

LOCAL PLANNING PROCESS

IOWA COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Overview

There are four basic steps to jurisdictions participating in the update to the Iowa County hazard mitigation plan. The steps and some additional details follow:

1. Form a planning committee
2. Hold a planning meeting
3. Participate in the comment period
4. Adopt the plan

Form a Planning Committee

Jurisdictions will benefit from receiving input from individuals serving in a variety of roles. Additional information for this step is on the back of this handout.

Hold a Planning Meeting

ECICOG recommends holding a meeting that is open to the public. It can provide a notice and agenda for the meeting. The agenda will follow the ECICOG-provided Community Summary, which contains information for the jurisdiction from the currently approved hazard mitigation plan and instructions for updating the jurisdiction's information. ECICOG can be available remotely when the jurisdiction's meeting is held. Part of the Community Summary provides space for documenting participants in the meeting and a short description of the meeting. Minutes should be provided for public meetings. **The updated Community Summary must be returned to Tom Gruis at ECICOG no later than November 15, 2019.**

Participate in the Comment Period

Jurisdictions will have the opportunity to review the updated Community Summary prior to the plan being released. When the plan is released, around February 2020, there will be a 30-day public comment period. Jurisdictions are welcome to review the plan and comment.

Adopt the Plan

Participating jurisdictions must adopt the plan by resolution to be eligible to apply for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants (HMA). ECICOG will provide a draft resolution.

Forming a Planning Committee

The role of the planning committee is to discuss the hazards that present a risk to the community and projects that could mitigate their effects. Committee members with a knowledge of the community, priority hazards, community infrastructure, or potential mitigation projects have a perspective that may benefit the planning process. Anyone can be on the committee, but a larger committee is not necessarily better. Examples of individuals to consider are the following:

- Elected officials
- Management staff/clerk
- Public works or maintenance staff
- Engineer
- Emergency management
- Floodplain manager
- Public safety personnel
- Interested residents

For more information, please contact Tom Gruis at the East Central Iowa Council of Governments by email at tom.gruis@ecicog.org or by phone at 319-365-9941 ext. 130.