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# 2023 Polk County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Kickoff Meeting

April 26, 2023

# Welcome!



UNIVERSITY OF  
OREGON

Institute for Policy  
Research and Engagement



# Kickoff Meeting Goals & Objectives

- ▷ Explain the natural hazard mitigation planning process
- ▷ Review the benefits of developing a multi-jurisdictional natural hazard mitigation plan (NHMP)
- ▷ Provide a timeline for the NHMP update project
- ▷ Review the 2017 Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional NHMP
- ▷ Discuss public outreach strategies
- ▷ Outline what participants can expect next

# Agenda

- ▷ **Introductions**
- ▷ NHMP Overview
- ▷ Project Timeline
- ▷ Mission & Goals
- ▷ Public Outreach Strategy
- ▷ Wrap Up & Next Steps



# Introductions

1) Name → 2) Organization → 3) Experience  
with natural hazard mitigation

# Next Up

- ▷ Introductions
- ▷ **NHMP Overview**
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# Natural Hazards





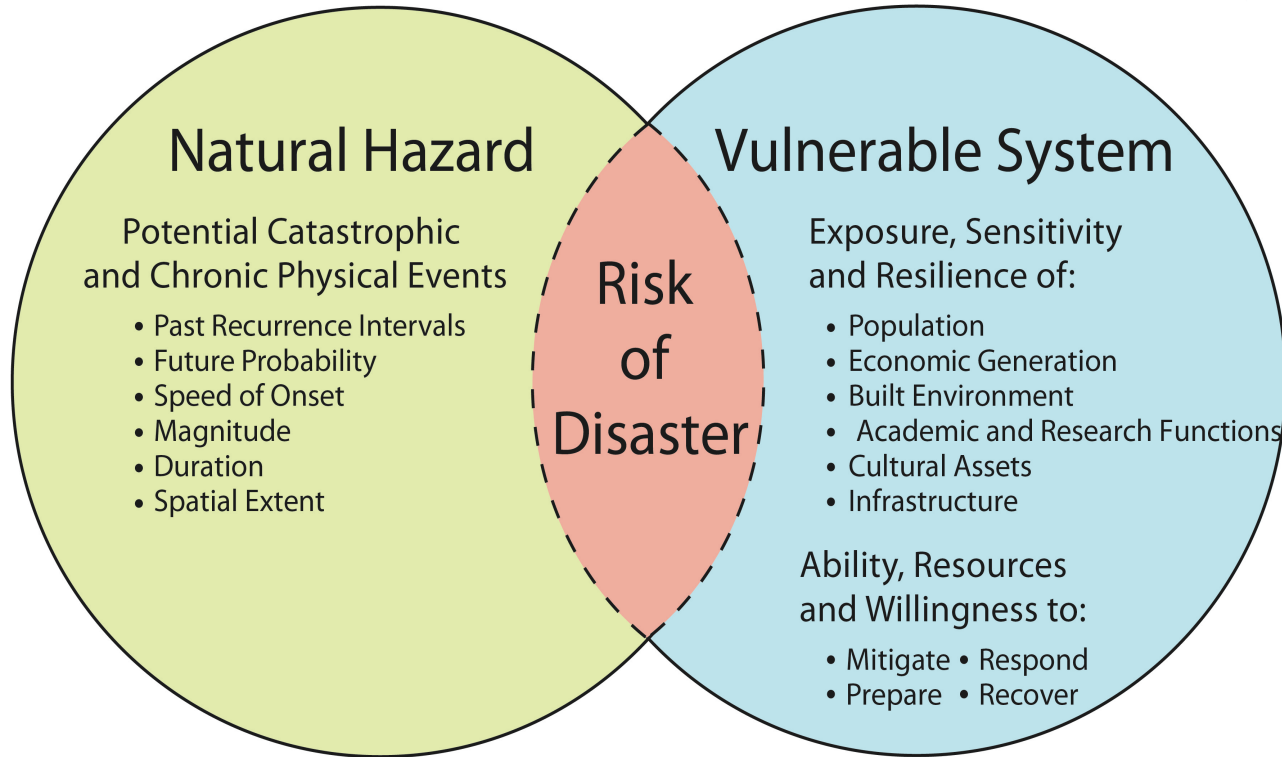
*Mitigation is any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life & property from a hazard event.*

