


Ulster County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update


Kickoff Meeting
October 3, 2013
9:30 am
 Legislative Chambers of the Ulster County Building
 244 Fair Street, Kingston



Today's Agenda

Welcome and Opening Remarks.....	UCECEM
Mitigation, Mitigation Planning, and Plan Updates.....	URS
Overview of the Current Plan and Benefits of Continued Participation.....	URS
The Plan Update and Participation Requirements	URS
Project Timeline.....	URS
Closing Remarks.....	UCECEM
Questions.....	All
Adjourn	

Opening Remarks



"Nature, as we know her, is no saint."
 - Ralph Waldo Emerson



Hazard Mitigation: Breaking the Cycle

Hazard mitigation:

- **Sustained** actions taken to reduce **long-term** risk to life and property
- Natural disasters can't be prevented, but their impacts can be reduced through hazard mitigation.



Hazard Mitigation: Breaking the Cycle

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 • When natural hazard events take place in undeveloped areas, no disaster occurs.
- 
 • The magnitude of a disaster depends on the intensity of the event, the number of people and structures exposed, and the effectiveness of pre-disaster mitigation actions in protecting people and property.

Hazard Mitigation: Breaking the Cycle

Hazard mitigation is the key to resiliency.



Hazard Mitigation: Breaking the Cycle

Examples:

- Elevation of Structures
- Property Acquisitions
- Elevation of Utilities
- Storm Shutters
- Minor Flood Reduction
- Safe Rooms
- Soil Stabilization
- Codes and Standards

Hazard Mitigation: Breaking the Cycle

Hazard mitigation plans:

- Identify the hazards
- Describe the risks
- Set forth mitigation strategies to reduce key risks
 - Implementing these mitigation strategies will make our communities more sustainable and disaster-resistant

Importance of Mitigation Planning

- Natural hazards are a part of our past, and they will be a part of our future.
- Damages and impacts from an event can be staggering and often have long-term consequences.
- Federal dollars are not always available to aid in the recovery process for every occurrence.

Importance of Mitigation Planning

Goal:

- More sustainable and disaster resistant communities

Importance of Mitigation Planning

- Natural hazard events can't be prevented
- Mitigation planning allows us to understand our vulnerabilities, and develop targeted mitigation strategies to reduce these vulnerabilities.
- Implementing mitigation projects will, over time, ensure that our hazards don't become disasters.

Importance of Mitigation Planning

Importance of Mitigation Planning

Building disaster resistance through mitigation...

- ...is easy?
- ...can be accomplished quickly?
- ...requires limited resources?

Probably Not!




Importance of Mitigation Planning

Building disaster resistance through mitigation can be costly because it requires an ongoing commitment of limited local resources:

- staff members
- their time
- local funding



Importance of Mitigation Planning

Yet, we must commit to mitigate, if for no other reason than this:

Over the long term, it will cost more if we don't.



Our Plan, and its First Update – In Context

The current Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- Was a requirement to comply with DMA2000
- Was multi-jurisdictional, with 12 of 24 jurisdictions participating
- Was approved by FEMA and adopted by participating jurisdictions in 2009
 - These 12 jurisdictions and the County have been eligible to apply for FEMA mitigation project grants

Our Plan, and its First Update – In Context

Hazard mitigation plans must be:

- Implemented on an ongoing basis (projects)
- Updated every five years

Our Plan, and its First Update – In Context

The updated Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- Is required to maintain compliance with DMA2000
 - Previously participating jurisdictions will be invited to continue their participation
 - Previously not participating jurisdictions will be invited to join in the process
 - 5-year cycle

Our Plan, and its First Update – In Context

First plan update process is ongoing:

- FEMA approval is expected in 2015
- Initial plan, and the update, have been funded by FEMA mitigation planning grants

Our Plan, and its First Update – In Context

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    graph TD
      C[Communities] --> MJPP((Multi-Jurisdictional Planning Process))
      P[Public] --> MJPP
      Co[County] --> MJPP
      OS[Other Stakeholders] --> MJPP
      MJPP --- Text[Every community is an equal participant with the County – this is your plan]
      
