

Appendix D: Listening Session Material

[Listening Session Social Media Postings](#)


[Listening Session Slideshow](#)

[Listening Session June 10th Sign-in Sheet](#)



[Listening Session Board of Selectmen June 26th Sign-in Sheet](#)

← → ↻ https://www.westboylston-ma.gov

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Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness
POSTED ON: JUNE 4, 2019 - 9:45AM

Learn more about West Boylston's Climate Resilience

| Attachment | Size |
|---|-----------|
|  west_boylston_listening_session_flyer.pdf | 267.18 KB |

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PUBLIC LISTENING SESSION

West Boylston Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program

Learn more about West Boylston's climate resilience planning under the Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program!

MVP provides support for communities to begin the process of planning for climate resilience and prioritizing adaptation and hazard mitigation actions. Communities that complete the MVP certification program are eligible for follow-up grant funding and other opportunities.

The main listening session will be held at 6:00 PM on June 10, with a brief presentation during the Board of Selectmen's regularly scheduled June 26th meeting.

For more information, please contact the West Boylston Board of Selectmen at (774) 261-4012 or the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission at (508) 459-3339, or email aloew@cmrpc.org

**Monday June 10 at 6:00 PM
Town Hall, 140 Worcester Street
2nd Floor Meeting Room**



This event is funded through a grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.



The Item

West Boylston schedules MVP forums

Posted at 3:01 AM

WEST BOYLSTON - The Town of West Boylston is inviting residents to attend a public forum on Monday, June 10, at 6 p.m., to learn about the Mass.

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program and its progress in West Boylston. The session is in the second floor meeting room of Town Hall, 140 Worcester St.

The MVP Program is a state funded grant opportunity to allow municipalities to plan for climate resiliency to protect residents and infrastructure against changing natural hazards. Once a town has completed the MVP program and become a certified MVP community, it is eligible for additional grant opportunities to focus and solve issues raised in the town's approved plan.

West Boylston has partnered with the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) to successfully complete the program. As part of the program, CMRPC and the town's core team hosted a day-long workshop attended by town officials and other stakeholders to identify the risks and associated action items that they best believe the town is facing now and in the future. These findings will be presented at the listening session and attendees are encouraged to ask questions and provide comments and feedback. A similar presentation will follow on Wednesday, June 26 for the Board of Selectmen. After these meetings, the final MVP report will be open to review ahead of the June 30 deadline for submission to the state.

The findings and listening session will cover the top hazards identified at the workshop as those most likely to occur in West Boylston, the primary topic areas set out by the state, and the accompanying risks and strategies developed by the workshop attendees.

Questions about the program or the event can be directed to Andrew Loew, Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission, at (508) 459-3339.

2018 Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program

Public Listening Session

West Boylston, MA

June 10, 2019

West Boylston Town Hall, 2nd Floor Meeting Room



Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program Overview

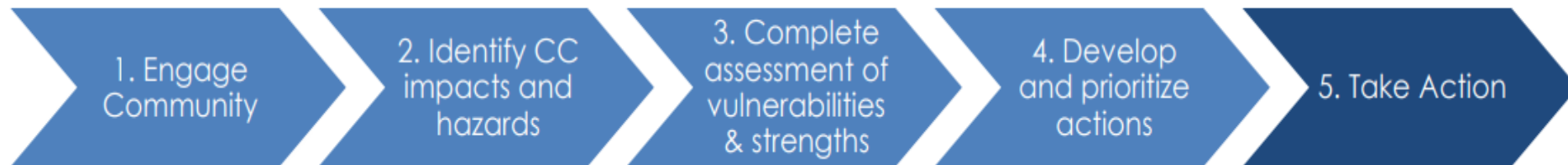
- The MVP grant program provides support for Massachusetts communities to begin the process of planning for and implementing climate resilience
- Communities who complete the MVP planning program become certified as an *MVP Community* and are eligible for MVP action grants and bonus points on some other state grants (MassWorks, etc.)
- Based on the Community Resilience Building framework from the Nature Conservancy and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- 71 communities designated in 1st round; another 82 now underway in 2nd



MVP Planning Program Objectives

- Define extreme weather, natural and climate-related hazards
- Identify existing and future vulnerabilities and strengths
- Develop and prioritize actions for the community and broader stakeholder networks
- Identify opportunities for the community to advance actions to reduce risks and build resilience

