

1 INTRODUCTION AND PLANNING PROCESS

1.1 Purpose

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. This plan demonstrates the community's commitment to reducing risks from hazards and serves as a tool to help decision makers direct mitigation activities and resources.

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 four goals of the Peoria County local hazard mitigation plan are the following:

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.

This plan was prepared to ensure Peoria County's continued eligibility for certain federal disaster assistance, specifically, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation program, and Flood Mitigation Assistance program. This plan has been prepared in compliance with Section 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act or the Act), 42 U.S. C. 5165, enacted under Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, (DMA 2000) Public Law 106-390 of October 30, 2000, as implemented at CFR 201.6 dated October 2007.

Peoria County is also a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program’s (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) and, having more than 10 repetitive loss properties, is required to prepare and maintain a floodplain management plan (FPM). This multi-hazard mitigation plan addresses the flood hazard and was developed in accordance with the CRS FPM planning requirements.

The CRS program recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum requirements of the NFIP. Under the CRS program, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from community activities that (1) reduce flood losses, (2) facilitate accurate insurance ratings, and (3) promote the awareness of flood insurance.

Peoria County entered the CRS program in 1992, with a class 9 rating, and was the first downstate community in Illinois to receive CRS credit. Currently, Peoria County qualifies for a class 5 rating. With the class 5 rating, citizens of Peoria County receive a **25-percent** discount on flood insurance premiums. Table 1.1 below presents the relationship of CRS class ratings and insurance premium discounts.

Table 1.1. CRS Classes, Credit Points, and Premium Discounts

CRS Class	Credit Points	Flood Insurance Premium Discount	
		In SFHA ¹	Outside SFHA
1	4,500+	45%	10%
2	4,000-4,499	40%	10%
3	3,500-3,999	35%	10%
4	3,000-3,499	30%	10%
5	2,500-2,999	25%	10%
6	2,000-2,499	20%	10%
7	1,500-1,999	15%	5%
8	1,000-1,499	10%	5%
9	500-999	5%	5%
10	0-499	0%	0%

1 – SFHA, Special Flood Hazard Area; the floodplain delineated on the FIRM as A Zones and V Zones

In addition to reduced flood insurance rates, Peoria County citizens benefit from the CRS program through:

- Enhanced public safety, reduction in damage to property and public infrastructure, avoidance of economic disruption and losses, reduction in human suffering, and protection of the environment provided by the credited flood protection activities.
- Increased outreach activities focused on flood risk enabling citizens to evaluate their individual vulnerabilities, and take action to protect themselves, as well as their homes and businesses.
- Training and technical assistance for Peoria County staff in designing and implementing credited flood protection activities.

1.2 Background and Scope

Each year in the United States, natural disasters take the lives of hundreds of people and injure thousands more. Nationwide, taxpayers pay billions of dollars annually to help communities, organizations, businesses, and individuals recover from disasters. These monies only partially reflect the true cost of disasters, because additional expenses to insurance companies and non-governmental organizations are not reimbursed by tax dollars. Many natural disasters are predictable, and much of the damage caused by these events can be alleviated or even eliminated.

Hazard mitigation is defined by FEMA as “*any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to human life and property from a hazard event.*” Hazard mitigation planning is the process through which hazards that threaten communities are identified, likely impacts of those hazards are determined, mitigation goals are set, and appropriate actions to lessen impacts are determined, prioritized, and implemented. A three-year, congressionally mandated independent study was conducted to assess future savings from mitigation actions and activities. The study provides evidence that mitigation activities are highly cost-effective. On average, each dollar spent on mitigation saves society an average of \$4 in avoided future losses in addition to saving lives and preventing injuries (National Institute of Building Science Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council 2005).

This plan documents Peoria County’s hazard mitigation planning process and identifies relevant hazards and vulnerabilities and strategies the County will use to decrease vulnerability and increase resiliency and sustainability. The Peoria County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan geographically covers everything within the County’s unincorporated areas (hereinafter referred to as the planning area).

