

SECTION 3: PLANNING PROCESS

INTRODUCTION

This section includes a description of the planning process used to develop and update the 2008 Burlington County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.

To ensure that the Plan met the requirements of the DMA 2000, an approach to the planning process and plan documentation was developed to achieve the following two goals:

1. The Plan is multi-jurisdictional and considers natural hazards facing Burlington County, thereby satisfying the natural hazards mitigation planning requirements specified in DMA 2000. Burlington County invited all municipalities in the county to join with them in the preparation of the Burlington County HMP Update. Burlington County, 40 of its municipalities and Burlington County College are participating in the Plan, as indicated in Table 3-1 below.

Table 3-1. Participating Burlington County Jurisdictions

City/Towns	
Bass River, Township of	Medford, Township of
Beverly, City of	Moorestown, Township of
Bordentown, City of	Mount Laurel, Township of
Bordentown, Township of	Mt. Holly, Township of
Burlington, City of	New Hanover, Township of
Burlington, Township of	North Hanover, Township of
Chesterfield, Township of	Palmyra, Borough of
Cinnaminson, Township of	Pemberton, Borough of
Delanco, Township of	Pemberton, Township of
Delran, Township of	Riverside, Township of
Eastampton, Township of	Riverton, Borough of
Edgewater Park, Township of	Shamong, Township of
Evesham, Township of	Southampton, Township of
Fieldsboro, Borough of	Springfield, Township of
Florence, Township of	Tabernacle, Township of
Hainesport, Township of	Washington, Township of
Lumberton, Township of	Westampton, Township of
Mansfield, Township of	Willingboro, Township of
Maple Shade, Township of	Woodland, Township of
Medford Lakes, Borough of	Wrightstown, Borough of
Special Purpose District	
Burlington County College	

The Burlington County HMP update was written using the best available information obtained from a wide variety of sources. Throughout Plan development, a concerted effort was made to gather information from municipal and regional agencies and staff as well as stakeholders, federal and state agencies, and the residents of the County. The HMP Committee solicited information from local agencies and individuals with specific knowledge of certain natural hazards and past historical events, as well as considering planning and zoning codes, ordinances, and other recent planning decisions. The natural hazard mitigation strategies identified in this Plan have been developed through an extensive planning process involving local, county, regional and state agencies, as well as county residents and stakeholders.

2. The Plan was developed following the process outlined by DMA 2000, FEMA regulations and guidance as well as NJOEM guidance. Following this process will ensure all the requirements are met and support Plan review.

This section of the Plan describes the mitigation planning process, including (1) Preparing to Plan; (2) Planning Partnership – Organization and Activity; (3) Stakeholder and Public Outreach and Involvement; (4) Coordination with Existing Mitigation Efforts and Programs; (5) Integration of Existing Data, Plans, and Information; and (5) Continued Public and Stakeholder Involvement.

HAZARD MITIGATION IN BURLINGTON COUNTY – PREPARING TO PLAN

Many parties supported preparation of this plan; the Steering Committee, Planning Committee and other stakeholders. This planning process does not represent the start of hazard risk management in the County; rather it is part of an ongoing process that various State, County and local agencies and individuals have continued to embrace. A summary of the past and ongoing mitigation efforts is provided below to give an historical perspective of the county and local activities implemented to reduce vulnerability to natural hazards in the planning area.

- The County and all municipalities have engaged in an update of their 2008 Mitigation Plan.
- Various regional, county and local agencies and governments have been involved in natural hazard risk assessment, mitigation planning and project activities, prior to and/or unrelated to the current planning effort. Such activities provide a strong foundation for subsequent efforts, and an awareness and understanding of the need for and benefits of mitigation planning across a broad range of regional, county and local governments and stakeholders. Several examples of such activities are presented here.
- Thirty-nine jurisdictions in the County participate in the National Flood Insurance Program, and manage their floodplains according to the requirements of participation in that program.
- Since 2008, 20 flood prone homes in Eastampton, Mt. Holly, Pemberton Twp. and Southampton have been acquired with assistance from the County Office of Engineering, Open Space Program.
- County OEM continues to support municipal and county Community Emergency Response Teams with training and equipment.
- County OEM continues to support disaster preparedness and mitigation through its public website.
- Detailed lists of actions addressed by each participating municipality are provided in the municipal annexes in Section 9 of this plan.

PLANNING PARTNERSHIP - ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITY

This section of the Plan identifies how the planning process was organized with the many planning partners involved, and outlines the major activities that were conducted in the development of this Plan.

Organization of Planning Partnership

Recognizing the need to manage natural risk within the County, and to meet the requirements of the DMA 2000, the Burlington County Freeholders assigned the Burlington County Office of Emergency Management with the responsibility of managing the natural hazard mitigation plan update project.

On October 2, 2012, Burlington County was notified by NJOEM that their application for a planning grant to update the 2008 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan under FEMA's Pre Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM-2012) was approved. Burlington County and its municipalities experienced severe setbacks in the contractor procurement and planning process as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Through an open bid process, the County selected a contract Planning consultant (Tetra Tech Inc. –Morris Plains, NJ). A contract between Tetra Tech Inc. (Tetra Tech) and the County was executed on April 10, 2013. Specifically Tetra Tech, the contract consultant, was tasked with:

- Working with the County's Hazard Mitigation Committee and their partners to identify mitigation actions (Projects) for which the County and partners may seek grant funding.
- Recommending actions to ensure County and participating partners are in good standing and demonstrate continued compliance with National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulations, including local floodplain ordinances and permitting requirements
- Preparation of an updated, FEMA approved All Hazards Mitigation Plan for the County

In support of these tasks, the consultant scope included:

- Assisting with the development and implementation of a public and stakeholder outreach program
- Data collection
- Facilitation and attendance at meetings (Planning committee, stakeholder, public and other)
- Outreach to other various outside groups, facilities, and agencies as outlined in the County's original Request for Proposals for information vital to risk identification and mitigation strategies
- Review of hazards of concern, and update of hazard profiling and risk assessment
- Assistance with the development of updated mitigation planning goals and objectives
- Assistance with the screening of new mitigation actions, identification of appropriate actions, and status updates of actions in the original 2008 plan.
- Assistance with the prioritization of mitigation actions
- Authoring of the Draft and Final Plan documents

Burlington County first met with Tetra Tech on April 18, 2013 to discuss a strategy to develop the plan and include all municipalities. A Steering Committee was developed to provide guidance and direction to the planning effort, and to ensure the resulting document will be embraced both politically and by the constituency within the planning area.

