

STATE OF DELAWARE
HAZARD MITIGATION COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
January 9, 2019

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND MEETING OVERVIEW

Paige Fitzgerald, Natural Hazard Planning Supervisor, opened the meeting by welcoming attendees to the State Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and thanking them for attending. Paige asked attendees to introduce themselves and their areas of responsibility.

Paige started with an overview of the meeting and proceeded with the first agenda item.

Mike Powell, (DNREC)

- Status of Floodplain Map Updates – Mike briefed, there are new floodplain maps for Kent and Sussex County effective June 20, 2018. There were no coastal changes. All inland updates. New County is being evaluated and should be effective by the end of the calendar year. There is a constant need for new modeling to be done to reflect change.
- Community Rating System Updates – Mike briefed, the Community Rating System is the mechanism where FEMA and their contractors determine if communities are doing more to address their flood risk and give the credit through reduced insurance prices for all those extra things they are doing. There are something like 48 incorporated municipalities in Delaware or counties that have mapped flood plains. Only about 13 of them are in the CRS and have asked if they are eligible for a discount. Of the 13, some have been in the CRS for over 25 years. Of those 13 communities, New Castle County at a class 6, will be the highest achieving CRS community in Delaware, getting the largest discount of 20%.

Paige Fitzgerald – DEMA

- HMA Project Ranking and Approval – Paige Fitzgerald reported, PowerPoint presentation attached,;
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program – There are no projects at this time.
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) – Paige Fitzgerald reported on current projects, PowerPoint presentation attached,;
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program – Paige Fitzgerald reported, PowerPoint presentation attached,;

State All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Update

- Staff Changes – Mike Powell stated that Greg Williams is no longer the State Floodplain Manager as he has accepted a new position. The job posting for the position should be posted in the coming weeks.
- Local Plan Updates – Loren Reed briefed, the New Castle County Mitigation Plan expires in November 2020 and the Kent County Mitigation Plan expires in June of 2020. Both New Castle and Kent County have applied for FY18 PDM funding for their plan updates. The Sussex County Mitigation Plan expires in April of 2022.
- Moving Forward – Loren commended the council members on a job well done with the 2018 State Hazard Mitigation Plan update, and stressed the importance of keeping the momentum going with the plan. She also introduced the idea of State Mitigation Actions Working Groups. These working groups help focus the effort on getting work on the

mitigation actions accomplished. The four proposed groups are an Infrastructure Working Group, Resiliency Working Group, Outreach/Partnerships Working Group, and a DEMA Priorities Group. State Mitigation Actions Working Group information attached.

Summary

Adjourn

The January 9, 2019 State Hazard Mitigation Council meeting was adjourned at 1:57 pm.



Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

- **Disaster 4090**
 - 9 home elevations in Bayview Beach
- **Disaster 4265**
 - DeIDOT Mobile Flood Sensor (5% Initiative)



Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)

- **2013**
 - Washington Street Flood Mitigation Project
- **2015**
 - 1 Elevation, 1 Acquisition
- **2016**
 - UD Marine Operations Building Floodproofing Project
- **2017**
 - Pump Station Generator



PDM 2018 Application Cycle

- \$575,000 Federal Share Allocation
- Up to \$200,000 in competitive Advance Assistance funds per State
- Total of __ applications received
- SHMC Policy Group will begin ranking applications today



Proposed Mitigation Projects

Pre-Disaster Mitigation FY18 Grant Cycle
January 9, 2018



Applicant Funding Limits

Type	Maximum Federal Share
State Set Aside	\$575,000
Advance Assistance	\$200,000
Resilient Infrastructure	\$10 million

**Note: Both Advance Assistance and Resilient Infrastructure are competitive funding categories*



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	Fenwick Island
Project Type	Home Elevation
Location	15 Oyster Bay Drive, Fenwick Island
Cost	\$115,400.00/\$86,550 Federal Share
Benefit Cost Ratio	1.52
Flood Zone	A
First Floor Elevation	4.3 feet
Proposed Elevation	2 feet above BFE of 5 feet



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	Sussex County
Project Type	Home Elevation
Location	25867 Berry Street, Millsboro, DE 19966
Cost	\$165,000/\$82,500 Federal Share (50%)
Benefit Cost Ratio	1.06
Flood Zone	A
First Floor Elevation	1.7 feet
Proposed Elevation	1 foot above BFE of 8 feet
Note	This is an SRL Property



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	Kent County Department of Public Safety
Project Type	Generator for Critical Facility
Location	911 Public Safety Blvd, Dover, DE 19901
Cost	\$113,000/\$84,750 Federal Share
Benefit Cost Ratio	6.35
Project Description	The proposed activity is to replace the Department's 20 year old 250kW generator with a new 250 kW generator. The project will use as much of the existing infrastructure as possible, such as existing cables, connections, and breaker boxes.