This plan was updated 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. (Hereafter, these requirements and regulations will be referred to collectively as the Disaster Mitigation Act.) While the act emphasized the need for mitigation plans and more coordinated mitigation planning and implementation efforts, the regulations established the requirements that local hazard mitigation plans must meet in order for a local jurisdiction to be eligible for certain federal disaster assistance and hazard mitigation funding under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Act (Public Law 93-288). Because the planning area is subject to many kinds of hazards, access to these programs is vital.

Information in this plan will be used to help guide and coordinate mitigation activities and decisions for local land use policy in the future. Proactive mitigation planning will help reduce the cost of disaster response and recovery to communities and their residents by protecting critical community facilities, reducing liability exposure, and minimizing overall community impacts and disruptions. The Peoria County planning area has been affected by hazards in the

past and is thus committed to reducing future impacts from hazard events and maintaining eligibility for mitigation-related federal funding.

1.3 The 10-Step Planning Process

Requirements §201.6(b) and §201.6(c)(1): An open public involvement process is essential to the development of an effective plan. In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process shall include:

- 1) An opportunity for the public to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval;**
- 2) An opportunity for neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia, and other private and nonprofit interests to be involved in the planning process; and**
- 3) Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.**

[The plan shall document] the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.

Peoria County recognized the need and importance of a local hazard mitigation plan and initiated its development. The Peoria County Planning and Zoning Department contracted with Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. (Amec Foster Wheeler) to facilitate and develop the plan. Amec Foster Wheeler's role was to:

- Assist in establishing the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) as defined by the Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA);
- Meet the DMA requirements as established by federal regulations and following FEMA's planning guidance;
- Support objectives under the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System and the Flood Mitigation Assistance program,
- Facilitate the entire planning process;
- Identify the data requirements that HMPC participants could provide and conduct the research and documentation necessary to augment that data;
- Assist in facilitating the public input process;
- Produce the draft and final plan documents; and
- Coordinate the plan reviews with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and FEMA Region V.

Amec Foster Wheeler established the planning process for the Peoria County local hazard mitigation plan using the DMA planning requirements and FEMA's associated guidance. This guidance is structured around a four-phase process:

- 1) Organize resources,
- 2) Assess risks,
- 3) Develop a mitigation plan, and
- 4) Implement the plan and monitor progress.

Into this process, a more detailed 10-step planning process used for FEMA’s Community Rating System (CRS) and Flood Mitigation Assistance programs was integrated. Thus, the modified 10-step process used for this plan meets the requirements of five major programs: FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation program, Community Rating System, Flood Mitigation Assistance Program, and new flood control projects authorized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Table 1.2 shows how the CRS 10-step process fits into FEMA’s four-phase process.

Table 1.2. Mitigation Planning Processes Used to Develop the Peoria County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

FEMA 4 Phase Guidance	FEMA Local Mitigation Planning Handbook Tasks (44 CFR Part 201)	Community Rating System (CRS) Planning Steps (Activity 510)
Phase I Organize Resources	Task 1: Determine the Planning Area and Resources	Step 1. Organize to Prepare the Plan
	Task 2: Build the Planning Team 44 CFR 201.6(c)(1)	
	Task 3: Create an Outreach Strategy 44 CFR 201.6(b)(1)	Step 2. Involve the public
	Task 4: Review Community Capabilities 44 CFR 201.6(b)(2) & (3)	Step 3. Coordinate with Other Agencies
Phase II Assess Risks	Task 5: Conduct a Risk Assessment 44 CFR 201.6(c)(2)(i)	Step 4. Assess the hazard(s)
	44 CFR 201.6(c)(2)(ii) & (iii)	Step 5. Assess the problem(s)
Phase III Develop a Mitigation Plan	Task 6: Develop a Mitigation Strategy 44 CFR 201.6(c)(3)(i);	Step 6. Set goals
	44 CFR 201.6(c)(3)(ii); and	Step 7. Review possible activities
	44 CFR 201.6(c)(3)(iii)	Step 8. Draft an action plan
Phase IV Implement the Plan and Monitor Progress	Task 8: Review and Adopt the Plan	Step 9. Adopt the plan
	Task 7: Keep the Plan Current	Step 10. Implement, evaluate, revise
	Task 9: Create a Safe and Resilient Community 44 CFR 201.6(c)(4)	

