

Local Jurisdiction Survey

The primary goal of the local jurisdiction survey is to ensure that every community in the County has an opportunity to participate in the planning process and benefit from the outcome of the hazard mitigation plan. It is also important that the community adopt and maintain the plan as FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) is supported by the plan. Montgomery County believes that the planning process is the first step in awareness of the risk and vulnerability posed by the hazards and provides the communities with a method to “do something about the risk.”

**Mitigation Proficiency:**

Use the questions below to guide the discussion on hazard risk and climate change.

* How has the nature of hazard risk changed in the last five years? Are there new hazards and is there new development pressure?
* Are the current resources to implement mitigation actions sufficient? Do you have enough staff and do they have the necessary knowledge, experience and tools?
* Are the fiscal, administrative, political, public support, capabilities, etc. sufficient?
* What resources would help you or improve your ability to implement mitigation actions?
* What are the biggest obstacles to implementing the plan and completing mitigation actions?
* What are some opportunities for improvement?
* Do you know of a worst case or severe example of any of the flood related hazards that has occurred since 2012 (or that was not covered in the previous plan update) that we should highlight or describe in the 2018 HMP?

**Mitigation Strategy Evaluation**

As part of the update to the Montgomery County plan, the actions that were identified in the previous (2012) plan must be revisited to determine their status. There were a forty-one (41) mitigation action items identified in the *2012 Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update*. Thirteen of these actions were carried over from the previous plan as the status was either ongoing or incomplete.

Note, most of these actions were initiated by county agencies however, it is important to gain knowledge and input from the local jurisdictions. Many of these actions are implanted at a local level and the goal of this exercise is to gauge how successful actions are carried out across the county.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **HAZARD STRATEGIC ACTION ITEMS** | **PREVIOUS PLAN STATUS** | **INCLUDE IN CURRENT PLAN**  | **Completed/ Ongoing/ Deferred/** **Not Applicable**  | **COMMENT / ADJUSTMENT** |
| **YES**  | **NO** |
| **THUNDERSTORMS** |
| Install uninterruptible power supplies on critical electronic equipment in county and municipal facilities  |  |  |  |  |
| Provide backup power/generators for ten (10) traffic signals  |  |  |  |  |
| Educate the public on how to protect property and residential electrical systems  |  |  |  |  |
| Purchase an early warning system to alert the public to take shelter |  |  |  |  |
| Purchase emergency generators for critical facilities  |  |  |  |  |
| Tree branch/brush clearance and limit how close vegetation can be planted near/beneath power lines |  |  |  |  |
| Develop a public awareness campaign informing residents of the potential impact of high winds due to severe thunderstorms |  |  |  |  |
| Public outreach for the use of the Alert Montgomery System |  |  |  |  |
| **WINTER STORMS**  |
| Provide shelters for both residents and animals during severe winter weather |  |  |  |  |
| Provide 4WD vehicles for law enforcement personnel during heavy snow activity |  |  |  |  |
| Continue to research and provide alternative measures to notify individuals with disabilities of winter emergencies (Deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| **EXTREME HEAT** |
| Provide relief for those highly impacted by heat by opening cooling centers that also account for special needs populations and conduct education and outreach regarding special needs populations. |  |  |  |  |
| **FIRE** |
| Develop a public awareness campaign to heighten awareness about brush fires and preventative maintenance for homeowners |  |  |  |  |
| **FLOOD** |
| Create a flood risk public awareness campaign for the residents of Chevy Chase, Section 5 |  |  |  |  |
| Develop a storm drain evaluation program designed for future improvements and hazard mitigation  |  |  |  |  |
| Reconstruct undersized storm drains throughout Garrett Park |  |  |  |  |
| Amend zoning requirements to include floodplain language into conservation easements |  |  |  |  |
| Maintain and upgrade storm water drainage where undersized infrastructure exists |  |  |  |  |
| Evaluate undersized stormwater infrastructure and prioritize hazard mitigation projects to address  |  |  |  |  |
| Develop and implement a storm drain evaluation program to identify undersized infrastructure |  |  |  |  |
| Conduct a Stormwater improvement project on Silver Creek within the Town of Kensington |  |  |  |  |
| Continue to survey municipal owned or leased property for potential flooding problems and identify flood mitigation strategies for strengthening flood resilience (Deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| Establish community outreach regarding the NFIP, Apply for the CRS, and encourage all municipalities to participate (Deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| Continue ongoing land use policies that prohibit new development in the SFHA (Deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| Explore mitigation solutions for all occupied properties located in the SFHA (Deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| Explore mitigation projects in areas that frequently flood, including SWM improvements (Deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| Coordinate with DOT/DPWT to continue to clear and maintain storm drains (Deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| **TROPICAL STORM** |
| Develop management rules and policies for utility right-of-ways |  |  |  |  |
| Develop a plan to address that emergency routes are cleared of debris and downed power lines post event (Deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| **DROUGHT** |
| Develop a water source alternate interconnection plan and implement design  |  |  |  |  |
| Continue to develop incentives for water conservation during drought conditions (deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| Continue to coordinate with WSSC, Rockville, and Poolesville regarding water supply capacity during drought conditions (deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| Purchase additional water quality monitoring equipment and instruments (deferred) | Deferred |  |  |  |  |