The Steering Committee was charged with:

- Providing guidance and overseeing the planning process on behalf of the general planning partnership.
- Attending and participating in Steering Committee meetings.
- Assisting with the development and completion of certain planning elements, including:
- Identification of “Hazards of Concern”
- Public and Stakeholder Outreach
- Mitigation Planning Goals and Objectives
- Identification and screening of appropriate mitigation strategies and activities.
- Reviewing and commenting on plan documents prior to submission to NJOEM and FEMA.

On April 29, 2013, the Steering Committee met for the first time and continued to meet throughout the planning process. Table 3-1 shows the current members of the Steering Committee, at the time of this draft Plan’s publication.

Members of the Steering Committee (individually and as a whole), as well as key stakeholders, convened and/or communicated on an as-needed basis to share information and participate in workshops to identify hazards; assess risks; identify critical facilities; assist in developing mitigation goals, objectives and actions; and provide continuity through the Plan development process to ensure that natural hazards vulnerability information and appropriate mitigation strategies were incorporated into the Plan. Each member of the Steering Committee reviewed the Plan, supported interaction with other stakeholders and assisted with public involvement efforts.

Table 3-2. Steering Committee Members

Organization	Name	Title
Burlington County Office of Emergency Management	Kevin Tuno *	Coordinator
County Freeholders Administration	Todd Wirth	Freeholder's Office
County Public Information	Charlene Webster	Public Information Officer
County Parks	John Smith	Parks Director
County Resource Conservation	Mary Pat Robbie	Director
County GIS	David Rickert	GIS Specialist
County Roads and Bridges	Jeff Kerchner	Supervisor
County Office of Emergency Management	Steve King **	Deputy Coordinator
County Office of Emergency Management	Wayne Comegno	Deputy Coordinator
County Office of Emergency Management	Susan Piersanti	Administration
County Public Safety	Rich Dreby	Director
County Open Space	Matt Johnson	Manager
County Health	Eve Cullinan	Director
County Health	Holly Cucuzzella	Health Officer
County Engineer	Joe Brickley	County Public Works Director
County Economic Development	Mark Remsa	Director

Organization	Name	Title
County Resource Conservation	Gina Berg	Water Resource Coordinator

*Chair

**Alternate Chair

On April 19, 2013, Burlington County notified all 40 municipalities within the County of the pending planning process and invited them to formally participate. Municipalities were provided with a copy of the Planning Partner Expectations and asked to formally notify the County of their intent to participate (via a Letter of Intent to Participate) and to identify a planning point of contact to serve on a Planning Committee and represent the interests of their respective community.

A Planning Committee was then assembled to represent each of the municipalities participating in the Plan, consisting of all members of the Steering Committee, and at least one representative from each of the 40 participating municipalities.

Each municipality received a copy of the “Planning Partner Expectations” which outlined the responsibilities of the participants and the agreement of the partners to authorize a Steering Committee to represent the jurisdictions in the completion of certain planning elements as noted above.

The Planning Committee was charged with the following:

- Represent their jurisdiction throughout the planning process;
- Establish Plan development goals;
- Establish a timeline for completion of the Plan;
- Ensure that the Plan meets the requirements of DMA 2000 and FEMA and NJOEM guidance;
- Solicit and encourage the participation of regional agencies, a range of stakeholders, and citizens in the Plan development process;
- Assist in gathering information for inclusion in the Plan, including the use of previously developed reports and data;
- Organize and oversee the public involvement process;
- Identify, develop and prioritize appropriate mitigation initiatives.
- Review, amend and approve all sections of the Plan;
- Develop and author the jurisdictional annex for their jurisdiction;
- Develop, revise, adopt, and maintain the Plan.

It is noted that the Letter of Intent to Participate identifies the above “Planning Partner Expectations” as serving to identify those activities comprising overall participation by jurisdictions throughout the planning process. It is recognized that the jurisdictions in Burlington County have differing levels of capabilities and resources available to apply to the planning process, and further have differing exposure and vulnerability to the natural hazard risks being considered in this Plan. It was Burlington County’s intent to encourage participation by all inclusive jurisdictions, and to accommodate their specific needs and limitations while still meeting the intents and purpose of Plan participation. Such accommodations have included the establishment of a Steering Committee and engaging a contract consultant to assume certain elements of the Planning process on behalf of the jurisdictions, and to provide additional and alternative mechanisms to meet the purposes and intent of mitigation planning.

Ultimately, jurisdictional participation is evidenced by a completed annex (chapter) of the Plan wherein the jurisdiction has identified their planning points of contact, evaluated their risk to the hazards of concern, identified their capabilities to effect mitigation in their community, and identified and prioritized

an appropriate suite of mitigation initiatives, actions, and projects to mitigate their natural hazard risk; and eventually by the adoption of the Plan via resolution.

The HMP Planning Committee was comprised of appropriate municipal personnel, local emergency first responders, and other stakeholders to effectively guide the overall process, provide significant input, and partner with Tetra Tech to develop a FEMA-approved Plan. Thus, the County formed the HMP Planning Committee as noted in Table 3-3. Broad participation of all stakeholders was encouraged throughout all phases of the planning process. A complete listing of municipal participants is identified in each of the jurisdiction annexes in Section 9.

Table 3-3 shows the current municipal members of the Planning Committee at the time of this Plan’s publication. Included in the list are Steering Committee members who are also part of the overall project Planning Committee.

Table 3-3. Planning Committee Members (Municipal Representatives and Special Purpose District Members Only)

Municipality	Name	Title
Burlington County	Kevin Tuno	OEM Coordinator
Burlington County	T. Steve King	Deputy OEM
Bass River Township	David Cope	Emergency Management Coordinator
Bass River Township	Amanda Somes	Municipal Clerk
City of Beverly	Rich Wolbert	Administrator, Public Safety
City of Beverly	Donna Snyder	Municipal Clerk
City of Bordentown	James E. Lynch, Jr.	Mayor, Emergency Management Coordinator
City of Bordentown	Brian A. Maugeri, Sr.	Deputy OEM Coordinator
Bordentown Township	Andrew Law	Office of Emergency Management
Bordentown Township	Dean Burhrer	Director - DPW
City of Burlington	Frank Caruso	Emergency Management Coordinator
City of Burlington	Hugh Dougherty	Sewer and Drainage Engineer
Township of Burlington	Kevin A. Shoppas	Emergency Management Coordinator
Township of Burlington	Scott Hatfield	Township Engineer
Township of Chesterfield	Kyle Wilson	Chief of Police/OEM
Township of Chesterfield	Greg Lebak	DPW Director
Township of Cinnaminson	Danny Norman	Director of Emergency Management
Township of Cinnaminson	Frederick Turek	Twp. Engineer/ Superintendent of PW
Delanco Township	Christopher Noll	Township Engineer/NFIP Administrator
Delanco Township	Janice Lohr	Assistant Administrator/Municipal Clerk
Delran Township	Walter Bauer	Emergency Manager
Delran Township	Jeff Hatcher	Township Administrator
Eastampton Township	Thomas Czerniecki	Township Manager
Eastampton Township	Kim-Marie White	Township Clerk
Edgewater Park Township	Linda M. Dougherty	RMC/Administrator
Edgewater Park Township	John McElwee	Emergency Management Coordinator
Evesham Township	Bryan Ward	Asst. Fire Chief/Deputy OEM Coordinator