*-FEMA*



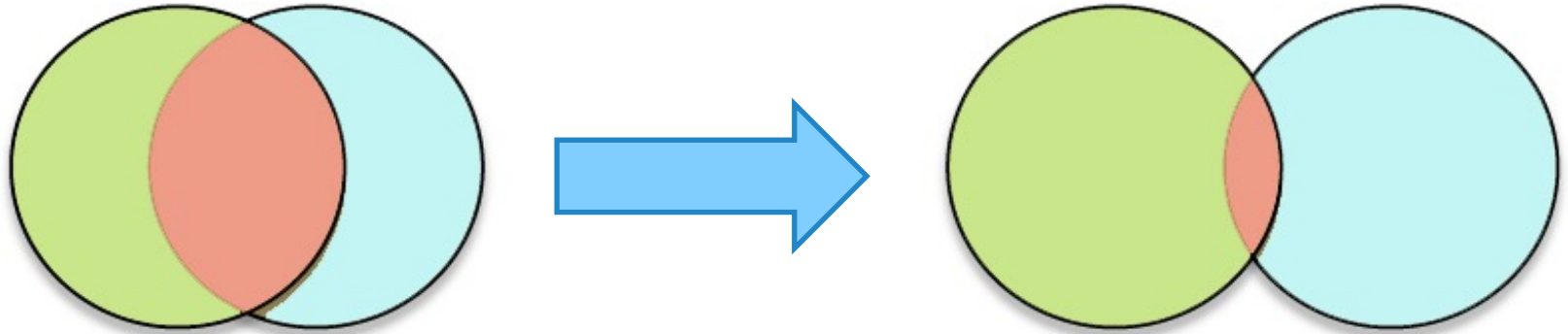
# So where does mitigation fit in to resilience more broadly?





Source: USGS- Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience Research Collaboration, 2006

# What does mitigation aim to do?



# Benefits of Mitigation Planning

- ▷ Build awareness of risks, sensitivities, and vulnerabilities
- ▷ Reduce hazard impacts
- ▷ Save lives, property, and money
- ▷ Form new inter-community partnerships
- ▷ Make communities more resilient and support their rapid recovery after a hazard event
- ▷ A more proactive and less expensive rather than reactive response to hazards
- ▷ Become eligible for federal mitigation funding

# Mitigation Funding Opportunities

## FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

- Post-disaster mitigation projects
- HMGP Post-Fire Assistance for communities after a major wildfire is declared

## FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

- Pre-disaster mitigation projects






## FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- Aims to reduce the risk of flood damage to NFIP-insured buildings

## OEM Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)

- OEM applies to FEMA on behalf of local and tribal governments
- Other requirements include having an assigned emergency manager, adopted an EOP, etc. (more detail on OEM's website)

# Mitigation pays!

	Adopt Code	Above Code	Building Retrofit	Lifeline Retrofit	Federal Grants
<b>Overall Benefit-Cost Ratio</b>	11:1	4:1	4:1	4:1	6:1
<b>Cost (\$ Billion)</b>	\$1/Y	\$4/Y	\$520	\$0.6	\$27
<b>Benefit (\$ Billion)</b>	\$13/Y	\$16/Y	\$2200	\$2.5	\$160
 <b>Riverine Flood</b>	<b>6:1</b>	<b>5:1</b>	<b>6:1</b>	<b>8:1</b>	<b>7:1</b>
 <b>Hurricane Surge</b>	N/A	<b>7:1</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
 <b>Wind</b>	<b>10:1</b>	<b>5:1</b>	<b>6:1</b>	<b>7:1</b>	<b>5:1</b>
 <b>Earthquake</b>	<b>12:1</b>	<b>4:1</b>	<b>13:1</b>	<b>3:1</b>	<b>3:1</b>
 <b>Wildland-Urban Interface Fire</b>	N/A	<b>4:1</b>	<b>2:1</b>	N/A	<b>3:1</b>

