



Peoria County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Nears Completion

Peoria County is updating its Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, and the final meeting is around the corner. The planning committee will meet virtually on Wednesday, **May 24, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.** to review the plan document. The committee is comprised of county, municipal, educational, and park district representatives, as well as technical partners and other stakeholders. The public is welcome to attend the virtual event using the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/PeoHazards>

“County and municipal stakeholders throughout Peoria are part of a planning committee to gather data, assess vulnerability, and identify mitigation projects to help reduce future risks from severe weather events,” said Reema Abi-Akar, Senior Planner at the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, the entity spearheading this planning effort.

Public input will help the planning committee select appropriate and achievable mitigation strategies to protect Peoria County and its residents from the impacts of natural and man-made hazards. Nine jurisdictions throughout Peoria County are participating in the planning process: Village of Bartonville, City of Chillicothe, Greater Peoria Sanitary District, Village of Hanna City, City of Peoria, Peoria County, Village of Peoria Heights, Peoria Park District, and City of West Peoria.

The planning committee has been meeting for the last several months to talk about past natural hazards, dollars of damage, and potential projects that will mitigate future damage from events such as tornadoes, severe storms, floods, and droughts. WSP USA is the consultant helping with this planning effort, which will serve as an update to Peoria County’s 2018 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan document.

“This plan will be an important resource to determine how to prepare for storms and other natural and man-made hazards. After the plan is updated and approved by the state and federal Emergency Management Agencies, we will have one comprehensive document to help guide decisionmakers about how to better protect Peoria County residents,” Abi-Akar added.

The Tri-County Regional Planning Commission strives to provide an environment welcoming to all persons regardless of physical or mental challenges, race, gender, or religion. Please call 309-673-9330 to request special accommodation at least two days in advance of this meeting.