



State of Florida

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

SHMPAT Appendix

SHMPAT Appendix

State Hazard Mitigation Plan Advisory Team

The State Hazard Mitigation Plan Advisory Team (SHMPAT) is dedicated to the ongoing development and revision of the state hazard mitigation plan. The SHMPAT is committed to meeting regularly to review the contents of the plan and make necessary revisions going forward. The meetings and events that take place as part of this planning process are documented in this appendix and can be reviewed as required online at www.FloridaDisaster.org.

During the revision of the 2007 plan, the SHMPAT members met on several occasions to discuss and coordinate the changes taking place within the plan. The dates of these meetings include:

- **April 20, 2007**
- **May 15, 2007**
- **May 22, 2007**
- **June 14, 2007**
- **October 23, 2007**

The discussions and findings of these meeting were the foundation for the plan update and overall planning direction.

Prior to each of the meetings, invitations were provided via email to all SHMPAT members. An example of the email invitations to SHMPAT members can be seen below:

From: Debbie.Ray@em.myflorida.com [mailto:Debbie.Ray@em.myflorida.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2007 8:16 AM
To: betti@tbrpc.org; cathywhite@FLDOE.org; chad@boldplanning.com; Cicero@volunteerflorida.org; Craig.diamond@dca.state.fl.us; Dinette.mcbride@dms.myflorida.com; Stanled@doacs.state.fl.us; Dbujak@fsu.edu; parksd@doacs.state.fl.us; Debbie.Ray@em.myflorida.com; Ashed@ahca.myflorida.com; gabriela.vigo@dhs.gov; gelonda.casey@dhs.gov; Gloria@dsideas.com; Helen_Frasure@dms.state.fl.us; Harold@dsideas.com; Heidi.Recksieke@noaa.gov; Jason.wheeler@dot.state.fl.us; Jim.Quinn@dep.state.fl.us; JodyHill@FindFlorida.org; joe@dsideas.com; jredmon@conshelf.com; Kallen@ehs.ufl.edu; Ochalekl@dol.state.fl.us; lwather@conshelf.com; Michael.whitehead@DBPR.state.fl.us; manderson@rebuildnwf.org; monica@flash.org; peter@boldplanning.com; pwisley@dos.state.fl.us; Ray.Linch@dep.state.fl.us; devlinr@doacs.state.fl.us; ricardoalfonso@comcast.net; RDeyle@fsu.edu; Robert.Wilhelm@dep.state.fl.us; Roger_Twitchell@doh.state.fl.us; Scott.ward@fldfs.com; Shirley.Collins@em.myflorida.com; Steve.watson@dep.state.fl.us; DenmarkT@ahca.myflorida.com; Lemmoa@dor.state.fl.us; Tory.Desotel@fldfs.com; Walker.banning@dca.state.fl.us; Linda.Myler@dhs.gov; kgurl@ce.ufl.edu
Cc: harold@dsideas.com; Shirley.Collins@em.myflorida.com
Subject: SHMPAC Meeting Reminder

Good Morning SHMPAC,

What: State Hazard Mitigation Program Advisory Committee Meeting (SHMPAC)
When: Thursday, June 14, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m
Where: KelleyTraining Room, 3rd Floor
Sadowski Building (2555 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee)

We will be sending an agenda out later this week. Thank you for your assistance.

Documentation of Coordination with Members Not in Attendance

Members not in attendance were provided with information about the meetings content via email and were requested to comment as needed. Any methods for gathering information from members, including forms, surveys, or questionnaires were provided to members not in attendance to facilitate their participation in the process.

Documentation provided to the SHMPAT members were posted online upon meeting closure at www.FloridaDisaster.org for public review and response.

State of Florida
SHMPAT Mitigation Planning Meeting
April 20, 2007
Tallahassee, Florida

Meeting Moderators

Hank Erickson, Florida DEM, Mitigation
(Complete list of meeting attendees to be attached)

Planning Meeting Discussions and Topics

Florida Emergency Management, Bureau of Recovery and Mitigation, Mitigation Programs Section held its State Hazard Mitigation Plan Advisory Committee (SHMPAT) Kick-Off Meeting, Friday, April 20, 2007. A copy of the sign-in sheet of attendees is included with this report. The SHMPAT is an advisory body appointed to oversee development and revision of the state mitigation plan and identify mitigation projects within state agencies.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to review elements of the current State Hazard Mitigation Plan and develop the timetable for revision to meet the August 24, 2007, deadline (3-year update deadline, required by 44 CFR 201.4(d) *Review and Updates*.) Hank Erikson, State Planning Manager, also discussed new considerations for the revised plan and introduced issues for discussion and resolution at subsequent meetings of the group.

