

## Department of Public Safety

### Division of Emergency Management

Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2002

#### **Nevada Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee Attendees:**

<b>Bert Prescott</b>	<b>Division of Emergency Management</b>
<b>Ron Hess</b>	<b>Bureau of Mines and Geology/ GIS Supervisor</b>
<b>Frank Taylor</b>	<b>Nevada Department of Transportation</b>
<b>Jon Price</b>	<b>Nevada State Geologist</b>
<b>Kim Groenewold</b>	<b>State Floodplain Manager</b>
<b>Bob Ashworth</b>	<b>Nevada Division of Forestry</b>
<b>Rick Diebold</b>	<b>City of Las Vegas, Fire &amp; Rescue</b>

**Consultants:** Janice Rogala  
Azlina Harun

#### **Introduction of members:**

Minutes of last meeting approved as prepared and submitted.

#### **Old Business:**

The Committee discussed the fact that drought as a disaster risk was scored as one of the highest priorities numerically in the matrix process. The Committee had further discussions to ascertain that it really is as high a priority as shown by the matrix. The committee decision was to leave drought as a high priority, and make no distinction between those priorities listed in the high priority rating as to ranking within the priority. The distinction on importance will be made in the prioritization of the hazard mitigation risk strategies.

Kim Groenewold reported she had a copy of the State of Nevada's Drought Plan and would send it to the Committee consultant for review and inclusion of drought mitigation strategies for consideration. (That Plan was received and those strategies are included in this weeks' handouts.)

The consultant reported that discussions are being held with the Health Department and the Department of Agriculture on their individual agency input into the DMA 2000 Plan and Mitigation Strategies. The mitigation strategy for the Department of Agricultural Laboratory

upgrade will be distributed at the next meeting. The Department of Agriculture is willing to assist in gathering and public input. Public input is solicited by Dept of Agriculture from various conservation agencies. An invitation and questionnaire to provide input by the public will be co-developed and Distributed by the Department.

The critical structures classification was discussed and the Committee would like more input from either the agencies utilizing the facilities or the state agency responsible for managing the facilities, as to their standing as critical facilities. The Division of Emergency Management has advised the Committee that this listing is considered sensitive information and will not be placed on the Web site for public review. The chairman reported that many of the State's plans previously posted have been removed from websites for security reasons

Kim Groenewold's reported she is still working on the list of structures located within the flood plain and will provide the information to the Committee as soon as possible.

Bert Prescott announced the Local Mitigation Planning Workshop will be held on December 17, 2002, at Nevada Division of Emergency Management. Bert will be sending out notifications to all potential participants. FEMA will be participating in and introducing the workshop. They will be updating the participants on any changes to or requirements for the program.

The final deadline for both State and Local DMA 2000 Plans has been extended until November 2004 by the final rule published in the Federal Register.

## New Business

A preliminary draft of the DMA 2000 State Plan was distributed to the Committee for review and input by Steering and Planning Committee members. The plan is estimated to contain about 30% of the information that will be included in the final plan. The critical facilities list has not been included in the plan yet. The goal is to put those portions of the plan not deemed to be sensitive information on the web site before the end of December for public review. The GIS mapping portion of the DMA 2000 Plan will not begin until January or later depending on the information available at the local government level.

The Mitigation Strategies are currently in draft summary and not assigned financial costs or responsible funding and potential implementation agencies as yet. The goal of the Committee chair is to have distillation to top 5 and top 3 strategies for high and moderate priority risks to be recommended to the legislature. Copies of mitigation strategies identified by the State of Nevada Hazard Mitigation Committee as well as other State Agency Plans were distributed to the Committee members need to review and formulate a prioritization strategy. The Committee discussed identifying those strategies that could be implemented by the State from those that can be only recommended by the State due to legislative constraints.

There was discussion held on whether other Federal Agencies would use the DMA 2000 Hazard Mitigation Plan as a needs assessment for the basis of grant distribution if the Homeland Security Measure passes and if FEMA becomes a part of the Homeland Security Agency. FEMA may have more information on the future of the DMA 2000 and the make up of the Homeland Security Agency by the December workshop.

The Division of Emergency Management is moving forward with the public invitation for participation in time for the November meeting: The public will be invited to provide input

at the next meeting. Next meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2002, at 10 am at the Division of Emergency Management's Emergency Operations Center.

Steering Committee members expressed a concern that we need to provide a mechanism for the public to provide input throughout the State and not just at the Steering Committee Meetings in Carson City. It was recommended that the State utilize video conferencing locations to collect more input for this effort. The Committee expressed their desire to provide "reasonable access" to the public. The Chair requested the cooperation of those members from Southern Nevada to assist with the video conferencing and will provide further information at the November meeting.

The State Division of Emergency Management Public Meetings Expert will place the appropriate ads for next month's public input and assist the committee in notifying the public of future opportunities to submit input and obtain information. The Committee agreed that written input would also be accepted. Members of the Committee recommended that the Committee utilize video conferencing through community colleges to provide reasonable access to the whole State. The Chairman will investigate that recommendation and report back to the Committee.

Discussion was held on participating at the upcoming Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) agenda. The Committee recognized it may be too late to get on the agenda for the next meeting on November 12, 2002 but recommended the Division of Emergency Management attempt to accomplish this action. An alternative would be to notify NACO that the state is working on a mitigation plan and invite the Counties participation via their organization

The Chairman reported on the status of FEMA local mitigation grant approvals. All of the Local grants have been approved. State notification letters are submitted for the Director's signature and will be distributed as soon as possible. Each jurisdiction got the amount requested. The grants are to cover a time period of 18 months.

The Committee members recommended the matrixes be a part of the supporting documentation for the plan and not part of the plan itself. Committee members are asked to review and prioritize the strategies distributed by next committee meeting (November 20, 2002)

A review of the hazard matrix was requested that review is listed below.

## Matrix Prioritization of Hazards Results

### Highest Priority

Severe Storm

Score 12

Drought	Score 22
Flood	Score 20
Earthquake	Score 19
Wildland Fires	Score 18

### Moderate Priority

Hazardous Materials	Score 14
Civil Disturbance	Score 14

**Low Priority**

Avalanche	Score 8	Subsidence	Score 8
Landslides	Score 8	Volcanic	Score 8
Soil Swelling and Collapse	Score 8	Heat Wave	Score 0
		Large Fires	Score 0

The committee reiterated their recommendation that existing mitigation strategies be incorporated into the document for Hazard Mitigation Plan for prioritization as well as new strategies collected in the public meetings and individual agency and group meetings.

The meeting was adjourned.