

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This section presents an introduction to the hazard mitigation plan and defines the authority, scope, and purpose of the plan.

### 1.1 Background

Natural and human-caused disasters have resulted in injury and death, damaged and destroyed property, and disrupted business and government function across the Nation. To lessen the effects of a disaster, the Adams County Department of Emergency Services and 33 of the county's 34 municipalities participated in this planning process to identify hazards as well as potential actions to mitigate vulnerability to those hazards.

### 1.2 Purpose

Adams County and its preparedness partners updated this hazard mitigation plan for the purpose of:

- protecting life, safety, and property by reducing the potential for future damages and economic losses that result from natural and human-caused hazards;
- qualifying for grant funding in both the pre- and post-disaster environments;
- aiding in recovery and development following future disaster events;
- demonstrating a firm local commitment to hazard mitigation principles; and
- complying with state and federal legislative requirements for local hazard mitigation plans.

### 1.3 Scope

The *Adams County Hazard Mitigation Plan* complies with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) guidelines for funding eligibility and technical assistance from state and federal hazard mitigation programs. Thus, it applies to the county and 33 of the 34 municipalities and serves as their official hazard mitigation plan. It addresses both natural and human-caused hazards significant to the county and its municipalities. The committee reviews the plan annually, and a complete plan update will take place, at minimum, every five years.



### 1.4 Authority and Reference

Authority for this plan originates from the following federal government sources.

- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C., Section 322, as amended
- Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Title 44, Parts 201 and 206
- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, Public Law 106-390, as amended
- National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4001, et seq.

Authority for this plan also originates from the following Commonwealth of Pennsylvania sources.

- Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code. Title 35, P.A. C.S. Section 101
- Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code of 1968, Act 247, as reenacted and amended by Act 170 of 1988
- Pennsylvania Stormwater Management Act of October 4, 1978, P.L. 864, No. 167

The following guidelines and reference documents assisted preparation of this document.

<b>REFERENCED DOCUMENTS</b>		
<i>Document Type</i>	<i>Document Citation</i>	<i>How Incorporated into Plan</i>
<b>USDHS FEMA Resources</b>		
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2001). <i>Understanding your risks: Identifying hazards and estimating losses, FEMA 386-2</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Legacy resource used as guidance to support hazard profiling
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2002). <i>Getting started: Building support for mitigation planning, FEMA 386-1</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Legacy resource used as guidance to support planning committee formation
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2003). <i>Bringing the plan to life, FEMA 386-4</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Legacy resource used as guidance to support plan development and maintenance efforts
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2003). <i>Developing the mitigation plan, FEMA 386-3</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Legacy resource used as guidance to support mitigation action planning
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2003). <i>Integrating manmade hazards into mitigation planning, FEMA 386-7</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Legacy resource used as guidance to support the dam/levee, hazmat, and terrorism discussions
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2005). <i>Integrating historic property and cultural resource considerations into hazard mitigation planning, FEMA 386-6</i> . Federal Government: Washington, D.C.	Used as general guidance for incorporating historical property and cultural protection



REFERENCED DOCUMENTS		
<i>Document Type</i>	<i>Document Citation</i>	<i>How Incorporated into Plan</i>
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2006). <i>Multijurisdictional mitigation planning, FEMA 386-8</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Legacy resource used as guidance to inform ideas for involving all municipal jurisdictions
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2007). <i>Using benefit-cost review in mitigation planning, FEMA 386-5</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Legacy resource used as general guidance for the action plan discussion
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2008). <i>National fire incident reporting system 5.0: Complete reference guide</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Used as a resource to support an understanding of reported NFIRS data
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2008). <i>Using the hazard mitigation plan to prepare successful mitigation projects, FEMA 386-9</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Used to support the action planning discussion
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2011). <i>Local mitigation plan review guide</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Used the local mitigation plan review tool as a crosswalk for ensuring that the updated plan addressed all required elements
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2013). <i>Hazard mitigation assistance unified guidance: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, and Flood Mitigation Assistance Program</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Used as a resource when identifying potential funding sources for mitigation projects
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2013). <i>Integrating hazard mitigation into local planning: Case studies and tools for community officials</i> . Federal Government: Washington, D.C.	Used as general guidance on existing plan integration for hazard mitigation
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2013). <i>Local mitigation planning handbook</i> . Federal Government: Washington, D.C.	Used as general guidance on revised mitigation planning process
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2013) <i>Mitigation ideas: A resource for reducing risk to natural hazards</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC	Used as general guidance for stakeholders and jurisdictions on mitigation ideas
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2014). <i>Plan integration guide</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Used as a resource for documenting plan integration
Technical Information	USDHS FEMA. (2016). <i>National mitigation framework</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC	Used as general guidance on mitigation planning.
<b>PEMA Resources</b>		
Technical Information	PEMA. (2013). <i>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's all-hazard mitigation planning: Standard operating guide</i> . State Government: Harrisburg, PA.	Used as additional guidance on materials to include in the plan, historical hazard sources, and plan outline recommendations
Plan	PEMA. (2018). <i>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: 2018 state hazard mitigation plan</i> . State Government: Harrisburg, PA.	Used to ensure consistency, to document state hazard rankings, etc.
Informational Brief	PEMA. (2019). <i>PDM/FMA planning grant fiscal brief, 13 May 2019</i> . State Government: Harrisburg, PA.	Used as a resource for supporting grant administration
Technical Information	Pennsylvania Governor's Center for Local Government Services. (2010). <i>Flood plain management regulations: Adopted pursuant to the P.A. Floodplain Management Act (Act 166 of 1978)</i> , 5 <sup>th</sup> Ed. State Government: Harrisburg, PA.	Used as a supplementary resource for NFIP discussions in the flooding profile
<b>Miscellaneous Resources</b>		
Technical Information	NFPA. (2016). <i>Standard on disaster/emergency management and business continuity programs, NFPA 1600</i> . Quincy, MA.	Used as a general guideline to ensure comprehensive planning process



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<i>Document Type</i>	<i>Document Citation</i>	<i>How Incorporated into Plan</i>
Assessment	USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. (n.d.). <i>Soil survey of Adams County, Pennsylvania</i> . Federal Government: Washington, DC.	Used to support consideration of subsidence and other geologic hazards
Technical Information	USEPA. (2018). <i>Storm smart cities: Integrating green infrastructure into local hazard mitigation plans</i> . Federal Government: Philadelphia, PA.	Outlines ways low-impact development and green infrastructure can support mitigation planning

Planners utilized many other sources in the completion of this update. Sources specific to hazard profiles appear as citations in those profiles and in Appendix A: Bibliography.