The role of the SHMPAT is to assist the Division with the development, implementation and maintenance of the State Mitigation Plan. SHMPAT members representing other state agencies are primarily tasked with

- Promoting within his/her agency the development of mitigation projects for inclusion in the state plan
- Conducting a comprehensive analysis of his/her agency to identify programs and policies that promote mitigation (risk reduction)
- Identifying and disseminating a comprehensive list of funding sources and eligible project types to agency facilities managers
- Updating the portion of the plan pertaining to his/her agency.

During Plan revision SHMPAT members (collectively) will be responsible for

- Revising goals and objectives
- Recommending procedures for allocating HMGP funds to mitigate state facilities*
- Recommending how to prioritize applications for HMGP planning funds
- Recommending priorities for 7% HMGP planning funds
- Reviewing and commenting on the revised draft State Plan

*Previously state projects had to be included in the county LMS plans. State mitigation projects will now be included in the state plan with state agencies receiving an allocation of HMGP funds. It was suggested that each agency can have an appendix to the state plan.

Hank Erickson recommended before the next scheduled meeting each state agency identify critical state facilities/infrastructure within their agency and conduct risk and vulnerability assessments. At the next meeting the group will address goals, objectives and projects for inclusion in the revised and updated plan. Initial drafts will be submitted to FEMA by May 24, 2007; the final draft MUST be submitted by July 8, 2007 to meet an August 24, 2007 approval date.

Agency representatives agreed to identify planning projects and programs and policies within their agency that relate to mitigation for inclusion in the plan. Gabriela Vigo, FEMA RIV Florida Mitigation Specialist reminded everyone to keep in mind response and recovery efforts are NOT mitigation.

Meteorologist, Ben Nelson, gave an overview of the 2004-2005 Storms and discussed 2006 conditions relative to 2007. Simply stated, Mr. Nelson told the group hurricane activity is closely associated with variations in water temperatures. The reason 2006 was a “quiet year” was due to El Nino which occurs every three to seven years. The 2007 waters are warm and no El Nino is in place. In fact, conditions are turning toward La Nina – the opposite from 2006 which indicates above normal hurricane activity can be expected.

Linda Myler, FEMA Region IV Planning Supervisor, presented an overview of the Federal Planning Perspective. She informed the group FEMA looks at every project submitted to ensure the project type is addressed in the plan. This includes PDM, FMA and HMGP projects. Ms. Myler emphasized the importance of moving quickly to submit the revised standard and enhanced portions of the plan to FEMA by May 24, 2007. Florida’s current State Plan expires August 24th and no money will come to Florida between August 24th and the date they have a FEMA-approved revision. She stressed she is under strict orders to honor **NO** requests for extensions of the State Plan revisions.

The Division will update and submit both the standard and enhanced portions of the plan. Initial drafts are scheduled for submission to FEMA by May 24, 2007; the final draft MUST be submitted by July 8, 2007 to meet an August 24, 2007 approval date.

State of Florida
FEMA Mitigation Planning Review Meeting
May 15, 2007 / 3:00 PM
Broward County Convention Center - Room 319
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Meeting Attendees

Linda Myler, FEMA, Planning Lead Specialist
Shirley Collins, Florida DEM, Interim Program Administrator for Mitigation
Chad Bowers, DSI / Bold Planning Solutions
Harold Joyner, DSI / Avalanche
Peter Hodes, (via call-in) DSI / Bold Planning Solutions

Planning Review Meeting Discussions and Topics

Linda Myler opened the meeting with a discussion about the planning deadlines and the urgency to address these deadlines aggressively.

- Submission of the draft plan must be into FEMA by July 8th, 2007
- Deadline for final approval is August 24th, 2007

The focus of the review meeting was to identify the deficiencies in the current state plan and the updates required for achieving FEMA approval, including:

- Identifying the process of how the governor is going to adopt and approve this plan
- Research any new statutes, state laws, MOU's and implement them into the plan
- State needs to document all planning meetings between 2003-2007 and additionally conduct a minimum of two formal meetings prior to plan submission to FEMA
- Update the hazard profiles and historical data from 2004-2007
- Risk assessment must be updated for the entire state
- SHMPAT group needs to re-evaluate mitigation goals and objectives and suggest any changes
- The state must use local mitigation plans (LMS) in the plan revision. LMS plans must be reviewed and data absorbed into the state mitigation plan as required by FEMA.
- Objective of the plan is to identify mitigation projects, alternatives and measures to lessen the impact on property and life in the state of Florida.

