

## Section

# 3

## PLANNING PROCESS

The Brown County Public Safety Services, The Polis Center (Polis), and Miami University (MU) joined efforts to develop this plan update. The planning process consisted of the following tasks:

### **Task 1: Organize Resources**

Brown County Public Safety Services created a planning team to attend meetings, gather data and historical information, review drafts, and participate in mitigation brainstorming sessions. The timeline of these meetings are illustrated in Figure 3-1.

### **Task 2: Risk Assessment**

The planning team identified the natural and technological hazards to include in this plan, and Polis and MU developed hazard event profiles to address the possible magnitudes and severities associated with each hazard. The team then used local resources to inventory the county's assets and estimate losses.

### **Task 3: Public Involvement**

The public was invited to attend a public meeting to review the risk assessment results and discuss mitigation strategies. The public meeting was advertised locally prior to the meetings. A copy of the newspaper announcement is available in Appendix B.

### **Task 4: Develop Mitigation Strategies**

Polis and MU met with community representatives to develop and prioritize mitigation strategies and action items that would reduce the costs of disaster response and recovery, protect people and infrastructure, and minimize overall disruption to the county in the event of a disaster.

### **Task 5: Complete the Plan**

Polis compiled all of the planning team documentation and research with the risk assessment and mitigation strategies to produce a draft plan for review. The Brown County planning team had multiple opportunities to review and revise the plan before submitting to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency and FEMA for approval.

### **Task 6: Plan Adoption**

Brown County Public Safety Services coordinated the effort to collect adoptions from each participating jurisdiction.

**Figure 3-1: Planning Team Meetings**



### **3.1 Planning Team Information**

The planning team is headed by Director of Brown County Public Safety Services, Beth Nevel. The core of the planning team is the local emergency planning committee (LEPC). The core of the planning team is made up of the local emergency planning committee (LEPC) that meets monthly on emergency management in Brown County. As part of the LEPC efforts, they dedicate monthly meeting time to prepare for meetings with Polis and MU working towards the mitigation plan renewal. The LEPC also incorporated local business owners and government organizations through the Brown County Emergency Task Force (BET). All members of the planning committee were actively involved in attending the MHMP meetings, providing available geospatial data and historical hazard information, reviewing and providing comments on the draft plans, coordinating and participating in the public input process, and coordinating the county’s formal adoption of the plan.

**Table 3-1: Planning Team Members**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position/Title</b>	<b>Agency/Organization</b>
Brown County	Tony Applegate	Commissioner	Board of Commissioners
Village of Aberdeen	Nathan Pfeffer	Fiscal Officer	Village Office
Village of Fayetteville	Barbara Riley	Treasurer	Village Office
Village of Georgetown	Art Owens	Administrator	Office of the Mayor and Council
Village of Hamersville	Tammie Ogle	Fiscal Officer	Village Office
Village of Higginsport	Eddie Crawford	Mayor	Village Office
Lake Lorelei	Steve Ackman	General Manager	Property Owners' Association - Office
Lake Waynoka	Paul Cahall	General Manager	Administration Office
Village of Mount Orab	Bruce Lunsford	Mayor	Mayor's Office
Village of Ripley	Peter S. Renshaw	Administrator	Village Office
Village of Russellville	Paul England	Fiscal Officer	Village Office
Village of Sardinia	Tim Mock	Administrator	Village Office
Village of St. Martin	Unincorporated in 11-2011	n/a	n/a

Appendix C further breaks down community and/or organizational participation in the mitigation plan, post final-draft. Brown County made an extensive effort to meet with participating jurisdictions, and those that did not have an initial strong presence at scheduled meetings to engage them in review of the mitigation plan and solicit feedback.

## **3.2 Review of Existing Plans**

Brown County’s initial MHMP was adopted in 2005 and approved by FEMA in 2007. Polis, MU, and the planning team reviewed the 2007 plan prior to beginning the update process. Additionally, the county and local communities utilize land use plans, emergency response plans, municipal ordinances, and building codes to direct community development. Table 3-2 is a comprehensive list of plans, studies, reports, and ordinances reviewed prior to the development of this plan. This documents were used to inform planning team participants about past mitigation initiatives, assist in formulating new ideas and strategies, and informing participants about other procedures, regulations, etc. that may affect the way Brown County decides to move forward with a mitigation strategy.

