

PEORIA COUNTY, ILLINOIS MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN



Prepared by
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Hazard Mitigation and Emergency Management Program



in coordination with
Peoria County, Planning and Zoning Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of hazard mitigation is to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to people and property from natural and/or man-made hazards. Peoria County, Illinois, has prepared this local multi-hazard mitigation plan to better protect the people and property of the unincorporated areas of the County from the effects of natural and man-made hazard events. The plan update was prepared pursuant to the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) and the implementing regulations set forth by the Interim Final Rule published in the Federal Register on February 26, 2002, (44 CFR §201.6) and finalized on October 31, 2007 to achieve eligibility for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs.

Previously, Peoria County participated in a multi-jurisdictional planning process that resulted in the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2010. For this effort, Peoria County has independently prepared a local multi-hazard mitigation plan for the unincorporated areas of the County.

The planning process for development of this local plan followed a methodology prescribed by FEMA, which began with the formation of a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) comprised of key stakeholders from the County, local and neighboring jurisdictions, and state and federal agencies. The HMPC conducted a risk assessment that identified and profiled hazards that pose a risk to the County, assessed the County's vulnerability to these hazards, and examined the capabilities in place to mitigate them. The County is vulnerable to several hazards that are identified, profiled, and analyzed in this plan. Flood, severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, and severe winter storms are among the hazards that can have a significant impact on the County.

Based upon the risk assessment, the HMPC identified goals and objectives for reducing risk to natural hazards. The goals and objectives of this multi-hazard mitigation plan are to:

Goal 1: Reduce the vulnerability of the people, property, and environment of Peoria County from the effects of natural and man-made hazards.

- Strengthen protection of critical facilities and infrastructure to create a safer, more sustainable community;
- Build and support local capabilities to respond and recover from natural and man-made hazard events;
- Increase the local floodplain management activities and participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); and

- Protect community historic/cultural/environmental resources from identified natural and man-made hazards.

Goal 2: Enhance public education programs to raise awareness of and preparedness for hazard events.

Goal 3: Improve and coordinate mitigation activities with surrounding communities, non-profits, and private businesses.

To meet identified goals and objectives, the plan recommends the mitigation actions summarized in the table on the following pages. The HMPC also developed an implementation plan for each action, which identifies priority level, background information, ideas for implementation, responsible agency, timeline, cost estimate, potential funding sources, and more.

The *Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* has been formally adopted by the Peoria County Board and will be updated within a five-year timeframe.

Table I. Mitigation Action Matrix

Action	HMPC Priority	Goals Addressed	Hazards Addressed	Address Current Development	Address Future Development	Continued Compliance with NFIP
1. Evaluate structural integrity of critical facilities and shelters to confirm resistance to hazard events.	High	1	Multi-Hazard	✓		
2. Coordinate hazard risk assessments with other agencies	High	3	Multi-Hazard	✓	✓	
3. Create formal mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities to meet emergency response needs.	High	3	Multi-Hazard	✓	✓	
4. Coordinate with American Red Cross to maintain list of emergency shelters and shelter agreements.	High	3	Multi-Hazard	✓	✓	
5. Coordinate with IDNR to address the stalemate with FEMA and private owners of a provisionally accredited levee.	High	3	Flood	✓	✓	✓
6. Establish prioritized list for mitigation of flood prone structures	High	1	Flood	✓		✓
7. Verify with IDNR that dam inspections are current.	High	3	Dam Failure	✓	✓	
8. Coordinate with NRCS regarding technical and financial assistance for drought preparedness and response.	High	3	Drought	✓	✓	
9. Maintain snow/ice fighting resources	High	1	Winter Storm	✓		
10. Continue to organize and hold collections for household hazardous wastes, tires, etc.	High	1	Multi-Hazard	✓		
11. Special needs/oxygen-user registration program	High	1	Multi-Hazard	✓	✓	