```

Every community is an equal participant with the County – this is **your** plan

Importance of Plan Updates

- Continued compliance with DMA2000
- Maintain eligibility to apply for mitigation project grants
- Evaluation of hazards, risks, and appropriate strategies for reducing risks – remains current

Importance of Plan Updates

Regular updates ensure:

- That the plan remains applicable to present-day understanding of vulnerabilities based on most recent studies, reports, event histories, etc.; and
- That the plan continues to present the best path forward for reducing future damages when hazard events, inevitably, occur.

Importance of Plan Updates

5-year Updates to Reflect CURRENT Conditions:

- Assess current development patterns and development pressures
- Evaluate new hazard or risk information
- Describe progress in local plan maintenance and plan integration efforts
- Assess previous goals and actions
- Summarize progress in implementing actions
- Adjust actions to address current realities
- Explain any changes in priorities
- Address changes in Federal/State requirements

Overview of the Current Plan

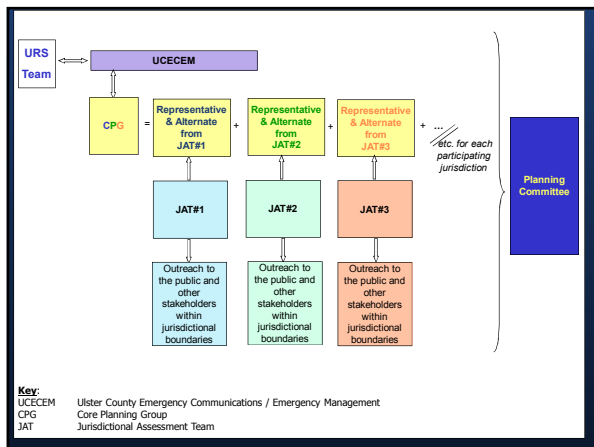
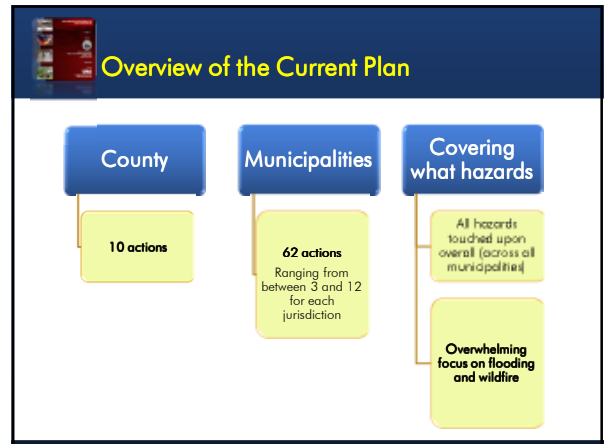
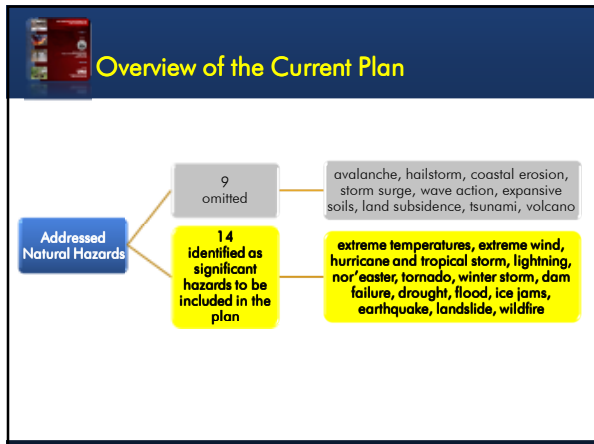
Initial planning process was conducted between 2007 and 2008

Plan was approved by FEMA early in 2009

Addressed natural hazards

The County and 12 of its 24 municipalities met participation requirements to be included in the plan

The County and 12 participants ultimately adopted the Final 2009 Plan



Benefits of Continued Participation

Continued Compliance with DMA 2000

- All jurisdictions who participate in the process will:
 - Maintain compliance with DMA 2000 once FEMA approves the final updated plan and the jurisdiction's local governing body formally adopts it.
 - Maintain eligibility to apply for hazard mitigation project grants.

Benefits of Continued Participation

Collaboration and Partnerships

- Multi-jurisdictional planning committees can provide a forum for engaging in partnerships that could provide technical, financial, and/or staff resources to help reduce the effects, and hence the costs, of hazards.
- Multi-jurisdictional planning creates economies of scale.

Benefits of Continued Participation

Implemented hazard mitigation measures will reduce:

- the risk of damage to lives and property
- the impacts of a hazard event on the economic and social fabric of a community
- response time and costs

Benefits of Continued Participation

According to a study by the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council (part of the National Institute of Building Sciences):

Every \$1 paid toward mitigation saves an average of \$4 in future disaster-related costs

Benefits of Continued Participation

Once the plan is approved, jurisdictions that participate fully will be eligible to apply for grant funding for projects like these:

- Acquire/elevate/floodproof/ relocate structures
- Road raising/relocation
- Culvert upgrades
- Bridge retrofits
- Wind retrofits
- Utility system protective measures
- Minor localized flood reduction projects (inc. retention/detention basins)
- Soil stabilization (geotextiles, rip rap, etc.)
- Wildfire mitigation (defensible space, ignition-resistant construction, fuel reduction)

Benefits of Continued Participation

Programs and Federal Share

- HMGP 75%
- PDM 75%
- FMA 75%
- RFC 100%
- SRL 90%

Mitigation Works!

Mitigation Works!

Plan Update: Key Steps

The plan must be updated and re-approved every five years.

The plan must be expanded upon to address:

- New guidance since the plan was first approved
- Unique requirements for plan updates
- New state requirements



Plan Update: Key Steps

Planning process just as with the original plan.

- Outreach to the public and other stakeholders
- Update hazard and vulnerability data to reflect recent events, new data/studies/reports, etc.
- Update NFIP data (i.e., RLP, SRL, DFIRMs)
- Updates to reflect changes in development in hazard prone areas



Plan Update: Key Steps

- Update/expand mitigation strategies to ensure a comprehensive range of mitigation actions covering identified risks in each jurisdiction
- Describe status of each action in previous plan
 - Completed?
 - Still relevant?
 - Will it be included in the updated action plan?
 - Have any priorities changed? If so, how/why?