Source: Local Mitigation Planning Handbook, FEMA, March 2013; NFIP CRS Coordinator’s Manual, 2013

1.3.1 Phase 1: Organize Resources

Planning Step 1: Organize to Prepare the Plan

With Peoria County's commitment to participate in the DMA and CRS planning process, County officials worked to establish the framework and organization for development of the plan. An initial meeting was held with the Peoria County Planning and Zoning staff to discuss the organizational aspects of the plan development process.

Invitations to participate on the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) were extended to County officials, citizens, and federal, state, and local stakeholders that might have an interest in participating in the planning process. The list of final HMPC members is included in Appendix B. The following is a list of departments and organizations represented on the HMPC:

Peoria County

- Planning and Zoning Department
- Highway Department
- Emergency Management Agency / Sheriff's Office
- Communications
- Health Department
- GIS Division
- E-911 Board

Public

- Heart of Illinois Group Sierra Club
- Friends of River Beach Drive
- Retired Citizen

Local Stakeholder Representatives

- American Red Cross Central and Southern Illinois
- Peoria Regional Office of Education
- Peoria County Farm Bureau
- Home Builders Association of Greater Peoria

The DMA planning regulations and guidance stress that each local government seeking FEMA approval of their mitigation plan must participate in the planning effort in the following ways:

- Participate in the process as part of the HMPC;
- Detail areas within the planning area where the risk differs from that facing the entire area;
- Identify potential mitigation actions; and
- Formally adopt the plan.

For Peoria County and the HMPC, “participation” meant the following:

- Attending and participating in the HMPC meetings;
- Providing requested data (as available);
- Reviewing and providing comments on plan drafts;
- Advertising, coordinating, and participating in the public input process; and
- Coordinating the formal adoption of the plan by the governing boards.

The HMPC was formally recognized by the Peoria County Board and elected officials through a formal resolution on May 5, 2016. This resolution is included in Appendix B.

The planning process officially began with a kick-off meeting on March 21, 2016, held at the Peoria County Courthouse. The meeting covered the scope of work and an introduction to the DMA requirements. The HMPC continued to communicate during the planning process with a combination of face-to-face meetings, phone interviews and email correspondence. The meeting schedule and topics are listed in Table 1.3. The sign-in sheets and meeting minutes for each of the meetings are included in Appendix B.

Table 1.3. Schedule of HMPC Meetings

Meeting	Topic	Date
Coordination	Coordination Meeting with Peoria County Planning and Zoning prepare for project kick-off and identify HMPC members.	March 1, 2016
HMPC #1	Kickoff meeting: Review of the hazard mitigation planning process and hazard identification	March 21, 2016
Meeting	Topic	Date
HMPC #2	Review of previous risk assessment; discussion of risk assessment and data needs for plan update; and review of plan goals and objectives	July 20, 2016
HMPC #3	Update mitigation actions and prioritization; discussion of process to monitor, evaluate, and update plan	October 18, 2016

Based on the area of expertise of each County representative participating on the HMPC, Table 1.4 demonstrates each member’s expertise in the six mitigation categories (Prevention, Property Protection, Natural Resource Protection, Emergency Services, Structural Flood Control Projects and Public Information). The Peoria County Planning and Zoning Department is responsible for community land use and comprehensive planning and was an active participant on the HMPC and provided data and information to support development of the plan.