Source: The National Institute of Building Sciences

Jason Gately,  
Oregon Department of  
Emergency Management



# Why do hazard mitigation planning?

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- Evaluate hazards, vulnerabilities, and capabilities
- Develop strategies and recommended actions for reducing vulnerabilities
- Establish and maintain eligibility for FEMA mitigation grant funding, i.e., Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) which is comprised of:
  - Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
  - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)





## Points in favor of special districts being part of a multi-jurisdictional natural hazards mitigation plan (MJ-NHMP)

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- Building or improving relationships with the other jurisdictions that are part of the MJ-NHMP will likely pay dividends.
- Special districts can “lean on” the risk assessment of the overall planning area (but must still show how their risk differs from the overall planning area).
- Special districts can also lean on the overall planning process including public involvement.



# Contact information

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# NHMP Elements



# Step 1:

## Community Profile

- ▷ Polk County profile
  - Natural Environment
  - Socio-Demographic
  - Economic
  - Built Environment
  - Community Connectivity
  - Political

Step 2:



Risk  
Assessment

▷ Multi-jurisdictional Risk Assessment:

For multi-jurisdictional plans, the risk assessment must assess each jurisdiction's risks where they vary from the risks facing the entire planning area.

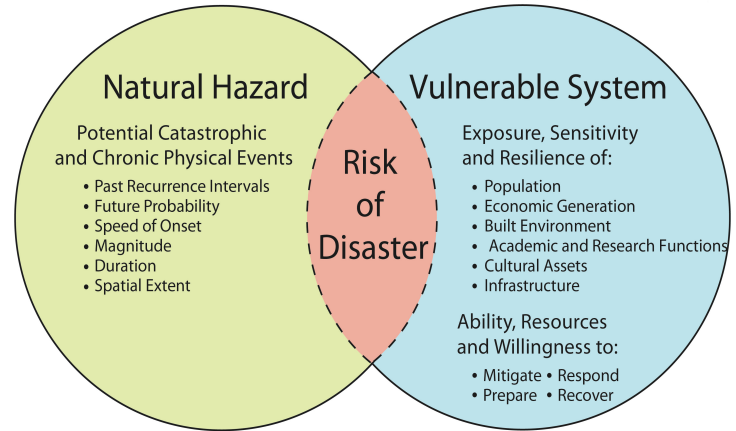
# Step 3:



- ▶ Multi-jurisdictional Mitigation Strategy: For multi-jurisdictional plans, there must be identifiable action items specific to the jurisdiction requesting FEMA approval or credit of the plan.



## Understanding Risk



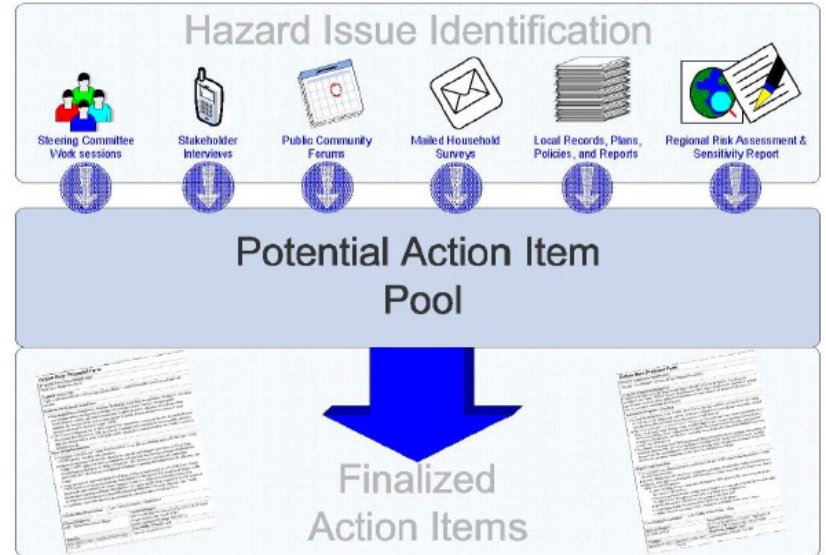
Source: USGS- Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience Research Collaboration, 2006

# Step 4:

## Action Items

- ▶ Previous action items and progress
- ▶ New mitigation actions for Polk County communities
- ▶ Mitigation action items will be developed for all participating local governments