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| **TORNADO** |
| Evaluate the feasibility for constructing a community saferoom |  |  |  |  |
| Promote enhanced anchoring of manufactured homes |  |  |  |  |
| Public education and outreach concerning the dangers of tornadoes and high winds |  |  |  |  |
| **EARTHQUAKE** |
| Continue to promote earthquake preparedness through public outreach | Deferred |  |  |  |  |
| **LANDSLIDES / KARST** |
| Encourage County and Municipal offices to review regulations pertaining to their jurisdiction to ensure that adequate local regulations are in place to reduce future development in high hazard areas |  |  |  |  |
| **ALL HAZARDS** |
| Conduct public education and outreach on all natural, technological, and threat induced hazards for the citizens of Montgomery County |  |  |  |  |
| Use newsletters, e-mail, and other methods for public outreach to provide safety messages for all hazards (Deferred) | Moved  |  |  |  |  |
| County and municipal officials to participate in the County’s Technical Planning Committee annual review of mitigation strategies (Deferred) | Moved |  |  |  |  |

**Mitigation Strategy: Action Identification Worksheet**

Please complete this worksheet for each new mitigation action. See *Mitigation Ideas: A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards* for sample mitigation actions to reduce risk from environmental hazards.

<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/30627>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Action Title: |  |
| 1. Assessing the Risk
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| Hazard(s) to be addressed by Action:  |  |
| 1. Describing the Action
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| Problem Description: |  |
| Mitigation Action Type: |  |
| Action Objectives: |  |
| 1. Evaluating the Action
 |
| Estimated Cost: |  |
| Estimated Benefits: Losses avoided Provide justification  |  |
| Cost Effectiveness:(benefit/cost) |  |
| Priority (high, medium, low): |  |
| 1. Implementing the Action
 |
| Responsible Party: |  |
| Potential Partners: |  |
| Potential Funding Sources: |  |
| Timeframe for Completion: Short, Long, Ongoing – continuous with no end date |  |
| Integration Opportunities:(Local, County, State) |  |
| Worksheet completed by:(Jurisdiction, Name) |  |

**Guidance to Complete the Action Identification Worksheet**

The following provides additional guidance on how to complete the Mitigation Project Capture Sheet.

