

Chapter 5:

Plan Maintenance

The plan maintenance of this chapter details the processes in which the Brown County Emergency Management Agency and the Core Group Committee, elected/appointed officials and community will utilize to ensure that the Brown County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan remains a current and relevant document. The plan maintenance process includes a schedule for monitoring and evaluating the plan annually, and producing a plan revision every five years. Public meetings and participation will be integrated into the plan maintenance process. The Brown County Emergency Management Agency will continue to work with regional planning representatives, local governments and developers to incorporate mitigation strategies into current and future planning mechanisms.

Monitoring and Implementing the Plan

Plan Adoption

The Brown County Board of Commissioners and each village in Brown County has adopted the Brown County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan by resolution (copies located in Appendix E). These public bodies have the authority to promote sound public policy regarding natural hazards. The adopted plan has been submitted by the Brown County Emergency Management Agency to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer at the Ohio Emergency Management Agency. The Ohio EMA will submit the plan to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review. Upon acceptance by FEMA, Brown County will gain eligibility for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds.

Coordinating Body

The Brown County Hazard Mitigation Core Group Committee will be responsible for monitoring of the plan and undertaking the formal review process. The Brown County Emergency Management Agency has formed a Hazard Mitigation Core Group Committee that consists of members from local agencies, organizations and citizens. The Core Group Committee included the following:

- Elected Officials
- Appointed Officials
- Fire Officials
- Emergency Management
- Building and Zoning Officials
- Service Departments
- USDA
- Insurance Industry

The Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Core Group Committee will hold quarterly meetings and maintain overall responsibility for implementing the plan. The Brown County Emergency Management Agency will serve as the convener to facilitate the Hazard Mitigation Plan Core Group Committee meetings and discussions pertaining to updates to the plan. Plan implementation and evaluation will be a shared responsibility among all of the Hazard Mitigation Plan Core Group Committee members, elected/appointed officials and community.

Implementation through Existing Programs, Communities & Organizations

The Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan includes recommendations that can be accomplished by including mitigation activities into current and future regional planning initiatives.

Upon adoption of the county mitigation plan, the Brown County Emergency Management Agency will work with local villages and townships to incorporate the goals identified in the countywide plan into realistic objectives for each community. This will enable each community to customize their planning strategies based on the natural hazards to most likely impact their community.

Economic Analysis of Mitigation Projects

FEMA's approaches to identify the costs and benefits associated with natural hazard mitigation strategies falls into two general categories: benefit/cost analysis and cost-effectiveness analysis. A benefit/cost analysis assists communities in determining whether a project is worth undertaking now in order to avoid disaster-related damages later. Cost-effectiveness analysis evaluates how best to spend a given amount of money to achieve a specific goal. Evaluating the economic feasibility of mitigating natural hazards provides decision-makers with an understanding of the potential benefits and costs associated with a specific activity, as well as a basis upon which to compare alternative projects.

For more information regarding economic analysis of mitigation action items, please see Appendix C of the plan.

Evaluating and Reviewing the Plan

Annual Review Process

The Brown County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan will be evaluated on an annual basis to determine the effectiveness of programs, and to reflect changes in land development or programs that may affect mitigation priorities. The Brown County Emergency Management Agency, with consultation and collaboration from the core group committee, elected/appointed officials and community,

maintains overall responsibility for monitoring and evaluating the progress of the mitigation strategies in the Plan.

The committee will review the goals and action items to determine their relevance to changing situations in the county, as well as changes in State or Federal policy, and to ensure they are addressing current and expected conditions. The coordinating organizations responsible for action items will present the status of their action item, the implementation processes and the difficulties encountered, at which time strategies may need to be revised.

Five Year Revision

A complete review and revision of the Brown County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan will occur every five years. Mitigation strategies will be incorporated into any revisions of existing plans or new plans developed during the five year period.

Continued Public Involvement

The public will continue to have the opportunity to provide feedback about the Plan. Copies of the plan will be available through EMA, public libraries and the internet. A public meeting will be held annually to give the public the opportunity to express its concerns or ideas about the Plan.