

County of York

Floodplain/Hazard Mitigation Annual Report 2021

The annual report on the progress toward implementing the floodplain portion of the Hazard Mitigation action plan's objectives and/or the recommendations is below.

Date: July 14, 2022

Name of Community: York County of York

Name of Plan: Hampton Roads Hazard Mitigation Plan

Date of Plan Adoption: March 21, 2017

5 Year CRS Expiration Date: 2025

Plan Location: The Hazard Mitigation plan was revised in 2017 approved by the York County Board of Supervisors, released to the media, and made available to the public. The plan can be obtained online at:

<https://www.hrpdcva.gov/departments/emergency-management/hampton-roads-hazard-mitigation-plan/>.

Progress Report Preparation and Distribution: The report was completed with input from numerous departments. This will be emailed to our County Administrator, Outreach Coordinator and to the Virginia Department of Conservation Floodplain Management Section.

Action Items:

1. Assess County's public information needs, formulate multi-hazard messages, identify outreach projects to convey the messages, examine other public information initiatives, and implement.

This objective has been fully implemented. York County Public Works hired an Outreach Coordinator to assist with this measure. Outreach endeavors:

- Website is kept current
- Flood insurance and flood prevention information is distributed at monthly farmers markets
- Know Your Zone digital billboards are posted long major streets
- School Events
- Promotes Public Safety events

2. Continue strengthening the County's Floodplain Management Program with the following actions:
 - Review and update floodplain ordinance regularly and continue to provide annual report;
 - York County Public Works along with the Zoning Official and the Building Official are currently reviewing the floodplain ordinance for any necessary changes. Regularly updated floodplain ordinance to be in accordance with building code.
 - Continue specialized training and support for Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) certification for floodplain plan reviewers, inspectors and permit processors; and,
 - We currently have 2 Certified Floodplain Managers
 - Continue to assess repetitive flood loss data annually for loss accuracy, geographic accuracy, and determination whether structure(s) on property have been mitigated and if so, by what means. Provide corrections as necessary using FEMA AW-501.
 - These items are tracked through building permits and issuing Certificates of Occupancy on newly mitigated properties.

3. Elevate, acquire, relocate, retrofit or flood proof structures in flood-prone areas. Flood protection may include minor localized flood reduction projects, as well. Wind retrofit measures are also included and may be appropriate for some structures, especially publicly-owned structures. This action includes Mitigation Reconstruction projects.
 - This item is ongoing. York County has recently raised 4 homes above BFE with 3-foot of freeboard utilizing a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. We also intend to raise several roads to be above the base flood elevation.

4. Maintain program for continued assessment of identified stormwater "choke points" when storms are approaching.

A list of know choke points is continually updated and inspected prior to any storm approaching.

5. Manage shoreline erosion through the following actions:
 - Request and share VIMS staff recommendations for shoreline erosion control permit applications with Wetlands Board citizen members; and,
 - Continue to include shoreline erosion control element in the Comprehensive Plan.
 - Continue to review opportunities to utilize volunteer groups for living shoreline projects at County parks.

6. Install high water marks signs and/or gages in flood-prone areas.

- This objective is on track. It has a 5-year implementation schedule. We also intend to raise several roads to be above the base flood elevation.
- Continue to include road elevation in the Comprehensive Plan process
- Encouraging VDOT to make sea level rise/floodplain management a criteria for awarding projects local projects.

7. Implement Pre-Disaster Debris Management Plan. Remove existing trees and debris that pose hazard during natural disaster.

Our current efforts include:

- Three four man drainage crews whose sole function is to maintain our water ways; removing trees and debris to keep the drainage ways free of obstructions.
- A five man stormwater construction crew with a mini-excavator dedicated to repairing and improving drainage ways beyond merely removing obstructions along with a general hybrid construction crew which provided stormwater improvements on a case by case basis.
- An aggressive Capital Improvement Plan which utilizes State Local Assistance Grants and VDOT Revenue Share funds to upgrade culverts under roads and open up drainage ditch with stream restoration projects.
- A dedicated BMP inspector who works with local HOAs to keep BMPs properly maintained and free of debris.

Objectives Challenges: No Challenges at this time.

Recommendations for new projects: No recommendations at this time.