Action	HMPC Priority	Goals Addressed	Hazards Addressed	Address Current Development	Address Future Development	Continued Compliance with NFIP
12. Update flood risk assessment utilizing depth grid information as Risk MAP products become available to Peoria County through the flood map update process. Depth grid information will allow for more accurate flood vulnerability calculations.	High	1	Flood	✓	✓	✓
13. Continue participation in CRS Program and implementation of flood hazard outreach program – including website maintenance, general and targeted outreach projects; and educational documents in libraries.	High	1,2	Flood	✓	✓	✓
14. Prepare “take-home” brochure for school system to address hazard preparedness planning and coordination.	Medium	2	Multi-Hazard	✓	✓	
15. Re-evaluate community education programs to incorporate hazard mitigation.	Medium	2	Multi-Hazard	✓	✓	
16. Identify and train key County employees, outside of EMA, in disaster response and operations to ensure continuity of County government during disaster events.	Medium	3	Multi-Hazard	✓	✓	
17. Create county-wide database for Elevation Certificates; Letters of Map Change; and First Floor Elevations.	Medium	1	Flood	✓		✓
18. Establish requirement for future development projects to determine impacts to existing development.	Medium	1	Flood		✓	✓
19. Prepare Repetitive Loss Area (RLA) Analyses for each of the identified RLAs.	Medium	1	Flood	✓		✓
20. Organize public workshop to discuss flood mitigation and property protection.	Medium	2	Flood	✓		✓

Action	HMPC Priority	Goals Addressed	Hazards Addressed	Address Current Development	Address Future Development	Continued Compliance with NFIP
21. Update landscape ordinance to provide homeowner credit for use of native plantings.	Medium	1	Multi-Hazard	✓	✓	
22. Update Subdivision and Development regulations to require information from INDR on proximity of high hazard dams.	Medium	1	Dam Failure		✓	
23. Identify bridge/road infrastructure that is vulnerable to earthquakes.	Medium	1	Earthquake	✓		
24. Continue program to distribute NOAA weather radios, as funding allows.	Low	1	Multi-Hazard	✓		
25. Post flood warning signage in flood-prone areas, e.g. high water marks.	Low	2	Flood	✓	✓	✓
26. Provide NFIP Training for insurance agents; surveyors; and engineers.	Low	2	Flood	✓	✓	✓
27. Prepare watershed master plans for flood prone areas of the County.	Low	1	Flood	✓	✓	✓
28. Establish Partnerships for maintenance of public open space and acquired flood properties.	Low	3	Flood	✓		✓
29. Establish process for conversion of acquired flood properties to natural habitat	Low	1	Flood	✓		✓
30. Post education signage in areas of acquired flood properties describing benefits of natural habitat.	Low	2	Flood	✓	✓	✓
31. Continue acquisition program to mitigate repetitive flood properties	Low	1	Flood	✓		✓

Action	HMPC Priority	Goals Addressed	Hazards Addressed	Address Current Development	Address Future Development	Continued Compliance with NFIP
32. Identify opportunities to encourage/provide credit for low-impact development and reduction of impervious areas.	Low	1	Flood		✓	✓
33. Identify and pursue funding sources to mitigate/fill underground mines.	Low	1	Land Subsidence	✓		
34. Provide training and exercises for first responders for hazardous materials incidents.	Low	3	Hazardous Materials Incidents	✓	✓	
35. Redundant systems and looping (water, sewer, electric, gas)	Low	1	Multi-Hazard	✓	✓	

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Appendix A: Adoption Resolution

Appendix B: Planning Process Documentation

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PREREQUISITES

44 CFR requirement 201.6(c)(5): The local hazard mitigation plan shall include documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan. For multi-jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan must document that it has been formally adopted.

Note to Reviewers: When this plan has been reviewed and approved, pending adoption, by FEMA Region V, the adoption resolution will be signed and added to Appendix A. A model resolution is provided on the following page.

Model Resolution

Resolution # _____

Adopting the Peoria County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Whereas, the County of Peoria, seeking FEMA approval of the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, recognizes the threat that natural and man-made hazards pose to people and property within our community; and

Whereas, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences; and

Whereas, the U.S. Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (“Disaster Mitigation Act”) emphasizing the need for pre-disaster mitigation of potential hazards;

Whereas, the Disaster Mitigation Act made available hazard mitigation grants to state and local governments;

Whereas, an adopted Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple FEMA pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs; and

Whereas, Peoria County fully participated in the FEMA-prescribed mitigation planning process to prepare this Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

Whereas, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IV officials have reviewed the “*Peoria County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan*”, and approved it contingent upon this official adoption of the participating governing body;

Whereas, the Peoria County desires to comply with the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act and to augment its emergency planning efforts by formally adopting the Peoria County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Whereas, adoption by the governing body for Peoria County demonstrates the jurisdiction’s commitment to fulfilling the mitigation goals and objectives outlined in this Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Whereas, adoption of this legitimacies the plan and authorizes responsible agencies to carry out their responsibilities under the plan.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Peoria County adopts the “*Peoria County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan*” as an official plan; and

Be it further resolved, Peoria County will submit this Adoption Resolution to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and Federal Emergency Management Agency Region V officials to enable the plan’s final approval.

Passed: _____

Certifying Official