



of the Middle Peninsula All Hazards Mitigation Plan Update

WHY do we have a plan and **WHY** is it being updated?

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2K) legislation established the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program and created requirements for the Post-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). DMA 2K requires local governments to develop and submit mitigation plans that demonstrate “a jurisdiction’s commitment to reduce risk from natural hazards, serving as a guide for decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards.” Upon completion, the final plan must be reviewed by Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) and approved Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and then adopted by each participating jurisdiction. An update must be completed/updated every five years to remain compliant with FEMA.

For Middle Peninsula citizens to receive Hazard Mitigation Assistance funding from FEMA, communities must be in good standing with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and be a participating part of a hazard mitigation plan. For instance, if a locality/tribe does not participate and adopt a hazards mitigation plan, then that locality and its citizens will not be eligible to receive pre- or post-disaster hazard mitigation funding through the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program (the new pre-disaster mitigation program) and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for post-disaster funding from FEMA funding.

WHO is involved in this effort?

This plan encompasses the nine localities of the Middle Peninsula including Essex, Gloucester, King & Queen, King William, Mathews and Middlesex Counties and the Towns of West Point, Tappahannock, and Urbanna. Additionally, for the first time the region’s three federally recognized Tribes, including the Upper Mattaponi, Rappahannock, and the Pamunkey were invited to participate in this plan update.



HOW is this effort funded?

The Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission (MPPDC) was funded through the FEMA and VDEM to complete this project.

WHAT does this plan update entail?

Each locality and tribe appointed representatives to serve on the AHMP's Local Planning Team (LPT). MPPDC staff will guide the LPT through the components of the AHMP update to assess local hazards and develop mitigation strategies that aim to reduce their risk to hazards. The components of this plan include:

1. The **Planning Process** entails the efforts to organize the LPT, hazard resources, project timeline development, and developing a public outreach strategy.
2. The **Risk Assessment** entails the identification of hazards and risk that may impact the region, including a summary of historical experience, estimations of potential frequency and magnitude of disasters, and potential losses to life and property.
3. **Mitigation Strategy Planning** is based on public input, identified risks, and available capabilities. Communities will develop mitigation goals, objectives, and strategies to mitigate hazard-related losses.
4. **AHMP Adoption and Approval** – The 2016 AHMP expires February 2022. Therefore, a new plan will need to be adopted by at least one Middle Peninsula by this time. MPPDC staff, localities, and tribes will work during through the fall 2021 to finalize a draft plan and get it approved by FEMA. Following FEMA's approval, localities will work to adopt the updated plan.

HOW can the public get involved?

Public input is critical to shape the plan. To get involved please visit the [MPPDC Facebook page](#) and the MPPDC website (<https://mppdc.com/index.php/service-centers/mandates/hazards>) to provide input. MPPDC staff and the LPT will develop public surveys, press releases, social media posts, and notices for public input opportunities. A draft plan will be available for public review by August 2021.

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