1. **Assessing the Risk**

**Hazard to be addressed by Action:**

Please enter the hazard(s) of concern you are mitigating. For this plan, the hazards of concern identified for the county are:

* Severe Storms (windstorms, thunderstorms, hail, lightning,)
* Winter Storm (heavy snow, blizzards, ice storms, and nor’easters)
* Extreme Heat
* Flooding (riverine, flash, dam-break, ice jam)
* Hurricane / Tropical Cyclones
* Fire
* Water Shortage / Drought
* Tornados
* Earthquakes
* Land Subsidence / Karst
1. **Describe the Action**

**Problem Description:**

Please describe the specific problem being mitigated. Provide details on historic damages, recurrence and mitigation efforts that have been completed to date. Actions/Projects Considered: Please consider different options to mitigate the problem identified. One alternative is always to accept the current level or risk by deciding to take no action at this time.

**Mitigation Action Type:**

Select from one of the four pre-determined action types. If your action falls outside these objectives please expand in provided area.

**Local Plans and Regulations (LPR)** – These actions include government authorities, policies or codes that influence the way land and buildings are being developed and built.

**Structure and Infrastructure Project (SIP)**- These actions involve modifying existing structures and infrastructure to protect them from a hazard or remove them from a hazard area. This could apply to public or private structures as well as critical facilities and infrastructure. This type of action also involves projects to construct manmade structures to reduce the impact of hazards.

**Natural Systems Protection (NRP)** – These are actions that minimize damage and losses, and also preserve or restore the functions of natural systems.

**Education and Awareness Programs (EAP**) – These are actions to inform and educate citizens, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and potential ways to mitigate them. These actions may also include participation in national programs, such as StormReady and Firewise Communities.

**Action Objectives:**

Please insert the plan objectives (by number) that would be met if the action/project is implemented. If your action falls outside these objectives please expand in provided area.

1. Encourage hazard mitigation measures that result in the least adverse effect on the natural environment and that use natural processes.

2. Strengthen codes so that new construction can withstand the impacts of natural hazards and lessen the impact of that development on the environment’s ability to absorb the impact of natural hazards.

3. Prevent (or discourage) new development in hazardous areas or ensure that if building occurs in high-risk areas that it is done in such a way as to minimize risk.

4. Integrate the recommendations of this plan into existing County and local plans/programs.

5. Incorporate hazard considerations into land-use planning and natural resource management.

6. Seek partnership opportunities with stakeholders in hazard mitigation that will leverage resources and enhance opportunities to implement mitigation activities within the planning area.

7. Seek mitigation actions that will assist in protecting lives and property by making homes, businesses, infrastructure, and critical facilities more resistant to hazards.

8. Better characterize flood/stormwater hazard events by conducting additional hazard studies and identify inadequate stormwater facilities and poorly drained areas.

9. Develop or improve early warning emergency response systems and evacuation procedures.

10. Develop and implement additional education and outreach programs to increase public awareness of the risks associated with hazards and to educate the public on specific, individual mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery activities.

11. Ensure continuity of government operations, emergency services, and essential facilities at the local level during and immediately after disaster and hazard events.

12. Strengthen inter-jurisdiction and inter-agency communication, coordination, and partnerships in all phases of emergency management.

13. Retrofit, purchase, or relocate structures in high hazard areas including those known to be repetitively damaged.

1. **Evaluating the Actions**

**Estimated Cost:**

If you do not have an estimate for the cost of the action use the following ranges and then skip to “Priority”:

**Low = < $100,000 Medium = $100,000 to $1,000,000 High = > $1,000,000**

**Estimated Benefits:**

Please describe the losses avoided when the project is implemented. This includes physical property damage; loss of function; road closing/detours; etc.

**Cost Effectiveness;**

Simply take the cost of the Benefits and divide it by the cost of the action. If the value is over 1 the action is cost effective.

**Priority:**

Please enter High/Medium/Low based on the following definitions

**High**

* Project will have an immediate impact on the reduction of risk exposure to life and property.
* Existing funding levels are not adequate to cover the costs of the proposed project, and implementation would require an increase in revenue through an alternative source (for example, bonds, grants, and fee increases).

