



Nassau County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Planning Effort

Project Initiation Meeting of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Group October 20, 2005

Two Sessions: 3-5 pm & 7-9 pm

Terry Winters
NC-OEM, Planning Committee Chairman
twinters@nassaucountyny.gov
(516) 573-0636

Anna Foley
URS Corp., Project Manager
anna_foley@urscorp.com
(973) 785-0700 ext. 449

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Today's Agenda

- Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Intent of the Project
- Organizational Structure of the Planning Group
- Overview of the Plan Development Process
- The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Contractors, the Public, and Other Stakeholders

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Today's Agenda, continued...

- Participation Criteria
- Key Deliverables
- Data Collection/Supporting Documents
- Project Timeline
- Next Steps
- Questions and Answers

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What is hazard mitigation?

Hazard mitigation measures are actions you can undertake today to reduce your susceptibility to damages in the future.

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What is hazard mitigation?

Examples:

Elevating a house to reduce flood damages.

Installing hurricane clips to a roof to reduce wind damage.

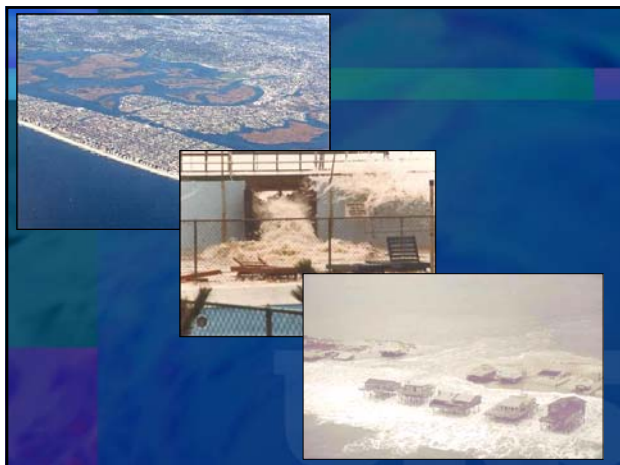
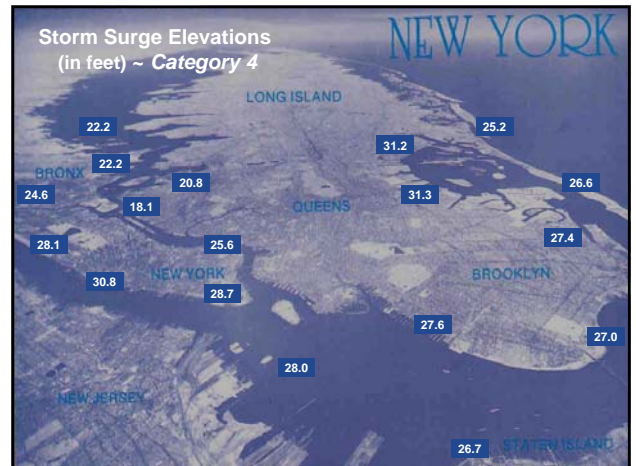
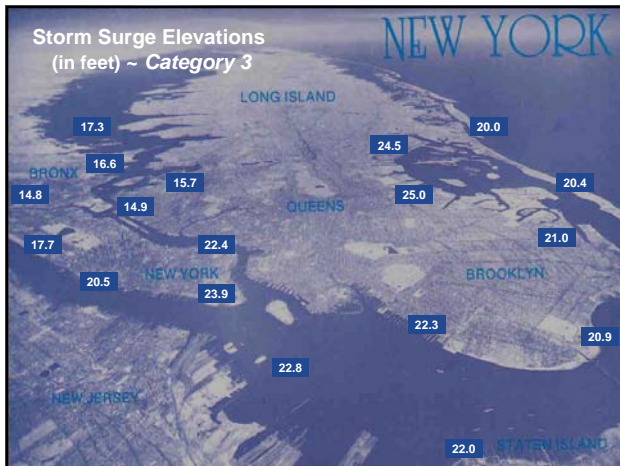
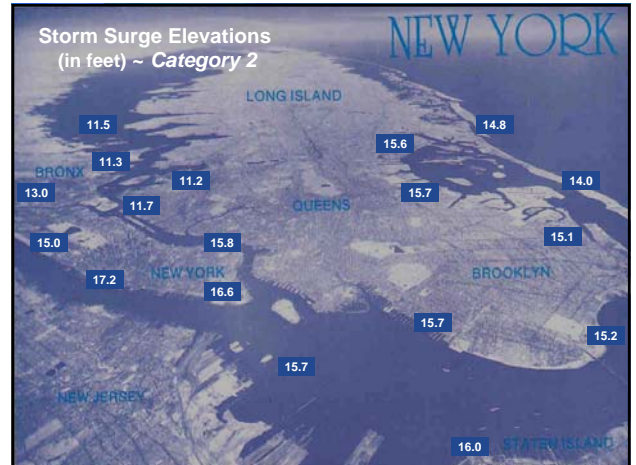
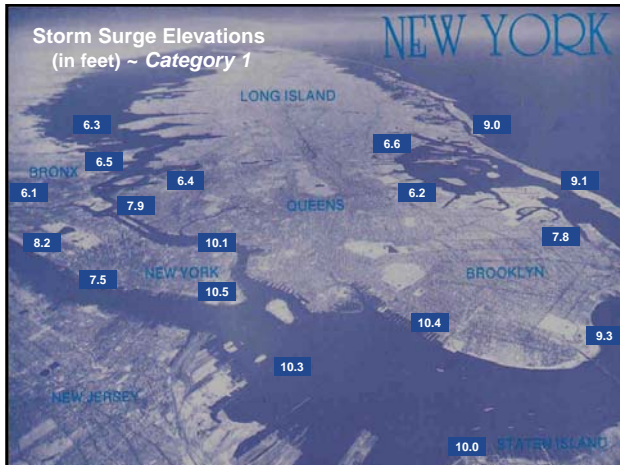
Imposing setback distances to reduce erosion damages.

