

1 Introduced November 10, 2009, by
2 Councilman Hursey, seconded by
3 Councilman Hicks (by request of
4 Administration)

5 **RESOLUTION R09-29**

6 A resolution by the Slidell City Council to adopt the City of Slidell's updated
7 Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan.
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9 WHEREAS, the City of Slidell Hazard Mitigation Plan was originally
10 developed, adopted and approved in 2006; and
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12 WHEREAS, the City of Slidell has received a grant through the State of
13 Louisiana's Planning Pilot Grant Program for the purpose of Updating the Hazard
14 Mitigation Plan and for project scoping; and
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17 WHEREAS, the recommendations for the Plan Update were developed by
18 the City of Slidell's Mitigation Steering Committee and
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20 WHEREAS, the Plan Update includes a detailed characterization of natural
21 hazards in the City of Slidell; a risk assessment that describes potential losses to physical
22 assets, people and operations; a set of goals, objectives and actions that will guide the
23 City of Slidell's mitigation program in coming years; and a detailed strategy for
24 implementation and monitoring results; and
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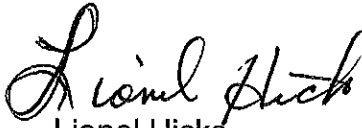
28 WHEREAS, the updated Plan will enable the City to better prepare for and
29 reduce the effects of natural hazards; and
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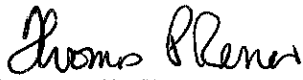
31 WHEREAS, this is prepared to be in compliance with current FEMA
32 regulations.
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2 **RESOLUTION R09-29**
3 **PAGE 2**

4 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Slidell hereby adopts
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6 the Updated Slidell Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan summary attached hereto and made a
7 part hereof.
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9 **ADOPTED** this 9th day of February, 2010.

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13 Lionel Hicks
14 President of the Council
15 Councilman, District A

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17 Thomas P. Reeves
18 Council Administrator
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Section 1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Introduction

Natural and man-made hazards pose a threat to every citizen within the City of Slidell, Louisiana on some level and frequency. Often, the reality of potential hazards to a community is not fully understood or realized until a major disaster occurs. It is then that a community experiences the extreme hardship of significant human and economic losses. The process of all-hazard mitigation planning is the first step toward protecting a community from losses associated with hazards and resulting disasters. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with regard to hazard mitigation planning provides the following definitions:

- Hazard mitigation - Any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards.
- Planning - The act or process of making or carrying out plans, specifically the establishment of goals, policies, and procedures for a social or economic unit.

The process of hazard mitigation planning is a critical part of any community's planning program. As most hazards occur infrequently, mitigation programs for hazards are usually initiated and funded as a reaction to recover from the most recent disaster event. This form of hazard mitigation response is typically more costly, both in property and in human losses, than is pre-disaster planning and mitigation.

On May 24, 2007, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP), formally the Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (LOHSEP), and FEMA approved funding for an update to the original plan. This grant was funded under the HMPG Expanded Mitigation Strategies Planning Grant Pilot Program, which is an initiative created as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The HMGP Expanded Mitigation Strategies Planning Grant Pilot was authorized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 2006. In the State of Louisiana, it is referred to as the Planning Pilot Grant Program (Pilot Program). The Pilot Program provides funds to update hazard mitigation plans and/or to identify and document feasible mitigation projects. Funding is derived from that seven percent of the Hurricanes Katrina and Rita Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) fund that is available for the development of mitigation plans. The Pilot Program planning funds have been made available in part since there has been a change of regulatory standard, including the publication of FEMA-generated Advisory Base Flood Elevations (ABFEs), and the fact that many jurisdictions have experienced an extreme hazard occurrence that presents additional hazard information and unique mitigation opportunities. The funds assist applicants in updating their hazard mitigation plans to reflect new information such as the ABFEs and identifying cost effective specific

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mitigation projects, focusing on those particular types of projects that may be eligible for HMGP funding.

The purpose of this Cooperative Agreement (CA) is to provide funding to the City of Slidell (Sub grantee) through the State of Louisiana (Grantee) on a pilot basis for the purpose of updating the parish or community hazard mitigation plan (HMP) and/or identifying feasible HMGP mitigation project opportunities that have been coordinated with the community's overall recovery efforts.

