



Welcome to the State Hazard Mitigation Plan Advisory Team Meeting

April 12, 2011
1:00 p.m.

Meeting Summary

Opening

The April 12, 2011 SHMPAT Meeting began at 1:15 PM and was facilitated by Laura Herbert. Please refer to meeting sign in for attendees.

Welcome – Introductions and Meeting Goals

Attendees were thanked for their time. Introductions were not made in order to save time. An overview of the meeting agenda was given. Please see the meeting's PowerPoint for more details concerning the items discussed below, as well as contact information of the various speakers.

Presentation on Severe Weather Hazards in Florida – Amy Godsey, State Meteorologist

Amy Godsey was introduced as the State Meteorologist. Ms. Godsey provided an overview of the severe weather events that can occur in Florida. The severe weather she discussed was severe thunderstorms, lightning strikes, tornadoes, coastal flooding, and wildfires. Florida is the most thunderstorm and lightning strike prone state in the nation and is third most prone to tornadoes. Florida would be first in the nation when comparing the density of tornadoes per square mile. Ms. Godsey discussed hazard risks, how they

are measured and categorized, and gave a few examples of ways to mitigate against their effects.

Ms. Godsey ended with a discussion of the importance of communicating the threat of hazards to the public. This is especially important with the incoming hurricane season. She elaborated on the difference between watches and warnings and encouraged the use of NOAA weather radios.

Presentation on the Agency for Workforce Innovation’s Role in Mitigation – Larry, McIntyre, Agency for Workforce Innovation Emergency Coordinating Officer

Larry McIntyre was introduced as the Emergency Coordinating Officer from the Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI). Mr. McIntyre provided an overview of the role that AWI has in normal and disaster response settings. The National Emergency Grant provides funds that allow AWI to provide free relief employment in humanitarian assistance for disaster victims or public assistance projects. In a disaster response scenario, AWI provides workforce services and unemployment compensation services. This is done through their one stop career centers and mobile one stop units.

AWI staffs the Labor Market Statistics Center, which provides information regarding employment and employment projections. The agency also provides reemployment tools, to include job vacancy and hiring needs, real-time jobs on demand through Help Wanted Online (HWOL), and skills and experience matching through Transferable Occupation Relationship Quotient (TORQ). Through AWI’s network, they are able to assist in state disaster related rapid response, assess the impact of disaster on the local community and economy through business surveys, human needs surveys, and economic impact analyses. He also explained how AWI would be able to offer trained mitigation personnel to assist emergency management personnel in times of a disaster.

Presentation on the Community Development Block Grant Program – Will Bedford, Department of Community Affairs Grant Manager

Will Bedford was introduced as a grant manager for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program from Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Mr. Bedford gave a brief description of what the CDBG is and how it operates. The grant covers three programs, the CDBG Small Cities program, the Disaster Recovery Initiative, and the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). The programs are federally funded. The eligible activities are broad but each program must benefit low or moderate income person, while meeting certain other requirements.

Short Break

The meeting took a 15 minute break. Laura Herbert invited local mitigation strategy members to remain on the line if they desired.

Brainstorming Activity

Laura Herbert presented the compiled information from the state agencies gathered after the last meeting. The information showed the needs and desires of the various state

agencies that participated and allows DEM staff to understand where potential planning resources could be allocated.

Risk and Vulnerability Subgroup

Laura Herbert shared information from the first meeting of the Risk and Vulnerability Subgroup on March 18th. The group discussed methodology and proposed improvements to the risk assessment section of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP). The subgroup would like to expand the participation to include other parties outside of DEM. The next meeting is scheduled for May 10th at 10 AM.

Section 7 Improvements

Laura Herbert discussed the desired improvements to Section 7: Severe Repetitive Loss Outreach Strategy of the SHMP. DEM has partnered with the Florida State University Department of Urban and Regional Planning to produce a comprehensive outreach strategy and give general recommendations for the improvement of Section 7 through the identification of best practices and examples.

Other interns at DEM are working on gathering best practices for improving the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and flood management sections of the LMS. The result will be to improve the flood management section of each LMS beyond the basic requirements currently in place.

Presentation on Sea Level Rise Study Grant – Julie Dennis, Department of Community Affairs, Planning Analyst

Julie Dennis was introduced as a planning analyst from the Department of Community Affairs. Ms. Dennis discussed the program that is being implemented to address issues of increased community vulnerability due to sea level rise. The program identifies protection, accommodation, and retreat as mitigation activities that could be included in the next SHMP. The program addresses Objective 4.3 in the SHMP and is a five year project.

SITE Report

Laura Herbert gave a brief overview of the SITE report. Ms. Herbert identified some of the challenges and benefits of SITE.

Loss Avoidance Analysis – Joy Duperault, State Floodplain Manager

Joy Duperault took a few minutes to acknowledge and applaud the work done by Carly Cermak (ARCADIS) and Luz Bossanyi (DEM) in the creation of loss avoidance calculators which can be used in post-disaster assessments. The tool was presented to the nation at the HMA Summit and may be used to estimate the net-present value of mitigation initiatives. It will be beta tested during the next possible disaster situation.

Next meeting is July 12, from 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM.