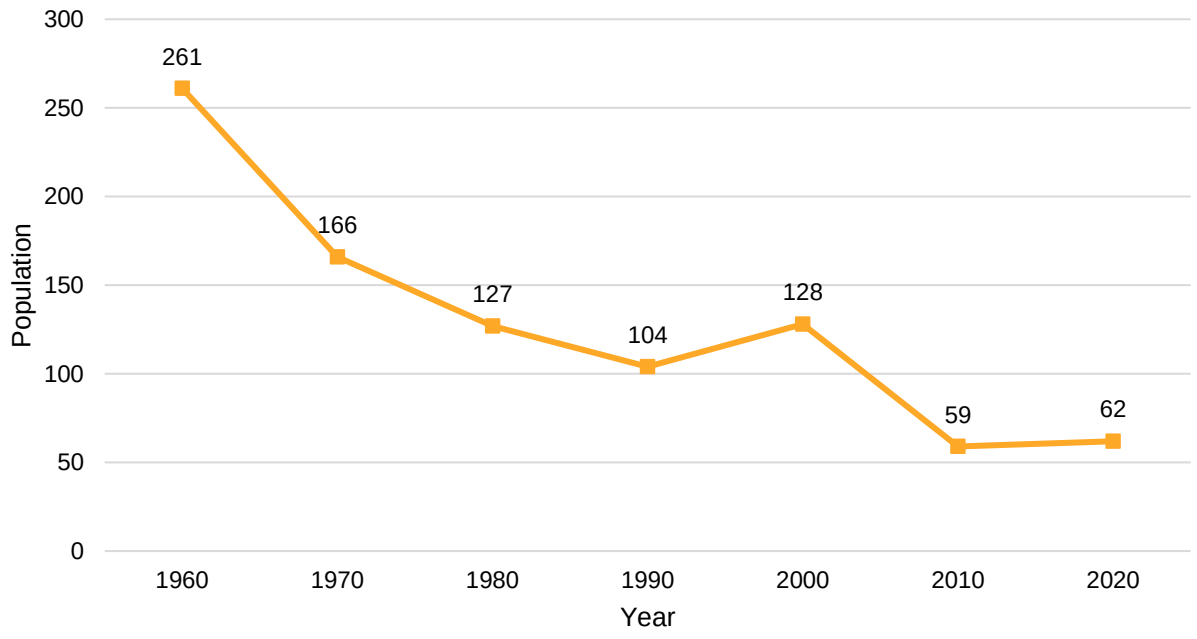
Location and Geography

The Town of Starkville is located in southwestern Las Animas County and covers an area of 0.07 square miles. Starkville is located a few miles south of the City of Trinidad. Raton Creek flows north south along the eastern edge of the town.

Demographics

The following figure displays the historical population trend for the Town of Starkville. This figure indicates that the population of Starkville has been increasing since 2010 to 62 people in 2020. Increasing populations are associated with increased hazard mitigation and emergency planning requirements for development. Increasing populations can also contribute to increasing tax revenues, allowing communities to pursue additional mitigation projects. Starkville's population accounted for 0.4% of Las Animas County's population in 2020.[28]

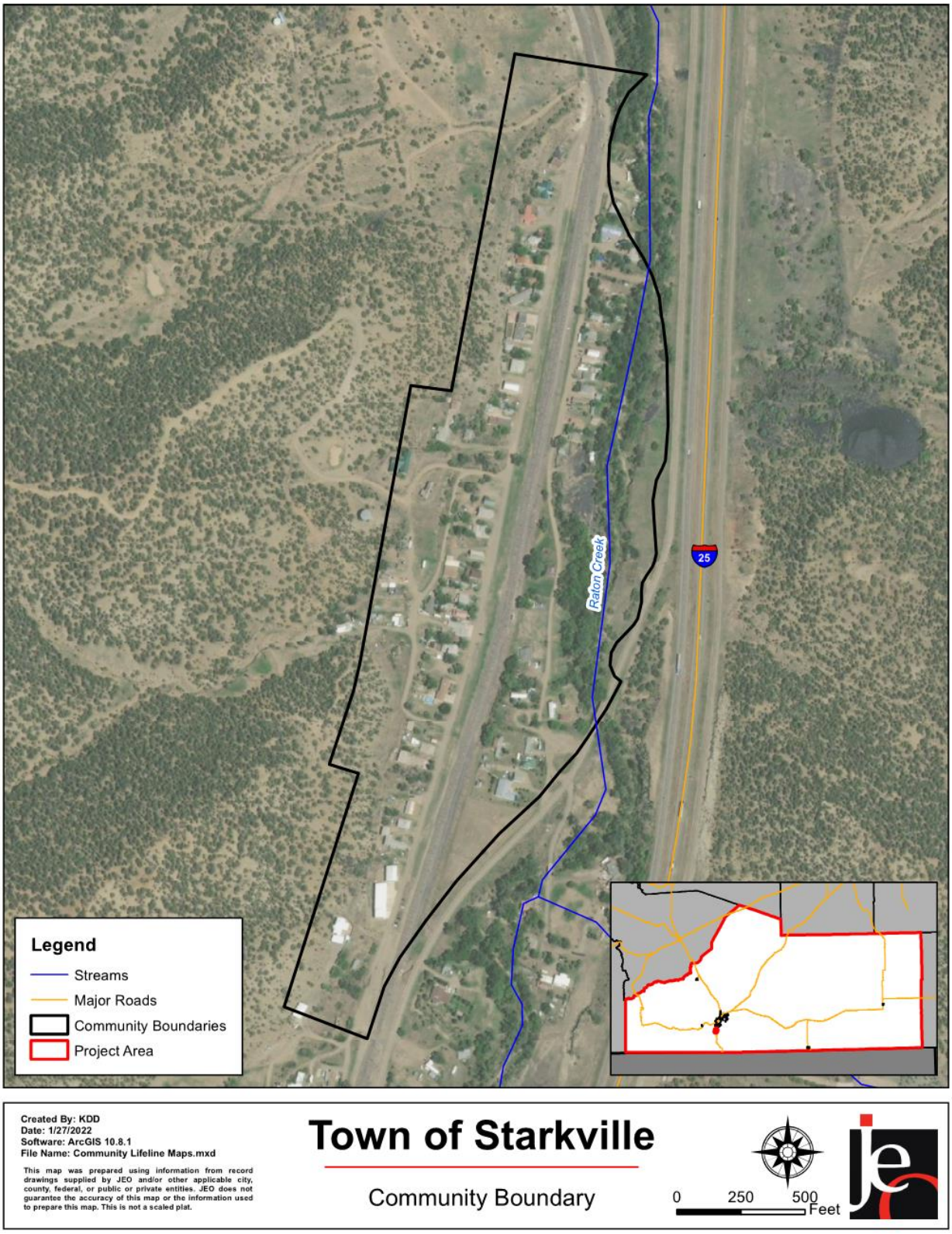
Figure STK.1: Population 1960 - 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

28 United States Census Bureau. "2020 Decennial Census: P1: DEC Redistricting Data." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

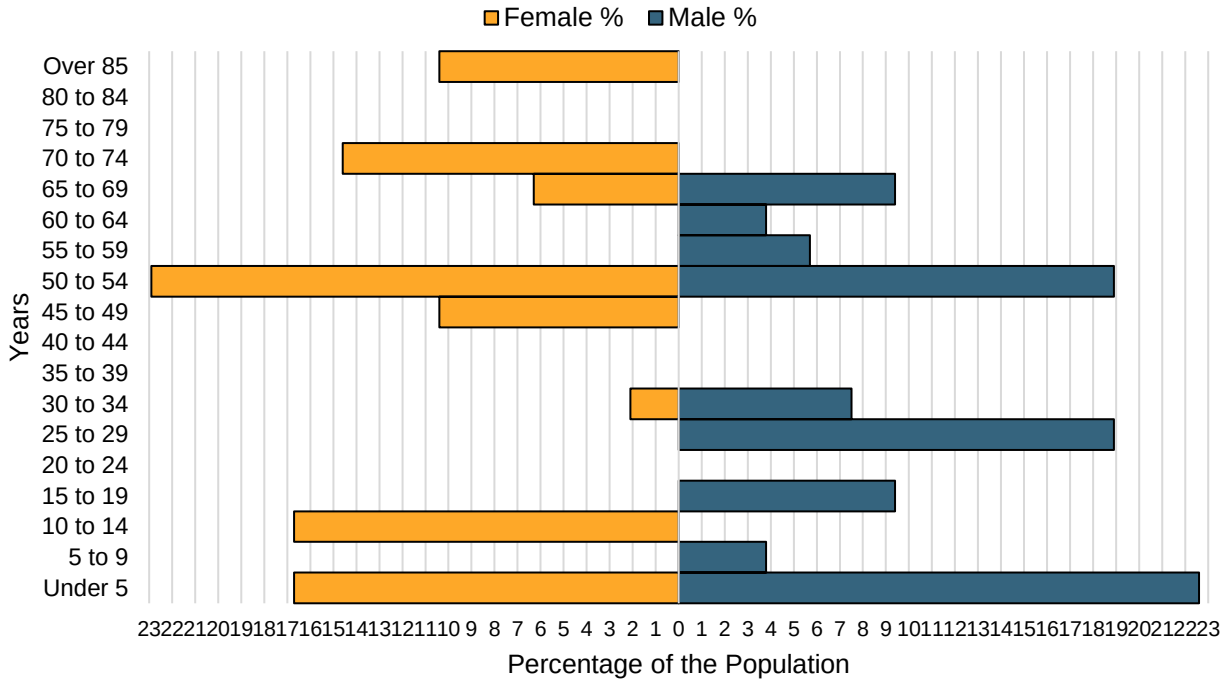
Figure STK.2: Town of Starkville



The young, elderly, and minority populations may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Looking at Starkville's population:

- **24% is non-white.** Since 2010, Starkville grew less ethnically diverse. In 2010, 44% of the Starkville's population was non-white. By 2020, 24% was non-white.[28]
- **46.1 median age.** The median age of Starkville was 46.1 years old in 2019. The population grew younger since 2010, when the median age was 47.2.[29]

Figure STK.3: Starkville's Population Pyramid



The figure above shows Starkville's population percentage broken down by sex and five-year age groups. Starkville's population is older with a slightly higher percentage of the population over 45 years of age. This likely indicates an aging population in the years to come.

Employment and Economics

Low-income populations, long distance commuters, and the unemployed may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Starkville's population has:

- **12.9% of people living below the poverty line.** The poverty rate (12.9%) in the Town of Starkville was higher than the state's poverty rate (10.3%) in 2019.[30]
- **0% unemployment rate.** In 2019 Starkville had a lower unemployment rate (0%) when compared to the state (4.3%).[30]

29 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0101: Age and Sex." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

30 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

- **7.3% of workers commuted 30 minutes or more to work.** Fewer workers in Starkville commuted 30 minutes or more to work than compared to workers commuting less than 15 minutes (7.3% compared to 70.7%).[31]

Major Employers

Starkville does not have any major employers in the community. A large portion of residents commute to the City of Trinidad for employment.

Housing

The age of housing may indicate which housing units were built prior to the development of state building codes. Those houses and vacant housing may be more vulnerable to hazard events if they are poorly maintained. Unoccupied housing may also suggest that future development may be less likely to occur. Communities with a substantial number of mobile homes may be more vulnerable to the impacts of high winds, tornadoes, and severe thunderstorms if those homes are not anchored correctly. Renter-occupied housing depends on the initiative of landlords for proper maintenance and retrofitting to be resilient to disasters. They are less likely than homeowners to have flood insurance, or to know their risks to flooding and other hazards. Starkville's housing stock has:

- **59.5% of housing built prior to 1970.** Starkville has a larger share of housing built prior to 1970 than the state (59.5% compared to 26.4%).[32]
- **0% of housing units vacant.** Starkville has a lower vacancy rate 0% compared to the rest of the state (10%).[32]
- **32.4% mobile and manufacture housing.** The Town of Starkville has a larger share of mobile and manufactured housing (32.4%) compared to the state (4%).[32] Starkville has eight mobile homes within the community boundary.
- **81.1% renter-occupied.** The rental rate in Starkville was 81.1% in 2019. This is higher than the state's rate of 65.2%.[32]

Governance

A community's governance indicates the number of boards or offices that may be available to help implement hazard mitigation actions. The Town of Starkville is governed by a Board of Trustees and a Mayor; other governmental offices and departments that may be involved in implementing hazard mitigation initiatives are listed below.

- Clerk
- Floodplain Administrator
- Utility Superintendent
- Town Maintenance

Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the community's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

31 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0802: Means of Transportation to Work by Selected Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

32 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Bureau American Community Survey: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

Starkville has limited municipal funds to maintain current facilities, the new water system, and historical schoolhouse. A large portion of funds are already dedicated to the updated water system. This may make it more difficult for the community to pay for new mitigation actions without help from grants or other funding sources. Municipal funds will be increased by raising the water cost in the near future.

Table STK.2: Capability Assessment

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Planning & Regulatory Capability	Comprehensive Plan	No
	Capital Improvements Plan	No
	Economic Development Plan	No
	Local Emergency Operations Plan	Yes
	Floodplain Management Plan	No
	Storm Water Management Plan	No
	Zoning Ordinance	No
	Subdivision Regulation/Ordinance	No
	Floodplain Ordinance	Yes
	Building Codes	No
	National Flood Insurance Program	Yes
	Community Rating System	No
	Other (if any)	-
Administrative & Technical Capability	Planning Commission	No
	Floodplain Administration	Yes
	GIS Capabilities	No
	Chief Building Official	No
	Civil Engineering	No
	Local Staff Who Can Assess Community's Vulnerability to Hazards	Yes
	Grant Manager	No
	Mutual Aid Agreement	No
	Other (if any)	-
Fiscal Capability	Capital Improvement Plan/ 1- & 6-Year plan	No
	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded a grant in the past	Yes
	Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes such as Mitigation Projects	No
	Gas/Electric Service Fees	No
	Storm Water Service Fees	No
	Water/Sewer Service Fees	Yes
	Development Impact Fees	No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	No
	Other (if any)	-

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Education & Outreach Capability	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc. Ex. CERT Teams, Red Cross, etc.	No
	Ongoing public education or information program (e.g., responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	No
	Natural Disaster or Safety related school programs	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Firewise Communities Certification	No
	Tree City USA	No
	Other (if any)	-

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources to implement mitigation projects	Limited
Staff/expertise to implement projects	Limited
Public support to implement projects	Limited
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

Starkville has two planning documents that discuss or relate to hazard mitigation. Each plan is listed below along with a short description of how it is integrated with the hazard mitigation plan. The town will seek out and evaluate any opportunities to integrate the results of the current hazard mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms and updates.

Floodplain Regulations

The town's floodplain regulations outline how development should occur in the floodplain. Due to turnover at the clerk's position, the local planning team was unsure of the specifics discussed in the floodplain regulations.

Las Animas County Local Emergency Operations Plan (2017)

Starkville falls under the Las Animas County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). The purpose of the LEOP is to provide general guidelines and principals for planning, managing, and coordinating the response to and recovery from emergencies and disaster that may impact Las Animas County. It includes responsibilities county departments, volunteer agencies, and local jurisdictions during a disaster event. This plan is updated every five years.

Future Development Trends

Over the past five years, there have been no changes within the community. Over the next five years, there are no planned housing or business developments. However, the community will be completing a new water system project.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Starkville's major transportation corridors include Interstate 25, County Road 69.0 and County Road 69.1. The most traveled route is Interstate 25 with an average of 16,000 vehicles daily.[33] The Town has one Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway line traveling north to south through the center of the community. Transportation information is important to hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk of transportation incidents. There are two bridges in to evacuate residents if needed. One bridge is on County Road 69.0 and the other is on County Road 69.1. However, both of those roads lead north out of town. If the hazard was in that direction there are no roads leading east, west, or south out of the community.

Hazardous Materials

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Colorado Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability, there are no chemical storage sites within or near Starkville which house hazardous materials.

Chemicals are not transported along any local routes within Starkville. However, large amounts of chemicals are transported on Interstate 25. According to the National Pipeline Mapping System, there are no known gas transmission or hazardous liquid pipelines near the town.[34] In the event of a transportation chemical spill, the local fire department may be the first to respond to the incident.

Health and Medical Facilities

There are no medical or health facilities located within the community.

Other Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as part of this plan update. The following table lists those critical facilities identified by the local planning team. If the facility is known to have a generator it is marked with a G and if it is known to be a shelter location it is marked with an S in the table below.

Table STK.3: Critical Facilities

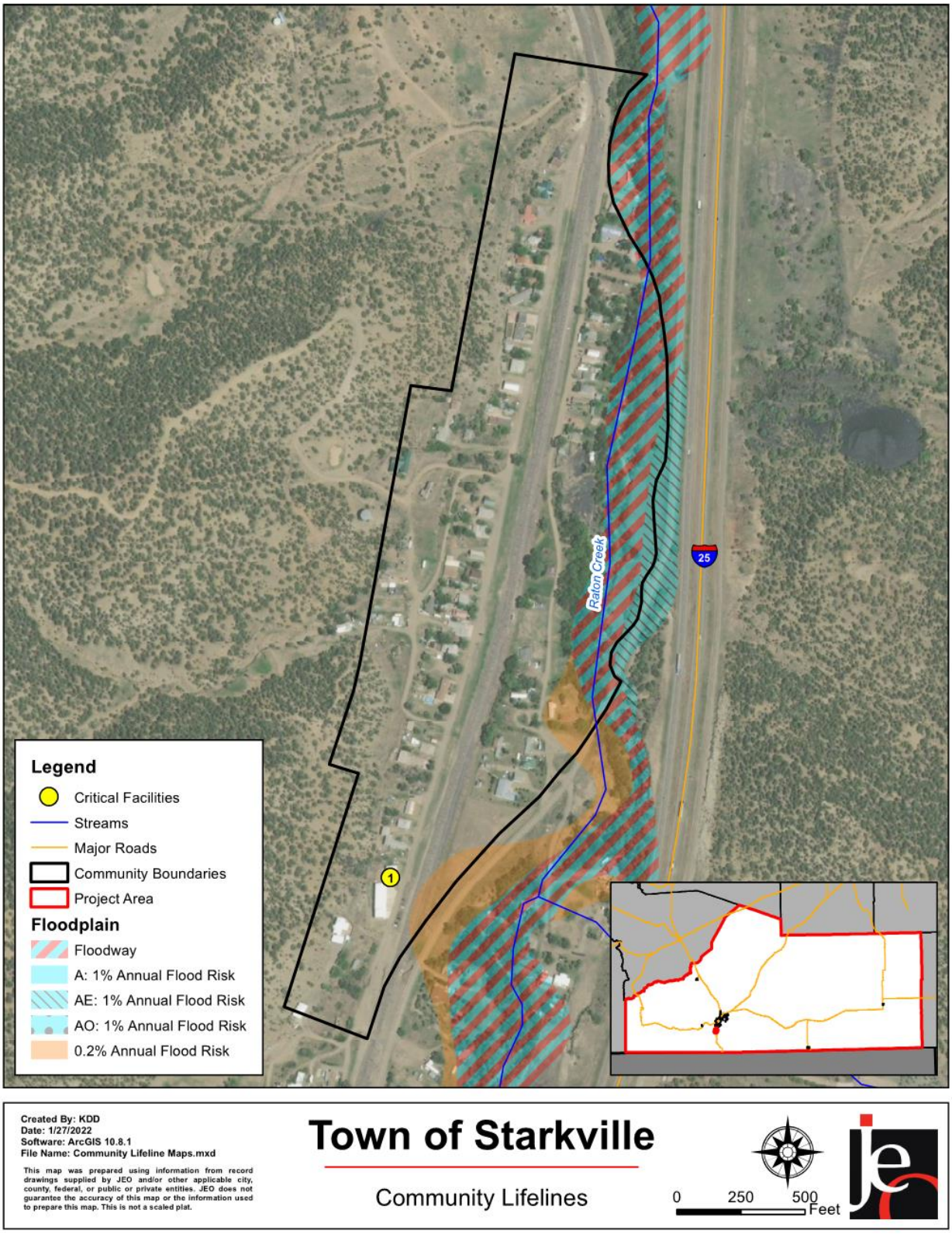
CL Number	Name	Generator (G) Shelter (S)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Fisher's Peak Volunteer Fire Department	-	N

Critical Infrastructure

Although they may not be listed in the tables above, critical infrastructure can also include power and energy infrastructure, communication infrastructure, alert sirens, water infrastructure, and wastewater infrastructure.