Modifying building codes to incorporate hazard-resistant design.

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Elevated homes in Sweet Lake, LA (near Lake Charles) after Hurricane Rita (09/24/05).



What is hazard mitigation planning?

FEMA defines "hazard mitigation planning" as:

The process of determining how to reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property damage resulting from natural [and human-caused] hazards.

(Human-Caused Hazards = Technological Hazards + Terrorism)

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What is hazard mitigation planning?

Hazard Mitigation Planning is:

The process of identifying community policies, actions, and tools for implementation in the long-term that result in a reduction of risk and potential for future losses *BEFORE* a disaster strikes.

Emergency Response Planning is:

A process undertaken to minimize the impacts of a disaster *AFTER* it has occurred. Examples include:

- evacuation plans
- hazardous material response and containment plans
- post-disaster continuity plans for the provision of basic services.

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Some Key Points:

- Under DMA 2000:
 - Natural Hazards → Required
 - Human Caused Hazards → Not Required
- URS has been asked to focus solely on natural hazards for the purposes of this planning effort.

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Intent of the Project

- Why Prepare a Hazard Mitigation Plan?
- What is a Multi-Jurisdictional Plan?
- Why Participate in a Multi-Jurisdictional Plan Development Process?

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Intent of the Project:

Why Prepare a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

- Eligibility to apply for Federal aid for technical assistance and certain types of pre- and post-disaster project funding :
 - FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) project funding (post-disaster funding stream, competitive statewide).
 - FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM) project grants (annual appropriation, competitive nationwide).

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Intent of the Project:

Why Prepare a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

- Nassau County applied for, and was awarded, a PDM planning grant from FEMA (FY 2003) to prepare a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan for the County.

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Intent of the Project:

Why Prepare a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

- Planning leads to judicious selection of risk reduction actions.
- Contributes to more sustainable and disaster-resistant communities.
- Builds partnerships.
- Establishes funding priorities.

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Intent of the Project: *Why Prepare a Hazard Mitigation Plan?*

- Implementation of mitigation actions can reduce the costs of a future disaster.
- Economic damages resulting from a disaster can often exceed available State and Federal aid.
- Damages can be prevented by taking the time to learn about hazards and anticipate where and how they occur.

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Intent of the Project: *What is a Multi-Jurisdictional Plan?*

- Communities joining together to participate in a single local mitigation plan development process.

■ Common:	■ Unique:
◆ Planning Process	◆ Risks
◆ Hazards	◆ Mitigation Actions
◆ Goals	◆ Participation
◆ Plan Maintenance Procedures	◆ Plan Adoption

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Intent of the Project: *What is a Multi-Jurisdictional Plan?*

Multi-Jurisdictional Approach

- Basic processes for single jurisdiction and multi-jurisdictional plans are identical.
- Difference lies in degree of complexity.