The City of Slidell Hazard Mitigation Plan was originally developed, adopted, and approved in 2006. This document contains the City of Slidell's Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (Plan Update), incorporating a number of revisions and refinements to the original plan content.

The Plan Update includes a detailed characterization of natural hazards in the City of Slidell, Louisiana; a risk assessment that describes potential losses to physical assets, people and operations; a set of goals, objectives, and actions that will guide the City of Slidell's mitigation program in coming years; and a detailed strategy for implementation and monitoring results.

This Plan focuses on four hazards with the highest potential for causing damage to buildings and other physical assets, injuries and fatalities to the residents of the City of Slidell, and disruption of government and business operations in the Parish. These hazards include floods, storm surge hurricanes, and tornadoes producing high winds. Additional hazards identified in the State of Louisiana Mitigation Plan are also discussed.

The recommendations in the Plan Update were developed by the City of Slidell's Mitigation Steering Committee.

1.2 Authorization

This plan was developed under the authorization of:

- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121- 5206.
- Presidential declaration of a Major Disaster for the States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas as a result of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma, including authorization of Hazard Mitigation assistance through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).
- 44 C.F.R. Part 201, Hazard Mitigation Planning
- 44 C.F.R. Part 206, Subpart N—Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- 44 C.F.R. § 206.437—State Administrative Plan.

1.3 Hazard Mitigation Legislation

Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000: To support the expanded role of emergency management, Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA2K), commonly known as the Stafford Act, Section 322. The amendment to the Act deals with the development of local hazard mitigation plans. DMA2K was signed into law on October 30, 2000 (Public Law 106-390). The Interim Final Rule for planning provisions (44 CFR Part 201) was published in the Federal Register in February 2002 and in October 2002. Local hazard mitigation planning requirements are implemented in 44 CFR Part 201.6. The purpose of DMA2K is to amend the Stafford Act to establish a national program for pre-disaster mitigation, streamline administration of disaster relief, and control federal costs of disaster assistance. Congress envisioned that implementation of these new requirements would result in the following key benefits:

- Reduction of loss of life and property, human suffering, economic disruption, and disaster costs.
- Prioritization of hazard mitigation planning at the local level, with an increased emphasis placed on planning and public involvement, assessing risks, implementing loss reduction measures, and ensuring critical services/facilities survive a disaster.
- Establishment of economic incentives, awareness, and education to state, tribal, and local governments that result in forming community based partnerships, implementing effective hazard mitigation measures, leveraging additional non-federal resources, and establishing commitments to long-term hazard mitigation efforts.

FEMA has implemented the various hazard mitigation-planning provisions through regulations at 44 CFR Part 201. These reflect the need for state, tribal, and local governments to closely coordinate mitigation planning and implementation efforts, and describe the requirement for a State Mitigation Plan as a condition of pre- and post-disaster assistance, as well as the mitigation plan requirement for local and tribal governments as a condition of receiving FEMA hazard mitigation assistance.

The regulations governing the mitigation planning requirements for local mitigation plans are published under 44 CFR §201.6. Under 44 CFR §201.6, local governments must have a FEMA-approved Local Mitigation Plan in order to apply for and/or receive project grants under the following hazard mitigation assistance programs:

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
- Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC)
- Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL)
- Community Rating System (CRS)

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Each hazard mitigation plan must be submitted to and approved by the state and FEMA. DMA2K requires that each plan must, at a minimum, address or include the following general items:

- Plan Adoption by All Jurisdictions
- Planning Process Including Public Involvement
- Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
- Mitigation Strategy
- Plan Implementation and Maintenance Procedures
- Any Specific State Requirements