State and local partnership to build resiliency to climate change



MVP vs. Hazard Mitigation Planning

- MVP overlaps somewhat with Hazard Mitigation Planning, but MVP is more focused on climate change in the long-term
- West Boylston's Hazard Mitigation Plan was accepted by FEMA in February 2018
- 5-year plan is reviewed and approved by MEMA and FEMA with very specific requirements that make municipalities eligible for mitigation grants, if, and when there is a disaster declaration
- MVP is more of a consensus- and awareness-building exercise than a step-by-step analysis and plan

MVP Process

- Community-driven process led by a project coordinator with a core team of Town officials, staff and volunteers representing central administration, planning and economic development, public works, public health, fire/EMS, police, conservation, senior center, schools and other key stakeholders who care about the future health and resilience of the community.
- West Boylston Core Team met 3 times to guide process (8-10 members)
- CMRPC was selected as the MVP service provider (state-certified team)
- West Boylston MVP workshop held on May 14 with 31 attendees, including local officials, business and non-profit groups, and officials from other towns
 - Invitation-only workshop
 - Listening session today is open to the public



Top Hazards Identified at MVP Workshop

- Flooding
- Winter Storms
- Droughts/Wildfires
- Severe Storms



Primary Topic Areas

- Infrastructure
- Society
- Environment



Environment

Priority Features

- ▶ Impassible Roads in Storms
- ▶ Culverts/Drainage
- ▶ Wildfires
- ▶ Water Quality (brooks, ponds, etc.)

