CHAPTER FOUR
Plan Integration and Maintenance

Authority, Responsibility and Implementation

Glynn County, the City of Brunswick, and the Jekyll Island Authority will adopt this plan and assign specific mitigation action steps to the appropriate persons and agencies identified in the two proceeding chapters. Once adopted, the plan faces the truest test of its worth: implementation. It is not the desire of the committee to have this plan become a plan in name only. Low or no-cost actions most easily demonstrate progress toward successful plan implementation. Implementation will be accomplished by adhering to the schedules identified for each action and through constant, pervasive and energetic efforts to network and highlight the multi-objective, win-win benefits of each action to the County and City. This plan can be implemented by being incorporated into other County and City plans and mechanisms. Mitigation is most successful when it is incorporated into the day-to-day functions and priorities of government and development. Implementation through existing plans and/or programs is recommended, where possible. The County and City already have existing policies and programs to reduce losses to life and property from natural hazards. This plan builds upon the momentum developed through previous and related planning efforts and mitigation programs and recommends implementing projects, where possible, through these other program mechanisms.

These efforts include the routine actions of monitoring, attending meetings, and promoting a safe, sustainable community. The four main components of implementation are:

- IMPLEMENT the action plan recommendations of this plan;
- UTILIZE existing rules, regulations, policies and procedures already in existence;
- COMMUNICATE the hazard information collected and analyzed through this planning process so that the community better understands what can happen, where, and what they can do themselves to be better prepared. Also, publicize
the “success stories” that are achieved through the committee’s ongoing efforts; and

- **BE PROACTIVE** by constantly monitoring funding opportunities that could be leveraged to implement some of the more costly actions. This will include creating and maintaining a bank of ideas on how to meet required local match or participation requirements. When funding does become available, the committee will be in a position to capitalize on the opportunity. Funding opportunities to be monitored include special pre- and post-disaster funds, special district budgeted funds, state and federal earmarked funds, and other grant programs, including those that can serve or support multi-objective applications.

These other entities are and will remain as major partners in the successful implementation of this plan. They participated in the plan development.

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**Reporting**

The Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) will be tasked with plan implementation and maintenance. The committee will be led by the Glynn County Emergency Management Agency. This agency was formerly part of the Glynn County Police Department but as of July 1, 2015 was split out as an independent entity. The committee will act as an advisory body. Its primary duty is to see the plan successfully carried out and to report to Glynn County the City of Brunswick, the Jekyll Island Authority and the public on the status of plan implementation and mitigation opportunities. The Committee agrees to:

- Act as a forum for hazard mitigation issues;
- Disseminate hazard mitigation ideas and activities to all interested parties;
- Pursue the implementation of all high-priority, low/no-cost recommended actions;
- Keep the concept of mitigation in the forefront of community decision making by identifying plan goals and objectives when other community plans and activities
overlap, influence, or directly affect increased community vulnerability to disasters;

- Maintain a vigilant monitoring of funding opportunities to help the community implement the plan’s recommended actions for which no current funding exists;
- Monitor and assist in implementation and update of this plan;
- Support committee members involved in updates to plans and ordinances integrating the recommendations of this plan, as appropriate;
- Report on plan progress and recommended changes to Glynn County, the City of Brunswick, the Jekyll Island Authority; and
- Inform and solicit input from the public.

**Multi-Jurisdictional Strategy And Considerations**

Goals, Objectives and Action Steps detailed in this plan are applicable to, and will be implemented within, all jurisdictions party to this plan. This Plan was developed as a result of the cooperative efforts of three local government jurisdictions and the mitigation strategies were created in such way as to be applicable to each area.

**Plan Update And Maintenance**

Plan maintenance implies an ongoing effort to monitor and evaluate plan implementation and to update the plan as required or as progress, roadblocks, or changing circumstances are recognized.

In order to track progress and update the mitigation strategies identified in the action plan, the committee will revisit this plan quarterly or after a significant hazard event or disaster declaration. The EMA is responsible for initiating this review and convening members of the committee.