The mitigation plan requirements in 44 CFR Part 201 emphasize greater interaction between state and local mitigation activities and highlight the need for improved linkage between state and local mitigation plans. Under 44 CFR §201.4(c)(4), states are required to coordinate mitigation planning with tribal and local jurisdictions, and document funding and technical assistance they will provide to these jurisdictions. The information contained in Local Mitigation Plans is also useful for states developing mitigation plans. That is, states refer to local mitigation plans to improve the level of detail and comprehensiveness of statewide risk assessments and coordinate state hazard mitigation goals and objectives with local goals and objectives. Similarly, local governments may refer to their state's mitigation plan where information may be useful for local mitigation strategy development.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program: In 1988, Congress established the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) by enactment of Section 404 of the Stafford Act. In 2002, regulations pertaining to the HMGP to reflect the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 were changed by 44 CFR Part 206, Subpart N. An Interim Final Rule was issued in October 2002, wherein the final compliance date was set to November 1, 2004. The HMGP assists states and local communities with implementing long-term hazard mitigation measures by providing federal funding after a major disaster declaration. Eligible applicants include state and local agencies, tribal organizations, and certain non-profit organizations. Examples of typical HMGP projects include:

- Property acquisition and relocation projects
- Structural retrofitting to minimize damages from high winds, earthquake, flood, wildfire, or other natural hazards
- Elevation of flood-prone structures
- Vegetative management programs

As described in 1.1 Introduction, the HMGP Expanded Mitigation Strategies Planning Grant Pilot was authorized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 2006. As administered in the State of Louisiana, it is referred to as the Planning Pilot Grant Program (Pilot Program). The Pilot Program provides funds to update hazard mitigation plans and/or to identify and document feasible mitigation projects.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program: The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program was authorized by Section 203 of the 2000 Stafford Act, 42 USC (Public Law 106-390). Funding for the program is provided through the National Pre-Disaster Mitigation Fund to assist state, local, and tribal governments in implementing cost-effective hazard mitigation activities that complement a comprehensive mitigation program. Two types of grants are offered under the PDM Program.

- Planning Grants - Allocated funds to be used for hazard mitigation plan development
- Competitive Grants - Distributed funds using a competitive application process

The minimum eligibility requirements for jurisdictions receiving competitive PDM funds include:

- Participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- Must not be suspended or on probation from the NFIP
- Must have a FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP): The U.S. Congress established the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) with the passage of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968. The NFIP is a federal program enabling property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance as a protection against flood losses in exchange for state and community floodplain management regulations that reduce future flood damages. Participation in the NFIP is based on an agreement between communities and the federal government. If a community adopts and enforces a floodplain management ordinance to reduce future flood risk to new construction in floodplains, the federal government will make flood insurance available within the community as a financial protection against flood losses. This insurance is designed to provide an insurance alternative to disaster assistance to reduce the escalating costs of repairing damage to buildings and their contents caused by floods. NFIP goals are to:

- Improve basic knowledge about flood hazards
- Coordinate and plan new developments in the floodplain
- Better indemnify individuals for flood losses through insurance
- Reduce future flood damages through state and community floodplain management regulations
- Reduce federal expenditures for disaster assistance and flood control

In 1994, Congress amended the 1968 Act and the 1973 Act with the National Flood Insurance Reform Act (NFIRA). The 1994 Act included measures to:

- Increase compliance by mortgage lenders with the mandatory purchase requirement and improve coverage
- Increase the amount of flood insurance coverage that can be purchased

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- Provide flood insurance coverage for the cost of complying with floodplain management regulations by individual property owners (Increased Cost of Compliance coverage)
- Establish a Flood Mitigation Assistance grant program to assist states and communities to develop mitigation plans and implement measures to reduce future flood damages to structures
- Codify the NFIP Community Rating System
- Require FEMA to assess its flood hazard map inventory at least once every five years

The 100-year/500-year Standard: In order to assess and manage the flood risk, a national standard was needed. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development initially administered the NFIP before FEMA established the 1-percent-annual-chance of flooding (also referred to as the 100-year or Base Flood) to be used as the standard for the NFIP. The 1-percent-annual-chance flood (or 100-year flood) represents a magnitude and frequency that has a statistical probability of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. Stated alternatively, the 100-year flood has a 26 percent (or 1 in 4) chance of occurring over the life of a 30-year mortgage. The 500-year standard (0.2-percent-annual-chance) flooding was also established.