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Intent of the Project: *Why Participate in a Multi-Jurisdictional Plan Development Process?*

- Practical way to addressing issues best dealt with on a larger scale, which do not recognize political boundaries.
- Creates economies of scale.
- Enables pooling of limited resources.
- Takes advantage of existing planning mechanisms, such as regional planning organizations.

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Organizational Structure of the Planning Group

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Organizational Structure of the Planning Group


- ◆ 2 meetings of the overall Planning Group
- ◆ 4 working sessions of the Core Planning Group
- ◆ 3 meetings of each of the three Town Teams

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Organizational Structure of the Planning Group

- **Teamwork!**
 - ◆ Collective efforts
 - ◆ Support throughout the process




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Organizational Structure of the Planning Group

- The Core Planning Group...
 - ◆ Coordinates input
 - ◆ Leads the effort for common elements of the plan
 - ◆ Makes key decisions
 - ◆ Manages communication
 - ◆ Keeps to a schedule
 - ◆ Is responsible for day to day plan formulation activities
 - ◆ Coordinates with Town Teams and other stakeholders


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Organizational Structure of the Planning Group

- Each jurisdiction...
 - ◆ Participates in plan development
 - ◆ Participates in plan maintenance
 - ◆ Formally adopts the plan

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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

- Participating Jurisdictions:
 - ◆ One that wants the overall multi-jurisdictional plan to "count", in FEMA's eyes, as their jurisdiction's mitigation plan.
 - ◆ One that participates in a way that meets *each* of the minimum requirements of DMA 2000.
 - ◆ To comply with DMA 2000, it is important to stress that the authority and responsibility to participate in the plan development process and to adopt the final mitigation plan will lie ultimately with each participating jurisdiction.

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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

- Participating Jurisdictions:

A jurisdiction that has already had its own mitigation plan approved by FEMA and formally adopted by its local governing body can still participate in a multi-jurisdictional plan, as a stakeholder. The multi-jurisdictional plan will not supercede their single-jurisdiction plan.

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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

- Participating Jurisdictions:
 - ◆ Satisfy participation criteria
 - ◆ Provide information and feedback
 - ◆ Reach out to the public and other stakeholders
 - ◆ Assess mitigation alternatives
 - ◆ Select a course of action to be followed for their community
 - ◆ Implement the plan and monitor its progress

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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

- In a multi-jurisdictional plan development process, every participating jurisdiction:
 - ◆ ...contributes.
 - ◆ ...is an active participant.
 - ◆ ...has a role.
 - ◆ ...provides a piece of the puzzle.



The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

- Consultants can't "work in a bubble" to author a hazard mitigation plan that will comply with DMA 2000.



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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

- Consultants can complete the puzzle by...
 - ◆ ...providing guidance
 - ◆ ...providing technical information
 - ◆ ...asking questions
 - ◆ ...seeking feedback
 - ◆ ...inquiring about community-specific information
 - ◆ ...documenting the actions of team members
 - ◆ ...authoring the plan



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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

- ◆ Participating jurisdictions use these tools to...
 - ◆ Identify hazard effects
 - ◆ Highlight key assets at risk
 - ◆ Estimate dollar losses
 - ◆ Analyze mitigation actions
 - ◆ Prioritize selected actions
 - ◆ Define an implementation strategy

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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

- ◆ URS provides tools...
 - ◆ Technical Data
 - ◆ Mapping
 - ◆ Worksheets/Training/Questionnaires


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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

- ◆ URS ...
 - ◆ Develops hazard profiles
 - ◆ Suggests potential mitigation actions
 - ◆ Synthesizes input from Core Planning Group and participating jurisdictions
 - ◆ Writes and publishes the plan
 - ◆ Provides sample adoption resolution
 - ◆ Defines plan maintenance process and schedule

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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

Teamwork!

- The planning process will involve the collective efforts of the Planning Group members and URS staff.
- Support at the local level is critical for the plan to be prepared according to schedule and to the standards required for FEMA approval.
- As consultants, URS can conduct the analyses required to arm the Planning Group with the information they need to make sound decisions – yet URS cannot be the ones to make those decisions.

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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

Who Are Other Stakeholder?

