

Town of Silt Community Profile

Planning Team

Name	Title
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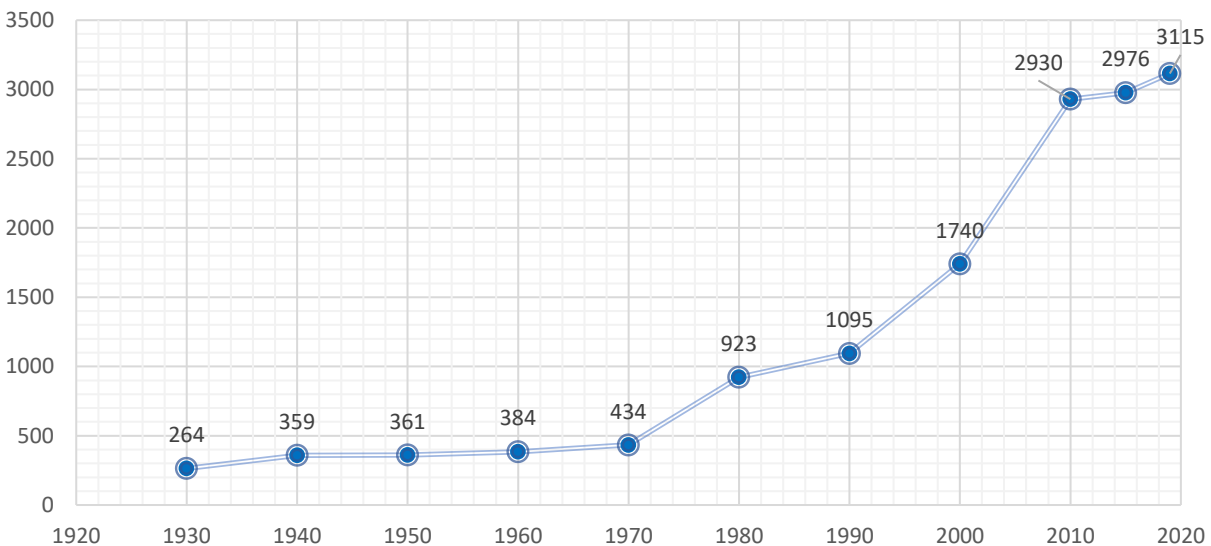
Location and Geography

The Town of Silt is a Home Rule Municipality located in Garfield County. The land area covers approximately 2.8 square miles.

Population and Demographics

Silt’s population grew from about 2,976 in 2015 to an estimated 3,115 in 2019, an increase of 139 people at an average annual growth rate of 1.2 percent. Silt’s population accounted for 5 percent of the County’s population in 2015 and 2019. The local planning team noted the community is seeing a pretty steady growth as residents continue to work from home since 2019 and are emigrating out of more metro areas. Available homes in Silt are more affordable than surrounding areas and the town has strong telecommunication resources.

Figure SLT.1: Population 1930 - 2015



Source: U.S. Census Bureau¹

The most vulnerable components of the population in a disaster are women, children, minorities, and the poor. In comparison to the County, Silt’s population was:

¹ United States Census Bureau. “2019 American Fact Finder: S0101: Age and Sex.” [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov>.

- **Younger.** The median age of Silt's population was 30.8 years old in 2019, compared with the County average of 36.5 years old. The age-distribution of Silt's population has gotten older since 2015, when the median age was 29.7 years. Silt has a larger proportion of people under 20 years old (35.4 percent) than the County (27.7 percent).²
- **More ethnically diverse.** Since 2015, Silt has grown less ethnically diverse. In 2015, 36.1 percent of Silt's population was Hispanic (1,075 people). By 2019 the Hispanic population in Silt declined to 32.4% (1,010 people). This trend is similar to increasing ethnic diversity in Garfield County, where Hispanic population increased from 28.1 to 28.4 percent of the population between 2015 to 2019.³
- **More likely to be in poverty.** The poverty rate in Silt (12.2 percent of people living below the federal poverty line) was lower than the County's poverty rate (8.6 percent) in 2019.⁴

Employment and Economics

Consideration of Silt's economy is important in mitigation planning. In comparison to Garfield County, Silt's economy had:

- **Lower household income.** Silt's median household income in 2019 (\$58,779) was about \$17,000 lower than the County (\$75,937).⁵
- **More long-distance commuters.** About 13 percent of workers in Silt commuted for fewer than 15 minutes, compared with about 27.7 percent of workers in Garfield County. About 54.9 percent of workers in Silt commute 30 minutes or more to work, compared to about 45.4 percent of the County workers. This is an indicator of the importance of the transportation infrastructure within the Town and the connection to County infrastructure for the local economy.⁶
- **Similar mix of industries.** Silt's major employment sectors, accounting for 10 percent or more of employment each, were: Construction, Retail Trade, and Educational Services and Arts and Entertainment. Garfield County's industries include Construction, Retail Trade, Professional and Scientific jobs, Educational Services, and Arts and Entertainment.⁷

