

## **Chapter 10 - Adoption and Implementation**

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### ***Adoption Process***

#### **Public Review and Comment**

Several avenues were used to disseminate the draft plan for public review and comment. First, CD copies of the plan were distributed to each local municipality. A printed version was placed at each library in the County and in the County Emergency Manager's office. The draft plan was posted on NEMCOG's web site. A newspaper article and notice informed county residents of the completed draft plan, where it could be reviewed and when the County Board of Commissioners would be considering approval.

#### **Adoption**

*County Board of Commissioners*  
Townships  
Cities and Villages

Upon final approval of this plan by Federal Emergency Management Agency this hazard mitigation plan will be presented to the Montmorency County Board of Commissioners, and transmitted to the Hillman Village Council and to the Boards of Trustees for each Township. Copies of these resolutions will be included at the end of this chapter.

During development of this plan a presentation was made to the Montmorency County Chapter of the Michigan Township Association. Local officials from all of the townships were present at the meeting. The purpose of these presentations was to describe the hazard mitigation planning process, conclusions and identify possible projects and actions.

### ***Plan Implementation***

#### **Roles and Responsibilities**

The primary entities responsible for implementing the Hazard Mitigation Plan are the Montmorency County Board of Commissioners and the Montmorency County Emergency Management Office. A Hazard Mitigation Committee (HMC), was formed from members of the County LEPC, and will be the local group responsible for overseeing implementation of this plan. The Local Emergency Management Committee (LEPC) is organized under Michigan SARA Title III Program and meets on a regular basis to carry out its duties. Roles related to the HMC may need to be defined by the committee and could include establishing an annual work plan, supporting grant writing to seek funding to complete specific projects, monitoring mitigations activities, evaluating the need for new projects, amending the plan to add new projects and functioning as a clearing house for mitigation grant applications.

It is understood that current resources, both staff and financial, may not accommodate this expanded role of the Montmorency LEPC and Montmorency Emergency Management Office. The County Board of Commissioners will need to evaluate funding and staffing required to implement the Montmorency Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Working partnerships with the following agencies and organizations will strengthen the County's hazard mitigation program.

Montmorency County Departments  
Townships in Montmorency County

Township Fire Departments  
Montmorency County Conservation District  
Montmorency County Road Commission  
Northeast Michigan Council of Governments  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
U.S. Forest Service  
Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service  
Michigan Department of Agricultural  
Natural Resource Conservation Service  
District Health Department  
American Red Cross  
Insurance Companies  
Real Estate Companies  
Local Businesses  
Civic Groups and Churches

### **Capability Assessment**

Presently, staff and financial resources are limited in the communities. For example, none of the communities have planners, foresters, floodplain managers, public works engineers, transportation engineers, and civil engineers on staff. All communities provide fire and rescue services either on their own or under a cooperative arrangement. Montmorency County has no zoning enforced at the county level. All townships and the Village of Hillman have their own zoning ordinances. These entities have planning commissions, but do not have planners on staff. Communities have a zoning administrator, planning commission and zoning board of appeals that administer their zoning. The planning commissions are responsible for overseeing the master plan, recreation plan and zoning ordinance.

The Township Boards, Village Council and County Board are the governing bodies responsible for managing finances and making policy decisions. The Village of Hillman has a manager and staff to support day to day operations. Other than fire and rescue activities, townships have limited or no staff.

The County has an active and strong Emergency Management Office. The County operates a countywide 911 system. The Montmorency County Sheriff Department operates under the county board of commissioners. Montmorency County has an elected drain commissioner who works with communities and landowners on drainage and flooding issues. The County Road Commission manages the local road network in conjunction with townships. The Michigan Department of Transportation is responsible for State and Federal highways.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has foresters on staff to conduct forest and fuels management on public lands. Forest management assistance on private land is limited to forestry consultants and the county conservation district. Agencies and local units of government have fire suppression crews. All entities provide some level of prevention and education activities. However, additional staff and financial resources would be needed to implement this comprehensive hazard mitigation plan.

The communities have limited capability of implementing action items in the plan and will use a combination of staff, elected officials, appointed officials (planning commissions) and contractual services. Given current budget constraints it is not likely communities will be "staffing up" in the

near future. Instead they will use contractual and temporary if necessary to complete hazard mitigation strategies.

