



Cook County Multi- Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan

What is a Hazard Mitigation

Plan? A Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) is the effort to reduce financial and physical loss of life and property by lessening the impact of natural disasters through local hazard mitigation planning by: identifying natural hazards that impact the area; identifying strategies and activities to reduce any losses from those hazards; and establishing a coordinated approach to implementing the plan, taking advantage of a wide range of resources.

Why Have a Hazard Mitigation

Plan? The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA of 2000) required state and local governments to develop hazard mitigation plans as a condition for federal mitigation grant assistance. Prior to 2000, federal disaster funding focused on disaster relief and recovery, with limited funding for hazard mitigation planning. The DMA increased the emphasis on planning for disasters before they occur. The DMA encourages state and local authorities to work together on pre-disaster planning, and it promotes sustainability for disaster resistance.

Benefits of Participation:

- Receive HMP credit towards discounts in flood insurance premiums for The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS).
- Enhanced grant funding opportunities.
- Identify cost, resources and increase education and awareness around threats, hazards, and vulnerabilities.

What is required in a Hazard Mitigation Plan Program Continuation?

Currently, the Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan (HMP) is the largest plan within the U.S with 115 planning partners—and your municipality is a part of it! Local hazard mitigation plans must be reviewed, revised if appropriate, and resubmitted for approval in order to remain eligible for benefits under the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) (44 CFR, Section 201.6(d)(3)). With the adoption of Volumes 1 and 2 of the HMP, planning partners have agreed to annual plan updates. The purpose of the annual progress report is to enhance opportunities for the implementation of action items and grant funding. For continued success, and to ensure that the program remains in compliance, the Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) has established a plan maintenance strategy.

The DHSEM will prepare and assume the responsibility of initiating the annual progress reporting process. A template to guide planning partners is included and can be accessed via our website at

www.cookcountyhomelandsecurity.org/annual-report-annex-template

The planning partner annual progress report is due no later than June 1st (every calendar year). **With the exception of 2016, the due date is October 21st.**

The reporting period shall cover January through December of each reporting year (every calendar year). A final annual progress report will be produced by the DHSEM no later than October 1st of each reporting year. **With the exception of 2016, the due date is November 1st.**

The annual progress report will be posted under the Cook County Hazard Mitigation Plan section of the [website](#).

For planning partners that participate in the Community Rating System (CRS), the report can be provided as part of the CRS annual re-certification package. The CRS requires an annual re-certification to be submitted by October 1st of every calendar year for which the community has not received a formal audit.

The Steering Committee review of the annual progress report will be held from June to August of each reporting period. **With the exception of 2016, the review will be held during the month of October.**



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Steering Committee Members

Cosme, Michael

Metropolitan Water Reclamation
District of Greater Chicago

Doughtie, Matt

City of Chicago Office of Emergency
Management and Communications

Eber, Brian

Illinois Department of Natural
Resources, Office of Water Resources

Frum, Sandra

North West Municipal Conference

McNeils, John

Cook County Project Engineer /
Township Liaison

Pulia, Sam

Village of Westchester

Sawert, Scott

Wheeling Township Commissioner

Tocci, Dominic

Cook County Bureau of Economic
Development Department of Planning
and Development

Useful Links

Hazard Mitigation Assistance

www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program Digest

www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/95109

National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System

www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-community-rating-system#

The DHSEM is asking municipalities to review their annex action items (Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Matrix Table) and address the following:

- ❖ A summary of any hazard events that occurred during the prior year and their impact on the planning area.
- ❖ A description of completed mitigation actions identified in the plan.
- ❖ A brief discussion about why targeted strategies were not completed.
- ❖ A list of recommendations for new action items.
- ❖ A re-evaluation of the action plans to determine if the timeline for identified projects needs to be amended (for example, changing a long-term project to a short-term project because of funding availability).
- ❖ Removal of action items.
- ❖ A summary of changes in or potential for new funding options (grant opportunities).
- ❖ A brief discussion of the impact of any other planning programs or actions within the planning partnership that involve hazard mitigation.

To access and download your annex please visit our website at www.cookcountyhomelandsecurity.org/hazard-mitigation-plan

Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management HMP News

The DHSEM is happy to announce that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has released \$1,677,592 in Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) funds to Cook County, Ill., for the acquisition and demolition of eight flood-prone homes located in the area.

The Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program is authorized by the National Flood Insurance Reform Act (NFIRA) of 1994 with



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the goal of reducing or eliminating claims under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). And provide measures to reduce or eliminate the risk of loss of life and property.

By acquiring homes, this project will help eliminate future losses and enable the community to become more sustainable and disaster resistant. For more information please see the link below:
www.fema.gov/news-release/2016/07/26/fema-awards-1677592-grant-cook-county

For more information, visit our website:
www.cookcountyhomelandsecurity.org/

For more information about this process and the HMP, please contact:

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- ❖ Gene Ryan, Cook County DHSEM, (312) 603-8547 or gene.ryan@cookcountyil.gov