Housing

Understanding the characteristics of Silt's housing stock is important to mitigation planning. Housing that is in poor condition is more likely to be more vulnerable than housing in good condition. Some indicators of condition include housing tenure and housing age, with older renter-occupied housing is more likely to be in poor condition than newer owner-occupied housing. Garfield County has adopted the 2015 International Building Codes for commercial developments and the 2012 IBC for residential homes. All residential and commercial developments must follow these regulations. However, homes and structures built prior to building code adoption may not meet current regulatory standards. In comparison to Garfield County, Silt's housing stock was:

- **Slightly less renter-occupied.** About 29.5 percent of occupied housing units in Silt are renter occupied compared with 33.4 percent of occupied housing in Garfield County.⁸
- **Newer homes.** Silt had a smaller share of housing built prior to 1970 than the County (15 percent compared to 17.6 percent).⁹

² United States Census Bureau. "2019 American Fact Finder: S0101: Age and Sex." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

³ United States Census Bureau. "2019 American Fact Finder: DP05: ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

⁴ United States Census Bureau. "2019 American Fact Finder: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

⁵ United States Census Bureau. "2019 American Fact Finder: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

⁶ United States Census Bureau. "2019 American Fact Finder: S0802: Means of Transportation to Work by Selected Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

⁷ United States Census Bureau. "2019 American Fact Finder: DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

⁸ United States Census Bureau. "2019 American Fact Finder: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

⁹ United States Census Bureau. "2019 American Fact Finder: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

- **More single-family detached.** The predominant housing type in Silt is single family detached. Silt had a smaller share of multifamily housing with five or more units per structure (5 percent) than the County average (13.4 percent). About 75 percent of housing in Silt was single-family detached, compared with 62.4 percent on the County's housing. Silt had a smaller share of mobile and manufactured housing (6 percent) compared to the County (9.7 percent).¹⁰ The town noted that development has been moving away from mobile and sub-standard manufactured homes towards more stick-frame homes.

Land use, Development, and Transportation

Development has continued to occur around the edges of the Town of Silt and as in-fill development. A new residential development east of town added an additional 98 dwellings and one on the north side of town added 60 buildable lots. These areas are currently being annexed into the town for both single and multi-family homes. Many of the newer residential units have had difficulty in getting started, due to the tightening national and local economies. The Town has granted a number of time extensions in order for developers to obtain financing to construct infrastructure to serve proposed lots. Recently, the Town has had serious interest from commercial developers, and has produced a fiscal impact analysis in order to describe the Town's demographics and economic climate, including the filling of a wetlands area between 10th Street and 16th Street and relocating the wetlands to the Town's Silt River Preserve in order to decrease the proximity of West Nile mosquito habitat within residential areas.

The Town of Silt does not have extensive public transit facilities. There are two bus stops, one located at the Silt Trade Center on the eastern edge of Town along Highway 6, and the other located at the Colorado River Fire Rescue parking lot at 7th Street and Main Street. The Roaring Fork Transit Authority (RFTA) operates the bus route through Town, called the Hogback Route. Only a morning and an evening bus service serve the Town at this time, and take travelers from Rifle to Aspen along Highway 6, Interstate-70 and Highway 82. Most residents use their personal vehicles to get from Point A to Point B. Golden Gate Petroleum has recently built a new truck stop along Interstate 70. However, this facility may be located within a flood risk hazard area.

The Union Pacific Railroad goes through the Town of Silt south of Front Street. Construction supplies, chemical vats, coal hoppers and materials loads are just some of the items that travel through at 35 miles per hour within Town limits. The Town of Silt has no railroad crossings through a Town public street, but there is one crossing in the County on South 16th Street, and could present a problem for Town residents if there is a train/auto collision or in the case that a chemical vat rolls off a rail car and into the river or on the surface of the railway. Since Interstate-70 is a major traffic artery on the south side of the Town, it is quite possible to see problems with ice, snow and large amounts of water on the roadway, causing accidents over the Colorado River bridges, potentially including vehicles entering the Colorado River.

Critical Facilities and Infrastructure

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 Silt and whether they are in known hazard areas.

¹⁰ United States Census Bureau. "2019 American Fact Finder: DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics." [database file]. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>.

