*Town of Waterfield*

*123 Main St.*

*Waterfield, MA 22222*

*508-555-0000*

*www.waterfieldma.gov*

May 16, 2022

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency

Hazard Mitigation Unit

Attn: Mark Talbot, State Hazard Mitigation Officer

400 Worcester Road

Framingham, MA 01702

RE: Letter of Intent and Non-Federal Cost Share Commitment for 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMGP Funding)

Dear Mr. Talbot;

Through this letter, the Town of Waterfield accewishes to be considered for 2022 Mitigation Grant funding to update our Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Our current plan was approved on July 3, 2016 and expired on July 2, 2021.

In addition, the Town of Waterfield is committed to providing a non-federal cost share of at least 10%\* of the total cost of the planning project, if awarded. The total budget requested for this project is $24,000. This amount is the sum of $21,600 Federal funding and $2,400 non-federal cost share. The non-federal cost share will be comprised of town cash and staff time. A detailed budget is attached to demonstrate our proposed cost share.

We are committed to making our community more resilient from natural hazards and reducing our overall vulnerability. We will be addressing all of following hazards in our plan; Flood, Dam Failure, Coastal Hazards, Hurricane/ Tropical Storm, Nor’easter, Earthquake, Landslide, Severe Winter Weather, Wildland Fire, Severe Weather (thunder, lightning, high winds), Tornado, Drought, Extreme Temperatures, and Tsunami. We will focus on our hazards of greatest concern which are flooding, severe winter weather, and high winds. In our community, our greatest vulnerabilities are to our floodplain areas and the development in the flood zone, like our DPW garage and town fuel tank as well as a number of business including an office supply store and grocery store. Additionally, we are vulnerable to roof collapses or structural failure during high wind or major snow and ice events.

This fall we will be starting our Municipal Vulnerability Plan sponsored with state funding from EEA with the assistance of the Midfield Regional Planning Commission. In the past two years, the town has been conducting public outreach to businesses and residents through our Know your Zone Education Series to provide information to those living and working in the floodplain. Throughout this project our community has gained support for hazard mitigation, and momentum to continue with resilience activities.

The town of Waterfield is committed to implementing this planning process by utilizing the Waterfield Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), headed up by our Emergency Management Director and Fire Chief, Bill Smith. This existing committee include a number of town department heads, the hospital, several hazardous materials facilities (Tier 2 facilities), and the Ambulance Squad. We would also expand this group to include our neighboring communities of Highland, Lowborough, and Dryfield; the Long River Watershed Collaborative, the Friends of the Long River, Waterfield CERT, OfficeStore, and the Greater Cities Chamber of Commerce. This group will meet every other month during the 24-month planning process in the late afternoons. The meetings will be posted according to open meeting law and notes will be available on the town’s website. The public will be encouraged to attend all of the planning meeting, however two briefings to the Board of Selectmen will be held to reach a broader audience.

We hope that you consider our commitment letter for our Hazard Mitigation Planning Update and include our community in the 2022 application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for funding. We look forward to this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Michael Thomas

Chair, Board of Selectmen

CC: Bill Smith, EMD/Fire Chief

Town Administrator

Waterfield LEPC

Midfield Regional Planning Commission

City of Highland

Town of Lowborough

Town of Dryfield

Greater Cities Chamber of Commerce

File

\* Local & Federal Share percentages vary depending on grant program. Refer to 2015 HMA Guidance and Notice of Funding Opportunities for additional information. The percentages included in this subapplication reflect modified percentages in the passage FY22 Omnibus Appropriations Bill, H.R. 2471, “Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022.

Non-federal Cost Share Budget Example for Waterfield