33 Colorado Department of Transportation. 2020. "Traffic Data Explorer." [map]. https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/otis/TrafficData#ui/0/1/0/criteria//71/true/true/.
34 National Pipeline Mapping System. 2022. "Public Viewer." Accessed January 2022. https://pvnpms.phmsa.dot.gov/PublicViewer/.

Figure STK.4: Community Lifelines and Floodplain



Parcel Assessment and Valuation

The planning team acquired GIS parcel data from the County Assessor to analyze the location, number, and value of assessed properties at the parcel level. The data did not contain the number of structures on each parcel. A summary of the results of this analysis is provided in the following table.

Table STK.4: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 1% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
87	$362,800	14	$44,960	16%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Table STK.5: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 0.2% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
87	$362,800	1	$4,060	1%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Historical Occurrences

See the upfront section for historical hazard events, including the number of events, damage estimates, and any fatalities or injuries.

Hazard Prioritization

The hazards discussed in detail below were either identified in the previous HMP and determined to still be of top concern or were selected by the local planning team from the county list as relevant hazards for the community. The local planning team prioritized the selected hazards based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the community's capabilities. For more information regarding county hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*.

Flooding

Flooding in the town comes from Raton Creek on the east side of the community and a ravine to the west. The local planning team identified flooding along Raton Creek in 1955 and 1965. During both floods, multiple houses and the church were destroyed and never replaced. On May 25, 2021, several inches of rainfall caused many ditches and culverts to be filled with debris and sediment. Two homes' basements were damaged in the event. There is a ravine in the plateau west of Starkville that runs into town. During heavy rain events, that ravine can bring a lot of water into town. The primary concern for the town related to flooding is debris and erosion filling in culverts and ditches. Many ditches and culverts are still filled with debris and sediment from the May 2021 event. If another large rain was to occur, flooding would likely be worse as water will not have anywhere to go.

Starkville is a member of the NFIP, and the town's Floodplain Administrator will oversee the commitments and requirements of the NFIP. The town will continue to participate in the NFIP and comply with Colorado Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplain (2 CCR 408-1). The initial FIRM for the town was identified in 8/28/2019 and the current effective map date is 8/28/2019. As of August 31, 2021, there are no policies in-force. Starkville does not currently have any repetitive loss or severe repetitive loss structures.

Wildfire

No past wildfire events have impacted the town. However, recently drought and high winds have increased the risk of wildfires. The local volunteer fire department has responded to several smaller fires in the area usually caused by lightning strikes. Top concerns include damage to homes, the water tower, and Fisher's Peak Volunteer Fire Department. Currently, Starkville is working on a new water tower project that will increase the amount of stored water available for firefighting. Many properties in town have overgrown weeds and grasses because property owners are unable or unwilling to remove them. The town is not able to require homeowners to mow or remove debris from their property. Fisher's Peak Volunteer Fire Department does some education on the importance of keeping a defensible space around structures. In the future, the town would like to implement fuel load reduction to reduce the amount of dry combustible material around homes.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Clean Ditches and Culverts
Description	Clean out ditches and culverts in the community that have become silted in or filled with debris.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Flooding
Estimated Cost	Unknown
Local Funding	General Account
Timeline	Ongoing – Once every 1-3 Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Board of Trustees, Mayor
Status	Companies to clean out the ditches and culverts have been contacted but cost has yet to be determined. This action needs to be done once every 1-3 years.

Mitigation Action	Fuel Load Reduction
Description	Reduce fuel load in the community by removing and cutting overgrown areas on both public and private property.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Wildfire
Estimated Cost	Unknown
Local Funding	General Account
Timeline	Ongoing
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Board of Trustees, Mayor, Fisher's Peak Volunteer Fire Department
Status	Not Started

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin. The table below outlines who will be responsible for document review, how often it will occur, and how the public will be involved.

Table STK.6: Plan Maintenance

Positions Responsible for Review	Frequency of Review	Public Involvement
Mayor, Board of Trustees, Town Clerk	Annually	Letter to residents in their water bill

Community Profile

City of Trinidad

Las Animas County
Hazard Mitigation Plan

2022

Local Planning Team

Table TRD.1: Trinidad Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Mike Valentine	City Manager	City of Trinidad
David Bacharach	Fire Chief	City of Trinidad
Charles Glorioso	Police Chief	City of Trinidad
Cheryl Navarette	Finance Director	City of Trinidad
Marc Vigil	Water Utility Director	City of Trinidad
Steve Curro	Gas Utility Director	City of Trinidad
Bob Just	Public Works Director	City of Trinidad

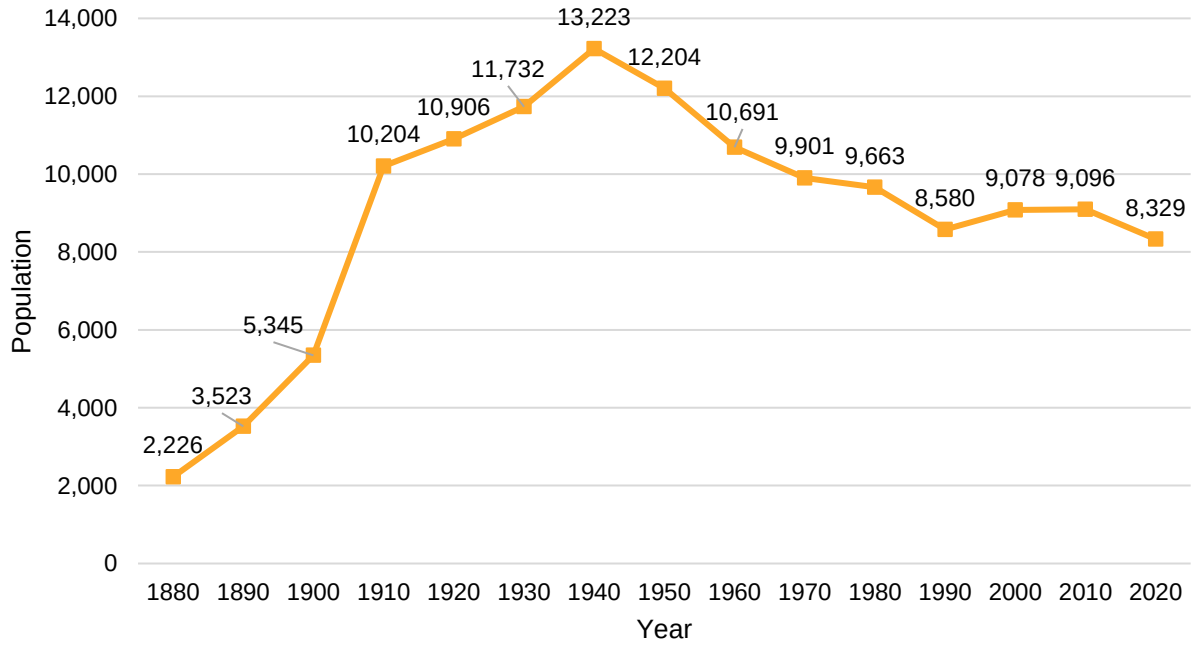
Location and Geography

The City of Trinidad is in southwestern Las Animas County and covers an area of 9.38 square miles. Trinidad is the county seat and most populous community in the county. Purgatoire River and several smaller creeks flow through the community. Trinidad Lake is located a mile southwest of the city.

Demographics

The following figure displays the historical population trend for the City of Trinidad. This figure indicates that the population of Trinidad has been declining since 2010 to 8,329 people in 2020. A declining population can lead to more unoccupied housing that is not being maintained and is then at risk to high winds and other hazards. Furthermore, with fewer residents, there is decreasing tax revenue for the community, which could make implementation of mitigation projects more fiscally challenging. Trinidad's population accounted for 57% of Las Animas County's population in 2020.[35]

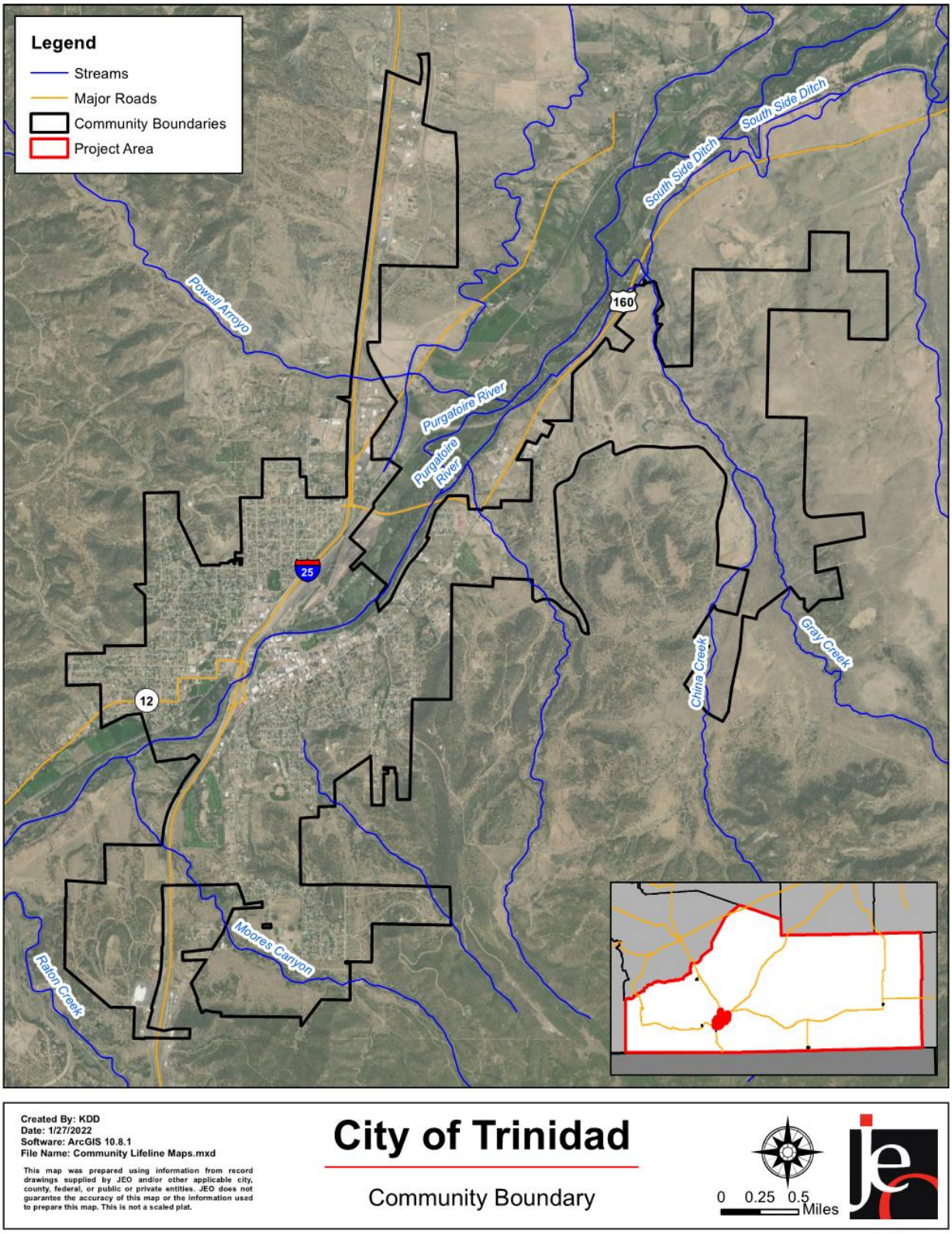
Figure TRD.1: Population 1880 - 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

35 United States Census Bureau. "2020 Decennial Census: P1: DEC Redistricting Data." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

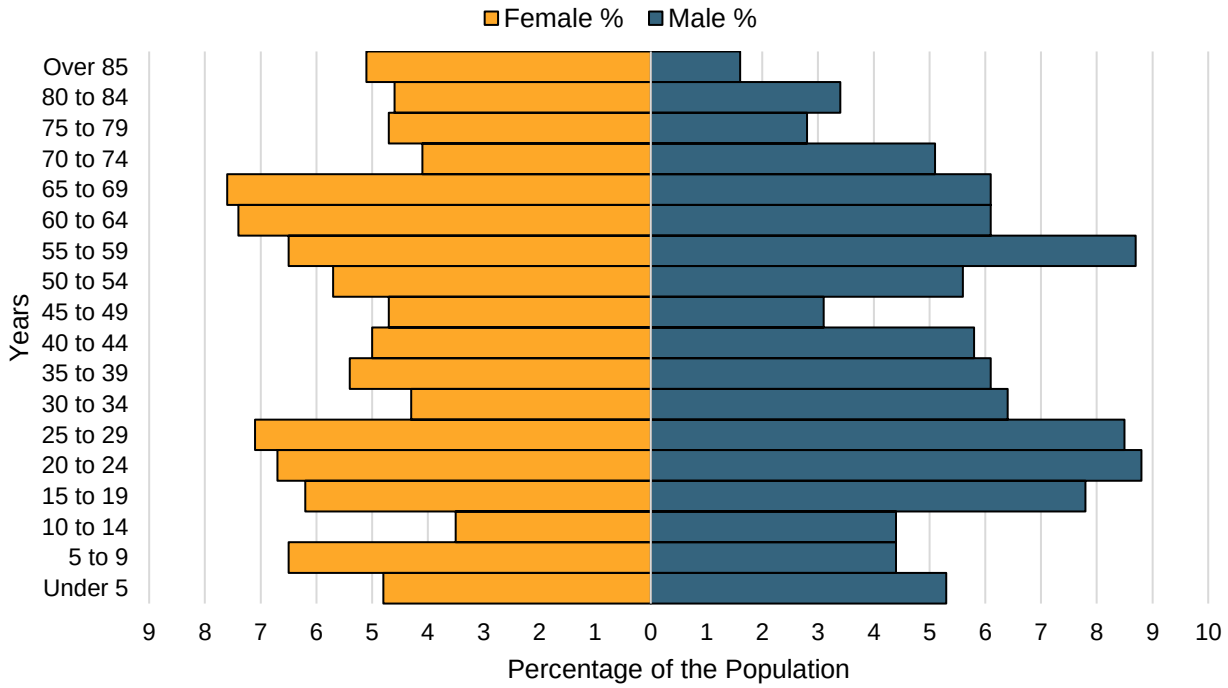
Figure TRD.2: City of Trinidad



The young, elderly, and minority populations may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Looking at Trinidad's population:

- **34% is non-white.** Since 2010, Trinidad grew more ethnically diverse. In 2010, 18% of the Trinidad's population was non-white. By 2020, 34% was non-white.[35]
- **41.8 median age.** The median age of Trinidad was 41.8 years old in 2019. The population grew younger since 2010, when the median age was 42.[36]

Figure TRD.3: Trinidad's Population Pyramid



The figure above shows Trinidad's population percentage broken down by sex and five-year age groups. Trinidad's population is relatively stable with most of the population spread out between different age groups. This indicates that the population is likely to remain stable in the future.

Employment and Economics

Low-income populations, long distance commuters, and the unemployed may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. Trinidad's population has:

- **20.2% of people living below the poverty line.** The poverty rate (20.2%) in the City of Trinidad was higher than the state's poverty rate (10.3%) in 2019.[37]
- **$37,196 median household income.** Trinidad's median household income in 2019 ($37,196) was $35,000 lower than the state ($72,331).[37]
- **7.7% unemployment rate.** In 2019 Trinidad has a higher unemployment rate (7.7%) when compared to the state (4.3%).[37]

36 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0101: Age and Sex." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

37 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

- **17.8% of workers commuted 30 minutes or more to work.** Fewer workers in Trinidad commuted 30 minutes or more to work than compared to workers commuting less than 15 minutes (17.8% compared to 69.7%).[38]

Major Employers

The major employers in the city are Evergreen Operating Corporation, Walmart, Trinidad State College, the Corrections Department, Trinidad Inn Nursing Home, New Elk Coal Mine, Mt. San Rafael Hospital, School District No. 1, Las Animas County, and the City of Trinidad. A majority of residents stay in Trinidad for employment.

Housing

The age of housing may indicate which housing units were built prior to the development of state building codes. Those houses and vacant housing may be more vulnerable to hazard events if they are poorly maintained. Unoccupied housing may also suggest that future development may be less likely to occur. Communities with a substantial number of mobile homes may be more vulnerable to the impacts of high winds, tornadoes, and severe thunderstorms if those homes are not anchored correctly. Renter-occupied housing depends on the initiative of landlords for proper maintenance and retrofitting to be resilient to disasters. They are less likely than homeowners to have flood insurance, or to know their risks to flooding and other hazards. Trinidad's housing stock has:

- **58.6% of housing built prior to 1970.** Trinidad has a larger share of housing built prior to 1970 than the state (58.6% compared to 26.4%).[39]
- **14.2% of housing units vacant.** Trinidad has a higher vacancy rate 14.2% compared to the rest of the state (10%).[39]
- **4.6% mobile and manufacture housing.** The City of Trinidad has a larger share of mobile and manufactured housing (4.6%) compared to the state (4%).[39] There are eight mobile home parks spread throughout the community.
- **60.5% renter-occupied.** The rental rate of Trinidad was 60.5% in 2019. This is lower than the state's rate of 65.2%.[39]

Governance

A community's governance indicates the number of boards or offices that may be available to help implement hazard mitigation actions. The City of Trinidad is governed by a mayor and city council; other governmental offices and departments that may be involved in implementing hazard mitigation initiatives are listed below.

