

**PUBLIC FORUM – PLANNING PROCESS
SUMMARY HANDOUT**

**TRI-COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL
NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN
PUBLIC FORUM – OPEN HOUSE**

**JANUARY 10, 2019
GATEWAY BUILDING
200 NORTHEAST WATER STREET, PEORIA
5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.**

Each year natural hazards (i.e., severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, severe winter storms, flooding, etc.) cause damage to property and threaten the lives and health of Tri-County area residents (Tazewell and Woodford counties and select participating Peoria County municipalities). Since 1973, the Tri-County area has had 12 federally-declared disasters and at least \$1.37 billion in recorded damages within the area.

Since 2010, the Tri-County area has experienced 343 natural hazard events including thunderstorms with damaging winds, hail one inch or greater in diameter, lightning strikes, severe winter storms, extreme cold, riverine flooding, flash flooding, tornadoes, drought, excessive heat and landslides. While natural hazards cannot be avoided, their impacts can be reduced through effective hazard mitigation planning.

What is hazard mitigation planning?

Hazard mitigation planning is the process of determining how to reduce or eliminate property damage and loss of life from natural hazards. This process helps the counties and participating municipalities reduce their risk by identifying vulnerabilities and developing mitigation actions to lessen and sometimes even eliminate the effects of a hazard. The results of this process are documented in a natural hazards mitigation plan.

Why prepare an updated natural hazards mitigation plan?

By preparing and adopting an updated natural hazards mitigation plan, participating jurisdictions become eligible to apply for and receive federal hazard mitigation funds to implement mitigation actions identified in the Plan. These funds, made available through the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, can help provide local government entities with the opportunity to complete mitigation projects that would not otherwise be financially possible.

Who participated in the development of the updated Tri-County Multi-Jurisdiction Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan?

Recognizing the benefits that could be gained from preparing an updated natural hazards mitigation plan, the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission invited all the local government entities within the Tri-County area to participate. The following jurisdictions chose to participate in the Plan update and development:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| ❖ Tazewell County | ❖ Woodford County | ❖ Bartonville |
| ❖ East Peoria | ❖ Eureka | ❖ Chillicothe |
| ❖ Morton | ❖ Germantown Hills | ❖ Hanna City |
| ❖ Pekin | ❖ Roanoke | ❖ Peoria |
| ❖ Tremont | | ❖ Peoria Heights |
| ❖ Washington | | |

TRI-COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN

How was the Plan developed?

The Tri-County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan was developed through the Tri-County Mitigation Advisory Committee (MAC). The MAC included representatives from each participating jurisdiction, as well as emergency services (fire, law enforcement and American Red Cross), GIS, healthcare, higher education, planning and utilities. The Committee met five times between October 2017 and January 2019.

Which natural hazards are included in the Plan?

After reviewing the risk assessment, the MAC chose to include the following natural hazards in this updated Plan:

- ❖ severe storms (thunderstorms, hail, lightning & heavy rain)
- ❖ severe winter storms (snow, ice & extreme cold)
- ❖ tornadoes
- ❖ floods
- ❖ excessive heat
- ❖ droughts
- ❖ landslides
- ❖ earthquakes
- ❖ mine subsidence & sinkholes
- ❖ dams
- ❖ levees

What is included in the updated Plan?

The updated Plan is divided into sections that cover the planning process; the risk assessment; the mitigation strategy, including lists of mitigation actions identified for each participating jurisdiction; and plan maintenance and adoption. The majority of the updated Plan is devoted to the risk assessment.

This risk assessment identifies the natural hazards that pose a threat to the Tri-County area and includes a profile of each natural hazard which describes the location and severity of past occurrences, reported damages to public health and property, and the likelihood of future occurrences. It also provides a vulnerability assessment that estimates the potential impacts each natural hazard would have on the health and safety of the residents of the Tri-County area as well as buildings, critical facilities and infrastructure.

What happens next?

Any comments received at tonight's public forum will be incorporated into the draft updated Plan before it is submitted to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review. Once IEMA and FEMA have reviewed and approved the updated Plan, it will be presented to each participating jurisdiction for formal adoption. After adopting the updated Plan, each participating jurisdiction can apply for federal mitigation funds and begin implementation of the mitigation actions identified in the updated Plan.