

STAFF REPORT

2020 Annual Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Update

December 15, 2020 Town Council Meeting



The purpose of this public hearing is to receive public comments on the adoption of the 2020 Annual Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Update.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Apex Mitigation Action Plan

WAKE COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN:

In an effort to reduce the nation's mounting natural disaster losses, the U.S. Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000), which requires state and local governments to develop hazard mitigation plans as a condition for federal mitigation grant assistance. These funds are administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the Department of Homeland Security, and include:

- the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP),
- the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM), and
- the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA).

DMA 2000 also requires that jurisdictions update their hazard mitigation plans every five (5) years. If the approved hazard mitigation plan expires and a new one is not adopted, that jurisdiction is not able to pursue federal funding for which a current hazard mitigation plan is a prerequisite.

The Town of Apex's initial Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved in 2004, and has been updated every five (5) years since. In 2014, Wake County and most of the municipalities within the County joined together to develop the first Wake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Previously, each jurisdiction had developed an individual Hazard Mitigation Plan. In 2019, the Town and other Wake County Municipalities adopted the 2020 – 2025 Wake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, which includes a Mitigation Action Plan that is specific to the Town of Apex. It is encouraged that the Town review and update the Mitigation Action Plan annually to ensure that goals and objectives continue to address current and expected conditions.

WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS PLAN?

The citizens and businesses of Apex are the ultimate beneficiaries of the 2020 - 2025 Wake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan strives to reduce risk for those who live in, work in, and visit Apex. It provides a viable planning framework for all foreseeable hazards that may impact the Town. Participation in development of the plan by key stakeholders has helped to ensure mutually beneficial outcomes. The resources and background information in the plan are applicable town-wide, and the plan's goals and recommendations lay groundwork for the development and implementation of local mitigation activities and partnerships.

The 2020 - 2025 Wake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan seeks to reduce the instances where the worlds of violent natural occurrence and the human environment intersect. By reducing the risk of personal injury and property damage, a community can lessen the effects of a "disaster" when one of these events crosses paths with people.

TOWN OF APEX HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN MEMBERS

Each year, the Hazard Mitigation Plan members meet to discuss and review the Mitigation Action Plan. The Hazard Mitigation Plan Members include the following:

Department	Committee Designee
Administration	Drew Havens, Town Manager Shawn Purvis, Assistant Town Manager Marty Stone, Assistant Town Manager
Electric	Rodney Smith, Technical Services Manager

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Finance	Vance Holloman, Director
Fire Department	Keith McGee, Fire Chief Preston Clark, Assistant Chief Karl Huegerich, Fire Marshall
Information Technology	Erika Sacco, Director Mike Boyd, Analyst
Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources	John Brown, Director Angela Reincke, Parks and Greenways Planner
Planning & Community Development	Dianne Khin, Director Amanda Bunce, Current Planning Manager Shelly Mayo, Planner II Will Brown, GIS Analyst
Police	John Letteney, Police Chief Captain Joseph Best
Public Works & Transportation	Jose Martinez, Director Adam Stephenson, Floodplain Administrator Randy Bennetts, Street Supervisor
Water Resources	Mike Deaton, Director

ACTION PLAN

The 2020 - 2025 Wake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan includes an Action Plan for each jurisdiction; the Town of Apex’s Plan is listed in Annex C, which is included in Attachment 1 (starting on page 310). The Action Plan includes action items that reduce the Town of Apex’s vulnerability to the effects of natural hazards. The Action Plan is the core of the Hazard Mitigation Plan and includes an outline of mitigation actions by each department, priority, and target date of completion. Many of these items are also listed in the Town’s Capital Improvement Plan. The Plan recommends an annual report outlining progress on Mitigation Action Implementation. The annual report ensures that goals and objectives continue to address current and expected conditions. Please note that the Hazard Mitigation Plan is a preventative plan for natural disasters (i.e. residential lots prohibited within floodplain, required interconnectivity, etc.).

ANNUAL REPORT

The annual review shall ensure the following;

1. *Do Plan goals and objectives continue to address current and expected conditions?*

Yes, the goals and objectives continue to address current and expected conditions in the Town of Apex. The Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) and the 2045 Land Use Map include several of the Hazard Mitigation Plan action items to mitigate potential damage.