- Building Department
- City Manager
- City Utilities – Water, Natural Gas, Power & Light, Wastewater, Landfill
- Finance Department
- Human Resources Department
- Library
- Municipal Court
- Planning Department

38 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Census Bureau American Community Survey: S0802: Means of Transportation to Work by Selected Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

39 United States Census Bureau. "2019 Bureau American Community Survey: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." https://data.census.gov/cedsci/.

- Public Safety (Fire and Police)
- Public Works
- Sports and Recreation / Outdoor Recreation
- City Clerk
- Welcome Center
- City Attorney
- Engineering
- Fleet
- Economic Development

Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the community's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

Municipal funds are sufficient to pursue new capital projects with a large portion already dedicated to municipal buildings, streets, parks, and recreation projects. Funds have increased over recent years.

Table TRD.2: Capability Assessment

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Planning & Regulatory Capability	Comprehensive Plan	Yes
	Capital Improvements Plan	Yes
	Economic Development Plan	No
	Local Emergency Operations Plan	Yes
	Floodplain Management Plan	In Progress
	Storm Water Management Plan	Yes
	Zoning Ordinance	Yes
	Subdivision Regulation/Ordinance	Yes
	Floodplain Ordinance	Yes
	Building Codes	Yes
	National Flood Insurance Program	Yes
	Community Rating System	No
	Other (if any)	Dam EAPs, Water System Vulnerability Assessment, Natural Gas ERP, and Source Water Protection Plan
Administrative & Technical Capability	Planning Commission	Yes
	Floodplain Administration	Yes
	GIS Capabilities	In Progress
	Chief Building Official	In Progress
	Civil Engineering	Yes
	Local Staff Who Can Assess Community's Vulnerability to Hazards	Yes
	Grant Manager	Yes
	Mutual Aid Agreement	Yes

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
	Other (if any)	-
Fiscal Capability	Capital Improvement Plan/ 1- & 6-Year plan	Yes
	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded a grant in the past	Yes
	Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes such as Mitigation Projects	Yes
	Gas/Electric Service Fees	Yes
	Storm Water Service Fees	No
	Water/Sewer Service Fees	Yes
	Development Impact Fees	Yes
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	Yes
	Other (if any)	-
Education & Outreach Capability	Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc. Ex. CERT Teams, Red Cross, etc.	No
	Ongoing public education or information program (e.g., responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	Yes
	Natural Disaster or Safety related school programs	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Firewise Communities Certification	No
	Tree City USA	Yes
	Other (if any)	-

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources to implement mitigation projects	Moderate
Staff/expertise to implement projects	Moderate
Public support to implement projects	Moderate
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

Trinidad has several planning documents that discuss or relate to hazard mitigation. Each plan is listed below along with a short description of how it is integrated with the hazard mitigation plan. The city will seek out and evaluate any opportunities to integrate the results of the current hazard mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms and updates.

Building Code (2018)

The building code sets standards for constructed buildings and structures. The city has adopted the 2018 International Building Codes with only minor amendments to address local snow load, wind load, and requiring a water shield.

Capital Improvements Plan (2021)
The capital improvements plan annually outlines projects the city would like to pursue and provides a planning schedule and financing options. Projects include stormwater improvements, upsizing drainage structures, improving transportation routes for drainage, upsizing water distribution pipes, installing water meters, updating the electrical distribution system, burying power lines, installing emergency generators, and city owned building improvements. The capital improvements plan is done annually prior to approving of the ensuing year's budget. Applicable projects have been added to the HMP.

Comprehensive Plan (2017)
The comprehensive plan is designed to guide the future actions and growth of the city. Specific hazards discussed include wildfire and hazards that could impact the water supply. It contains goals aimed at safe growth, encourages infill development, encourages the clustering of development, identifies areas that need emergency shelters, and encourages the preservation of open space in known hazard prone areas. This document is updated every five years.

Evacuation Plan (Under Development)
The evacuation plan is meant to help prepare residents, emergency responders, and agency personnel for the possible threat of a city/county evacuation incident. The plan identifies stages for evacuation, public notification, emergency contacts, affected areas, anticipated resource needs, and evacuation guidelines and procedures. This plan will be completed by the end of 2022.

Fisher Peak FPC-1 Dam EAP (2019), Fisher Peak FPC-2 Dam EAP (2019), Monument Dam EAP (2014), North Lake Dam EAP (2020), and Pinon Canyon Detention Dam EAP (2019)
The purpose of a dam emergency action plan (EAP) is to reduce the potential for loss of life, injury, and to minimize property damage during an unusual or emergency event at the dam. Each of the EAPs include location of the dam, dam description, inundation maps, emergency levels, notification and communication, expected actions, roles and responsibilities for different parties, and resources available.

Floodplain Regulations, Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations (2020)
The city's floodplain regulations, zoning ordinance, and subdivision regulations outline where and how development should occur in the future. These documents contain floodplain maps, discourage development in the floodplain, limit population density in the floodplain, require new construction in the floodplain to be more than one foot above Base Flood Elevation, identify floodplain areas as parks or open spaces, and include the ability to implement water restrictions.

Las Animas County Local Emergency Operations Plan (2017)
Trinidad falls under the Las Animas County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). The purpose of the LEOP is to provide general guidelines and principals for planning, managing, and coordinating the response to and recovery from emergencies and disasters that may impact Las Animas County. It includes responsibilities for county departments, volunteer agencies, and local jurisdictions during a disaster event. This plan is updated every five years.

Natural Gas Emergency Response Plan (2020)

The natural gas emergency response plan outlines the city's response when there is either a potential or actual gas leak event. The plan includes instructions to callers, step by step response actions for various types of gas leaks, an emergency checklist, media communications guidelines, public notification instructions, reporting requirements, employee training, and site cleanup. It also specifically addresses gas leaks caused by earthquakes, flash flooding, snowstorms, and wildfires.

Source Water Protection Plan (2015)

The city's Source Water Protection Plan is meant to help protect the community's drinking water sources from potential contamination. The plan identifies a source water protection area, lists potential contaminant sources and outlines best management practices to implement in order to decrease risks to the water source. Through this process, it was determined that the highest priority potential contaminant sources are wildfire risk, recreation, and camping. Other noted threats include roadways, landslides, flooding, pesticide application, and septic tanks. Best management practices identified in the plan include implementing fuels reduction measures on private and public land to reduce wildfire risk and researching flood deflection strategies for deflecting flood water away from reservoirs. Applicable mitigation and strategic actions from this plan were included in the HMP.

Stonewall Fire Protection District Community Wildfire Protection Plan (2014)

While not covering the city itself, the Stonewall Fire Protection District Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) does cover the city's drinking water reservoirs and water treatment plant. The purpose of the CWPP is to help effectively manage wildfires and increase collaboration and communication among organizations who manage fire. The CWPP discusses area-specific historical wildfire occurrences and impacts, identifies areas most at risk from wildfires, discusses protection capabilities, and identifies area and countywide wildfire mitigation strategies. Projects identified in the plan relating to the city were included in under Mitigation Strategy.

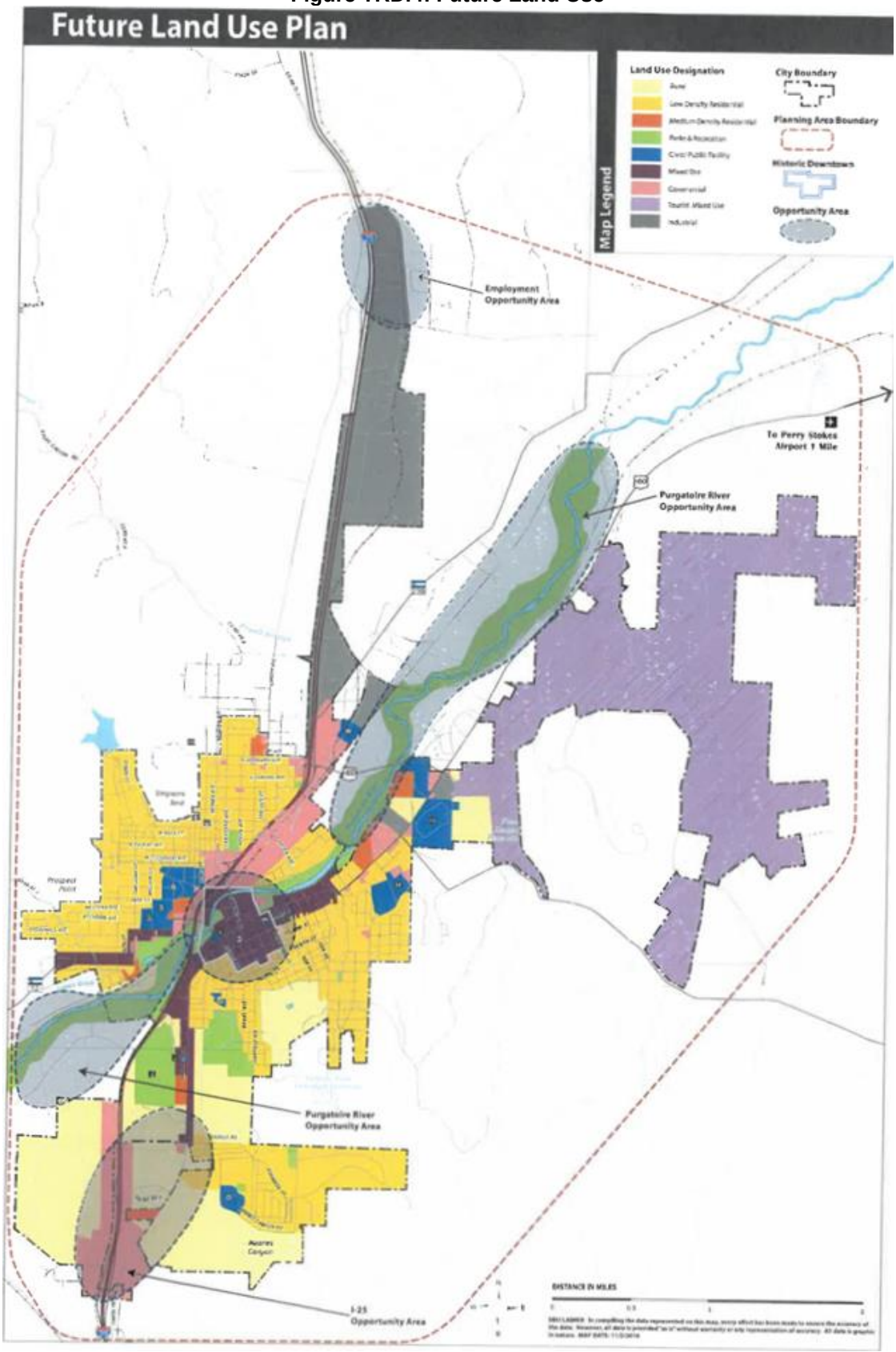
Water System Vulnerability Assessment (2004)

The Water System Vulnerability Assessment was prepared to fulfill the requirements of the Public Health, Security, and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act. It requires that community water systems assess vulnerabilities through a security risk assessment. The assessment includes a description of the water system and its major components, existing security features, system effectiveness, an identification of possible threats, system vulnerabilities, risk assessment, and recommendations to reduce the systems risks and vulnerabilities. Threats discussed in the assessment all related to terrorism or terroristic activities. Natural hazards were not discussed in this assessment.

Future Development Trends

Over the past five years the city has refurbished historic buildings for commercial use. New construction included an apartment complex, a hotel, roadways, an industrial park, a private downtown park, and additional city parks. A restaurant, hotel, and car dealership were built in the floodplain and followed all floodplain regulations. Several new businesses moved into existing buildings. Over the next five years, planned developments include East School, a new business space, refurbishment of the Fox Theater, the Santa Fe Trail, Oak Street apartment complex, and additional housing off of South Oak, East Main Street, and Elm Street. Figure TRD.4 shows the future land use map for the city. Industrial and commercial areas are primarily located around major transportation routes with residential housing located further north and south from Interstate 25.

Figure TRD.4: Future Land Use



Community Lifelines

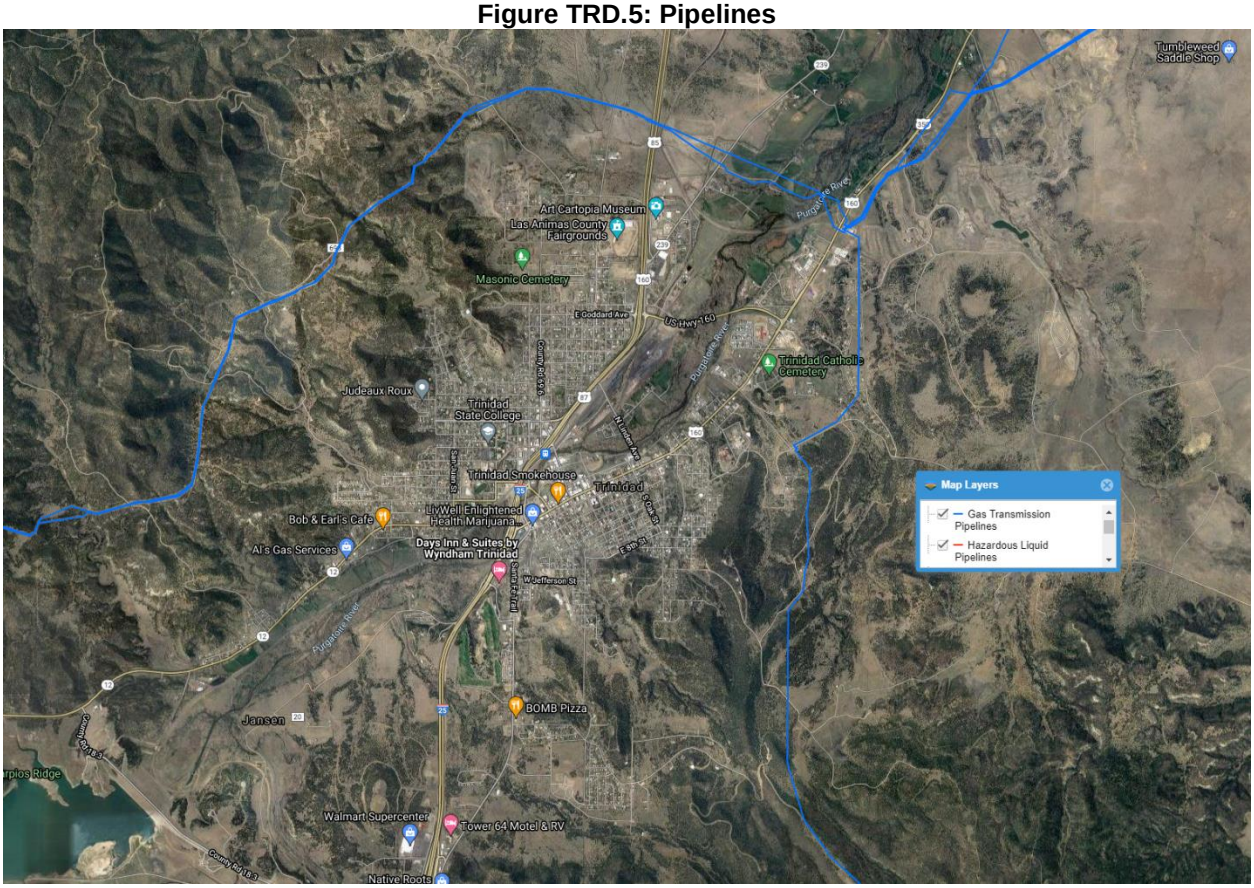
Transportation

Trinidad's major transportation corridors include Interstate 25, US Highway 160, and State Highway 12. The most traveled route is Interstate 25 with an average of 16,000 vehicles daily.[40] There has been an influx of truck traffic on Highway 12 due to the mine re-opening. The city has two Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway lines traveling through the community. The Perry Stokes Airport is located several miles northeast of the city. Transportation information is important to hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk of transportation incidents. Trinidad as few evacuation challenges, as there are several large transportation routes into and out of the city. The biggest challenges would be the amount of people to evacuate and evacuating those with limited mobility (retirement communities, hospitals, and elderly individuals).

Hazardous Materials

According to the local planning team, chemicals are primarily transported along Interstate 25. It is not known which chemicals are transported on this route. There are several gas transmission pipelines that travel through the city and can be seen on the figure below.

Figure TRD.5: Pipelines



Source: National Pipeline Mapping System[41]

40 Colorado Department of Transportation. 2020. "Traffic Data Explorer." [map]. https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/otis/TrafficData#ui/0/1/0/criteria//71/true/true/.

41 National Pipeline Mapping System. 2022. "Public Viewer." Accessed January 2022. https://pvnpms.phmsa.dot.gov/PublicViewer/.

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Colorado Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability, there are 9 chemical storage sites within or near Trinidad which house hazardous materials. In the event of a chemical spill, the local fire department and emergency response may be the first to respond to the incident.

Table TRD.3: Chemical Storage Sites

CL Number	Name	Generator (G)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Acorn Petroleum Inc. – Trinidad	-	N
2	AeroCare Holdings, Inc.	-	Y (1%)
3	Al's Gas Service, Inc.	-	N
4	BNSF Railway Company – CO	-	N
5	CenturyLink Trinidad Central Office	-	N
6	Colorado Interstate Gas Company, LLC	G (Beshoar Junction site)	N
7	Evergreen Natural Resources LLC	G	N
8	MCI dba Verizon Business – STRKCO	-	N
9	Rocky Mountain Tillage LLC	-	N

Source: Colorado Division of Environmental Health & Sustainability

Health and Medical Facilities

The following medical and health facilities are located within the community.

Table TRD.4: Health and Medical Facilities

CL Number	Name	Type of Facility	Generator (G) Shelter (S)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Alta Vista Alternatives	Home Care Agency / Adult Day	-	N
2	Caring Angles Home Care	Home Care Agency	-	N
3	Casa Alegre I	IDD – Group Home	-	N
4	Casa Alegre II	IDD – Group Home	-	N
5	Las Animas County Health Department	Bi-County Health Department	-	N
6	Las Animas County Rehabilitation Center	IDD – Program Approved Services	-	N
7	The Legacy at Trinidad	Assisted Living Residence	S (Elderly and Disabled)	N
8	Mt Rose Health Center	Hospice	G	N
9	Mt San Rafael Hospital	Hospital	G	N
10	Mt San Rafael Health Clinic	Rural Health Clinic	G	N
11	Pro Rehab and Fitness Center	Outpatient Physical Therapy	S	Y (0.2%)
12	Salud Family Health Center	Rural Health Clinic	S	N
13	Sangre De Cristo Hospice	Hospice	-	N
14	South Central Council of Governments	Home Care Agency	-	N
15	Trinidad Inn Nursing Home	Nursing Home	G,S	N
16	Trinidad Physical Therapy	Outpatient Physical Therapy	-	Y (1%)
17	Vista Del Rae	IDD – Group Home	-	N

Source: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment[42]

42 Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. 2021. "Regulated Health Facilities." https://cdphe.colorado.gov/find-and-compare-facilities.

