Hazard Mitigation Plan
Annual Evaluation Report

City of Atlantic City, NJ (CID: 345278)

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Submitted to City Council:
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Name of Plan: Atlantic County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date of Adoption of Plan: February 18, 2016
5-Year CRS Expiration Date: October 1, 2021

1. How can a copy of the original plan or area analysis report be obtained?

The County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan can be viewed online at http://www.atlantic-county.org/hazard-mitigation/. The repetitive loss area analyses are on file with the City’s Construction Office.

2. Describe how this evaluation report was prepared and how it was submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public:

The evaluation report was prepared by City staff and its consultants after reviewing City documentation and activities. It was submitted to the governing body and posted on the City’s web site on October 31, 2018. The public and media will be aware of the evaluation through the posting of the City Council meeting agenda.

3. Provide a review of each recommendation or action item in the action plan or area analysis report, including a statement on how much was accomplished during the previous year:

(1) Construct steel bulkhead and stone revetment from Oriental Avenue to Atlantic Avenue.
This action was completed in 2018.

(2) Baltic Avenue Drainage Improvement Project- repair stormwater project.
This action was completed in 2018.

(3) Drainage improvements to Boardwalk Hall basement?
Spectrum Venue Management (SVM) has installed pumps in the garage at Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall (JWBH).
(4) **Installation of new bulkhead along Inside Thorofare from Albany Avenue to Jackson Avenue**
   The City is actively studying this project and is in the process of applying for a FEMA grant to construct improvements. Funding is available for design and permitting.

(5) **Installation of bulkheads and berms to protect public infrastructure in Chelsea Heights**
   The City is continuing to pursue this project as funds become available. A Federal Interest Determination by the US Army Corps of Engineers was completed in 2014.

(6) **Revise city codes to increase BFE to +2**
   As of 2015, the City’s codes reflect the two-foot freeboard requirement.

(7) **Develop a plan for backup electric and telecommunications systems in critical facilities**
   The City is pursuing backup electric generators through grant programs and as funding is available. Bid specifications are being completed for the installation of generator at the All Wars and PAL Buildings and funding is in place for construction. Emergency generator design is underway for the six fire houses in the City. A state funded feasibility study is complete for a microgrid to serve the hub of the City including the Atlantic City Medical Center, a critical facility. Atlantic City is also studying long-term changes to its communication system, which may include fiber optics and enhanced public safety capabilities.

(8) **Elevate Albany Avenue between Sunset Avenue and Ventnor Avenue**
   A project to elevate Albany Avenue and re-locate the Intercoastal Waterway (ICWW) is currently in its planning stages. The City considers this project a high priority, particularly with the recent completion of the Stockton University Atlantic City campus and new South Jersey Gas headquarters located at the end of Albany Avenue.

(9) **Elevate repetitively flooded residential properties**
   Atlantic City continues to make consistent progress on the elevation of repetitively-flooded buildings. RREM Grants continue to be disbursed to assist with owners’ elevation projects. The City has applied for and secured FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance Grants each year to help fund the elevation of homes.

(10) **Elevate traffic signal control boxes**
    Funding options continue to be considered.

(11) **Installation of emergency communications system**
    An audio/visual broadcast system was installed on the Boardwalk, one of the City’s top attractions and most-visited pedestrian corridors, in 2014.

(12) **Purchase and install ten emergency generators at various locations.**
    The City continues to seek funding for emergency generators and will be applying for a Pre-Disaster Mitigation for emergency generators at six of the City’s firehouses.
(13) Replace 160 lf of bulkhead and install a stormwater pump station and appurtenant facilities along Massachusetts Avenue
Project design is complete, and permits are being secured. Full funding for construction is in place.

(14) Promote public education about hazards and the mitigation plan
The City is planning to undertake a Program for Public Information as a part of its Community Rating System program. The program is anticipated to result in new, more effective public outreach and education.

(15) Install new bulkheads along Sunset Avenue
The City is continuing to pursue this project as funding becomes available. A Federal Interest Determination by the US Army Corps of Engineers was completed in 2014.

4. Discuss why any objectives were not reached or why implementation is behind schedule.

Atlantic City continues to actively pursue funding opportunities to further its mitigation objectives. There is limited capital funding available for mitigation projects due to profoundly decreased tax revenue. Atlantic City was subject to a state takeover in 2016, resulting in the City losing much of its ability to unilaterally undertake capital expenses and procurement. Since 2010, Atlantic City lost 87 percent of its ratable base from an inflation-adjusted $24.49 billion to $3.1 billion in 2017. Taxes in the City have skyrocketed, and spending has been cut across the City. Atlantic City has had to rely considerably on federal grants and payments in lieu of taxes to maintain basic City operations and complete critical projects. The City intends to complete its mitigation projects as funding becomes available, even as many of the projects are complicated and require significant collaboration and complicated financing arrangements between federal, state, and local partners.

5. What are the recommendations for new projects or revised recommendations?

1. Continue to work with the US Army Corps of Engineers to develop recommendations for the New Jersey Back Bays Coastal Storm Risk Management Study. As the project progresses, Atlantic City will adjust its mitigation activities in light of more comprehensive and detailed risk data.
2. Expand Community Rating System activities to enhance resiliency, flood-related municipal operations, and attain higher discounts for policyholders in the City.
3. Implement a Program for Public Information and expand the City’s flood emergency plan.
4. Support the elevation and resilience of private structures through grants and technical assistance.
5. Continue to advocate for the elevation of US Route 40/322 to provide emergency access. This project includes elevation of US Route 40/322 to Exit 2 of the Atlantic City Expressway.

6. Promote the elevation of bulkheads throughout the City, including pursuing funding for replacing city-owned bullheads.

7. Install generators at critical facilities, including fire stations.