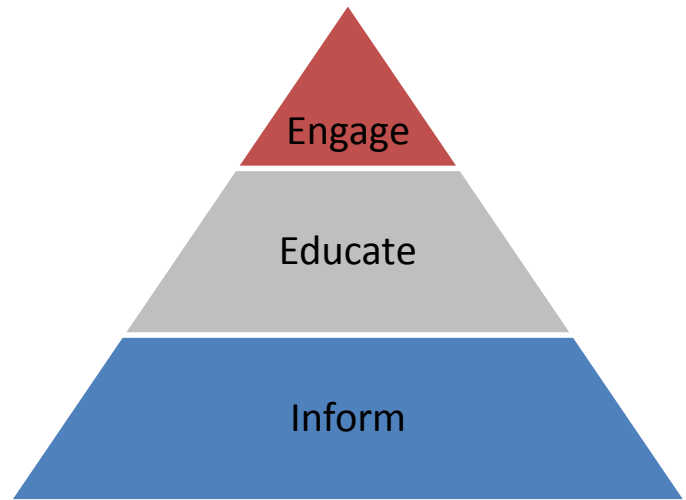
Table 1.4 – Peoria County Capability with Six Mitigation Categories Community

Community Department/Office	Prevention	Property Protection	Natural Resource Protection	Emergency Services	Structural Flood Control Projects	Public Information
Planning and Zoning Department	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Highway Department	✓				✓	✓
Emergency Management Agency	✓	✓		✓		✓
Communications	✓			✓		✓
Health Department	✓	✓	✓			✓
GIS Division						✓
E-911 Board				✓		✓

Planning Step 2: Involve the Public

At the kick-off meeting, the HMPC discussed options for public involvement. A public outreach strategy was prepared to capture the input of the HMPC and identify tools and activities to engage, educate, and inform the citizens of Peoria County of local multi-hazard mitigation planning efforts for each of the major phases of the mitigation planning process. This outreach includes:

- ▶ **Engage** the public and other stakeholders through interactive dialogue including such forums as planning committee meetings, public meetings, workshops and open house events;
- ▶ **Educate** the public and other stakeholders through a listen and learn process such as information booths, presentations, and briefings to elected officials; and
- ▶ **Inform** the public and other stakeholders through one-way communication such as written outreach materials, websites, and news media.



ENGAGE

- ▶ **Participation on the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC)** – Half of the HMPC, seven members, serve as representatives of the public and stakeholders of Peoria County. This includes representation from: American Red Cross Central and Southern Illinois, Friends of River Beach Drive, Home Builders Association of Greater Peoria, Peoria County Farm Bureau, Heart of Illinois Group Sierra Club, Peoria Regional Office of Education, and State NFIP Coordinator.
- ▶ **Public Meetings** - Two (2) public meetings were held at key points in the project timeline to obtain public input on natural and manmade hazards, problems, and possible solutions. The public meetings were held during the draft-plan development and prior to finalizing the plan. Where appropriate, stakeholder and public comments were incorporated into the final plan, including the sections that address mitigation goals and strategies. These meetings were coordinated and arranged by Peoria County with facilitation support from Amec Foster Wheeler. Meeting dates included:
 - March 21, 2016, Peoria County Courthouse, Introduction to DMA, CRS, and the planning process. This public meeting was held in the evening, separate from the HMPC Kickoff Meeting.
 - October 19, 2016, Alpha Park Public Library, Open House. This public meeting was held following the HMPC Meeting #3 to gather input from the public and stake holders on potential mitigation actions.