Flood Mitigation Assistance Program: The Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA) was created as part of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act (NFIRA) of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 4101) with the goal of reducing or eliminating claims under the NFIP. Funding for the program is provided through the National Flood Insurance Fund. FMA provides funding to assist in implementing measures to:

- Reduce the number of repetitively or substantially damaged structures and the associated claims on the National Flood Insurance Fund
- Encourage long-term, comprehensive mitigation planning
- Respond to the needs of communities participating in the NFIP to expand their mitigation activities beyond floodplain development review and permitting
- Complement other federal, state, and local mitigation programs with similar, long-term mitigation goals

There are three types of grants available under FMA:

- FMA Planning Grants are available to states and communities to prepare Flood Mitigation Plans. NFIP-participating communities with approved Flood Mitigation Plans can apply for FMA Project Grants.
- FMA Project Grants are available to states and NFIP participating communities to implement measures to reduce flood losses.
- Technical Assistance Grants are a part of Project Grants. Up to 10 percent of the Project Grants funding is made available to the states for technical assistance. These funds may be used by the state to help administer the program.

In order to be eligible for project funds under the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program authorized by the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, communities are required under 44 CFR §79.6(d)(1) to have a mitigation plan that addresses flood hazards.

On October 31, 2007, FEMA published amendments to the 44 CFR Part 201 at 72 Fed.1 Reg. 61720 to incorporate mitigation planning requirements for the FMA program. The amendments impacted 44 CFR §201.6, Local Mitigation Plans, as follows:

- Combined the Local Mitigation Plan requirement for all hazard mitigation assistance programs under 44 CFR §201.6 to include the FMA as well as the HMGP, PDM and SRL programs, thus eliminating duplicative mitigation plan regulations
- Incorporated the requirement for communities with National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) insured properties that have been repetitively damaged from floods to address such properties in their risk assessment and mitigation strategy
- Incorporated the requirement for communities that participate in the NFIP to include a strategy for continued compliance with the NFIP

NFIP Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) Program: The Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) grant program provides funding to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that have had one or more claim payments for flood damages. The long-term goal of RFC is to reduce or eliminate claims under the NFIP through mitigation activities that are in the best interest of the National Flood Insurance Fund (NFIF). RFC funds may only mitigate structures that are located within a state or community that cannot meet the cost share or management capacity requirements of the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program.

Applications will be accepted for any insured property that has one or more claim payments for flood damages and is located within a state or community that cannot meet the requirements of the FMA program for either cost share or capacity to manage the activities stipulations. RFC awards will prioritize projects that create the greatest savings to the NFIF based on a Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA).

NFIP Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Program: This program provides funding to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to severe repetitive loss residential structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The definition of severe repetitive loss as applied to this program was established in Section 1361A of the National Flood Insurance Act, as amended (NFIA), 42 U.S.C. 4102a. An SRL property is defined as a residential property that is covered under an NFIP flood insurance policy and:

- a) That has at least four NFIP claim payments (including building and contents) over \$5,000 each, and the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeds \$20,000; or

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- b) For which at least two separate claims payments (building payments only) have been made with the cumulative amount of the building portion of such claims exceeding the market value of the building.

For both (a) and (b) above, at least two of the referenced claims must have occurred within any ten-year period, and must be greater than 10 days apart.

The long-term goal of the SRL program is to reduce or eliminate claims under the NFIP. The SRL program will fund mitigation projects, which will result in the greatest savings to the National Flood Insurance Fund (NFIF) in the shortest period of time, based on a Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) using Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-approved methodology to conduct the Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA).

Participation in this program is voluntary. The SRL program differs from other FEMA mitigation grant programs in that those property owners who decline offers of mitigation assistance will be subject to increases in their insurance premium rates.

The SRL program was created pursuant to Section 1361A of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (the Act), 42 U.S.C. 4102A, as amended by the Bunning-Bereuter-Blumenauer Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004, Public Law 108-264, with the goal of reducing flood damages to SRL properties.

Community Rating System (CRS): The CRS was implemented in 1990 to recognize and encourage community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP standards. The National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 codified the Community Rating System in the NFIP. Under the CRS, flood insurance premium rates are adjusted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from community activities that meet the three goals of the CRS: (1) reduce flood losses; (2) facilitate accurate insurance rating; and (3) promote the awareness of flood insurance.

