

# COMMUNITY PROFILE

## VILLAGE OF HYANNIS

Upper Loup Natural Resources District  
Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

2019

## Local Planning Team

**Table HYN.1: Hyannis Local Planning Team**

Name	Title	Jurisdiction
Allison Ferguson	Clerk	Village of Hyannis
Mike Rath	Sheriff	Grant County/Village of Hyannis
Lee Ferguson	Board Chairman	Village of Hyannis
Darrell Seidler	Fire Chief	Village of Hyannis

## Location and Geography

The Village of Hyannis is located in central Grant County and covers an area of 0.52 square miles. The Village is surrounded by several lakes including Sears Lake to the west, Frye Lake to the north, and Beem Lake to the east. The Village of Hyannis is the county seat for Grant County.

**Figure HYN.1: Village of Hyannis**



## Transportation

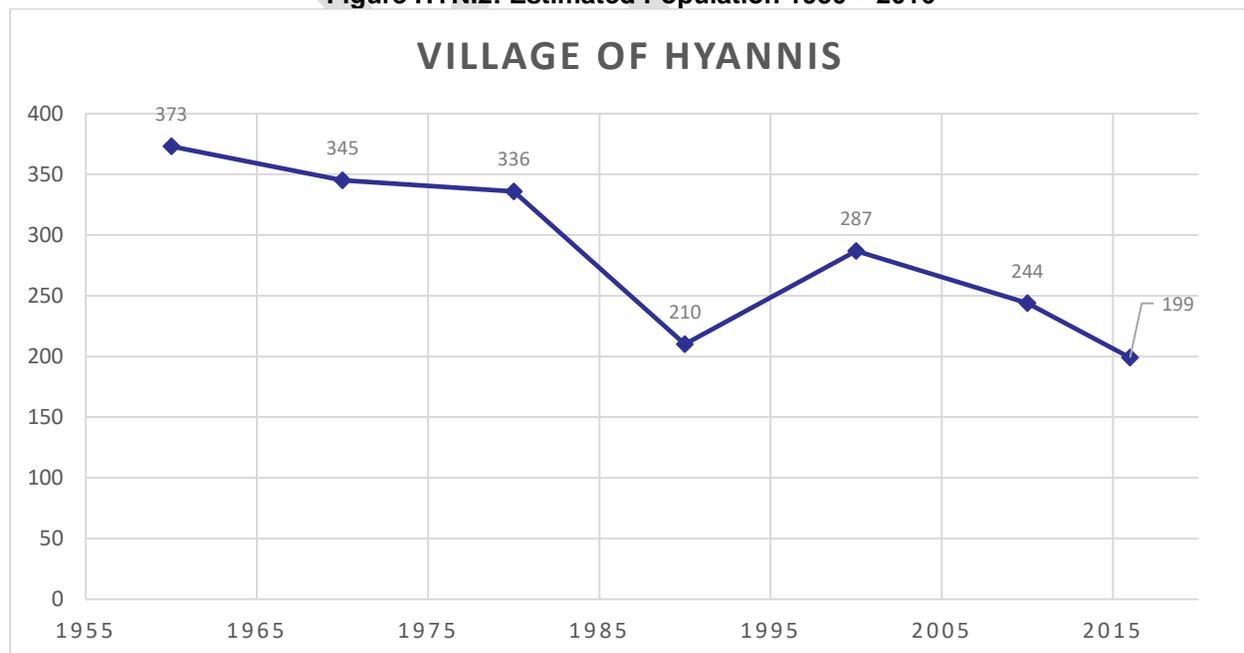
Hyannis’s major transportation corridors include Nebraska Highway 61 which averages 375 vehicles per day, and Nebraska Highway 2 which averages 785 vehicles per day.<sup>i</sup> A Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail line bisects the village and the Grant County Airport is located in the Village. Hazardous materials including fuel, oil, fertilizer, propane, or other flammable materials are regularly transported through the village via highway or rail. In the mid-2000s a coal train derailed and spilled at the crosswalk in town, closing local transportation routes and cutting off access to parts of the Village. The planning team stated that the sandhills area experiences one train derailment per year on average.

The local planning team noted that main streets throughout the village are paved, but alleys and drives are unpaved. The village utilities department is in charge of snow removal. All emergency services and critical facilities are located on the south side of the highway with only one access point to the north side, Highway 61. Transportation information is important to hazard mitigation plans because it suggests possible evacuation corridors in the community, as well as areas more at risk to transportation incidents.

