

## 5 Plan Maintenance Process

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**Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(i): [The plan maintenance process shall include a] section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle.**

### 5.1 Plan Monitoring and Evaluation

The Region L Mitigation Plan, consisting of Johnson, Leavenworth, and Wyandotte Counties, will be monitored and evaluated on a quarterly basis, beginning in the quarter following approval and adoption. These meetings will consist of information gathering on any changes that are critical to the plan, along with the updating of existing action items. Staying current and monitoring any changes that affect the plan is paramount to the success of the plan. By initiating quarterly reviews and evaluations, the planning committee will stimulate conversation on each jurisdiction's wants, needs, and status.

The monitoring and evaluation of the Regional Plan will be facilitated through the Kansas Division of Emergency Management Planning Section and will consist of a variety of methods to engage the members of the community – public and private. Some of these methods consist of:

1. Surveys to all participating jurisdictions for information regarding any significant changes that have been noted since the last plan update.
2. Meeting(s) of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee will be convened to discuss the survey feedback, any changes in the region's risks, and action updates.
3. The Kansas Division of Emergency Management will write and submit an annual report to be included as an addendum to the current plan, and the quarterly reports will be filed by the Emergency Management committee that holds the quarterly meeting. These meetings will be held in conjunction with the applicable KEMA meetings, the LEPC, and/or any public forums that consists of members of the planning committee.

### 5.2 Plan Updating

FEMA requires that a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan be updated and approved every five years. This five year period begins with the date by FEMA of the first adoption resolution submitted for a plan.

With the approval and adoption of the current plan in 2014, the Region L Hazard Mitigation Plan will be scheduled for updating and approval by FEMA in the year 2019.

The quarterly maintenance and evaluation of the plan will set the stage for the five year update. This will also enable any changes in personnel involved in the planning committee

to be kept apprised of the process and to be aware of any changes or updates that will enable them to be a viable and informed partner.

The system that will store the plan, the Super System, will enable the plan updates to be seamless and kept current. This is particularly important to the updating of the mitigation actions.

Data gaps in the current plan will be addressed during the yearly maintenance scheduled meetings. A few of these gaps are:

Rankings – a plausible ranking system that takes the place of the STAPLEE criteria as it pertains to the actions each jurisdiction has put forward. Each jurisdiction ranks them as a high, medium, or low depending on what their mission is. It can only benefit the whole community to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Maps – Maps are a critical component of the mitigation plan as it enables the reader to visualize the story the plan writer is telling. While each county within the Region has a GIS department, as does KDEM, maps were a struggle to obtain during this plan update. By addressing this issue well ahead of time the planning committee should have a seamless process for the acquisition of maps.

### 5.3 Incorporation of Mitigation Plan Into Other Planning Mechanisms

**Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(ii): A process by which local governments incorporate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate.**

All participating jurisdictions will strive to implement actions that minimize loss of life and property damage from hazards as to their current capabilities. Whenever possible, participating jurisdictions will use existing plans, policies, procedures and programs to aid in the implementation of identified hazard mitigation actions. Potential avenues for implementation may include:

- Operation plans
- General or master plans
- Ordinances
- Capital improvement plans
- Budget revisions or adoptions
- Hiring of staff
- Stormwater planning

- Land use planning

The governing bodies of the jurisdictions adopting this plan will encourage all other relevant planning mechanisms under their authority to consult this plan to ensure minimization of risk to natural hazards as well as coordination of activities.

#### **5.4 Incorporating Available Plans, Studies, Reports, and Maps**

Mitigation planning draws upon existing information about a jurisdiction, in the form of studies, reports, maps, plans, and ordinances. The following is a brief description of the types of usable studies, reports, maps, plans, and ordinances that were incorporated into this plan for Region L.

##### *Comprehensive Plan*

A comprehensive plan establishes the overall vision for a jurisdiction and serves as a guide to governmental decision making. A comprehensive plan generally contains information on demographics, land use, transportation, and facilities. As a comprehensive plan is broad in scope the integration of hazard mitigation measures can enhance the likelihood of achieving risk reduction goals.

##### *Capital Improvement Plan*

A capital improvement plan guides scheduling of, and spending on, public improvements. A capital improvement plan can guide future development away from identified hazard areas, an effective mitigation strategy.

##### *Emergency Operations Plan*

An emergency operations plan outlines responsibilities, means and methods by which resources are deployed during and following an emergency or disaster.

##### *Recovery Plan*

A disaster recovery plan guides the recovery and reconstruction process following a disaster. Hazard mitigation principles should be incorporated into disaster recovery plans to assist in breaking the cycle of disaster loss.

##### *Debris Management Plan*

A debris management plan covers the response and recovery from debris-causing incidents such as tornados or floods. Planning considerations include debris removal and disposal, disposal locations, equipment availability, and personnel training.