### ***Process for Monitoring, Evaluating and Updating***

#### **Monitoring**

The Montmorency County Hazard Mitigation Committee and the Montmorency County Emergency Management Office will monitor implementation of the Mitigation Plan. This may include reviewing reports from agencies involved in implementing projects or activities; providing a staff person responsible for overseeing the plan, conducting site visits and meetings concerning mitigation project activities; preparing an annual mitigation activity report for the County Board of Commissioners. This will be done during the five-year update or more often if deemed necessary.

#### **Evaluation**

The Montmorency County Hazard Mitigation Committee and the Montmorency County Emergency Management Office will be responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of the plan. This will be done during the five-year update or more often if deemed necessary.

The evaluation should assess whether:

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 any problems with implementation.

There have been favorable outcomes

Agencies and other partners participated as originally expected.

#### **Update**

The Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) of 2000 requires the Montmorency County Hazard Mitigation Plan be updated every five years. This may include updating community profiles, examining goals, redoing the hazard analysis and revisiting the project list. *In order to properly update the plan, Montmorency County will need to seek funding from appropriate state and federal agencies.* It may be necessary to examine the project each year and as projects are completed and new mitigation projects are identified, the list would be updated. Any update would require public comment, county approval, local jurisdictional approval if projects are located or proposed in a particular township, and approval by the State of Michigan and FEMA.

### ***Process to Incorporate into Local Planning Activities***

Montmorency County, Village of Hillman townships, as well as, local and state agencies will consider integrating information from the Hazard Mitigation as their perspective comprehensive and operations plans. When the county updates the master plan it will consider incorporating appropriate hazard mitigation information into the master plan. As a part of the education and outreach aspect of the hazard mitigation effort, communities will be encouraged to adopt zoning regulations that will minimize effects of hazards.

### ***Ongoing Public Participation***

Montmorency County is committed to involving the public in the implementing and updating of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Copies of the plan will be available at county libraries, county clerk's office and all township offices. The plan contains the address and phone number of the Emergency Management Office, which will be responsible for keeping a record of public comments on the plan.

Copies of the plan will be posted on a community web site or regional planning agency web site. The web page will contain the mailing address, phone number and email address of the appropriate contact person.

During the update process of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, the committee will advertise and facilitate a public meeting to obtain input and guidance from the general public, businesses, townships and agencies. A notice will be posted to advertise any meeting of the Hazard Mitigation Committee where the committee is reviewing and/or updating the mitigation plan.

***Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption Resolution***

WHEREAS, Montmorency County, Michigan has experienced disasters that have damaged commercial, residential, and public properties, displaced citizens and businesses, closed streets and bridges, and presented general public health and safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, Montmorency County has prepared a *Hazard Mitigation Plan* that outlines the County's options to reduce overall damage and impact from natural hazards; and

WHEREAS, the *Hazard Mitigation Plan* has been reviewed by County residents, business owners, and federal state, and local agencies, and has been revised to reflect their concerns;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**

The *Montmorency County Hazard Mitigation Plan* is hereby adopted as an official plan of Montmorency County, Michigan.

A hazard mitigation planning Committee is hereby established as a permanent county advisory body. The County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) shall function as the Hazard Mitigation Committee. The Committee's duties shall be designated in the *Hazard Mitigation Plan*.

The Hazard Mitigation Committee is charged with supervising implementation of the Plan's recommendations within the funding limitations as provided by the Montmorency County Board of Commissioners or other sources.

The Hazard Mitigation Committee shall give priority attention to action items recommended by the *Hazard Mitigation Plan* as high priority. :

The Hazard Mitigation Committee's facilitator shall convene the Hazard Mitigation Committee at least once per year. The Committee shall monitor implementation of the plan and shall submit a written progress report to the County Board of Commissioners in accordance with the following format:

- A review of the original plan.
- A review of any disasters or emergencies that occurred during the previous calendar year.
- A review of the actions taken, including what was accomplished during the previous year.
- A discussion of any implementation problems.
- Recommendations for new projects or revised action items. Such recommendations shall be subject to approval by the County Board of Commissioners.

Passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_