



Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan

Information Bulletin #2 The Steering Committee

What is the Steering Committee?

The Steering Committee is an advisory committee overseeing the planning process for the Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan. It consists of stakeholder representatives from within the planning area who will meet regularly throughout the planning process. The Committee will provide guidance to the Planning Team on implementing the planning process scope of work. Each member has made a commitment to attend all Steering Committee meetings and to work to gain an understanding of the issues and of each other's viewpoints. Such understandings are needed for the Committee to effectively reach agreement on issues brought before it.

Who is on the Steering Committee?

Representatives from over 25 diverse stakeholders throughout the planning area have agreed to participate on the Steering Committee. These stakeholders include organizations such as the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, the Northshore University Health System, the American Red Cross, ComEd, and the Illinois Army National Guard. The four regional councils of government have also been invited to participate. The members of the Steering Committee were selected to provide the best possible cross section of views to enhance the planning effort and to help build support for hazard mitigation.

Role of the Steering Committee

The Steering Committee will make milestone decisions on behalf of all of the Planning Partners. Such decisions include the following:

- ◆ Establishing a vision, goals, and objectives
- ◆ Defining what constitutes critical facilities for the planning area
- ◆ Identifying the hazards of concern for the planning area
- ◆ Developing a public outreach strategy
- ◆ Developing a plan maintenance strategy
- ◆ Identifying strengths, weaknesses, obstacles, and opportunities within the planning area
- ◆ Providing oversight on the plan's development through adoption by all Planning Partners.

While the Steering Committee plays an important role in the planning process, it has no role in making decisions on mitigation actions, funding allocations or policy.

For more information visit our website:

www.cookcountyhomelandsecurity.org/hazard-mitigation-plan

What Are the Ground Rules?

The Steering Committee will establish ground rules for how it carries out its work. Ground rules will cover such issues as attendance, quorums, decision-making, designation of alternates, spokespersons, public meeting protocols, and meeting dates and times. They also include the process for selecting a Committee chairperson and vice chairperson. The ground rules will comply with the requirements of the Illinois Open Meetings Act and will be available on the project website.

Who Can Attend the Steering Committee Meetings?

The Steering Committee will meet a minimum of six times over the next 10 months, and all meetings are open to the public. Meetings are tentatively scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month. Check the project website for specific dates, times, and locations. The agenda for each meeting will be posted on the project website 48 hours prior to the meeting. The public is invited to attend.

Where Can I Keep Up with Steering Committee Activities?

Cook County has created a website to inform people about the status of the Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan and the planning process. Information that can be found on the website includes Steering Committee meeting announcements, agendas, and minutes from prior meetings. Other general information, such as the Steering Committee's ground rules, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), and information bulletins will be posted there as well. Please go to www.cookcountyhomelandsecurity.org/hazard-mitigation-plan/ regularly to stay informed about the planning process.

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

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