One of the activities that communities can take to improve their CRS rating (and subsequently lower premiums) is to develop a CRS plan. The CRS 10-step planning process is consistent with the multi-hazard planning regulations under 44 CFR Part 201. However, CRS provides additional points for activities that communities can take during their planning process that go above the minimum described below, possibly lowering insurance rates. At a minimum, an approved multi-hazard mitigation plan under 44 CFR Part 201 that addresses floods could qualify for CRS credit and credit points earned, classification awarded, and premium reductions for communities in the NFIP CRS rating system.

Credit points earned, classification awarded and premium reductions for communities in the NFIP CRS rating system

Credit Points	Class	SFHA	Non-SFHA
4500+	1	45%	5%
4,000 - 4,499	2	40%	5%
3,500 - 3,999	3	35%	5%
3,000 - 3,499	4	30%	5%
2,500 - 2,999	5	25%	5%
2,000 - 2,499	6	20%	5%
1,500 - 1,999	7	15%	5%
1,000 - 1,499	8	10%	5%
500 - 999	9	5%	5%
0 - 499	10	0%	0%

SFHA = Special Flood Hazard Area

The Community Rating System (CRS) provides a flood insurance premium discount in participating communities that implement floodplain management activities above and beyond the minimum criteria of the NFIP. Policyholders receive 5 to 45 percent discounts on annual premiums, depending on their flood zone and the community's CRS classification. In short, the more communities do to prevent and reduce flood losses, the more their residents benefit with reduced premiums. The CRS recognizes 18 creditable activities, organized under four categories numbered 300 through 600: Public Information, Mapping and Regulations, Flood Damage Reduction, and Flood Preparedness.

Effective May 1, 2008, FEMA instituted a new CRS policy. Flood insurance policies for buildings that are rated as having the lowest floor one foot or more below the base flood elevation will no longer be eligible for the community's CRS discount. Some clarifications:

- In most cases, the affected structures are non-compliant, i.e., in violation of the NFIP construction criteria. They may have received a variance from the community. If so, the variance applicant was advised that "the issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the base flood level will result in increased premium rates for flood insurance" as required by 44 CFR 60.6(a)(5).
- This new policy only affects elevation-rated buildings. Typically, these are new construction or "post-FIRM buildings, not older buildings that qualify for the pre-FIRM "subsidized" rates.
- Only buildings in the mapped Special Flood Hazard Area are affected. Buildings in B, C, or X Zones are not rated based on the elevation of their lowest floors.
- It does not affect those V-Zone properties that have approved breakaway walls surrounding unfinished enclosures used only for building access, storage, and parking, but that were rated based on the enclosed area's being the lowest floor.

1.4 Plan Purpose

The key purposes of this plan are:

- To update the City of Slidell's 2006 Hazard Mitigation Plan
- To involve members of the city, public, and other agencies to draft and adopt an action plan that serves as the blueprint for future development and preparedness activities across the county
- To identify the possible risks and hazards that may affect the city through a systematic hazard identification and risk assessment process
- To prioritize loss reduction and emergency preparedness activities for disasters
- To develop strategies and the best practices to avoid and mitigate the impact of hazards

1.5 Plan Contents

1.5.1 Section 1: Executive Summary

This section provides the introduction and overview of the plan including the legislative authority and grant programs and the plan purpose, scope, and section summaries.

1.5.2 Section 2: Jurisdiction Profile

This section describes the jurisdiction in terms of its geography, history, demographics, economy, infrastructure, and any special characteristics.

1.5.3 Section 3: Plan Approval and Adoption

This section contains information regarding adoption of the plan by the City of Slidell. Plan Adoption by the Local Governing Body demonstrates the commitment to fulfill the mitigation goals and objectives outlined in the Plan. Adoption legitimizes the Plan and authorizes responsible agencies to execute their responsibilities.

The governing body adopts the Plan after receiving conditional approval of the draft plan from FEMA. Following adoption of the Plan, the city must submit a copy of the resolution or other legal instrument showing formal adoption of the Plan to the state. These will then be submitted to FEMA with the resolution. FEMA will then transmit acknowledgement of verification of formal plan adoption and the official approval of the plan to the mitigation plan coordinator.