2. *Has the nature or magnitude of risks changed?*

Yes, as the Town of Apex grows there is more impervious surface. However, the Town has adopted stormwater measures that mitigate post-development stormwater runoff and continues to meet North Carolina state requirements as they are upgraded. In addition, the UDO does not allow residential lots and new non-residential structures within the floodplains. The UDO also regulates development within the ETJ.

3. *Are current resources sufficient and appropriate for Plan implementation?*

Yes, the Town of Apex continues to operate with sufficient resources to support the Plan implementation measures.



4. *Are there any implementation problems, (i.e., technical, political, legal) or coordination issues with other agencies?*

Currently, there are no implementation problems within the Town of Apex. Coordination issues with other agencies have improved with the adoption of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The Fire and Police Departments annually perform several training exercises combined with other agencies to prepare for both man-made and natural disasters.

5. *Are implementation outcomes as expected?*

No, several action items were changed from completed to ongoing/completed as they are a component of daily actions taken by the Town of Apex.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN MEMBER MEETING

The Town of Apex Hazard Mitigation Plan members met on November 9, 2020 to review the Action Plan and discussed updates to Hazard Mitigation measures within each Department as follows:

Administration Department:

- The Town website was updated and now includes emergency preparedness instructions and tips. In addition, Facebook and other forms of social media are used for communication.

Fire Department:

- Modified several items to show that it is an ongoing item instead of completed item as the documents are always being updated and amended and staff will enforce these items on a daily basis.
- The Fire Department had several training exercises.
- Updated Public Safety Stations to be constructed and their status.

Police Department:

- Modified several items to show that it is an ongoing item instead of completed item as the documents are always being updated and amended and staff will enforce these items on a daily basis.
- Participated in the training exercises with Fire Department.
- Continued work with agencies from other municipalities.

General Emergency Services

- A site for Public Safety Station #6 has been selected and the site plan is in design.
- Continuing to work with Wake County and other municipalities regarding communication systems updates.

Information Technology Department:

- Updates and improvements to the Town's communication abilities are on-going, including improvements to hardware and infrastructure (i.e. laptops, VPN, and fiber optic network).

Parks and Recreation Department:

- White Oak Creek Greenway has been marked as completed.
- Middle Creek, Beaver Creek Greenway and Apex West Greenways were added to the list and status and cost updated.
- Lighting warning signage costs were adjusted.

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Planning and Community Development Department

- Modified several items to show that it is an ongoing action instead of completed action as documents are frequently being amended and staff will perform these actions on an as-needed or regular basis.
- Updated the implementation schedule for revising the UDO & Design and Development Manual to prioritize completion by the end of 2021.
- Worked with Floodplain Administrator in November 2020 to update the UDO to modernize Flood Damage Prevention Overlay District provisions.

Public Works & Transportation Department:

- Modified several items to show that it is an ongoing action instead of completed action as staff will perform these actions on an as-needed or regular basis.
- Updated projected costs & completion time frames for several road projects.

Water Resources Department:

- Modified several items to show that it is an ongoing action instead of completed action as staff will perform these actions on an as-needed or regular basis.
- The Floodplain Manager maintained Floodplain education credits.
- Public Works maps updated by GIS Specialist.
- Continue to remove bridges from floodways.

Action Plan Status

All action items listed as “on-going” are current as stated in the Hazard Mitigation Action Plan.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the 2020 Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Annual Update.

PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

The Planning Board will hear this item at their meeting on December 14, 2020. Staff will provide their recommendation at the Town Council meeting.

