

# Broome County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan

2018 UPDATE

## Mission

The mission of the Broome County All-Hazard Mitigation Plan is to protect the health, safety, property, environment and economy of the communities within Broome County and to increase resilience by partnering to identify and reduce our future vulnerability to natural hazards in a proactive and efficient manner.

## Support the Plan!

A citizen survey is posted on the Broome County website at:

<http://www.gobroomecounty.com/planning/hazardmitigation>

or at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BroomeHMPSurvey>



Please visit the site or scan the QR code and complete the survey to provide valuable information for the planning process.

## What is a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

A hazard mitigation plan (HMP) is "the representation of the jurisdiction's commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards, serving as a guide for decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards." (44 CFR 201.6) HMPs establish and maintain eligibility for grant funds. The planning process is as important as the plan itself because it creates a framework for governments to reduce the negative impacts from future disasters on lives, property, and the economy. Hazard mitigation planning can significantly reduce the physical, financial, and emotional losses caused by disasters.

Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 is federal legislation that establishes a pre-disaster hazard mitigation program and new requirements for the national post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). It encourages and rewards state and local pre-disaster planning and promotes sustainability. Completion of an HMP will result in more effective risk reduction projects and in a faster and more efficient allocation of funding.

## What are the benefits of participating in the Hazard Mitigation Plan?

There are numerous benefits to local jurisdictions of participating in the multi-jurisdictional HMP including:

- The multi-jurisdictional planning effort identifies and creates partnerships that enhance grant funding opportunities.
- Multi-jurisdictional plans enable comprehensive approaches to mitigation of hazards that affect several jurisdictions in a specific geographic area.
- It enables partners within the planning area to pool resources and reduce their level of effort while avoiding duplication of effort.
- Furthermore, FEMA prefers multi-jurisdictional planning efforts.



## What is required in a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

FEMA regulations require that the public must be engaged in all phases of the plan's development. The HMP should review and incorporate existing plans and programs that can support or enhance hazard mitigation. The plan must assess the risk to natural hazards that may impact the planning area and identify and prioritize mitigation actions that can be taken. The HMP must also include a strategy for maintaining the plan, which must be updated every 5 years.



# Purpose

The Broome County Department of Planning and Economic Development is leading the update of the countywide All-Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). This plan is an opportunity to detail a variety of potential hazards that could affect some or all of our residents and will also allow the County and participating municipalities to be eligible for future mitigation funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The goal of the plan is to identify projects that can reduce damages from future natural hazards. The plan will include a risk assessment and a hazard mitigation strategy. The primary hazards of concern in Broome County include: Drought, Earthquake, Extreme Temperatures, Flood, Severe Storm, and Severe Winter Storm.

The study will focus on existing buildings & potential future development, infrastructure, and critical facilities that might be impacted. Critical facilities include but are not limited to municipal buildings and infrastructure such as power-generation facilities, water utilities, roadways, railroads and communication systems.

# FAQs

## **What is mitigation?**

Any sustained action taken reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event.

## **How can we reduce/eliminate risk?**

By identifying projects/actions/activities that can include:

- 1) local plans and regulations
- 2) structure and infrastructure projects
- 3) natural systems protection; and
- 4) education and awareness programs

## **Is there funding available?**

Once the plan is approved by FEMA and adopted by the county and jurisdictions, FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant funding is available (annual and post-disaster opportunities).

## **How can I support the plan?**

Take the citizen survey! This will help us obtain input and get a better understanding of citizen preparedness for hazard events.

## **Where can I see the plan?**

Sections of the draft plan will be available for download and review at the Planning Department website (<http://www.gobroomecounty.com/planning/hazardmitigation>).



**For more information visit our website:**

<http://www.gobroomecounty.com/planning/hazardmitigation>

**Broome County resident? Take our survey!**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BroomeHMPSurvey>

**For more information about this process and the plan, please contact:**

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