

2023 Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Meeting #1: Kickoff

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Meeting Goals & Objectives

- **Explain** hazard mitigation
- Review the **benefits** of developing a hazard mitigation plan
- Provide an overview of the **planning process**
- Inform about **your role** in the planning process

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Introductions

- Name
- Organization
- How has a hazard impacted you? (optional)

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What is Hazard Mitigation Planning?

- Hazard Mitigation Planning- Acting before disaster strikes.
- Mitigation- any sustained action taken to ***reduce or eliminate long-term risk*** to life and property from a hazard event

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Benefits of Hazard Mitigation

- Prevent injury and loss of life
- Prevent damage to community assets
- Reduce exposure to risk from natural hazards
- Reduce costs of disaster response/recovery
- Advance other community objectives

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Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000)

“to reduce the loss of life and property, human suffering, economic disruption, and disaster assistance costs resulting from natural disasters.”

- Section 322 specifically addresses mitigation planning and requires state and local governments to prepare hazard mitigation plans as a precondition for receiving FEMA mitigation project grants.

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Updated Policies

- On April 19, 2022, FEMA released the updated state and local mitigation planning policies.
- These updated policies will be in effect for all mitigation plans approved on or after:

April 19, 2023.



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Updated Policies

- Defines who local governments must include in the planning process.
- Requires local governments to include the effects of climate change and other future conditions in the risk assessment.
- Recognizes the important role of adopting and enforcing building codes and land use/development ordinances
- Facilitates stronger alignment with other FEMA mitigation program & incorporates new FEMA grant programs



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Participating Jurisdictions

- Walker County
- City of Huntsville
- City of New Waverly
- City of Riverside

Participation Requirements

- The whole community approach
 - Emergency Management
 - County/City Staff
 - The General Public!
 - Elected Officials
 - Utility Companies
 - Industry/Business
 - ISDs

Participation Requirements

1. Attend meetings, including public hearings or meetings/workshops that occurs during the plan update process
2. Assist with coordination or participation in the public input process
3. Review plan updates and provide timely feedback
4. Adopt & Implement the plan

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Outreach Methods

- What methods of public involvement have worked well in your community in the past?
 - Community events?
 - Questionnaires/surveys?
 - Roundtable/forums?
 - Social media?
 - Web sites?

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Tentative Project Timeline

- **March 14**, Meeting 1: Kickoff ←
- **April**, Meeting #2: Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment
- **May**, Meeting #3: Capability Assessment
- **June**, Public Input Workshop
- **July**, Meeting #4: Policy Development & Project Identification (Mitigation Action Plan)
- **August**, Draft Plan Available for Public Comment
- **Meeting #5**: Adoption & Implementation

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Project Objectives

- A fully updated Hazard Mitigation Plan which complies with State and Federal guidance

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Hazard Identification

2018 Hazards

Flooding	Hurricanes & Tropical Storms
Wildfire	Drought
Lightning	Heat
Hail	Winter Weather
Tornado	Dam/Levee Failure
Coastal Erosion	Expansive Soils

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Updating Hazards for 2023

- Add pandemic and extreme temperature hazards?
- Are there any new hazards to include?
- Are there any hazards to remove or combine?

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Hazard Identification

- HAZUS is a nationally applicable standardized methodology that contains models for estimating potential losses from earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, and tsunamis.
- HAZUS uses Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to estimate physical, economic, and social impacts of disasters.



Next Steps

- Provide any additional stakeholder contacts
- Sign & return commitment letter
 - Hazard Mitigation Committee members
- Determine meeting #2 date for hazard identification & risk assessment
 - All
- Run HAZUS
 - H-GAC Staff



Contact Information

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