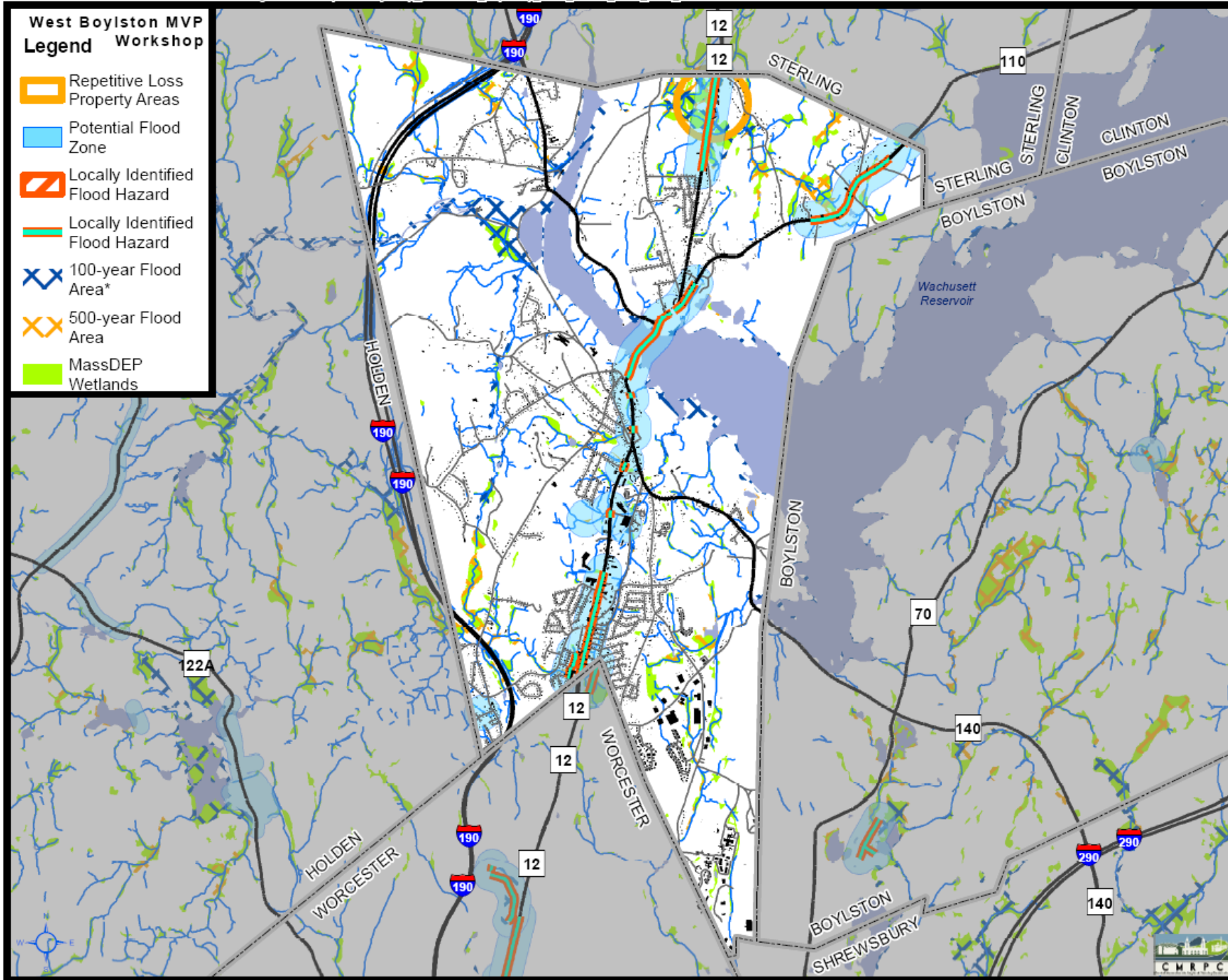
Local Strengths

- ▶ Wooded Areas, Conservation Land
- ▶ Wellhead Protection
- ▶ Wachusett Reservoir
- ▶ Rail Trail

Strategies

- ▶ Communicate throughout the town with a radio system
- ▶ Complete an engineering study and assessment of existing drainage facilities, culverts, and retention ponds and identify required improvements
- ▶ Supply the Fire Department with equipment to better control wildfires and focus on diversifying the area's tree species
- ▶ Continue monitoring and testing wells

Environment



Society

Priority Features

- ▶ Emergency Shelters
- ▶ Lines of Communication
- ▶ Emergency Response Capability
- ▶ Senior Housing, Long Term and Continuing Care Facilities

Local Strengths

- ▶ Municipal Owned Utilities
- ▶ Food Pantry and Meals on Wheels
- ▶ Faith Based, Civil, and Social Organizations
- ▶ Existing emergency shelter

Strategies

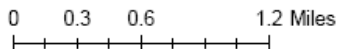
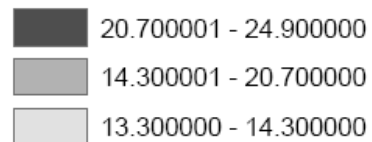
- ▶ Purchase generators and budget maintenance funds so the senior center, elementary school, and town hall can function as emergency shelters
- ▶ Continue to increase and improve communications between emergency services and residents
- ▶ Continue to coordinate logistics for emergency response procedures with emergency services
- ▶ Coordinate and work with agencies such as the MMAP, CMRPHA, and local emergency response groups on efficient evacuation procedures for vulnerable populations

