

## 2.0 PLANNING PROCESS

The Cavalier County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP) is the result of a collaborative effort between Cavalier County citizens, public agencies, local utility companies, and regional, state, and federal organizations. Public participation played a key role in development of goals and mitigation projects. Participation by the public and local business community is vital to the value, effectiveness, and usefulness of any plan. To produce an effective plan that fits Cavalier County and its residents, there will be given to all of those affected ample opportunity on an annual basis – minimum of five year basis – an opportunity to review and comment the on Cavalier County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan and any of the proposed mitigation projects it contains, through the means of either public hearings, newspaper correspondence, or other means set by the Emergency Manager. The emergency manager will also meet with the functional coordinators, and review any proposed mitigation projects already identified in the plan and determine their status. In addition, the coordinators will identify any new proposals that need to be included in the plan.

Once the existing and any new proposals have been documented in the mitigation plan, the Emergency Manger will review those comments retrieved, not only from functional coordinators, but the public as well. These comments may result in changes to already proposed mitigation projects, or they may result in additional mitigation projects being identified and included in the plan.

### **2.1 CONTACT LIST**

The MHMP planning process was initiated by preparing a contact list of individuals whose input was needed to help develop the plan. Notices of the public meeting were sent in advance to all jurisdictions participating in the planning process including Alsen, Calio, Cavalier County, Calvin, Hannah, Langdon, Loma, Milton, Munich, Nekoma, Osnabrock, Sarles, and Wales. Notices were sent to all federal, state, and local officials on the project contact list. Cavalier County mitigation team members are as follows:

Cavalier County Commission

Mayors of Cities in Cavalier County (Alsen, Calio, Calvin, Hannah, Langdon, Loma, Milton, Munich, Nekoma, Osnabrock, Sarles, and Wales)

City Council Members (Alsen, Calio, Calvin, Hannah, Langdon, Loma, Milton, Munich, Nekoma, Osnabrock, Sarles, and Wales)

Cavalier County & City Auditors

Cavalier County Emergency Management

Functional Coordinators of the Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP), Members include: Cavalier County Commission Chairman, Devils Lake Mayor, Devils Lake & Cavalier County Auditors, Devils Lake & Ramsey County Tax Assessors, Cavalier County Health Nurse, Social Services Director, Devils Lake Fire Chief, Cavalier County Sheriff, Devils Lake Police Chief, and Cavalier County Highway Superintendent.

Committee Members of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Members include: Cavalier County Emergency Manager, District Environmental Health Officer, Cavalier County Highway Superintendent, Devils Lake City & Rural Fire Chiefs, Devils Lake Police Chief, 911 Coordinator, Law Enforcement Center Administrator, Mercy Hospital Administrator & Risk Manager, Devils Lake City Engineer, District Highway Patrol Captain, Members of the Media, Cavalier County Sheriff, A Cavalier County Commissioner and Cavalier County Extension Agent.

Public notices of the meeting were published in local papers to invite the public to provide their input.

### **2.2 STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS AND MEETINGS**

Interviews were conducted with individuals and specialists from organizations interested in hazard mitigation planning. The interviews identified common concerns related to natural and man-made hazards and identified key long- and short-term activities to reduce risk. Stakeholders interviewed for the plan included representatives from local government, water providers, fire departments, and utility providers. Additional support came from school districts, Sheriff's Office, and Ambulance Squad.

### **2.3 FORMAL PUBLIC MEETINGS**

One public meeting was conducted in Cavalier County during final plan development to present the plan and solicit input. The meeting was August 8, 2003. Other informal meetings and discussions were held to gather information on historic disasters, update the list of critical facilities, and gather ideas from citizens about mitigation planning and priorities for mitigation goals. Most of the meetings held to discuss the plan were completed before DMA 2000 standards were required in 2003. Cavalier County also participated in several public meetings and applicant briefings with the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services and FEMA to discuss post disaster mitigation measures.

The Cavalier County Commission meeting was held at which the resolutions adopting the plan were passed provided the public with the opportunity to review the final version of the plan. Pending approval by ND DES and FEMA Region VIII new adoptions will be provided to replace out of date adoptions.

Notices of the public meeting were sent in advance to all jurisdictions participating in the planning process including all incorporated cities invitations were sent by letter, email and phone contact. Notices were sent to all federal, state, and local officials on the project contact list.

### **2.4 OTHER PROJECT MEETINGS**

Over the course of the project numerous meetings were held with, and briefings given to, local officials and other stakeholders. At the project's inception the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services Local Programs Coordinator toured the project area and met with commissioners from each county, mayors for most of the incorporated towns, representatives from local utilities, Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) members, National Weather Service (NWS) staff, US Corps of Engineers (COE) staff, Cavalier County health officials, and others. The overall project objectives were presented at these meetings and initial concerns and potential mitigation projects were discussed.

### **2.5 PLAN REVIEW**

Review copies of the draft plan were provided to the emergency manager for distribution in hard copy. Plan reviewers included Cavalier County commissioners, mayors of the various jurisdictions, and representatives of the local utility companies, the National Weather Service, and other federal, state, and local officials. The Emergency Manager provided review copies of the plan to all jurisdictions involved in the planning process including Langdon and the county. Public comments were submitted to the Emergency Manager after a 30-day review period.

A review of the plan for completeness was conducted after the initial comments were addressed. Plan copies were submitted to the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services State Hazard Mitigation Officer and the North Dakota FEMA representative for review. The review period is expected to last 30-days. Upon receipt of comments, the plan will be finalized and distributed to interested parties.

Future comments on this plan should be addressed to:

Cavalier County Emergency Management Office

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Langdon, North Dakota 58249

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