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Municipality	Name	Title
Evesham Township	Lou Cavaliere	Firefighter/Inspector, Fire Department
Borough of Fieldsboro	Joseph Conlin	Public Safety Director
Borough of Fieldsboro	David Hansell	Mayor
Florence Township	Philip Drangula	Emergency Management Coordinator
Florence Township	James Karwacki	Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator
Hainesport Township	William Boettcher	OEM Coordinator
Hainesport Township	Edward Ruggiano	Deputy OEM Coordinator
Lumberton Township	Lt. Edward Begolly	Emergency Management Coordinator
Lumberton Township	Nicholas Peditto	Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator
Mansfield Township	Douglas J. Borgstrom	Emergency Management Coordinator
Mansfield Township	Sean Gable	Fire Inspector
Maple Shade Township	Gary La Venia	Township Manager
Maple Shade Township	Rosemary Flaherty	Community Development Director/ Planning & Zoning Officer
Medford Township	Jeffrey Wagner	Emergency Management Coordinator
Medford Township	Robert Dovi	Deputy OEM Coordinator
Borough of Medford Lakes	Julie Horner Keizer	Borough Manager
Borough of Medford Lakes	Mark J. McIntosh	Borough Clerk
Moorestown Township	Lee R. Lieber	Lieutenant/Police Department
Moorestown Township	Thomas Ford	Director of Community Development
Mount Holly Township	Ed Spooner	Emergency Management Coordinator
Mount Holly Township	Steve Martin	Chief of Police, MHPD
Mount Laurel Township	Francis W. Pagurek	Emergency Management Coordinator
Mount Laurel Township	Maureen Mitchell	Township Manager
New Hanover Township	Gary Timmons	Chief/Deputy OEM Coordinator
New Hanover Township	Patrick Murphy	Committeeman/OEM Coordinator
North Hanover Township	Mark Keubler	Chief of Police
North Hanover Township	Budd Wells	Police Detective
Borough of Palmyra	Tracy Kilmer	Palmyra Office of Emergency Management
Borough of Palmyra	Richard Derby	Palmyra Office of Emergency Management
Borough of Pemberton	Chad Bozoski	Emergency Management Coordinator / Fire Chief
Borough of Pemberton	Donna Mull	Municipal Administrator
Pemberton Township	Chief Craig L. Augustoni	Emergency Management Coordinator/Fire Chief
Pemberton Township	Chief David Jantas	Deputy EMC/COP
Riverside Township	Meghan Jack	Administrator
Township	Steve Barone	OEM Coordinator
Borough of Riverton	Scott Reed	Department of Emergency Management
Borough of Riverton	Betty Boyle	Department of Emergency Management
Shamong Township	Stanley A. Rowe	OEM Coordinator

Municipality	Name	Title
Shamong Township	Wallace Pickard, Jr.	Deputy OEM Coordinator
Southampton Township	Kathy Agolio	OEM Coordinator
Southampton Township	Joe Boyle	Deputy OEM Coordinator
Springfield Township	Eric Trout	Police Chief/Emergency Management Coordinator
Springfield Township	J. Paul Keller	Township Manager
Tabernacle Township	William C. Lowe	Emergency Management Coordinator
Tabernacle Township	Douglas Cramer	Township Administrator
Washington Township	Barbara L. Somes	Emergency Management Coordinator
Washington Township	Horace A. Somes, Jr.	Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator
Westampton Township	Daryl Caulfield	Emergency Management Coordinator
Westampton Township	Gene Blair	Construction Official
Willingboro Township	Richard Brevogel	Director of Public Works
Willingboro Township	John Carroll, Jr.	Emergency Management Coordinator
Woodland Township	Edward Vincent	OEM Coordinator
Woodland Township	Thomas Leisse	Township Engineer – Pennoni Associates
Borough of Wrightstown	C. Mike Borsavage	Emergency Management Coordinator
Borough of Wrightstown	James Ingling	Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator
Burlington County College	Linda Schmidt	Public Safety Director
Burlington County College	Mark Meara	Chief Information Officer

Planning Partnership Activities

A summary of Planning and Steering Committee meetings held during the development of this Plan is included in Table 3-4. It must be recognized that this summary table identifies only the formal meetings held during plan development, and does not reflect all of the activities conducted by individuals and groups throughout the planning process. In addition to these meetings there was a great deal of communication between Planning Committee members through electronic mail (email), and by phone. Significant support and communication was provided by the consultant during this process to engage the Planning Partners and to provide information and guidance in preparing the plan. Many participating municipalities required individual assistance with regard to completing their individual annexes.

All participating jurisdictions had access to the contractor and could schedule meetings or calls at any mutual agreeable time. The contractor and the County Office of Emergency Management initiated contact with those municipalities having the most difficulty in preparing the annex. These municipalities lacked personnel and were still recovering from the effects of Hurricane Sandy.

Additional guidance was provided to these municipalities to ensure they remained compliant with all plan update guidelines and recommendations. Guidance was provided through conference and individual phone calls and meetings as well as email exchanges.

After completion of the Plan, implementation and ongoing maintenance will become a function of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will review the Plan and accept public comment as part of an annual review and as part of the five year mitigation plan update.

Table 3-4 presents a summary of the planning partnership efforts implemented during the development process for this Plan, as well as key milestones in the Plan’s development. It also identifies which DMA 2000 requirements the activities satisfy.

