



## Belmont County Hazard Mitigation Plan

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### PLAN MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES – BELMONT COUNTY

#### *Including the cities and villages of the county*

*As per requirement 44 CFR Part 201.6(c)(4)(i): [The plan maintenance process shall include a section describing the] method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle.*

*As per requirement 44 CFR Part 201.6(c)(4)(ii): [The plan shall include a] process by which local governments incorporate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate.*

*As per requirement 44 CFR Part 201.6(c)(4)(iii): [The plan maintenance process shall include a] discussion on how the community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process.*

### MONITORING, EVALUATING, AND UPDATING THE PLAN

The Belmont County EMA and HMC have developed a method to ensure that regular review of the Belmont County Hazard Mitigation Plan occurs. The HMC will monitor the performance of the plan in several ways, such as analyzing social, technical, administrative, economic, and environmental criteria. The HMC will also evaluate mitigation strategies as the chance to implement them arises.

The Belmont County HMC and EMA have decided to review the plan following major hazard events. However, if no major hazard events strike within a five (5)-year period, the stakeholders group will convene to review the plan per federal requirements. One purpose of the meeting will be to determine the plan's effectiveness at determining hazard susceptibility areas. The effectiveness of any implemented mitigation strategies will also be determined. Successful, implemented strategies can then be removed from the plan. Finally, the HMC will discuss new mitigation strategies, quite possibly based on the most recent hazard event, that could have lessened loss from the most recent event or that may lessen future loss. The Belmont County EMA will be responsible for contacting all committee members prior to the updating process.

The HMC will monitor the performance of the plan based on several criteria. For instance, the committee will consider revising mitigation strategies if it appears that the plan is failing according to these criteria.

**Social:** As mitigation strategies are implemented, are the procedures and outcomes well-received by the general public?



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- Technical:** Are the mitigation strategies proving to be technically feasible?  
Are the mitigation strategies eliminating problems rather than creating, new different problems?
- Administrative/ Legal:** Do the mitigation strategies conform with local, state, and federal policies as they are implemented?
- Economic:** Are implemented mitigation strategies stifling economic activity and growth?
- Environmental:** Does implementing mitigation strategies create any adverse environmental conditions? Do mitigation strategies represent sound environmental practices?

### IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH EXISTING PROGRAMS

Several of the strategies identified in the Belmont County Hazard Mitigation Plan address the need for enforcement and/or creation of codes or ordinances. It is highly possible that additional codes may need to be developed or that a revision of existing codes is necessary. The county commission and municipal councils are encouraged to review their existing codes for conformance with mitigation objectives.

### CONTINUED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The Belmont County HMC and EMA understand that the general public must be involved in the planning process, as well as the updates to the completed plan. As such, the HMC will consider involving the public as the plan is updated through attendance at future public and/or HMC meetings, distributing questionnaires, etc. Further, as the plan is re-adopted, the public will be given the chance to comment on the document that is to be adopted *prior* to its actual adoption.

The EMA, at a minimum, will maintain file copies of the Hazard Mitigation Plan that are available for perusal and review at any time. The EMA intends to log all comments received regarding the mitigation plan. Members of the public are invited to contact the EMA with comments regarding hazard events, etc. Local officials are also invited to review the plan's effectiveness at determining hazard susceptibility based on data from hazard events as they occur.