The group discussed the role of FEMA and its plan reviewers in this compressed planning process. FEMA requires the plan to be updated every three years and insists upon multi-agency input. Linda expressed the importance of including the participation of multiple organizations within Florida. Representatives are requested at the Federal, State, and local levels as well as from non-profits and the private sector. Mitigation planning requires that the state plan be developed by a group with varying viewpoints and objectives.

Linda gave an overview of what can happen if the state does not successfully complete the update of the state plan. If the plan expires in August 2007:

- Many state funding opportunities will be lost including HMGP
- If the state mitigation plan becomes ineligible, ALL local LMS plans and projects will become ineligible
- Existing funds from prior events will not be lost, however, any future funding will be withheld until plan approval is met

Shirley shared the strategy for updating the state risk assessment. Currently, the strategy is to contract with Kinetics Analysis to conduct the state assessment. Each assessment will be conducted at the Regional Planning Council level. There are a total of 11 RPC's within Florida.

Linda confirmed that this approach was sufficient as long as the state clearly identified within the plan what each RPC region included (jurisdictions).

Linda Myler reviewed the current timeline and gave suggestions about deliverable deadlines to set during the planning process.

Linda Myler re-confirmed that FEMA is a partner in this effort and is assisting the state with guidance towards the goal of successful plan completion. With the correct attention to required updates within the plan and adhering to tight timelines the process can be successfully completed. Ultimately, it is up to the state of Florida to make this planning process a priority and see it through completion.

***Meeting Adjourned

State of Florida
SHMPAT Mitigation Planning Meeting
May 22, 2007 / 9AM – 1PM
4040 Esplanade Way, Room 301
Tallahassee, FL

Meeting Moderators

Shirley Collins, Interim Program Administrator for Mitigation
Joe Myers, Harold Joyner, Chad Bowers, Peter Hodes

(Complete list of meeting attendees to be attached)

Introduction

Shirley Collins, Interim Program Administrator for Mitigation

Planning Meeting Discussions and Topics

Managed by: Chad Bowers, Peter Hodes

Noted the recent organizational changes in the DEM Mitigation administration staff and program staff

Opened the discussion with the group by providing an overview about the overall purpose and topics which needed to be discussed during the course of the SHMPAT meeting as well as the planning deadlines.

- Submission of the draft plan must be into FEMA by July 8th, 2007
- Deadline for final approval is August 24th, 2007

Group held discussions about the Mitigation Planning process and the outstanding requirements of the Plan, including:

- Conducting a minimum of two formal meetings prior to plan submission to FEMA
- Risk assessment must be updated for the entire state
- Committee must re-evaluate mitigation goals and objectives and suggest any changes
- Local mitigation plans must be reviewed and data from local plans absorbed and used in the state mitigation plan as required by FEMA.
- Objective of the plan is to identify mitigation projects, alternatives and measures to lessen the impact on property and life in the state of Florida.

Discussed the ongoing future meeting schedule of the SHMPAT group

- This was the first meeting held since 2003, with the exception of a meeting two weeks ago to begin the process.
- Recommendation was made to hold a semi-annual meeting and possibly a quarterly meeting to keep the plan current - the Mitigation Plan should always be a work in progress

Explained the need for participation from a wide variety of organizations within Florida. Representatives are requested at the Federal, State, and local levels as well as from non-profits and the private sector. Mitigation planning requirements insist that the plan be developed by a group with varying viewpoints and objectives.

- There was an announcement that the ECO meeting group is currently having informal monthly meetings to discuss some of the same issues
- Members of the SHMPAT are also representatives to a consortium of 11 universities A recommendation was made that the SHMPAT extend an invitation to all of the universities
- A request was made to collect a compiled list of members not in attendance in order to provide them with today's agenda and discussion. Worksheets are to be emailed out to the entire team, including those that were not in attendance.
- A request was made to attain a copy of the ECO email list so invitations could be sent to them for future meetings (List can be found on floridadisaster.org)

Discussed the role of FEMA in the planning process. FEMA requires this update and the need for multi-agency input. FEMA is considered a partner in this effort and is assisting the state with guidance towards plan completion.

Group discussed the need for mitigation planning and the ramifications the state will face if the current plan is allowed to expire in August 2007.