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Table 3-4. Summary of Planning Activities

Date	Activity/DMA 2000 Requirement	Key Outcomes/Purpose	Attendees
02-13-2013	Public Meeting 1a	Legislative Committee Meeting to authorize and issue a RFP to update the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan	Board of Chosen Freeholders
04-10-13	Public Meeting 1a, 1b, 2	Legislative Committee Meeting to discuss resolution and to accept consultant	Board of Chosen Freeholders
04-18-13	Pre-project Meeting 2	Pre-Kick-Off Meeting	Burlington County Office of Emergency Management Burlington County GIS Tetra Tech
04-29-13	Steering Committee Meeting 1b, 2	Steering Committee Meeting	Burlington County Office of Emergency Management, GIS Department, Health Department, Freeholder Representative, Public Safety Director, Resource Conservation Office, Department of Public Works, County Park Supervisor Tetra Tech
05-02-13 2:00 PM	Planning Committee Meeting 1b, 2	Municipal Kick-Off Meeting	Participating Municipalities Steering Committee members
05-02-13 7:00 PM	Planning Committee Meeting 1b, 2	Municipal Kick-Off Meeting	Participating Municipalities Steering Committee members
05-21-13	Steering Committee Meeting 1b, 2	Second Steering Committee Meeting	Steering Committee members
06-27-13	SWOO 2, 4a, 4b	Strengths, Weaknesses, Obstacles and Opportunities Meeting	Planning Committee Steering Committee Stakeholders
07-25-13	JAW 2, 3e, 4a, 4b	Jurisdictional Annex Workshop	Planning Committee Steering Committee Members
08-20-13	Mitigation Strategy 2, 3e, 4a, 4b	FEMA Workshop Mitigation Initiatives	FEMA cadre Planning Committee Steering Committee Members
09-05-13	Working Group Meeting 2, 4c, 5a, 5b, 5c	Working Group Meeting to provide assistance with Jurisdictional Annexes	Participating Municipalities County Office of Emergency Management
10-01-13	Working Group Meeting 2, 4c, 5a, 5b, 5c	Second Working Group Meeting to provide assistance with Jurisdictional Annexes	Participating Municipalities County Office of Emergency Management
11-21-13	Working Group Meeting 2, 4c, 5a, 5b, 5c	Provide final information on Annex review and sign off of municipal officials	Participating Municipalities Planning Committee Steering Committee Members
12-12-13	Public Outreach Meeting	Public Information Meeting on Plan and comment opportunity and procedures	Steering Committee Members
12-12-13	Draft Plan Posted for Public Review 1b	Public Review	General Public access to Hazard Mitigation Plan Website*

Note: *Due to the compressed project schedule and the availability of the Burlington County Hazard Mitigation website, the committee implemented an on-line public review process to capture public comments of the draft plan. Comments were collected using a feedback link on the website. Feedback was gathered by the contractor and Burlington County OEM and integrated in the plan risk assessment and mitigation strategies.

TBD = to be determined. Each number in column 2 identifies specific DMA 2000 requirements, as follows:

- 1a – Prerequisite – Adoption by the Local Governing Body
- 1b – Public Participation
- 2 – Planning Process – Documentation of the Planning Process
- 3a – Risk Assessment – Identifying Hazards
- 3b – Risk Assessment – Profiling Hazard Events
- 3c – Risk Assessment – Assessing Vulnerability: Identifying Assets
- 3d – Risk Assessment – Assessing Vulnerability: Estimating Potential Losses
- 3e – Risk Assessment – Assessing Vulnerability: Analyzing Development Trends
- 4a – Mitigation Strategy – Local Hazard Mitigation Goals
- 4b – Mitigation Strategy – Identification and Analysis of Mitigation Measures
- 4c – Mitigation Strategy – Implementation of Mitigation Measures
- 5a – Plan Maintenance Procedures – Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating the Plan
- 5b – Plan Maintenance Procedures – Implementation through Existing Programs
- 5c – Plan Maintenance Procedures – Continued Public Involvement

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STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN MITIGATION PLANNING

This section presents (1) municipal involvement, (2) state and regional agency involvement, (3) public participation – citizen involvement, and outreach to business, utility, educational, non-profits, and other stakeholders.

Diligent efforts were made to assure broad regional, County and local representation in this planning process. To that end, a comprehensive list of stakeholders was developed with the support of the Steering and Planning Committee. Stakeholder outreach was performed early on, and continually throughout, the planning process. In addition to “mass media” notification efforts, phone calls and emails, identified stakeholders were invited to attend planning meetings and the Strengths, Weaknesses, Obstacles and Opportunities Meeting. Key stakeholders were also requested to participate on the Planning Committee.

The following is list of the various stakeholders that were invited to participate in the development of this Plan, along with a summary of how these stakeholders participated and contributed to the Plan. It should be noted that this summary listing does not represent the sum total of stakeholders that were aware of and/or contributed to this Plan, as outreach efforts were being made, both formally and informally, throughout the process by the many planning partners involved in the effort, and documentation of all such efforts is impossible. Rather, this summary is intended to demonstrate the scope and breadth of the stakeholder outreach efforts made during the development of this Plan.

Information and input provided by these stakeholders has been included throughout this Plan where appropriate, as identified in the references.

On June 6, 2013 an email was sent by Burlington County Office of Emergency Management Coordinator to the stakeholders indicated in the following table inviting them to review the draft plan documents and to participate in the development of the Plan. The email also provided links to the HMP website for further information about the Plan. Neighboring Counties were invited to participate in the planning process. Comments were directed to the Burlington County Office of Emergency Management, the point of contact tasked with collecting any information from the stakeholder outreach.

Table 3-5. Burlington County Stakeholders

Company/Organization Name	Contact Name	Contact Position/Title
Monmouth County OEM Coordinator	Mike Oppegard	Coordinator
Ocean County OEM Coordinator	William Polhemus	Coordinator
Camden County OEM Coordinator	Sam Spino	Coordinator
Atlantic County OEM Coordinator	Vincent Jones	Coordinator
Mercer County OEM Coordinator	Dean Raymond	Coordinator
Bucks County PA OEM Coordinator	Scott Forester	Director
NJ Office of Emergency Management	Lt. James Haidacher	NJOEM Mitigation Unit Head
NJ Department of Health	Gary Ludwig	Director
Joint Base McGuire Dix Lakehurst	Steve Robertson	Coordinator
NJ Conservation Foundation	Michele Beyers	Director
NJ Forest Fire Service	Michael Achey	Fire Warden
National Weather Service, Mt. Holly	Joe Miketta, Gary Szatkowski	Specialist
American Red Cross	Paul Rick	Coordinator
Burlington County Bridge Commission	Phil Adams	Manager
Lockheed Martin	David Sutton	Manager
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service	Greg Westfall	Planner
Rancocas Creek Association	John McNamara	President
PSE&G	M. Benentt, E. Forte	Supervisor
South Jersey Gas Company	Customer Care	Customer Care
NJ American Water	Kevin Watsey	Manager

Company/Organization Name	Contact Name	Contact Position/Title
Comcast Cable	Kathy Farinaccio	Manager
Salvation Army	Virginia Evans	Specialist
County Agriculture Agent	Raymond Samulis	Department Head
All participating municipalities	N/A	N/A

The New Jersey Forest Fire Service commented on the plan and provided updated fire hazard mapping information. The public was also invited to review the draft plan via the County website on December 12, 2013. Comments were collected by the contractor via a link on the County Hazard Mitigation Plan website. A summary of the comments is included in Appendix C of this plan. All comments have been reviewed and incorporated in the plan as appropriate.

