

PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN FOR DUKES COUNTY

Kick-off meeting with emergency managers

Thursday, April 27, 2006, 12 noon
MVC

Meeting notes

Present: Richard Townes (Tisbury), Peter Martell (Oak Bluffs), Chuck Cotnoir (County), Spencer Booker (Aquinnah), Peter Shemeth (Edgartown), Judith Sibert (West Tisbury), Jo-Ann Taylor (MVC), Mark London (MVC), Maeve Turner (MVC) and Chris Seidel (MVC)

1. Introductions

Mark London introduced and briefly summarized the Pre-Disaster Mitigation planning process:

- Assemble data on resources and hazards
- Analyze the data to produce vulnerability assessment for each town
- Identify goals and objectives, then develop mitigation strategies
- Prepare plan
- Secure approvals for plan

Jo-Ann Taylor added information on the funding opportunities for implementation, to become available once the PDM plan has been approved:

- Local examples include:
 - Wellfleet Harbor Improvement Project (federal \$1,362,498; non federal 25% match \$494,000)
 - Town of Dartmouth – 3 separate projects asking \$12,000 up to \$269,371.50 (structural stabilization project – Padanarum causeway) (all with 25% match)
 - City of Peabody – for one project asked for \$3,000,000 federal and proposed a \$6,700,000 match, thus boosting points for the project by providing more than the required 25% match; \$3 million is the upper limit per request
- Ineligible projects include items such as: warning and alert notification systems, flood studies or mapping, response and communications equipment, projects that solely address a manmade hazard.

Jo-Ann also agreed to scan the grant application and distribute it, in response to general interest in receiving a copy.

2. Review of available materials

Chris Seidel distributed a list of data layers and talked about sample maps on display, one from Martha's Vineyard and several from Cape Cod and from the SRPEDD region. She offered, and it was agreed that

she and Maeve would initiate data assemblage from known sources, and then confirm/complete the layers with each town one-on-one.

Sources and individual layers were discussed:

- There was a suggestion for MVC to try to access the eCEMP (Electronic Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans) website, in which the towns participate, regarding resource data.
- Dam failure should be examined as a possible hazard in West Tisbury, and maybe in Chilmark.
- There was a request for MVC to include on the maps:
 - Topography, including contours for every ten feet above sea level
 - Evacuation routes
 - Hotels
 - Grocery stores
 - Gas stations
 - Banks, ATMs
 - Pharmacies

Peter Martell noted that the seniors in Oak Bluffs are scattered around town, rather than concentrated; there are about 130.

It was noted that high water marks from past hurricanes are found in some buildings, showing flood elevation; MV Shipyard, Edgartown Yacht Club, e.g.

It was noted that Edgartown and Oak Bluffs have sewer pump stations that are vulnerable to flooding.

3. Review of draft work plan

Jo-Ann presented the draft work plan (attached) and outlined a potential schedule to finish the plan within about a year, and then to take about 6 months to get the plan approved. She noted that the approval date is significant for eligibility for the following grant round for implementation funds. The grant applications have been typically due at the end of February, with the requirement for the PDM plan to be approved by April or May. Approval should be targeted in a timely manner to go on to seek implementation funds.

She noted that June is marked on the draft work plan for meeting with the emergency managers again, but that would not be a round-table meeting; but rather one-on-one interaction with MVC GIS staff to confirm/complete the data layers. There should not be a need for the whole group to gather again until the discussions to develop goals and objectives and mitigation strategies, to be based on the vulnerability assessments.

Peter Martell asked if the schedule could be moved up, and others agreed that the towns would agree to working at a quicker pace. MVC staff agreed, but also pointed out that the process is very linear, with the need to follow the steps in turn (data gathering, vulnerability assessment, development of strategies, e.g.)

The emergency managers thanked the MVC for lunch and agreed that noon is a good meeting time for them, so long as lunch is provided. It would be very difficult for them to meet during regular business hours.

Notes prepared by Jo-Ann Taylor

					Dukes County Pre-Disaster Mitigation draft work program (draft 4 26 6)														
Description of task								Dates											Work done by
	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	
	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	
Build a planning team	X																		MVC, town reps
Planning team meetings	X		X					X		X									MVC and Planning Team
Hazard mitigation profiling	X	X	X	X	X														MVC and Planning Team
Resource identification	X	X	X	X															MVC and Planning Team
Existing protection measures		X	X																MVC and Planning Team
Vulnerability assessment					X	X	X												MVC
Creation of goals and objectives							X	X											MVC and Planning Team
Develop mitigation strategies								X	X	X									MVC and Planning Team
Develop initial draft plan			X	X	X		X	X	X	X									MVC
Prepare final plan											X	X							MVC
Public meetings							X		X										MVC and Planning Team
Public hearing														X					MVC and Planning Team
Plan adoption													X	X	X	X	X	X	MVC, towns, FEMA