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as part of this plan update. The following table lists those critical facilities identified by the local planning team.

Table TRD.5: Critical Facilities

CL Number	Name	Generator (G) Shelter (S)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Allendale Water Storage Tank	-	N
2	Eckhart Elementary School	-	N
3	Fisher's Peak Elementary School	-	N
4	Fisher's Peak Fire Protection District / Spanish Peaks & Bon Carbo Fire Protection District	-	N
5	Grace Christian Center	-	N
6	High School/Donnelly Gym	S	N
7**	Jansen Water Storage Tank	-	N
8	Justice Center (Redundant Dispatch)	G	N
9	KCRT 1240	-	N
10	Methodist United Church	S	N
11	Mini Substation	-	N
12	Natural Gas Regulating Station	-	N
13	Natural Gas Regulating Station	-	N
14	Natural Gas Regulating Station	-	N
15	Natural Gas Regulating Station	-	Y (1%)
16	Natural Gas Regulating Station	-	N
17	Natural Gas Regulating Station	-	N
18	Natural Gas Regulating Station	-	Y (1%)
19	Natural Gas Regulating Station	-	N
20	North Side Water Storage Tank	-	N
21	Northside Pump Station	-	N
22*	Perry Stokes Airport	G (Portable)	N
23	Pinon Terrace Booster Station	-	N
24	Power Plant	G	N
25	Power Plant Substation	-	N
26	Sebastiani Gym	-	N
27	South Side Pump Station	-	N
28	South Side Water Storage Tank	-	N
29	St. Joseph's Hall	S	N
30	Trinidad Community Center	S	N
31	Trinidad Fire Department Station 1	-	N
32	Trinidad Fire Department Station 2	G	N
33	Trinidad Middle School	G,S	N
34	Trinidad Police Department	G	N
35	Trinidad State College	S	N
36	Wastewater Treatment Plant	-	N

**Not mapped but located several miles northeast of the city off Highway 350.*
***Not mapped but located less than a mile west of Starkville.*

Critical Infrastructure

Although they may not be listed in the tables above, critical infrastructure can also include power and energy infrastructure, communication infrastructure, alert sirens, water infrastructure, and wastewater infrastructure.

Figure TRD.5: Chemical Storage Sites and Floodplain

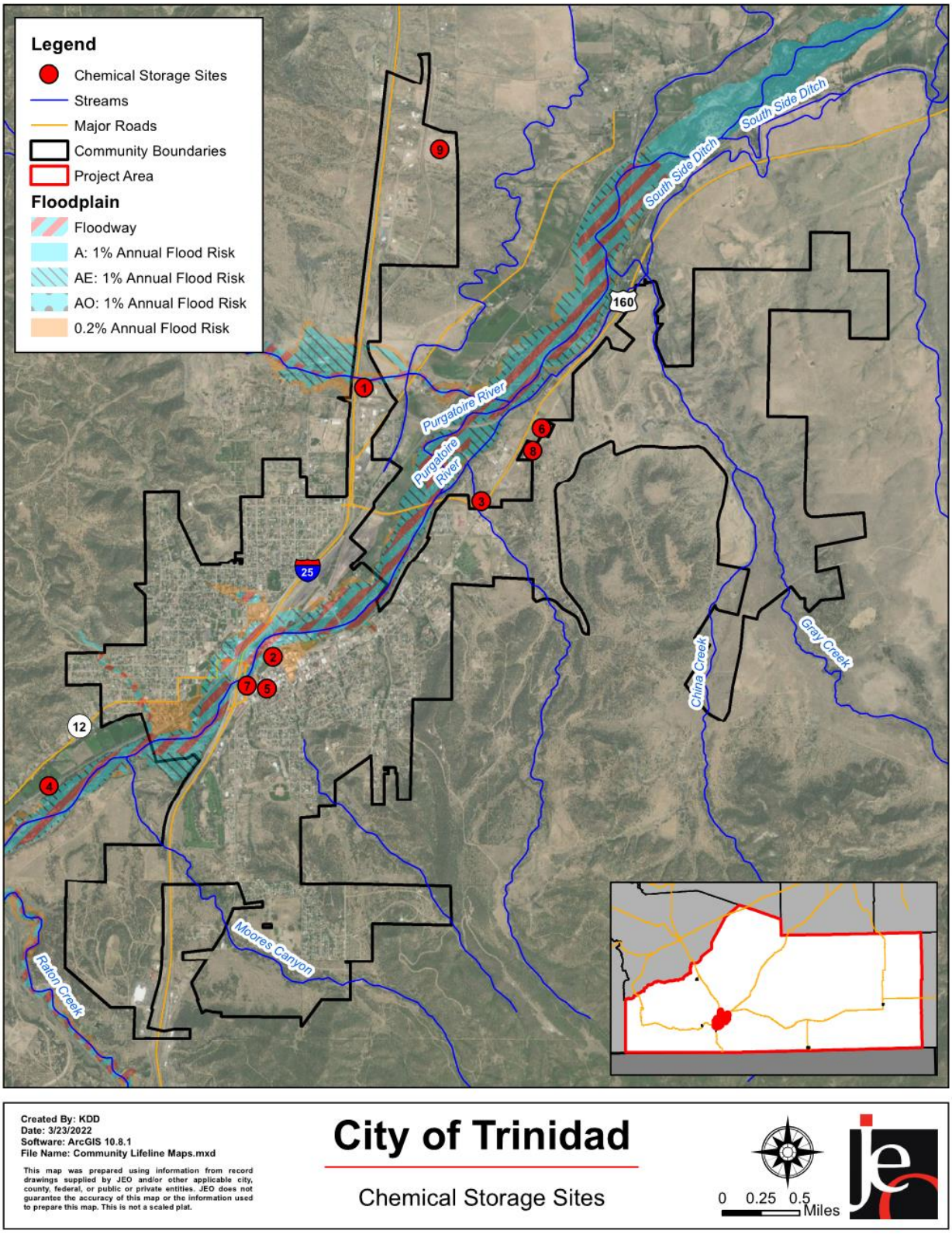


Figure TRD.6: Health and Medical Facilities and Floodplain

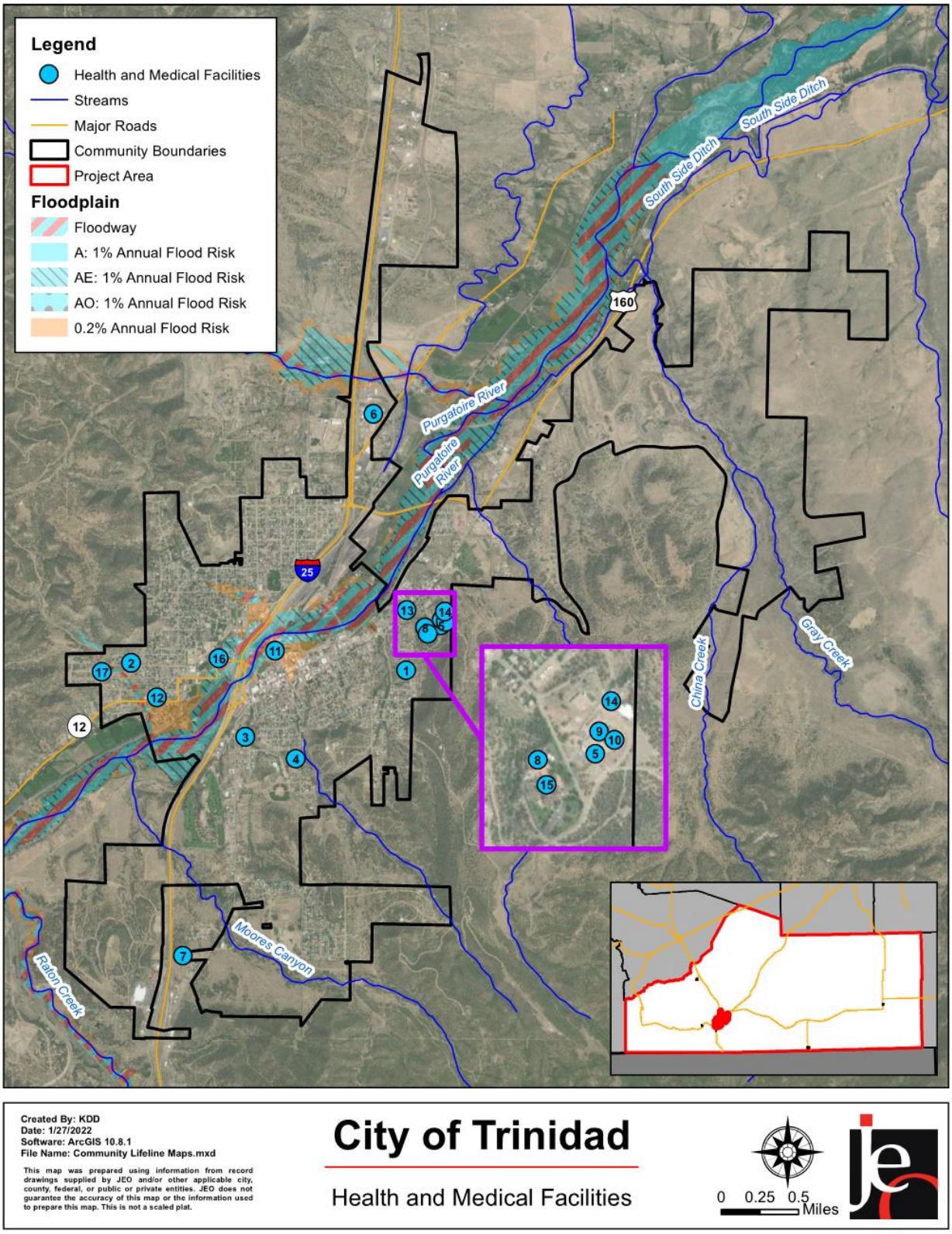
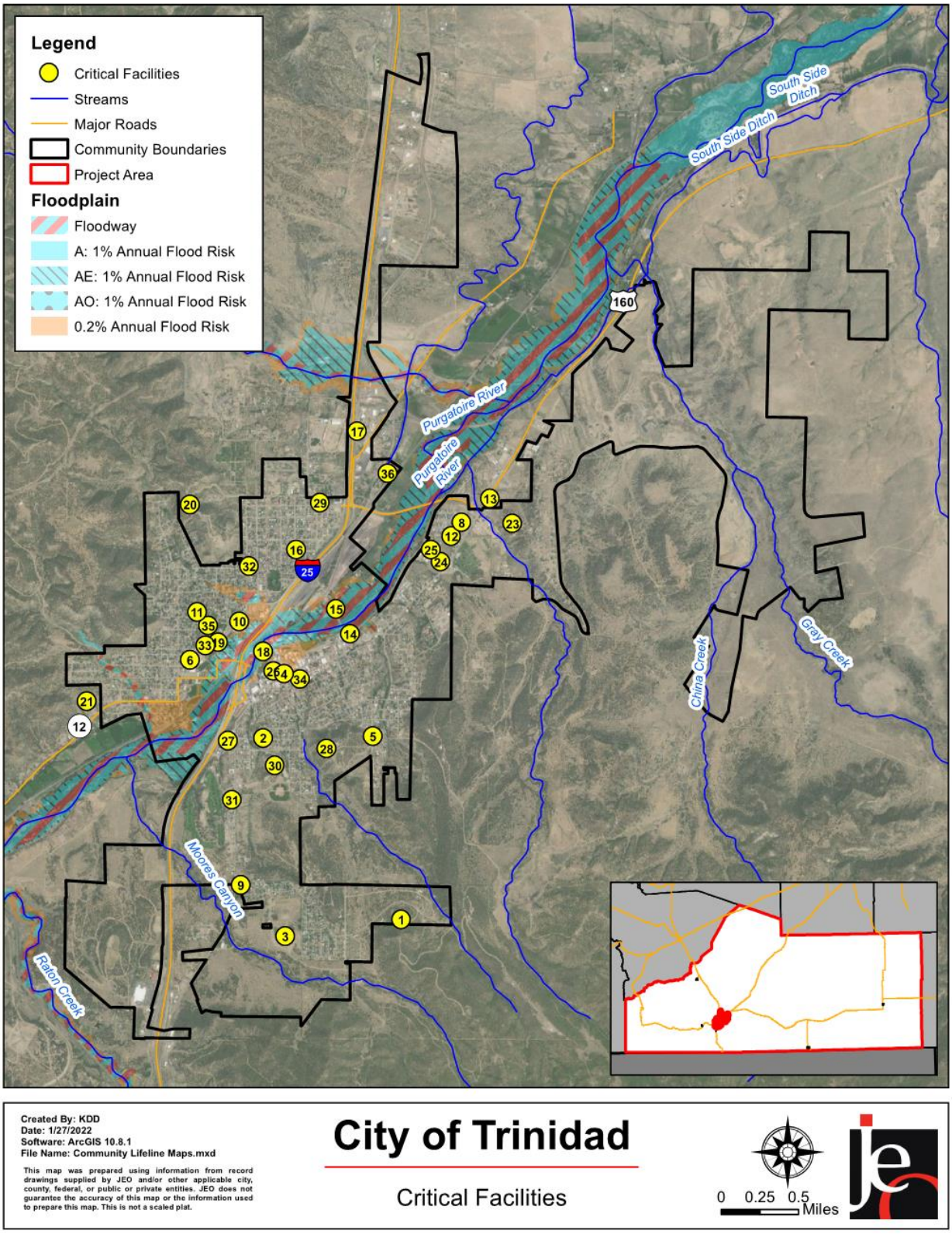


Figure TRD.7: Critical Facilities and Floodplain



Parcel Assessment and Valuation

The planning team acquired GIS parcel data from the County Assessor to analyze the location, number, and value of assessed properties at the parcel level. The data did not contain the number of structures on each parcel. A summary of the results of this analysis is provided in the following table.

Table TRD.6: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 1% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
4,832	$369,316,050	333	$11,610,410	7%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Table TRD.7: Assessed Parcels and Value in the 0.2% Annual Flood Risk Area

Number of Assessed Parcels	Total Assessment Value	Number of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain	Value of Assessments in Floodplain	Percentage of Assessed Parcels in Floodplain
4,832	$369,316,050	342	$13,945,890	7%

Source: County Assessor, 2021

Historical Occurrences

See the upfront section for historical hazard events, including the number of events, damage estimates, and any fatalities or injuries.

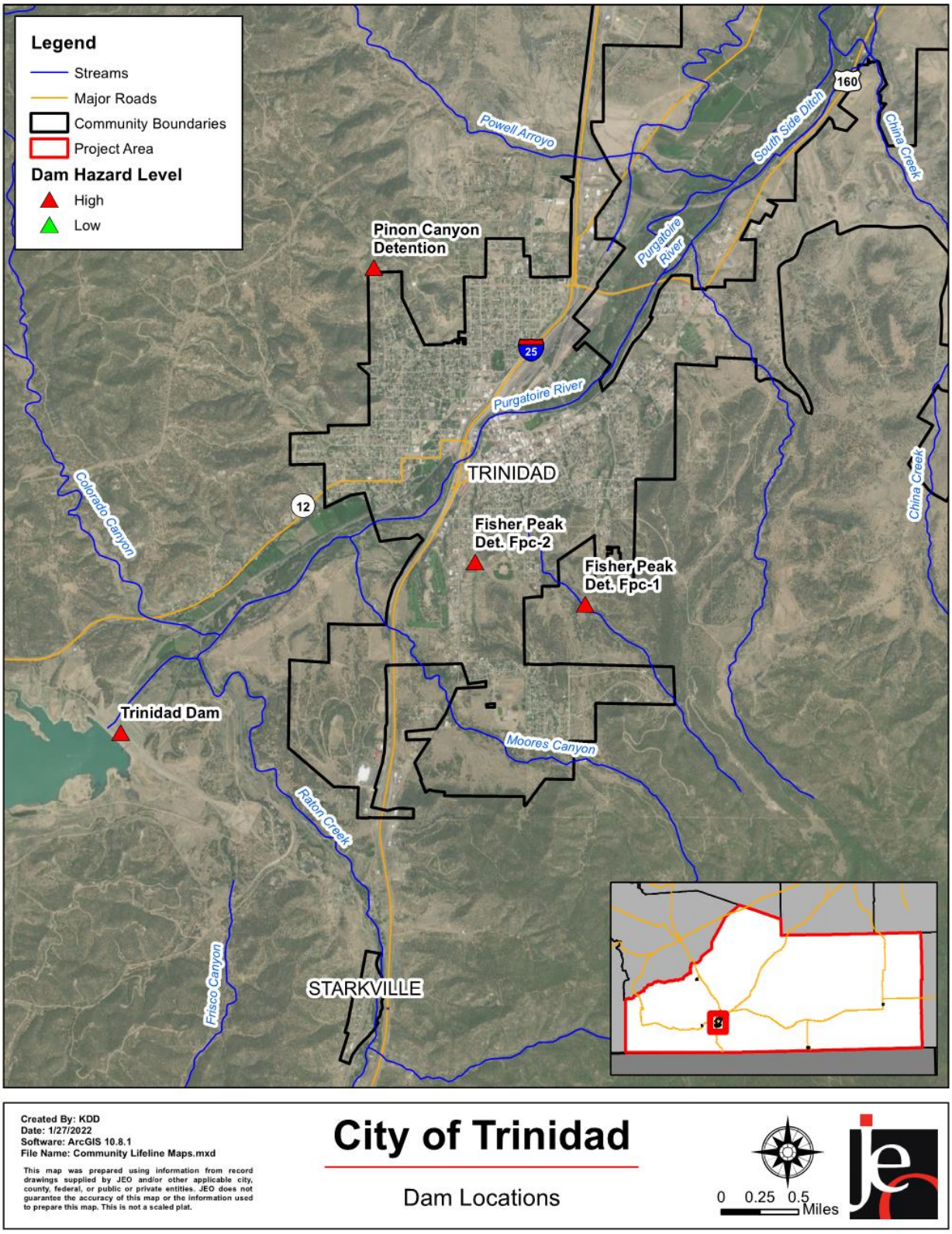
Hazard Prioritization

The hazards discussed in detail below were either identified in the previous HMP and determined to still be of top concern or were selected by the local planning team from the county list as relevant hazards for the community. The local planning team prioritized the selected hazards based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the community's capabilities. For more information regarding county hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*.

Dam and Levee Failure

Located west of the city is the Trinidad Dam, which is maintained by the US Army Corps (USACE) of Engineers. If this dam were to fail, it could be life-threatening and cause catastrophic downstream damages to residences and infrastructure. The USACE completed a risk assessment of the Trinidad Dam in 2018 and characterized dam failure risk as low. The city also has five flood-control dams that it is responsible for maintaining: Fisher Peak Detention FPC-1 Dam, Fisher Peak Detention FPC-2 Dam, Monument Lake Dam, North Lake Dam, and the Pinon Canyon Detention Dam. Failure of any of these would potentially pose damage to life and property primarily along the Purgatoire River. Figure TRD.7 shows the location of the dams near the city. North Lake Dam and Monument Lake Dam are located approximately 15 miles west of the city.

