

# SOMERSET COUNTY MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

## PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING #1

May 13, 2022, 10:00 AM

The following Somerset County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) members were present at the first meeting:

| Name                  | Organization/Department                     |
|-----------------------|---|
| Yvette Cross          | SC Department of Emergency Services         |
| Jerred Johnson        | SC Department of Emergency Services         |
| Gary Powell           | SC Department of Emergency Services         |
| Woody Barnes          | SC Department of Public Works               |
| John Redden           | Somerset Office of County Engineer          |
| Mary Phillips         | SC Department of Planning & Zoning          |
| Chris Osment          | Somerset County Health Department           |
| Diane Waller          | Somerset County Health Department           |
| Ray Johns             | SC Sheriff's Office                         |
| Cpt. Lonnie Luedtke   | Crisfield Police Department                 |
| Clayton Anderson      | Town of Princess Anne                       |
| Lt. Christopher Parks | Eastern Shore Correctional Institute        |
| Richard Sipe          | Tidal Health McCreedy Pavilion              |
| Stephen Schweikert    | Tidal Health Peninsula Regional             |
| Bill Hildebrand       | Maryland Department of Emergency Management |
| Keith Lackie          | Maryland Department of Planning             |
| Debbie Herr Cornwell  | Maryland Department of Planning             |
| Elizabeth Van Dolah   | The Nature Conservancy                      |
| Joe Galarraga         | The Nature Conservancy                      |

### Agenda

- Hazard Mitigation Overview
- FEMA Requirements
- Project Timeline
- Stakeholder & Public Participation
  - Planning Committee & Collaboration
  - Project Website and Social Media
- Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (HIRA)
- Development of Action Items & Mitigation Projects
- Next Steps

### Hazard Mitigation Overview

- The 2017 Somerset County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) is in the plan update process. The 2017 Somerset County HMP is available for review at the project's website: [www.somersetmdhazardplan.org](http://www.somersetmdhazardplan.org).

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- FEMA Requirements:
  - FEMA requires hazard mitigation plans to be updated every five (5) years.
  - Stakeholder/public engagement is vital throughout all stages of the plan development process to be approved by MDEM & FEMA.
  - For municipalities to be covered under the Somerset County HMP, they must participate throughout the planning process and formally adopt the plan.
  - Note: it is recommended that municipalities complete the Municipal Questionnaire (provided via fillable PDF form), the Municipal Survey (online), and provide recommendations for mitigation projects.
- Cost effective
  - Natural hazard mitigation provides the nation \$6 in benefit for every \$1 invested.

**Hazard Mitigation** is any action taken to permanently reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property from the effects of hazards.

### Project Timeline

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- The initial project team meeting was held in April 2022, where stakeholders (i.e., HMPC) were identified and discussed.
  - The HMPC will meet throughout the planning process in addition to small/targeted group meetings that will be scheduled as needed.
    - e.g., municipal group(s) may meet separately to discuss topics specific to municipalities.
- Draft chapters will be sent to HMPC members and placed on the project website for public review as they are completed. A full draft plan for stakeholder review will be made available in October/November 2022 (refer to page 6 for project timeline).

### Stakeholder & Public Participation

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- Stakeholders from a broad cross-section of the community were invited to participate, including municipalities.
  - Stakeholders may have public outreach initiatives that pair well with hazard mitigation and resilience. SP&D requests that stakeholders provide details of these public outreach initiatives for collaboration and documentation (e.g., agenda, brief description of the meeting and how the 2022 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update process was discussed).
  - SP&D is requesting photos, data, and ideas from stakeholders as they relate to hazard mitigation and/or natural hazard events in Somerset County.

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### What does it mean to be a Stakeholder?

- Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee Meeting attendance
- Small topical group meetings
- Completion of Stakeholder Survey(s)
- Completion of the 2022 Mitigation Action Items Update fillable PDF form
- Assistance with public outreach (e.g., social media posts)
- New Ideas
- Input on current capabilities
- Review and Comment of Draft Chapters/Plan

- A project website has been created to provide updates, post links, and share new information relating to the 2022 Multi-HMP Update. This website will be updated throughout the plan development process.
  - **Link:** [www.somersetmdhazardplan.org](http://www.somersetmdhazardplan.org)
  - HMPC members were asked to review the project website. Comments should be sent to Eric Messick, [emessick@smithp-d.com](mailto:emessick@smithp-d.com).



- The Public Survey has been launched with the project website and is currently available for members of the public to complete. The link to this survey will remain active on the website for the length of the project.
  - **Link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z523MNN>
  - SP&D requested HMPC members to post on their department/agency/ organization's social media.

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### Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (HIRA)

- Hazards identified within the HMP:
  - **Natural Hazards:** Flood, Hurricane, Sea Level Rise, Shoreline Erosion, Epidemic, Drought & Extreme Heat, Thunderstorm, High Wind, Winter Storm, Wildfire, Tornado, Earthquake.
  - **Man-Made/Technological Hazards:** Cyber Attack, HazMat, Major Transportation Accident, Dam Failure.
- To assess the hazard risk for the natural hazards identified in this Plan Update, a composite score method was undertaken. The composite score method was based on a blend of quantitative and qualitative factors extracted from the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) database, and other available data sources. These included:
  - Historical impacts, in terms of human lives and property;
  - Geographic extent;
  - Historical occurrence;
  - Future probability; and,
  - Community perspective.
- The following weighted risk factors were used in the equation below to determine the composite risk score for each identified hazard.
  - Equation: Composite Score = IN + DT + PD + CD + (GE\*1.5) + EV + FP + (CP\*1.5)
- Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) results for the County.