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Workshop: West Boylston

Percent Seniors 65+

Legend

Percent Seniors 65+

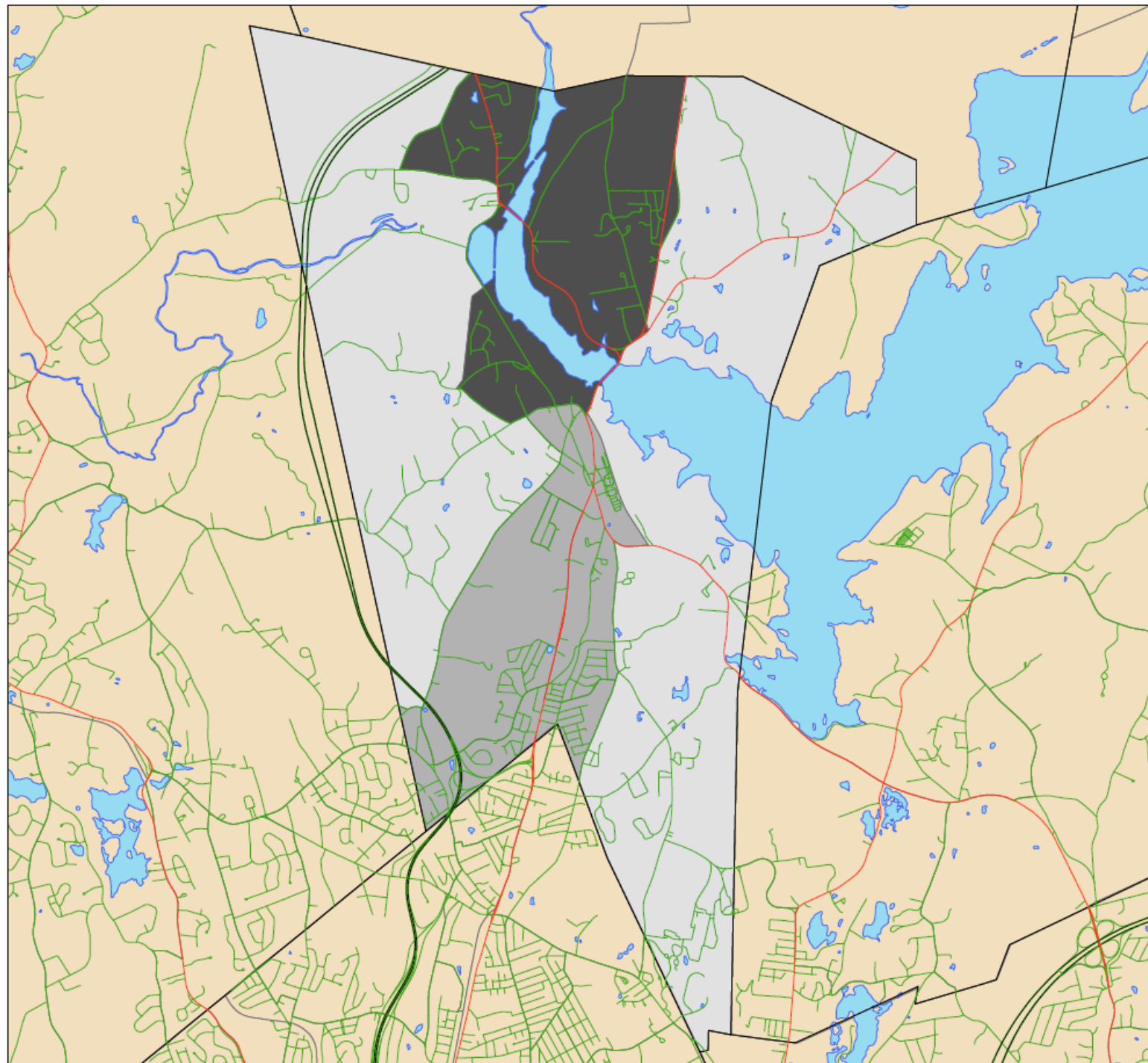


Information depicted on this map is for planning purposes only. This information is not adequate for legal boundary definition, regulatory interpretation, or parcel-level analysis. Use caution interpreting positional accuracy.

Produced by the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission,
1 Mercantile Street, Suite 520, Worcester, MA 01608
Visit us online at - <http://www.cmrpc.org>

R:Pre-Disaster Mitigation/MVP

Date: 5/9/2016



Infrastructure

Priority Features

- ▶ West Boylston Emergency Shelters
- ▶ Public Safety Equipment and Facilities
- ▶ Department of Public Works
- ▶ Senior Center