Figure TRD.8: Dam Locations



Earthquakes

USGS data shows that Trinidad has experienced one earthquake within the city boundaries. The earthquake was a magnitude 2.5 and occurred in January 2014. Several other earthquakes have occurred near the city and were likely felt by residents. In addition, the local planning team identified 10 earthquakes that were felt by residents all ranging around 4.0 in magnitude. However, there have been only minor damages from these earthquake events. There are century old buildings located in the downtown area which have the potential to collapse during an earthquake event. The city is also concerned with damage to underground and overhead utilities. Earthquakes can cause power outages from downed power lines and water or sewer main breaks. The city has funded seismic evaluations for North Lake, Monument Lake, and the Trinidad Treatment Plant. In the future, the city would like fire department training on building collapse and confined space rescue. In addition, enforcement of current ICC building codes is needed to address the reinforcement of buildings.

Flooding

One of the tools the city utilizes to analyze flood risk is FloodFactor. According to FloodFactor, there are 304 properties in Trinidad that have greater than a 26% chance of being severely affected by flooding over the next 30 years. This represents 7% of all properties in the city. In addition, 29 miles of road are at risk of becoming impassable during flooding. Overall, Trinidad was listed as having a minor risk of flooding over the next 30 years.[43]

Trinidad's flood risk comes primarily from the Purgatoire River which runs through the central portion of the community. NCEI data since 1996 shows that Trinidad has experienced flooding events in 2020 and 2021. Neither event caused any reported property damages. In addition to damage on properties, flooding can also cut off access to utilities, emergency services, transportation, and impact the overall economic well-being of the area. As mentioned above, the city maintains three food-control dams which help reduce the risk of flooding in the community. There is currently a plan being developed to determine what is necessary to improve one of the three flood-control dams. The city also continues to perform regular maintenance of floodways. Additional bank stabilization projects are needed for existing water main river crossing.

Trinidad is a member of the NFIP, and the city's Floodplain Administrator will oversee the commitments and requirements of the NFIP. The city will continue to participate in the NFIP and comply with the Colorado Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplain (2 CCR 408-1). The initial FIRM for the city was identified in 7/3/1978 and the current effective map date is 8/28/2019. As of August 31, 2021, there are 11 policies in-force covering $2,617,300. Trinidad does not currently have any repetitive loss or severe repetitive loss structures.

Hazardous Materials Release

There have been eight reported transportation and six reported fixed site chemical spills in the city. Most spills have been small, but 500 liquid gallons of gasoline was spilled on North Chestnut Street in 1999. The spill was due to a storage tank being overfilled because of a broken gauge. No damages occurred from the event. There are several major transportation routes that travel through the city. Interstate 25 runs through the middle of the city, Highway 12 runs through the western portion of the city, and Highway 160 runs through the eastern portion of the city. All three of these are major truck routes. Interstate 25 has W.I.P.P trucks that transport nuclear waste. In addition, Trinidad has a railroad that bisects the city. The city does not know what most of these trucks or railcars are carrying at any one time.

43 FloodFactor. "Flood risk overview for Trinidad." Accessed January 2022. https://floodfactor.com/.

The fire department is trained to the Operations and Tech level for hazardous materials response. Specific training has been completed in the past on W.I.P.P trucks but needs to be reviewed. A mutual aid agreement is in place with Colorado State Patrol. A refresher tabletop training on hazmat response is needed with all local affected agencies.

Wildfire

Wildfire has never reached the city boundaries, however, the Track Fire (Raton Pass) in 2011 closed Interstate 25 for several days. The Pipeline Complex Fire (Fisher Peak) in 2013 posed a threat to properties in the city but was contained prior to reaching the city limits. The Spring Creek Fire (La Veta) in 2018 encroached on the city's watershed. This would have disrupted the delivery of water to the city. Primary concerns related to wildfire include life safety, property damage, loss of surrounding grazing land, and disruption of water to the city. Drought is the biggest contributing factor to wildfire. To help reduce the occurrence of wildfire and drought, the city has implemented a water conservation resolution that includes water restrictions if necessary. Trinidad is completely surrounded by a Wildland Urban Interface but does not have land use restrictions or building codes specific to interface.

Several mitigation projects have been completed near the city's watershed including: fuel reduction in the drainages feeding Monument Lake and Northlake; fuel reduction in properties adject to the city's properties; a shaded fuel break from the tree line above Brown Park down to Brown, Cherry, and Whiskey Ridges along the National Forest boundary just above Monument and North Lakes; fuel reduction on the National Forest upstream of the city's watershed; development a Community Wildfire Protection Plan for the city's watershed; and development of a Source Water Protection Plan. The city's Fire Chief is currently implementing a program to encourage homeowners to create defensible space around their properties. Additional Firewise and water conservation education is still needed for homeowners.

Winter Storms

A large snowstorm in 2006 dumped five feet of snow on the city in a short period of time. This caused roofs to collapse because of the weight of the snow, made people homebound, impacted travel, and caused longer response times for emergency services. The primary concerns for the city include travel impacts, impacts to emergency services, and food/water distribution. To help reduce the impacts from winter storms, the city has increased the amount of snow removal equipment. Equipment includes plows, sanders, dump trucks, a blade, backhoes, loader, and a new brine spreader. Public works primarily handles snow remove in the city. However, additional utility departments can also assist, and the city has a list of contracts who could be used should the need arise. Snow fences are not used but the city has designated snow emergency routes that prioritized first for snow removal. These routes include major access pints to downtown, schools, and the hospital. In the future the city would like additional ice mitigation equipment and an ice removal plan.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Bank Stabilization
Description	Bank stabilization projects are needed in any location where existing water mains cross the river. Assess and improve erosion issues at campgrounds, including the north shore area of Monument Lake, high traffic areas, and stream banks.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Flooding
Estimated Cost	Unknown
Local Funding	Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	5+ Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Public Works, Water Utility
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Emergency Exercise: Hazardous Materials Release
Description	A refresher tabletop training on hazmat response is needed with all local affected agencies.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Hazardous Materials Release
Estimated Cost	Staff Time
Local Funding	Staff Time
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	Low
Lead Agency	Fire Department, City Manager
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Evaluate High Hazard Dams
Description	Evaluate city owned high hazard dams for structural/nonstructural rehabilitation needs.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Dam Failure
Estimated Cost	Unknown
Local Funding	Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	5+ Years
Priority	Low
Lead Agency	City Manager
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Fire Personnel Education
Description	Fire Department training is needed on building collapse and confined space rescue.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	Staff Time
Local Funding	Staff Time
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Fire Department
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Flood Deflection Strategies
Description	Research flood deflection strategies, including construction options for deflecting flood waters away from the reservoirs. Construct flood deflection options if viable.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Flooding
Estimated Cost	Unknown
Local Funding	Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	5+ Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Public Works, Water Utility
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Forest Management Plan
Description	Develop a comprehensive Forest management Plan that follows and addresses the SWPP goals.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Wildfire
Estimated Cost	$10,000+
Local Funding	General Fund Revenues
Timeline	5+ Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Trinidad Public Works, Fire Department, City Manager, Water Utility
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Fuel Load Reduction
Description	Reduce fuel loads in the river bottom that travels through the city. Also reduce fuel loads where possible around the city's drinking water supply and water treatment plant. Extend defensible space around the water treatment plant.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Wildfire
Estimated Cost	$30,000
Local Funding	General Fund Revenues
Timeline	Ongoing
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Trinidad Public Works, Fire Department
Status	In Progress. Trees, shrubbery, and weeds are being chipped down to the ground in overgrowth areas. Weeds will be sprayed thereafter for control. Established trees are being limbed up.

Mitigation Action	Ice Mitigation Equipment
Description	The city would like to purchase additional ice mitigation equipment to help improve roadways after ice and snowstorms.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Winter Storms
Estimated Cost	Unknown
Local Funding	Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Public Works
Status	In Progress. The city recently purchased a new brine spreader.

Mitigation Action	Ice Removal Plan
Description	Create an ice removal plan for the city.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Winter Storms
Estimated Cost	Staff Time
Local Funding	Staff Time
Timeline	5+ Years
Priority	Low
Lead Agency	Public Works
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Implement Projects Identified in the CWPP
Description	Implement the various wildfire related mitigation and strategic action projects identified in the Stonewall Fire Protection District CWPP. Projects include: 1) Water Treatment Plant Evacuation Plan and 2) Obtaining additional fire hydrants along Highway 12.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Wildfire
Estimated Cost	Varies Depending on Project
Local Funding	Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	City Manager, Public Works, Water Utility, Stonewall Fire Protection District
Status	Not Started

Kept Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Localized Flood Reduction Project
Description	The City of Trinidad shall minimize debris and backup in drainage areas by removing debris near or on localized dam areas.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Dam & Levee Failure, Flooding
Estimated Cost	$10,000 - $100,000
Local Funding	Budgetary Line Expenses, Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	Ongoing
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Public Works
Status	The city has worked on the local dam areas to minimize debris and tree growth. This is something that is done every couple of years and will be an ongoing action.

Mitigation Action	Provide Backup Generators for Critical Infrastructure
Description	Purchase and install a backup generator at Fire Station 1.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$10,000 - $100,000
Local Funding	CIP Money
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Fire Chief
Status	Fire Station 2 has a backup generator, but Fire Station 1 is needs one. This project has not been started. The Annex where the severs are located has a backup generator. The CAD/RMS systems no longer need a backup generator as they are cloud based. The Police Department and Communication Center both have backup generators.

Mitigation Action	Shelter Improvements
Description	The existing emergency shelters (Trinidad Community Center and Sayre Senior Center) need to meet or exceed the needs of the entire population to include functional and access needs in order to reduce the long-term risks to loss of life from natural disasters as well as satisfy state and local regulations.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	Less than $100,000
Local Funding	Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	City Manager
Status	In Progress. Las Animas County has identified emergency shelters. Among them is the Trinidad High School gymnasium, which is ADA compliant. The Trinidad Community Center is compliant and Senior Center is compliant with the exception of the parking area that will be addressed in the near future. Sebastiani Gym could also be used to serve as a shelter. ADA accessible porta johns could be used if needed.

Mitigation Action	Retrofit Existing Dedicated Space for PD EOC
Description	Upgrade the dedicated space with enough phone lines (26+), desks, tables, area for maps, internet, sleep quarters, showers, kitchen for food prep, televisions – in accordance with the EOP.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$10,000 - $100,000
Local Funding	CIP Money
Timeline	1 Year
Priority	High
Lead Agency	City Manager
Status	In Progress. Six (land lines) phone lines are installed, desks, tables, area for maps, internet, television, projector are there. Kitchen facilities and sleeping quarters are available in the building. The showers are not complete. Twenty+ internet-based lines to the building are being installed this year.

Mitigation Action	Upgrade Electrical Infrastructure
Description	The City of Trinidad will 1) mitigate and bury overhead electrical lines, 2) fortify substation upgrades 3) voltage conversions, and 4) maintain and upgrade existing underground facilities as needed.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$500,000+
Local Funding	Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	5+ Years
Priority	Low
Lead Agency	Power and Light Utility
Status	In Progress. The Power and Light Utility hasn't been financially able to undertake a project to bury overhead lines but require all new construction to install underground lines. The city has begun a major breaker project to fortify the utility. The city has done minimal voltage conversion as new build and reconstruction has occurred.

Mitigation Action	Upgrade Gas Utility Infrastructure
Description	The City of Trinidad will: 1) remove all steel pipelines and uncoated gas pipelines, 2) fortify gas regulating stations, 3) fortify and redesign existing power plant regulating station, and 4) maintain and upgrade existing underground facilities as needed.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Dam & Levee Failure, Erosion & Deposition, Expansive Soils, Flooding, Subsidence
Estimated Cost	Less than $100,000
Local Funding	Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Gas Utility
Status	In Progress. The Gas Utility has removed some steel pipelines and/or abandoned in place and replaced others. All gas pipelines are coated. The gas regulating stations are currently being rebuilt and we are looking at security measures and installing bollards around ones in high traffic areas. One regulating station is proposed to be enclosed. The power plant regulating station is scheduled to be abandoned in 2023 because it only serves as a pass-through at this time. A majority of the piping that can be underground, will be. The gas utility continues to maintain and upgrade existing underground facilities as needed. Weed spraying is done annually around all gas regulating stations for fire mitigation.

Mitigation Action	Upgrade Utility Sewer Infrastructure
Description	The City of Trinidad will: 1) remove old ductile iron and asbestos cement pipelines and replace with Schedule 35 plastic pipe, 2) fortify sewer lift stations 3) install two additional lift station within collection system and Mission Control System, 4) upgrade the existing SCADA system, and 5) maintain and upgrade existing underground facilities as needed.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Dam & Levee Failure, Erosion & Deposition, Expansive Soils, Flooding, Subsidence
Estimated Cost	Less than $100,000
Local Funding	Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	Ongoing
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Wastewater Utility, Jacobs
Status	In Progress. The city has contracted with Jacobs for the operation and maintenance of the sewer utility. They have an asset management program in place that they are implementing in accordance with a prioritized schedule. They are also maintaining and upgrading existing underground facilities as needed. Many lines have been slip-lined in the downtown. The SCADA system has been upgraded.

Mitigation Action	Upgrade Utility Water Infrastructure
Description	The City of Trinidad will 1) remove old galvanized, cast iron, steel, ductile iron, and asbestos cement pipelines and replace with C-900 pipelines, 2) fortify water pump stations, 3) fortify regulating stations, 4) fortify water storage tanks, and 5) maintain and upgrade existing underground facilities as needed.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Dam & Levee Failure, Erosion & Deposition, Expansive Soils, Flooding, Subsidence
Estimated Cost	$3,000,000+
Local Funding	Capital Improvement Funds
Timeline	Ongoing
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Water Utility
Status	In Progress. The Water Utility has been removing the old galvanized, cast iron, steel and ductile iron, asbestos cement pipelines and replacing them with C-900 pipelines. The city has replaced meters in the water pump stations and regulating stations and added them to the SCADA system. All monitoring equipment is above ground to comply with confined space requirements. The city is in the process of performing a water tank rehabilitation project. The water utility continues to identify exposed and leaking water mains and repair them immediately. There have been many large water main replacement projects undertaken every year for the past five years. Weed spraying is done annually around all pump stations, regulating stations and water storage tanks for fire mitigation.

Mitigation Action	Wildfire Education and Awareness Programs
Description	Schedule workshops for residents and advertise with flyers, ads, and radio. The workshops would provide education to residents on how to protect themselves, their property and their community from wildfire urban interface. Additional water conservation education is needed.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Wildfire, Drought
Estimated Cost	Less than $10,000
Local Funding	Fire Department Funds
Timeline	Ongoing
Priority	Low
Lead Agency	Fire Chief
Status	This is an ongoing action. The fire chief will be working on a fire-wise program this year.

Removed Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Install Outdoor Warning Sirens
Description	The city will purchase a minimum of 4, and up to 12 outdoor warning sirens to cover the entire city limits. Then the city can install and train personnel on the sirens. The City of Trinidad currently has no outdoor warning sirens.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Avalanche, Dam & Levee Failure, Earthquake, Flood, Hail, Lightning, Severe Wind, Tornado, Wildfire
Status	This action is no longer needed as the city has Reverse 911 to notify the community of emergencies.

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin. The table below outlines who will be responsible for document review, how often it will occur, and how the public will be involved.

Table TRD.8: Plan Maintenance

Positions Responsible for Review	Frequency of Review	Public Involvement
City Manager, Fire Chief, Public Works Director, All Utility Directors, Police Chief	Bi-Annually	Social Media, Website, Council Meeting

Fire District Profile

Hoehne Fire Protection District

Las Animas County
Hazard Mitigation Plan

2022

District Planning Team

Table HFD.1: District Planning Team Members

Name	Title	Fire District
Darren Kolakowski	Fire Chief	Hoehne Fire Protection District

Location and Geography

Hoehne Fire Protection District is located in central Las Animas County and includes the unincorporated community of Hoehne. The fire district covers approximately 900 square miles and is made up primarily of ranch and farmland. Figure FD.1 shows the location of the fire district.

Demographics

See *Section 3: County Profile* for specific demographic information within the county. Approximately 500 individuals are served by the district.

Staffing

The Hoehne Fire Protection District is supervised by a fire chief and an elected board who will oversee the implementation of hazard mitigation projects. The number of staff and type of staff is listed below.

Table HFD.2: Staffing

Number of Staff	Type
20	Volunteer

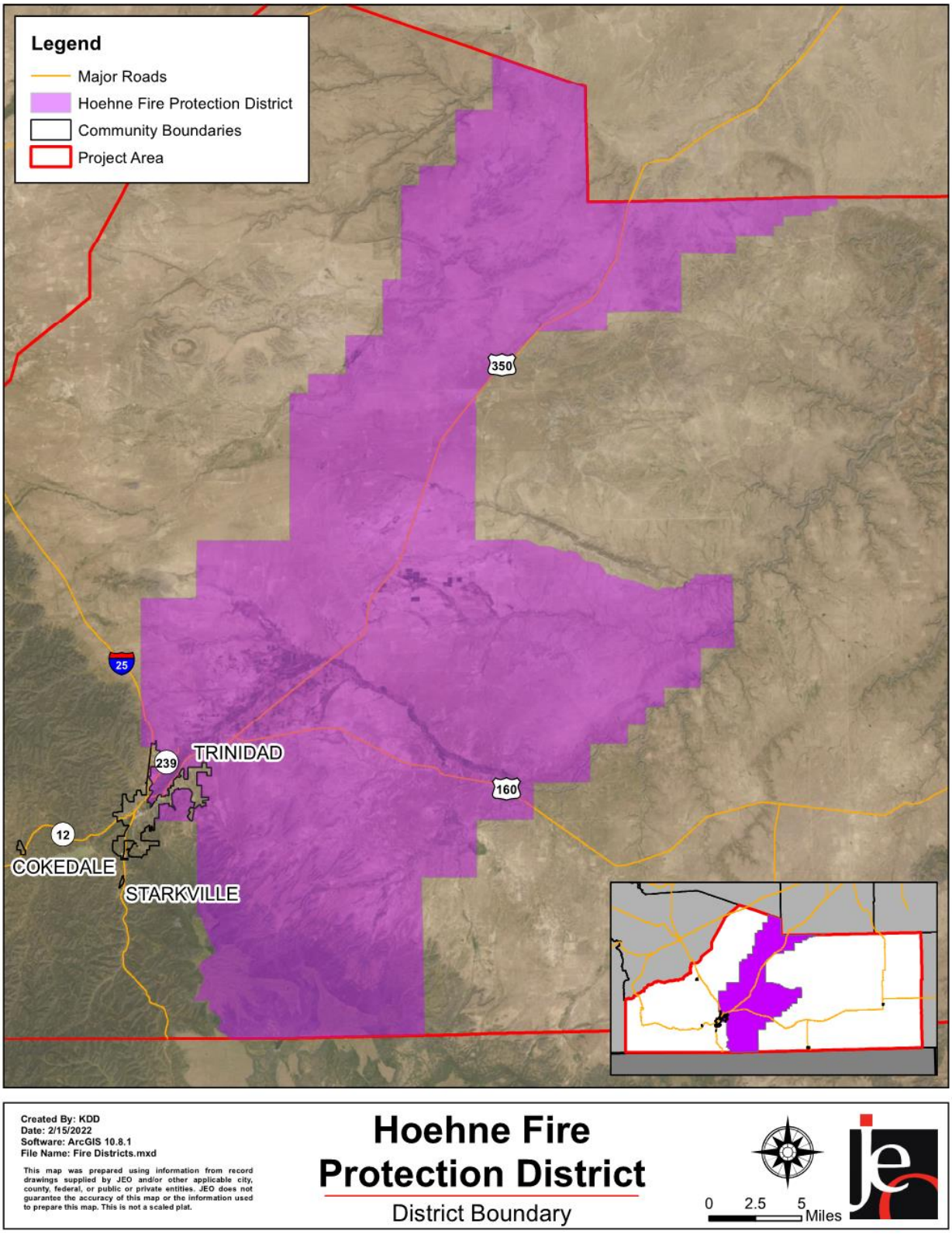
Capability Assessment

Due to the unique structure of fire districts, the typical capability assessment table was not used. The following table summarizes the district's overall resources. In addition, the district has mutual aid agreements in place with all county fire departments and the ambulance district. The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control can also provide resources when needed.

