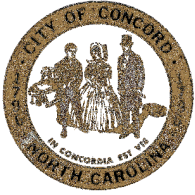


## City of Concord Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update December 2009



**This update discusses the Concord Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Activity. It has been prepared to inform interested agencies, stakeholders and the public about the project and to solicit comment. The fact sheet can also be viewed on the City of Concord Website at: [www.ci.concord.nc.us](http://www.ci.concord.nc.us).**

The City of Concord Division of Emergency Management is updating the City's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) and solicits public participation. The Concord Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan will identify and update their natural hazards risks, such as flood, earthquake, weather related hazards, wildland fire, and drought. The plan will also identify the people and facilities potentially at risk and ways to mitigate damage from hazards. The public participation and planning process will be documented as part of the project.

### **Hazard Mitigation**

Across the United States, natural and human-caused disasters have increasingly caused injury, death, property damage, and business and government services interruption. The toll on individuals, families, and businesses can be very high. The time, money, and resources required to respond to and recover from disasters take public funding and attention away from other important programs.

The people and property in the City of Concord are at risk from a variety of natural hazards that can potentially cause human injury, property damage, economic hardship or environmental harm such as the flooding of August 2008, 2002 Ice Storm, 2007 Drought and Hurricane Hugo in 1989.

Hazard mitigation projects reduce the risk or reduce the severity of hazards on people and property. Projects may include short- or long-term activities to reduce exposure to or the effects of known hazards. Hazard mitigation activities include restricting flood plain development, developing, implementing or enforcing building codes, using technological tools to minimize the impact of the hazard, and public education.

Above all Hazard Mitigation is the title for actions taken by the public, both individual and organizational, business and industry and governmental agencies that protect our investment in the community, the businesses, the homes and the people that make Concord a great place to live.

### **Why Do We Need A Hazard Mitigation Plan**

A mitigation plan is the development and implementation of activities designed to reduce or eliminate losses resulting from natural hazards. Increase in damage costs has resulted in methods to identify an implement means of reducing the City's vulnerability. Communities cannot prevent the occurrence of natural disasters. Communities can reduce or mitigate the effects of the hazard on life and property by identifying resources, information and strategies for risk reduction. The document will guide and coordinate mitigation activities throughout the City.

This plan contains the information necessary to provide a background on the natural disasters that can affect the City of Concord. It also contains goals and objectives to reduce the risk from these hazards through education, outreach programs, partnerships, and preventative items such as flood plain management or storm water programs.

In 2000, the Federal Emergency Management Agency issued the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, commonly known as DMA 2000. This act requires states, communities and tribal governments to develop FEMA-approved natural hazard mitigation plans to be eligible for certain federal assistance programs such as the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program(HMPG).

## The Planning Process

In 2004, Concord's Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed using a variety of sources, such as information from the Concord Emergency Planning Committee, individual research within departments, and two public workshops. The plan was developed as comprehensively as possible with input from the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management. Since the original plan's development, periodic meetings of the Concord Emergency Planning Committee continued to provide continuous improvement to the plan. 44 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 201 set forth requirements for local Mitigation Plans.

On October 31, 2007, FEMA published an Interim Rule in the Federal Register that ensures the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program planning requirements are consistent with the mitigation planning regulations cited in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at Title 44, Chapter 1, Part 201 (44 CFR Part 201). This Interim Rule established that local communities can comply with one set of mitigation planning requirements to be eligible to apply for all FEMA mitigation project grant funding, including the FMA and Severe Repetitive Loss programs. This Interim Rule also created a new type of hazard mitigation plan specifically for Indian Tribal governments.

We are currently in the final stages of updating the HMP and are posting this fact sheet to introduce the project, planning team, and to gather comments from our community residents. A survey has been posted on line at

<http://interconcord.coc/Portals/0/Documents/Government/PublicInfo/Community%20questionnaire.doc>

Concord is reviewing events which have occurred since the initial plan and incorporating lessons learned into the new document. The events included in the plan are those which are frequent or have had the greatest impact to the City's infrastructure and residents.

## The Planning Team

The Concord Emergency Planning Committee is lead by the Division of Emergency management with assistance from all departments. Each department provides assistance and guidance throughout the planning process.

## Public participation

Public involvement will continue throughout the project, through surveys, meetings and as part of community programs such as Concord 101 and Public Safety Academy. The goal is to receive comments, identify key issues or concerns, and improve mitigation ideas. When the Draft Update of the Concord Hazard Mitigation Plan is complete, the results will be presented to the community before City Council, State, and FEMA approval, and subsequent community adoption.

## We Need Your Help

Please use the following table to identify any hazards you believe should be reviewed through this Update. Please add or subtract hazards in your decision making process.

<b>Concord Hazard Worksheet</b>			
<b>Hazard</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>North Carolina Greater Hazard</b>
<b>Dam Failure</b>			<b>No</b>
<b>Drought</b>			<b>No</b>
<b>Earthquake</b>			<b>Yes</b>
<b>Flooding</b>			<b>Yes</b>
<b>Heat Wave</b>			<b>No</b>

<b>Hurricane</b>			<b>Yes</b>
<b>Landslide</b>			<b>No</b>
<b>Pandemic</b>			<b>No</b>
<b>Severe Winter Storms</b>			<b>Yes</b>
<b>Thunderstorms and Tornado</b>			<b>No</b>
<b>Tsunamis</b>			<b>No</b>
<b>Volcanoes</b>			<b>No</b>
<b>Wildfire</b>			<b>No</b>

The Greater Hazards are those identified as having the most potential impact on the state of North Carolina in the past and in the future. The Lesser Hazards are still hazards of significant concern, but have not had as large of an impact on the entire state in the past, or in the anticipated future.

Finally, please list any hazard events that have occurred between 2004 and the present and provide a narrative description of the damages and subsequent repair or replacement costs. Once this information is collected, we will determine which critical facilities, residences, and populations are vulnerable to specific hazards in Concord.

<b>Concord Hazard Worksheet</b>		
<b>Hazard Event</b>	<b>Damage Description</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
<b>Sample: August 2008 flood</b>	Numerous streets and roads were closed in and around Kannapolis, due to flooding streams and poor drainage. Evacuations were necessary at a rest home on Pine St. At least 14 swift water rescues were necessary. Approximately 70 buildings were damaged by floodwater across Cabarrus County. Storm total rainfall in this area averaged 8 to 10 inches, with locally higher amounts, resulting in significant urban and stream flooding.	<b>\$6.5 M</b>

Please email or fax updated your information to Concord Division of Emergency Management.

We encourage you to become an active part in our Community Emergency Management program by participating in the Hazard Mitigation Plan update effort. The purpose of this fact sheet is to keep you informed and to allow you every opportunity to voice your opinion regarding this important project. Our first public meeting will be held at Concord Fire Station #8 on (Date in January). Please contact the Division of Emergency Management if you have any questions, comments or information requests:

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