Plan Update: New York State Requirements – new

<http://www.dhss.ny.gov/oem/mitigation/documents/hazard-mit-plan-standards2012.pdf>

- 8 new requirements as conditions of grant award



* cartoon by Chris Madden



Plan Update: Participation Requirements

Each municipality must directly participate in the update in order to receive approval from FEMA and eligibility to apply for hazard mitigation project grants.



Plan Update: Participation Requirements

- Direct participation
- From each jurisdiction
- Throughout the update process timeline



Plan Update: Participation Requirements

Participating jurisdictions must:

- Attend meetings
- Conduct outreach
- Provide feedback (*worksheets*)
- Update their municipal mitigation action plans
- Review and comment on the Updated Plan Draft
- Implement the plan and monitor progress

Participation Requirements: Outreach to the Public and Other Stakeholders

Outreach

- To the general public and other stakeholders
- Throughout the update process and during the plan maintenance stages
- Concerted efforts using various avenues

Note: Meetings with your own municipal staff members are JAT activities - not 'outreach'

Participation Requirements: Outreach to the Public and Other Stakeholders

GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM Outreach to the Public and Other Stakeholders

URS

To: Anthony Sirois (202)784-1400
 From: Lisa P. Proffitt (202)784-1400
 Date: August 19, 2010
 Re: URS County Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan Update - Outreach

The Project: In support of the approved (2007) URS County Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan for Carbonate Karst Areas with the State Mitigation Act (2007) and for other jurisdictions.

The Issue: URS County's requirements for plan approval: municipal staff members must participate in the outreach process through attending meetings, providing various types of information and feedback, coordinating and reviewing mitigation actions, and reviewing draft documents. In addition, it is also required that the public and other stakeholders conduct an outreach program, identify concerns, disseminate, maintain records, and other intended parties to give an opportunity to comment and participate. **Memorandum prepared in support of URS County Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan Update - Outreach.**

Memo Purpose: This memorandum has been prepared to provide the Core Planning Group (CPG) and its participating jurisdictions with suggestions for engaging the public and other stakeholders in the plan update in a manner that will meet FEMA's communication requirements for the approval.

Key to Mind: URS, in the consulting capacity, is able to provide the Core Planning Group with guidance on potential issues to satisfy the outreach requirements. It is the members of the Core Planning Group (CPG) and its participating jurisdictions who are ultimately responsible for selecting activities that they feel are most appropriate for their respective communities, concerns and from activities originating URS with its participation/Outreach into the scope of the project to be incorporated into the plan.

Action Items: Outreach to the public and other stakeholders meeting immediately and continuing on an ongoing basis throughout the plan update process. Completed Outreach Log documenting these activities must be provided to URS for your activities to be incorporated into the Draft Plan Update. Please don't hesitate to contact Lisa P. Proffitt or Anthony Sirois if you have any questions. They can be reached via phone at (202)784-1400 or via email at Lisa.Proffitt@urscorp.com or anthony@urscorp.com, respectively.

URS County Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan Update - Outreach

OUTREACH LOG:
Inventory of Outreach Activities for the General Public and Other Stakeholders

PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS:

NAME OF ACTIVITY	NAME OF ACTIVITY	ACTIVITY DETAILS	LEAD DEPARTMENT AND/OR TEAM LEAD (PHONENUMBER AND EMAIL)

Please submit additional pages as needed to outreach@urscorp.com or Lisa P. Proffitt at: www.urscorp.com. For questions, please call (202) 784-1400.

Participation Requirements: Outreach to the Public and Other Stakeholders

Who Are Other Stakeholders?

Must include:

- ◆ Neighboring communities
- ◆ Local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities
