2023 Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Meeting #1: Kickoff

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
Introductions

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

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.
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

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.
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.**

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.
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

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?
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

Project Objectives

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

- 2018 Hazards

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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?
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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