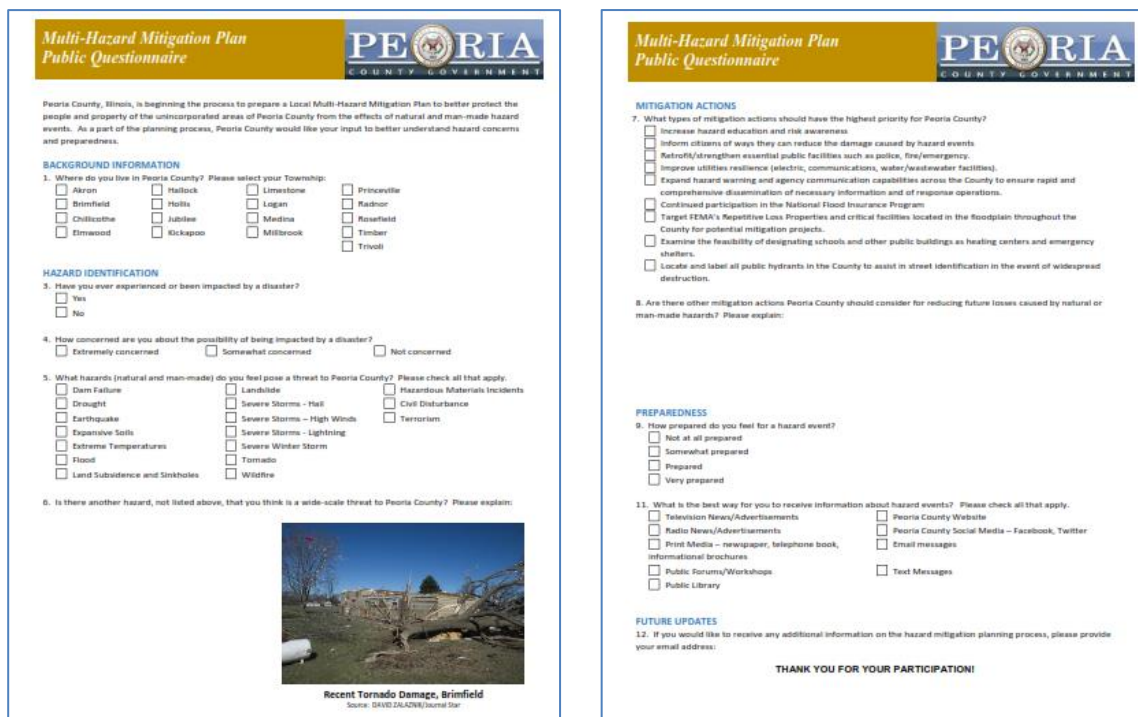
EDUCATE

- ▶ **Presentations for Stakeholder Groups** – Peoria County staff coordinated additional hazard mitigation presentations for various stakeholder groups to explain the planning process and encourage input to the HMPC. Stakeholder meetings included:
 - Weather Spotter Training, March 22, 2016
 - Women’s Council of Realtors, April 7, 2016
 - Peoria County Emergency Expo, June 17, 2016
 - Illinois Community College Civic Leadership Class, September 15, 2016

- ▶ **Briefings to Elected Officials** – Peoria County staff coordinated one-on-one meetings with County Board Representatives and/or elected officials, as requested, to provide updates on the mitigation planning process.

- ▶ **Questionnaire** - A public participation questionnaire was prepared by Amec Foster Wheeler using the SurveyMonkey web hosting service and was open to the public for four months, see Figure 1.1. The purpose of this questionnaire was to solicit input from the public and stakeholders in Peoria County regarding hazards of concern, areas of mitigation interest, and related preparedness. The online survey gave individuals that were unable to attend the in-person meetings the opportunity to participate in the planning process. The questionnaire was made available through web links posted on the project information website (<http://www.peoriacounty.org/planningandzoning/hazard-mitigation-plan/>), circulated via email, and social media outlets. Additionally, hard copies of the questionnaire were distributed at all public meetings and presentations to stakeholder groups.

Figure 1.1 – Pubic Questionnaire



Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Public Questionnaire

Peoria County, Illinois, is beginning the process to prepare a Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan to better protect the people and property of the unincorporated areas of Peoria County from the effects of natural and man-made hazard events. As a part of the planning process, Peoria County would like your input to better understand hazard concerns and preparedness.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Where do you live in Peoria County? Please select your Township:

<input type="checkbox"/> Akron	<input type="checkbox"/> Hallock	<input type="checkbox"/> Limestone	<input type="checkbox"/> Princeton
<input type="checkbox"/> Brimfield	<input type="checkbox"/> Hollis	<input type="checkbox"/> Logan	<input type="checkbox"/> Radnor
<input type="checkbox"/> Chillicothe	<input type="checkbox"/> Jubilee	<input type="checkbox"/> Medina	<input type="checkbox"/> Rosefield
<input type="checkbox"/> Elmwood	<input type="checkbox"/> Kickapoo	<input type="checkbox"/> Millbrook	<input type="checkbox"/> Timber
			<input type="checkbox"/> Trivoli

