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615 Chestnut Street, 6th floor
Philadelphia, PA 19106-4404



FEMA

December 1, 2023

Christine Jacobs
Executive Director
Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission
401 East Water Street
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

Dear Christine Jacobs:

The Amendment to the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (PDC) Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), originally approved on February 1, 2023, has been approved. The approval is based on a letter from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), dated November 1, 2023. It is supported by documentation from Thomas Jefferson PDC and Nelson County. The revision to the Thomas Jefferson PDC HMP is recorded as follows:

Mitigation Action: NHI3

Goal: Infrastructure and Buildings

Action Item Description: Replace or upgrade generators at the following buildings: Lovingson Fire Department, Piney River Fire Department, Faber Fire Department, Rockfish Valley Fire and Rescue, Montebello Fire Department, Roseland Rescue Squad and Nelson EMS. The generators at Nelson's fire and EMS stations are either under powered or have reached end of life and are not functioning, acting as barriers to effective response to fire and EMS calls in the case of power outage. Additionally, Fire and EMS buildings act as emergency shelter locations, and currently may not have power during blackout conditions, inhibiting their use during times of need.

Hazard(s): Multiple Lead Party Responsible: Director of Emergency Services

Estimated cost: \$300,000.00

Funding Method: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, General Revenue
Implementation Schedule: 3 years

Priority: High

Please make the amended annex available to the public and include it in the next HMP update. If you have questions about the HMP or mitigation grant funding, contact Stacy McKinley, (804) 385-3747. I commend you for your dedication to reducing future disaster losses.


Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SW', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Wolfe, Branch Chief
Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch
FEMA Region 3


cc: Stacy McKinley, Hazard Mitigation Planner, Planning Division, VDEM
Peter Homan, All Hazards Planner, Region 3, VDEM
John Adkins, Director of Emergency Services, Nelson County

Region 3 Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool Annex: Recommendations for Improvement


Jurisdiction: Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission	Title of Plan: TJPDC Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan	Date of Plan: August 2022
 Element A: Planning Process		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Promote open and inclusive public awareness of the hazard mitigation plan. Seek public comment through social media and online outreach.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Make an Executive Summary that can be used for outreach. Share it with citizens, elected officials and the media.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Expand the planning team to include a broad range of stakeholders. These can include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watershed organizations. • Business owners. • Regional planning councils. • Conservation districts. • Academia. • Utility providers. They can also include any other partners who can help with mitigation implementation and community outreach.	



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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Detail how the plan was prepared and who was involved. Include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact information. • Position held by participant. • Methodologies. • Details of how and from whom data were collected. <p>This information will streamline the next update. It will also help you focus on improvements and starting your plan.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Reach out to the local media to increase public knowledge and participation.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Standardize long-term monitoring of hazard-related activities. Add mitigation values to community officials' roles. Keep momentum through engagement during the five-year planning cycle. Share reviews with the state and FEMA for training, funding, and mitigation actions.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Document the annual plan review meetings that should occur over the next five-year planning cycle. You can add sign-in sheets, agendas, meeting minutes, and progress reports to an appendix.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Add the mitigation strategy into current local planning mechanisms; document how this was done. Use the Plan Integration: Linking Local Planning Efforts document to learn how to link local planning mechanisms. You should add the mitigation strategy to the local comprehensive plan. It should inform land use and development.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Develop and engagement strategy for community participation that clearly delineates the expectations for each jurisdiction; laying out the method for data exchange: dissemination, delivery, and documentation.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>Element B: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment</p> </div> </div>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Compare National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Insurance Policies in Force with insurable structures in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). This should be done to analyze flood insurance coverage.</p>