Table HFD.3: Overall Resources

Aerial	Pumper	Tanker	Pumper / Tanker	Grass-Weed Truck	Utility Truck	Rescue Units	Special Teams	Special Equipment
0	1	1	1	4	2	1	1	4

Figure HFD.1: District Boundary



Plan Integration

Hoehne Fire Protection District has standard operating procedures. These standard operating procedures outline the district's response to a variety of different call that could be received. No other planning documents were identified by the district. The district will seek out and evaluate any opportunities to integrate the results of the current hazard mitigation plan into any future planning mechanisms.

Future Development Trends

In the past five years, backup generators were added to each station, 6,000 gallons of potable water storage was added to each station, a repeater tower was added to improve communication, two UTV's were purchased, and a command trailer with drone capabilities was purchased. Over the next five years, there are currently no planned changes or updates to either station. However, the local planning team would like to improve shelter amenities at each station.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Interstate 25, US Highways 160 and 350, and State Highway 239 all travel through the district. The most traveled route is Interstate 25 with an average of 16,000 vehicles daily.[44] Highway 160, Highway 239, and Highway 350 are all routinely closed due to snow in the winter months. Three Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail lines runs through the district. One follows Interstate 25, one follows Highway 350, and one is south of Highway 160. Transportation information is important to hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors, areas more at risk of transportation incidents, and high-risk spill areas. The local planning team indicated that the community of Hoehne, the El Moro Area, and rural homes would be challenging to evacuate due to access and communication issues.

Hazardous Materials

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Colorado Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability, there are three chemical storage sites within the district which house hazardous materials. In addition, the local planning team indicated there are large privately owned propane tanks throughout the district.

Table HFD.4: Chemical Storage Sites

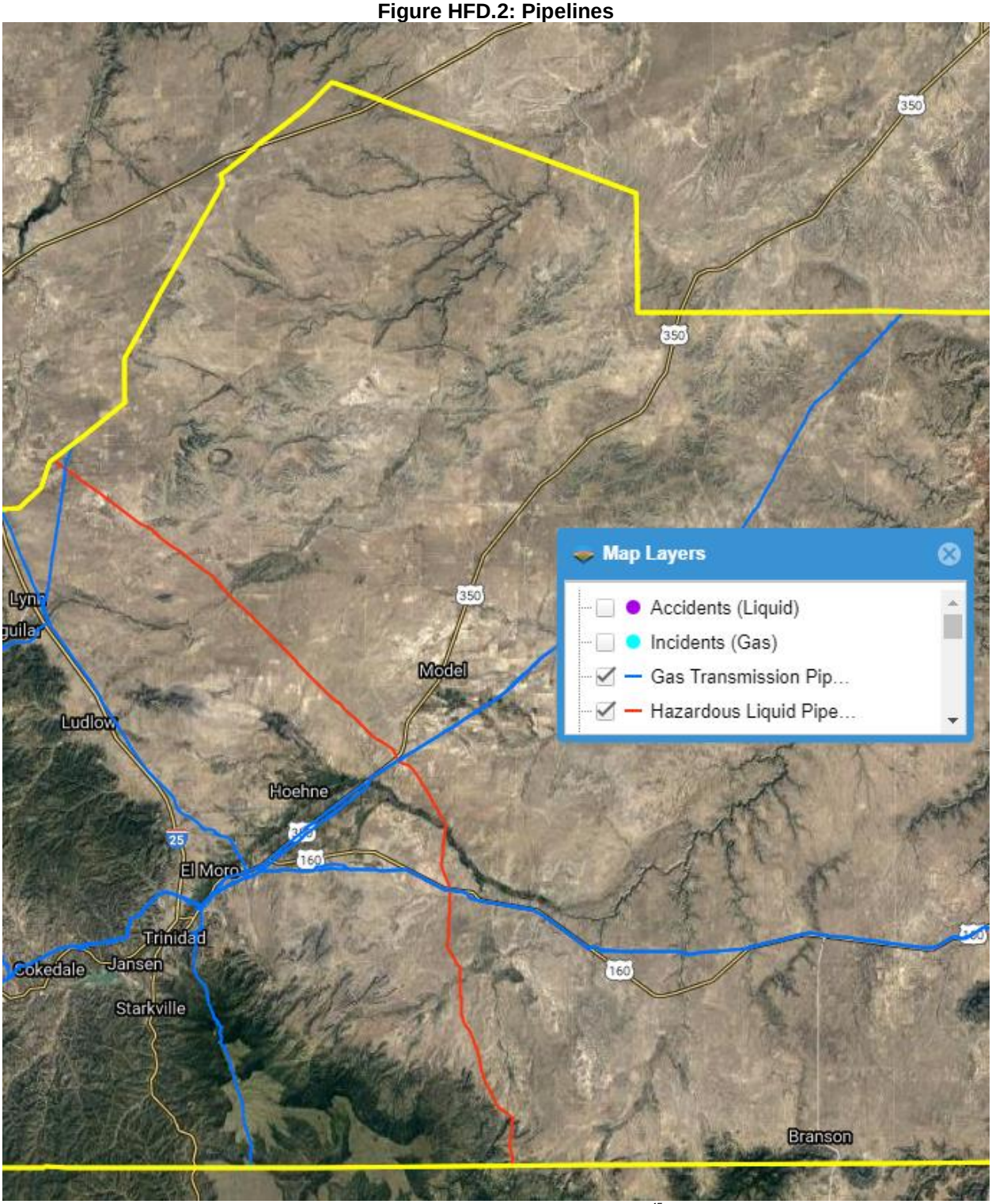
CL Number	Name	Generator (G)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Al's Gas Service, Inc.	-	N
2	Colorado Interstate Gas Company, LLC – Picketwire Blending	-	N
3	Colorado Interstate Gas Company, LLC – Trinidad Compressor Station	-	N

Source: Colorado Division of Environmental Health & Sustainability

Highways 160, 239, and 350 and Interstate 25 all have heavy truck traffic which carry various chemicals. There are several gas transmission pipelines and one hazardous Liquid pipeline that travel through the district and can be seen on the figure below. In the event of a chemical spill, the fire district will likely be the first to respond to the incident. Staff are minimally trained on spill response.

44 Colorado Department of Transportation. 2020. "Traffic Data Explorer." [map]. https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/otis/TrafficData#ui/0/1/0/criteria//71/true/true/.

Figure HFD.2: Pipelines



Source: National Pipeline Mapping System[45]

45 National Pipeline Mapping System. 2022. "Public Viewer." Accessed January 2022. https://pvnpms.phmsa.dot.gov/PublicViewer/.

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. The following table lists those critical facilities identified by the local planning team.

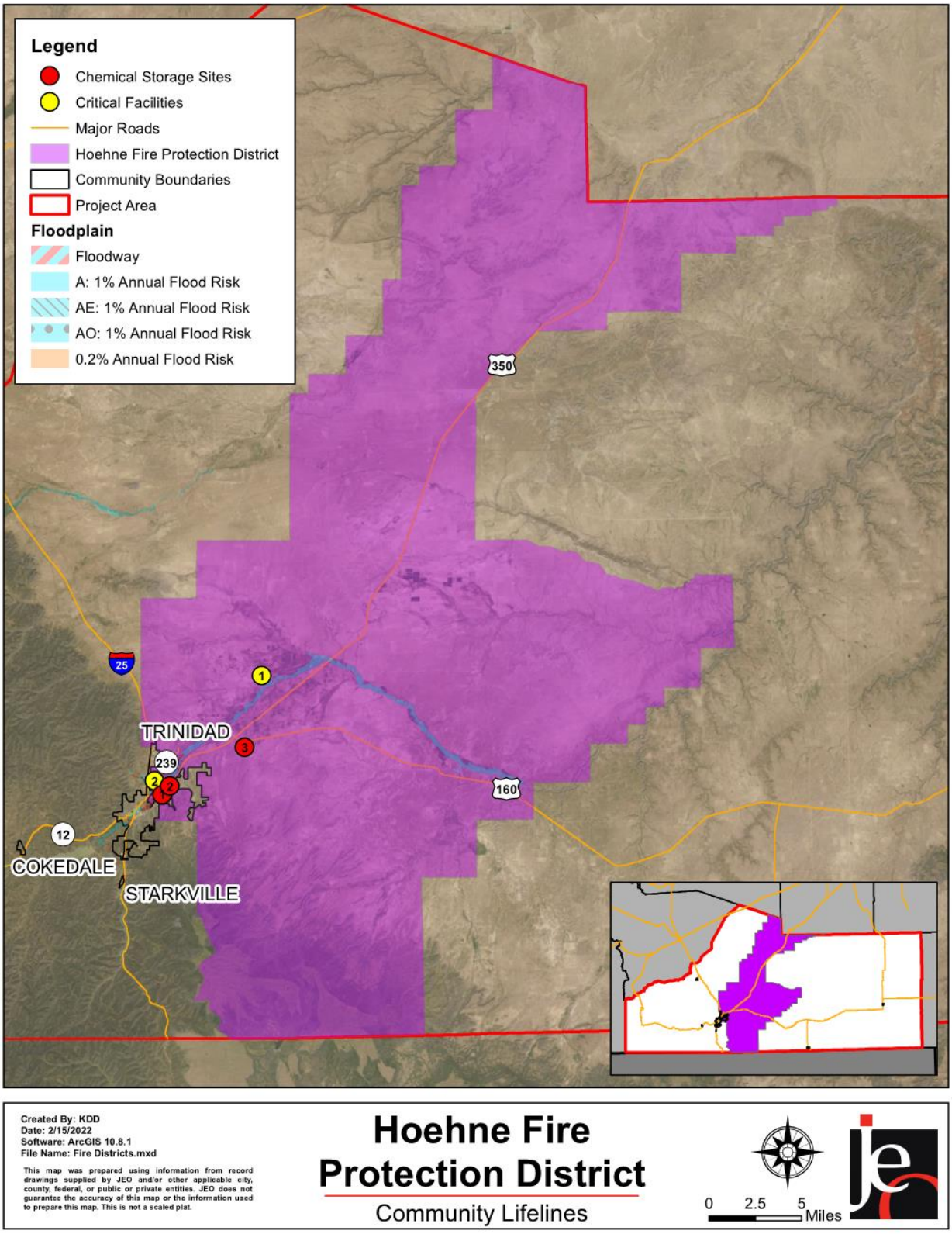
Table HFD.5: Critical Facilities

CL Number	Name	Generator (G) Shelter (S)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Station 1	G	N
2	Station 2	G	N

Critical Infrastructure

Although they may not be listed in the tables above, critical infrastructure can also include power and energy infrastructure, communication infrastructure, water infrastructure, and wastewater infrastructure.

Figure HFD.3: Community Lifelines and Floodplain



Historical Occurrences

See the upfront section for historical hazard events, including the number of events, damage estimates, and any fatalities or injuries.

Hazard Prioritization

The hazards discussed in detail below were either identified in the previous HMP and determined to still be of top concern or were selected by the local planning team from the county list as relevant hazards for the district. The local planning team prioritized the selected hazards based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities. For more information regarding county hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*.

Wildfire / Drought / Lightning

Hoehne Fire Protection District has responded to numerous large wildfires over the past 20 years. Damages to structures has been minimal with the biggest impact being a loss of grazing land. The local planning team identified the Raton Mesa and ranch lands as areas most at risk to fire within the district. Drought and lightning can increase wildfire risks as grazing land dries out and lightning starts fires. The top concern related to wildfire is having enough resources for fire suppression. Response resources include structural fire response, wildland fire response, high and low angle rescue, and vehicle extrication. Water for suppression comes from multiple sources. Each station has an additional 6,000 gallons of water. During past events, hydrants in Trinidad, ponds, lakes, and irrigation ditches have been used. However, drought limits the amount of water in ponds and irrigation ditches. There is no Wildland Urban Interface Code within the district and property owners are not educated on fire risk or defensible space.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Shelter Improvements
Description	Upgrade shelter capabilities at both stations by upgrading or installing bathrooms with showers, cooking facility, and sleeping arrangements (cots, blankets, etc.).
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$50,000
Local Funding	Unsure at this time
Timeline	5+ Years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Fire Chief, Board
Status	Planning Stage

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside district planning documents (e.g., annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin. The fire chief will be responsible for plan review and updates. This will be done bi-annually, and the public will be notified through board meetings.

School District Profile

Kim Reorganized 88 School District

Las Animas County
Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

2022

Local Planning Team

Table K88.1: Kim Reorganized 88 School District Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Paul Blanford	Superintendent	Kim Reorganized 88 School District

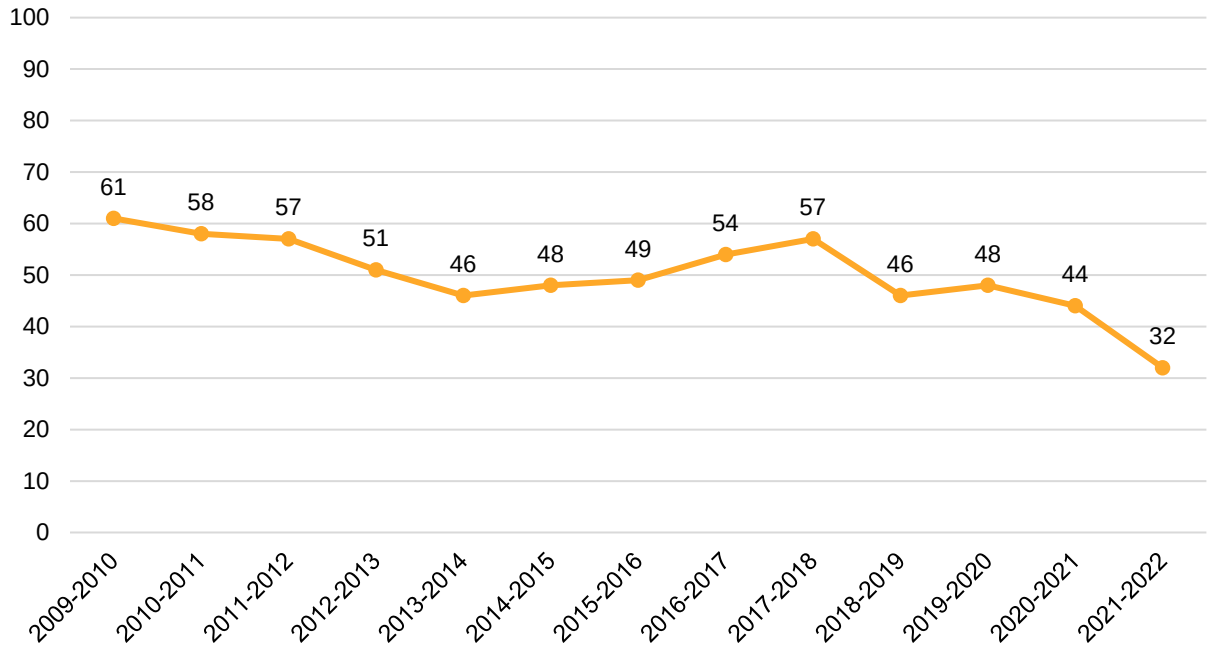
Location

Kim Reorganized 88 School District is located in western Las Animas County and consists of one K-12 building which was built in 2016. The district also owns the old Kim High School building. The school district provides services to students in the Town of Kim and the rural areas surrounding it.

Demographics

The following figure displays the historical student population trend starting with the 2009-10 school year and ending with the 2021-2022 year. It indicates that the student population has been decreasing since 2010. There are currently 32 students enrolled in the district.[46] The local planning team anticipates little change in the student population over the next couple of years. Students are educated on emergency procedures through drills and families are educated through the school newsletter. Drills are performed in coordination with the local fire department and EMS.

Figure K88.1: Student Population 2010-2022



Source: Colorado Department of Education

46 Colorado Department of Education. January 2022. "PK-12 Membership Trend by District." https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/pupilcurrent.

