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TO: Halcott Flood Advisory Committee  
FROM: Milone & MacBroom, Inc.  
RE: Halcott LFA Public Meeting #1  
DATE: July 26, 2019  
MMI #: 5197-16

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A first public meeting for the Halcott Local Flood Analysis (LFA) was held on the evening of July 22, 2019 at the Grange Hall. In attendance were Mark Carabetta and Ethan Ely from Milone and MacBroom (MMI), several members of the Halcott Flood Advisory Committee (FAC), and a number of Halcott residents. A sign-in sheet and the presentation slides are appended.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Review the study area
- Recap the LFA process and intended outcomes
- Discuss flooding history in Halcott
- Collect information about flooding and flood damages

The meeting began with introductions and a presentation by MMI about the LFA process and intended outcomes. During the presentation, MMI discussed what is known about the flood history in Halcott, steps involved in an LFA, and potential flood mitigation strategies.

Through the presentation, community members discussed their thoughts and experiences with flooding. MMI provided a large scale map so that those in attendance could identify areas where flood damage occurred and where bridges and culverts have overtopped or washed out. MMI staff collected information and took detailed notes, which are summarized below.

Flood damages and observations:

- Several stream crossings along Vly Creek, upstream of the Elk Creek bridge, were identified as having overtopped and/or experienced structural failure during Tropical Storm Irene. Some of these culverts are outside the boundary of the hamlet, which was established by NYCDEP and DCSWCD as the limit of the LFA study area.
- During Irene a private bridge on the property of Bill and Elizabeth Bernhardt washed out and has since been replaced. While the property owners were not present for the meeting, other community members stated that the bridge appears to have been replaced in-kind.
- Community members expressed their desire to have any flood mitigation recommendations incorporate stream habitat restoration.
- Upstream of Elk Creek bridge, within the property of Halcott resident Dan Chesire, Vly Creek evulsed during Irene, shifting the primary channel approximately 100'-150' to the east. The evulsion downed numerous large Hemlock trees. Residents expressed concern that these trees may travel downstream and block a stream crossing during the next major flood event.

- A stream crossing over Brownell Creek along Country Road 1 was identified as being frequently overtopped during large storm events. The culvert was outside the bounds of the map provided by MMI.

Reports and other information:

- Halcott residents Paul and Sybil Margolis provided MMI with photos and videos of the flooding during Tropic Storm Irene on a portable drive, which MMI will review.

The following tasks will be performed in moving forward with the LFA:

- The Town of Halcott will provide MMI with list of possible dates in August for the second FAC meeting.
- MMI will perform hydrologic and hydraulic analyses of various flood prone structures identified during the public meeting and kick-off FAC meeting. The capacities of these structures and potential flood mitigation scenarios will be evaluated.