

DCR Flood Hazard Management Program

& the Massachusetts National
Flood Insurance Program



Taunton River flooding 2010
Photo courtesy NWS

Background

- ▶ Connected in statute:
 - ▶ DCR's Office of Water Resources (OWR) is designated in statute as staff to the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission.
 - ▶ Per Executive Order 149 (1978) the WRC is designated as the state coordinating agency for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
 - ▶ This is accomplished by the OWR Flood Hazard Mitigation Program (FHMP), which serves as the State Coordinating Agency for the NFIP under an annual grant agreement with FEMA.





FEMA

Work of the FHMP under FEMA grant: the CAP-SSSE program

- ▶ CAP-SSSE = Community Assistance Program- State Support Services Element
- ▶ Primary responsibilities under the FEMA annual grant
 - ▶ Liaison with 341 MA NFIP communities
 - ▶ Provide technical assistance with implementation of NFIP requirements
 - ▶ Conduct monitoring visits/ check-ups with communities
 - ▶ Coordinate with FEMA flood mapping processes
 - ▶ Provide training and educational materials
 - ▶ Support Community Rating System (CRS) communities
 - ▶ Participate in MEMA's hazard mitigation grants and planning processes
 - ▶ Coordinate with other state and federal agencies on floodplain management

dcr
Massachusetts



Additional work of the FHMP for the Commonwealth

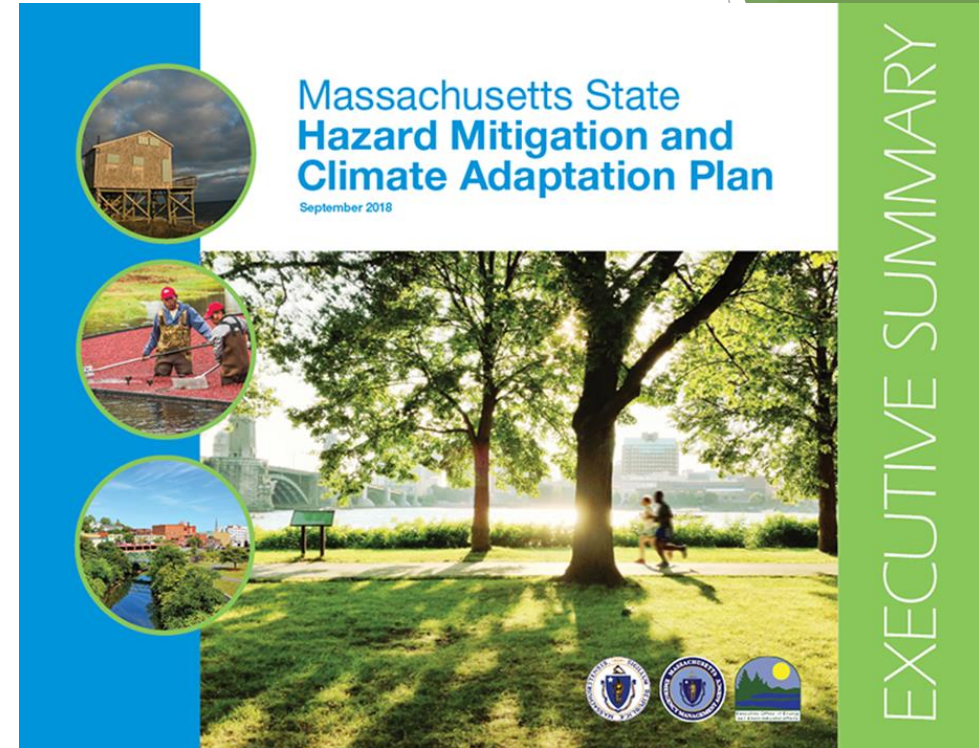
- ▶ Review and comment on MEPA floodplain projects
- ▶ Offer SME testimony during Building Code Appeals Board hearings
- ▶ Participate in the building code iteration process (10th Edition & CAZ)
- ▶ Participate in the state regulatory environment for floodplains