**Medium**

* Project will have a long-term impact on the reduction of risk exposure to life and property or will provide an immediate reduction in the risk exposure to property.
* The project could be implemented with existing funding but would require a reapportionment of the budget or a budget amendment, or the cost of the project would have to be spread over multiple years.

**Low**

* Long-term benefits of the project are difficult to quantify in the short term.
* The project could be funded under the existing budget. The project is part of or can be part of an existing, ongoing program.
1. **Implementing the Action**

**Responsible Party:**

What agency or individual will be responsible for the management and administration of the action through all stages of its life (grant application, award and project management/financial administration and closeout)

**Potential Partners:**

List all potential partners that may have a role in the project. This includes both State and local agencies and non-government organizations. The same stages in project life that were described in responsible party item also apply to potential partners.

**Potential Funding Source:**

Please identify the anticipated funding source, which could be “Grant funding with local cost share”. Sources may include federal, state and local sources.

**Timeframe for Completion:**

**Short = <3 years. Long Term= >3 years OG = On-going program**

**Integration Opportunities:**

Identify all opportunities that you have to integrate this action or the results into state or local planning, policy or regulations.

**Mitigation Strategy Analysis - STAPLEE (Social, Technical, Administrative, Political, Legal, Economic, and Environmental):**

Use the STAPLEE to assess the action items that are developed by your jurisdiction. This methodology requires that social, technical, administrative, political, legal, economic, and environmental considerations be taken into account when reviewing potential actions for the area’s jurisdictions to undertake. This will be used to help ensure that the most equitable and feasible actions would be undertaken based on your jurisdictions’ capabilities.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Social**  |

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| --- |
| * Is the proposed action socially acceptable to the community(s)?
* Are there equity issues involved that would mean that one segment of a community is treated unfairly?
* Will the action cause social disruption?
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| **Technical**  |

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| * Will the proposed action work?
* Will it create more problems than it solves?
* Does it solve a problem or only a symptom?
* Is it the most useful action in light of other community(s) goals?
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| **Administrative**  |

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| * Can the community(s) implement the action?
* Is there someone to coordinate and lead the effort?
* Is there sufficient funding, staff, and technical support available?
* Are there ongoing administrative requirements that need to be met?
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| **Political**  |

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| * Is the action politically acceptable?
* Is there public support both to implement and to maintain the project?
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| **Legal**  |

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| * Is the community(s) authorized to implement the proposed action? Is there a clear legal basis or precedent for this activity?
* Are there legal side effects? Could the activity be construed as a taking?
* Is the proposed action allowed by a comprehensive plan, or must a comprehensive plan be amended to allow the proposed action?
* Will the community(s) be liable for action or lack of action?
* Will the activity be challenged?
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| **Economic** |

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| * What are the costs and benefits of this action? \Do the benefits exceed the costs?
* Are initial, maintenance, and administrative costs taken into account?
* Has funding been secured for the proposed action? If not, what are the potential funding sources (public, non-profit, and private)?
* How will this action affect the fiscal capability of the community(s)?
* What burden will this action place on the tax base or local economy?
* What are the budget and revenue effects of this activity?
* Does the action contribute to other community goals, such as capital improvements or economic development?
* What benefits will the action provide?
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| **Environmental**  |

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| * How will the action affect the environment?
* Will the action need environmental regulatory approvals?
* Will it meet local and state regulatory requirements?
* Are endangered or threatened species likely to be affected
 |

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**Mitigation Strategy: Action Review Form**

Place each Action in the left Column and provide a **0-5** rating for each one of the STAPLEE factors and then total your score on the last (right column).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Action Title: | Social  | Technical | Administrative | Political  | Legal  | Economic | Environmental  | TOTAL |
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**Capabilities Assessment**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Community/Organization:** |  |
| **Name and Title:** |  |

