

**LEE COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL
ALL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN
PUBLIC FORUM – OPEN HOUSE
AUGUST 29, 2019
DIXON PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
220 SOUTH HENNEPIN AVENUE, DIXON
5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.**

Each year natural hazards (i.e., severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, severe winter storms, flooding, etc.) cause damage to property and threaten the lives and health of Lee County residents. Since 1973, Lee County has been included in four federally-declared disasters and experienced at least \$4.9 million in recorded property damages within the County.

In the last 10 years alone (2009 – 2018), there have been 49 thunderstorms with damaging winds, 32 severe winter storms, 11 flash flood events, 10 severe storms with hail 1 inch in diameter or greater, 8 tornadoes, 6 riverine flood events, 5 extreme cold events, 4 recorded lightning strike events, 2 droughts, 2 excessive heat events, and 2 earthquakes felt by residents in the County. While natural hazards cannot be avoided, their impacts can be reduced through effective hazard mitigation planning.

What is hazard mitigation planning?

Hazard mitigation planning is the process of determining how to reduce or eliminate property damage and loss of life from natural and man-made hazards. This process helps the County and participating municipalities reduce their risk by identifying vulnerabilities and developing mitigation actions to lessen and sometimes even eliminate the effects of a hazard. The results of this process are documented in an all hazards mitigation plan.

Why prepare an updated natural hazards mitigation plan?

By preparing and adopting an updated all hazards mitigation plan, participating jurisdictions become eligible to apply for and receive federal hazard mitigation funds to implement mitigation actions identified in the Plan. These funds, made available through the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, can help provide local government entities with the opportunity to complete mitigation projects that would not otherwise be financially possible.

Who participated in the development of the Lee County Multi-Jurisdiction All Hazards Mitigation Plan update?

Recognizing the benefits that could be gained from preparing an updated all hazards mitigation plan, Lee County invited all the local government entities within the County to participate. The following jurisdictions chose to participate in the Plan update and development:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| ❖ Amboy, City of | ❖ Harmon, Village of | ❖ Steward, Village of |
| ❖ Ashton, Village Of | ❖ Regional Office of
Education #47 | ❖ Sublette, Village of |
| ❖ Dixon, City of | | |
| ❖ Franklin Grove, Village of | | |

LEE COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL ALL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN

How was the Plan update developed?

The Lee County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Plan update was developed through the Lee County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazards Mitigation Planning Committee. The Planning Committee included representatives from each participating jurisdiction, as well as agriculture, education, emergency services (American Red Cross, fire and law enforcement), healthcare, GIS, insurance and utilities. The Planning Committee met five times between June, 2018 and August, 2019.

Which natural and man-made hazards are included in the Plan update?

After reviewing the risk assessment, the Planning Committee chose to include the following natural and man-made hazards in this updated Plan:

Natural Hazards:

- ❖ severe storms (thunderstorms, hail, lighting & heavy rain)
- ❖ severe winter storms (snow, ice & extreme cold)
- ❖ floods
- ❖ tornadoes
- ❖ droughts
- ❖ excessive heat
- ❖ earthquakes
- ❖ dams

Man-Made Hazards

- ❖ hazardous substances (generation, transportation and storage/handling)
- ❖ waste disposal
- ❖ hazardous material incidents
- ❖ waste remediation
- ❖ nuclear incidents
- ❖ terrorism

What is included in the Plan update?

The Plan update is divided into sections that cover the planning process; the risk assessment; the mitigation strategy, including lists of mitigation actions identified for each participating jurisdiction; and plan maintenance and adoption. The majority of the Plan update is devoted to the risk assessment.

This risk assessment identifies the natural and man-made hazards that pose a threat to the County and includes a profile of each natural hazard which describes the location and severity of past occurrences, reported damages to public health and property, and the likelihood of future occurrences. It also provides a vulnerability assessment that estimates the potential impacts each natural and man-made hazard would have on the health and safety of the residents of Lee County as well as the buildings, critical facilities and infrastructure in the County.

What happens next?

Any comments received at tonight's public forum will be incorporated into the draft Plan update before it is submitted to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review. Once IEMA and FEMA have reviewed and approved the Plan, it will be presented to the County and each participating jurisdiction for formal adoption. After adopting the Plan update, each participating jurisdiction can apply for federal mitigation funds and begin implementation of the mitigation actions identified in the Plan.