Municipal and Local Involvement

The HMP Committee and/or its members and contract consultant met and communicated with relevant representatives of the municipalities within the County to obtain data and information, review existing plans and capabilities, and facilitate the identification of appropriate mitigation initiatives. Further, these departments have reviewed the Draft Plan and provided direct input during its development.

Throughout the course of updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Committee Chair though the contractor sent correspondence to participating municipalities to update them on the process, make them aware of important meeting dates and other plan review activities. This correspondence included emails, letter and phone conversations with many of the municipal stakeholders. For each of the stakeholders the distribution list included as appropriate:

- Municipal Officials
- Municipal Clerk
- Highway Superintendent
- Code Enforcement
- Floodplain Administrator
- Primary Point of Contact determined by stakeholder
- Secondary Point of Contact determined by stakeholder

In addition, before finalization of the plan, all jurisdictional annexes were forwarded to each municipality for review with a directive to provide at least that portion of the plan to the above personnel and other municipal officials. Each municipal annex was reviewed and approved by municipal officials as noted by the municipal official “sign off” sheet included at the end of each municipal annex in Section 9. The Committee and its members met and communicated regularly to obtain mitigation planning information for HMP preparation. Meeting sign-in sheets which indicate the municipal and stakeholder participants are provided in Appendix I.

Federal, State, County, and Regional Agency Involvement

Throughout this Planning process, the County actively sought the involvement of a wide range of county, state and regional stakeholders. At a minimum, these stakeholders were advised of the planning process and provided an opportunity to review and provide direct input to the Plan during its development. Further, the HMP Committee and/or its members and contract consultant, met and/or directly

communicated with many of these stakeholders to obtain data and information, review existing plans, and facilitate the identification of appropriate mitigation initiatives.

- New Jersey Office of Emergency Management
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- New Jersey Forest Fire Service
- New Jersey Department of Health
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) - Region II
- USDA National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) – Mt. Holly Office

Burlington County Government Departments

Burlington County Department of Public Works – Steering Committee member, attended Steering and Planning Committee meetings, provided input to inventory and risk assessment, reviewed plan sections, identified potential county and regional mitigation initiatives.

Burlington County GIS Department – Provided county wide structural and geographic information for the vulnerability analysis and planning effort.

Burlington County Emergency Management – Provided administrative support; provided direct representation on the Steering Committee; provided data and information on assets and vulnerabilities throughout the County; supported public and stakeholder outreach, identified completed and ongoing mitigation activities and updates to the county and local mitigation strategies; reviewed and provided comment on draft plan sections; facilitated regional mitigation planning coordination

Burlington County Health Department (BCHD) - Supported public and stakeholder outreach efforts; identified completed and ongoing mitigation activities; provided updates to the county mitigation strategy.

Burlington County Public Information Office of the Board of Chosen Freeholders (Public Information Officer) - Supported public and stakeholder outreach efforts.

Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders - Provided authorization for grant, contracting, and the planning organizational structure; promoted and facilitated municipal participation, up to and including adoption of the Plan update and supported public outreach.

Surrounding County Agencies

- Mercer
- Monmouth
- Ocedan
- Atlantic
- Camden

Academia

- Burlington County College
- Virtua Hospital

Government Agencies

Information regarding hazard identification, risk assessment, and mitigation actions for this plan was also requested and received from the following agencies and organizations:

- Midwest Regional Climate Center (MRCC)
- National Climatic Data Center (NCDC)
- National Hurricane Center (NHC)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- National Weather Service (NWS)
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
- New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH)
- New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT)
- New Jersey Office of Emergency Management
- New Jersey Forest Fire Service
- Storm Prediction Center (SPC)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- U.S. Census Bureau
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Information received from these agencies has been incorporated into this plan update as appropriate, and as documented within the individual plan sections and associated References.

Public Participation - Citizen Involvement

In order to facilitate better coordination and communication between the Planning Committee and citizens and to involve the public in the planning process, it was determined that draft documents will be made available to the public through the County HMP website. The participating partners also feel that community input on the HMP will increase the likelihood of hazard mitigation becoming one of the standard considerations in the evolution and growth of the County.

The Planning Committee has made the following efforts toward public participation in the development and review of the Plan:

- The public was informed of the hazard mitigation planning effort commencement through press releases, new articles, and public service announcements on the county website. To inform the public of the ongoing Plan effort, updates regarding the mitigation planning process have been made on the county website.
- A public website is being maintained as a way to facilitate communication between the Planning Committee and County residents (<http://www.co.burlington.nj.us/ahmp>). The public website contains a project overview, contact information, and sections of the HMP for public review and

comment. See Figures 3-1 and 3-2 for screenshots of this public website. The website also has a link for the public to submit comments on the draft plan.

- Links to the public website and questionnaire have been established by the Towns of Cinnaminson and Delanco, and are posted on the websites of those towns. All municipalities have been requested to post a link to the HMP website and Citizen Questionnaire to provide ongoing public outreach.
- Several municipalities have conducted public outreach utilizing “Nixle” to include Mount Laurel. “Nixle Connect” connects public safety agencies to their residents via text, web, and email so residents can be informed of important notifications.
- A hazard mitigation planning tri-fold brochure (see Appendix C) was developed to inform the public of the planning process, provide local contact information, and encourage the public to review the plan and provide input. This brochure was available at the County Freeholders Office, County Office of Emergency Management as well as The Freedom Run 5K and Fall Fling Festival on October 19, 2013 and the Fall Foliage Family Float Festival on October 20, 2013.
- In order to facilitate coordination and communication between the Planning Committee and citizens and involve the public in the planning process, the Plan will be available to the public through a variety of venues. A printed version of the Plan will be maintained at Burlington County Office of Emergency Management and the digital version will be maintained on the County HMP website.
- An on-line natural hazards preparedness citizen survey was developed to gauge household preparedness that may impact the County and to assess the level of knowledge of tools and techniques to assist in reducing risk and loss of those hazards (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/burlington-mitigation-survey>). The questionnaire asked quantifiable questions about citizen perception of risk, knowledge of mitigation, and support of community programs. The questionnaire also asked several demographic questions to help analyze trends. Responses were collected and incorporated into Strengths, Weaknesses, Obstacles, and Opportunities (SWOO) discussions and the catalog of mitigation actions.

