

# Section 21: Plan Implementation and Maintenance Procedures

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## Implementation

This section discusses how this Hazard Mitigation Plan will be implemented by participating jurisdictions and the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. It also addresses how the Plan will be evaluated and improved over time and how the public will continue to be involved in the hazard mitigation planning process.

Each participating City and County will be responsible for implementing its own Mitigation Action Plan contained in Section 20. Each action has been assigned to a specific person or local government office that is responsible for implementing it. The governing bodies of each participating jurisdiction have adopted the Mitigation Action Plan for their jurisdictions. The GBRA Board has also approved the Plan. Copies of the governing body resolutions are contained in Appendix F.

A funding source has been listed for each identified action. This source may be used when the jurisdiction begins to seek funds to implement the action. An implementation time period or a specific implementation date also has been assigned to each action as an incentive for seeing the action through to completion and to gauge whether actions are timely implemented.

Participating jurisdictions will integrate implementation of their Mitigation Action Plans with other, existing planning mechanisms such as capital improvement plans, long range growth plans, master stormwater and drainage plans, and regional planning efforts. Jurisdictions will ensure that the actions contained in the Mitigation Action Plans are reflected in these other planning efforts. These other planning efforts will be used to advance the mitigation strategies of the jurisdictions.

Upon formal adoption of the Plan, hazard mitigation team members from each jurisdiction will review all comprehensive land use plans, capital improvement plans, transportation plans, and any





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building codes to guide and control development. The hazard mitigation team members will submit recommended hazard mitigation strategies to their respective jurisdictions for incorporation into these other plans and codes, as applicable. Each jurisdiction will conduct periodic reviews of their comprehensive and land use plans and policies and analyze the need for any amendments in light of the approved Hazard Mitigation Plan. Participating jurisdictions will ensure that capital improvement planning in the future will also contribute to the goals of this Hazard Mitigation Plan to reduce the long-term risk to life and property from all hazards. Within one year of formal adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, existing planning mechanisms will be reviewed by each jurisdiction.

The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, working with the cities and counties in the basin, is committed to implement the basin-wide Mitigation Action Plans contained in Section 19. The River Authority will review and revise, as necessary, the long-range goals and objectives in its strategic plan and budgets to ensure that they are consistent with this Mitigation Action Plan. The River Authority works with participating jurisdictions to advance the goals of this Hazard Mitigation Plan and will oversee implementation of actions. Similarly, the River Authority will implement the mitigation action plans for which it is responsible, through its routine, ongoing, long-range planning, budgeting, and work processes.

## Evaluation and Enhancement

Periodic revisions and updates of the Plan are required to ensure that the goals, objectives, and Mitigation Action Plans for the Guadalupe River Basin are kept current. More important, revisions may be necessary to ensure that the Plan is in full compliance with federal regulations and state statutes. This portion of the Plan outlines the procedures for completing such revisions and updates.

## Monitoring and Five Year Plan Review

Hazard mitigation team members from each jurisdiction are responsible for continual monitoring of those components of the Hazard Mitigation Plan that pertains to their jurisdiction. As part of the monitoring process, team members will assess any changes in risk; determine whether implementation of mitigation actions is on schedule or if there are any implementation problems, such as technical, political, legal or coordination issues; and reflect changes in land development or programs that affect mitigation priorities or actions. On an annual basis, participating jurisdictions will notify GBRA of any needed changes in the Plan based upon their monitoring activities.





This Mitigation Action Plan will be formally reviewed every five years to determine whether there have been significant changes in the Guadalupe River Basin that might affect the Plan and will be updated based on the findings. The five-year review and update will be conducted by participating jurisdictions under the auspices of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. Increased development, increased exposure to certain hazards, the development of new mitigation capabilities or techniques, and revisions to federal or state legislation are examples of changes that may affect the currency of the Plan. The review and update also will give community officials an opportunity to evaluate successful actions and to explore the possibility of documenting losses avoided because of actions taken. The Plan also will need to be revised to reflect lessons learned following a disaster declaration or to address specific circumstances arising from changing conditions surrounding disaster events. Criteria to be included in the evaluation will include, at a minimum:

- The goals and objectives address current and expected conditions;
- The nature, magnitude, and/or type of risks have changed;
- The current resources are appropriate for implementing the Plan;
- There are implementation problems, such as technical, political, legal, or coordination issues with other agencies;
- The outcomes have occurred as expected; and,
- The agencies and other partners participated as originally proposed.