A risk is the chance, high or low, that any hazard will occur and the severity or impact from that hazard.

| Natural Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment Ranking Results |                     |                     |                      |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Hazards   | 2017 Hazard Ranking | 2022 Hazard Ranking | 2022 Composite Score |
| Coastal Events  | High                | Medium-High         | 21                   |
| Thunderstorm  | Medium-High         | Medium-High         | 23.5                 |
| Emerging Infectious Disease                                       | High                | High                | 26.5                 |
| Wind  | Medium-High         | Medium-High         | 21.5                 |
| Flood   | High                | High                | 24                   |
| Tornado   | Medium-Low          | Low                 | 12.5                 |
| Extreme Heat  | Medium-High         | Medium              | 15                   |
| Drought   | Medium-High         | Medium              | 18                   |
| Winter Weather  | Medium              | Medium              | 18                   |
| Wildfire  | Medium              | Low                 | 14.5                 |
| Earthquake  | Low                 | Low                 | 6                    |

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### Development of Actions Items & Projects

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- SP&D reviewed the steps for the development of actions items and projects for the plan update.
  - Step 1: HMPC members provide new ideas for inclusion in the Plan Update. Results are integrated into the Plan Update.
  - Step 2: Continue to collect new mitigation ideas throughout the plan development process via stakeholder discussion and public comments received via the project website. In addition, the Mitigation Workshop provides an opportunity for HMPC members to work together to further develop ideas into projects.
  - Step 3: Mitigation Projects are developed based on HMPC and public input, and then a Mitigation Action Item Prioritization process is conducted to determine “high priority” projects.

### NEXT STEPS

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- HMPC Meeting #1 Notes
  - Distributed to all stakeholders and uploaded to project website.
- New 2022 Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (HIRA)
  - Distributed and uploaded to project website.
- Mitigation Action Items Update Form
  - Fillable PDF form will be distributed to stakeholders for completion.
- Municipal Questionnaires
  - A representative of City of Crisfield or Town of Princess Anne, please complete and return the questionnaires sent on 4/29.
- Targeted Small Group Meetings:
  - May thru July 2022 (as needed)
- **HMPC Meeting #2**
  - **July 2022** (Doodle Poll with dates/times will be sent out prior).

**Project Website:** [www.somersetmdhazardplan.org](http://www.somersetmdhazardplan.org)

**Contact:** [emessick@smithp-d.com](mailto:emessick@smithp-d.com)

**Phone:** (301) 724-7611

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| PROJECT TIMELINE – 2022 SOMERSET COUNTY MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE              |  |   |  |   |  |                                   |  |                         |          |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------|
|  | April 2022   | May   | June   | July  | August                                   | September                         | October  | November                | December |
| NOTICE TO PROCEED  | Executed Contract – Proposal                                 |   |  |   |  |                                   |  |                         |          |
| HIRA   |  | HMPC Risk Survey (link sent) & HIRA App./Ch. 3: HIRA    |  |   |  |                                   |  |                         |          |
| HMPC MEETINGS  |  | Kick-Off Mtg.   |  | HMPC WebEx Mtg.   |  | Mitigation Workshop               |  |                         |          |
| MITIGATION STATUS REPORT   |  | HMPC Questionnaire                                      | HMPC Status Report Appendix                              |   |  |                                   |  |                         |          |
| SMALL GROUP MEETINGS   |  | Floodplain Mgt. WebEx                                   | Public Health WebEx                                      | Dam WebEx   |  |                                   |  |                         |          |
| OUTREACH   | Website Content & Press Release, Public Survey Launch (Link) | Website Content Upload                                  | Website Content Upload                                   | Website Content Upload  | Website Content Upload                   | Appendix L: Public Survey Results | Draft Plan Upload  |                         |          |
| CAPABILITIES & PLAN INTEGRATION  |  |   | Ch. 17: Community Capability & App. G: Capability Matrix |   |  |                                   |  |                         |          |
| HAZARD CHAPTERS  |  | Ch. 10 Winter Storm, Ch. 11 Wildfire, Ch. 15 Earthquake | Ch. 8 Thunderstorm, Ch. 9 Tornado & High Wind            | Ch. 12 Hazmat, Ch. 13. Trans Accident, Ch. 14. Epidemic, Ch. 16 Cyber | Ch. 6: Erosion & SLR, Ch. 7 Drought/Heat | Ch. 4: Flood, Ch. 5: Hurricane    |  |                         |          |
| MITIGATION STRATEGY & PRIORITIZATION   |  |   |  |   |  |                                   | Chapter 19: Mitigation Strategies, Ch. 20: Plan Maintenance and Adoption |                         |          |
| DRAFT PLAN   |  |   |  |   |  |                                   |  | All Chapters & Appendix |          |
| LOCAL REVIEW<br><i>Note: updated chapters distributed to HMPC for review throughout.</i> |  |   |  |   |  |                                   |  | HMPC & Public           |          |
| MDEM REVIEW  |  |   |  |   |  |                                   |  | MDEM Review             |          |
| FEMA REVIEW  |  |   |  |   |  |                                   |  | FEMA Review             |          |
| PLAN ADOPTION  |  |   |  |   |  |                                   |  |                         |          |