**Table 3-2: Documents Reviewed for 2015 MHMP**

Year	Title	Author(s)	Description
2007	Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan	Brown County Emergency Management Agency and Emergency Strategies Inc.	Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan
2011	Ohio State Hazard Mitigation Plan	State of Ohio	State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan
2011	Little Miami Watershed Discovery Meeting Material	Brown County	Risk Map – Watershed Meetings
2013	Southwest Ohio Hazardous Materials Commodity Flow Study	Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton and Warren County	Commodity Flow Study
2013	Bridge Collapse Response Plan and Development Guidance	Ohio Emergency Management Agency	List of bridges in Ohio and associated information on condition, response, and future development

### 3.3 Review of Technical and Fiscal Resources

The planning team identified representatives from key agencies to assist in the planning process and share technical data, reports, and studies. These resources were reviewed to enhance critical assessment of potential risk, estimate potential losses and understand the broader scope of current planning and development within Brown County and the greater region. These resources allow decision makers to determine sound mitigation planning initiatives. The organizations and associated contributions are listed in Table 3-3.

**Table 3-3: Key Resources**

Agency	Resource
Brown County Engineers Office	GIS data, landslide & road-slip locations
Raven 911 (Hamilton Co. maintains and works with Brown Co. to share information)	GIS data
Brown County Auditor’s Office	Assessment & Parcel Records

### 3.4 Public Involvement

The planning team organized a public meeting on April 20, 2015. The team reviewed the results of the risk assessment and discussed potential mitigation strategies. Appendix D includes meeting minutes. On July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 a public meeting was held where a paid advertisement was listed in the local Brown County Press (news print media) for two weeks preceding the meeting. Emails were sent to Brown County Emergency Task Force/Local Emergency Planning Membership, the Brown County ‘public officials’ list serve, and regional list serve of Emergency Management Agency Directors. Additionally, the draft Mitigation document was on display and available at the front desk of the Ohio State University Extension Office and the sign-in window of the Brown County Administration Building for a period sixty days. Appendix B includes the legal notices published in the local newspaper to announce the meetings. The intent of these legal notices was to encourage the public to attend one of the meetings and actively participate in the planning process.

### 3.5 Neighboring Community Involvement

The Brown County planning team invited neighboring counties, including those across the river in Kentucky, to review and comment on the draft plan. All invited members were asked to be involved in MHMP planning process: providing available geospatial data and historical hazard information, reviewing and providing comments on the draft plans, coordinating and participating in the public input process, and coordinating the county’s formal adoption of the plan. Invited persons and their title and organization are listed in table 3-4.

The invited counties included the following:

**Ohio:** Clermont, Clinton, Highland, Adams

**Kentucky:** Bracken, Mason

**Table 3-4: Neighboring Community Participation**

Person Participating	Neighboring Jurisdiction	Title	Organization
Pam Haverkos	Clermont County (OH)	Director	EMA
Mike Jones	Clinton County (OH)	Director	EMA
James Lyle	Highland County (OH)	Director	EMA
Karen Sapp	Adams County (OH)	Director	EMA
Neider Reynolds	Bracken County (KY)	Director	EMA

<b>Person Participating</b>	<b>Neighboring Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Wayne Muse	Mason County (KY)	Director	EMA

Brown County also invited academic representatives, watershed groups and other interested parties to participate in the planning process. Table 3-5 lists the invited persons/organizations.

**Table 3-5: Invited Organizations outside of the County**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Position/Title</b>
University of Cincinnati	Lesley Dorhout	Academic Affairs
Wilmington University	Erika Goodwin	Dean of Faculty – Academic Affairs
Xavier University	Dr. Gene Beaupre	Director of Governmental Affairs
East Fork Watershed Collaborative	Becky McClatchey	Watershed Coordinator
Greenacres Water Quality Project	Anne Lyon	Water Quality Project Director
Little Miami Watershed Network	Mike Schumacher	Co-Founder
White-Oak Creek Watershed Group	Melody Dragoo	Watershed Coordinator