



Platte County Planning and Zoning

Planning * Zoning Enforcement * Engineering * Stormwater Management * Building Inspections * GIS

Memorandum

TO: Daniel Erickson, Director of Planning and Zoning

FROM: Gale Cantu, Floodplain Administrator

SUBJECT: Flood Protection Plan, All Hazards Plan
Platte County, Missouri Unincorporated

RE: Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan

ADOPTED: May 2015

5YEAR CRS EXPIRATION DATE: MAY 2020

DATE THIS REPORT WAS PREPARED: June 6, 2018

The Regional Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan was updated May 2015 for the areas covering Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties. A copy of the original plan can be obtained from the Platte County Sheriffs Department, 415 Third Street, Platte City, Mo, or online on the Mid-America Regional Council Website; <https://www.marc.org/emergency-services-9-1-1/MEMC/Activities/Regional-Hazard-Mitigation-plan>.

The plan is a 5 year plan and is reviewed every 5 year for update and change. Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray Counties, along with 39 other jurisdictions, 19 school districts and 4 fire/ambulance districts, updated this Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to sustain actions designed to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural and other hazards. The planning process is as important as the plan itself and creates a framework, both locally and regionally, for the development and implementation of public policy designed to protect citizens, critical infrastructure, public and private property, and the environment from the impact of hazards.

There were several public meetings held to discuss the changes in the plan, not only in Platte County, but all the other counties that participated in the plan. The County Commission was a part of the process to update and change the plan.

During this most recent process one of the items added to the plan includes Cyber Terrorism. Equally as important, discussion about developing a storm shelter plan and warnings system plan

continues with each of the jurisdictions, hoping the next round of review and changes will bring forth actual ordinances. Trainings are active and ongoing for the hazard mitigation plans included in the Multi-hazard plan. Levee failure analysis information was shown to be largely unavailable. The county is working closely with the levee districts to see how this can be resolved.

All objectives set out in the plan are on schedule to be completed within the time frame allotted. Recommendations and new projects will be discussed at any upcoming meetings. The following are action items that were discussed by the committee with the following updates.

1. Increase public awareness and understanding the benefits of safe rooms.
 - a. The county currently does not have a requirement in the building code for safe rooms. We do offer help with them as well as encourage construction if in a new development. At this time no new developments we have would have required this.
2. Insure public facilities have shelters to accommodate staff and visitors during tornadoes and natural hazards.
 - a. All facilities have locations selected for visitors and employees. If remodeled the current building code would be enforced. The Planning and Zoning department would assist and encourage if within a new development.
3. Encourage construction of community tornado shelters in office complexes, factories, apartment complexes, schools, mobile home parks, stadiums, and other large population congregation centers.
 - a. Currently none of the above is within the unincorporated portions of Platte County, but the Planning and Zoning department will continue to work with all new developments.
4. Encourage building practices and the use of materials that reduce the damaging effects of tornadoes.
 - a. We currently enforce the requirements of the 2012 International Building Codes and are looking to update and adopt the 2018 International Building Codes by the end of 2018.
5. Encourage electric and telecommunications utilities to protect their existing infrastructure from the effects of tornadoes and high winds.
 - a. All utility companies have plans in effect for this type of event and are required to follow the 2012 International Building Code requirements for new construction or renovations.
6. Evaluate the county to continue to add more warning sirens in locations of the greatest need.
 - a. As the county continues to grow and develop, we will continue to evaluate the need to install new sirens to cover these areas.
7. Increase public safety alert and warning.
 - a. The county will continue to hold public meetings to educate on all weather hazards and increase awareness of the local weather hazards.