- Many funding opportunities will be lost including HMGP
- If the state mitigation plan becomes ineligible, ALL local LMS plans and projects will become ineligible
- Existing funds from prior events will not be lost, however, any future funding will be withheld until plan approval is met

The group was provided with information about the differences in a Standard Mitigation Plan and an Enhanced Mitigation Plan.

- A Standard Plan - meets the requirements of DMA 2000 and makes the state and subsequent jurisdictions within the state eligible for mitigation funding
- An Enhanced Plan – FEMA awards “extra points” which translate into additional dollars in funding

Discussion about the process of updating the state risk assessment. Currently, the strategy is to contract with Kinetics Analysis to conduct the state assessment. Each assessment will be conducted at the Regional Planning Council level. There are a total of 11 RPC’s within Florida.

Meeting the requirements of the Enhanced Mitigation Plan –Concern that the current status of the Bureau of Mitigation must be addressed in the enhancement portion of the plan; team needs to look at administration and staffing capabilities; may need to outsource technical assistance

All members of the SHMPAT were provided with a four page handout for use with the meeting to collect data and input. A copy of this handout is attached.

- Each member of the SHMPAT was requested to provide basic contact information for planning events going forward.
- The SHMPAT was requested to review the current hazards identified within the state plan and to make suggestions for any additional hazards to be added

Suggested additions for review:

- Pandemic Influenza or other infectious diseases
 - Loss of homeowner’s insurance (economic)
 - Power Outages
- The SHMPAT was requested to prioritize the hazards from their organizations point of view
 - The SHMPAT was requested to provide any suggestions for proposed mitigation projects as well as document any past projects

Questions were raised regarding the 9G-22 Rule and requests were made to address the ruling at the next SHMPAT meeting.

- Issues brought forth were the fact that no separate funding allocations for set aside for state agencies
- Governor has the authority to redirect funding (see 9G-22 Rule) as needed

There was a shared concern over amount of time it takes to receive mitigation funds and ways to shorten the timeframe

- Suggestion to streamline internal processes
- Attempt to green light pre-approved projects
- Focus on projects that meet FEMA criteria
- Identify other sources of funding

The SHMPAT group held in depth discussions about Mitigation projects within the state (Ongoing and completed)

- University safety, implementing security systems and enhancements
- Controlled burn techniques to reduce wildfires
- Meetings with partner agencies to better coordinate efforts (no direct costs)
- Vulnerability assessment of state land acquisitions – could qualify for global funding match

Held discussions regarding the next meeting date and location. The next meeting is currently scheduled for June 14th. Invitations to be distributed along with the meeting agenda by June 1st. There was expressed interest in the need to get the word out to more agencies to ensure the right people are in attendance.

***Meeting Adjourned

State of Florida

Mitigation Planning Meeting May 22, 2007

Introduction

Hazard mitigation is defined as any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event. The primary purpose of mitigation planning is to systematically identify policies, actions, and tools that can be used to implement those actions. Mitigation planning has four steps: organizing resources, assessing risks, developing a mitigation plan, and implementing the plan and monitoring progress.

The disaster experiences of the 1990s demanded that Federal, State, and local emergency managers reassess their approach to disaster response and recovery. Based on the lessons learned, it became apparent that a change was needed from a disaster-response-driven system to one based on proactive hazard risk management. In 1998, FEMA responded to this need by creating a Hazard Mitigation Planning unit to promote and support the mitigation planning process and to provide guidance and resources to States and local communities.

Much has been done in the hazard mitigation planning arena at all levels of government and within the private sector. However, the accomplishments of today will inevitably be followed by the challenges of tomorrow. The State partners must continually work together to help all Florida communities meet those challenges through planning practices that emphasize economic, social, and environmental sustainability.

Assistance Impacted

Significant federal assistance will be affected if the State Hazard Mitigation Plan is not updated and approved by FEMA. Two of the primary funding streams to be impacted are listed below:

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP): The State and all local communities will be ineligible to receive project grant funding for disasters declared after the planning due date in August of this year (2007).
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation-Competitive (PDM-C) Grant Program: The State and all local communities will be ineligible to receive project grant funding. The planning requirement was applied for the PDM-C Program beginning with FY 2004 funding and still continues to be in effect.

For more information, please visit www.fema.gov/fima/planning.shtm

Part 1 - Planning Team Information

Organization _____

Name _____

Title _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Past experience with Hazard Mitigation Planning (Please circle below).

None Minimal Some Significant

Comments _____

Has your organization attended Hazard Mitigation Planning Meetings in the past?