- ◆ Agencies that have authority to regulate development
- ◆ Other interests

Other interests, include:

- ◆ Non-profit organizations (i.e., Red Cross, Salvation Army)
- ◆ Environmental groups
- ◆ Historic preservation groups
- ◆ Church organizations
- ◆ Parks organizations
- ◆ State, federal, and local government offices
- ◆ Business and development organizations
- ◆ Transportation entities
- ◆ Emergency service providers
- ◆ Academic institutions
- ◆ Utility providers
- ◆ Hospitals
- ◆ Tribal groups
- ◆ Large businesses
- ◆ Regional planning organizations

Plan Update: New York State Requirements - new

- Counties and communities should invite (at a minimum) the following stakeholders when initiating the planning process and identifying strategies and specific projects:
 - County Hazard Mitigation Coordinators and Floodplain Professionals
 - County Emergency Managers
 - County Planners & GIS staff
 - County Soil & Water Conservation Districts
 - Regional & Metropolitan (Transportation) Planning Organizations
 - Delaware and Susquehanna River Basin Commissions (if applicable)
 - Local Hazard Mitigation Coordinators and Floodplain Managers
 - Local Code Enforcement Officials
 - Local Emergency Management (Emergency Manager, Fire & Police Chiefs)
 - Local Planners and planning consultants (if applicable)
 - Local Engineers and engineering consultants (if applicable)
 - Local Public Works or Highway Superintendents

Participation Requirements: Outreach to the Public and Other Stakeholders

Fact Sheet

Participation Requirements: Outreach to the Public and Other Stakeholders

Web Site

http://co.ulster.ny.us/emergencyservices/management/haz_mit/index.html

Participation Requirements: Outreach to the Public and Other Stakeholders

- Make the Fact Sheet available if, for example, your municipality has a booth at a local fair/festival.
- Publish information about the municipality's participation in the plan update in a local newspaper/newsletter, if possible.
- Ensure that the public and other stakeholders are invited to review and provide comments on the Draft Plan Update, when it becomes available.
- Consider using radio announcements, press advisories/releases, and local television.

Participation Requirements: Outreach to the Public and Other Stakeholders

Targeted outreach to key stakeholders can be as simple as a phone call, letter or email sent to a list of key stakeholders that:

- Alerts them to the plan update
- Provides them with a link to the County web site for more information on the process
- Identifies a point of contact if they have detailed questions or would like to become involved
- Offers to send them copies of meeting minutes and a notification when the Draft is released, on request.

Participation Requirements: Outreach to the Public and Other Stakeholders

Project Timeline

LOCAL FEEDBACK - ONGOING THROUGHOUT

- Kickoff Meeting – October 2013
- Gap Analysis & Risk Assessment Update – Feb 2014
- Quantify Completed Projects – May 2014
- Update Goals & Strategies – June 2014
- Update Capabilities & LUDT – June 2014
- Update Plan Implementation & Monitoring – July 2014
- 5 Future Meetings (now through Draft)
- Draft Plan - August 2014
- Final Plan - Pending FEMA approval

Project Timeline: Near-term Actions for Participating Jurisdictions

To Do: Be ready to complete and return worksheets that will start to arrive via email in the coming weeks from Art

To Do: Begin your outreach efforts

- Discuss the plan update at regularly scheduled council/board meetings
- Post the plan update Fact Sheet on notice boards
- Establish a link on your jurisdiction's web site to the overall County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update page
- Targeted outreach to key local stakeholders

Project Timeline: Long-term Actions for Participating Jurisdictions

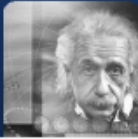
To Do: Continued outreach

To Do: Continued worksheet completion

To Do: Start thinking about improvements to your mitigation strategies now

Questions?

Closing Remarks



► "The world we have created today as a result of our thinking thus far has problems which cannot be solved by thinking the way we thought when we created them."

Albert Einstein

Contact Information

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	Richard Franks richard.a.franks@urs.com, 973-883-8559