Table SLT.1: Critical Facilities in Silt, CO

#	Name	Generator? (Y/N)	Floodplain	Dam Inundation	Wildfire Hazard	Geologic Hazards
1	Silt Town Hall	N	No	No	Moderate	Soils Hazard
2	Silt Police	Y	No	No	Moderate	Soils Hazard
3	Silt Post Office	N	No	Yes	Low	None
4	Colorado River Fire Rescue Station 61	Y	No	Yes	Moderate	Soils Hazard
5	Silt Branch Library	N	No	No	Moderate	Soils Hazard
6	Bureau of Land Management	N	Yes	Yes	Low	None
7	Cactus Valley Elementary School	N	No	No	Low	Soils Hazard
8	Silt Town Center	N	No	No	Moderate	Soils Hazard
9	Water Plant	Y	No	Yes	Moderate	None
10	Wastewater Plant	Y	No	Yes	Moderate	None
11	Coal Ridge HS	N	No	No	Moderate	None
12	Public Works Shop	N	No	No	Moderate	None

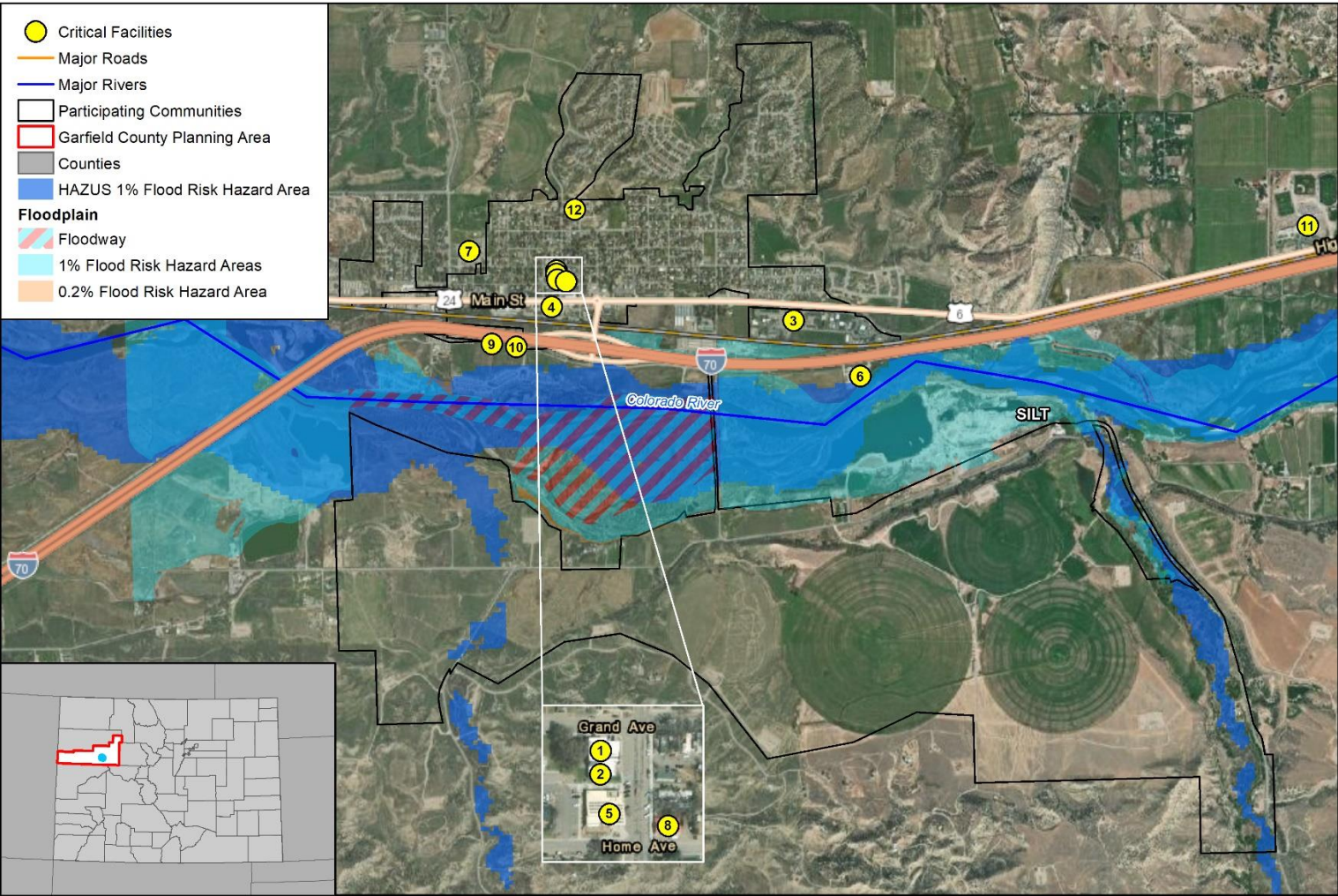
The Town built a 750,000 gallon per day activated sludge wastewater treatment plant in 2003, which remains at less than half its intended capacity. The Town built a microfiltration water plant in 2004 that can treat up to 0.9 million gallons per day. This is a state-of-the-art facility that notifies the Utilities Director if there is an upset condition of water quality outside of acceptable standards.

The Town’s treated water is also available at two separate bulk water facilities, one located on the east side of South 7th Street and the other located between the 500 and 600 block of Front Street. Many County residents utilize these bulk water facilities due to poor water quality and quantity at their residence, and the Town could serve many more county residents in case of an aquifer contamination outside of Town limits. The Town has its source water on the Colorado River and seeks to protect this watershed.

