

2023 Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Austin County
Public Hearing
July 2023

Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- Overview
- Planning Process
- Timeline
- Data Gathering Exercises

Introductions

- WHO AM I?
 - Amanda Ashcroft, AICP
 - Planner at H-GAC within the Community & Environmental Planning Department

- Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee
 - Introductions

- Last Plan
 - FEMA approval: 11/6/2018
 - Expires: 11/5/2023
 - New FEMA Policy updates

Overview

- What is a natural hazard?
 - naturally occurring event vs. man-made
 - destructive or negative impact on health, safety, life, and/or property
- WHAT IS MITIGATION?
 - Steps, or actions, taken by the public, municipal leadership, or private entities to reduce the negative impacts
 - Hazard mitigation is any sustainable action that reduces or eliminates long-term risk to people and property from future disasters.
- Mitigation Action Examples
 - Removing property or infrastructure from the hazard areas (elevation and acquisition)
 - Assisting and supporting naturally occurring resilient areas (wetlands, dunes, reefs)
 - Hardening the built environment (seawalls, electrical micro grids, hurricane straps)
 - Strategic planning (building codes, zoning restrictions, higher standards)

Overview- Funding

- Federal funding
 - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
 - Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
 - Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM)
 - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
 - Buyout Program Implementation/Residential Elevations
 - Residential and Commercial Floodproofing
 - Flood Control Projects
 - Coastal Resilience
 - Nature Based Solutions
 - Infrastructure and Utility Hardening
 - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program- Post Fire

Overview- Why are we here?

- Public participation and feedback are vital parts of the hazard mitigation planning process!
- What can I do to stay involved?
 - Attend meetings
 - Provide data
 - Identify Natural Hazards
 - What hazards have impacted your community?
 - Where do hazards have the most destructive or negative impact on health, safety, life, and/or property within your community?
 - Locate assets, infrastructure, at-risk communities
 - What tools do you have to support your community through disasters?
 - What tools do you need?
- Identify what we can we do in the future to be more resilient!
- Break the disaster cycle!

Who Else Can We Reach Out To?

Businesses

Academia

Private Organizations

Nonprofit Organizations

Community-based Organizations

**Entities that provide support to
underserved communities and socially
vulnerable populations
“Community Lifelines”**

Planning Process



Timeline

	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Kickoff Meeting									
Risk Assessment		HAZUS							
Capability Assessment									
Public Input Workshop/ Events					We are Here		#2		#3
Mitigation Action Plan Workshop									
Plan Drafting									
Review Final Draft									
Plan Adoption									
Submit Plan to State & FEMA									

Data Gathering Exercises

- Stations around the room
 - Instructions at each station
 - HMP Committee members and H-GAC staff are available to answer your questions
- Online survey- Still open

How can I stay Informed?

Hazard Mitigation Planning

The H-GAC region is susceptible to a range of natural disasters like flooding, tornadoes, drought, and wildfires. Hazard mitigation is the use of long- and short-term strategies (such as planning, policy changes, programs, projects, and other activities) to reduce or alleviate the loss of life, personal injury, and property damage that can result from a disaster. While we cannot eliminate the threat of disasters, sound planning, collaboration, and preemptive action can help minimize their impacts.

FEMA requires every locality to maintain a hazard mitigation plan that examines the risk and impact of natural disasters and provides strategies for reducing impacts to people and property. A Hazard Mitigation Plan must be updated every 5 years to ensure relevancy and continued support from FEMA for its mitigation projects.

H-GAC has helped several counties develop or update their hazard mitigation plans, ensuring that participating communities are eligible for FEMA mitigation funding. H-GAC is committed to working with local governments to ensure that the region is as prepared as possible. Previous and current hazard mitigation work can be found below.

Hazard Mitigation Plans

Austin County **1** ▼

Brazoria County **1** ▼

Chambers County **1** ▼

City of Angleton ▼

Hazard Mitigation Planning

Contact Information

Would you like to contact us about this topic?
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Hazard Mitigation Plans

Austin County **1**



H-GAC, in partnership with Austin County, City of Bellville, City of Brazos Country, City of Industry, City of San Felipe, City of Sealy, City of South Frydek, and City of Wallis is developing a Hazard Mitigation Plan for Austin County, Texas.

Preparing a plan requires the engagement of local governments, stakeholders, and residents in the planning process. If you are an Austin County stakeholder, [please consider taking this brief survey](#), joining us at an upcoming meeting, or sharing these plan update efforts with other stakeholders.

Meeting announcements and materials can be found below:

Meeting #1- Kickoff, 3/22/2023 @ 1:30 PM

[Meeting Notes](#)

[Presentation](#)

Meeting #2- Risk and Capability Assessment, 4/26/2023 @ 1:30 PM

[Meeting Notes](#)

[Presentation](#)

Meeting #3- Public Outreach Strategy, 6/21/2023 @ 1:00 PM via Microsoft Teams

[Meeting Notes](#)

[Presentation](#)

Two public hearings will be hosted on July 19th and July 20th from 6:00- 8:00 PM. The purpose of these public hearings is to provide a project overview from H-GAC and solicit feedback and information from stakeholders. Public input will help the project team to analyze potential hazards affecting residents and recommend possible actions to reduce their impact.

[Public Hearing Flyer](#)

Public Hearing #1- July 19, 2023 from 6-8 PM at the [Austin County Fair Convention & Expo Center](#) in Bellville, TX

Public Hearing #2- July 20, 2023 from 6-8 PM at the [W.E Hill Community Center](#) in Sealy, TX

2018 Austin County Hazard Mitigation Plan

H-GAC, in partnership with Austin County, City of Bellville, City of Brazos Country, Town of San Felipe, City of Sealy, and City of Wallis developed a Hazard Mitigation Plan for Austin County, Texas in 2018. This plan expires on 11/5/2023 and will be replaced by current planning efforts.

Contact Information

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