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	Kent County Department of Public Works
Project Type	Generator for Critical Facility (Pump Station)
Location	296 Albacore Dr. Frederica, DE 19946
Cost	\$33,600/\$25,200 Federal Share
Benefit Cost Ratio	4.61
Notes	This pump station serves 127 customers



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	Kent County Department of Public Works
Project Type	Generator for Critical Facility (Pump Station)
Location	311 Connie Drive, Dover, DE 19901
Cost	\$33,300/\$24,975 Federal Share
Benefit Cost Ratio	2.91
Notes	This pump station serves 81 customers



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	Kent County Department of Public Works
Project Type	Generator for Critical Facility (Pump Station)
Location	2320 South Street, Dover, DE 19901
Cost	\$33,300/\$24,975 Federal Share
Benefit Cost Ratio	8.06
Notes	This pump station serves 245 customers



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	Kent County Department of Public Works
Project Type	Generator for Critical Facility (Pump Station)
Location	39 Walnut Street, Dover, DE 19901
Cost	\$34,000/\$25,500 Federal Share
Benefit Cost Ratio	4.34
Notes	This pump station serves 127 customers



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	Kent County Department of Public Works
Project Type	Generator for Critical Facility (Pump Station)
Location	11 Hazlewood Court, Dover, DE 19901
Cost	\$39,300/\$29,475 Federal Share
Benefit Cost Ratio	4.99
Notes	This pump station serves 168 customers



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	Kent County Department of Public Works
Project Type	Generator for Critical Facility (Pump Station)
Location	376 Cypress Branch Road, Magnolia, DE 19962
Cost	\$33,300/\$24,975 Federal Share
Benefit Cost Ratio	6.68
Notes	This pump station serves 220 customers



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	Kent County Department of Public Safety
Project Type	Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
Cost	\$50,000/\$37,500 Federal Share
Additional Comments	The County's current plan expires 11/10/2020. A current, FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Plan is required for eligibility for HMA grants.



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	New Castle County Office of Emergency Management
Project Type	Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
Cost	\$xx,xxx/\$xx,xxx Federal Share
Additional Comments	The County's current plan expires 6/11/2020. A current, FEMA Approved Hazard Mitigation Plan is required for eligibility for HMA grants.



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	City of Lewes
Project Type	Advance Assistance
Name of Application	West Cedar Avenue Flood Mitigation Planning Study
Cost	\$118,000/\$88,500 Federal Share
Project Description <i>Please see project application for detailed Scope of Work</i>	The City of Lewes and Lewes Board of Public Works will perform a flood risk-reduction study related to recurring tidal flooding at the west end of Cedar Avenue which affects operations of the Children's Beach House whose mission it is to "help children with special needs reach their highest potential as functioning members of their families and communities" via on-site work with caseworkers and other health professionals, summer and weekend camps. The flooding also affects the performance of the Cedar Avenue evacuation route for a significant number of residents and commercial enterprises. And, the flooding creates recurring damage to approximately thirty (30) private properties located on Cedar Avenue.



Proposed Projects

Subapplicant	DNREC
Project Type	Advance Assistance
Name of Application	Flood Study at the Indian River Marina Campground
Cost	\$60,120/\$45,090 Federal Share
Project Description <i>Please see project application for detailed Scope of Work</i>	They proposing a topographic survey, a flood study, and concept remediation plans for the flood-prone Indian River Inlet South Shore Campground, part of Delaware Seashore State Park.

Infrastructure Working Group

- 1** Consider the inclusion of a generator “quick-connect” in the design of new structures, specifically critical facilities, constructed (fully or in part) with public funds.
- 2** Develop stringent State flood hazard real estate disclosure requirements.
- 8** Strongly encourage the disaster resistance of shelters through the implementation of measures identified in existing and new studies.
- 10** The State of Delaware should limit State expenditures (infrastructure investments) in identified hazard areas. Limits placed on expenditures should be incorporated into the most recent Strategies for State Policies and Spending document.
- 13** Develop property-specific mitigation plans for Delaware State museums, historic properties and all publicly-owned historic properties.
- 17** Use Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to relocate or elevate low to moderate income households that are located in the floodplain.
- 20** Purchase and install emergency power sources in identified State-owned facilities.
- 21** Install video cameras in and around all school buildings.
- 27** Research the feasibility to remove dead trees that pose a threat to power lines, road right of ways and property. Trees prone to wind damage should be replaced with more appropriate species, if possible.
- 28** Conduct vulnerability assessment of hospital back-up power sources.
- 30** Conduct all-hazard assessment of critical healthcare system facilities and services (both public and private) to include: nursing homes and long-term facilities, hospitals, free-standing surgery and emergency centers, State public health clinics and State service centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, EMS facilities and dialysis centers.
- 31** Conduct risk analysis and resiliency assessments for Delaware’s affordable housing properties that will result in property-specific mitigation actions, and avoidance of flood prone areas.
- 33** Conduct in-depth vulnerability assessment of state-owned facilities, to include the prioritization of possible retrofitting strategies.
- 34** Assess the vulnerability of access and egress routes to hospitals within the State of Delaware.
- 39** Utilize existing architectural expertise and engineering services to assist in pre and post-disaster structural evaluation and stabilization.
- 41** Enhance disaster resistance of state facilities through the implementation of measures identified in existing and new studies.
- 51** Complete the sensors -on-roads projects that provides for real time monitoring of water levels in river and stream areas considered high risk areas.