## Demographics

Hyannis’s population declined from about 287 people in 2000 to 199 people in 2016, an average annual decrease of 1.9%. Declining populations make communities more vulnerable to hazards as it leads to more unoccupied or vacant housing units and decreasing tax revenues to pursue mitigation projects. Hyannis’s population accounted for 31% percent of Grant County’s population in 2016. <sup>ii</sup> The local planning team attributed this decline to an aging population, lack of housing, and lack of economic development. A Burlington maintenance shop closed in the early 2010’s which employed a majority of the Village. After closing, no new businesses moved into the Village and many moved out of town for work.

Figure HYN.2: Estimated Population 1950 – 2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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The young, elderly, minorities, and poor may be more vulnerable to certain hazards than other groups. In comparison to the County, Hyannis's population was:

- **Older.** The median age of Hyannis was 58 years old in 2016, compared with the County average of 51 years. Hyannis's population grew older since 2010, when the median age was 50 years old. Hyannis had a smaller proportion of people under 20 years old (10%) than the County (23.0%).<sup>iii</sup>
- **Similarly ethnically diverse.** Since 2010, Hyannis grew more ethnically diverse. In 2010, 3.7% of Hyannis population was Hispanic or Latino. By 2016, about 6.5% of Hyannis' population was Hispanic or Latino. During that time, the Hispanic population in the County grew from 1.4% in 2010 to 3.1% in 2016.<sup>iv</sup>
- **Less likely to be below the federal poverty line.** The poverty rate in Hyannis (4.1% of families living below the federal poverty line) was lower than the County's poverty rate (9.4%) in 2016.<sup>v</sup>

### Employment and Economics

The Village's economic base is a mixture of agriculture, retail, and other service uses. In comparison to Grant County, Hyannis's economy had:

- **Different mix of industries.** Hyannis's major employment sectors, accounting for 10% or more of employment each, were: Agriculture, Retail Trade, and Other Services.<sup>vi</sup>
- **Higher household income.** Hyannis's median household income in 2016 (\$49,792) was about \$4,167 higher than the County (\$45,625).<sup>vii</sup>
- **Fewer long-distance commuters.** About 71% percent of workers in Hyannis commuted for fewer than 15 minutes, compared with about 65% of workers in Grant County. About 25% of workers in Hyannis commute 30 minutes or more to work, compared to about 21% of the County workers.<sup>viii</sup>

### Major Employers

The major employers in the Village of Hyannis include Hyannis Public Schools and Sandhills Oil gas station. Many other residents own and operate ranches in the surrounding areas and others commute to Alliance or Ogallala for work.

### Housing

In comparison to Grant County, Hyannis's housing stock was:

- **More owner-occupied.** About 89.3% of occupied housing units in Hyannis are owner occupied compared with 77.6% of occupied housing in Grant County.<sup>ix</sup>
- **Older.** Hyannis had a larger share of housing built prior to 1970 than the County (75.5% compared to 67.6%).<sup>x</sup>
- **Similar housing type.** About 80.4% of housing in Hyannis was single-family detached, compared with 81.8% of the County's housing. Hyannis has a smaller share of mobile and manufactured housing (14.7%) compared to the County (16.4%).<sup>xi</sup>

Mobile or single wide trailer homes in the Village are dispersed throughout the community, with several located off of Morton St. The local planning team indicated that many homes are traditional style, but due to age and poor maintenance should be demolished and replaced with new housing. Additionally, homes in the Village are being purchased by local families who may not live in them

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year-round, reducing the total available housing stock for people looking to move to the community.

This housing information is relevant to hazard mitigation insofar as the age of housing may indicate which housing units were built prior to state building codes being developed. Further, unoccupied housing may suggest that future development may be less likely to occur. Finally, communities with a substantial number of mobile homes may be more vulnerable to the impacts of high winds, tornadoes, and severe winter storms.

### Future Development Trends

In the past five years there have been no new residential or commercial developments in the Village. The local planning team indicated that there are currently no new developments planned at this time, but several homes throughout the community need to be demolished and replaced. The water tower is expected to be refurbished or replaced in the coming year. According to the US Census Bureau, Hyannis' population is declining. The local planning team attributed this decline to an aging population and a lack of housing and economic opportunities.

### Structural Inventory and Valuation

The planning team requested GIS parcel data from the County Assessor as of December 2018. This data allowed the planning team to analyze the location, number, and value of property improvements 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.