Health and Medical Facilities

The local planning team noted there is one medical center in town.

Figure SLT.2: Silt Critical Facilities



Created By: MW
Date: 1/24/2022
Software: ArcGIS 10.8
File Name: SiltCriticalFacilities.mxd
This map was prepared using information from record drawings supplied by JEO and/or other applicable city, county, federal, or public or private entities. JEO does not guarantee the accuracy of this map or the information used to prepare this map. This is not a scaled plot.

Silt
Critical Facilities

0 1,500 3,000 Feet

Historic and Cultural Resources

The Silt area was originally home to the Northern Ute Indians, known as the “Blue Sky People”, the only Native American tribe truly native to the area. In the 18th century, the Spanish explored the area, trading extensively with the Ute. Shortly thereafter, fur trappers came to the area in search of beaver and a temperate climate. In the 1880’s, the Silt area saw many waves of immigrants from Italy, Wales, Ireland, Austria and Germany, with the majority of these immigrants finding work in the local coal mines, beet farms and cattle ranches.

The Town of Silt has endured many downtown fires and cannot boast many commercial buildings that are over a century old, as they were nearly all destroyed in 1917 and in the 1950’s. However, the Town’s Community Center, first known as the Congregational Church, is one of the oldest buildings, having been built in 1909, and serving as a meeting place for generations of Silt residents.

Historic Places

The following table lists Historic Sites in the Town of Silt according to the National Register of Historic Places.

Table SLT.6: Town of Silt Historical Sites

Name	Location	Date Listed
John Herbert Nunns House	311 N 7 th St	12/03/2013

Source: National Register of Historic Places, 2021¹¹

Community Organizations and Programs

The Town of Silt participates in the senior program Meals on Wheels, which assists seniors with hot meals at least once per day. The Town is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and helps to organize such events as Silt Hey Days, recreational events and holiday celebrations.

Administrative Structure

A Board of Trustees, with an elected mayor and six (6) additional members, govern the Town of Silt. The Board of Trustees appoints the Town Administrator. The Town Administrator administers the budget and the municipal code, through his/her designated staff members. The Town of Silt is a home-rule municipal corporation that is not entirely subject to specific state statutes.

¹¹National Register of Historic Places: Garfield County Colorado. 2021.
<https://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/co/garfield/state.html>

Hazard Prioritization

The Garfield County Hazard Mitigation Plan evaluates a range of natural and man-made hazards which pose a risk to the county and communities. However, during the planning process, the local planning team identified specific hazards of top concern for Rifle which required a more nuanced and in-depth discussion of local events, vulnerabilities, and mitigation actions the community wishes to pursue. The following section expands on the hazards of top concern identified by the Rifle local planning team, including:

- Wildfire
- Flood
- Landslide, Mud/Debris Flow, and Rockfall
- Erosion and Deposition
- Severe Wind
- Hazardous Materials

For a review and analysis of other natural hazards, please see the county-wide summary in *Section Four: Risk Assessment*.

Wildfire

Participants from the Town of Silt noted that the portion of the town east of 7th street at the northern end of town is subject to the possible spread of wildfires from the wildland-urban interface and into Silt. This area is primarily developed with residential uses; some remains undeveloped at this point. A secondary issue associated with wildfire is water quality. Major fires that affect the water quality in the Colorado River, the town's source of drinking water, could also affect the water treatment facility's ability to supply clean water to Silt's businesses and residents.

Flood

Participants in the mitigation planning process noted the following geographic areas and related vulnerabilities in which local flood risk is greater than the risk described in the County's risk assessment, and in which additional actions are warranted to reduce the risk to life and property from flooding:

- The Town's wastewater and water treatment plants are both located in the 100-year floodplain. Flooding that damaged these facilities could impact their ability to function, affecting the Town's supply of clean drinking water as well as the downstream water quality.
- The Lower Cactus Valley irrigation ditch, which runs through town roughly parallel to I-70, intersects with the floodplains for several smaller tributaries to the Colorado. A large rainstorm on First Street or on 7th Street would likely cause the Cactus Valley Ditch to breach its dike and flood. On 16th Street, a similar event is likely to cause flooding in Silt Trade Center
- The Town's water main runs under I-70 through the 100-year floodplain. In a major flood event, this could become problematic.
- Some residential development in the southeastern corner of the Town is in the 100-year floodplain, and could be affected by flooding.
- The Town of Silt owns two passive recreation areas along the Colorado River, one known as "Island Park" and the other known as the "Silt River Preserve". Each of these parks is closely monitored during run-off and is closed if conditions warrant due to flooding and unstable banks.
- The KOA campground is located adjacent to the Colorado River and is at risk during flood events.