Figure 4-1 Development of Action Items

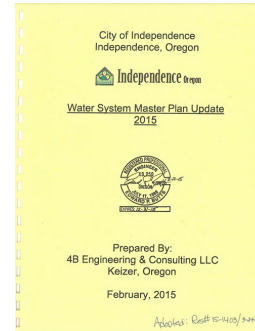


Copyright 2008 The Partnership for Disaster Resilience – Community Service Center, University of Oregon

# Step 4 (continued):

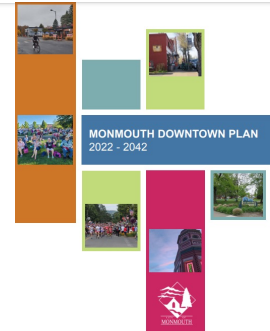
## Policy Crosswalk

- ▶ Identifies elements of existing plans & policies that support mitigation actions & strategies
- ▶ Example plans:
  - Comprehensive Plans
  - Strategic Plans
  - Capital Improvement Plans
  - Climate Action Plans
  - Emergency Operations Plans
  - Transportation Systems Plans
  - Master Water/Wastewater/Stormwater Plans



### Polk County Transportation Systems Plan

December 2009





## Step 5:



### Plan Maintenance

- ▷ Adoption
- ▷ Implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and updating
- ▷ Continued public involvement
  
- ▷ This is the doing part!

# Step 6:

Addenda

- ▶ Hazard mitigation meetings & work sessions
- ▶ Hazard quantification
- ▶ Mitigation projects
- ▶ Plan implementation & maintenance

Figure AA-5 Special Flood Hazard Area



Source: [Oregon HazVu: Statewide Geohazards Viewer \(DOGAMI\)](#)

Note: To view detail click the link above to access Oregon HazVu.

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# Two-Phase Approach



First

Update Phase

Second

Review Phase

First

# Update Phase



## Second

# Review Phase



\*OEM and FEMA Reviews can take up to 45 days but may be shorter (especially for OEM's review).

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# Polk County 2017 NHMP Mission:

To assist in reducing risk, preventing loss, and protecting life, property, and the environment from future natural hazard events. The plan fosters collaboration and coordinated partnerships among public and private partners. This can be achieved by increasing public awareness and education and identifying activities to guide the county towards building a safer community.



# Polk County 2017 NHMP Goals

Public  
Education &  
Awareness

Preventive &  
Implementation

Collaboration &  
Coordination

Funding &  
Partnerships

Emergency  
Operations

Natural  
Resources  
Utilization

# Mission & Goals Updates?

- ▷ Anything you think should be added or changed in the mission?
- ▷ Any additional goals or changes to the goals?

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# Public Outreach Strategy

- ▷ Community events
- ▷ Interviews
- ▷ News/media
- ▷ Surveys
- ▷ Roundtables/forums
- ▷ Social Media
- ▷ Area-specific meetings
- ▷ Websites

# Public Outreach Strategy

- ▷ What outreach strategies work in your community?
- ▷ Any recent public outreach successes with other plans?

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# Homework



## Review Your Plans

Please review:

- a) Your jurisdiction's action items from the 2017 NHMP (if applicable), and
- b) Any additional plans approved in your jurisdiction (e.g, Master Water/Wastewater Plans, Comprehensive Plans, etc.) that might be relevant to mitigating natural hazards.



## Check In on Action Item Progress & Mitigation Survey

Get an idea of where each of your jurisdiction's NHMP action items stands. You may need to check in with other departments/partners.

Complete the Google form documenting mitigation successes, grants received, and disasters experienced.



## Think About Future Action Items

Considering the natural hazards that your community has faced since the 2017 NHMP was approved, how might those action items be improved?

# Links for “Homework”

1. [tinyurl.com/PolkNHMPActions](https://tinyurl.com/PolkNHMPActions)
2. [tinyurl.com/PolkNHMPSurvey](https://tinyurl.com/PolkNHMPSurvey)

Please complete both forms by Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>



# Thanks!

## Any questions?

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# Credits

Special thanks to:

- ▶ [SlidesCarnival](#) for the presentation template
- ▶ Gary Halvorson, Oregon State Archives, for the Polk County photographs