- ◆ Will be identified by Planning Group
- ◆ Can include:
 - ◆ Neighborhood groups
 - ◆ State, federal, and local government offices
 - ◆ Transportation entities
 - ◆ Non-profit organizations (i.e. scout troops, Red Cross, Salvation Army)
 - ◆ Neighboring communities/counties
 - ◆ Regional planning organizations
 - ◆ Housing organizations
 - ◆ Business and development organizations
 - ◆ Emergency service providers
 - ◆ Environmental groups
 - ◆ Academic institutions
 - ◆ Jurisdiction web site managers / IT staff
 - ◆ Historic preservation groups
 - ◆ Utility providers
 - ◆ Any local office and/or group with a public outreach focus
 - ◆ Parent-teacher organizations
 - ◆ Hospitals
 - ◆ Church organizations
 - ◆ Tribal groups
 - ◆ Parks organizations

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The Role of Participating Jurisdictions, Consultants, the Public and Other Stakeholders

The Public and Other Stakeholders:

- ◆ Advisory role
- ◆ Provide feedback
 - ◆ Historic affects
 - ◆ Proposed mitigation actions
 - ◆ Etc...
- ◆ Get the word out


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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *The Basis*

- The Act
- The Rule
- The Guidance

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *The Basis*

The Act:

- ◆ Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000)
- ◆ www.fema.gov/fima/dma2k.shtm
 - ◆ Repealed previous Section 409 of the Stafford Act and replaced with new requirements of Section 322.
 - ◆ Continued requirement for State Plans
 - ◆ Added requirement for Local Plans

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *The Basis*

The Rule:

- ◆ 44 CFR Part 201
- ◆ www.fema.gov/fima/ifrs.shtm
 - ◆ Purpose: To implement the DMA 2000 Planning Requirements
 - ◆ Published first in the Federal Register in Feb. 2002


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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *The Basis*

- The Guidance:
 - ◆ Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance Under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000
 - ◆ www.fema.gov/fima/guidance.shtml
 - ◆ Specifically: Part 3, Part 4, and the Local Plan Review Worksheet

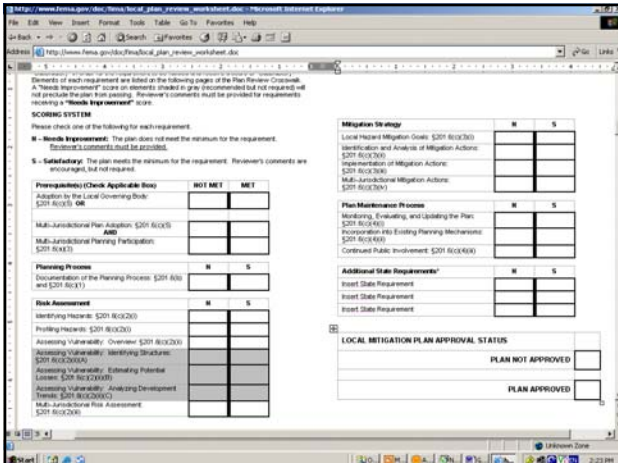
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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *The Basis*

- FEMA's Local Plan Review Worksheet
- Sometimes called "the Crosswalk"
- What FEMA uses to 'grade' mitigation plans.
- www.fema.gov/doc/fima/local_plan_review_worksheet.doc

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The screenshot shows the FEMA Local Plan Review Worksheet, a form used to evaluate local mitigation plans. It includes sections for 'SCORING SYSTEM', 'Mitigation Strategy', 'Plan Maintenance Process', and 'Additional State Requirements'. The 'SCORING SYSTEM' section has a table with columns for 'NOT MET' and 'MET' under various categories like 'Hazard Requirements', 'Planning Process', and 'Risk Assessment'. The 'Mitigation Strategy' section has a table with columns for 'M' and 'S' under categories like 'Local Hazard Mitigation Goals', 'Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Actions', and 'Implementation of Mitigation Actions'. The 'Plan Maintenance Process' section has a table with columns for 'M' and 'S' under categories like 'Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating the Plan', 'Incorporation into Existing Planning Mechanisms', and 'Continue Public Involvement'. The 'Additional State Requirements' section has a table with columns for 'M' and 'S' under categories like 'Insert Date Requirement' and 'Insert Date Requirement'. At the bottom, there is a section for 'LOCAL MITIGATION PLAN APPROVAL STATUS' with checkboxes for 'PLAN NOT APPROVED' and 'PLAN APPROVED'.



Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

- Research a full range of natural hazard events
- Identify subset of significant hazards; these will be focus of the plan
- Identify location and extent of hazard areas
- Identify assets located within hazard areas;


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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

- Characterize existing and potential future assets at risk
- Assess vulnerabilities to the identified hazards
- Evaluate and prioritize:
 - ◆ Goals
 - ◆ Objectives
 - ◆ Mitigation actions

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 1 – Building the Planning Team & Engaging the Public

- URS role = provide guidance to the County
- Options for meeting the minimum requirements of DMA 2000
 - *Guidance Memorandum – Stakeholder Participation and Outreach Plan (October 2005)*

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

- Planning Group participation, at some level, is essential at every step of the process.
 - Input
 - Feedback
 - Outreach Actions

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 2 - Identify and Profile Hazards



- Evaluate a range of natural hazards
- Which hazards are significant?



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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 2 - Identify and Profile Hazards



- Profile significant hazards
 - Location and extent
 - Historical events
 - Hazard characteristics
 - Probability of future events
 - Severity of future events
- *Interim deliverable, as working chapter to overall report (October 2005)*



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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 3 - Identify and Characterize Assets

- Identify assets in hazard areas
- Characterize:
 - Existing assets in hazard areas
 - Expected future assets in hazard areas

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 3 - Identify and Characterize Assets

- Type (i.e., residential, commercial, etc.)
- Value
- Percent of total
- Highlight: critical facilities, infrastructure, etc.
- *Interim deliverable, as working chapter to overall report (November 2005)*

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 4 - Assess Vulnerability




- Estimate potential losses (dollars/ qualitative) to assets located in hazard areas
- *Why?* To identify centers where the cost of potential damage is the highest

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 4 – Assess Vulnerability 

- Expected Damages (\$) = Value of Assets (\$) x Expected Percent Damage (%)
- *Interim deliverable, as working chapter to overall report (December 2005)*


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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 5 – Land Uses and Development Trends

- Planned changes in or near hazard areas?
- *Interim deliverable, as working chapter to overall report (November 2005)*



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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 6 – Assessment of Capabilities

- Planning Group will:
 - Identify local capabilities (fill out questionnaire)
- URS will:
 - Compile responses
 - Incorporate Federal/State resources
 - *Interim deliverable, as working chapter to overall report (November 2005)*

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

FEMA defines **'goals'** as general guidelines that explain what the community would like to achieve, while **'objectives'** define strategies to achieve those goals, and **'actions'** are specific loss reduction measures that can be taken toward achieving a particular objective. For example:


Goal 1 – Protect critical facilities.

Objective 1.1 – Mitigate potential for failure of emergency services' communications system in the event of a terrorist attack.


Action 1.1.1 – Modify existing communications system used by police, fire, and ambulance to provide redundancy. To be completed by Office of Emergency Services with municipal funds by June 2005.

Objective 1.2 – Work to move critical facilities outside of hazard areas.

Action 1.2.1 – Cease operations of Ladder 9 from its current location (in a flood hazard area on Spring Street) and move operations to a comparable facility outside of identified hazard areas. To be completed by the Fire Department with municipal funds by December 2005.



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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 7 – Formulation of Goals and Objectives

- Planning Group will:
 - Submit possible goals/objectives
 - Evaluate all goals/objectives submitted
 - Vote to select final goals and objectives

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 8 – Action Item Identification and Analysis

- URS will submit potential mitigation actions
- Participating jurisdictions will:
 - Evaluate
 - Vote to accept or reject
 - Explain rationale

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 9 – Action Item Prioritization

- For actions with most votes:
 - URS will facilitate development of a prioritization strategy.
 - Core Planning Group will reach out to Town Teams for prioritization by jurisdiction.
 - End results will be provided back to URS for incorporation into the Plan.

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 10 – Plan Maintenance

- Minimum requirements of DMA 2000: updates, 5 year cycle
 - URS role = guidance (memorandum)
 - Core Planning Group's role = evaluate memorandum and select process
 - URS will incorporate this decision into the Plan.

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 11 – Plan Integration

- Minimum requirements of DMA 2000 (integration of mitigation plan into job descriptions, other City plans, permitting vehicles, etc).
 - URS role = guidance (memorandum)
 - Core Planning Group's role = evaluate memorandum and select process
 - URS will incorporate this decision into the Plan.