The Town's Engineer, through various correspondences with FEMA, determined that the Town's various tributaries to the Colorado River were storm water drainage pathways that could be managed as such, thereby reducing the comprehensive detailed Town plans and funds needed for floodplain mapping through FEMA. Therefore, in 2005, the Town of Silt began to require developers to submit detailed engineering plans on a site-specific basis, for inclusion in the Town's overall drainage plan. All properties located adjacent to, upstream or downstream from the 1st Street drainage, 16th Street drainage, the 7th Street drainage, the Painted Pastures/Davis Point drainage, and adjacent to the Cactus Valley Ditch are required to submit detailed site specific and drainage specific engineering plans prior to development.

In 2006, the Town of Silt, with FEMA cooperation, mapped the Colorado River floodplain in order to identify those areas that were at risk for moderate to severe damage due to flooding of the Colorado River and its tributaries. As a result, the Town's land use code was modified in order to restrict or prohibit development in this floodplain, and to mitigate the problems associated with development currently located in the floodplain. The Town still utilizes the Soil Conservation Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineer floodplain study from 1987.

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

The Town of Silt participates in the NFIP. There are no repetitive loss properties in Silt. FEMA and Wood Associates are currently working to update FIRMs for Garfield County to identify localized flood risk. Once FEMA approved FIRMs are available, Silt will review the new FIRMs and adopt them within the local floodplain ordinance and zoning regulations for future development.

Landslides, Mud/Debris Flow, Rockfall

Participants in the mitigation planning process noted that the risk from landslides is generally lower in Silt than it may be in other communities in Garfield County, but that there is some potential for landslides in the following areas:

- North of Orchard Avenue just west of 7th St.
- Skyline Cemetery, located to the north of the Richards Addition between 7th Street and 5th Street and north of Richards Street, has a very steep incline for an entrance, and the road cut is a sheer vertical slope to the south, overlooking residential dwelling units. To minimize the chances of a landslide, the Town ensures that road maintenance is done with Best Management Practices and that vegetation is maintained above the roadway.
- Stoney Ridge Planned Unit Development entrance west of 16th Street. This steep slope has been vegetated and the Town monitors the amount of irrigation applied to the hillside. It is standard practice in the Town of Silt that debris is removed from culverts, ditches and storm water pathways on an event basis, in order to minimize a large storm or run-off event's impact to the community.

Erosion and Deposition

Areas of concern regarding erosion include the 600 block of 7th Street, the skate park, Silt Island Park, and the surrounding hillsides. Particular concerns exist for streambank erosion and hillside erosion which may lead to blocked transportation routes.

Severe Wind

Silt has had past severe wind events result in downed tree branches, and signs knocked down. These events have the potential to cause significant damages, exacerbate wildfire events, and cause power outages. Powerlines throughout the community are primarily above ground and are

owned and maintained by Xcel. A few powerlines in the town have been buried. Future replacements or improvements may lead to other lines to be buried; however, corrosive materials in the soil are a concern for infrastructure.

Hazardous Materials

Several hazardous materials transfer routes (most notably I-70 and the rail line) bisect the County; spills or accidents along these lines, which also run near the Colorado River, could result in contamination of the source of drinking water for Silt. There are three gas stations located in Silt which house hazardous materials and would be of concern for major transportation spills.

In Silt, the railroad tracks run near the town's commercial core and residential development; spills there from accidents could result in economic loss and impact the health and safety of residents and retail patrons. Spills near the interstate or Colorado River also have the potential to contaminate the town's local water supply. The local planning team identified that chemicals regularly travel on Main Street as well. Other areas of concern include fixed sites near residential, such as Master Petroleum Co.

In the event of a hazardous materials spill, Silt has a call tree in place to expedite response and would call the local Colorado River Fire Rescue protection district for response.

Additional Concerns

Transportation Issues

- Interstate-70 Accidents
The Town of Silt has organized Adopt-A-Highway clean-up events along Interstate-70 in order to keep the state right-of-way in good shape in the event of a catastrophic multi-car accident related to ice, snow or fog. The Town of Silt makes CDOT aware of any dangerous conditions along a two-mile stretch of Interstate-70 on a quarterly basis. The I-70 interchange and bridges are currently in a severe state of disrepair. Repair and patching efforts have been deemed insufficient, specifically in the northbound lanes. CDOT will lead the effort to repair the interchange.
- Railroad Crossings
Although the Town has no railroad crossing within Town limits, there is a railroad crossing located in S. 16th Street, within the county and a short ways from town limits. The crossing has lights on both sides of the crossing, but has no protective arms and should be considered dangerous to cross. Heavy equipment and large vehicles typically cross at this juncture. In order to minimize the chances of an accident, the Town will monitor the crossing to ensure that the lights are functioning at the time of a train on the tracks at that location. The Town will report any nonfunctioning lights to the Union Pacific Railroad for repair.
- Diverted Traffic
Due to the limited number of transportation corridors available in the county, the Interstate and County Highways are of top priority for the community. When hazard events occur in the surrounding areas which block highways, traffic can be diverted through Silt or blocked from entering entirely. Concerns exist for the transport of resources such as fuel and food for Silt residents.
- Warning Sirens
The Town of Silt has a siren system, located at the Silt Town Hall, for use in times of emergency for notifying large numbers of residents. However, the local planning team noted the sirens may currently be inoperable and should be evaluated.