Number of Parcels	Number of Improvements	Total Improvement Value	Number of Improvements in Floodplain	Value of Improvements in Floodplain
252	178	\$5,505,447	0	\$0

### Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources

#### Chemical Storage Fixed Sites

According to the Tier II System reports submitted to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, there are two chemical storage sites in Hyannis that contain hazardous chemicals. The local planning team expressed additional concerns about stored oil for the local gas station, Sandhills Oil. Sandhills Oil stores fuel both at its location on Main Street, but also in 4,000 gallon vaults at a location west of town. Tankers are used to transport additional fuel from the storage location to the gas station in town, prompting concerns about spills from either location or during transport of fuel.

**Table HYN.2: Chemical Storage Fixed Sites**

Facility Name	Address	In Floodplain (Y/N)
<b>NDOT Hyannis Yard</b>	401 E Highway 2	N
<b>Grant County Airport</b>	306 N Bal St	N

Source: Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality<sup>xii</sup>

### Critical Facilities

Each participating jurisdiction identified critical facilities vital for disaster response, providing shelter to the public, and essential for returning the jurisdiction’s functions to normal during and after a disaster. Critical facilities were identified during the original planning process and updated by the local planning team as a part of this plan update. The following table and figure provide a summary of the critical facilities for the jurisdiction.

**Table HYN.3: Critical Facilities**

CF Number	Name	Address	Red Cross Shelter (Y/N)	Generator (Y/N)
1	Community Center	300 S Main St	No	No
2	County Shop	S Cemetery Rd	No	No
3	Gas Station	101 Dellinger Ave	No	No
4	Grant County Airport	N Hwy 61	No	No
5	Grant County Court House	105 Harrison St	No	Yes
6	Grocery Store	105 Main St	No	No
7	Hyannis Fire Station	102 Grant Ave	No	Yes
8	Hyannis Schools	332 E NE-2	Yes	No
9	Lift Station #1	W of Hwy 61 and Hwy 2	No	No
10	Lift Station #2	South Hwy 2	No	No
11	State Shop	NE 61	Yes	No
12	Village Shop	101 S Grant Ave	No	No
13	Water Tower	South of town	No	No
14	Well #1	S Main St	No	No
15	Well #2	E NE-2	No	No

Figure HYN.3: Critical Facilities



- Legend**
- Critical Facilities
  - Community Boundary
  - Major Roads
  - Railroads



**Village of Hyannis**  
Critical Facilities



Credited by: BW  
 Date: 3/5/2019  
 Revised: 3/5/2019  
 Software: ArcGIS 10.4.1  
 File: UpperLoupNHD - Critical Facilities.mxd

This map was prepared using information from record drawings applied by AEG and/or other applicable city, county, federal, or state agencies. The information used to prepare this map is not a scaled plan.

## Historical Occurrences

See the Grant County community profile for historical hazard events.

## Hazard Prioritization

For an in-depth discussion regarding area wide hazards, please see *Section Four: Risk Assessment*. The hazards discussed in detail below were prioritized by the local planning team based on the identification of hazards of greatest concern, hazard history, and the jurisdiction's capabilities.

### Chemical Spills (Transportation)

Chemical transportation of a top concern for the Village of Hyannis due to the high volume of hazardous chemicals transported through the village via highway and rail. A BNSF rail line bisects the Village and semi-trucks regularly transport hazardous materials through the village. Two train derailments have occurred within Hyannis according to the PHMSA which caused \$5,000 in damages between 2000 and 2015. Sandhills Oil has a gas station located in town which supplies fuel. Its fuel storage tanks are located outside of town and are transported in by truck each day. Concerns exist about transporting the fuel, however Sandhills Oil has an Emergency Action Plan with the fire department which is updated annually.

### Grass/Wildfire

Grass/wildfires are a concern for the Village for limited firefighting capacity and impacts on the local economy. There is a need for additional fire hydrants throughout town and repair or replacement of old hydrants, especially along the edges of the village or along the wildland-urban interface (WUI). In 2018-2019, the Department of Health and Human Services determined the Village needs a replacement water tower and infrastructure. The current system is not sufficient to meet local needs as some pipes are currently sized two inches in diameter. The local fire department utilizes the same wells and infrastructure to combat both grass/wildfire and urban fires. There are additional wells located outside of town which can be used in the case of wildfire. Grass/wildfires have burned nearly 20,000 acres of rangeland in the County since 2000.