##### *Economic Development Plan*

An economic development plan assists in advancing a strong and sustainable economy over the long term. This plan provides strategies, programs, and policies that will foster the jurisdictions business climate.

#### *Transportation Plan*

A transportation plan aids with the evaluation, review, design and locating of transportation infrastructure, including streets, highways, public transport lines, and transportation centers.

#### *Land Use Plan*

Land-use planning is used to regulate land use in an efficient and equitable manner, and to assist jurisdictions in managing the development of land within their boundaries.

#### *Flood Mitigation Assistance Plan*

The purpose of the flood mitigation assistance plan is to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings and other structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program.

#### *Watershed Management Plan*

A watershed management plan is used to provide assessment and management information for a geographically defined watershed.

#### *Fire Mitigation Plan*

A fire mitigation plan is used to mitigate a jurisdictions wildfire risk and vulnerability In The plan documents areas with an elevated risk of wildfires, and identifies the actions taken to decrease the risk.

#### *Critical Facilities Plan*

A critical facilities plan is used to identify a jurisdictions critical facilities, including fire stations, police stations, hospitals, schools, day care centers, senior care facilities, major roads and bridges, critical utility sites, and hazardous material storage areas. Additionally, this plan is used to determine methods to mitigate damage to these facilities.

#### *Zoning*

Zoning is the traditional and most common tool available to local jurisdictions to control the use of land. State of Kansas statutes grant municipalities and counties authority to engage in zoning for land use. Counties may also regulate inside municipal jurisdiction at the request of a municipality. Zoning is used to promote health, safety, and the general welfare of the community. Zoning is used to dictate the type of land use and to set minimum specifications for use such as lot size, building height and setbacks, and density of

population. Local governments are authorized to divide their jurisdiction into districts, and to regulate and restrict the erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair or use of buildings, structures, or land within those districts. Districts may include general use districts, overlay districts, special use districts or conditional use districts. Zoning ordinances consist of maps and written text.

### *Building Code*

Many structural mitigation measures involve constructing and retrofitting homes, businesses and other structures according to standards designed to make the buildings more resilient to the impacts of natural hazards. Many of these standards are imposed through the building code. Kansas does not have state mandatory building codes. However, municipalities and counties may adopt codes for their respective areas if approved by the state as providing "adequate minimum standards." Local governments in Kansas are also empowered to carry out building inspections, and may empower cities and counties to create an inspection department to enforce construction codes and ordinances.

### *Floodplain Ordinance*

In 1992 the Kansas General Assembly approved legislation for floodplain management (Kansas Statutes Annotated 12-766, "Floodplain Management") authorizing the Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources as the primary department to oversee and approve local zoning regulation. The regulation requires planning and approval to prevent inappropriate development in the one hundred-year floodplain and to reduce flood hazards. The purpose of the law is to:

Minimize the extent of floods by preventing obstructions that inhibit water flow and increase flood height and damage

Prevent and minimize loss of life, injuries, and property damage in flood hazard areas

Promote the public health, safety and welfare of citizens of Kansas in flood hazard areas.  
The statute affects local governments by directing, them to:

Manage planned growth

Adopt local ordinances to regulate uses in flood hazard areas

Enforce those ordinances

Grant permits for use in flood hazard areas that are consistent with the ordinance

The act also makes certain that local ordinances meet the minimum requirements of participation in the NFIP. The incentive for local governments adopting such ordinances is that they will afford their residents the ability to purchase flood insurance through the NFIP. In addition, communities with such ordinances in place will be given priority in the

consideration of applications for loans and grants from the Clean Water Revolving Loan and Grant Fund.

#### *Subdivision Ordinance*

Subdivision regulations control the division of land into parcels for the purpose of building development or sale. Flood-related subdivision controls typically require that sub-dividers install adequate drainage facilities and design water and sewer systems to minimize flood damage and contamination. They prohibit the subdivision of land subject to flooding unless flood hazards are overcome through filling or other measures, and they prohibit filling of floodway areas. Subdivision regulations require that subdivision plans be approved prior to the division and/or sale of land. Subdivision regulations are a more limited tool than zoning and only indirectly affect the type of use made of land and the specifications for structures on that land.

Broad subdivision control authority resides with the county for areas outside of municipalities and municipal extra-territorial planning jurisdictions. Subdivision is defined as all divisions of a tract or parcel of land divided into two or more lots and all divisions involving new streets.

#### *Tree Trimming Ordinance*

These ordinances may place requirements for the removal, pruning, planting, and other tree work depending upon whether the tree is in the public right-of-way or on a private lot as well as tree size or species, and property zoning.