2020 Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Update

Action #	Description	Goal	Objective	Hazard(s) Addressed	Relative Priority	Lead Agency/ Department	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Implementation Schedule	2020 Status	Status Comments/ Explanation
Prevention											
P-1	Revise and update the regulatory floodplain boundary, including flood studies.	2	2	Flood	Moderate	Public Works & Transportation (Floodplain Administrator)	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	Action revised.
P-2	Maintain an environmental committee of Town Council and citizen's Environmental Advisory Board that meets regularly to discuss issues and recommend projects.	2	2	All Hazards	Moderate	Water Resources (Sustainability Coordinator)	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing – In Process	Carry Forward – On-going	Action Revised
P-3	Encourage the use of Low Impact Development techniques.	4	2	Flood, Landslide, Drought, Hurricane, Extreme Heat	Low	Water Resources (Environmental Engineering Manager)	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	On-going activity
P-4	Use system development fees to help fund public projects.	3	2	Flood, Wildfire, Tornado, Severe Winter Storm, Severe Weather, Drought, Hurricane	Moderate	Water Resources (Director)	Unknown	Local Development Fees	3-5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	Action revised.
P-5	Update the UDO & Design and Development Manual to incorporate proper species selection and practices for planting and maintenance into the landscape ordinance.	4	1	Flood, Severe Winter Storm, Severe Weather, Drought, Hurricane	Moderate	Planning & Com. Dev. Dept.	Staff Time	Town Funds	2021	Carry Forward – In Progress	Action revised.
P-6	Incorporate GIS data and risk analysis into the development review process.	4	2	All	Moderate	Apex Fire Dept. & Planning & Com. Dev. Dept.	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing - In Process	Carry Forward – On-going	Action revised.
P-7	Evaluate a Stormwater Utility to fund the Town's Stormwater Program.	2	2	Flood	Moderate	Water Resources (Director)	\$150,000	Town Funds	2-3 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	Action revised.
P-8	Continue to use "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" program to help low income Apex Utility customers pay their utility bills.	3	2	Extreme Heat, Severe Winter Storm	Moderate	Finance Dept. & Western Wake Crisis Ministry	None	Local	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	On-going activity
P-9	Salt & brine local roads before Severe Winter Storm & plow after snow and ice fall.	3	2	Severe Winter Storm	Moderate	Public Works & Transportation	Max \$20,000	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	On-going activity
Property Protection											
PP-1	Enforce the Fire Prevention Code.	4	1	Wildfire, Hazardous Materials Incident	Moderate	Apex Fire Dept.	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	On-going activity
PP-2	Annually update the comprehensive occupancy pre-plan program with local data for use in risk analysis.	4	2	Flood, Wildfire, Hazardous Materials Incident, Radiological Emergency	Moderate	Apex Fire Dept.	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	Action revised.
PP-3	Restore streams to slow the speed of water and reduce erosion to prevent both private property loss and public infrastructure damage.	3	2	Flood	Moderate	Water Resources (Director)	Over \$500,000	Local & Federal	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Evaluating Funding Opportunities	On-going activity
Natural Resource Protection											
NRP-1	Middle Creek Greenway (Miramonte to Holly Springs).	3	2	Flood; Evacuation	Moderate	Apex Parks and Recreation	\$2,870,000	Town Funds	3-5 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	under construction
NRP-2	White Oak Creek Greenway.	3	2	Flood; Evacuation	Moderate	Apex Parks and Recreation	\$284,000	Town Funds	Complete	Complete	Completed
NRP-3	Beaver Creek Greenway (PHI, PHIA, & PHII)	3	2	Flood; Evacuation	Moderate	Apex Parks and Recreation	\$6,565,300	Bond, Federal and Town	1-2 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	ROW Cert, then NCDOT releasing for bid and construction
NRP-4	Apex West Greenway	3	2	Flood; Evacuation	Moderate	Apex Parks and Recreation	\$304,750	County and Town	1-2 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	USACOE permitting then Bid and Construction
NRP-5	During development review, ensure new development complies with floodplain development restrictions listed in UDO Section 6.2 Flood Damage Prevention Overlay District.	4	2	Flood	Moderate	Public Works & Transportation (Floodplain Administrator)	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	On-going activity
NRP-6	During development review, ensure new development complies with UDO stream buffer standards.	4	2	Flood	Moderate	Water Resources (Environmental Engineering Manager)	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	On-going activity
NRP-7	During development review, ensure SCMs are designed in accordance with State criteria to safely pass 100-year storm.	4	2	Flood	Moderate	Water Resources (Environmental Engineering Manager)	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	On-going activity

