



## **REGIONAL MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN 2025 CASS, CLAY, JACKSON, PLATTE AND RAY COUNTIES, MISSOURI**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assists state and local governments, school districts, colleges and universities and others with planning guidance and grants to identify and address risks to lives and properties from natural hazards. Every five years, local jurisdictions are asked to adopt a Hazard Mitigation Plan, and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) has assisted jurisdictions in the Kansas City metro area in the five Missouri counties with a new plan.

The new plan needs FEMA approval by late July 2025. The natural hazards identified as posing the greatest risks include tornadoes, floods, severe winter weather, severe heat and drought, and severe thunderstorms. Each jurisdiction has responsibility to participate in the plan's preparation, identify hazards of greatest risk to their community, identify local capabilities and needs, and outline goals and actions. Each jurisdiction must adopt the plan. The region's five counties, 36 cities, 3 special districts, 21 school districts and 2 colleges/universities are participating.

The planning process enables local officials to better understand the natural hazards that pose the most risk to the community; engage the public to understand their concerns; identify possible goals and actions that could be addressed at the local level; and be eligible for certain FEMA grants. The planning process began in mid-2024 with formation of a Steering Committee, a kickoff meeting and outreach to local jurisdictions. A public survey had almost 1,000 responses, and a consultant assisted with a thorough hazard analysis for each of the five natural hazards. An online portal allowed local jurisdictions to provide updated information on their local capabilities and goals/mitigation actions. The draft materials were posted on the MARC website and local officials and the public were encouraged to review the draft documents and offer feedback.

The complete plan may be found on the MARC website at [Hazard Mitigation Plan | MARC](#) The plan includes

Chapter 1: Introduction and Planning Process

Chapter 2: Planning Area Profile

Chapter 3: Local Capabilities Assessment and Safe Growth Audit

Chapter 4: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment for the Five Natural Hazards

Chapter 5: Local Goals and Mitigation Actions

Chapter 6: Plan Maintenance

Pleasant Hill has identified mitigation actions to reduce risks to lives and property from hazards, including:

- Ensure there is adequate emergency shelter space for tornadoes and extreme temperatures in public buildings and private buildings used by groups, including business locations
- Educate the public about preparedness from natural hazards including floods, tornadoes, etc.
- Participate in and ensure compliance with federal floodplain management programs
- Ensure roadway access is available during heavy rain events to provide for safe travel and use flood warning systems or road closures to protect from rising water
- Examine flood mitigation measures near downtown and along M-58 Highway
- Ensure warning systems are in place to protect the public, particularly in outdoor spaces
- Identify warming and cooling centers to help residents during extreme temperature and power outages