

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NEEDED



ESSEX COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN SURVEY

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The Essex County Office of Emergency Services is in the process of updating the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) in partnership with CHLOETA—a third-party environmental, risk mitigation, and infrastructure management consulting firm. Hazard mitigation planning helps local leaders better understand risks from natural and non-natural hazards, promoting the development of long-term strategies to reduce the effects of disaster-related events and their negative impact on people, property, and environment. Essex County is seeking feedback from stakeholders and the public to incorporate into the plan.

WHAT IS A HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN & WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

A hazard mitigation plan (HMP) is “the representation of the jurisdiction’s commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards, serving as a guide for decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards” (44 CFR 201.6). This plan establishes and maintains county eligibility for hazard mitigation grant funding. This plan creates a framework for the county to reduce negative impacts from future disasters on lives, property, and the local economy. Better yet, efficient hazard mitigation planning can significantly reduce the physical, financial, and emotional losses caused by both natural and non-natural disasters. Public participation in the Essex County Hazard Mitigation Plan will result in more effective risk reduction projects and a faster, more efficient funding allocation.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING IN ESSEX COUNTY

Public participation in the Essex County Hazard Mitigation Plan is an opportunity for county residents to evaluate a variety of potential hazards affecting county residents. This plan provides Essex County and participating municipalities eligibility for future FEMA hazard mitigation funding. The goal of this plan is to better identify hazards and projects that can reduce damages from future natural and man-made hazards. It will include a risk assessment featuring natural hazards (like flooding, wildfires, earthquakes, severe weather, volcanic activity, drought, and landslides) and non-natural hazards (like hazardous material incidents, terrorism, infrastructure failures, transportation incidents, communication failures, airplane crashes, Active Shooter Incidents, and Pandemics).

WHY PARTICIPATE IN ESSEX COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING?

- ↑ Increased awareness of Essex County risks & vulnerabilities
- ↓ Reduction of hazard impacts (safeguards lives & property, protects local economy)
- 👥 Creation of more resilient communities; bounce-back from disasters faster!

PUBLIC OPEN COMMENT: ESSEX COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

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TAKE THE SURVEY