### Severe Thunderstorms

Severe thunderstorms are a common occurrence in the region and have the potential to cause significant damage to property and agriculture. Severe thunderstorms in 2015 caused roof and street damages across the Village. A lightning strike in 2017 damaged the main well and caused it to be out of service. The backup well located by the high school was utilized, but can not support the entire Village for long periods of town. The main well can be hooked up to a tractor for additional power, but neither well has backup generators currently. Residents without access to shelter and the likelihood of power loss are primary concerns from severe thunderstorms.

### Severe Winter Storms

The Village of Hyannis experiences severe winter storms every year. Concerns from severe winter storms include power loss from downed or damaged power lines, property damage, and agricultural damages. The local planning team indicated no facilities in town have backup generators and no power lines are buried in town. The Village Utilities clears snow within the community and has a snow plow. Severe winter storms in the County have caused over \$35,000 in property damages. Past winter storms have brought between two and six inches of snow to the Village.

## Governance

A community's governance indicates the number of boards or offices that may be available to help implement hazard mitigation actions. Hyannis has a number of offices or departments that may be involved in implementing hazard mitigation initiatives. The Village has a five member board and the following offices.

- Village Clerk
- Fire Department
- Village Engineer
- Water and Sewer Department
- Streets Department
- Housing Board
- Health Board
- County Sherriff (for law enforcement purposes)

## Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a Capability Assessment Survey completed by the jurisdiction and a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and the programs. The survey is used to gather information regarding the jurisdiction's planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; and educational and outreach capability.

**Table HYN.4: Capability Assessment**

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
<i>Planning &amp; Regulatory Capability</i>	Comprehensive Plan	No
	Capital Improvements Plan	No
	Economic Development Plan	No
	Emergency Operational Plan	Yes (County)
	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)	Water Emergency Plan
	<i>Administrative &amp; Technical Capability</i>	Planning Commission
Floodplain Administration		No
GIS Capabilities		Yes (County)
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)		
<i>Fiscal Capability</i>	Capital Improvement Plan/ 1 & 6 Year plan	No
	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded a grant in the past	Yes

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	Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes such as Mitigation Projects	Yes ( <i>local limit</i> )
	Gas/Electric Service Fees	No
	Storm Water Service Fees	No
	Water/Sewer Service Fees	Yes ( <i>obligated for upkeep and Maintenance</i> )
	Development Impact Fees	No
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	No
	Other (if any)	
<i>Education &amp; Outreach Capability</i>	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
Does your community have the financial resources need to implement mitigation projects?	Limited
Does your community have the staff/expertise to implement projects?	Moderate
Does your community have the community support to implement projects?	High
Does your community staff have the time to devote to hazard mitigation?	Moderate

### Plan Integration

The Village of Hyannis has an annex to the Grant County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). The County LEOP identifies roles and responsibilities during an emergency, hazards of top concern, and sheltering locations. The Village's Water Emergency Plan includes water conservation measures and actions to be taken during periods of drought.

The local Planning Team indicated the annual municipal budget is limited in its capacity to pursue new projects as the majority is already dedicated to operation and maintenance costs. With a relatively low tax base and declining population, there are challenges to identify project funding.

No other examples of plan integration were identified. There are currently no plans to further integrate existing or future planning mechanisms.

## Mitigation Strategy

### Completed Actions:

MITIGATION ACTION	CIVIL SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS
Description	Improve emergency rescue and response equipment and facilities by providing additional or updating existing emergency response equipment. The village needs a new vehicle with appropriate and updated radio systems.
Hazard(s)	All Hazards
Status	The village utilities pickup was replaced in 2016 and fulfills the needs of the village. The purchase was made from the general operating budget. As many employees and residents carry cellphones, additional radios are no longer needed.

### New and Ongoing Actions:

MITIGATION ACTION	BACKUP GENERATORS
Description	Provide a portable or stationary source of backup power to redundant power supplies, municipal wells, lift stations, and other critical facilities and shelters.
Hazard(s)	Tornadoes, high winds, severe thunderstorms, severe winter storms
Estimated Cost	\$15,000-\$30,000
Funding	HMGP, PDM, General Funds
Location	Hyannis Schools – used as shelter location
Timeline	2-5 years
Priority	Low
Lead Agency	Fire Department
Status	This project has not yet started.

