# Resolution No. <u>R2022-1</u>

# ADOPTION OF THE COUNTY MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the Town of Greentown recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property; and

WHEREAS, undertaking hazard mitigation actions before disasters occur will reduce the potential for harm to people and property and save taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, an adopted multi-hazard mitigation plan is required as a condition of future grant funding for mitigation projects; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Greentown participated jointly in the planning process with the other local units of government within the County to prepare a Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Greentown Town Council hereby adopt the Howard County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan as an official plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Howard County Emergency Management Agency will submit on behalf of the participating municipalities the adopted Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan o the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for final review and approval.

ADOPTED THIS 19th day of APRIL, 2022

Scott Deyoe, President Greentown Town Council

ATTEST:

From Duke

Teresa Duke, Clerk

## The Howard County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) defines the disaster life cycle as the process through which emergency managers respond to disasters when they occur; help people and institutions recover from them; reduce the risk of future losses; and prepare for emergencies and disasters. The Howard County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP) focuses on the mitigation phase of the disaster life cycle. According to FEMA, mitigation is most effective when it's based on an inclusive, comprehensive, long-term plan that is developed before a disaster occurs. The MHMP planning process identifies hazards, the extent that they affect the municipality, and



formulates mitigation practices to ultimately reduce the social, physical, and economic impact of the hazards.

In order for National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) communities to be eligible for future mitigation funds, they must adopt either their own MHMP or participate in the development of a multi-jurisdictional MHMP. Further, it is required that local jurisdictions review, revise, and resubmit the MHMP every five years. As representatives from Howard County, Greentown, Kokomo, and Russiaville have provided information, attended meetings, and participated in the planning process, the planning process used to update the Howard County MHMP satisfies the requirements of a multi-jurisdictional plan.

During Planning Committee meetings, those in attendance revisited existing (in the 2013 MHMP) and identified new critical facilities and local hazards; reviewed the State's mitigation goals and updated the local mitigation goals and updated the local mitigation goals; reviewed the most recent local hazard data, vulnerability assessment, and maps; evaluated the effectiveness of existing mitigation measures and identified new mitigation projects; and reviewed materials for public participation. Meetings were also conducted with key groups such as city planners and various emergency responders and their information will continue to be incorporated into the MHMP update.

### **Risk Assessment**

The risk assessment conducted for the Howard County MHMP is based on the methodology described in the Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance published by FEMA in 2013 and is incorporated into the following sections:

- Hazard Identification lists the natural, technological, and political hazards selected as having the greatest direct and indirect impact to the county as well as the system used to rank and prioritize the hazards.
- 2. Hazard Profile for each hazard, discuss the 1) historic data relevant to the municipalities where available; 2) vulnerability in terms of number and type of structures, repetitive loss properties (flood only), estimation of potential losses, and impacts based on an analysis of development trends; and 3) the relationship to other hazards identified.
- 3. Hazard Summary provides an overview of the risk assessment process; a table summarizing the relationship of the hazards; and a composite map to illustrate areas impacted by hazards.

When considering the hazards selected for study (drought; earthquake; extreme temperature; fire; flood; hail, thunder, wind; land subsidence; snow and ice storm; tornado; dam failure; and hazardous materials incidents)

and the information obtained regarding the hazard profile and the hazard summary, the attached table identifies the hazards studied and ranking outcome. The ranking is completed utilizing the Calculated Risk Priority Index (CPRI), a tool by which individual hazards are evaluated and ranked according to an indexing system considering probability, magnitude, warning time, and duration for any hazard.

- 1. **Probability** is defined as the likelihood of the hazard occurring over a given period.
- 2. Magnitude/Severity is defined by the extent of the injuries, shutdown of critical infrastructure, the extent of property damage sustained, and the duration of the incident response.
- 3. Warning Time is defined as the length of time before the event occurs.
- 4. **Duration** is defined as the length of time that the actual event occurs. This does not include response or recovery efforts.

#### **Mitigation Goals and Practices**

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The overall goal of the Howard County MHMP is to reduce the social, physical, and economic losses associated with hazard incidents through emergency services, natural resource protection, prevention, property protection, public information, and structural control mitigation practices.

As part of the planning process the Planning Committee discussed the strengths and weaknesses of existing mitigation practices and made recommendations for improvements, as well as suggested new practices. To provide further detail, information on the local status, local priority, benefit-cost ratio, project location, responsible entity, and potential funding source will be included with regard to each proposed practice. Those practices ranked by participants as a high priority are anticipated to be implemented within five years from the final Plan adoption and additional steps, or an implementation plan is included for each.

#### Plan Maintenance

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The successful implementation of the MHMP will require the participation and cooperation of the entire Planning Committee to successfully monitor, evaluate, and update the Howard County MHMP. Local jurisdictions are required to update and resubmit the MHMP every five years. Information gathered following individual hazard incidents and annual meetings will be utilized along with updated vulnerability assessments to assess the risks associated with each hazard common in Howard County.