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 13 – Draft Plan

- Targeted Completion – February 2006
- Draft will be released to:
 - The Planning Group
 - The Public
 - NYSEMO → FEMA Region 2
- The Planning Group members will forward all comments on the draft (i.e., local, public, state/federal, etc.) to NC-OEM

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

Step 14 – Final Plan

- Targeted Completion October 2006
- NC-OEM will provide *coordinated* comments to URS
- URS has 30 days from receipt to incorporate and submit a Final.
- Each participating jurisdiction will need to formally adopt the Plan and provide evidence of such to NC-OEM.

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Overview of the Plan Development Process: *Key Steps*

- The Mitigation Plan is a "living document"
- FEMA requires updates on a 5-year cycle
- FEMA recommends annual monitoring and review of implementation progress
- Idea: Nassau County Plan Maintenance Subcommittee to oversee this effort

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Participation Criteria

What does it mean to participate?

- ◆ Most importantly: provide input
- ◆ Draft Participation Criteria (see handout)

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Key Deliverables

- Interim Deliverables:
 - ◆ Hazard Identification and Profiles
 - ◆ Land Uses and Development Trends in Hazard Areas
 - ◆ Asset Identification and Characterization
 - ◆ Vulnerability Assessment
 - ◆ Capability Assessment

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Key Deliverables

- Guidance Memorandums:
 - ◆ Stakeholder Participation and Outreach Plan
 - ◆ Plan Maintenance Procedures
 - ◆ Plan Integration Strategy
- Draft and Final Plans

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Data Collection / Supporting Documents

- 44 CFR Part 201.6 (b)(3) requires that the planning process shall include:

"Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information."

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Data Collection / Supporting Documents

- What We Have:
 - ◆ Nassau County FIS and FIRMs (FEMA)
 - ◆ New York State Hazard Mitigation Plan (2005)
 - ◆ Proceedings of the 2002 New York State Hazard Mitigation Planning Summit
 - ◆ FEMA Act, Rule, Guidelines, and How-To Guides

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Data Collection / Supporting Documents

- What We Have:
 - ◆ Hurricane Damage Mitigation Plan for the South Shore of Nassau and Suffolk Counties (LIRPB, October 1984)
 - ◆ Proposed Long Island South Shore Hazard Management Program for the Counties of Nassau and Suffolk, NY (LIRPB, December 1989)
 - ◆ Nassau County HAZNY (2003)
 - ◆ Readily available on-line information from FEMA, USACE, NOAA, USGS, etc.

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Data Collection / Supporting Documents

- What We Have:
 - ◆ 18 US Army Corps of Engineers Reports/Studies
 - ◆ North Shore and South Shore areas
 - ◆ Post-storm reports (i.e., March '62 Northeaster, Hurricane Donna)
 - ◆ Reconnaissance studies / feasibility studies
 - ◆ Useful information re: identifying problem areas

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Data Collection / Supporting Documents

- What We'd Like From You:
 - ◆ Latest version of single-jurisdiction mitigation plans, if your community has one.
 - ◆ Does your community have an FMA Plan? A CRS Plan?
 - ◆ Completed Questionnaires
 - ◆ Provide feedback/documents to URS
 - ◆ *Anything else you may be aware of? Please let us know.*

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Project Timeline

- URS Notice to Proceed - August 22, 2005
- Hazard ID and Profile – October 2005
- Asset ID and Characterization – November 2005
- Land Uses & Development Trends – November 2005
- Vulnerability Assessment – December 2005
- Mitigation Strategy – December 2005

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Project Timeline

- Core Planning Group and Town Team Meetings – October through December
- Draft Plan – February 2006
- Beginning of Review Cycle for Draft – February 2006

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Project Timeline

- Meetings to Present the Draft – April 2006
- Estimated Completion of Review Cycle for Draft – July 2006
- Final Plan – October 2006
- Meeting to Present the Final – December 2006

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Next Steps

- Upcoming Meetings of the Core Planning Group and Town Teams
 - ◆ Core Planning Group – week of Nov. 14 ?
 - ◆ Town Teams – week of Nov. 21 or Nov. 28 ?

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Next Steps

- Finalize Participating Jurisdictions
- Hazard Identification Questionnaire – by Nov. 3
- Begin Outreach – Public and Other Stakeholders
- Forward to URS plans such as mitigation, FMA, CRS

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Questions and Answers



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End of show