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

3. Have you ever experienced or been impacted by a disaster?

Yes
 No


4. How concerned are you about the possibility of being impacted by a disaster?

Extremely concerned Somewhat concerned Not concerned

5. What hazards (natural and man-made) do you feel pose a threat to Peoria County? Please check all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> Dam Failure	<input type="checkbox"/> Landslide	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Materials Incidents
<input type="checkbox"/> Drought	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storms - Flooding	<input type="checkbox"/> Civil Disturbance
<input type="checkbox"/> Earthquake	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storms - High Winds	<input type="checkbox"/> Terrorism
<input type="checkbox"/> Expansive Soils	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storms - Lightning	
<input type="checkbox"/> Extreme Temperatures	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe Winter Storms	
<input type="checkbox"/> Flood	<input type="checkbox"/> Tornado	
<input type="checkbox"/> Land Subsidence and Sinkholes	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire	

6. Is there another hazard, not listed above, that you think is a wide-scale threat to Peoria County? Please explain:



Recent Tornado Damage, Brimfield
Source: DAVID DUNN/DAVID DUNN

MITIGATION ACTIONS

7. What types of mitigation actions should have the highest priority for Peoria County?

Increase hazard education and risk awareness
 Inform citizens of ways they can reduce the damage caused by hazard events
 Retrofit/strengthen essential public facilities such as police, fire/emergency
 Improve utilities resilience (electric, communications, water/wastewater facilities)
 Expand hazard warning and agency communication capabilities across the County to ensure rapid and comprehensive dissemination of necessary information and of response operations
 Continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program
 Target FEMA's Repetitive Loss Properties and critical facilities located in the floodplain throughout the County for potential mitigation projects
 Examine the feasibility of designating schools and other public buildings as heating centers and emergency shelters
 Locate and label all public hydrants in the County to assist in street identification in the event of widespread destruction

8. Are there other mitigation actions Peoria County should consider for reducing future losses caused by natural or man-made hazards? Please explain:

PREPAREDNESS

9. How prepared do you feel for a hazard event?

Not at all prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Prepared
 Very prepared

11. What is the best way for you to receive information about hazard events? Please check all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> Television News/Advertisements	<input type="checkbox"/> Peoria County Website
<input type="checkbox"/> Radio News/Advertisements	<input type="checkbox"/> Peoria County Social Media - Facebook, Twitter
<input type="checkbox"/> Print Media - newspaper, telephone book, informational brochures	<input type="checkbox"/> Email messages
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Forums/Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/> Text Messages
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Library	

FUTURE UPDATES

12. If you would like to receive any additional information on the hazard mitigation planning process, please provide your email address:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

INFORM

- ▶ **Television and Newspaper Articles** – Through coordination with Strategic Communications Director of Peoria County, each HMPC and Public Meeting was announced through press releases to generate interest and support from local television stations and newspapers. Examples include the news story presented by WYZZ-TV and WMBD-TV the evening of the first public meeting:
 - <http://www.centralillinoisproud.com/news/local-news/peoria-county-developing-hazard-mitigation-plan>
- ▶ **Public Access Television** – Powerpoint presentations from the public meetings (2) were presented on the local public access television channel to provide an overview of hazard mitigation planning and the planning process underway in Peoria County.
- ▶ **Website** - A project information website was prepared and hosted by Peoria County for the duration of the planning process with the primary purpose to share information relevant to the Peoria County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Specific resources to be included on this site include:
 - Meeting schedule, agendas, presentations, and minutes;
 - Project information flyers (3) for introduction, risk assessment, and notification of draft document;
 - Link to online questionnaire
 - Draft Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for review/comment; and
 - Reference documents and links to planning resources.

The website address is: <http://www.peoriacounty.org/planningandzoning/mitigation/>

- ▶ **Project Information Flyers** – Three (3) project information flyers were developed and distributed throughout the planning process to provide information on the hazard mitigation planning and opportunities for public involvement. This resource was available on the project information website as well as distributed to local libraries and at public meetings identified in the ‘educate’ process. Specific information to be provided in the flyers includes:
 - What is a Hazard Mitigation Plan?
 - Why is it important to me?
 - What can I do to participate?
 - Planning Status
 - Mitigation Success Stories
- ▶ **Social Media** – Peoria County’s social media outlets on Twitter and Facebook were utilized to publish information regarding public meetings, the online questionnaire, and general hazard mitigation planning information.