MITIGATION ACTION	REPLACE WATER TOWER AND IMPROVE WATER SYSTEM
Description	Produce a map of the municipal water supply system. Replace water tower and upsize water mains.
Hazard(s)	All Hazards
Estimated Cost	\$2,500,000
Funding	HMGP, PDM, DHHS, CBDG, other grant programs, General Funds
Timeline	2-5 years
Priority	High
Lead Agency	Water Department, Village Board
Status	Some mapping was done, however missing mapped locations of abandoned lines which prohibits finding shutoffs of community resident curb stops. Additional mapping is planned in order to hook up to water tower. Community must replace water tower and upsize water mains to 6" to improve fire fighting capacity.

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MITIGATION ACTION		RESCUE/SNOW REMOVAL RESOURCES
Description	Improve capabilities to rescue those stranded in blizzards and increase the capacity to which snow can be removed from roadways after an event	
Hazard(s)	Severe Winter Storms	
Estimated Cost	Snow Blower: \$800+ Truck mounted plow: \$2,000+ ATV Plow: \$1,500+	
Funding	General Funds	
Timeline	2-5 years	
Priority	Low	
Lead Agency	Streets Department	
Status	This is a new project.	

MITIGATION ACTION		TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS
Description	Install a second railroad crossing within the village.	
Hazard(s)	Chemical Transportation, All Hazards	
Estimated Cost	\$75,000+	
Funding	BNSF Railroad, General Funds	
Location	Along Main Street	
Timeline	5+ years	
Priority	Low	
Lead Agency	Streets Department, NDOT, BNSF	
Status	The Village is looking into potential cost for this project. Coordination with BNSF and NDOT is needed to determine feasibility. A secondary crossing between the north and southern parts of the Village is needed for emergency service access.	

MITIGATION ACTION		WARNING SYSTEMS – INTERNET SIGNALS
Description	Purchase new/updated computers and routers for internet signal strength to improve weather monitoring capabilities within the village.	
Hazard(s)	All Hazards	
Estimated Cost	\$5,000+	
Funding	HMGP, PDM, General Funds	
Location	Village	
Timeline	2-5 years	
Priority	Low	
Lead Agency	Emergency Management	
Status	New computers are located in the County Courthouse which is used as the Village EOC. The majority of employees and residents receive alerts on their cellphones. While CodeRed alerts were utilized after the last plan update, the local planning team found the service inefficient as alerts came after weather events had occurred and discontinued the service. Efforts should be taken to connect to the communication tower for Keith County EMA to sound alert sirens remotely.	

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MITIGATION ACTION		WARNING SYSTEMS – RADIO SIGNALS	
Description	Increase coverage of AM/FM radio signals in Hyannis.		
Hazard(s)	All Hazards		
Estimated Cost	Unknown		
Funding	HMGP, PDM, General Funds		
Location	Village		
Timeline	5+ years		
Priority	Low		
Lead Agency	Emergency Management, Village Board		
Status	This project has not yet been started. There are no AM signals in town. The Village uses satellite radios when needed. Regular weather radios do not work in town due to a lack of signal.		

### Removed Actions:

MITIGATION ACTION		WATER SYTEM REPAIRS	
Description	During a recent train derailment there was damage to a water main riser. The village will repair/replace the damaged riser.		
Hazard(s)	Drought, Grass/Wildfire		
Reason for Removal	The Village determined they do not need to replace the riser.		

<sup>i</sup> Nebraska Department of Roads. "Traffic Flow Map of the State Highways: State of Nebraska." [map]. Scale 1"= 20 miles. State of Nebraska: Department of Roads, 2015. <http://www.roads.nebraska.gov/media/2510/2014-statewide-traffic-flow-map.pdf>

<sup>ii</sup> United States Census Bureau. "2016 American Fact Finder: S0101: Age and Sex." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

<sup>iii</sup> United States Census Bureau. "2016 American Fact Finder: S0101: Age and Sex." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

<sup>iv</sup> United States Census Bureau. "2016 American Fact Finder: DP05: ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

<sup>v</sup> United States Census Bureau. "2016 American Fact Finder: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

<sup>vi</sup> United States Census Bureau. "2016 American Fact Finder: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

<sup>vii</sup> United States Census Bureau. "2016 American Fact Finder: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

<sup>viii</sup> United States Census Bureau. "2016 American Fact Finder: S0802: Means of Transportation to Work by Selected Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

<sup>ix</sup> United States Census Bureau. "2016 American Fact Finder: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

<sup>x</sup> United States Census Bureau. "2016 American Fact Finder: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

<sup>xi</sup> United States Census Bureau. "2016 American Fact Finder: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

<sup>xii</sup> Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. "Search Tier II Data." Accessed November 2018. <https://deq-iis.ne.gov/tier2/search.faces>.