Resiliency Working Group

- 4** Continue to promote local prohibitions on the use of fill in order to remove the property from the floodplain or to support re-mapping.
- 5** Strongly encourage riparian buffer requirements. Recommend environmentally sensitive development such as greenways and trails as opposed to commercial and residential development. (Delaware Riparian Buffer Initiative)
- 6** Encourage greenways “zoning” along river corridors.
- 7** Strongly encourage that all new construction of wastewater treatment plants occur outside of the 100-year floodplain.
- 9** Strongly encourage sewer line check valves for new construction or the repair of sewer lines in the 100 and 500-year floodplain.
- 15** Increase the number of CRS communities in the State of Delaware.
- 16** Improve the CRS rating among participating communities by one point per year for the next two years. After two years, a re-evaluation should occur that determines the benefit of continued class rating reductions versus the time and effort necessary to make this happen.
- 19** Consider the use of shoreline protection measures, including inlet stabilization, beach nourishment and dune enhancement.
- 22** Encourage local governments to continue to relocate shoreline buildings outside the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), when elevation is not a cost effective alternative.
- 25** Require the flood-proofing of on-site residential septic systems located in the 100-year floodplain.
- 29** Assess the accuracy of current digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps and aerial base maps and prioritize improvements to both based on flood hazard vulnerability and development patterns.
- 32** Assist communities with the enforcement of state stormwater management regulations.
- 35** Develop base flood elevations in areas which are prone to flooding and a FEMA detailed flood study has not been conducted.
- 37** Collect and document existing spatially-correct facilities data in order to more accurately assess hazard exposure and vulnerability to the impacts of hazards.
- 38** Train State and local floodplain managers in the use of GIS-based digital floodplain maps.
- 45** Formalize assistance to Delaware communities in developing community resiliency plans and integrating hazard mitigation into local plans.
- 48** Work closely with DNREC, the University of Delaware, and DGS on developing and encouraging the use of an early warning and monitoring system for coastal flooding
- 50** Support development of education and awareness programs that inform and educate citizens, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and ways to mitigate them. Emphasize advantages of Community Rating System (CRS) involvement and National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) participation

Outreach/Partnerships Working Group

- 12** Maintain inter-agency collaboration with the Office of State Planning, the University of Delaware Disaster Research Center, Delaware Geological Survey, and floodplain management to assist with hazard data collection and analysis.
- 14** Develop Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Delaware Disaster Research Center to provide staff and graduate students to assist the Delaware Emergency Management Agency address hazard mitigation – related research questions.
- 23** Encourage local governments to continue to floodproof or acquire commercial or public buildings where cost effective. (Acquisition should be the first consideration as it removes the property from the SFHA.)
- 24** Encourage local governments to continue to elevate or acquire flood-prone residential buildings where cost effective. (Acquisition should be the first consideration as it removes the property from the SFHA.)
- 26** Encourage the acquisition of land in flood-prone areas.
- 36** Develop centralized database of past disasters, including the impact of events and the amount and type of disaster assistance provided. Database should contain detailed information regarding completed hazard mitigation projects.
- 40** Develop coordinated community-level disaster education initiative involving State, county and non-governmental organizations.

DEMA Priorities

- 3** The State of Delaware will consider flood hazard vulnerability when identifying “designated growth areas” in certified comprehensive plans.
- 11** Continue to host semi-annual meetings of the State Hazard Mitigation Council. The Council may be convened following federal disaster declarations, if the situation warrants.
- 18** Conduct periodic benefit-cost training workshops for DEMA staff, members of the State Hazard Mitigation Council and county and local government officials.
- 42** Emphasize, prioritize, and Target Repetitive Loss (RL), Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL), and hazard-prone properties; in every aspect of mitigation funding, planning, and outreach.
- 43** Validate repetitive loss data to provide more accurate addressing and mapping. Work with FEMA annually and following declared disasters to ensure all eligible RL or SRL properties are listed.
- 44** Track status of all mitigation actions around the state.
- 46** Coordinate with the Counties and the University of Delaware on a potential grant for the update of their local mitigation plans.
- 47** Support mitigation actions eligible under the Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance program.
- 49** Develop stand-alone generator project applications.
- 52** Evaluate and improve the mitigation eligibility and application process to maximize the use of available mitigation funding.
- 53** Develop a Hurricane Evacuation Study.