

**HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: June 1st, 2020

SUBJECT: **Hazard Mitigation Plan Approval**

PRESENTER: Jimmy Brissie, Emergency Services Director

ATTACHMENTS: (2) Resolution
Action Items

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The South Mountains Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed in cooperation with Henderson, Polk, Rutherford and Transylvania Counties along with the municipalities within the region. The planning team has surveyed the community electronically and held public meetings to solicit input for the proposed plan. The plan has been reviewed and approved by North Carolina Emergency Management and submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for compliance with the North Carolina Emergency Management Act and the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. An approved Hazard Mitigation Plan is required in order to receive state and federal disaster assistance. The final draft plan may be viewed [HERE](#).

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Consider the attached resolution formally adopting the South Mountains Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Suggested Motion:

I move the Board approve the resolution to adopt the South Mountains Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE SOUTH MOUNTAINS REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS, Henderson County is vulnerable to an array of natural hazards that can cause loss of life and damages to public and private property; and

WHEREAS, Henderson County desires to seek ways to mitigate situations that may aggravate such circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the development and implementation of a hazard mitigation plan can result in actions that reduce the long-term risk to life and property from natural hazards; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board of Commissioners to protect its citizens and property from the effects of natural hazards by preparing and maintaining a local hazard mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, it is also the intent of the Board of Commissioners to fulfill its obligation under North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 166A: North Carolina Emergency Management Act and Section 322: Mitigation Planning, of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to remain eligible to receive state and federal assistance in the event of a declared disaster affecting Henderson County; and

WHEREAS, Henderson County, in coordination with Polk, Rutherford and Transylvania Counties and the participating municipalities within those Counties has prepared a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan with input from the appropriate local and state officials;

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are reviewing the South Mountains Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan for legislative compliance and will approve the plan pending the completion of local adoption procedures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Henderson County hereby:

1. Adopts the South Mountains Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan; and
2. Agrees to take such other official action as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the proposed actions of the Plan.

Adopted on 1st day of June, 2020.

Grady Hawkins , Chair
Henderson County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Teresa Wilson, Clerk

Henderson County Mitigation Action Plan

Action #	Description	Hazard(s) Addressed	Relative Priority	Funding Sources	Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	2020 Action Implementation Status
P-4	Install stream gauges on major waterways throughout the County to collect data on stream water height and velocity (this will also assist in mitigating erosion hazards).	FL/ER	Low	General Revenue and Grants	County EMA	2025	This will remain an ongoing item based on funding availability.
P-5	Implement scaling as a method of preventative maintenance to reduce the amount of loose debris that could lead to landslides during high precipitation events or seismic events	LS	Moderate	General Revenue and Grants	NCDOT	2025	DOT continues to make improvements in high probability areas along State maintained roads
P-7	Develop a stand-by acquisition grant application that lists properties with a high potential for damage or destruction due to a dam/levee failure.	D	Low	General Revenue and Grants	County EMA	2025	Properties have been identified through the GIS layer development. No funding has been awarded for acquisition, so this will remain an action going forward.
P-8	Develop a stand-by acquisition grant application that lists properties located in multi-hazard areas specifically those properties located near US HWY 74 and NC HWY 9 (Bat Cave) which are prone not only to flash flooding but also to severe landslides.	FL/LS	Low	General Revenue and Grants	County EMA	2025	Properties have been identified; landowners are unwilling to sell at this time. Will continue to pursue this action as possible and as funding is available.
P-9	Educate citizens about safety during flood conditions, including the dangers of driving on flooded roads.	FL	Low	County EMA	General Revenue and Grants	2025	New action

SECTION 9 MITIGATION ACTION PLAN

Action #	Description	Hazard(s) Addressed	Relative Priority	Funding Sources	Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	2020 Action Implementation Status
P-10	Distribute flood protection safety pamphlets or brochures to the owners of flood-prone property.	FL	Low	Planning Dept.	General Revenue and Grants	2020	New action. Continue education initiatives through online and print media
P-11	Join the Community Rating System (CRS) program within the next two years.	FL	Moderate	Flood Damage Prevention Administrator	General Revenue	2021	New Action. Develop and distribute materials in conjunction with EMA and Building Services.
P-12	Seek grant funding for mitigation opportunities eligible under the most current version of the UHMA Guidance and Public Assistance 406 mitigation Guidance at the time of the application. Projects may include, but are not limited to: acquisition, elevation, mitigation reconstruction, and wet/dry flood proofing to commercial and/or residential structures as applicable; redundant power to critical facilities, storm shelters and other activities that reduce the loss of life and property as a result of impacts from natural hazards.	All	Moderate	Federal Grants	Henderson County Emergency Management	As funding becomes available.	New action for the 2020 plan update.
Property Protection							
PP-1	Incorporate development and construction standards into the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances to further regulate construction in areas prone to landslides.	LS/FL	High	General Revenue	Planning Dept.	2025	Policymakers continue to review this item. Additional education and information has been shared with industry and community leaders.
PP-2	Circulate an assessment survey to determine what methods or devices County agencies have in place for securing equipment and furniture during earthquake events.	EQ	Low	General Revenue	IT Dept.	2025	Additional improvements have been made as budgeting, upgrades and renovations are taking place.