Figure K88.2: Kim Reorganized 88 School District

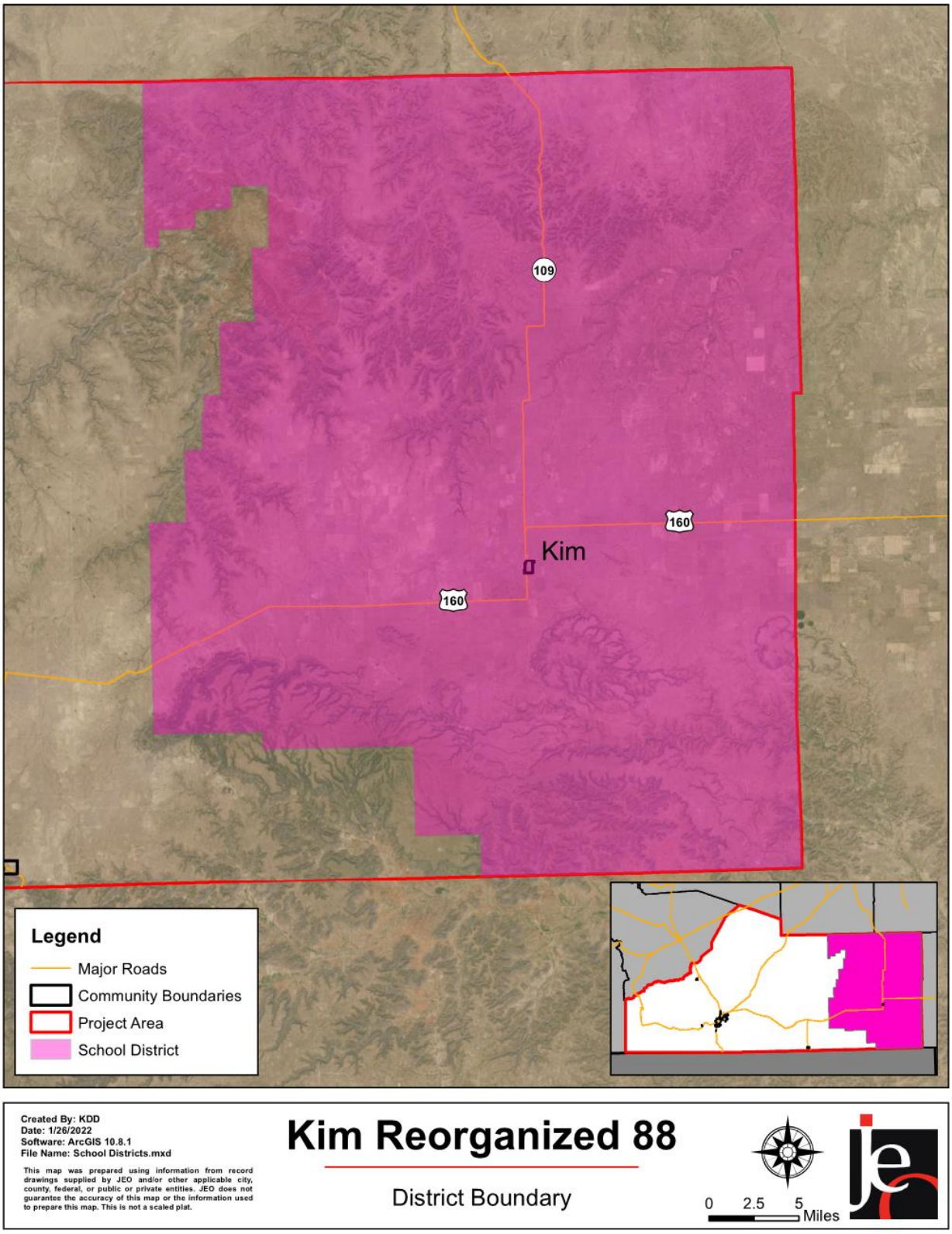
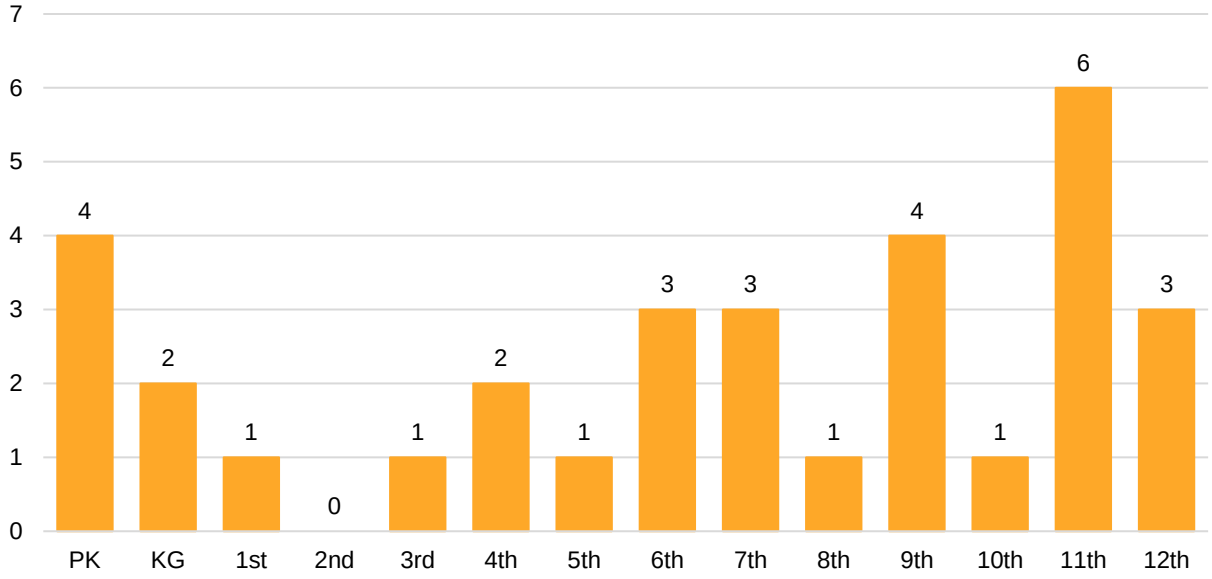


Figure K88.3: Number of Students by Grade, 2021-2022



Source: Colorado Department of Education

The figure above indicates that the largest number of students are in pre-kindergarten, 9th, and 11th grade. The lowest population of students are in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 8th, and 10th grades. Student statistics from the Colorado Department of Education were not available for free/reduced priced meals, Section 504 Handicapped, English Learners, and special education students because of the lower number of students in the district. These particular students may be more vulnerable during a hazardous event than the rest of the student population.

Table K88.2: Student Statistics, 2021-2022

	School District	State of Colorado
Free/Reduced Priced Meals	*	37.2%
Section 504 Handicapped	*	3.26%
English Learners	*	12.4%
Special Education Students	*	11.9%

**Too few students to show data*
Source: Colorado Department of Education[47,48]

Administration and Staff

The school district has a superintendent and one principal. The school board is made up of a five-member panel. Thirteen staff are employed by the district. Staff are trained on emergency procedures through fire drills, tornado drills, and CPR/first aid training.

Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the district's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

47 Colorado Department of Education. January 2022. "2021-22 Instructional Program by District." https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/pupilcurrent.
48 Colorado Department of Education. 2021-22 PK-12 Free and Reduced Lunch Eligibility by District." https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/pupilcurrent.

District funds are limited to maintaining current facilities and system; however, a large portion of funds are not already dedicated to a specific project. Funds have slightly increased over recent years due to temporary federal funds and ESSER I, II, and III.

Table K88.3: Capability Assessment

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Planning Capability	Capital Improvements Plan/Long-Term Budget	No
	Continuity of Operations Plan	No
	Disaster Response Plan	Yes
	Other (if any)	-
Administration & Technical Capability	GIS Capabilities	No
	Civil Engineering	No
	Local staff who can assess community's vulnerability to hazards	No
	Grant Manager	No
	Mutual Aid Agreement	Yes
	Other (if any)	-
Fiscal Capability	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded grants in the past	Yes
	Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes such as mitigation projects	Yes
	Development Impact Fees	No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	No
	Approved bonds in the past	Yes
	Flood Insurance	No
	Other (if any)	-
Education & Outreach Capability	Local school groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access, and functional needs populations, etc. (Ex. Parent groups, hazard mitigation boards, etc.)	No
	Ongoing public education or information program (Ex. Responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education, etc.)	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Other (if any)	-
Drills	Fire	Yes
	Tornado	Yes
	Intruder	No
	Bus evacuation	No
	Evacuation	No
	Other (if any)	-

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources to implement mitigation projects	Limited
Staff/expertise to implement projects	Limited
Public support to implement projects	Unknown
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Moderate

Plan Integration

Kim Reorganized 88 School District has a crisis response plan that provides response protocols for unique situations such as large-scale natural disaster or criminal activities. The local planning team indicated that the plan is out of date and needs to be updated. Future updates will assign specific responsibilities to individuals during an emergency, address shelter in place protocols and locations, identify scenarios that would require an evacuation, show evacuation routes, and identify opportunities for mitigation following an event. The district will seek out and evaluate any opportunities to integrate the results of the current hazard mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms and updates.

Future Development Trends

Over the past five years, there have been no major changes for the school district. In the next five years, the district would like a purchase and install a backup power generator for the school building.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Two major transportation corridors travel through the district: US Highway 160 and Colorado State Highway 109. The most traveled route is US Highway 160 with an average of 280 vehicles daily.[49] No rail lines travel through the district. Transportation information is important to hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the district, as well as areas more at risk of transportation incidents. There are limited evacuation challenges as there are paved roads from all four directions leading into and out of the Town of Kim. Six buses and SUVs are owned by the district with 30 students bussed to and from school each day.

Hazardous Materials

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Colorado Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability, there is one chemical storage site one block southeast of the school which houses hazardous materials. In the event of a chemical spill, the local fire department and emergency response may be the first to respond to the incident.

Table KIM.4: Chemical Storage Sites

CL Number	Name	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Wallace Oil Company Kim Bulk Plant	N

Source: Colorado Division of Environmental Health & Sustainability, 2020

49 Colorado Department of Transportation. 2020. "Traffic Data Explorer." [map]. https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/otis/TrafficData#ui/0/1/0/criteria//71/true/true/.

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as part of this plan update. The following table lists those critical facilities identified by the local planning team.

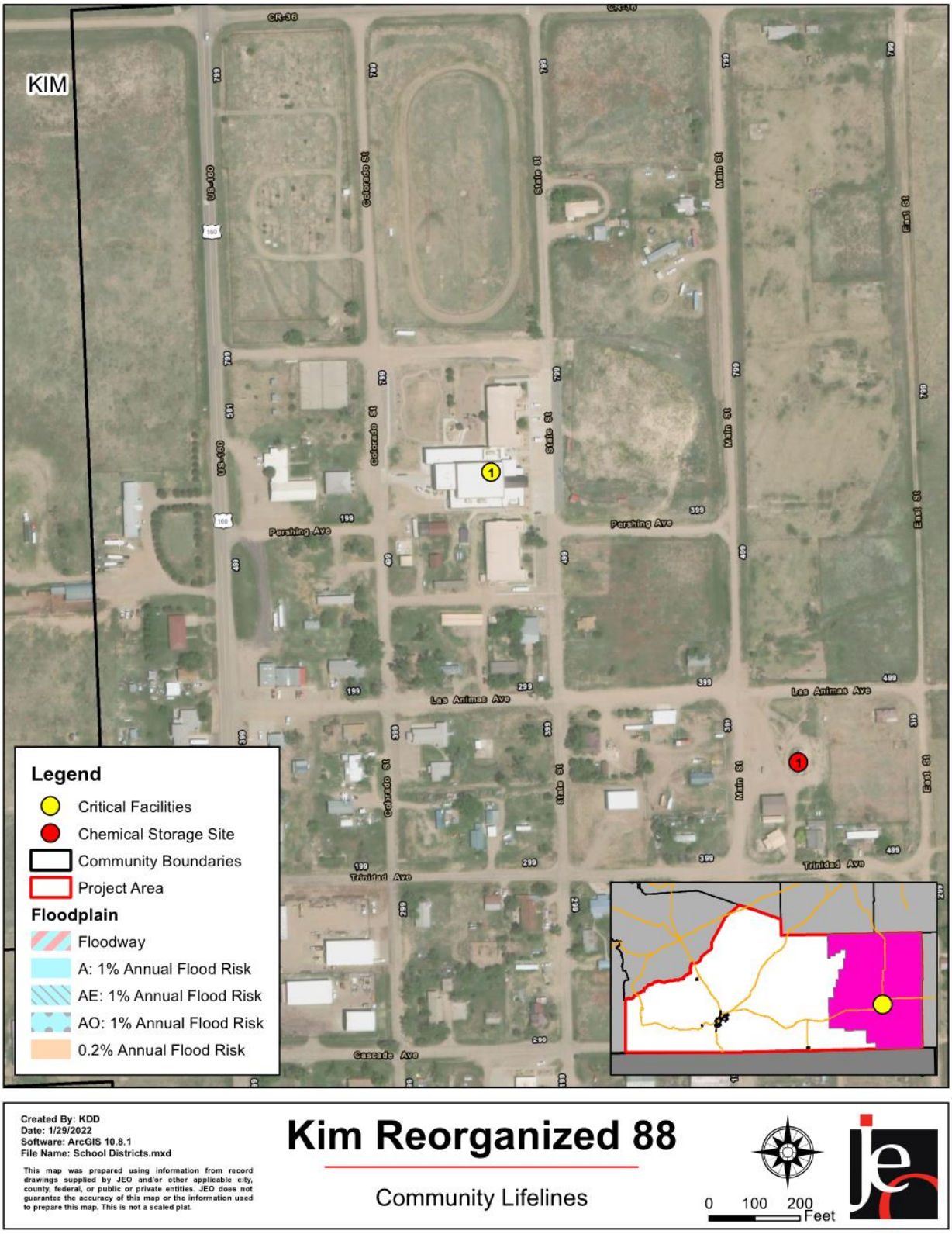
Table K88.5: Critical Facilities

CL Number	Name	Generator (G) Shelter (S)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Kim K-12 Building	S	N

Critical Infrastructure

Although they may not be listed in the tables above, critical infrastructure can also include power and energy infrastructure, communication infrastructure, alert sirens, water infrastructure, and wastewater infrastructure.

Figure K88.4: Community Lifelines and Floodplain



Historical Occurrences

See the upfront section for historical hazard events, including the number of events, damage estimates, and any fatalities or injuries.

Hazard Prioritization

The hazards discussed in detail below were either identified in the previous HMP and determined to still be of top concern or were selected by the local planning team from the county list as relevant hazards for the district. The local planning team prioritized the selected hazards based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities. For more information regarding county hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*.

Drought

The primary concerns for the school district related to drought are increased fire risk and economic loss. Kim Reorganized 88 is located in an entirely rural area with a large portion of the local economy reliant on agriculture and grazing. During times of drought, these sectors can be massively impacted with trickle down affects to the school district and student population. Dry conditions also lead to an increased risk of grass and wildfires. The school district waters grass on school property and would reduce watering in times of drought if needed. This measure has not been enacted due to any past drought conditions.

Hail

Past hail events have caused damage to the school building's roof and HVAC system. Since these events, the roof has been repaired and covers were installed over the HVAC system. To reduce the impacts of hail, all school owned vehicles are parked in roofed buildings/shelters when not in use. In addition, all district owned buildings are covered for hail under the district's insurance policy.

Severe Wind / Tornadoes

On December 15th, 2021, severe winds caused the school to lose power resulting in a loss of heat and frozen pipes. While severe winds can occur on an annual basis, tornadoes have not impacted the school district. Primary concerns related to these hazards are loss of power and damage to the school building. Kim School District is subject to frequent power outages because of windstorms and fluctuations in the power supply. Power lines leading to the school are not buried. The school building does not have a backup generator or a FEMA certified safe room. In the event of a tornado, students and staff are instructed to go to restrooms or gym locker rooms. There is no warning siren located in the town so the school must monitor the radar during severe weather. The school building is a designated shelter for the community.

Wildfire

Wildfire has not impacted the school district in the past, but the risk is still there. Kim is a very small community and is surrounded on all sides by pasture and range land. A grass fire could cause major damages to the school and community if it was unable to be contained. Advanced notification could be an issue if there were high winds causing a fast-moving fire. In the event of a fire, the local fire department would respond. The school building has defensible space around the building, and this is maintained by regular mowing and removal of weeds.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	Provide Backup Generators for Critical Infrastructure
Description	The Kim School District is subject to frequent power outages because of windstorms and/or fluctuations in the power supply. In order to address this issue, the district is working to purchase and install a backup power generator to reduce these issues.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$20,000+
Local Funding	General Budget, Grant
Timeline	1 Year
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Superintendent, School Board
Status	Not Started

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside district planning documents, during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin. The table below outlines who will be responsible for document review, how often it will occur, and how the public will be involved.

Table K88.6: Plan Maintenance

Positions Responsible for Review	Frequency of Review	Public Involvement
Superintendent, Maintenance Director	Bi-Annually	School District Newsletter

School District Profile

Trinidad School District #1

Las Animas County
Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

2022

Local Planning Team

Table TSD.1: Kim Reorganized 88 School District Local Planning Team

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Jeff Roybal	Facility Manager	Trinidad School District #1
Nick Medrano	Resource Director	Trinidad School District #1

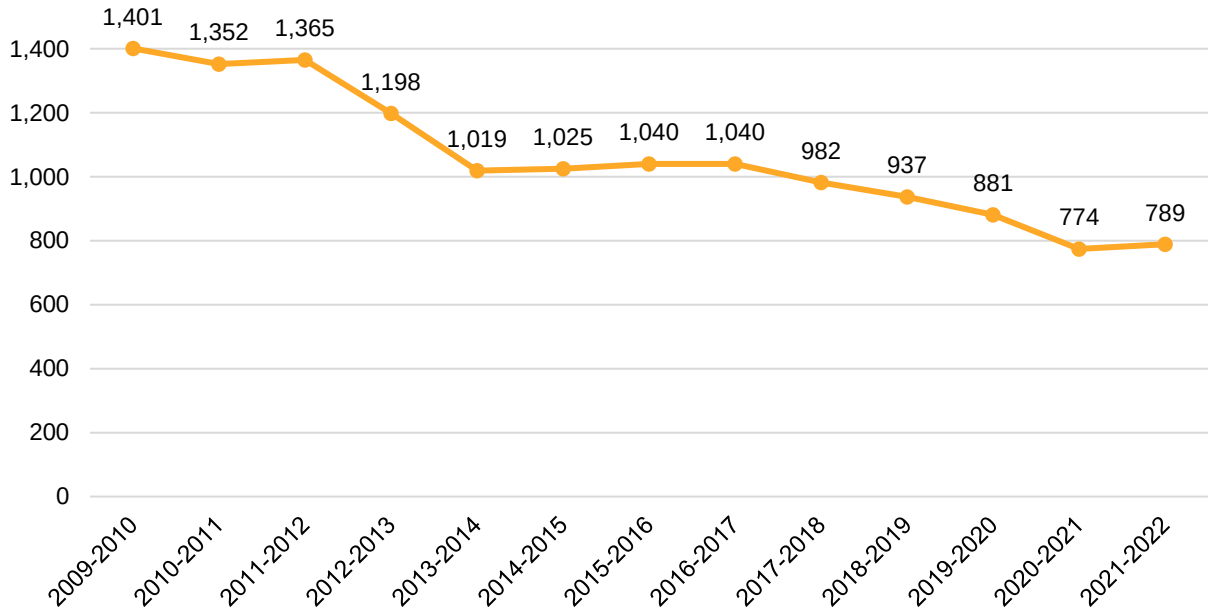
Location

Trinidad School District #1 is located in southeast Las Animas County and consists of four schools: Fishers Peak Elementary, Eckhart Elementary, Trinidad Middle School, and Trinidad High School. The district also owns the Transportation Building and the Trinidad High Auto Shop. The school district provides services to students in the City of Trinidad, Town of Cokedale, Town of Starkville, and the rural areas surrounding them.

Demographics

The following figure displays the historical student population trend starting with the 2009-10 school year and ending with the 2021-2022 year. It indicates that the student population has been decreasing since 2017 but did increase slightly in the last year. There are 789 students enrolled in the district.[50] The local planning team anticipates a continued decrease in the student population over the next several years. English is the only language spoken in the district. Students and families are educated on emergency procedures through drills, the district website, district wide phone calls, and materials that are sent home.

