



# GRADD Hazard Mitigation Council

April 13, 2011



# **OVERVIEW**

# **GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

**FEMA approved the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update in January 2011.**

- **The GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update took effect on January 31, 2011.**
- **The plan update is valid for a five-year period, which will conclude on January 31, 2016.**
- **Another plan update process will commence in advance of the January 31, 2016, expiration date.**
- **Plan updates can be conducted at any time; however, they are required every five years.**

# GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

## OVERVIEW

### 3.1 Prerequisites and 3.2 The Planning Process

The first two sections of the plan highlight overall compliance with FEMA planning prerequisites and the general process used to pursue hazard mitigation planning in the region. In particular, it is important that the plan can stress public involvement and the diversity of planning participants. Additionally, FEMA stresses the incorporation of hazard mitigation planning with other planning pursuits.

### 3.3 Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment is the lengthiest section of the plan. In addition to identifying and profiling the specific hazards that impact the region, the section assesses vulnerabilities throughout the region by analyzing existing structures and populations and considering future development trends.

# GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

## OVERVIEW

### **3.4 Mitigation Strategy**

This section establishes several goals, objectives, and actions for hazard mitigation planning in the region. In addition, the section contains the local mitigation strategy for each jurisdiction. These strategies include prioritized, local projects that address a hazard (or multiple hazards) impacting an area. For many FEMA mitigation grant programs, a jurisdiction's intended project must be included in the Mitigation Strategy to be eligible for funding.

### **3.5 Plan Maintenance Procedures**

To ensure the overall utility of the plan, this section outlines the procedures for monitoring relevant activities, progress, and changes within the region. There are specific reporting and evaluation mechanisms that should facilitate future updates of the plan.

# **GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

## **HOW DO WE USE THE PLAN?**

- **Digital copies of the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update will be distributed to each jurisdiction.**
- **The plan update is available on the Hazard Mitigation page of the GRADD website.**
- **The digital version of the plan includes bookmarks, which will allow you to navigate to specific sections of the plan. There are bookmarks for each jurisdiction's local mitigation strategy.**
- **The Appendices include each jurisdiction's adoption resolution (for both the original plan and the plan update). Also included in the Appendices are larger, PDF versions of all the plan maps.**

# **GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

## **HOW DO WE USE THE PLAN?**

- **Familiarize yourself with the projects listed in your community's local mitigation strategy. These are the projects that were developed to address the highest risk natural hazards for the area.**
- **If you determine that your community has completed a mitigation project, or if you identify new projects that need to be added to the local mitigation strategy, contact your county EM Director and/or GRADD staff. Local mitigation strategies can be revised to include new projects.**
- **Familiarize yourself with the hazards identified in the Risk Assessment section (3.3). If your community determines that it has experienced frequent and severe occurrences of a hazard not identified in the plan, contact your county EM Director and/or GRADD staff. Additional hazards can be incorporated into the plan.**

# **IMPLEMENTATION**

# **GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

- **The Plan Maintenance Procedures (Section 3.5) outline various steps that will guarantee the endurance and ongoing utility of the plan.**
- **The Hazard Mitigation Council will meet in April and October of every non-update year. The Council will meet only if there is enough business to develop a substantive agenda; however, it must meet at least once a year.**
- **County EM Directors will complete a Quarterly Report that will collect information on hazard events, completed mitigation projects, and other relevant topics. GRADD staff will review and compile the reports.**
- **GRADD staff will conduct an annual evaluation of the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan. The evaluation will rely on the Quarterly Report process and feedback received during the Council meetings.**

# **GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

- **Officers of the Council will meet with county EM Directors and GRADD staff 3 ½ years (or earlier) following FEMA approval to commence the plan update process.**
- **GRADD staff will consult with county EM Directors following all federal disaster declarations for the state to ensure that all local mitigation projects are adequately captured in the Mitigation Strategy.**
- **The first Quarterly Report will be due on April 15, 2011, and will cover January 2011 through March 2011.**

# GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

## THE PLANNING PROCESS

**Was the planning process for this plan update effective?**

- Was the number of full Council meetings sufficient? [5 meetings]
- Was the number of Subcommittee meetings sufficient? [3 meetings]
  - Were the local community meetings successful?
- How could we improve the Local Data Request Questionnaire?
- What approaches could be taken to improve public outreach?

# **BEST PRACTICES**

# Hazard Mitigation Planning

## BEST PRACTICES

- **Integration**
  - Hazard mitigation planning cannot stand alone. Inevitably, all planning is interconnected, so to maximize the utility of the GRADD Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, it must be incorporated into other (and even everyday) planning efforts.
- **Public Outreach and Involvement**
  - Including hazard mitigation as part of public discourse will educate the public and create a stronger understanding of community mitigation efforts.
- **Proactive Approaches**
  - To the fullest extent possible, communities should address problems as soon as they are recognized. Developing strategies to reduce and/or eliminate the problem will raise awareness and establish priorities for the future.

# Hazard Mitigation Planning

## BEST PRACTICES

- **Experience**
  - Communities can learn a great deal from past experiences. The region has a long history of natural hazard events, and awareness of that can structure strategies for moving forward.
- **Funding**
  - Lack of funding is one of the greatest obstacles to pursuing mitigation strategies and achieving mitigation goals. Although there are funding sources specifically allocated for mitigation projects, they are limited and involve stringent guidelines. Mitigation project development should be creative in approach to expand the realm of possible funding options.

# Hazard Mitigation Planning

## BEST PRACTICES

### Quick Tips

- Document natural hazard events that have a significant impact
  - EM Directors should record such events in their Quarterly Reports.
- Track costs associated with natural hazard events
  - KyEM often requests documentation of costs when they complete the Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) for FEMA hazard mitigation funding.
- Review the Local Mitigation Strategy often
  - Checking the strategy often will ensure that it reflects current, local priorities.
- Consider hazard mitigation planning an everyday activity
- Pursue all possible funding opportunities
- Communicate and share resources locally and regionally

# Hazard Mitigation Planning

## BEST PRACTICES

### Project Ideas from FEMA

- **Elevating properties above base flood elevation (BFE)**
- **Building safe rooms**
- **Purchasing flood prone properties and converting the area to green space**
- **Implementing a mass alert system (i.e. CodeRED)**
- **Burying power lines**
- **Trimming trees**
- **Upgrading and repairing storm sewer systems**
- **Implementing and adhering to building codes developed for natural hazards**
- **Informing the public via public events and the internet**

# **FUNDING**

# Funding Opportunities

## Available Funding

### **Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG)**

- \$12,350,000 available statewide
- Application period: April 1, 2011 – February 29, 2012

### **Economic Development Administration (EDA) – Flood and Storm Supplemental Funding Opportunity**

- In response to the storms and flooding of March 2010 – May 2010 (DR-1912 in Kentucky)
- \$33,900,000 available to Kentucky and Tennessee
- DR-1912 declared counties are eligible
- Applications will be accepted until September 2011.

# **QUESTIONS AND OPEN DISCUSSION**