#### *Stormwater Ordinance*

The purpose of a stormwater ordinance is to protect the quality and quantity of local, regional and state waters from the potential harm of unmanaged stormwater. Stormwater ordinances include protection from activities that result in the degradation of properties, water quality, stream channels, and other natural resources.

#### *Drainage Ordinance*

The purpose of a drainage ordinance is to improve storm sewer systems for the management and control of storm water runoff to prevent polluted waters from entering the water supply and other receiving waters.

#### *Site Plan Review Ordinance*

The purpose of a site plan review ordinance is to ensure orderly growth, and to minimize the adverse effects growth that could be caused by the development of commercial, industrial, retail or institutional structures.

#### *Landscape Ordinance*

A landscape ordinance generally provides rules and procedures for the protection and maintenance of vegetation and landscaping.

#### *Wetlands/Riparian Areas Conservation Plan*

The purpose of a Wetlands/Riparian Areas Conservation Plan is to preserve and protect wetlands, water resources, and adjacent upland areas.

#### *Hazard Awareness Program*

A program designed to inform citizens as to the nature and extent of local and regional natural and manmade hazards.

#### *National Flood Insurance Program*

In 1968, Congress created the NFIP to help provide a means for property owners to financially protect themselves. The NFIP offers flood insurance to homeowners, renters, and business owners if their community participates in the NFIP. Participating communities agree to adopt and enforce ordinances that meet or exceed FEMA requirements to reduce the risk of flooding.

#### *Community Rating System program under the National Flood Insurance Program*

The NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Participants are offered flood insurance premium rates at a discount to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS. These goals are the reduction of flood damage to insurable property, the strengthening and support of insurance aspects of the NFIP, and the encouragement of a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

#### *Firewise Community Certification*

The Firewise Communities Program encourages local solutions for safety by involving homeowners in taking individual responsibility for preparing their homes from the risk of wildfire. Firewise is a key component of Fire Adapted Communities, a collaborative approach that connects all those who play a role in wildfire education, planning and action with comprehensive resources to help reduce risk. The program is co-sponsored by the USDA Forest Service, the US Department of the Interior, and the National Association of State Foresters.

#### *Building Code Effectiveness Grading*

The Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule assesses the building codes in effect and how the community enforces its building codes, with special emphasis on mitigation of losses from natural hazards.

### *ISO Fire Rating*

ISO's Fire Rating gauges the fire protection capability of the local fire department to respond to fires.

### *Land Use Program*

A Land Use Program is designed with the goal of balancing environmental protection with economic development. This program, coupled with various other planning efforts, provides resources to local leaders to establish policies to guide the development of the community, including annexation, expansion, and building.

### *Public Education/Awareness*

Education programs for the public that provide education and awareness about hazards, hazard planning and mitigation efforts.

### *Stream Maintenance Program*

Programs designed to keep streams free from debris and blockages to prevent or minimize flooding.

### *Engineering Studies for Streams (Local/County/Regional)*

Studies that detail information concerning flow data, potential trouble spots, and improvement recommendations for streams.

### *Mutual Aid Agreements*

Mutual Aid Agreements are understanding among localities to lend assistance across jurisdictional boundaries. This may occur due to an emergency response that exceeds local resources, such as a disaster. Mutual aid may be requested only when such an emergency occurs. Or may be a formal standing agreement on a continuing basis.

### *Hazard Analysis/Risk Assessment*

A hazard analysis is the identification of different type of hazards that may affect a jurisdiction. A risk assessment is the determination of quantitative or qualitative value of risk related to a situation and a recognized hazard.

### *Evacuation Route Map*

A map detailing the evacuation routes for a jurisdiction, often incorporating road, services, and travel time information.

### *Critical Facilities Inventory*

A list of all critical facilities within a jurisdictions, which may include fire stations, police stations, hospitals, schools, day care centers, senior care facilities, major roads and bridges, critical utility sites, and hazardous material storage areas.

#### *Vulnerable Population Inventory*

A vulnerable population inventory may include members of the jurisdictions population who are elderly, limited in functional capacity, homeless, or have limited financial means. These populations may be poorly equipped with the resources and capabilities necessary to prepare for, and respond to, disasters without additional assistance.

#### *Land Use Map*

A jurisdictional map detailing current land uses.

### **5.5 Public Participation in Plan Maintenance**

**Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(iii): [The plan maintenance process shall include a] discussion on how the community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process.**

The Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Region L will be made available to the public via each county website, in order to ensure the public has a review and comment forum. Should any interested groups within the county desire a presentation of the plan than the Kansas Division of Emergency Management will facilitate the meeting either with the cooperation of the county the interested party resides in, or as a lone entity. Some of these interested parties could include: School Districts, Local Emergency Planning Committees, City Officials, or any other public venue that desires knowledge of the plan.