Water Quality and Quantity

- The Town of Silt monitors the quality of its source water, the Colorado River. As a result, the Town is aware of concentrations of dissolved organic solids, inorganic compounds such as toluene and benzene, and other contaminants that affect water quality. Hazardous materials could enter the Colorado River due to a rail accident or a fire, which could result in loss of power at the water plant for a prolonged period. Additionally, the Town has only one ten-inch (10”) water main that fills the domestic water tanks with treated water from the water plant. In the event of a problem with this water line, the Town could be out of water for the duration of the repair.
- The Town also provides treated water for county residents that have problems with quantity and/or quality of water at their residences.

Mitigation Success:

- The Town’s land use code provides for fire hydrants to be located within one hundred and fifty (150) feet of a lot line, but further measures will be implemented in the future for areas where wildfire would be especially prevalent. A full assessment of hydrants in town has been made with current infrastructure deemed sufficient to meet local needs.
- To facilitate emergency notification, Garfield County has implemented the reverse 911 system in order to communicate with residents about adverse weather conditions and to advise of shelters and emergency actions. The town has also implemented a text alert system which allow residents to sign up to receive additional alerts.

Capability Assessment

The capability assessment consisted of a review of local existing policies, regulations, plans, and programs with hazard mitigation capabilities. The following tables summarize the jurisdiction’s planning and regulatory capability; administrative and technical capability; fiscal capability; educational and outreach capability; and overall capability to implement mitigation projects.

Table SLT.3: Silt Capability Assessment

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Planning & Regulatory Capability	Comprehensive Plan	Yes
	Capital Improvements Plan	Yes
	Economic Development Plan	No
	Emergency Operational Plan	County
	Floodplain Management Plan	No
	Storm Water Management Plan	Yes
	Zoning Ordinance	Yes
	Subdivision Regulation/Ordinance	Yes
	Floodplain Ordinance	Yes
	Building Codes	Yes
	National Flood Insurance Program	Yes
	Community Rating System	No
Other (if any)		
Administrative & Technical	Planning Commission	Yes
	Floodplain Administration	Yes
	GIS Capabilities	Yes

Survey Components/Subcomponents		Yes/No
Capability	Chief Building Official	Yes
	Civil Engineering	Yes (Contractor)
	Local Staff Who Can Assess Community's Vulnerability to Hazards	Yes
	Grant Manager	Yes
	Mutual Aid Agreement	Yes
	Other (if any)	
Fiscal Capability	Capital Improvement Plan/ 1 & 6 Year plan	Yes
	Applied for grants in the past	Yes
	Awarded a grant in the past	Yes
	Authority to Levy Taxes for Specific Purposes such as Mitigation Projects	Yes
	Gas/Electric Service Fees	No
	Storm Water Service Fees	No
	Water/Sewer Service Fees	Yes
	Development Impact Fees	Yes
	General Obligation Revenue or Special Tax Bonds	No
	Other (if any)	Park Impact Fee; Construction Impact Fee
Education & Outreach Capability	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)	Yes
	Natural Disaster or Safety related school programs	No
	StormReady Certification	No
	Firewise Communities Certification	No
	Tree City USA	Yes
	Other (if any)	

Overall Capability	2017 Plan Limited, Moderate, High	2022 Plan Limited, Moderate, High
Does the jurisdiction have the financial resources needed to implement mitigation projects?	Limited	Limited
Does the jurisdiction have the staff/expertise to implement projects?	High	High
Does the jurisdiction have the community support to implement projects	Moderate	Moderate
Does the jurisdiction have the time to devote to hazard mitigation?	Moderate	Moderate

Plan Integration

Plans listed in the following section were reviewed by the local planning team to identify opportunities to integrate the HMP with current planning mechanisms. These documents were also used by the local planning team to assist in identifying risks, vulnerabilities, and potential mitigation actions. The documents directly contributed to the hazard prioritization and mitigation action items sections of this community profile. During the last update for these documents below, Silt reviewed the HMP during the planning process to ensure the goals, risk data, and actions identified in the HMP were consistent with the updated plans. When these plans and other relevant community planning mechanisms are updated in the future, the local planning team will review the HMP for opportunities to incorporate the goals, risk and vulnerability data, and mitigation actions into the plan update as appropriate.

