

# Richland County Meeting #4 – Hazard Mitigation Plan

## October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 | 6pm – 8pm

### ATTENDEES

Attendee	Representation
Kevin Parker	Richland County
Lisa Graff	Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS)
Meirah Williamson	ISWS
Jeff Vaughn	Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission (GWRPC)
Darrell Hampsten	GWRPC
Mike Conn	Illinois Eastern Community College
Jamia Joyce	Village of Claremont
Rusty Homes	City of Olney Fire Department
Andrew Hines	Richland County Sheriff's Office
Jessica Clark	Carle Memorial Hospital
Alice Mullinax	Richland County, Village of Parkersburg
Danny Collwell	Richland County

### KEY INFORMATION

- 1) **Every jurisdiction must provide comments on the hazard mitigation plan.** You can view the plan at <https://arcg.is/CCG4q1> and send comments to [mitigation@isws.illinois.edu](mailto:mitigation@isws.illinois.edu).
- 2) **Every jurisdiction must develop a plan maintenance strategy.** This includes monitoring mitigation projects, evaluating the plan's usefulness, and preparing to update the plan in 2028. These actions should be undertaken at least once a year. See **PLAN MAINTENANCE** for more information.
- 3) **Every jurisdiction must adopt the plan.** This can be done by formal resolution, council minutes, or other adoptions allowed under local law.
- 4) Every participating jurisdiction will be eligible for federal mitigation funds.

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### INTRODUCTION

To goal of this meeting is to overview the goals and objectives of the plan and the final steps for getting the plan approved by FEMA so Richland County will be eligible for grants. The final steps include reviewing the plan, getting public comments on the plan, and creating a timeline for plan maintenance and jurisdiction adoption.

### RICHLAND COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Lessen the impacts of hazards to new and existing infrastructure, **life, and property**. Bolded words are additions to the 2013 plan goals and objectives.

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the documents that all jurisdictions have completed, FEMA requires that a representative from every jurisdiction in the county comments on the hazard mitigation plan. Comments are also welcome from anyone who wants to review the plan.

## RISK ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND HAZARD MITIGATION PROJECTS

Top five hazards ranked by the county are: Pandemic, Tornadoes, Severe Wind, Severe Storms, and Earthquakes. Communities in the county have expressed interest in retrofitting buildings to withstand tornado damage and improving or adding tornado sirens.

## PLAN MAINTENANCE

Richland County's Hazard Mitigation Plan must be updated every five years (next update will be in 2028). Plan maintenance includes:

- Monitoring: develop a process to track progress and status of mitigation projects
- Evaluating: develop criteria to determine if the plan is effective
- Updating: decide where, when, and who will participate in monitoring, evaluating, and the 2028 update process; check-ins should happen yearly
  - For example, the mayor, county clerk, or EMA could check in on mitigation project status every year
  - Or, jurisdictions can send one representative to a yearly group meeting called by the EMA and/or Greater Wabash to discuss mitigation projects and progress

## PLAN ADOPTION

After plan is final, local jurisdictions will adopt the plan by formal resolutions, council minutes, or other forms of adoption allowed by local law.

## MITIGATION BENEFITS

There are financial and societal benefits to mitigation projects. Frequently, mitigation projects save communities money – there could be less damage or harm to structures or individuals, improving culverts or drainage can reduce the time and money spent closing roads or helping people evacuate, etc.

Jurisdictions can also apply for federal mitigation grants awarded by FEMA, such as Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program, and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

The plan is on the website (<https://arcg.is/CCG4q1>). Please download the plan and provide comments to [mitigation@isws.illinois.edu](mailto:mitigation@isws.illinois.edu).