Yes No Not Sure

Comments _____

Has your organization received any federal grant money related to mitigation?

Yes No Not Sure

Comments _____

Does your organization have a current and updated Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)?

Yes No Not Sure

Comments _____

Part 2 - Risk Assessment - Hazards

The State of Florida currently identifies and profiles the following hazards in the State All-Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- Hurricanes and Coastal Storms
- Flooding including Dam Failure
- Severe Storms and Tornadoes
- Wildfire
- Drought/Extreme Heat
- Winter Storms and Freezes
- Erosion
- Sinkholes, Landslide and Seismic Events
- Terrorism
- Technological
- Mass Migration

Are there any hazards not listed above that you feel should be added to this mitigation plan?

Yes No

New Hazards _____

List the three hazards that have the most impact on your organization.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Profile how these hazards impact your organization in terms of probability, magnitude and geographical extent.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Part 3 - Risk Assessment – Vulnerability

List your organization’s top three facilities necessary for managing your on-going operations.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

Population Vulnerability.

- 1. Estimated number of staff in your organization _____
 - 2. Estimated population served by your organization _____
 - 3. Special populations requiring additional assistance _____
- _____

List all critical facilities and related infrastructure. List all databases and other electronic files to be provided at a later date.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

Provide contact information for individuals within your organization with data about historical hazard events including damages, costs, and other financial impacts.

Part 4 - Mitigation Strategies

Has your organization developed any internal Emergency Management plans including a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)?

Yes No Not Sure

Comments _____

Has your organization conducted any mitigation projects in the last three years (completed or on-going)?

Yes No Not Sure

Comments _____

List three current initiatives within your organization that are designed to better protect the State of Florida and its citizens.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

List three priority projects that your organization would consider if federal grant monies are made available.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

State of Florida
SHMPAT Mitigation Planning Meeting
June 14, 2007 / 9AM – 1PM
Tallahassee, Florida

Meeting Moderators

Shirley Collins, Interim Program Administrator for Mitigation
Joe Myers, Harold Joyner, Chad Bowers

(Complete list of meeting attendees to be attached)

Introduction

Shirley Collins, Interim Program Administrator for Mitigation- Kicked-off the meeting and thanked everyone for coming. Introduced herself to everyone, explaining her role and expectations of today's meeting, i.e., continuous planning process and next steps including collection of data and information for use within the state mitigation plan.

Turned meeting over to Chad.

Planning Meeting Discussions and Topics

Managed by: Chad Bowers

Group introductions of attendees.

Explained purpose of today's meeting – purpose of SHMP, overall planning process, FEMA requirements, i.e., validation of funding process.

Current status of SHMP in the planning process/revisited timelines for completion:

2004 plan approved by FEMA with 3 year timeline - revised plan must be submitted to FEMA by July 8th, so that they have time to review and approve before the deadline of August 24th.

Suggestions – Conduct SHMPAT meetings every 6 months, more regular basis

Comment: Workforce Innovation (AWI) should be invited to join this group

Consider involvement of the State Legislature – come together maybe in Nov and Dec when state initiatives will be identified (match requirements)

All agencies should talk to DEM to make sure this is a collective process

ECO meeting coming up soon – suggestion that a DEM Mitigation representative should attend and reiterate how important this process is

General Comment: ECO has zero incentive because they are not receiving funding – ECO has access to all information and resources of the State agencies

Need a list of responsibilities of relevant projects for all agencies, need a planner to review and access progress

Should focus on funding sources other than HMGP – need to make locals aware of the all funding sources

Problem statewide during downtime if no money coming thru local government causes loss of interest – state should setup speaker bureaus – LMS groups could draw from that – could be interest in PA pilot project

Coordinated with CDBG program – FLASH My State FI Home Program – will serve certain local govts – not being coordinated and addressed - One FI county chose not to participate due to lack of match

Regional planning council – need guidance for counties – they don't have the match – extend planning process for better guidance – turn to professional planners to help them due to lack of internal staff

What needs to be done to meet guidelines?

Will need to contact agencies for information to make those revisions. Need Management Services assistance. Identify other agencies that can provide assistance.

