


# 2023 Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Meeting #2: Risk and Capability Assessment

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## Meeting Agenda

- Welcome
- March Meeting Recap:
  - Risk Identification Categories
  - Questions from last meeting
  - Where are we now?
- Capability Assessment
  - What is it?
  - Types of resources
- Worksheet

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## March Meeting Recap: 2018 Hazards Ranked by Risk

### Hazards Ranked by Risk

Each identified hazard poses a risk to Austin County. Ranking the hazards from greatest to lowest risk allows the communities to prioritize their resources and focus efforts where they are most needed.

Risk Rating	Ranking	Hazards
High	1	Flooding
	2	Wildfire
	3	Drought
	4	Severe Thunderstorm
Moderate	5	Tornado/Microburst
	6	Erosion
	7	Hail
	8	Expansive Soil
Low	9	Winter Storms
	10	Extreme Heat

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## Questions from last meeting

- Cyber security & man-made hazards?
  - BRIC and FMA awards cannot fund a stand-alone cybersecurity project. An eligible cybersecurity activity must serve as a functional component of an eligible mitigation activity and otherwise meet all applicable programmatic requirements.

Example: Harden facilities (buildings, wiring, rooms) that house the cybersecurity system component such as computers, hardware, or the system's servers

Source: [https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema\\_bric-fma-cybersecurity-information-activities\\_112022.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_bric-fma-cybersecurity-information-activities_112022.pdf)

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## Tentative Project Timeline

- **March 22**, Meeting 1: Kickoff
- **April 26**, 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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## Updated Project Timeline

	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Kickoff Meeting									
Risk Assessment		HAZUS							
Capability Assessment		We are Here							
Public Input Workshop/ Events				#1 June 17 <sup>th</sup>			#2		#3
Mitigation Action Plan Workshop									
Plan Drafting									
Review Final Draft									
Plan Adoption									
Submit Plan to State & FEMA									



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## Capability Assessment

- What you are doing
- What you are not doing
- What you can do
- What you are doing wrong?

...helps to determine which mitigation actions are practical and likely to be implemented given a local government's various resources and capabilities.

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## Capability Assessment Components

- 1) An inventory of a local jurisdiction's relevant existing plans, ordinances, and programs
- 2) Analysis of a local jurisdiction's capacity to carry out existing plans, ordinances, and programs.

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# Policy & Regulatory Inventory

- Adequate building codes
- Land use, zoning and subdivision regulations
- Floodplain and storm water ordinances
- Comprehensive plans
- Capital improvement and transportation plans
- Facilities and needs studies
- Population growth and future development studies
- Economic development plans
- Emergency management response and recovery plans
- National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) participation
- NFIP Community Rating System programs



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## Hazard Mitigation Plan Worksheet Capability Assessment

Building Code, Permitting, and Inspections	Yes/ No	1. Are codes adequately enforced?
Building Code	<input type="checkbox"/>	Version/Year:
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Score:
Fire department ISO rating	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rating:
Site plan review requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (if any)		

Planning, Ordinances, & Regulatory Capability	Yes/ No	1. Is the plan/ordinance an effective measure for reducing hazard impacts? 2. Is the ordinance adequately administered and enforced?
Capital Improvements Plan (Regulates infrastructure in hazard areas)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Comprehensive Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Continuity of Operations Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Disaster Recovery Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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## Planning, Ordinances, and Regulatory Capability

- Demonstrate commitment to guiding and managing growth, development, and redevelopment in a responsible manner
  - Examples: Mitigation planning, comprehensive land use planning, enforcement of zoning ordinances and building codes, protecting environmental resources in the community

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## Administrative and Technical Capability

- Staff and skills for planning and mitigation such as:
  - Engineers
  - Planners
  - GIS analysts
  - Building inspectors
  - Emergency managers
  - Grant writers

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## Financial Capability

- Resources available to fund mitigation actions such as:
  - Operating budgets
  - Stormwater utility fees
  - Development impact fees

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## Education and Outreach Capability

- Existing programs that implement mitigation and communicate risk such as:
  - School programs
  - Firewise communities
  - Storm Ready communities
  - Hazard awareness campaigns
    - *Example: Tornado Awareness Month!*
  - Public Information Officer
  - Community newsletter

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## Political Capability

- Guiding development away from identified hazard areas
- Restricting public investments or capital improvements within hazard areas
- Enforcing local development standards that go beyond minimum state or federal requirements
  - (e.g., building codes, floodplain management)

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## 2018 Capability Assessment

### List of Existing Plans & Regulations

HMAP: Hazard Mitigation Plan  
 DRP: Disaster Recovery Plan  
 FMP: Floodplain Management Plan  
 EOP: Emergency Operations Plan  
 COOP: Continuity of Operations Plan  
 SO: Subdivision Regulation  
 FDPO: Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance  
 COMP: Comprehensive Land Use Plan  
 CIP: Capital Improvements Plan

Jurisdiction	HMAP	DRP	FMP	EOP	COOP	SO	FDPO	COMP	CIP
Austin County	x	x	x	x		x	x		
Bellville	x			x		x			x
Brazos Country	x					x			
San Felipe	x	x	x	x	x				
Sealy	x					x	x	x	x
Wallis	x					x	x		

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# 2018 Capability Assessment

## Expand and Improve

Participating jurisdiction examined their existing authorities, policies, programs and resources. Participating jurisdiction then identified ways to improve upon and expand their existing authorities to support the mitigation strategy.

Jurisdiction	Capability Expansion Opportunities
<b>Unincorporated Austin County</b>	Identified their local budget as a factor that decreases their capability to implement mitigation actions and reduce future damages. Austin County will apply for state and federal funding to help fund mitigation actions that reduce the impact of natural hazards.
<b>Bellville</b>	Need for technical staff and larger budget. Will apply for state and federal funding to help fund mitigation actions that reduce the impact of natural hazards.
<b>Brazos Country</b>	Low local budget and technical staff as a weakness in their current funding. Will apply for federal funding to help reduce the impacts of natural hazards within the community.
<b>San Felipe</b>	Identified the low local budget as a barrier for implementing the mitigation strategy. Will apply for state and federal funding to help fund mitigation actions that reduce the impact of natural hazards.
<b>Sealy</b>	Low local funding as a barrier for implementing projects. Will apply for state and federal funding to help fund mitigation actions that reduce the impact of natural hazards.
<b>Wallis</b>	Identified a low local budget to implement mitigation actions. Will apply for federal funds to reduce the impact of natural hazards within the jurisdiction.

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## Next Steps

- HAZUS, Website updates, Public & stakeholder survey, Begin drafting plan
  - H-GAC Staff
- Complete & return capability assessment worksheet, Share events happening within the county for public outreach
  - Hazard Mitigation Committee

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## Public & Stakeholder Online Survey

- Survey questions are being adapted from FEMA's Local Mitigation Planning Handbook and incorporating other sources
- When available: please share!

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## Contact Information

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