Survey results, which included more than 900 responses, showed that 44% of respondents felt moderately prepared for natural disaster events. A question about what types of mitigation preparation residents have undertaken showed that 72% of respondents have at least two methods for receiving emergency notifications and for information during severe weather or potential emergency situations, and 77% look to local news or other media to obtain information. Only 20% have taken precautionary measures to protect his or her property, and roughly the same percent have identified the location of the nearest severe weather shelter. The majority of respondents (70.6%) believe that local, county, state or federal government agencies could be improving the damage resistance of utilities (electricity, communications, water/wastewater facilities etc.) in order to reduce the damage and disruption of natural disasters in Burlington County. The second and third highest choices for types of local, county, state, or federal intervention were retrofitting infrastructure, such as elevating roadways and improving drainage systems (62.5%), and informing property owners of ways they can mitigate damage to their properties (42.4%), respectively.

When asked about past exposure to natural disasters and hazard events in Burlington County over the past decade, 60% or more of the respondents reported experiencing Hurricane/Tropical Storm, Nor’Easter, and Severe Winter Weather events, though the same respondents noted only moderate concern about these types of events occurring in the future. Only 29% of survey respondents considered the impact that a natural disaster could have on his/her home before he/she purchased or moved in.

Almost 30% of respondents have experienced basement flooding, though only 10% have flood insurance. (It should be noted that few respondents, or 16.2%, reported that their property is located within a designated floodplain. Another 16% were unsure.) 61% of respondents indicated that he/she would consider a “buyout,” “elevation,” or “relocation” if his/her property were located in a designated “high hazard” area, or had received repeated damages from a natural event.

The questionnaire has been available on the public website since July 15, 2013. Response rates are considered excellent, however 403 responses represented either Moorestown or Mount Laurel Townships. The next best represented municipality was Delanco Township, with 83 or 9.5% of responses. Appendix H summarizes public input received through the website, the online survey, and other sources.

- On December 20, 2013, the Draft Plan was posted to the public website (<http://www.co.burlington.nj.us/ahmp>). This is an opportunity for the public to comment on the Draft Plan. All public comments were directed to the Burlington County Office of Emergency Management for collection and review by the Steering Committee. Any public comments received before submittal to FEMA have been incorporated into the plan.

These and other examples of public outreach efforts are presented in Appendix C. Public comments that have been received to date are also documented in Appendix C.

Figure 3-1. Screenshot of the Hazard Mitigation Plan Link on the Burlington County Government Website



Source: <http://www.co.burlington.nj.us/ahmp>

Figure 3-2. Screenshot of the Burlington County Hazard Mitigation Plan Public Website, General Information Page

49 Rancocas Road
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060
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Home > Departments > Public Safety > Burlington County All Hazards Mitigation Plan > General Information

General Information

WHAT IS HAZARD MITIGATION?

Natural hazards have the potential to cause property loss, loss of life, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety. While an important aspect of emergency management deals with disaster recovery – those actions that a community must take to repair damages and make itself whole in the wake of a natural disaster – an equally important aspect of emergency management involves hazard mitigation. Hazard mitigation measures are efforts taken before a disaster happens to lessen the impact that future disasters of that type will have on people and property in the community. They are things you do today to be more protected in the future. Hazard mitigation actions taken in advance of a hazard event are essential to breaking the typical disaster cycle of damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage. With careful selection, hazard mitigation actions can be long-term, cost-effective means of reducing the risk of loss and help create a more disaster-resistant and sustainable community.

WHAT IS A HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN?

A Hazard Mitigation Plan is a well-organized and well-documented evaluation of the hazards that a jurisdiction is susceptible to, and the extent to which these events will occur. Hazard Mitigation Plans identify an area's vulnerability to the effects of the natural hazards typically present in a certain area, as well as the goals, objectives, and actions required for minimizing future loss of life and property damage as a result of hazard events. The primary purpose of mitigation planning is to systematically identify policies, actions, and tools that can be used to implement those actions.

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PLAN

Hazard mitigation plans are developed BEFORE a disaster strikes. The plans identify community policies, actions, and tools for long-term implementation to reduce risk and potential for future losses. Adopted, implemented and maintained on an ongoing basis, these plans will gradually, but steadily, lessen the impacts associated with hazard events in Burlington County.

As of November 1, 2004 communities that do not have a FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan in place are no longer eligible for FEMA project grant monies under programs such as the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA), Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM).

PARTICIPATION

Jurisdictions located within Burlington County who wish to be recognized by FEMA as being compliant with DMA 2000 must either: (a) participate with the County in the multi-jurisdictional plan development process and formally adopt the final plan, or (b) prepare their own hazard mitigation plan.

Elected and appointed government officials, business leaders, volunteers of non-profit organizations, citizens, and other stakeholders are being invited to participate in our multi-jurisdictional plan development process as part of our Burlington County Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (the "Planning Committee"). Click [here](#) for a PDF of more information on our organizational structure.

Source: <http://www.co.burlington.nj.us/Pages/pages.aspx?cid=996>

COORDINATION WITH EXISTING PLANNING EFFORTS AND PROGRAMS

Local municipalities are charged with the development of local HMPs required under Section 322 of the Stafford Act by New Jersey. Therefore, the Planning Committee coordinated the development of this HMP. In New Jersey, local municipalities are authorized to prepare local disaster plans based on the contention that they are best equipped to assess their strengths and weaknesses, opportunities, and constraints. Local governments have intimate knowledge of the local geography, and in a disaster, local government personnel are on the front lines providing personnel and equipment to support the community. Burlington County and the participating jurisdictions are involved in this above program, hence the development of this Plan.

Examples of other hazard mitigation programs in which County is involved with are the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). These programs assist the County in receiving funding for flood mitigation projects and flood insurance (the HMGP also can provide funds to mitigate other natural hazards). Data from the County, based on participation in these programs, was incorporated in the risk assessment in Section 5 and used to identify mitigation options in Section 9. Continued involvement in these flood-related programs will help to administer funds and resources to support this HMP.

Federal Hazard Mitigation Funding Opportunities

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs provide funding for eligible mitigation activities that reduce disaster losses and protect life and property from future disaster damages. Currently, FEMA administers the following HMA grant programs: 1) Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA); 2) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program; and 3) Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM).