8. Examine repetitive flood loss properties in the county and determine feasible and practical mitigation options.
 - a. The county continues to work with property owners of repetitive flood loss properties to identify feasible mitigation strategies and potential opportunities to mitigate those losses.
9. Integrate flood mitigation strategies with projects and activities designed to protect, restore and enhance ecosystems and the environment and or create recreational opportunities for the community.
 - a. The county currently considered the construction of detention basins, small lakes, greenways or riparian corridors in areas of new development to channel and catch storm water, thereby reducing the likelihood of flooding.
10. Reduce flood-related damage to public, residential and commercial property in flood prone areas through structural and nonstructural retrofits or removal of property.
 - a. Encourage homeowners and businesses in flood prone areas to elevate mechanical systems. Encourage water and wastewater districts to elevate vulnerable equipment, electrical controls and other equipment at wastewater treatment plants, potable water treatment plants and pumping stations.
11. Discourage new development in floodplain and flood prone areas.
 - a. Adopt ordinances prohibiting residential and commercial development in flood plain and flood prone areas. Develop or amend comprehensive and or land use plans to specifically address development in flood prone areas and recommend strategies for decreasing the jurisdictions vulnerability to flooding.
12. Improve flood hazard assessments and flood mapping.
 - a. Obtain parcel data for flood boundary areas and enhance vulnerability assessments for these areas. Partner with FEMA in the CTP program to increase local involvement and Purchase Hazus-Flood software from FEMA possibly in conjunction with other local or regional stakeholders.
13. Enhance public awareness and education efforts related to flooding.
 - a. Encourage homeowners and businesses to purchase flood insurance. Continue to inform the public about natural hazards and flooding in the county.
14. Participate in and ensure compliance with flood mitigation and floodplain management programs.
 - a. Make sure the county has the latest copies of flood insurance rate maps and the D Firms.
15. Implement or improve flood warning systems.
 - a. Determine the need for stream gauges in waterways without flood warning systems or additional stream gauges in waterways with flood warning systems that might already be in place.
16. Encourage electric and telecommunications utilities to protect their existing infrastructure from the effects of severe winter weather.
 - a. Offer incentives to utility providers to replace existing above ground utility lines with underground utility lines.

- b. Budget for the incremental replacement of existing above ground utility lines with underground utility lines.
- 17. Ensure local governments and human services agencies are aware of facilities in Platte County with generators or emergency power that can be used as shelters in the event of severe winter weather.
- 18. Enhance public awareness of severe winter weather mitigation and preparedness activities.
- 19. Sustain severe storm readiness
- 20. Review and update building codes to improve seismic safety standards for new or renovated buildings, especially critical facilities.
- 21. Improve hazard assessment information for dams across Platte County.
 - a. Includes maps and information from inundation studies and dam emergency action plans in local emergency operations and land use plans.
- 22. Enhance public awareness of the hazards associated with dam failures, as well as mitigation and preparedness activities.
 - a. Work with MDNR and USACE to conduct a public education campaign to inform citizens living near the inundation pathways of dams of the need to be familiar with the emergency action plans for these dams.
- 23. Enhance the potential for dam failures by enhancing inspection efforts
 - a. Adopt codes or ordinances requiring permits, engineering studies and safety certifications prior to the construction of new dams. Encourage the state to provide MDNR's water resources program with funding necessary to regularly inspect all significant and high hazard dams in the state.
- 24. Reduce the potential for dam failures by adding to the number of dams regulated by the state.
 - a. Revise existing dam safety laws and or regulations to add all high hazard dams to the list of regulated dams, regardless of dam height and reservoir storage capacity until the hazard potential of these dams can be downgraded.
- 25. Improve the structural integrity of dams to reduce the threat of dam failures.
- 26. Improve warning and evacuation systems and procedures in the event of dam failure.

Since the last plan was approved in August 2010, two events occurred which resulted in federal major disaster declarations and federal emergency declarations; a severe winter storm affected the region between January 31 and February 5, 2011 and a flood even impacted the area between June 1 and August 1 2011. The consequences of these events have impacted the citizens of the region economically, socially and emotionally. As such, mitigation planning ranks among the most important initiatives the region can undertake to protect its residents and minimize property damage.

The updated Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan was prepared pursuant to the requirements of Section 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5165, as amended by Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and regulations set forth in 44CFR 201.6, Local Mitigation Plans.