

New York State Emergency
Management Office

OVERVIEW OF
HAZARD MITIGATION
PLANNING & GRANT
PROGRAMS

October 2008

Phases of Emergency Management

- Preparedness: Activities, programs and systems developed and implemented prior to disasters or emergencies
- Response: Activities designed to address the immediate and short-term effects of disasters or emergencies
- Recovery: Activities and programs designed to return conditions to an acceptable level: preferably better, with enhanced resiliency
- Mitigation: Long-term actions taken to eliminate or reduce the effects of disasters or emergencies, either prior to or after such events

Why Hazard Mitigation?

- Save Lives
- Protect developed property
- Reduce response and recovery costs
- Limit social & psychological impacts
- Identify hazards and risks to a community
- Identify measures that will lessen the effect of those hazards and risks

Hazard Mitigation: Definition & Goals

- Mitigation consists of long-term actions taken to reduce or eliminate the impacts of disaster
- Primary goals are to reduce the risk and break the cycle
 - Planning/Non-Structural: regulatory, programmatic*
 - Structural: detention ponds; drainage improvements; elevating, relocation or removing structures; wind or seismic retrofits; bank stabilization*

FEMA's Mitigation Programs

SEMO administers FEMA Mitigation programs, which fall into 2 basic categories:

- Planning grants
- Project grants

A FEMA-approved all-hazard mitigation plan is a prerequisite for most FEMA project grant programs.

Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) 2000 and Planning

- New requirements for local multi-hazard mitigation planning
 - Basis for HMGP project funding
 - Effective date: November 1, 2004
 - Single Jurisdiction and Multi-Jurisdiction Plans
 - Planning steps outlined in 44 CFR Part 201.6
- New guidelines for State multi-hazard mitigation planning

What is Mitigation Planning?

- The opportunity for state & local governments to engage in a systematic process to:
 - Identify hazards and vulnerabilities
 - Establish goals and objectives
 - Identify actions and activities that can be taken to reduce losses from those hazards
 - Establish a coordinated process to implement the plan, taking advantage of a wide range of existing resources.

Local Mitigation Planning Steps

- Description of Planning Process
- Risk Assessment
- Mitigation Plan Development
- Plan Adoption
- Plan Implementation, Monitoring and Maintenance

Planning Process

- Planning Process
 - Teamwork and Inclusiveness
 - Local government agencies/organizations
 - Elected officials
 - Neighboring communities
 - Private sector
 - Academia
 - State and Federal agencies
 - **General public**
 - Must be Documented

Risk Assessment

- Risk Assessment
 - Identify hazards—All that could affect the community
 - Profile hazards—Those that pose the greatest threat
- Vulnerability Assessment
 - Inventory assets at risk to profiled hazards
 - Residential, Commercial, Critical Facilities, Infrastructure, Etc.
 - Estimate potential losses in dollars
 - Analyze development trends

Mitigation Plan Development

- Develop mitigation goals and objectives
- Identify and prioritize mitigation actions
 - Prevention
 - Property Protection
 - Structural Projects
 - Natural Resource Protection
 - Emergency Services
 - Public Education and Awareness
- Prepare an implementation strategy/action plan
 - Identify actions, costs/funding Sources, lead agency & implementation timeframe

Plan Adoption, Approval, Implementation and Maintenance

- Formally adopt plan, e.g., by Board Resolution
- Submit plan for FEMA approval via SEMO
- Implement plan and monitor progress
- Maintain plan
 - Update and resubmit every 5 years

NYS Plan: the Recent Past

Actions taken by SEMO, NYS Agencies and DPC thru 12/31/07

- The first New York State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan ('the Plan') was approved by FEMA in 2005
- SEMO organized a group to oversee updating the 2005 Plan as required by FEMA's regulations
- The first Plan update was 'Approved Pending Adoption' on December 21, 2007
- The Disaster Preparedness Commission adopted the FEMA-approved Plan on December 27, 2007

NYS Plan: the Recent Past

Actions taken by SEMO, NYS Agencies and DPC thru 12/31/07



NYS Plan: the Present

Actions taken by SEMO and the Hazard Mitigation Review Committee
between 1/08 and 10/08

- Monitoring and Updating the Approved Plan
- Establishing the Hazard Mitigation Review Committee
- Securing Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Program Approval
- Distributing & Updating the Current Plan
- Updating the Hazard Profiles

NYS Plan: the Future

Actions planned by SEMO and the Hazard Mitigation Review
Committee

- SEMO's vision for the approved 2007 Plan:
 - Become a resource document for all local jurisdictions and agencies to use
 - Act as a cornerstone for mitigation planning within New York State
 - Serve as a Guidance Document for any jurisdiction or agency preparing a Hazard Mitigation Plan

NYS Plan: the Future

Actions planned by SEMO and the Hazard Mitigation Review Committee
between 10/08 and 12/08

- Measuring Progress
- Maintaining an “Up-To-Date Plan” on SEMO’s web site
- Getting Ready for 2011

Now onto the projects....