Comprehensive Plan (2017)

Silt's Comprehensive Plan is designed to guide the future actions of the town. It works toward sustainable economic growth while preserving the town's character and minimizing impacts to the environment. It contains goals aimed at safe growth, directs development away from hazardous areas including the floodplain, encourages infill, encourages the elevation of structures located in the floodplain, and encourages the preservation of open space. Like the hazard mitigation plan, the construction of the comprehensive plan reinforces and builds upon other plans and programs required or supported by the town, including Floodplain/Community Rating System, Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP), Hazard Mitigation and Drought management.

The 2017 Silt Comprehensive Plan integrates hazard mitigation in the following ways:

- One of the goals of the Comprehensive Plan is to promote development opportunities along the Colorado River Corridor, while preserving the floodplain, open lands, historic values and sensitive riparian environment.
- Action F5.1 states, "Identify and prohibit development in natural hazard areas such as floodplains, steep slopes, wildfire prone areas, and areas with erosive soils".
- Action 10 within the Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the Update Flood Insurance Rate Maps action in the Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Action 35 within the Comprehensive Plan is consistent with the Hazard Mapping action in the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Municipal Code (2021)

Amended in November 2021, Silt's Municipal Code includes subsections devoted specifically to flood, geologic, and wildfire hazard areas. The code limits development within these areas unless the developer can show the hazard impacts will be properly mitigated. Relatedly, the codes outline ways to reduce flood losses and requires a one foot BFE for any structures developed in flood hazard areas. The town adopted the International Energy Conservation Code, which focus on increasing energy efficiency and reducing the energy needed in the built environment. Additionally, the 2015 International Building Code has been adopted. Silt anticipates adopting the 2018 IBC during 2022. The community has not adopted specific Wildland Urban Interface codes however it has been a discussion point currently under consideration.

Parks, Recreation, and Culture Master Plan (2021)

Silt's Parks, Recreation, and Culture Master Plan work toward three main goals for the town: conservation; health, safety, and lifestyle; and community building. To achieve these ends, the plan proposes numerous initiatives, like improvements to current parks and conservation of natural areas and open space. The plan indicates using low-water, xeric, or no-mow strategies as viable options for conservation, as well as considering a daily fee for visitors at Rifle Mountain Park to fund mitigation projects. Additional projects highlighted in the plan include combatting erosion along the Colorado River banks and planning for a regional path/trail system to connect the region to Silt.

Water-Wastewater Irrigation Master Plan (2019)

This plan evaluates Silt's existing water supply and projects future water, wastewater, and irrigation needs, as well as staffing needs, over a 20-year period. The plan is intended as a tool to assist Silt leaders in capital improvement decision making, maintenance on water infrastructure, and in meeting environmental regulations for supply, treatment, distribution, and storage in town. It also aims to track and maintain water quality and quantity.

Grants and Funding

Municipal funds are sufficient to maintain current facilities and pursue some new capital improvements projects. Funds have increased in recent years and allow Silt to provide match for other projects. The town has several large scale projects anticipated in the next ten years which are being considered alongside the annual budget. These projects include upgrades at the water plant (anticipated cost \$30M), upgrades at the wastewater treatment plant (anticipated cost \$30-\$40M), and a joint project with CDOT to improve the I-70 interchange.

Ordinances and Regulations

The development review process has a consideration for natural hazards built into it. The Town of Silt has a natural hazards ordinance that restricts development in areas that are prone to flooding, mudflow, rockslide, or other potential natural hazards unless the applicant can sufficiently mitigate the hazard. These ordinances are updated on an as needed basis. The floodplain ordinance requires a one foot base flood elevation.

Plan Maintenance

Hazard Mitigation Plans should be living documents and updated regularly to reflect changes in hazard events, priorities, and mitigation actions. These updates are encouraged to occur after every major disaster event, alongside community planning documents (i.e. annual budgets and Capital Improvement Plans), during the fall before the HMA grant cycle begins, and/or prior to other funding opportunity cycles begin including CDBG, Water Sustainability Fund, Revolving State Fund, or other identified funding mechanisms.

The local planning team is responsible for reviewing and updating the profile as changes occur or after a major event. The local planning team for all future updates should include the following positions:

- Police Chief
- Planning and Zoning
- Public Works Director
- Board of Trustees

Section Seven: Silt Community Profile

- Community Development
- Town Administrator
- County Emergency Management

The local planning team shall review the plan annually alongside the town budget and will include the public in the review and revision process by sharing information through social media, website updates, at public meetings, community TV advertisements, and/or posting on the community LED board.

Mitigation Action Items

Action items identified through the planning process are an important part of the mitigation plan. Action items are detailed recommendations for activities that local departments, citizens and others could engage in to reduce risk. Although not all the actions below fit the definition of mitigation, they add to the overall resilience of the community and are thus included within the hazard mitigation plan.