As of July 2013, the Repetitive Loss Grant Program (RFC) and Severe Repetitive Loss Grant Program (SRL) are no longer funded and are now addressed under the unified FMA program. The Biggert Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 eliminated the SRL program. For more information Biggert Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act visit: <http://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance-reform-act-2012>. For previous year information regarding the SRL Program visit: <http://www.fema.gov/severe-repetitive-loss-program>. For previous year information on the RFC Program visit: <http://www.fema.gov/repetitive-flood-claims-program>

Federal mitigation grant funding (Stafford Act 404 and 406) is available to all communities with a current hazard mitigation plan (this plan); however most of these grants require a “local share” in the range of 10-25% of the total grant amount. Participation in FEMA 404 HMGP may cover mitigation activities including raising, removing, relocating or replacing structures within flood hazard areas. The FEMA mitigation grant programs are described below.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

The HMGP is a post-disaster mitigation program. It is made available to states by FEMA after each Federal disaster declaration. The HMGP can provide up to 75% funding for hazard mitigation measures. The HMGP can be used to fund cost-effective projects that will protect public or private property in an area covered by a federal disaster declaration or that will reduce the likely damage from future disasters. Examples of projects include acquisition and demolition of structures in hazard prone areas, flood-proofing or elevation to reduce future damage, minor structural improvements and development of state or local standards. Projects must fit into an overall mitigation strategy for the area identified as part of a local planning effort. All applicants must have a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (this plan).

Applicants who are eligible for the HMGP are state and local governments, certain nonprofit organizations or institutions that perform essential government services and Indian tribes and authorized tribal organizations. Individuals or homeowners cannot apply directly for the HMGP; a local government must apply on their behalf. Applications are submitted to NJOEM and placed in rank order for available funding and submitted to FEMA for final approval. Eligible projects not selected for funding are placed in an inactive status and may be considered as additional HMGP funding becomes available.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program

FMA provides funding to assist states and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the NFIP. The FMA is funded annually; no federal disaster declaration is required. Only NFIP insured homes and businesses are eligible for mitigation in this program. Funding for FMA is very limited and, as with the HMGP, individuals cannot apply directly for the program. Applications must come from local governments or other eligible organizations. The federal cost share for an FMA project is 75%. At least 25% of the total eligible costs must be provided by a non-federal source. Of this 25%, no more than half can be provided as in-kind contributions from third parties. At minimum, a FEMA-approved local flood mitigation plan is required before a project can be approved. FMA funds are distributed from FEMA to the state. NJOEM serves as the grantee and program administrator for FMA.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program

The PDM program is an annually funded, nationwide, competitive grant program. No disaster declaration is required. Federal funds will cover 75% of a project's cost up to \$3 million. As with the HMGP and FMA, a FEMA-approved local Hazard Mitigation Plan is required to be approved for funding under the PDM program.

Federal Disaster and Recovery Assistance Programs

Following a disaster, various types of assistance may be made available by local, state and federal governments. The types and levels of disaster assistance depend on the severity of the damage and the declarations that result from the disaster event. Among the general types of assistance that may be provided should the President of the United States declare the event a major disaster are the following:

Individual Assistance (IA)

IA provides help for homeowners, renters, businesses and some non-profit entities after disasters occur. This program is largely funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration. For homeowners and renters, those who suffered uninsured or underinsured losses may be eligible for a Home Disaster Loan to repair or replace damaged real estate or personal property. Renters are eligible for loans to cover personal property losses. Individuals may borrow up to \$200,000 to repair or replace real estate, \$40,000 to cover losses to personal property and an additional 20% for mitigation. For businesses, loans may be made to repair or replace disaster damages to property owned by the business, including real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and supplies. Businesses of any size are eligible. Non-profit organizations such as charities, churches, private universities, etc. are also eligible. An Economic Injury Disaster Loan provides necessary working capital until normal operations resume after a physical disaster. These loans are restricted, by law, to small businesses only.

Public Assistance (PA)

PA provides cost reimbursement aid to local governments (state, county, local, municipal authorities and school districts) and certain non-profit agencies that were involved in disaster response and recovery programs or that suffered loss or damage to facilities or property used to deliver government-like services. This program is largely funded by FEMA with both local and state matching contributions required.

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

CDBG are federal funds intended to provide low and moderate-income households with viable communities, including decent housing, as suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, roads and infrastructure, housing rehabilitation and preservation, development activities, public services, economic development, planning, and administration. Public improvements may include flood and drainage improvements. In limited instances, and during the times of “urgent need” (e.g. post disaster) as defined by the CDBG National Objectives, CDBG funding may be used to acquire a property located in a floodplain that was severely damaged by a recent flood, demolish a structure severely damaged by an earthquake, or repair a public facility severely damaged by a hazard event.

National Flood Insurance Program

Established in 1968, the NFIP provides federally-backed flood insurance to residents of communities that enact and enforce regulations that more carefully regulate development within floodplain areas. For individual property owners to be eligible to buy the federally-backed flood insurance, their property must be located within a community that participates in NFIP.

For a community to be eligible in NFIP, it must adopt and enforce a floodplain management ordinance to regulate proposed development in floodplains and officially designate a local floodplain coordinator/administrator. The intent of the program is to ensure that new construction does not exacerbate existing flood hazards and is designed to better withstand flooding. Thirty-nine municipalities in Burlington County participate in the NFIP. The communities also have Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) that at a minimum show floodways, 100-year flood zones, and 500-year flood zones. Mitigation activities related to this program are included in Section 9 and data from FEMA Region II regarding NFIP Insurance Reports was used in the risk assessment for the flood hazard included in Section 5.

Each municipality in the county has a local floodplain manager with the exception of Fieldsboro. All floodplain managers have been informed of and participated in the planning process, reviewed the plan documents, and provided direct input to the Plan. Table 3-6 summarizes the designated Floodplain Administrators for each jurisdiction.

