KING COUNTY REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Final Public Meetings

July 7, 9 and 10, 2014
Tonight's Speaker

- Rob Flaner – Hazard Mitigation Plan Technical Lead, Tetra Tech, Inc.
- Technical consultant to King County Office of Emergency Management
- Former Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) employee
- Facilitated 30 successful mitigation planning efforts since 2003
What We will Talk About

• Provide a brief overview of the drivers for planning
• Describe the King County planning process
• Present the draft King County Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
• Explain methods for public comment
What is Mitigation?

“Sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property”
What is the Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA)?

Federal legislation that establishes a pre-disaster hazard mitigation program and new requirements for the national post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

“No Plan, no money!”
Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000

- Sound Management of Natural Resources
- Social Context
- Economic Context
- Sustainable Hazard Mitigation
Why Plan?

- Establish/maintain eligibility for grant funds
- Preparedness: pro-active vs. reactive
- Sustainability
- Key element in emergency management
- Can set the course for response and recovery to impacts from natural disasters
- Requires commitment and support from both elected officials and their constituents
What is Required in a DMA Plan?

According to Section 201.6, 44CFR, an approved plan must:

• Engage the public through all phases of the plan’s development

• Review and incorporate plans and programs that can support/enhance hazard mitigation

• Assess risk to natural hazards that impact a planning area

• Identify a plan maintenance strategy

• Identify and prioritize actions
A Multi-Jurisdictional Plan

• Preferred format by FEMA
• Identifies/creates the partnerships that enhance grant funding opportunities
• For multi-jurisdictional plans, all partners must:
  – *Participate in the process*
  – *Rank Risk*
  – *Perform a capability assessment*
  – *Identify/Prioritize jurisdiction specific actions*
Plan will cover 54 local governments within King County:

- 26 city or town governments
- 27 special purpose districts
  - Fire
  - School
  - Public Hospital
  - Water and Sewer
The Planning Area

The planning area for this effort covers all of King County as well as portions of Snohomish and Pierce Counties.
The Work Plan

• Planning process has been led by King County OEM
• We have followed a 7-phase process modeled after FEMA’s Community Rating System (CRS) planning process
• Developed templates directly specific to multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plans
• Two-volume approach for multi-jurisdictional plans
  – Volume 1 – Planning Area (Parent Plan)
  – Volume 2 – Jurisdictional Specific Annexes
The Planning Process

**Phase 1-O rganize Resources**
- Organize Planning Partners
- Steering Committee
- Agency Coordination
- Program Review

**Phase 2-R isk Assessment**
- Data Acquisition/Format
- Critical Facilities
- Natural Hazards Analysis
- Scenarios

**Phase 3-P ublic Involvement Strategy**
- Survey/Questionnaire
- Website
- Press Releases
- Public Meetings

**Phase 4-G oals, Objectives and Actions**
- Mission Statement
- Goals and Objectives
- Alternatives Analysis (mitigation catalog)
- SWOO

**Phase 5-P lan Maintenance Strategy**
- Progress Reporting
- Continuing Public involvement
- 5-year Update

**Phase 6-W rite the plan**
- Jurisdictional Annex workshop
- Write the plan
- Technical/format edit

**Phase 7-P lan Review/Adoption**
- RHMP Review Tool
- Pre-Adoption Plan Submittal
- Plan Adoption

King County
The Steering Committee

- A 19 member Steering Committee is overseeing the plan update
- Multi-disciplined representation
  - Planning Partner Representatives
  - Stakeholders (business, academia, government)
  - Emergency Management
- Has met 10 times since February 2013
- All meetings are open to the public
The Guiding Principle

King County is a region that promotes community resilience by eliminating or reducing risks and adverse impacts from hazards, while encouraging hazard mitigation activities by all sectors.
Goals and Objectives

- The Steering Committee has identified 7 goals and 15 objectives that will help achieve the guiding principle.
- All of these planning components are linear.
The foundation of the plan is a comprehensive risk assessment of 10 natural hazards of concern:

- Assess hazard
  - Past events
  - Areas most affected
  - Frequency
  - Severity
  - Warning time for response

- Determine Exposure

- Assess Vulnerability
  - Loss Estimation
Development of the King County Risk Assessment

1. Hazard Locators (Soils, floodplains, landslides)
2. Inventories (Buildings, roads, critical areas)
3. Exposure (Direct and Indirect)
4. Disaster Scenario (Vulnerability assessments)
5. Suggest Risk Reduction Measures
Hazards of Concern

Hazards:

- Avalanche
- Dam failure
- Earthquake
- Flood
- Landslide
- Severe Weather
- Severe Winter Weather
- Tsunami
- Volcano
- Fire

Other Hazards profiled, but not assessed (Health hazards, cybersecurity and terrorism)
The Draft Plan

• 2 Volumes
  – Volume 1 applies to all Planning Partners
  – Volume 2 is jurisdiction specific (split into 4 sub-sections)

• Plan contains more than 1,800 pages and 150+ maps

• Plan identifies nearly 700 actions to be implemented by 54 planning partners

• Plan has a 5-year performance period
Public Comment

Public comment period:
Friday, June 27 through close of business Friday, July 11, 2014.

• The primary means of receiving comments will be via email - kcpubcomment@kingcounty.gov.
• Comments will also be accepted at the public meetings.
Next Steps

Public Comment
Comment period ends at 5:00 pm on Friday, July 11th

Finalize Plan
Review and respond to public comments

Submit to WAEMD
Submit with request for “pre-adoPTION” review/approval

Submit to FEMA Region X/Begin adoption phase
Adoption will occur simultaneously with FEMA Region X Review.

Receive Final Plan Approval
For More Information
Please visit the County website at:
http://www.kingcounty.gov/hazardmitigation

This site includes:

- FAQs
- Steering Committee meeting minutes
- Newsletters
- The draft Plan
- Hazard maps
QUESTIONS