New and Ongoing Actions:

Action and Description	Hazards Addressed	Goals	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Timeline	Priority	Lead Agency	Status
National Flood Insurance Program: Continue compliance with the NFIP through the enforcement of local floodplain ordinances	Flood	1,4,5	Staff Time	Silt General Fund	Ongoing	High	Floodplain Administrator	This is a continued mitigation action. This is an ongoing effort. New FIRMs are currently under development and will be adopted upon approval.
Update Flood Insurance Rate Maps: Update the town's FIRMs as funding becomes available	Flood	1,2,4,5	\$150,000	Silt General Fund	5-10 years	High	Floodplain Administrator	This is a continued mitigation action. Garfield County is currently in the process of updating the FIRMs throughout the county. Anticipated completion by 2024.
Hazard Mapping: Collaborate with regional, state, federal agencies, and private industry to increase the extent of data available for hazard mapping, e.g. floodplain, landslide, severe wind, debris flow, fire hazard, and hazardous or volatile material.	All Hazards	1,2,4,5	Staff Time	Silt General Fund	Ongoing	Low	Community Development	This is a continued mitigation action. Garfield County is currently in the process of updating the FIRMs throughout the county. Silt will continue to collaborate with external agencies to improve available hazard data.

Section Seven: Silt Community Profile

Action and Description	Hazards Addressed	Goals	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Timeline	Priority	Lead Agency	Status
Backup Generators: Install backup generators for critical facilities.	All Hazards	1	\$20,000	Silt General Fund, HMA	2-4 years	High	Public Works	This is a continued mitigation action. Town Hall, Police Dept, and Water Plant are all in need of a backup generator. This project has not yet been started.
Table Top Exercise: Conduct table top exercise for hazardous materials.	Hazardous Materials	1,3	\$7,000	Silt General Fund	1-2 years	High	Public Works, Police Department	This is a continued mitigation action. This action has not yet been started. Would like to include local gas stations as a stakeholder in the exercise.
Relocate Irrigation Tanks: Relocate concrete irrigation tanks	Flooding, Erosion and Deposition	1,2,5	\$30,000	Silt General Fund	2-4 years	Low	Public Works	This is a continued mitigation action. Two old tanks have been removed and replaced by new in-ground tank with better stability. One additional aging tank is anticipated to be taken offline and removed by 2023.
Work with Garfield County to Reduce Flooding Impacts: Work with the County to reduce flooding impacts to vulnerable areas.	Flooding	1,3,5	Staff Time	Silt General Fund, Garfield County General Fund	1-2 years	Medium	Community Development	This is a new mitigation action. There is a RV home park (KOA campground) and lift station within the Silt ETJ that is in a flood hazard area. This project has not yet been started.

Action and Description	Hazards Addressed	Goals	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding	Timeline	Priority	Lead Agency	Status
Warning and Alert Sirens: Conduct an evaluation of existing sirens and upgrade as needed.	All Hazards	1,2,3,4,5	\$30,000	Silt General Fund	2-5 years	Medium	Public Works	This is a new mitigation action. Need to evaluate operability of sirens at the town hall and fire station.
Water and Wastewater Treatment Plan Upgrades: Both water and wastewater treatment plans to undergo updates and improvements to meet new state standards and improve system efficiencies.	Flooding	2,3,4	\$30M for Water Plant; \$30-\$40M for Wastewater Plant	Unknown	5+ years	High	Public Works	This is a new mitigation action. Currently exploring funding options for each project.
Silt Island Park Erosion Stabilization: Evaluate and stabilize eroding portions of the Silt Island Park	Flooding, Erosion and Deposition	2,4	Unknown	Silt General Fund, Conservation Trust Fund	2-5 years	Low	Public Works	This is a new mitigation action. An engineering assessment for potential solutions or stabilization efforts is needed.
Adopt Building Code: Adopt the IBC 2018	All Hazards	1,2,3,4,5	Staff Time	Silt General Fund	1 year	High	Community Development	This is a new mitigation action.

Completed Mitigation Actions:

Action and Description	Hazards Addressed	Goals	Funding	Lead Agency	Status
Source Water Resiliency: Develop a secondary source of domestic water	Flood, Drought, Wildfire	1	Silt General Fund	Public Works Director	This action was originally identified in the 2012 plan. Completed. Silt currently has two sources of domestic water with Colorado River and wells. The town has 4 wells and 4 backup wells. As well as the secondary water line.
Community Wildfire Protection Plan: Participate in the ongoing development of an updated CWPP to ensure that future updates to the CWPP and the Garfield County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan are coordinated to reflect the best available data and comprehensive set of risk reduction actions.	Wildfire	1,3	Silt General Fund	Community Development	Silt participated in the 2021 Garfield County CWPP update and will continue to participate in future updates.
Improve Fire Hydrants: Evaluate and install fire hydrants as necessary.	Wildfire	1,2,5	\$8,000	General Fund	Silt has completed a survey of all hydrants in town. Silt flushes all hydrants twice a year and oil/condition them as necessary. Current infrastructure is sufficient for local needs.