

A - 1

Date: October 31, 2018
To: Local Government Official/Agency Partner
From: Lisa D'Allessandris, Clark County EMA
Re: Hazard Mitigation Plan – Initial Planning Meeting

You are invited to our Mitigation Plan Initial Planning Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, **November 28th from 2:00-3:30 PM at the Springview Government Center, Room 151.**

Disasters can cause loss of life; damage buildings and infrastructure; and have devastating consequences community's economic, social, and environmental well-being. Hazard mitigation reduces disaster damages and is defined as sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. We as local governments have the responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of our citizens. Proactive mitigation policies and actions help reduce risk and create safer, more disaster- resilient communities. Mitigation is an investment in our community's future, safety, and sustainability.

As you may know the County, and all jurisdictions within, is required to create and adopt a FEMA approved Mitigation Plan that renews every five years. 2019 is our updating year. More than just a required plan, mitigation planning is good for the whole community. It is most effective when it is based on comprehensive, long-term strategies that are developed before a disaster occurs. The purpose of mitigation planning is to identify local policies and actions that can be implemented over the long term to reduce risk and future losses from hazards. These mitigation policies and actions are identified based on an assessment of hazards, vulnerabilities, and risks along with participation of a wide range of stakeholders and the public in the planning process. In other words, the Mitigation Plan belongs to us, the local community!

Benefits of mitigation planning include:

- Identifying actions for risk reduction that are agreed upon by stakeholders and the public.
- Focusing resources on the greatest risks and vulnerabilities.
- Building partnerships by involving citizens, organizations, and businesses.
- Increasing education and awareness of threats and hazards, as well as their risks.
- Communicating priorities to State and Federal officials.
- Aligning risk reduction with other community objectives.

Please let me know of your intention to join us for this import and exciting opportunity. I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

Very Respectfully,
Lisa D'Allessandris