Local Strengths

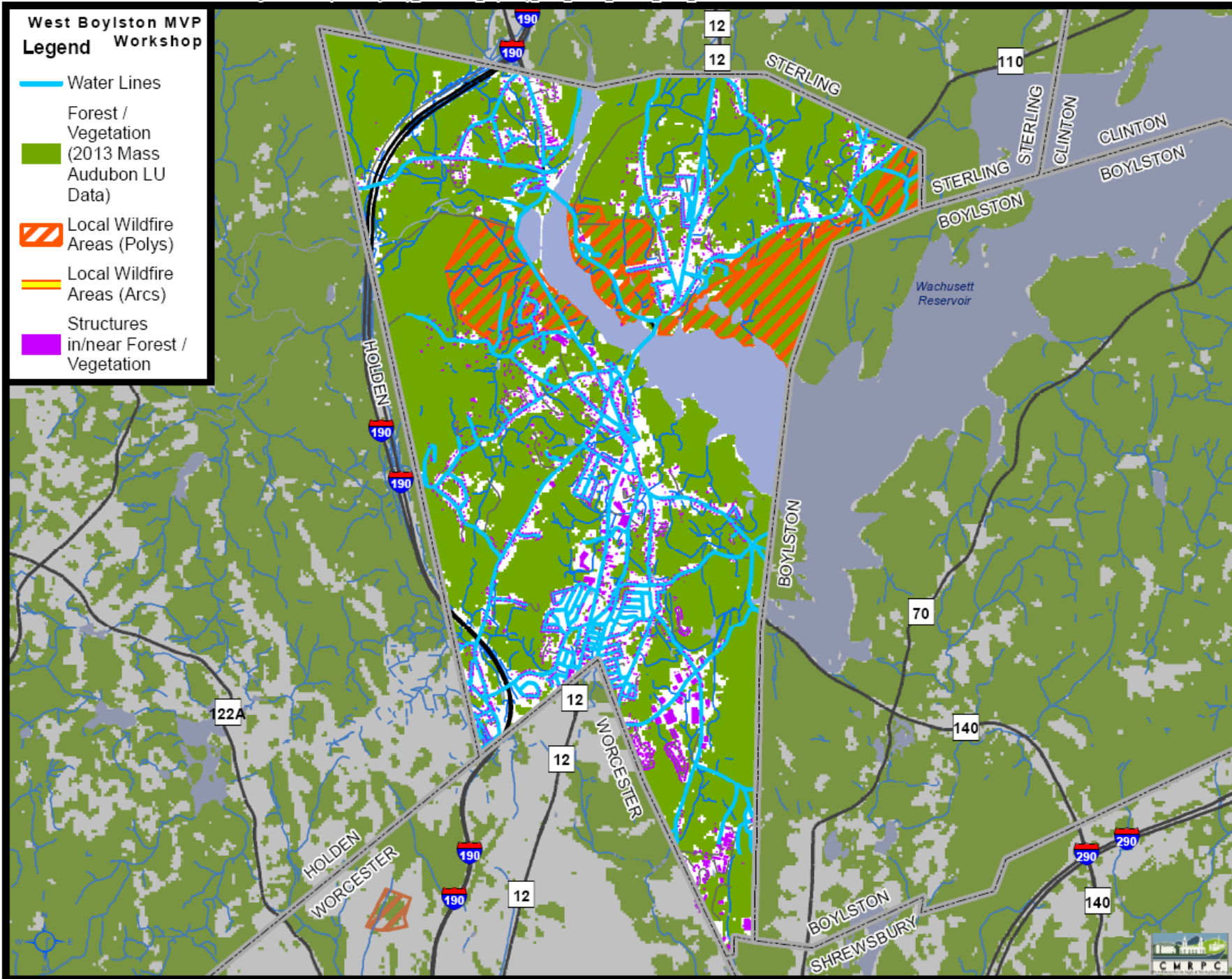
- ▶ Municipal Fuel Tanks
- ▶ Evacuation Routes
- ▶ Municipal Light Plant
- ▶ Tree and Debris Management

Strategies

- ▶ Add backup generators at the Senior Center, Major Edward Elementary School, and the Town Hall
- ▶ Upgrade the Fire Department's facility, train firefighters to prepare and respond to wildfires, and add a communications center to the Police Department's facility
- ▶ Move the town's salt shed and construct a new DPW facility
- ▶ Ensure the shelter facility has access to a walk-in clinic or in town medical facility and coordinate with the WRTA for access to the senior center

Infrastructure

Date: 4/8/2019 Document Path: R:\Pre-Disaster Mitigation\MVP\Maps and Keys\mvp_presentation_maps\mvp_slides_NatHaz_Wildfires_Urban_8x10.mxd



Source: Data provided by the town of West Boylston, CMRPC, Mass Audubon, MassDOT, MassGIS. Information depicted on this map is for planning purposes only.

Next Steps

- Final report submitted to EOEEA by June 30, 2019
 - Draft and final reports will be available on www.cmrpc.org
- West Boylston receives “MVP Community” certification
- Annual report to ensure that resilience is a community priority by incorporating MVP results into local comprehensive planning, grant applications, budgets, capital projects, and policies
- MVP Action Grants expected to be available in late 2019
- More information:

www.mass.gov/municipal-vulnerability-preparedness-mvp-program

www.communityresiliencebuilding.com



Thank You

Contact Us for More Information

- CMRPC
 - Andrew Loew, aloew@cmrpc.org
- West Boylston MVP Core Team
 - Nancy Lucier, nlucier@westboylston-ma.gov



Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Listening Session

Town of West Boylston



Town of WEST
BOYLSTON
MASSACHUSETTS

June 10, 2019

6:00 PM

West Boylston Town Hall
140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, MA



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Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Listening Session

Town of West Boylston



Town of WEST
BOYLSTON
MASSACHUSETTS

June 26, 2019

6:00 PM

West Boylston Town Hall
140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, MA



| NAME | ADDRESS or ORGANIZATION | EMAIL |
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