1.5.4 Section 4: Mitigation Planning Process

This section describes the process used to develop the update of City of Slidell's 2006 All Hazards Mitigation Plan. The description provides a general overview of local hazard mitigation planning and the specific procedures used by the city to prepare its Plan. It includes who was involved as members of the planning team, and documents the outcomes of meetings. It also demonstrates the opportunities for the public and other stakeholders to participate in the plan development process.

When developing a mitigation plan, jurisdictions are required to follow a planning process that is thorough and allows for input from the public it serves. The Plan update for Slidell meets all the requirements as established by FEMA and the Planning Pilot Program Grant, which is an initiative created as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Slidell followed a four-step process in developing this plan:

1. Organizing Resources
2. Assessing Risks
3. Developing the Mitigation Plan
4. Implementation of the Plan and Monitoring Progress

This section of the Plan also provides an overview of the State of Louisiana Hazard Mitigation Plan, written to meet all Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other federal requirements. It outlines specific goals, objectives, and strategies for dealing with the multiple hazards that face Louisiana.

1.5.5 Section 5: Hazard Identification and Profiles

Section 5 discusses the Interim Final Rule requirements for hazard identification and profiling and consists of two elements:

1. Hazard Identification and Profiles identifies a wide array of natural and man-made hazards that threaten life and property in the City of Slidell. It is important that all hazards be initially considered for relevance in advancing through the hazard mitigation planning process. Hazard Identification provides background information for these hazards. Hazard Profiling focuses on those hazards initially identified that are of particular concern and relevance to the City of Slidell. The hazard profiles document specific historical data and past events that have occurred. This includes identifying occurrences, location, spatial extent of the event, and best available data on the impact on the city and identifies the future potential for a hazard event to occur.
2. Hazard Risk and Vulnerability assessments build on available historical data from past hazard occurrences, establish hazard-by-hazard profiles, and culminate in a hazard risk ranking about the frequency of occurrence, spatial extent, and potential impact of each hazard.

1.5.6 Section 6: Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

In this section, the Plan analyzes Slidell's vulnerability to hazards and estimates of potential losses. This analysis consists of four components.

1. A Loss Estimation Methodology is described and used in evaluating some known hazard risks by their relative long-term cost in expected damages.
2. It identifies at-risk critical facilities and estimates the losses that may incur as a result of a hazard event.
3. It provides a general definition of "risk," which is a quantification of future damages.
4. It describes land use and development trends, which identify and describe future land use based on growth and jurisdiction planning.

1.5.7 Section 7: Hazard Mitigation Strategy

Section 7 of the Plan consists of two components:

1. A capability assessment that provides a comprehensive examination of the City of Slidell's capacity to implement meaningful mitigation strategies and identifies existing opportunities to increase and enhance that capability. Capabilities

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addressed in this section include planning and regulatory capability, technical capability, and fiscal capability. Information was obtained from local officials and an inventory and analysis of existing plans, ordinances, and relevant documents. The purpose of this assessment is to identify any existing gaps, weaknesses, or conflicts in programs or activities that may hinder mitigation efforts, and to identify those activities that should be built upon in establishing a successful and sustainable community hazard mitigation program. The community profile, risk assessment, and capability assessment collectively serve as a basis for determining the goals for the Hazard Mitigation.

2. A comprehensive mitigation strategy and a list of mitigation goals, objectives, and actions/projects. Mitigation Strategic Goals consists of broad, countywide goal statements for each local jurisdiction participating in the planning process to strive to achieve, as well as a general description of the mitigation tools and techniques available for further consideration. The comprehensive strategy provides the foundation for identifying and prioritizing mitigation strategies. This section makes the Plan both strategic, through the identification of long-term goals, and functional, through the identification of short-term and immediate actions that will guide day-to-day decision-making and project implementation.

1.5.8 Section 8: Plan Monitoring and Maintenance

The final section of the plan describes the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle. The section includes a process by which the City of Slidell can incorporate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms, such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate. The maintenance process also includes discussions as to how the community will be involved during the maintenance process.

1.5.9 Appendices

The appendices contain information and documentation that supports this plan construction.