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Action #	Description	Hazard(s) Addressed	Relative Priority	Funding Sources	Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	2020 Action Implementation Status
Natural Resource Protection							
NRP-5	Establishing a "green infrastructure" program to link, manage, and expand existing parks, preserves, greenways, etc.	FL	Moderate	General Revenue	Planning Dept.	In Process	New action. The County has adopted a Greenway Master Plan to encourage planned growth of existing and new greenways.
NRP-6	Increase Wildfire Risk Awareness	WF	Moderate	General Revenue	County EMA	In Process	New action. The county EMA works with the NC Forest Service to identify areas for education. These efforts can be increased.
NRP-7	Install flood telemetry systems in sewage lift stations.	FL	Moderate	General Revenue	Engineering Dept.	Complete	New action. Lift stations have a monitored SCADA system in place to allow quick response to emergencies.
NRP-8	Install watertight covers or inflow guards on sewer manholes, converting and raising manholes in flood prone areas.	FL	Moderate	General Revenue	Engineering Dept.	In Process	New action. Staff continue to evaluate the needs and make improvements as funding allows
Emergency Services							
ES-3	Establish auxiliary power systems via portable generators for all primary County buildings and schools. Make certain to include the wiring closets to accommodate technology routing.	All	High	General Revenue and Grants	Engineering Dept	2025	Ongoing project as budgets allow.
ES-6	Reaffirm plans with emergency service agencies and providers for isolation and evacuation during HAZMAT events.	HM	Moderate	General Revenue and Grants	County EMA	2025, Annually review and update	Ongoing, 8 new facility preplans developed in 2018

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Action #	Description	Hazard(s) Addressed	Relative Priority	Funding Sources	Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	2020 Action Implementation Status
ES-7	Incorporate the procedures for tracking high water marks following a flood into emergency response plans.	FL	Moderate	General Revenue	County EMA	2020	New action. Utilize technology to identify high water marks when able and share data with key stakeholders for forecasting future needs.
ES-8	Keeping aerial photography current, especially in rapidly developing areas.	ALL	Low	General Revenue	IT Department	2021	New action. Utilize current technology to maintain GIS layers for aerial photography of key hazard areas in Henderson County.
Public Education and Awareness							
PEA-2	Educate contractors about principles for quality redevelopment and safe housing development through written materials or a County sponsored workshop.	All	Low	General Revenue	Planning Department	2025	Building Services and Fire Services will continue to provide education and outreach as available.
PEA-3	Provide new home and property buyers with information on quality redevelopment and safe housing development. The information is probably most efficiently dispersed at the County and local administration buildings.	All	Low	General Revenue	Planning Department	2025	This item will continue as additional outreach is needed.
PEA-4	Manually disperse and have a website posting which provides information about the Henderson County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and relevant mitigation measures the public can take. In addition, provide a response/reply section where residents can comment on the effectiveness of the current plan and where they can make suggestions for future revisions on then plan.	All	High	General Revenue	County EMA	2025, Annually review and update materials	This item will continue as information and materials are updated.

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Action #	Description	Hazard(s) Addressed	Relative Priority	Funding Sources	Responsible Party	Target Completion Date	2020 Action Implementation Status
PEA-5	Circulate information related to the property owner requirements and regulations related to the maintenance and repair of private roadways.	LS/FL	Low	General Revenue	EMA/Planning Department	2020	New action. Develop outreach materials for distribution to the public online and in-person.
PEA-6	Educate property owners regarding options for mitigating their properties from flooding through outreach activities.	FL	Low	General Revenue	EMA	2021	New action. Develop outreach materials for distribution to the public online and in-person.

FL = Flood DR = Drought ES = Expansive Soils HU = Hurricane T = Tornado WF= Wildfire S/I = Snow/Ice ET = Extreme Temperatures
EQ = Earthquake LS = Landslide L = Lightning ER = Erosion HM = HAZMAT D = Dams/Levees County EMA = Henderson County Emergency Management