

2019 Progress Report - Hazard Mitigation Plan Status of Mitigation Actions to Address Flood Hazards

Date this Report was Prepared: April 1, 2020

Name of Community: Prince George's County, MD

Name of Plan: *Prince George's County & the City of Laurel Hazard Mitigation Plan Update*

Date of Adoption of Plan: Adoption by Council Resolution on July 17, 2018
Approved by FEMA on October 23, 2018

5 Year CRS Expiration Date: *July 17, 2023*

1. **How can a copy of the original plan or area analysis report be obtained:**

A copy of the original plan can be obtained from the Prince George's County Department of Homeland Security, Office of Emergency Management at 7915 Anchor Street, Landover, Maryland 20785. A digital copy of the plan is also transmitted to ISO reviewer with this 2019 Progress Report.

2. **Describe how this evaluation report was prepared and how it was submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public:**

This evaluation report was prepared by staff of the Prince George's County Department of the Environment and provided to the County's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) which is the lead agency for administration of the 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. Staff who prepared the evaluation report also represents DoE on OEM's Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). This committee oversees implementation of the hazard mitigation plan.

The LEPC will review the evaluation report and submit it to the governing body. The 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update provides that the County will coordinate an annual meeting to review action items and provide an annual report to the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) detailing annual progress on mitigation actions. The County's Office of Emergency Management advised that the 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update was reviewed in 2019 by LEPC

and MEMA. However, the meeting minutes are not readily available and the lead planner for this committee is no longer an OEM employee. OEM will schedule and convene a LEPC meeting at which the evaluation report will be reviewed. The County will provide minutes of this meeting. The submission date will be provided upon receipt.

DoE has posted this evaluation report on the agency website. It is released to the media via press release.

3. Provide a description of the implementation of each recommendation or action item in the action plan or area analysis report, including a statement on how the project was implemented or not implemented during the previous year:

- a. **Action# County -1:Continue to partner with FEMA/MDE to promote use of updated flood hazard maps. Updated mapping will continue to inform risk reduction and mitigation of at-risk buildings such as repetitive loss structures. The County continued to partner with FEMA/MDE on use of updated flood hazard maps. This action item is on-going.**
- b. **Action# County - 2: Partner with FEMA/MDE to update flood hazard mapping; use updated mapping for risk reduction. Search the updated list of flood-prone properties to determine if any are owned by private nonprofit organizations. Staff review of flood hazard mapping was performed in the previous year and is on-going. When errors, better topographic information or manmade conditions result in changes to the effective SFHA, staff coordinates with FEMA on revisions to the FIRM and FIS.**

Regarding flood-prone properties which are owned by nonprofit organizations, these properties are included in our comprehensive list of flood-prone structures. Staff will prepare and maintain an additional dataset for these properties.

- c. **Action# County - 3: Using the revised flood maps, check locations of HazMat sites, NPDES sites and other land uses. If found to be in flood hazard areas, communicate with owner/handler of hazardous material and known pollutant regarding risk and appropriate response and protection measures. Due to limited staff capacity, there is no activity to report for this action item. Mapping of HazMat sites, strategy for effective outreach and education and additional activity will be initiated following the fill of position vacancies in flood management unit.**
- d. **Action# County - 4: Integrate mitigation plan requirements and actions into other appropriate planning mechanisms such as comprehensive plans and capital improvement plans. Flood mitigation actions have been incorporated in the**

Stormwater Management Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Also, these actions align with flood protection actions that are outlined in the County's general plan entitled "Plan2035." For example, the 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan incorporates information pertaining to sea level rise and flood analyses as recommended in Policy Item NE4.2 in Plan2035.

- e. **Action# County - 5: Collect flood depth information to support a grant to provide elevation certificates in areas newly included in special flood hazard areas to assist residents in obtaining elevation certificates to support LOMAs or reduced risk NFIP premiums. Due to limited staff capacity, there is no activity to report for this action item. Activity will be initiated following the fill of position vacancies in flood management unit.**
- f. **Action# County - 6: Continue to coordinate the Building Code and Floodplain Ordinance whenever either is updated. Inter-agency coordination between DoE and the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement is on-going.**
- g. **Action # County -7: Support mitigation projects that will result in protection of public or private property from natural hazards. Eligible projects include but are not limited to: acquisition of flood prone property; elevation of flood prone structures; minor structural flood control projects; relocation of structures from hazard prone areas; retrofitting of existing buildings, facilities and infrastructure; retrofitting of existing buildings and facilities for shelters; critical infrastructure protection measures; stormwater management improvements; advanced warning systems and hazard gauging systems (weather radios, reverse-911, stream gauges, I-flows); target hazard education; wastewater and water supply system hardening and mitigation. DoE's annual budget proposal for the Stormwater Management CIP includes allocations for drainage improvement and flood prevention projects. The approved FY'20 Stormwater Management CIP budget includes appropriations for a levee improvement project and multiple drainage improvement projects.**
- h. **Action# County-8: Promote appropriate mitigation measures for hazard-vulnerable priority critical facilities. Consultants to the County have developed hazard vulnerability maps for critical facilities. Next step is to review the mapping and coordinate with the Local Emergency Planning Committee on priority measures and implementation strategy.**
- i. **Action# County -9: Update Upper Marlboro Emergency Response Plan to address flooding, including evacuation, emergency response, mitigation etc. Staff has started the effort of reviewing emergency evacuation routes and refining messages for flood emergency alerts. These tasks**

are part of the larger effort to flesh out relevant templates in the County's Everbridge Mass Notification system.

