

Homework Sheet

1. Locate your Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)



Background: An HMP helps communities understand and evaluate risk from natural hazards and develop long-term strategies to reduce the impacts of disasters on people, property, and the environment. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requires communities to have an HMP for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation projects.

The following steps and questions will walk you through reviewing your HMP and will help you consider how to use your HMP for actionable mitigation.

2. Identify the hazards that affect your community.



Risk Assessment Overview: You can find information on hazards that affect your community in the Risk Assessment section of your HMP. The Risk Assessment identifies hazards, profiles hazard events, inventories assets, and assesses vulnerability, to inform proposed mitigation actions. At the end of this section, all hazards are ranked by probability, impact, spatial extent, warning time, and duration. The rankings are based on the findings from the Risk Assessment.


2a) What hazards have the highest risk ranking in your community? These may be the hazards that you want to address through funded mitigation projects.

2b) Are these rankings still true today, or has anything changed? Should certain hazards have a higher or lower rank?

3. Review your community's Mitigation Strategy.



Mitigation Strategy Overview: This section of an HMP allows communities to set priorities and develop long-term strategies and actions for avoiding or minimizing the impacts of disasters. These priorities should fall within the categories of Structure/Infrastructure, Natural Systems Protection, Local Plans and Regulations or Education and Outreach. The Mitigation Strategy addresses how the mitigation actions will be implemented and administered.

<p>3a) What mitigation actions did your community identify as priority projects in the Mitigation Strategy?</p>	 <p>If you don't know what projects the mitigation actions are referencing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who might be able to help you find out? • Are there other projects that are under discussion now that might make sense in these categories?
<p>3b) Do these projects address the highest risk hazards?</p>	
<p>3c) Are any of these projects a priority for your community now? If so, which one(s)?</p>	
<p>3d) Are you considering any new projects that fall within the HMP categories described above?</p>	
<p>3e) Are you considering applying for funding through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance program for any of these projects?</p>	

* Please bring these identified actions and/or projects with you to the workshop.

4. Now that you are familiar with your priority projects, go back and review your community's Capability Assessment.



Capability Assessment Overview: The Capability Assessment allows communities to identify, review, and analyze the current resources available for reducing the impacts of hazards. These capabilities provide the means to achieve desired mitigation outcomes. Assessing capabilities identifies the framework that is in place, or should be in place, for implementing mitigation actions.

4a) What resources are available that could help you implement the projects you have identified?

4b) Has anything changed in terms of your community's capabilities since the HMP was adopted?

4c) Are there any limitations you have identified that could keep your community from moving forward with applying for funding, implementing, or administering the project?