



Houston-Galveston
Area Council

Galveston County WCID #1 LHMP Steering Committee Meeting

August 6, 2024, 6:00 PM

A G E N D A

6:00 PM

Welcome and Introductions

Hazard Mitigation Kickoff Meeting Recap

- **What is Hazard Mitigation**
- **Project Organization**
- **Planning Process**
- **Project Timeline**

Hazard Identification

Risk Assessment

Next Steps

- **Goal Setting**
- **Capability Assessment**

Questions?

8:00 PM

Adjourn



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Meeting Notes

Welcome and Introductions

The Galveston County Water Control Improvement District #1 (GCWCID #1) General Manager welcomed all in attendance and gave some background regarding the Water Control Improvement District and the need for a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP, HMP). All in attendance introduced themselves, their role, and the organization they were representing.

Hazard Mitigation Kickoff Meeting Recap

H-GAC staff reviewed meeting goals and objectives, then gave a quick summary of the kickoff meeting for those who were not present. This included an overview of GCWCID #1 and Houston-Galveston Area Council's role for this plan development, reviewing what hazard mitigation is and why it's important, and discussing the project organization and planning process.

Hazard Identification

H-GAC staff discussed the hazard identification and risk assessment for developing a hazard mitigation plan specific to the GCWCID #1. The Steering Committee received a handout that included various hazards included in the 2023 Texas State Hazard Mitigation Plan, hazards included within other recent HMPs from surrounding areas/counties, and public input results that were obtained at the Galveston County Disaster Preparedness Event on 6/15 regarding hazards of concern. The Steering Committee then identified key natural and human-caused hazards of concern that could affect the GCWCID#1 and its critical infrastructure.

Identified hazards included hurricanes, severe winter weather, flooding, drought/expansive soils, extreme heat, severe weather (tornadoes, hail, lightning, wind), wildfire, cyber threats, water quality/quantity issues, hazmat, and pandemic. The Steering Committee discussed grouping related hazards (e.g., severe weather including tornado, hail, lightning) versus separating these into individual hazard profiles.

Risk Assessment

The Steering Committee was provided a Risk Assessment worksheet to rank the probability and severity for each hazard identified in the previous exercise. Scores given were specific to their impact on GCWCID#1 operations and infrastructure. The Risk Assessment was discussed, and hazards were scored collectively as a committee. The hazard ranking was then compared to the State HMP for Region 4 and public input data. The Steering Committee discussed their scores and agreed on the ranking of Hazards (high, Medium, Low). The Risk Assessment results can be seen in the table below.

RISK ASSESSMENT: To rank hazard risk, probability and severity must be determined.

PROBABILITY: A measure of how likely an event will occur

SEVERITY: How much a hazard affects the functionality of society and natural environment

Hazard risk is measured using this equation: **RISK = PROBABILITY x SEVERITY**



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Probability	Characteristics
4 – Highly Likely	Event is probable within the next calendar year These events have occurred, on average, once every 1-2 years in the past
3 – Likely	Event is probable within the next 10 years Event has a 10-50% chance of occurring in any given year These events have occurred, on average, once every 3-10 years in the past
2 – Possible	Event is probable within the next 50 years Event has a 2-10% chance of occurring in any given year These events have occurred, on average, once every 10-50 years in the past
1 – Unlikely	Event is probable within the next 200 years Event has a 0.5-2% chance of occurring in any given year These events have occurred, on average, once every 50-200 years in the past

Severity	Characteristics
8 – Catastrophic	Multiple deaths Complete shutdown of facilities for 30 or more days More than 50% of property is severely damaged
4 – Critical	Injuries and/or illnesses result in permanent disability Complete shutdown of critical facilities for at least 14 days More than 25% of property is severely damaged
2 – Limited	Injuries and/or illnesses do not result in permanent disability Complete shutdown of critical facilities for more than seven days More than 10% of property is severely damaged.
1 – Negligible	Injuries and/or illnesses are treatable with first aid Minor quality of life lost Shutdown of critical facilities and services for 24 hours or less Less than 10% of property is severely damaged

Hazard	Probability (1, 2, 3, 4)	Severity (1, 2, 4, 8)	Risk (P x S)	Ranking
Cyber Threats	4	8	32	1, high
Hurricane	4	4	16	1, high
Severe Winter Weather	4	4	16	1, high
Water Quality & Quantity	2	4	8	2, medium
Hazardous Materials	1	8	8	2, medium
Flooding	3	2	6	2, medium
Severe Weather	4	1	4	2, medium
Extreme Heat	4	1	4	2, medium
Drought & Expansive Soils	4	1	4	2, medium
Pandemic	2	1	2	1, low
Fire	1	1	1	1, low
Dam/Levee Failure	1	1	1	1, low



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Mission Statement

The Steering Committee discussed the need for a Mission Statement for the HMP. H-GAC staff presented examples and the Steering Committee worked together to draft the mission statement:

To be proactive in reducing risk and increasing resiliency of the WCID #1 water and wastewater systems during disasters by developing a hazard mitigation plan that focuses on protecting life, property, infrastructure, and the environment.

Next Steps

The core planning team will meet to further assess capabilities, make an inventory of assets for the GCWCID #1, and begin to brainstorm potential mitigation goals/objectives that align with the drafted mission statement and the vision of the GCWCID#1.

The next Steering Committee meeting is TBA.

Q&A

None

Attendance

Name	Organization	Title
Amanda Ashcroft	H-GAC	Resilience Planner
Cheryl Mergo	H-GAC	Senior Manager
Kathy Thomas	Communications Strategies, Galveston County WCID #1	Owner, Communications Consultant
Jeremy Conn	County Constable Precinct 4	Sergeant
A.M.	Galveston County WCID #1	Administrative Assistant
I.L.	Galveston County WCID #1	General Manager
K.M.	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
Brad Burness	Galveston County Office of Emergency Management	Emergency Management Coordinator
Jeremy Borja	Galveston County Office of Emergency Management	Emergency Management Specialist
R. N.	HDR Inc., Galveston County WCID #1	Water/Wastewater Lead, District Engineer
Clint Weekley	Texas Department of Public Safety	DPS Sergeant