Documentation of all public outreach activities is included in Appendix B.

Planning Step 3: Coordinate with Other Agencies

Early in the planning process, the HMPC determined that data collection, mitigation strategy development, and plan approval would be greatly enhanced by inviting state and federal agencies and organizations to participate in the process. A detailed list of agency coordination is provided above under Planning Step 1: Organize to Prepare the Plan.

In addition, Peoria County reached out to agencies and organizations outside of Peoria County's governmental structure. The following 38 agencies and organizations were contacted, initially by formal letter, requesting data or information related to natural and hazards in the planning area and offer the opportunity to participate in the planning process and on the HMPC:

- National Weather Service - Lincoln, IL Office, Meteorologist-in-Charge
- National Weather Service - Lincoln, IL Office, Service Hydrologist
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, Flood Engineer
- National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Regional Conservationist
- National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) - Peoria County SWCD
- FEMA Region V - Mitigation Planning
- US Fish and Wildlife - Rock Island Field Office
- State NFIP Coordinator
- Illinois Emergency Management Agency
- Illinois Department of Agriculture
- Illinois EPA – air
- Illinois EPA – land
- Illinois EPA – water
- Illinois Historic Preservation
- Illinois Housing and Development Authority
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources - Endangered Species Protection Board (DNR)
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources - Mines & Minerals
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources - Greenways and Trails Program
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources - Water Resources
- Illinois Pollution Control Board
- Illinois Department of Public Health
- Illinois DOT
- Tazewell County EMA
- Woodford County EMA
- Marshall County EMA
- Stark County EMA
- Knox County EMA
- Fulton County EMA
- Tri-County Regional Planning
- Bradley University

- Illinois Central College
- Robert Morris College
- Midstate College
- University of Illinois College of Medicine
- Caterpillar
- OSF Saint Francis Medical Center
- Unity Point Health Methodist
- USPS

The agencies and organizations were contacted a second time, by formal letter, requesting review and comment on the Draft Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The letter templates and list of addresses to which the letters were mailed can be found in Appendix B. Copies of letters sent will be provided upon request.

Other Community Planning Efforts and Hazard Mitigation Activities

Coordination with other community planning efforts is also paramount to the success of this plan. Hazard mitigation planning involves identifying existing policies, tools, and actions that will reduce a community's risk and vulnerability to hazards. Peoria County uses a variety of comprehensive planning mechanisms, such as general plans and ordinances, to guide growth and development. Integrating existing planning efforts and mitigation policies and action strategies into this plan establishes a credible and comprehensive plan that ties into and supports other community programs. The development of this plan incorporated information from the following existing plans, studies, reports, and initiatives as well as other relevant data from neighboring communities and other jurisdictions.

- Tri-County Regional Planning Commission Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2010
- Peoria County Kickapoo Valley Hazard Mitigation Plan, 1997
- Peoria County Emergency Operations Plan, 2015
- Peoria County Hazard Vulnerability Assessment, 2016
- Peoria County Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 2009
- Peoria County, IL Flood Insurance Study, 1979
- City of Elmwood Disaster Recovery Plan, 2010
- Regional Stormwater Plan for Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford, 2009
- USDA Peoria County Soils Survey
- State of Illinois Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2013.
- Peoria County Code, Chapter 20 Unified Development Ordinance, Article 3 – Development Review Procedures
- Peoria County Code, Chapter 20 Unified Development Ordinance, Article 4 – Zoning Districts
- Peoria County Code, Chapter 20 Unified Development Ordinance, Article 7 – General Development Standards

- Peoria County Code, Chapter 20 Unified Development Ordinance, Article 8 – Subdivisions

These and other documents were reviewed and considered, as appropriate, during the collection of data to support Planning Steps 4 and 5, which include the hazard identification, vulnerability assessment, and capability assessment. Data from these plans and ordinances were incorporated into the risk assessment and hazard vulnerability sections of the plan as appropriate. The data was also used in determining the capability of the community in being able to implement certain mitigation strategies. The Capability Assessment can be found in Section 2.2.

