



City of Hampton

June 28, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hampton Planning Commission

FROM: Pete Sommer, Emergency Management Coordinator

SUBJECT: Proposal by the City of Hampton to amend the *Hampton Community Plan* by adopting the proposed *Peninsula Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan* as it applies to the City of Hampton

In February of this year, I briefed you on the Peninsula Multi-jurisdictional Natural Hazards Plan. That plan has now moved to FEMA for its compliance review, has been conditionally approved and is ready for each locality to adopt the plan.

It is requested that the Planning Commission approve the plan, and recommend its adoption to the Hampton City Council. It is intended to request City Council adoption of the plan in August. In essence, this would be a proposal by the City of Hampton to amend the *Hampton Community Plan* by adopting the proposed *Peninsula Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan* as it applies to the City of Hampton.

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires all local jurisdictions to have a Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Peninsula jurisdictions of Newport News, Hampton, Williamsburg, James City County, and York County agree to work under a regional grant from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM). AMEC Earth & Environmental, was hired to complete the Regional Mitigation Plan. While the end product is a regional plan, the planning process was done for each separate jurisdiction and then an overall approach. This provides a Hampton specific plan within the context of the overall plan.

There has been an invaluable amount of input at the local level with participation from Codes Compliance, Public Works / GIS, Planning, Assessor's Office, and Emergency Management. Schools, Thomas Nelson Community College, Hampton University, Langley, and Fort Monroe were all invited to participate in the planning process. Any contact received from these organizations were kept informed of the planning meetings, documents, and progress through email. The process was broken into several steps, outlined in the attached timeline. The plan has been reviewed by VDEM in Richmond, approved, and is now at FEMA for their compliance review. It is now ready for adoption by each of the localities.

After several regional planning sessions, a completed the hazard analysis, risk assessment and a first draft of the plan has been printed. It was loaded to the EOC intranet <http://eoc.hampton> and updated as the planning process continued. The plan for adoption is Draft 3, September 2005, which remains on the EOC intranet and the internet for public review and comment. The planning team developed eleven recommendations for Hampton. Those recommendations are summarized at the end of this document

The Hampton specific portions of the plan for review and adoption are listed below, along with the multi-jurisdictional plan goals for information:

- Section 5.1, City Profile: pages, 52 – 65.
- Multi-Jurisdictional Plan Goals pages, 135 – 136
- Hampton Recommendations, pages 143-150

The first round of public meetings; Hampton and Newport News held a joint meeting on February 28th 2005 at 7pm at Sandy Bottom. The second phase of planning, to develop the mitigation plan, including goals and objectives, identify potential mitigation alternatives / projects, and formalize a mitigation strategy for each jurisdiction was completed. A second public meeting was held on June 23rd, 2005 at the Kenny Wallace Resouce Center.

There was \$3,200 available to each jurisdiction to be used as they deem appropriate. This funding was used to have AMEC provide Hampton with an initial review of the Community Rating System (CRS) within the National Flood Insurance Program. Based on that review the city may want to complete the full CRS application either through the contractor. It was roughly estimated that participation in the CRS program could save the city's policy holders at least 5%, on their natioal flood insurance premiums per year. That savings be an annual savings of approximately \$219,000 for each 5% reduction achieved through the program.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let me know and I will answer them.

Attachment

CC: Mitigation Grant file

SUMMARY OF HAMPTON PORTION OF PENINSULA MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN

For review and adoption, Spring 2006

Peninsula Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan:

Proposal by the City of Hampton to amend the *Hampton Community Plan* by adopting the proposed *Peninsula Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan* as it applies to the City of Hampton.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan encompasses the entire City. This plan was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the "Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000," which reinforces the importance of pre-disaster infrastructure mitigation planning to reduce disaster losses, and aims primarily at streamlining federal disaster relief and programs to promote mitigation activities.

By adopting this plan, Hampton will be better prepared to integrate mitigation actions into other community programs by building public support for mitigation activities, developing effective public education policies regarding mitigation, and obtaining disaster-related grants in the aftermath of a disaster.

The Plan includes a risk assessment of critical natural hazards that threaten the region, an analysis of the vulnerability of each community to each critical hazard, a capability assessment examining existing programs, and mitigation goals to address areas where improved capabilities could reduce vulnerability.

The Hampton specific portions of the plan for review and adoption are listed below, along with the multi-jurisdictional plan goals for information:

Section 5.1, City Profile: pages, 52 – 65.

Multi-Jurisdictional Plan Goals pages, 135 – 136

Hampton Recommendations, pages 143-150

The eleven recommended action items for the City of Hampton are:

1. Enroll Hampton in the Community Rating System (CRS); with over 9700 NFIP policy holders, participation in the CRS program could provide \$219,000 annual savings for each 5% incremental change to those policy holders.
2. Prepare Repetitive Loss Plan. There are over 160 repetitive loss properties in the city. Prioritizing the future mitigation opportunities to address repetitive loss will help to reduce future property loss. A Repetitive loss plan is also required, if the city moves forward with a CRS program.
3. Elevate flood-prone homes, one grant has been received and there are approximately 13 homes being elevated with this project. Other than staff time, the cost of these elevations is covered with federal, state and homeowner dollars. Some of these homes are also on the repetitive loss list.

**SUMMARY OF HAMPTON PORTION OF
PENINSULA MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN**

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4. Relocate Hampton City Schools Maintenance Facility out of repetitive flood area 6. This was an item submitted as a mitigation project after hurricane Isabel; that grant opportunity was denied. If this is to be considered as part of the city's future potential projects it must be listed as part of the mitigation plan.
5. Develop storm resistant beach along Hampton waterfront from Grandview to Fort Monroe This project would integrate the beach profile with existing hard structures;. This was an item submitted as a mitigation project after hurricane Isabel; that grant opportunity was denied. If this is to be considered as part of the city's future potential projects it must be listed as part of the mitigation plan.
6. Develop Public Notification/Warning System: Currently, the city completes public notifications of emergencies through the media, internet and has a limited capability through telephone. This project would establish a public notification and warning system for all hazards.
7. Wire critical facilities for generator quick hookup; Currently shelters without power are not climate controlled and food spoilage is problematic. Approximately 20 facilities and pump stations would be pre-wired for generator power. A contingency contract can then be established to lease the generators for each facility as needed.
8. Re-evaluate existing regulations/programs with regard to floodplain management and adopt a two foot freeboard requirement above Base Flood Elevation for "A" Zones and "V" Zones (BFE + 2); This recommendation may be the most concerning. It would move us from the standard building code, to require additional height on buildings constructed in certain parts of the city. The additional cost would be borne by the developer as new homes were built, or by homeowners if substantial improvements are done. Substantial improvements would be over 50% of the value of the home. This type of ordinance change would also help to provide additional points under the CRS program.
9. Provide training and public education materials to school personnel and school children regarding characteristics of local hazards, possible mitigation actions, and emergency response; This project would be geared to educating future generations of the hazards in their neighborhoods and help to provide public information on ways individuals and families can mitigate against these hazards and plan emergency response.
10. Preserve open space through floodplain park development; Strategic Investment Master Plans have identified certain parcels across the city as suitable for parks or recreation areas. Limited acquisition of structures may be necessary to facilitate open space preservation of suitable flood-prone lands as recreation or park areas. Parks and recreation planning in conjunction with floodplain management satisfies multi-purpose goals. CRS points are also available for this activity.
11. Implement Drainage Improvement Projects to protect against blockage. Culverts installed previously may not be sufficient to carry the increased runoff from additional development. Maintaining culverts and protecting against blockages, helps flood flows being attenuated more quickly and nuisance flooding reduced.