



Houston-Galveston
Area Council

Galveston County WCID #1 LHMP Steering Committee Kickoff Meeting

June 4, 2024, 6:00 PM

A G E N D A

6:00 PM

Welcome and Introductions

Hazard Mitigation Planning Overview

- **What is a Hazard Mitigation Plan?**
- **Benefits of a Hazard Mitigation Plan**
- **2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan Policy Updates**

Project Organization

Roles and Responsibilities

Planning Process Overview

Timeline

Questions?

Next Steps

Adjourn



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Attendance

Name	Organization	Title
Amanda Ashcroft	H-GAC	Resilience Planner
Cheryl Mergo	H-GAC	Senior Manager
Amy Nelson	City of Dickinson	Citizen
Andrew Nelson	City of Dickinson	Citizen
Derek Hunt	City of Dickinson	EMS Director, EOC Coordinator
Kathy Thomas	Communications Strategies, Galveston County WCID #1	Owner, Communications Consultant
Jeremy Conn	County Constable Precinct 4	Sergeant
Michael Berezin	City of Dickinson, Police Department	Police Chief
Laura Norman	Galveston County Office of Emergency Management	Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator
Angela Maloney	Galveston County WCID #1	Administrative Assistant
Ivan Langford	Galveston County WCID #1	General Manager
Keith Morgan	Galveston County WCID #1	Water & Wastewater Superintendent
Tony Garcia	Gulf Coast Water Authority	Plant Manager
Pastor William King III	Greater New Hope Baptist Church	Pastor, Citizen
Ryan Nokelby	HDR Inc., Galveston County WCID #1	Water/Wastewater Lead, District Engineer

Meeting Notes

Welcome

Ivan Langford welcomed all in attendance and gave some background regarding the Water Control Improvement District (WCID) and the need for a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP).

Hazard Mitigation Planning Overview

Amanda Ashcroft reviewed the meeting agenda and went over meeting goals and objectives; to explain hazard mitigation, review the benefits of developing a LHMP, provide an overview of the planning process, and inform what roles the planning team, steering committee, and the public serves in the planning process.

The Steering Committee members then introduced their name, title, the organization they represented, and a hazard they are concerned about that could affect the planning area. Amanda gave some background on the role of H-GAC and introduced the WCID and their service area.

Amanda explained what hazard mitigation planning is, the benefits of mitigating for hazards, and the history behind the Stafford Act and Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. This act requires an approved LHMP for entities to remain eligible for mitigation grants, plans must be updated every 5-years. FEMA has a plan review guide that outlines the requirements for what must be in the plan or addressed by the plan, these were updated in 2022 and take full effect for all plans approved after April 2023. Updated policies were summarized to the committee.

Project Organization

A project organization graphic was included to break down the differences between the planning team (H-GAC and WCID #1) and those invited to serve on the Steering Committee. The Planning Team and Steering Committee working together form our planning partnership for this LHMP. Amanda explained that, as part of the planning partnership, there are some roles and responsibilities all should be aware of.

Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities of the Planning Partnership were outlined. These included:

1. Actively participate throughout the LHMP development
2. Attend meetings
3. Assist with coordination or participation in the public input process
4. Provide information and feedback
5. Adopt & implement the plan

Planning Process Overview

The LHMP Planning Process was discussed and broken down into 4 phases. These were: organize resources, Risk and capability assessment, mitigation strategy, and adoption and implementation. The components of an LHMP were then outlined to the steering committee.

Timeline

Amanda reviewed the tentative project timeline. The first outreach event will be taking place on June 15, 2024, at the Galveston County Hurricane Preparedness Fair. H-GAC staff will set up a booth to collect public input through interactive exercises and hand out hurricane preparedness flyers. The WCID will also provide giveaway items and coloring books for the booth. A meeting for Phase 2: Risk and Capability Assessment is tentatively planned for August 2024. Detail will be sent out when a date is finalized.

Outreach methods were discussed for how the planning partnership will get the word out to stakeholders for future meetings and public input.

Next Steps

The next steps included identifying hazards to be included in this LHMP for the WCID. Amanda outlined what other recently updated LHMP's within the region have included for their hazards, and urged the steering committee to start thinking about what affects the project area, especially the critical infrastructure and services the WCID provides. Amanda also discussed HAZUS and the HAZUS models being run in-house by H-GAC.