Figure TSD.1: Student Population 2010-2022



Source: Colorado Department of Education

50 Colorado Department of Education. January 2022. "PK-12 Membership Trend by District." https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/pupilcurrent.

Figure TSD.2: Trinidad School District #1 Boundary

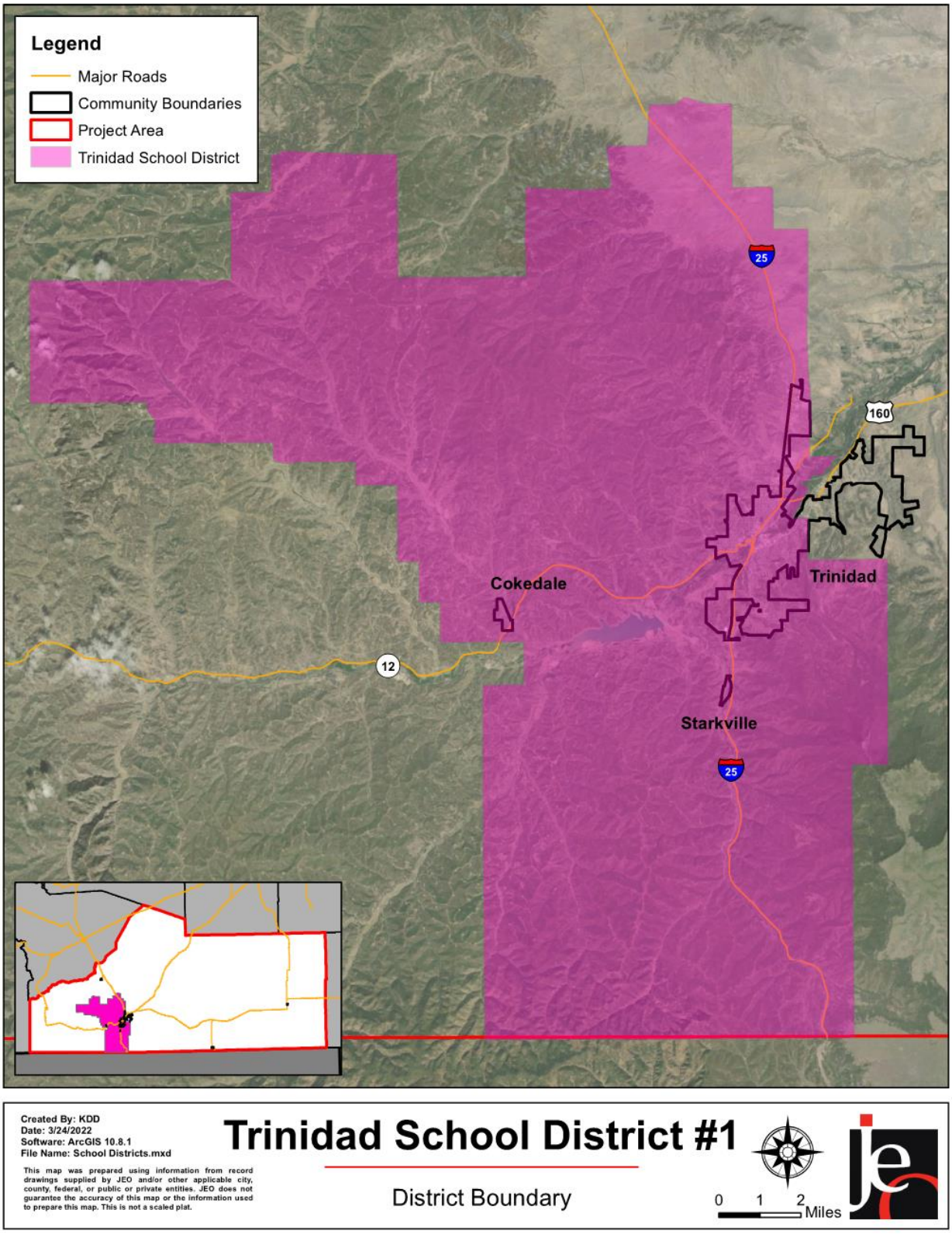
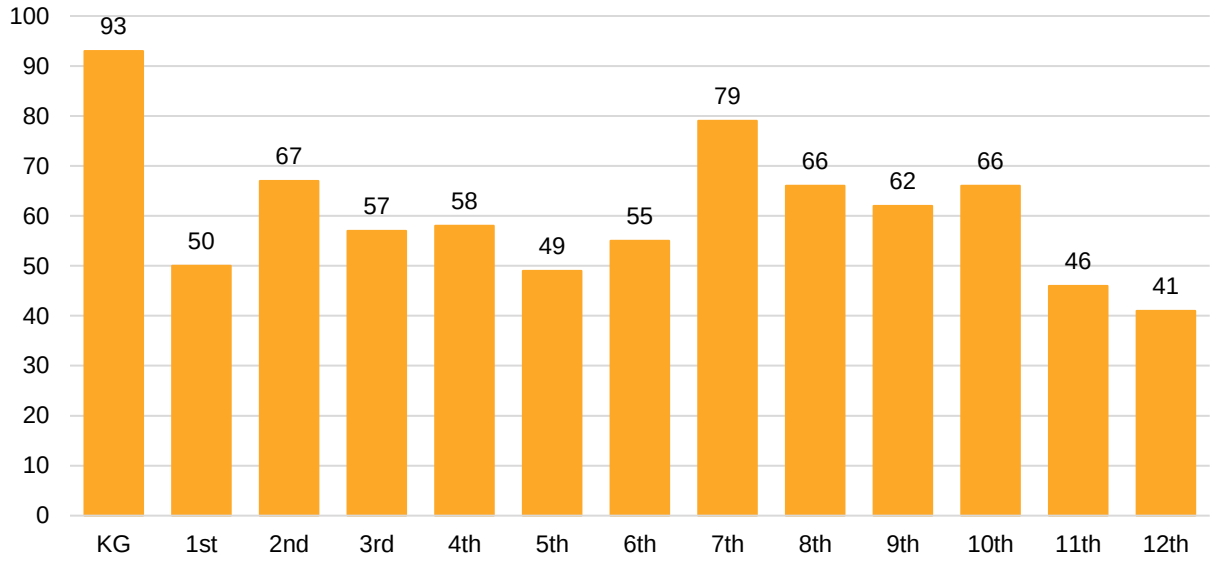


Figure TSD.3: Number of Students by Grade, 2021-2022



Source: Colorado Department of Education

The figure above indicates that the largest number of students are in kindergarten and 7th grade. The lowest population of students are in 11th and 12th grades. According to the Colorado Department of Education, 70.2% of students receive either free or reduced priced meals at school. This is much higher than the state average of 37.2%. Additionally, 1.6% are English Language Learners and 12.2% are special education students. These particular students may be more vulnerable during a hazardous event than the rest of the student population.

Table TSD.2: Student Statistics, 2021-2022

	School District	State of Colorado
Free/Reduced Priced Meals	70.2%	37.2%
Section 504 Handicapped	*	3.26%
English Learners	1.6%	12.4%
Special Education Students	12.2%	11.9%

**Too few students to show data*
Source: Colorado Department of Education[51,52]

Administration and Staff

The school district has a superintendent, three building principals, and two assistant principals. The school board is made up of a five-member panel. Approximately 110 staff are employed by the district. The School Resource Officer trains staff on the Standard Response Protocol and has emergency procedures set in place.

51 Colorado Department of Education. January 2022. "2021-22 Instructional Program by District." https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/pupilcurrent.
52 Colorado Department of Education. 2021-22 PK-12 Free and Reduced Lunch Eligibility by District." https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/pupilcurrent.

Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the district's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects. The Trinidad Fire Department participates with the school in monthly fire drills. The Police Department uses the facilities for police force training exercises when kids are not in session.

District funding is limited to maintaining current facilities and system. For larger capital projects, the district has pursued grant funding to help offset the costs. With the decrease in enrollment over the last few years funding from the State of Colorado has decreased.

Table TSD.3: Capability Assessment

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Planning Capability	Capital Improvements Plan/Long-Term Budget	Yes
	Continuity of Operations Plan	No
	Crisis Response Plan	Yes
	Other (if any)	Strategic Plan
Administration & Technical Capability	GIS Capabilities	No
	Civil Engineering	No
	Local staff who can assess district's vulnerability to hazards	Yes
	Grant Manager	No
	Mutual Aid Agreement	Yes
	Other (if any)	-
Fiscal Capability	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded grants in the past	Yes
	Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes such as mitigation projects	Yes
	Development Impact Fees	No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	Yes
	Approved bonds in the past	Yes
	Flood Insurance	Yes
	Other (if any)	-
Education & Outreach Capability	Local school groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access, and functional needs populations, etc. (Ex. Parent groups, hazard mitigation boards, etc.)	No
	Ongoing public education or information program (Ex. Responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education, etc.)	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Other (if any)	-
Drills	Fire	Yes
	Tornado	No
	Intruder	Yes
	Bus evacuation	Yes
	Evacuation	Yes
	Other (if any)	-

Overall Capability	Limited/Moderate/High
Financial resources to implement mitigation projects	Limited
Staff/expertise to implement projects	Moderate
Public support to implement projects	Moderate
Time to devote to hazard mitigation	Limited

Plan Integration

Trinidad School district has two planning documents that discuss or relate to hazard mitigation. Each plan is listed below along with a short description of how it is integrated with the hazard mitigation plan. The district will seek out and evaluate any opportunities to integrate the results of the current hazard mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms and updates.

Crisis Response Plan

The district's crisis response plan outlines procedures during various natural and manmade hazard events. It assigns specific responsibilities to individuals, addresses shelter in place protocols, and identifies scenarios that would require evacuation and the evacuation routes. This plan is updated and reviewed annually during the summer.

Strategic Plan

The strategic plan for the district has consistent goals and objectives with the hazard mitigation plan including having drills for hazard events each month and having staff participate in emergency response training before each school year. It also contains an analysis of strengths and weaknesses. Strengths include practices and staff support. Weaknesses include attendance and ensuring monthly drills. This plan is reviewed and updated annually during the summer.

Future Development Trends

Over the past five years the Trinidad School District has consolidated down to three campuses due to the drop in enrollment. In 2021 the district finished a $15,000,000 remodel of the middle school campus. In 2022 the high school will undergo a $5,000,000 renovation. Both projects focused on deferred maintenance, HVAC/boiler plant upgrades, LED lighting upgrades, and some cosmetic upgrades.

Community Lifelines

Transportation

Two major transportation corridors travel through the district: Interstate 25, US Highway 160 and State Highway 12. The most traveled route is Interstate 25 with an average of 16,000 vehicles daily.[53] Two Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail lines travel through the district. One follows Interstate 25 and the other follows US Highway 160. Transportation information is important to hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the district, as well as areas more at risk of transportation incidents. There were no identified evacuation challenges as there are several large transportation routes into and out of the city and school buildings.

The district owns 14 buses. There are eight daily bus routes that transport approximately 300 children to and from school. Bus routes of concern include the Starkville Route, Cokedale Route, and Route 21 which goes to Exit 118.

53 Colorado Department of Transportation. 2020. "Traffic Data Explorer." [map]. https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/otis/TrafficData#ui/0/1/0/criteria//71/true/true/.

Hazardous Materials

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Colorado Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability, there are seven chemical storage sites which house hazardous materials in the district. Sites located near school buildings are listed in the table below and mapped. In the event of a chemical spill, the local fire department and emergency response may be the first to respond to the incident. No chemical spills have impacted the school district.

Table TSD.4: Chemical Storage Sites

CL Number	Name	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	AeroCare Holdings, Inc.	Y (1%)
2	Evergreen Natural Resources LLC (Compressor Stations)	N
3	CenturyLink Trinidad Central Office	N

Source: Colorado Division of Environmental Health & Sustainability, 2020

Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities that are vital for disaster response and essential for returning the jurisdiction's functions to normal during and after a disaster per the FEMA Community Lifelines guidance. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as part of this plan update. The following table lists those critical facilities identified by the local planning team.

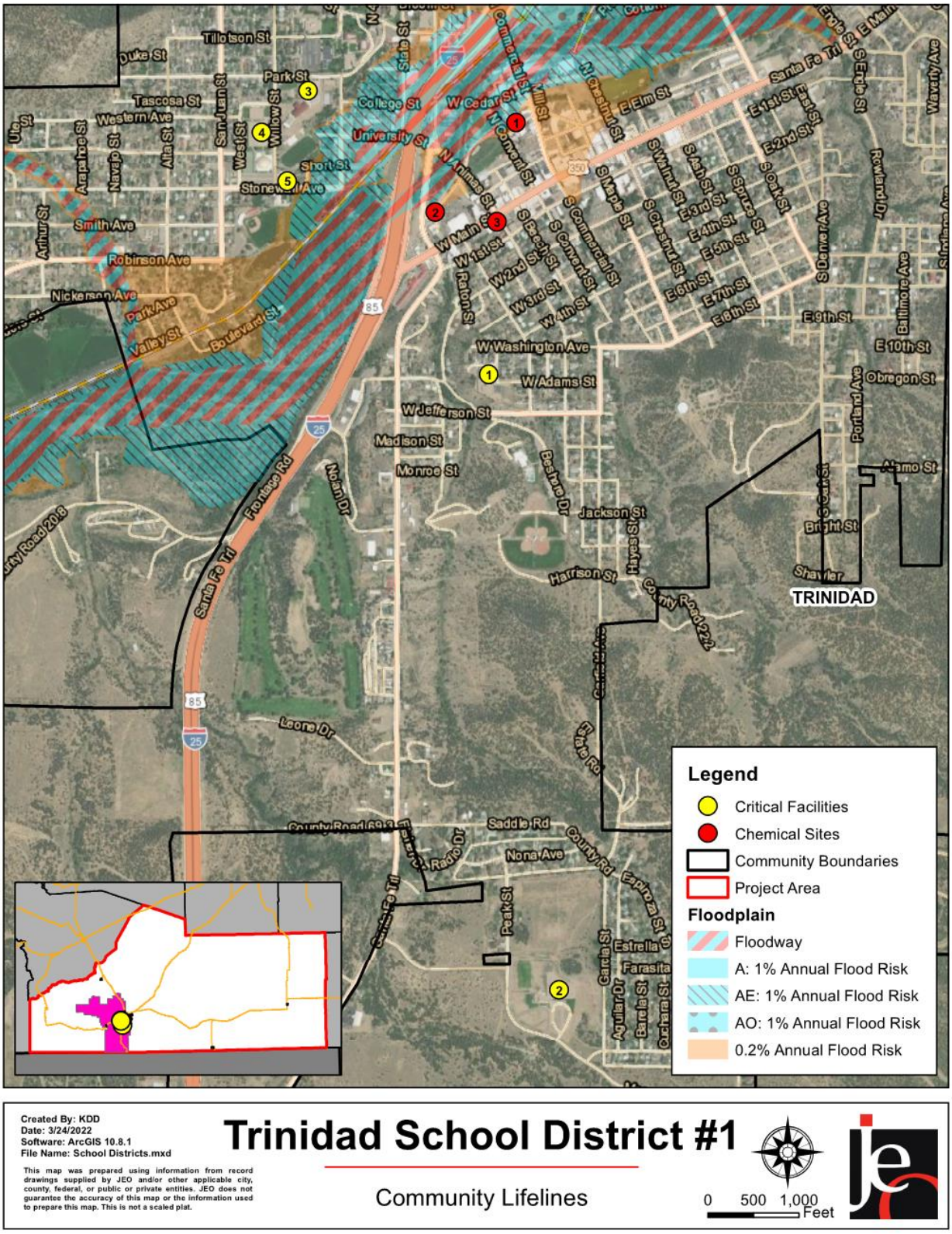
Table TSD.5: Critical Facilities

CL Number	Name	Generator (G) Shelter (S)	Floodplain (Y/N)
1	Eckhart Elementary	-	N
2	Fishers Peak Elementary	-	N
3	Trinidad Middle School	G, S	N
4	Trinidad High School	-	N
5	Transportation Building	-	N

Critical Infrastructure

Although they may not be listed in the tables above, critical infrastructure can also include power and energy infrastructure, communication infrastructure, alert sirens, water infrastructure, and wastewater infrastructure.

Figure TSD.4: Community Lifelines and Floodplain



Historical Occurrences

See the upfront section for historical hazard events, including the number of events, damage estimates, and any fatalities or injuries.

Hazard Prioritization

The hazards discussed in detail below were either identified in the previous HMP and determined to still be of top concern or were selected by the local planning team from the county list as relevant hazards for the district. The local planning team prioritized the selected hazards based on historical hazard occurrences, potential impacts, and the district's capabilities. For more information regarding county hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*.

Hail

In 2016, a large hail event in the Trinidad area caused several thousand dollars in damage to district property. Hail events can cause extreme damage to school building roofs, siding, windows, and vehicles. All school owned buildings and vehicles have insurance in the event of hail. School buses and other vehicles are stored outside and are at an increased risk of damage.

Severe Wind

Primary concerns related to severe wind include building damage and power outages. When the power goes out there is a major concern for campus security as many of the security measures are reliant on power to operate. Past windstorms have caused roof damage, blown over trees, and most often cause power outages. In the event of a power outage the middle school as a backup power generator but the rest of the facilities and buildings do not. During a power outage the school district either has to either cancel school or go for long periods without power.

Winter Storm

In 2006, the school district experienced a snowstorm that had about 36 inches of snow accumulate at one time. This caused school to be cancelled for an extended period and put snow removal staff and equipment at a standstill. The district had to pay to bring in outside help to remove all of the snow. In addition, the heavy snow loads caused roof damage to some of the school facilities. The local planning team indicated that current snow removal equipment and staff are limited and are not sufficient for larger events. In the future the school district would like to have a list of contractors on standby to help remove snow if needed.

Mitigation Strategy

New Mitigation and Strategic Actions

Mitigation Action	List of Snow Removal Contractors
Description	Work with local snow removal companies to be on call in the event that the school needs assistance with snow removal.
Hazard(s) Addressed	Winter Storm
Estimated Cost	Staff Time, Budget
Local Funding	Staff Time, Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Facility Manager, Resource Director, Superintendent
Status	Not Started

Mitigation Action	Provide Backup Generators for Critical Infrastructure
Description	Provide backup power generators for all buildings that do not have backup power. The middle school building is currently the only one that has a backup generator.
Hazard(s) Addressed	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	$40,000+ per Generator
Local Funding	Budget
Timeline	2-5 Years
Priority	Medium
Lead Agency	Superintendent, Building Principal, Facility Manager
Status	Not Started

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside planning documents, during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms. The table below outlines who will be responsible for document review, how often it will occur, and how the public will be involved.

Table TSD.6: Plan Maintenance

Positions Responsible for Review	Frequency of Review	Public Involvement
Maintenance Director	Bi-Annually	School Board Meeting, Social Media