Drainage Improvements



Stream Bank Stabilization



Acquisition



Mitigation Grant Programs

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)
- Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC)
- Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL)

Consider all for project grants; HMGP, PDM and FMA for planning grants...

Mitigation Grant Programs

- **Mitigation Planning is a prerequisite For Project Funding:**
 - Applicants must have an FEMA-approved Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan in order to be eligible for project funding (RFC is an exception).
 - FMA requires *either* a FEMA-approved Flood Mitigation or All-Hazards Mitigation Plan

Note: proposed grant projects must be consistent with the approved plan.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program - (HMGP)

- Post Disaster Mitigation Program
 - Section 404 of the Stafford Act
- Funding is 15% of PA & IA for a declared emergency or disaster
- Funding is dependent on the declaration, so there is no annual cycle
- Project Funding is 75% Federal share with a 25% non-Federal contribution
- Funding can be open to entire State or to the declared counties only

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program - (HMGP)

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- State and Local Governments (Counties, Town, Villages)
- Certain Private Non-Profit Organizations
- Native American Tribes and Tribal Organizations

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS:

Structural hazard control or protection projects

- Retrofitting (Flood Proofing, Wet or Dry)
- Property acquisition, relocation or elevation
- Development of State or local mitigation standards
- Development of All-Hazard Mitigation Plans

Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Program

This year FEMA combined the application process for 4 previously distinct hazard mitigation grant programs:

- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA)
- Repetitive Flood Loss (RFC) Program
- Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Program

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDMC)

- Annual funding — National Competition
- Planning and Project Grants
- Maximum award:
 - \$3 million for project grants
 - \$1 million for planning grants
- Eligible Applicants:
 - State and Local Governments
 - Local School Districts
 - Native American (Indian) Tribes or Authorized Tribal Organizations
 - Certain Private Non-Profit Organizations

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- Annual funding is provided through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- The object is to reduce the flood hazard to structures that are insurable under the NFIP
- The community *must* participate in the NFIP to be eligible
- Funding amount is generally less than \$1 million
- Planning and Project Grants
- Must benefit NFIP insured or insurable structures

Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC)

- To reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that have had one or more claim payments for flood damage.
- Funding — National Competition
 - 2007 – \$10 Million
 - 100% federal cost share

Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC)

- Only for communities that cannot meet the requirements for the FMA program for either cost share or capacity to manage the grant activities.
- Project grants available for acquisition, structure demolition, or relocation with the property deed restricted for open space uses in perpetuity.

Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Program

- Mitigation activities that reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to severe repetitive loss properties.
- Properties must be pre-identified to meet the SRL definition, which is a residential property with at least:
 - a) four NFIP claim payments over \$5,000 each; or
 - b) two separate claims payments whose total exceeds the market value of building.

For both (a) and (b) above, at least two claims must be within a ten-year period and more than 10 days apart.

Applying for Mitigation Programs

- Letter of Intent (LOI)
- Application Process
- SEMO/FEMA review
- Project Review Board
- Submission to FEMA

Information You'll Need

- All mitigation funding programs require the same basic information in the application
 - Description of Problem
 - Description of Scope of Work
 - Discussion of Alternatives
 - Demonstration of Cost Effectiveness
 - Discussion of Environmental Issues

HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAMS

QUESTIONS????

SEMO MITIGATION STAFF

www.semo.state.ny.us

518-292-2304

- Rick Lord, Section Chief
- Joe Sikora, Engineer
- Ed Lips, Mitigation Planner
- John Fishbein, Mitigation Planner
- Marlene White, Project Manager
- Tom Abbati, Project Manager
- Todd Ege, Project Manager
- Harry Bartik, PAL
- Bob Ecuyer, PAL
- Fred Nuffer, PAL
- Gretchen VanValkenburg, Administrative Support