- j. Action# County- 10: Continue annual flood risk awareness and mitigation mailing to all owners of high-risk properties in the SFHA, including RL structures.** *Prince George's County Department of the Environment (DoE) continues to run the annual "June is Flood Awareness Month" campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to raise public awareness for flood hazards and to reduce risks for property damage and personal injury. For this campaign, DoE continues to share information about flood hazards, ways to reduce flood risks and flood insurance with occupants of flood prone homes, property owners in repetitive loss (RL) areas, property owners of non-residential flood prone structures of flood risks etc. DoE also sends letters and brochures about flood prevention and protection services and flood insurance to lenders, insurance agents and realtors. Additionally, DoE shares flood facts, recommendations for flood prevention and other relevant public outreach with residents and community partners via our listserv ("Tuesday Tips" weekly emails), webpage and other media outlets.*
- k. Action# County - 12: Continue implementation of Best Management Practices and Low Impact Development practices to meet NPDES water pollutions requirements. The County has EPA-listed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) stream segments due to high levels of Nitrogen, Phosphorous, Sediment and Trash which continues to mitigate.** *The County continues to implement LID practices to meet NPDES water pollution requirements. Additionally, DoE awards grants to non-profits to install green infrastructure and to conduct outreach and education for purpose of reducing stormwater runoff and the transport of pollutants to local waterways. Locations of water quality BMP projects are mapped on DoE's Clean Water Map which may be viewed at <https://princegeorges.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=dc168a43d3554905b4e4d6e61799025f>.*
- l. Action# County-13: Use the M-NCPPC 2016 water quality biological stream assessment studies to prioritized stabilization projects, especially if funding from outside resources is available for mitigation of environmental impacts.** *Capital projects for shoreline restoration are in progress for several areas in the County. Locations of these project sites are mapped on DoE's Clean Water Map which may be viewed at <https://princegeorges.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=dc168a43d3554905b4e4d6e61799025f>.*
- m. Action# County-14, High Priority: Anacostia Levee Improvements. Work with Corps of Engineers to pursue**

funding to implement the levee improvement work. Four of five levee systems have been FEMA-accredited. Completed accreditation of Arundel Street Levee System. Maintain accreditation through O&M Plan implementation as prescribed by USACE. *The Arundel Canal levee improvement project is in-progress. The County will confer with FEMA for accreditation of the system after completion of improvement.*

- n. **Action# County -15: Update the flood warning system notification lists used in the Everbridge system with the list of flood-prone properties based on revised flood maps. Distribute general warnings to all County citizens using traditional and social media platforms such as the OEM website, Twitter and Facebook.** *The Everbridge Emergency Notification System will notify the occupants of structures in the regulatory floodplain (i.e. flood prone structures) using the White Pages, 9-1-1 data and the phone numbers and email addresses for persons that have registered for Alert Prince George's. The regulatory floodplain has been defined using the effective FIRM and County Stormwater Management Technical Group Watershed Studies. The White Pages and 9-1-1 data are routinely updated by external sources. The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) may distribute general warnings via Everbridge, Alert Prince George's which is a County notification system for the community and for which residents may register, OEM website etc.*

4. Discuss why any objectives were not reached or why implementation is behind schedule:

Per the 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, the timeframe for performance of Action Items County 1 -8, County 12- 13 and County 15 is on-going. The County will continue to pursue these actions as needed and as funding allows.

For Action Item County- 9, the performance period is one (1) to three (3) years. Staff has started the effort of reviewing emergency evacuation routes and refining messages for flood emergency alerts. These tasks are part of the larger effort to flesh out relevant templates in the County's Everbridge Mass Notification system. Implementation of this action item is on schedule.

For Action Item County -10, the performance period is annual. Prince George's County Department of the Environment(DoE) continues the annual "June is Flood Awareness Month" campaign.

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The purpose of the campaign is to raise public awareness for flood hazards and to reduce risks for property damage and personal injury. For this campaign, DoE sends mailings to occupants of flood prone homes and property owners of non-residential flood prone structures; disseminates brochures informing lenders, insurance agents and realtors about flood management services and promoting flood insurance coverage for their clients; shares flood facts poster with residents and community partners; etc. Implementation and conduct of this public outreach and education is on schedule.

For Action Item County -14, the performance timeframe is one (1) to three (3) years. The County's levee improvement project is in-progress. The County is on schedule for implementation and execution of project.

5. What are the recommendations for new projects or revised recommendations?

No new projects or revised recommendations are suggested at this time.