This plan will be updated, approved and adopted within a five-year cycle as per Requirement §201.6(c) (4) (i) of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Assuming the same cycle remains in place, with the initial approval of this plan is occurring in late in 2015, the plan will need to be updated, re-approved by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency and FEMA and adopted by Glynn County the City of Brunswick, the Jekyll Island Authority no later than September of 2020.

**Evaluation Methods and Timeframe**

Updates to this plan will follow the latest GEMA and FEMA planning guidance. Evaluation of progress can be achieved by monitoring changes in vulnerabilities identified in the plan. Changes in vulnerability can be identified by noting:

- Decreased vulnerability as a result of implementing recommended actions,
- Increased vulnerability as a result of failed or ineffective mitigation actions, and/or
Increased vulnerability as a result of new development.

The committee will use the following process to evaluate progress and any changes in vulnerability as a result of plan implementation:

- A representative from the responsible entity identified in each mitigation measure will be responsible for tracking and reporting on an annual basis to the committee on project status and provide input on whether the actions as implemented meets the defined objectives and is likely to be successful in reducing vulnerabilities.
- New actions may be identified and require an individual to be assigned to be responsible for implementing the action and monitoring success of the action.
- Threats that were not included in this plan will be reviewed as well during the monitoring and update of this plan to determine the need for future mitigation.
- Changes will be made to the plan to accommodate for actions that have failed or are not considered feasible after a review for their consistency with established criteria, the time frame, priorities, and/or funding resources.

Updates to this plan have:

- Considered changes in vulnerability due to project implementation;
- Identified areas where mitigation actions were not effective;
- Documented new hazards that may arise or were previously overlooked;
- Documented hazard events and impacts that occurred within the five-year period;
- Incorporated new data or studies on hazards and risks;
- Incorporated documentation of continued public involvement;
- Incorporate growth and development-related changes to building inventories;
- Incorporate new project recommendations or changes in project prioritization;
- Include a public involvement process to receive public comment on the updated plan prior to submitting the updated plan to GEMA/FEMA; and
- Include re-adoption by all participating entities following GEMA/FEMA approval.

Continued public involvement is also imperative to the overall success of the plan's implementation. The update process provides an opportunity to solicit better participation from the public and new and existing stakeholders; to publicize success stories from the plan implementation and seek additional public comment. When the update process begins, the committee plans to disseminate information through a variety of media channels and receive public comment on any proposed plan revisions. The 2015 draft will be distributed through a website or an interactive portal that allows for convenient comment interchange as well as offered through meetings, press releases, libraries and local news media. Comments will then be addressed and incorporated as appropriate.

Prioritization

The methodology for prioritizing the action steps in Chapter Three is based on considerations using the STAPLEE criteria method and local expertise and concerns.
The STAPLEE concept was utilized as a useful addition to local expertise and concerns in developing priority ratings.

The elements of this plan are incorporated into the review actions of the Glynn County Development Review Team and the City of Brunswick planning staff.

The plan mentions as action items involving the LEPC in meeting with targeted sites identified in Appendix G to review their mitigation measures and suggest improvements as appropriate. This will begin upon approval of this document.

**Conclusion**

The Comprehensive Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan includes resources and information to assist local residents, public and private business organizations, and others interested in participating in planning for natural hazards. This Mitigation Plan provides a series of Goals, Objectives, and Action Steps that may assist Glynn County, the City of Brunswick, the Jekyll Island Authority and others in reducing risk and preventing loss from future natural hazard events. The Action Steps addressing natural hazard issues such as activities for coastal storms, hurricanes, coastal erosion, extreme heat, floods, hailstorms, severe winter storms, tornadoes, wildfires, windstorms, and severe thunderstorms. Based upon the entity that will work to make the plan an active living document, Action Steps addressing human-caused hazard issues are also provided for in this Plan and include activities for conventional bombs, chemical agents, nuclear bombs, radiological agents, arson/incendiary attacks, armed attacks, biological agents, cyber-terrorism, agro-terrorism, intentional releases of hazardous materials, industrial accidents, and failure of critical infrastructure components were also included.