

→ McHenry County Mitigation Committee Monthly Meeting

2023 Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update: Public Meeting #2

Note the May 2023 Mitigation Committee Meeting is open to the public

Date/Time: Thursday, May 25, 2023, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm CST

Location: Virtual Only - [Microsoft Teams Link](#)

Hazard Mitigation Planning Background:

An effort is underway to update the McHenry County [2017 Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan](#) and renew our 5-year eligibility for federal hazard mitigation funding and discounted flood insurance. **Context:** A mitigation plan is how we communicate about the natural hazards that threaten our County, including the extent and severity of those impacts to residents and critical infrastructure, and our collective plans to reduce those threats. Every 5 years our Plan will be updated considering changing circumstances and risks. **Benefits:** A current plan increases our awareness of hazards, risks and vulnerabilities; identifies actions for risk reduction; and focuses our dollars on the greatest risks. Financially, approved mitigation plans are a prerequisite for certain kinds of non-emergency disaster assistance, such as Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance projects. An approved mitigation plan is also required to reduce flood insurance premiums for residents by sustaining our eligibility National Flood Insurance Program and Community Rating System Program participation.

Today's Meeting Purpose and Objectives:

The **purpose of this meeting is to enhance your awareness and understanding of the County's Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan update and progress to-date and gather your input and feedback** on the mitigation strategy. As a result, the County will be better equipped to refine its mitigation priorities to ensure we meaningfully reduce the impacts of natural hazards to our communities. We will use this time to:

1. Review FEMA's hazard mitigation planning process and criteria, including progress to-date;
2. Review the County's revalidated Mitigation Goals and Guidelines, proposed Action Plan edits and additions, and discuss near-term federal funding opportunities (i.e., FEMA BRIC and FMA); and
3. Receive feedback and address any questions from Committee Members and the public to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the County's mitigation priorities.

Agenda:

Time (CST)	Topic	Presenter(s)
1:00-1:15pm CT (15 mins)	Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Icebreaker Activity• Agenda Review• Administrative Update	Bob Ellsworth (EMA), David Christensen, (EMA) & Justin Strickland (ICF)
1:15-1:35pm CT (20 mins)	Hazard Mitigation Planning 101 & Risk Assessment Recap Desired Outcome(s): Refreshed understanding of the FEMA Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Process and the County's progress to-date, including the updated Risk Assessment.	Kelli Reddick (ICF)

Time (CST)	Topic	Presenter(s)
1:35-1:55pm CT (20 mins)	<p>Mitigation Goals & Action Plan Review</p> <p>Desired Outcome(s): Increased awareness and understanding of the County’s revalidated hazard mitigation Goals, Guidelines and Action Plan, including how both individual and multi-jurisdictional actions were captured in the Plan Update.</p>	Justin Strickland (ICF)
1:55-2:05pm CT (10 mins)	<p>Near-Term Federal Funding Opportunities for Mitigation Projects</p> <p>Desired Outcome(s): Increase awareness and understanding of eligibility requirements, criteria and upcoming deadlines for FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) programs</p>	Kelli Reddick (ICF)
2:05-2:25pm CT (20 mins)	<p>Public Meeting Q&A</p> <p>Desired Outcome(s): Addressed any outstanding questions or comments regarding the hazard mitigation planning process, public survey and/or risk assessment and mitigation strategy.</p>	Justin Strickland (ICF)
2:25-2:30pm CT (5 mins)	<p>Recap & Adjourn</p> <p>Desired Outcome(s): Equipped participants to share today’s results with their neighbors and colleagues.</p>	Bob Ellsworth (EMA), David Christensen, (EMA) & Justin Strickland (ICF)