1.3.2 Phase 2: Assess Risks

Planning Steps 4 and 5: Assess the Hazard(s) and Assess the Problem(s)

Amec Foster Wheeler led the HMPC in an exhaustive research effort to identify and document all the hazards that have, or could, impact the planning area. Geographic information systems (GIS) were used to display, analyze, and quantify hazards and vulnerabilities. The HMPC also conducted a capability assessment to review and document the planning area's current capabilities to mitigate risk and vulnerability from hazards. By collecting information about existing government programs, policies, regulations, ordinances, and emergency plans, the HMPC could assess those activities and measures already in place that contribute to mitigating some of the risks and vulnerabilities identified. A more detailed description of the risk assessment process and the results are included in Chapter 3 Risk Assessment.

1.3.3 Phase 3: Develop a Mitigation Plan

Planning Steps 6 and 7: Set Goals and Review Possible Activities

Amec Foster Wheeler facilitated brainstorming and discussion sessions with the HMPC that described the purpose and the process of developing planning goals and objectives, a comprehensive range of mitigation alternatives, and a method of selecting and defending recommended mitigation actions using a series of selection criteria. This information is included in Chapter 4 Mitigation Strategy. Additional documentation on the process the HMPC used to develop the goals and strategy is in Appendix C: Mitigation Alternatives and Prioritization.

Planning Step 8: Draft an Action Plan

Based on input from the HMPC regarding the draft risk assessment and the goals and activities identified in Planning Steps 6 and 7, Amec Foster Wheeler produced a complete first draft of the plan. This complete draft was distributed for HMPC review and comment. Other agencies were invited to comment on this draft as well. HMPC and agency comments were integrated into the second draft, which was advertised and distributed to collect public input and comments. Amec Foster Wheeler integrated comments and issues from the public, as appropriate, along with additional internal review comments and produced a final draft for the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and FEMA Region V to review and approve, contingent upon final

adoption by the Peoria County Board. All planning document deliverables are outlined in Table 1.5 below.

Table 1.5. Planning Deliverables

Deliverable	Date
Mitigation Planning Kickoff Preparation	February 15, 2016
Introduction for HMPC	February 15, 2016
Public Information Flyer #1	March 14, 2016
Public Outreach Strategy	March 30, 2016
HMPC #1- Meeting Minutes	May 4, 2016
Draft Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan - Chapters 1, 2, and 3 - Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Update - Previous Mitigation Actions	July 11, 2016
Public Information Flyer #2	September 13, 2016
HMPC #3- Meeting Minutes	November 21, 2016
Draft Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan - Full Document - Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 - Appendices A, B, C, and D	December 5, 2016
Public Information Flyer #3	December 5, 2016
Draft Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for Public Review	April 17, 2017

1.3.4 Phase 4: Implement the Plan and Monitor Progress

Planning Step 9: Adopt the Plan

In order to secure buy-in and officially implement the plan, the plan was adopted by the Peoria County Board on the date included in the adoption resolution in Appendix A: Adoption Resolution.

Planning Step 10: Implement, Evaluate, and Revise the Plan

The true worth of any mitigation plan is in the effectiveness of its implementation. Up to this point in the planning process, all of the HMPC's efforts have been directed at researching data, coordinating input from participating entities, and developing appropriate mitigation actions. Each recommended action includes key descriptors, such as a lead manager and possible funding sources, to help initiate implementation. An overall implementation strategy is described in

Chapter 5 Plan Implementation and Maintenance. A plan update and maintenance schedule and a strategy for continued public involvement are also included in Chapter 5.

Finally, there are numerous organizations within the Peoria County planning area whose goals and interests interface with hazard mitigation. Coordination with these other planning efforts, as addressed in Planning Step 3, is paramount to the ongoing success of this plan and mitigation in unincorporated Peoria County and is addressed further in Chapter 5.