The five-year review and update will begin in January 2008 and be completed by September 30, 2008 with the issuance of a revised Plan. As part of the plan review and update process, participating jurisdictions will be responsible for reviewing each goal and objective to determine their continued relevance; reviewing the risk assessment portion of the Plan to determine if the information should be updated or modified; reporting on the status of each of their mitigation actions; reporting on which implementation processes worked well, any difficulties encountered, how coordination efforts are proceeding, and which mitigation actions should be revised; and evaluating the effectiveness of their mitigation action Plans and recommend changes or amendments. The results of the review will be summarized in a formal report issued by GBRA that will include an evaluation of the effectiveness and appropriateness of the Plan, and will recommend required or desirable changes. The Plan will then be updated based on the results of the formal review, and will be forwarded to the State and FEMA for review and approval, as required to remain eligible for the mitigation funding.

As part of the five-year plan update, depending upon resource availability, a review will be undertaken of development trends in each jurisdiction and vulnerability. Also as part of the five-year plan update, depending upon resource availability, a review will be undertaken for each hazard of the type and number of existing and future buildings, infrastructure and critical facilities within each hazard area, and an estimate will be undertaken of the vulnerability of critical facilities and infrastructure in terms of potential dollar losses from each hazard. Also depending upon resource





availability, land uses and development trends will also be re-examined, including the types of development occurring, location, expected intensity, and pace by land use for each jurisdiction. This will help complete and improve future vulnerability assessment efforts. Based on the analysis, a summary of vulnerability will be provided for participating jurisdictions below the county level.

## Plan Amendments

At any time, minor technical changes may be made to the Plan to keep it up to date. However, any changes to the mitigation actions or major changes in the overall direction of the Plan or the policies contained within it must be subject to formal adoption by the participating jurisdictions.

After initial adoption, any amendment to the Mitigation Actions contained in Section 20 must also be approved by the governing body of the participating city or county and submitted to GBRA for inclusion in an amended Plan.

Any amendment to the Plan must undergo an open public process. The city or county proposing the amendment is responsible for gathering public input. Input on a proposed amendment will be sought during a formal review and comment period of not less than 30-days. The proposed change will be also posted on the GBRA's website.

At the end of the comment period, the proposed amendment and all comments will be forwarded to the Governing Body of the proposing jurisdiction for consideration. If no comments are received from the reviewing parties within the specified review period, this will also be noted. The Governing Body will then review the proposed amendment and comments received, and vote to accept, reject, or amend the proposed change. The public will have an opportunity to provide input during the Governing Body meeting at which the request is considered. Upon ratification, the amendment will be transmitted to GBRA for inclusion in the overall Plan and to the State Division of Emergency Management.

In determining whether to recommend approval or denial of a Plan amendment request, the following factors will be considered:

- There are errors or omissions made in the identification of issues or needs during the preparation of the Plan;
- New issues or needs have been identified which were not adequately addressed in the Plan;





- There has been a change in information, data, or assumptions from those on which the Plan was based.

## Continued Public Involvement

Public input was an integral part of the preparation of this Plan and will continue to be essential as the Plan grows and changes. As with any officially adopted plan or ordinance, a significant change to this Plan shall require an opportunity for the public to make its views known.

This Hazard Mitigation Action Plan will be posted continuously on the website of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, where the public is invited to provide ongoing feedback. Copies of the Plan also will be kept in each jurisdiction and at the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority for public inspection and review. The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority is located at 933 East Court Street, Seguin, Texas 78155.

