



## Background

## The Disaster Mitigation Act was signed by the President in October 2000.

- > Incentive for states and local governments to undertake natural hazard mitigation planning.
- > Promotes sustainability as a strategy for disaster resistance.
- > Encourages state and local governments to work together, and facilitates cooperation between state and local authorities.
- > Results in faster allocation of funding and more effective risk reduction projects.
- > Colleges and Universities can plan in concert with similar planning efforts in their community.





#### Background

- Hazard Mitigation Plans identify cost effective mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from hazards
- Allows campuses to be eligible to receive nonemergency disaster assistance, including state and federal funding for mitigation and recovery projects
- Projects must be pre-identified in the hazard mitigation plan to receive future funding





## **Examples of Types of Hazards**

- Avalanche
- Earthquake
- High winds
- Hurricanes
- Tornadoes
- Urban Fire
- Floods

- Extreme Heat/Cold
- Drought
- Winter storm
- Ice storm
- Hailstorm
- Tsunami
- Thunder/Lightning





## Benefits of Hazard Mitigation Planning

#### Campuses benefit from Mitigation Planning by:

- Identifying cost effective actions for risk reduction that are agreed upon by stakeholders
- Focusing resources on the greatest risks and vulnerabilities
- Building partnerships by involving the campus community, organizations, local government and businesses
- Increasing education and awareness of hazards and risk
- Communicating priorities to local, state and federal officials
- Aligning risk reduction with other University objectives





### Mitigation Planning Goals

- Promote the Safety of Students, Faculty,
  Staff and Visitors
- Minimize Hazard Impacts to Physical Assets and Operations
- Reduce or Avoid Long-Term Vulnerabilities from Hazards
- Fulfill Federal, State, Local and University
  Hazard Mitigation Planning Requirements
- University Eligibility for Future Funding





## Hazard Mitigation Overview

- Hazard mitigation is defined as "any action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from natural hazards."
- Hazard mitigation activities may be implemented prior to, during, or after an event; however, it is most effective when based on an inclusive, comprehensive, long-term plan that is developed before a disaster occurs.
- Hazard mitigation is often focused on reducing repetitive loss, as many damaging events tend to occur in the same locations over time (e.g. flooding).





- The planning process should closely follow FEMA's recommended four-stage approach.
- Initial and ongoing community support is critical.





#### **Comprehensive Methodology**

#### 1. Planning Process

- Community engagement
- Build on existing information

#### 2. Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

 Systematically identifying hazards through the use of GIS and other tools to assess/prioritize risk

#### 3. Mitigation Strategy

- Reach across broad skill sets to identify hazard mitigation goals
- Draw upon broad campus experience to develop mitigation strategies

#### 4. Plan Review, Evaluation, and Implementation

Work collaboratively and proactively with regulators



## Phase 1 — Organize Resources — identifies the resources available and necessary to complete the process:

- Assess community support
- Build the planning team
  - Identify and organize interested members of the community (stakeholders – on and off campus)
  - > Identify the necessary technical expertise
- Establish a steering committee
  - > Develop a mission statement
  - > Hold a project kick-off meeting
  - > Establish a meeting schedule and goals
  - > Engage the public



Phase 2 — Assess risks — identify the hazards that present risks to the campuses and the assets that are vulnerable to those hazards.

- Gather historical information, review existing university plans/reports, communicate with local planning experts, DEMHS and FEMA.
- Determine which hazards present the greatest risk to the campus community
  - > Assess vulnerability
  - > Create a base map to profile potential hazard events
- Inventory campus assets
  - > Show how hazard events could impact campus (physically and operationally)
  - > Estimate losses



## Hazard Identification Example

Focus on the most prevalent hazards in your community or state, and your campus.

**Identify the Hazards** 

b. Review existing plans and repoct. Talk to the expression community, st.	k can ig uni rts. perts of ate, of ation elow, Colum	npus a iversit on can r regio on Int put a nn I) b	npus and in your on. ernet Web sites. check mark in the seside all hazards is.	Go to hazard Web sites Locate your campus on Determine whether you area. Get more localize necessary. In the hazard list below the boxes on the right (thazards that pose a sign community and/or cam	the Web site are in a high- d information , put a check t Column II) be ificant threat pus.	risk if mark in side all to your
	1	п	Use this space to record i you will be researching.			
Avalanche			Hazard or Event Description	Source of Information	Мар	Scale o
Coastal Erosion			(Type of hazard, date of event,		Available	Map
Coastal Storm			number of injuries, cost and type of damage, etc.)	s	for This Hazard?	
Dam Failure			of damage, etc./		0.000	
Drought						
Earthquake						
Expansive Soils						
Extreme Heat						
Flood						
Hailstorm						
Hurricane						
Land Subsidence						
Landslide						
Severe Winter Storm						
Tornado						
Tsunami						
Volcano						
Wildfire						
Windstorm						
Other					P	
Other						
Other			I			

What kinds of natural hazards can affect you?

Worksheet 3

1. List the hazards that may occur on campus.

Building a Disaster-Resistant University

Natural Hazard	Frequency 0-5	Duration 0-5	Severity 0-5	Intensity 0-5	Probability F,D,I (40%)	Consequence S (60%)	Total	Ranking L,M,H,S
Coastal Storm	3	3	3	3	3.00	3.00	3.00	Н
Earthquake	1	2	4	4	2.33	4.00	3.17	Н
Hurricane	2	2	4	4	2.67	4.00	3.33	Н
Tornado	1	1	4	4	2.00	4.00	3.00	Н
Flood	2	2	2	2	2.00	2.00	2.00	M
Drought	1	2	1	1	1.33	1.00	1.17	L
Winter Storm	3	2	2	2	2.33	2.00	2.17	M
Thunderstorm/Lightning	3	2	2	2	2.33	2.00	2.17	M
Hailstorm	1	2	3	2	1.67	3.00	2.33	M
Wildfire	1	3	2	2	2.00	2.00	2.00	M
Extreme Heat	2	2	1	1	1.67	1.00	1.33	L
Dam Failure	1	1	3	1	1.00	3.00	2.00	M
Windstorm	2	1	2	1	1.33	2.00	1.67	L.
Ice Storm	2	2	3	2	2.00	3.00	2.50	М



# Phase 3 — Develop the mitigation plan — lays out in detail the proposed mitigation actions.

- Establish priorities
  - Compare System mission with the results of the hazard identification and risk assessment
- Develop hazard mitigation goals
  - > Minimize interruption to campus operations and mission
  - > Protect research
- Determine appropriate mitigation actions
- Prioritize mitigations actions
- Prepare an implementation strategy



#### **Hazard Mitigation Plan Contents**

#### **Executive Summary**

• Purpose, Process, Major Recommendations

#### Goals and Objectives

#### Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

Hazard Background, Asset Inventory, Loss Estimation

#### Mitigation Strategy

 Identification of Mitigation Actions, Prioritization of Actions and Methodology, Timeline

#### Implementation and Plan Maintenance

• Responsibilities, Integration with Other Plans, Schedule



# Phase 4 – Implement the plan and monitor progress

- Formally adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Implement mitigation measures
- Monitor, evaluate and update the plan as needed
- Continue to engage stakeholders from the campus and community



#### Summary

- Hazard Mitigation Planning reduces risk and can open up funding for mitigation and recovery projects
- Four-stage process:
  - 1. organize resources
  - assess risks
  - 3. develop a plan
  - 4. implement and monitor progress
- Collaboration with external stakeholders and regulators from the outset can be hugely beneficial



## For more information



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