**Planning Policy & Programs:**

Please indicate whether the following planning or regulatory tools and programs are currently in place or under development for your jurisdiction by placing an "X" in the appropriate box, followed by the date of adoption/update if known.

| Tool/Program | Status |
| --- | --- |
| In Place | Date Adopted or Updated | Comment |
| Hazard Mitigation Plan | X | 2012 | Adopt County Plan through local resolution  |
| Emergency Operations Plan |  |  |  |
| Evacuation Plan |  |  |  |
| Continuity of Operations Plan |  |  |  |
| Floodplain Management Ordinance |  |  |  |
| Zoning Regulations |  |  |  |
| Subdivision Regulations |  |  |  |
| Comprehensive Land Use Plan (or General, Master, or Growth Management Plan) |  |  |  |
| Stormwater Management Plan |  |  |  |
| Natural Resource Protection Plan |  |  |  |
| Capital Improvement Plan |  |  |  |
| Firewise Community |  |  |  |
| Storm Ready  |  |  |  |
| Building Code  |  |  |  |

**Available Staff:**

Please indicate the number of staff and department Point of Contact (POC) your jurisdiction has positioned in the following key departments.

| **Department** | **Yes** | **No** | **Number of Staff** | **POC Staff Member** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Building / Planning / Zoning |  |  |  |  |
| Emergency Services |  |  |  |  |
| Law Enforcement  |  |  |  |  |
| Fire Department |  |  |  |  |

**Available Technical Assistance:**

Please indicate whether your jurisdiction has the following personnel / resources available to assist with the development of hazard mitigation planning /project efforts. Provide comments for shared staff or other special conditions (i.e. contractual)

| **Staff or Personnel Resource** | **Yes** | **No** | **Department or Staff Member** | **Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Land Use/Development Zoning/Planning |  |  |  |  |
| Building Inspector |  |  |  |  |
| Engineering |  |  |  |  |
| Emergency Manager |  |  |  |  |
| Floodplain Manager |  |  |  |  |
| GIS  |  |  |  |  |
| Grants  |  |  |  |  |

**Self-Assessment of Capability:**

Please provide an approximate measure of your jurisdiction's capability to effectively implement hazard mitigation strategies to reduce hazard vulnerabilities. Using the following table, please place an "**X**" in the box marking the most appropriate degree of capability (Limited, Moderate or High) based upon best available information and the responses provided in other sections of this survey.

| **Area** | **Degree of Capability** |
| --- | --- |
| **Limited** | **Moderate** | **High** |
| Planning and Regulatory Capability |  |  |  |
| Administrative and Technical Capability |  |  |  |
| Fiscal Capability |  |  |  |
| Community Political Capability |  |  |  |

**Fiscal Capability:**

Please provide FY 2018 capital budget and supporting Public safety budget allocations.

| **Jurisdiction**  | **2018 Fiscal Capability**  |
| --- | --- |
| **Total FY 2018 Budget** | **Public Safety FY 2018 Budget** |
|  |  |  |

**COMMUNITY RESILIENCY CAPABILITY AFTER AN EVENT -CONSEQUENCE ANALYSIS**

Community capability to recover after an event can be measured by considering consequences of an event on several community systems. The question below uses an impact score to describe how the particular community system would be impacted after a large hazard event.

Please use a scale of 0 to 5 for the impact score as described below. Then, provide a general description of potential consequences that would occur for each system element. Generally, the lower the impact scores are, the higher degree of community resiliency capability there will be.

**5-Significantly Impacted 3-Moderately Impacted 0-No Impacts to System**

| **Impacted System** | **Impact Score** | **Potential Consequences If Significant Event Occurs** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Public |  |  |
| Responders |  |  |
| Continuity of operations/Delivery of services |  |  |
| Property, facilities, and infrastructure |  |  |
| Environment |  |  |
| Economic condition of the jurisdiction |  |  |
| Public confidence in the jurisdiction’s governance |  |  |