ECO believes this is the most important thing the state is doing right now. Property insurance rates out of sight – citizens don't understand mitigation– cat 5 would cripple government on all levels

Suggestion: planning cycle with email list to be very specific about what needs to done – team could meet at FEPA, Governor's Hurricane Conferences to facilitate process

Recommendation: Provide specific web-page on DEM website to post updates, meeting minutes, upcoming meetings and topics – link to county websites. Also have other methods for providing information:

- Use of GROOVE to share data
- Provide Regional meetings– Orlando and Miami
- Broadcast meetings thru sun network for statewide viewing
- Teleconferencing
- FI assoc of counties and league of cities as resource

2007 Revision - Data required:

State facility database - Region planning council working on fine tuning the state facility database - definition on floridadisaster.org also being tweaked

***Consider non-profit facilities – database from Sec of State, Volunteer Florida (C. Hartsfield will check) (should they be in the SHMP, or local plans only?)
State funding – who receives it? Who doesn't?

Mitigation projects

Need to revisit some of the projects and update them – think about what has been done and what needs to be done (ongoing and completed)

New Projects- Encourage focus on hardening of facilities in revised plan

Regional Planning Council (Regional Evacuation Studies) - Vulnerability analysis –needs statewide consistency (funded by FEMA and the State – HMGP and legislature matched

- Transportation study
- Property study thru Property Appraiser's Office

(This information will not be available during the SHMP timeline)

Need info regarding agency hardening projects, and any other projects pertaining to mitigation completed, ongoing, and/or future

Vicky to provide a contact list of local LMS planner/contacts to request proposed projects that they have included in their plans.

Historical Hazards: can be updated thru the FEMA website and Presidential Declarations – need agency feedback

Drought and tornadoes – significant increase in tornadoes – state building impacted in Deland (DCF building – Groundhog Day)

If tornado closes down a facility such as Disney – what is impact economic and social impact?

In 2006, UF received ¼ million dollars in funds to harden windows for the UF data center – negative result: rain would short out 400 amps of electricity causing a “meltdown”
Florida Building Code revisions – source: Iris Stanley with DEM

New funding sources since 03/04 – what other programs are out there?

Can Volunteer labor be used to achieve in-kind match? (Federal funding)

Recommendations regarding floridadisaster.org Mitigation Page:

- Add 2004 date to current draft and final Plan
- Add Shirley Collins contact information to top of webpage
- Add Chad Bowers contact information for data / plan development purposes

Open Discussion

How do we motivate business to mitigate? Resources? Programs for employees to mitigate their own homes? Legislation in place such as the tax free day as an incentive – success stories?

- Meeting Adjourned

On June 20, 2007 an email was sent to each of the representatives on the SHMPAT requesting that they review the description provided within the 2004 state mitigation plans and make necessary revisions for the 2007 revision.

The members were also requested to review the current mitigation goals and objectives identified in the plan assigned to their organization and to provide the SHMPAT with an update to its status.

An example copy of the email provided to SHMPAT members can be viewed below.

Jim,

As part of the 2007 state mitigation plan revision, the SHMPAC is tasked with updating the state's capability assessment and we request your assistance in representing your organization. Attached is a document with the following:

- (1) The current description information for your organization as described in the 2004 plan. Can you please review and make any changes and additions as necessary.
- (2) Corresponding Mitigation Goals and Objectives assigned to your organization. Please review, and then following each objective is a "2007 Status." Please elaborate about if it is Completed, Ongoing, or Not Completed. If it is Not Completed, could you please provide an estimate of total percentage completed to date as well as an estimated time for possible completion? (Example: 2007 Status: Not Completed, 35% completed, 18 months estimated to completion)

Time for the revision of the plan is limited, so your attention to this matter in a timely manner would be greatly appreciated. Thanks and please contact me for any questions.

Chad Bowers



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Cell (941) 539-9311
www.BoldPlanning.com

On July 2, 2007 the SHMPAT invited the general public to review the draft version of the 2007 update. A public posting announcing the opportunity was provided on FloridaDisaster.org as well as a link to view the plan. Information was also provided to visitors about how to contact the mitigation department and provide comments or ask questions. A screenshot of the public notice for review and comment can be viewed below.



Public Posting on FloridaDisaster.org for Review and Comment

State of Florida
SHMPAT Mitigation Planning Meeting
October 23, 2007 / 9AM – 1PM
Tallahassee, Florida

The following are items discussed at the Florida Division of Emergency Management's State Hazard Mitigation Plan Advisory Team Meeting held on Tuesday October 23, 2007.