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Structural Projects											
SP-1	Improve communications abilities for emergency response by building new fiber optic internet infrastructure and replacing current radio systems.	2	1	All	Moderate	Police Dept & Information Technology	\$915,000	Town Funds	3-5 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	on-going work
SP-2	Build Jessie Drive to connect TenTen Rd and NC-55 - provide greater connectivity, faster emergency response times, and faster & safer evacuation.	3	2	All	Moderate	Public Works & Transportation	\$21,000,000	Town Funds	3-5 years	Carry Forward – Not Started	
SP-3	Relocate Beaver Creek Sewer Line out of the creek.	3	2	Flood, Wildfire, Severe Winter Storm, Hurricane	Moderate	Water Resources (Utilities Engineering Manager)	\$1,500,000	Town Funds	3-5 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	Construction in process
SP-4	Finish the SW Peakway loop connector road - provide greater connectivity, faster emergency response times, and faster & safer evacuation.	3	2	All	High	Public Works & Transportation	\$25,000,000	Town Funds	More than 5 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	Action revised. Design work is in progress
SP-5	Finish SE Peakway Loop connector road - provide greater connectivity, faster emergency response times, and faster & safer evacuation.	3	2	All	High	Public Works & Transportation	\$20 million	Town Funds	More than 5 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	Action revised. Design work is in progress
Emergency Services											
ES-1	Construct Public Safety Station #6	3	2	All Hazards	Moderate	Apex Fire Dept.	\$7 million	Town Funds	2-3 years	New	Design work is in progress
ES-2	Construct Public Safety Station #7	3	2	All Hazards	Moderate	Apex Fire Dept.	\$7 million	Town Funds	More than 5 years	New	
ES-3	Relocate Fire Department Administration from its existing location because of the impacts of widening NC-55.	3	1	All Hazards	Moderate	Apex Fire Dept.	\$4,000,000	Town Funds	More than 5 years	New	
ES-4	Keep Town website updated with information about Shearon Harris Siren Testing.	1	2	Radiological Incident	Moderate	Apex Public Information Officer	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	
Public Education and Awareness											
PEA-1	Town website and utility billing announcing National Preparedness Month (September) reminding citizens to have a plan and be prepared.	1	1	All	Moderate	Administration (Communications Officer)	Less than \$100,000	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	On-going activity to be implemented annually
PEA-2	Include Environment Education Station and classroom at Nature Park.	1	1	All	Moderate	Apex Parks and Recreation	\$1,200,000	Town Funds	3-5 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	New target completion date is 2022
PEA-3	Post warning signage at local parks for lightning.	1	1	Severe Weather	Moderate	Apex Parks and Recreation	\$15,000	Town Funds	3-5 years	Carry Forward – In Progress	New implementation schedule is 3-5 years
PEA-4	Hand out hazard educational materials at Apex festivals.	1	1	All	Moderate	Planning & Com. Dev. Dept. & Water Resources	Less than \$1,500	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	
PEA-5	Use Social Media to inform residents about local hazards.	1	1	All	Moderate	Apex Public Information Officer & Planning & Com. Dev. Dept.	Staff Time	Town Funds	Ongoing - Next 5 years	Carry Forward – On-going	



TOWN OF APEX

POST OFFICE BOX 250
APEX, NORTH CAROLINA 27502
PHONE 919-249-3426

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

WAKE COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Notice is hereby given of public hearings before the Planning Board and Town Council of the Town of Apex for the purpose of soliciting comments on the following amendments to the Wake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan:

Updates to the Town of Apex Action Plan based on current and proposed activities, inclusion of ongoing activities, and removal of completed projects.

Public Hearing Location:

Apex Town Hall
73 Hunter Street, Apex, North Carolina
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor

All interested parties may appear at the public hearing and be heard with respect to the Wake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The current Wake County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan can be viewed on the Town of Apex website at: <http://www.apexnc.org/224/Hazard-Mitigation-Plan>. For more information, please call the Planning Department at 919-249-3426.

Planning Board Public Hearing Date and Time: December 14, 2020 4:30 PM

If you would like to speak during the public hearing, you may sign-in ahead of time by emailing your name and address to bonnie.brock@apexnc.org. You may attend the meeting in person or view the meeting through the Town's YouTube livestream at: <https://www.youtube.com/c/townofapexgov>.

If you are unable to attend, you may provide comments no later than noon on Friday, December 11, 2020 by email (public.hearing@apexnc.org, 350-word limit) or voicemail (919-362-7300, 3-minute limit) according to the Remote Participation Policy at: <http://www.apexnc.org/DocumentCenter/View/31397/>. You must provide your name and address for the record. These comments will be read during the Planning Board meeting.

Town Council Public Hearing Date and Time: December 15, 2020 6:00 PM

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If the Council meeting is held with at least one member attending virtually, written comments on the subject of the public hearing may be submitted between publication of any required notice and 24 hours after the public hearing and the Council's vote will occur at the Council's next regularly scheduled meeting.

Dianne F. Khin, AICP
Director of Planning and Community Development

Published Date: November 30, 2020 – December 15, 2020



TOWN OF APEX

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Dianne F. Khin, AICP
Director of Planning and Community Development

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010101 Chase Master Subdivision (continued from November 4, 2020)

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