Photo courtesy of Hawthorn Builders

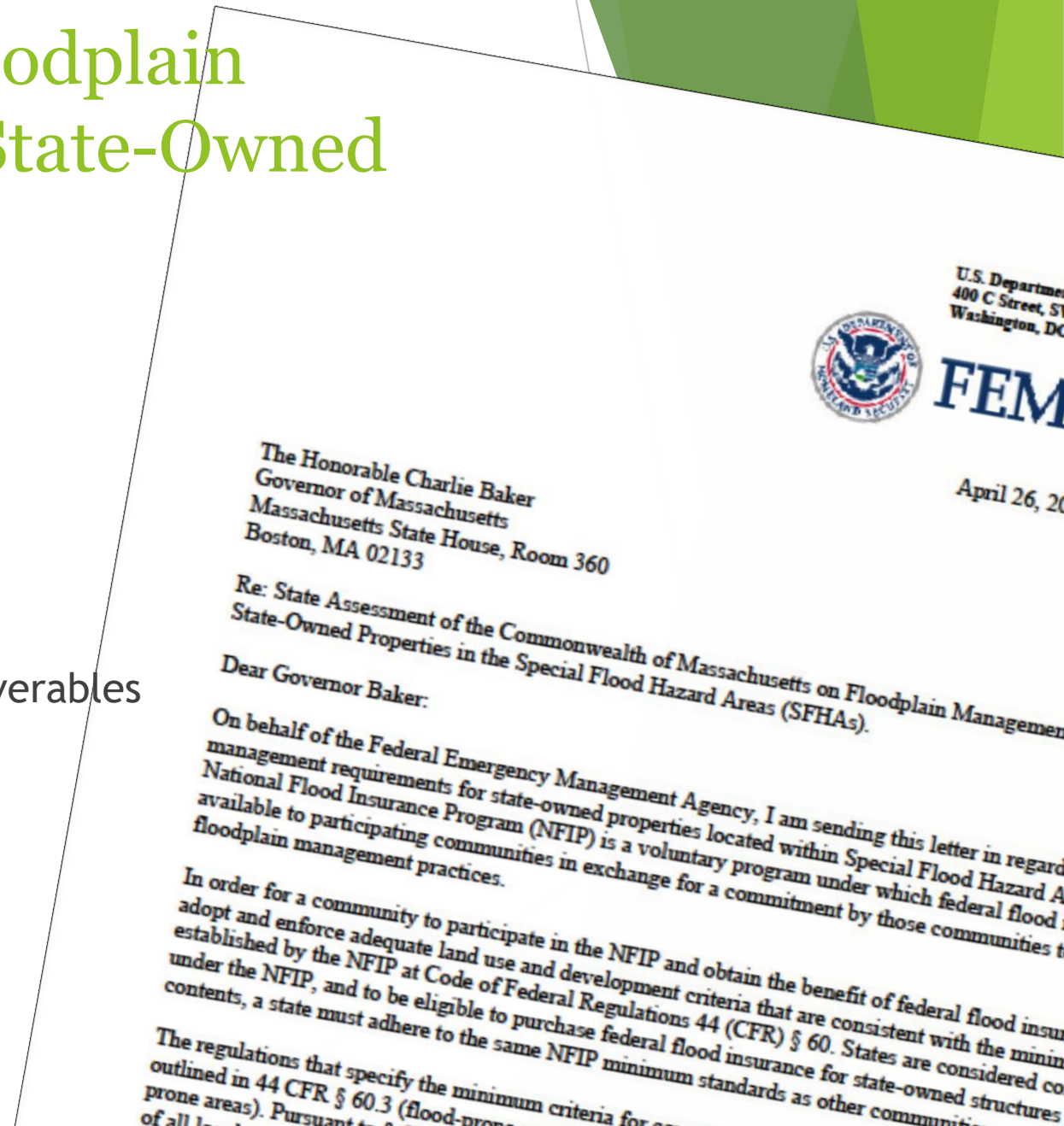
State Hazard Mitigation & Climate Adaptation Plan

- ▶ SHMCAP 2018 plan was the first in the nation to fully incorporate CC into a hazard mitigation plan
- ▶ The Resilient Mass Action Team (RMAT) continues to monitor state climate adaption activities
- ▶ RMAT's Climate Resilient Design Standards Tool
- ▶ Work is proceeding now on the required update to the SHMCAP in 2023



FEMA State Assessment of Floodplain Management Regulations for State-Owned Properties

- ▶ April 26, 2019 Letters sent to Governors
- ▶ MA Governor response on November 15, 2019
- ▶ FEMA Regional response June 14, 2021
- ▶ MA assessment response package in development
- ▶ October 14, 2021 MA requested extension for deliverables
- ▶ Due date June 14, 2023



Potential increase in FEMA funding

- ▶ Approx. \$176,000 federal dollars each year (state matches approx. 6-4)
- ▶ Federal allocation in draft national budget increased by 150%
- ▶ MA is expected to receive an additional \$100K
 - ▶ \$275 federal (75%) and matched by state 25% balance





DCR Flood Hazard Management Program

- ▶ Joy Duperault, CFM, Director/
State NFIP Coordinator
- ▶ Eric Carlson, Floodplain Engineer