In Attendance

Daniel Stanley - DOACS/DOF	Donald Kunish – FDEM
Allan Pither - UF-Gainesville	Cathy White - Dept of Education
Brian Kenyon – AHCA	Sandy Meyer - DCA/DCP
Jon Erwin - DOH/OEC	Lincoln Walther - FAPA/ CSA Internat'l
Dale Quick - DEP/State Parks	Chad Bowers - Bold Planning Solutions
Ricardo Alvarez - FIU/FAU	Mike Whitehead - DBPR
Roger Twitchell – DOH	Cicero Hartsfield - Volunteer Florida
Jim Quinn – DEP	Miles Anderson – FDEM
Janice Jones – DEP	Shirley Collins – FDEM
Shawn Kinney – DOT	Marybeth Groff – FDEM
Eric Vaughn – FLASH	Kimberly Davis – FDEM
Joe Myers – Disaster Strategies & Ideas	

Welcome/Introductions:

Miles Anderson began the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for being in attendance. He explained the overall expectations and goals to achieve during the next few years. He highlighted how some things have been missed in the recent past but emphasized how we will get processes back in place and be running full steam ahead again.

Marybeth Groff provided a detailed overview of the agenda items the SHMPAT would discuss during the meeting, which primarily included:

- o Status of the State Plan/Enhanced Plan
- o Division of Mitigation Planning strategy over next few years
- o Long term role and expectations of SHMPAT in 2007/2008
- o Outreach to local communities for Mitigation Plan Guidance and LMS Plan revisions
- o Ongoing involvement and interaction with other state planning groups and state organizations, state initiatives

- o . Discussion about 9G-22 and how state projects will be funded via local LMS plans

Chad Bowers of Bold Solutions provided an overview of the status of Florida State Hazard Mitigation Plan:

- The Standard Plan was submitted to FEMA in July/August and subsequently approved on time. The participation and involvement of the SHMPAT over the past 60 days was invaluable in the State's ability to meet the deadline requirements on time.
- The Enhanced Plan has been revised and was submitted Oct 15th to FEMA for review. The goal at this point is to provide FEMA with a new Enhanced appendix as soon as possible so FEMA could provide constructive feedback about the current Florida mitigation program and work with the State in going forward to re-align the program up to a level that would serve as a national leader in mitigation. Upon FEMA's review and comment of the Enhanced appendix, the State will work closely to revise the Enhanced portion of the plan to meet the Enhanced status requirements. The State would like to have an enhanced plan in place prior to January 1, 2008.

Miles Anderson addressed the options state agencies have for funding mitigation projects. He gave an overview of 9G-22 and confirmed that the current funding methodology of going through the local mitigation strategy working groups would stay in place at this time. He also discussed other options available to agencies such as FEMA 406 funding, Pre-disaster Mitigation (PDM) or the option of having the agencies combine efforts to present before the Legislature.

Marybeth then led the group in a discussion to determine if it was worth exploring the possibility of developing a way to coordinate efforts among state agencies. She gave the following example: If one particular agency has an office in Palm Beach County where there were multiple facilities under multiple agencies, is it possible to have that one agency assign a representative to attend the LMS meetings in Palm Beach County and surrounding counties representing the multiple agencies who have buildings or proposed projects in that area? She then asked the group to brainstorm other possibilities. Marybeth suggested that a survey be sent to all state agencies/SHMPAT members to address this and other questions. This will give everyone time to think these issues through. After the results of the survey are received, the discussion will continue at the next SHMPAT meeting.

Marybeth also gave an overview of the LMS process. She asked how many agencies in attendance had ever participated in a LMS or had submitted projects. The general consensus was that no one knew how to engage in the LMS process or how to even identify potential projects.

Cathy White with the Department of Education requested that a planning workshop be arranged for state agencies to participate and learn about the mitigation process including clarifying the funding avenues which can be used for projects (HMGP, 406, PDM, etc) and project eligibility requirements.

Marybeth offered to hold an HMGP application workshop for agencies interested in learning how complete an application. The workshop will cover everything needed to complete a full application including providing technical assistance for identifying potential projects, understanding the environmental and technical requirements. This was well received by the group. It was suggested to also present this idea to the ECO's in hopes of getting more interest. This will be accomplished through email.

There were several questions and concerns about how to submit a proposed mitigation project for consideration when the project overlaps several local LMS planning areas (multiple counties). The question is whether the project should be run through one local LMS committee or should it be broken into several smaller projects for inclusion in each LMS. ***Prior to the next SHMPAT meeting, the DEM Mitigation section will develop a process and provide specific directions about how to submit projects which may overlap multiple LMS planning areas.