Table 3-6. Burlington County Floodplain Administrators

Municipality	Name	Title
Bass River Township	Kris Kluk, Ph.D., P.E.	Township Engineer
Beverly City	William H.	City Engineer's Office
Bordentown City	James E. Lynch, Jr.	Mayor, Director of Public Safety & Affairs
Bordentown Township	Brian Johnson	Community Development
Burlington City	Howard Wilkins	Construction Official/Fire Sub-Code Official & Fire Official
Burlington Township	Michael Wright	Construction Official
Chesterfield Township	Kyle Wilson	OEM/Chief of Police
Cinnaminson Township	Danny Norman	Director of OEM

Municipality	Name	Title
Delanco Township	Christopher Noll	Township Engineer
Delran Township	Walter Bauer	Emergency Management
Eastampton Township	Gene Blair	Construction Official
Edgewater Park Township	James Scott	Building/Construction Code Official
Evesham Township	Thomas Czerniecki	Township Manager
Fieldsboro Borough	None	N/A
Florence Township	Thomas Layou	Construction Code Office
Hainesport Township	Martin Miller	Township Engineer
Lumberton Township	Brad Regn	Construction
Mansfield Township	Jeffrey K. Jones	Construction Official
Maple Shade Township	Roger Fort	Construction Code Official
Medford Lakes Borough	Robert Tassone	Construction Code Enforcement
Medford Township	Christopher Schultz	Township Manager
Moorestown Township	Steven M. Holmes	Construction Official
Mt. Holly Township	Thomas P. Casey	Construction Code Official
Mt. Laurel Township	William Long	Township Engineer
New Hanover Township	Joe Hirsh	Township Engineer
North Hanover Township	Justin Gibson, P.E.	Township Engineer
Palmyra Borough	Tracy Kilmer, CFM	Construction Official
Pemberton Borough	Chad Bozoski	OEM Coordinator
Pemberton Township	David Benedetti	Community Development Director
Riverside Township	Meghan Jack	Administrator
Riverton Borough	Scott Reed	Public Works
Shamong Township	Dante Guzzi	Township Engineer
Southampton Township	Jody Mazeall	Construction/Zoning
Springfield Township	J. Paul Keller	Township Manager
Tabernacle Township	Willaim C. Lowe	Emergency Management Coordinator
Washington Township	Kris Kluk, P.E.	Kluk Consultants/Township Engineer
Westampton Township	M. Gene Blair Jr.	Construction Official
Willingboro Township	Duane Wallace	Inspections Construction Official
Woodland Township	Robert Perri	Construction Official
Wrightstown Borough	Harry W. Case	Construction Official

Source: updated by local contacts.

Community Rating System (CRS)

The NFIP has been successful in protecting property owners who acquire flood insurance through the program from catastrophic financial losses due to flooding, and in requiring that new buildings constructed within 100-year flood plains are better protected from flood damage.

In the 1990s, the Flood Insurance Administration (FIA) established the CRS to encourage local governments to increase their standards for floodplain development. The goal of this program is to

encourage communities, through flood insurance rate adjustments, to implement standards above and beyond the minimum required in order to:

- Reduce losses from floods
- Facilitate accurate insurance ratings
- Promote public awareness of the availability of flood insurance

CRS is a voluntary program designed to reward participating jurisdictions for their efforts to create more disaster-resistant communities using the principles of sustainable development and management. 2 communities in Burlington County are currently participating in the program. By enrolling in CRS, municipalities can leverage greater flood protection while receiving flood insurance discounts. Active involvement in this program is included as a mitigation activity for many municipalities in Section 9.

Table 3-7. CRS Municipalities in Burlington County

Municipality	CRS Rating
Burlington, City of	8
Palmyra, Borough of	8

INTEGRATION OF EXISTING DATA AND PLANS INTO MITIGATION PLAN

The mitigation plan integrates local and federal data as discussed below.

Local Data

The Planning Committee reviewed and incorporated existing data and plans to support the mitigation plan including

- Burlington County Geographic Information System (GIS) data
- Documentation of past mitigation actions and grant applications
- Historic maps and local inventory data

A number of electronic and hard copy documents were made available to support the planning process. A complete listing is included in Table 3-8.

Cross-referencing this Plan with existing planning documents has been included in Section 9 as mitigation activities.

The following local regulations, codes, ordinances and plans were reviewed during this planning process in an effort to develop mitigation planning goals, objectives and mitigation strategies that are consistent across local and regional planning and regulatory mechanisms; and thus develop complementary and mutually supportive plans.

- Building Codes
- Zoning Ordinances
- Subdivision Ordinances
- NFIP Flood Damage Prevention Ordinances
- Site Plan Requirements

- Stormwater Management
- Emergency Response Plans
- State of New Jersey 2012 State Hazard Mitigation Plan

The “Legal and Regulatory” capability assessment of each participating jurisdiction is included in Section 9, Jurisdictional Annexes and provides a listing of the local codes, ordinances, regulations and planning mechanisms available in the jurisdictions and reviewed during this planning process.

Federal and State Data

Federal and State data was collected and used throughout the mitigation process including:

- US Census data
- HAZUS-MH provided data
- FEMA “How To” Series (386-1 to 386-4, and 386-7)
- Public laws and other programs such as the NFIP were examined to complete this Plan.

A complete list of the existing data and plans used to support this HMP is included in the references section of this document. By incorporating data from existing programs into this mitigation plan, the County also was able to identify the relevance of mitigation planning to these existing programs. Implementation of this Plan through these existing plans is identified as a specific mitigation action in several areas in Section 9 of this Plan.

The plan update has incorporated a goals and objectives hierarchy as a basis for the planning process and to address all hazards of concern rather than providing separate goals and objectives for each hazard as in the original plan. A cross-walk indicating the relationship of the original goals and objectives with the new goals and objectives is provided in Section 6 of the plan. Goals and objectives relevant to hazard mitigation of plans (noted above) reviewed in the update process have been incorporated into the updated plan goals and objectives.

CONTINUED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Burlington County is committed to the continued involvement of the public. Therefore, copies of the Plan will be made available for review during normal business hours at the Burlington County Office of Emergency Management.

A notice regarding annual updates of the Plan and the location of Plan copies will be publicized annually after the Planning Committee's annual evaluation and posted on the County HMP website (<http://www.co.burlington.nj.us/ahmp>)

Each jurisdiction's Supervisor/Mayor or Clerk shall be responsible for receiving, tracking, and filing public comments regarding this Plan.

The public will have an opportunity to comment on the Plan as a part of the annual mitigation planning evaluation process and the 5-year mitigation plan update. Mr. T. Steve King, Deputy Coordinator of Burlington County Office of Emergency Management has been identified as the HMP Coordinator and is responsible for coordinating the plan evaluation portion of the meeting, soliciting feedback, collecting and reviewing the comments, and ensuring their incorporation in the 5-year plan update as appropriate; however, members of the Planning Committee will assist the HMP Coordinator. Additional meetings may also be held as deemed necessary by the Planning Committee. The purpose of these meetings would be to provide the public an opportunity to express concerns, opinions, and ideas about the Plan.

After completion of the Plan, implementation and ongoing maintenance will become a function of the HMP Committee. The HMP Committee will review the Plan and accept public comment as part of an annual review and as part of five-year mitigation Plan updates. A notice regarding annual updates of the Plan and the location of Plan copies will be publicized annually after the HMP Committee's annual evaluation and posted on the public web site (<http://www.co.burlington.nj.us/ahmp>).