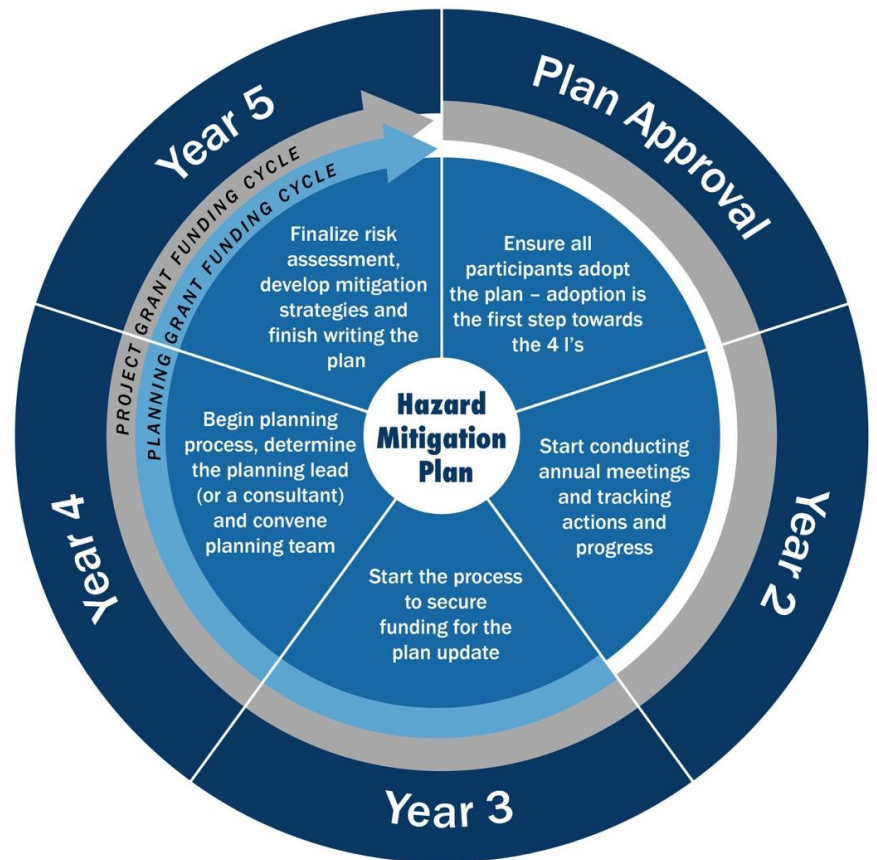
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Find historic properties and/or cultural resources being added to the plan. Add the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of team members and stakeholders who participated in the planning process. • The results of the risk assessment and loss estimation. • Mitigation goals that aim to reduce or avoid the effects of hazards. • Mitigation actions that will help the tribe, state, region, or community meet those goals. • Strategies that state how the mitigation actions will be implemented.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Add and document new data you obtain or develop to the next plan update. Mitigation grant applications can use vulnerable structure data (i.e., lowest floor elevation, value, building materials) and similar information. Be sure to document more than one data set (i.e., TEIF vs. Hazus).</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Consider using Non-Regulatory Flood Risk Products (NRFRLPs). These should help to establish opportunities to speak with local officials. They can help you learn more about specific structures' vulnerabilities within the planning area. They can also point out potential chances for mitigation.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Find gaps or inaccuracies in existing data. These can include natural hazards data, GIS mapping, and research on successful risk reduction methods. Act to fill those gaps. Public agencies are key resources for data and technical information. They include regional planning agencies, geological surveys, forestry divisions, emergency management offices, dam safety agencies, and weather service offices. They can be at the regional, state, and federal government levels. Online resources can also be used for hazard data. The National Climatic Data Center (part of NOAA) is one such resource.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Give more detailed citations for the data sources used for tables, figures, and assessments. These sources should inform the risk and vulnerability analyses. This will not only validate the assessment; it will also make the next hazard mitigation plan update easier.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Learn the potential effects of future conditions. These could be changes in population, land use, weather, and natural disaster frequency and severity. Include details about how changing conditions could affect long-term community resilience.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Consider profiling more hazards. These could be based on the state hazard mitigation plan or other identified risks.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	


<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Element C: Mitigation Strategy
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Detail how each community manages the NFIP. Each should comply with the local floodplain ordinance. Each floodplain manager should fill out the NFIP survey. The survey will help identify how their communities comply with floodplain requirements and regulations.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Increase community-level interactions and risk-based discussions. Improve descriptions and connections between the outcome of the risk assessment/vulnerability analysis with NRFRPs and the mitigation strategy. Content should flow from problem identification (risk/vulnerability) to mitigation strategy (goals/objectives/actions).</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Use the four overarching hazard mitigation techniques. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plans and Regulations. • Structure and Infrastructure. • Natural Systems Protection. • Education and Awareness. <p>Make sure the mitigation action plan includes actions that fall under all four groups. This will help you achieve a more robust mitigation strategy.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Detail why some mitigation actions could not be done. Reasons could relate to funding, staffing, politics, and more. This helps document obstacles to successful implementation.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	



Element D: Plan Review, Evaluation, and Implementation

<input type="checkbox"/>	Use the Five-Year Planning Wheel. It reflects the regular development, implementation and enhancement of your hazard mitigation plan.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Submit annual progress reviews. Plan talks with the state and FEMA.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review the Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide . It will show you programmatic changes since the approval of your plan.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reach out to your State Hazard Mitigation Planner 36 months from your plan's expiration date. That way, you can start the scope of work for your next update.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reach out to your State Hazard Mitigation Planner and State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO). This should be done within one year of your plan's approval. Ask for a Plan Implementation and Grants Development (PIGD) Workshop. Note that workshop availability depends on your state's availability.
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 Additional Comments	
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