The group also expressed concern about how to become involved in an LMS and if the agencies would be well received. Marybeth explained that if you participate in an LMS on a regular basis, you have a greater chance of getting a project funded. She informed the group that you should always have projects ready to be submitted even if there hasn't been a declaration in the county with your facility(s). She used Miami Dade County as a prime example. They submit applications as Tier 3 projects even if the declaration was outside their county. If after all the funding has been allocated to the declared counties, anything left over can be given to those outside of the declared county. Miami-Dade County is often successful at getting those projects funded. The group discussed ways for the State to help get the LMS groups familiar with the state agencies representatives so when the agencies contact the LMS groups they would be prepared for it. It was agreed that this could be done in two ways: 1) the SHMPAT meeting minutes would be sent to all LMS Chair/Coordinators and, 2) a list of all state agencies and the appropriate representatives would be compiled and sent along with a short note explaining the purpose to the LMS Chair/Coordinators. In addition, the most recent LMS Chair/Coordinator contact list was handed out.

Marybeth then facilitated discussion regarding the future role of SHMPAT and how meetings could be designed so that topics/information discussed within the meetings would be systematically incorporated into ongoing revisions of the State plan. She encouraged discussion with the SHMPAT to give feedback on what should be included and how to embrace the process of updating the State plan more consistently through each SHMPAT meeting so that in future submissions to FEMA, the plan update process would not be delayed until the last minute. It was also decided to include on the survey questions regarding this issue in order to give SHMPAT time to think about the processes needed.

Major Decisions were made by the SHMPAT to improve the future State mitigation process. They are as follows:

- The SHMPAT has decided that meetings should take place on a more consistent basis and more frequently. The SHMPAT elected to hold meetings quarterly as well as reserve the availability to call impromptu meetings following any major disasters/events.
- The SHMPAT will develop a list of Primary/Secondary Points of Contact for each organization participating in SHMPAT to better coordinate meeting dates, locations, and topics to be discussed.
- The SHMPAT will contact all members prior to finalizing the meeting agenda as a way to provide an opportunity for members to request agenda items to discuss.
- Following each SHMPAT meeting, the meeting minutes and attendance list will be provided to all members via email as well as posted online at FloridaDisaster.org

The following are additional ideas/concerns that were raised during the various discussions throughout the meeting:

Ricardo Alvarez requested that the State Mitigation Section review and develop a more efficient way to improve the funding lifecycle to local LMS projects. He elaborated this by commenting that many local LMS initiatives had still not received funding for projects which were created through the mitigation funds generated by the 2004/05 hurricane events.

A request was made to make a better effort of marketing the concept of mitigation at the local level. The purpose is to reach out to local planners and city/county administrators to highlight the purposes of the mitigation planning efforts and to show them the ways in which their communities could benefit from an active mitigation program. It was suggested that the outreach start with local administrators and planners to gain interest and work its way down from there. Lincoln Walther recommended that a mitigation training workshop be provided at the next Florida Chapter-American Planning Association (FAPA) conference to reach out to local planners.

In regards to improving the SHMPAT's outreach to local planning efforts, it was recommended that a representative of the mitigation section attend an upcoming Emergency Coordinating Officer (ECO) meeting in Tallahassee on October 31st at 1:30 to share with attendees the steps the state is taking in mitigation and to invite the ECO attendees to come to the next SHMPAT meeting. The ECO meeting is primarily comprised of representatives from over 50 federal, state, private and non-profit organizations in Florida which interact with the state in emergency planning and events.

A question was raised about the impending FEMA requirements that many of the local LMS plans are facing which outline that they be revised in the next 12-18 months and

whether there would be any funding or assistance for these planning initiatives. FEMA requires that local plans be updated every five years. A large portion of the local LMS plans within Florida were created in 2004 and will begin to expire at the outset of 2009 and must be revised and submitted to FEMA for approval to stay eligible for HMGP funding.

It was requested that a final version of the 2007 FEMA-approved State Mitigation Plan be provided on the FloridaDisaster.org website for public viewing and comment, as well as a copy of the draft version of the Enhanced section which is currently being reviewed by FEMA.

It was suggested that a requirement be established that all local LMS plans be required to provide online access at all times to their current LMS plan for public viewing and comment to increase the incentive for local LMS plans to be kept up to date and reflect current mitigation conditions within the community.

The SHMPAT will work with local LMS planning committees to begin the creation of a local outreach campaign which may include local mitigation training seminars, conducting LMS planning meetings, as well as potentially developing web-based planning tools to enhance the LMS planning and revision efforts.

Miles Anderson adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m. The next meeting date will be forwarded to SHMPAT members as soon as it is available.