

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK
POLICE DEPARTMENT

September 4, 2024

2024 Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan

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Hazard Mitigation - Purpose

- For state, local and tribal governments to identify the natural hazards that impact them, to identify actions and activities to reduce any losses from those hazards, and to establish a coordinated process to implement the plan, taking advantage of a wide range of resources.
- Hazard mitigation is any sustainable action that reduces or eliminates long-term risk to people and property from future disasters.

Hazard Mitigation - Timeline

- FEMA Approved HMP - May 29, 2024
- Montgomery County Council Adoption - June 25, 2024
- **Takoma Park City Council Adoption**
- Emergency Preparedness Manager sends signed resolution to OEMHS
- OEMHS sends signed resolution to MDEM and FEMA - establishes Takoma Park's eligibility to apply/receive federal Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants, Public Assistance, and Individual Assistance per Stafford Act
- Emergency Preparedness Manager will provide updates to OEMHS, Takoma Park City Council, Public Works, and Police on mitigation strategies, resource needs, and data collection efforts that can inform revisions to the 2024 HMP and the current 5 year cycle.

Hazard Mitigation - Building the Plan

- Planning Team - 19 incorporated municipalities, residents, businesses, non-profits county departments
 - Community surveys; meetings with emergency managers and public works to capture capabilities and capacity during emergencies
- Support all residents, including individuals with access and functional needs, cultural minority and limited English-speaking populations, children, the elderly, and other vulnerable populations.
- Not limited to any single hazard, but applies to all hazards, including both natural and human caused disasters
 - Based on Threat and Hazards Identification Process (THIP), Emergency Operations Plan, and Section V Situation Overview
 - Further emphasis on increases in potentially hazardous conditions due to the effects of climate change

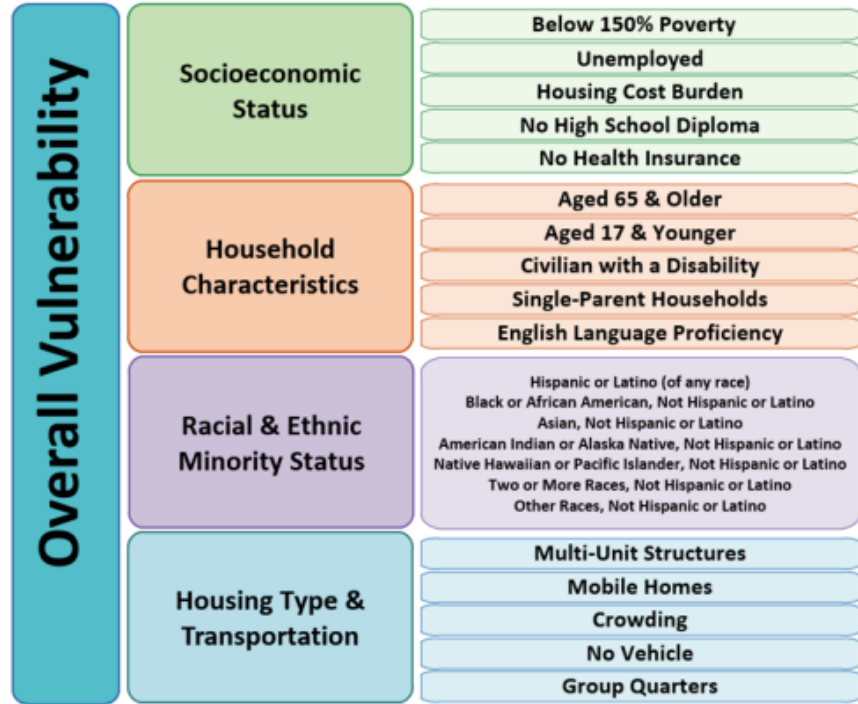
Key Mitigation Objectives

- Encourage **building and land use** regulations that increase safety and resiliency and reduce risks posed by natural disasters
- Protect **public health, safety, and welfare** by increasing public awareness of existing natural hazards and by fostering individual and public responsibility in mitigating risks caused by those hazards
- Ensure that **infrastructure** is adequate and properly maintained to provide continued functionality of all critical services necessary to protect residents and property
- Improve **communications** and increase natural hazard awareness through education and citizen participation
- Enhance the **capabilities of local jurisdictions** to identify and mitigate natural hazards
- Participate and comply with the **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** through floodplain identification, mapping, and management.
- Promote actions that **protect historic and cultural resources**, while enhancing hazard mitigation and community resiliency

Racial Equity

- Social-Vulnerability Index (SVI) Assessment is commonly used to assess the overall vulnerability of communities
- Uses 16 different variables to formulate a rating corresponding to a community's overall ability to prevent human suffering and financial loss in the event of a disaster
- Scores range from 0 (low vulnerability) to 1 (high vulnerability)
 - Montgomery County's SVI is .46 (less vulnerable than the average county)

Social Vulnerability Index 2020 Variables



Racial Equity

- **Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)** uses datasets that are indicators of burdens in eight categories: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development
- 2021 CEJST scores indicate that 12% of Montgomery County can be classified as ‘disadvantaged’
- CEJST and SVI provide similar results, indicating that Takoma Park and neighboring municipalities share higher instances of vulnerability, disadvantage, and burden than other areas of Montgomery County when faced with hazards and disasters

Count of CEJST Disadvantages Identified for Montgomery County Census Tracts

CEJST Burden Category	Count Census Tracts with an Identified Disadvantage ²⁷
Housing	5
Legacy Pollution	6
Transportation	2
Workforce Development	23

Environmental Impact

- Key considerations for adapting to the changing climate and mitigating its impacts on the community:
 - Resilience planning, extreme heat, flood risk and water resource management, green infrastructure, transportation and energy, community engagement, food security, economic resilience, emergency preparedness, data collection, and collaboration
- Most prevalent climate change-related events in Montgomery County
 - Severe Storms/High Wind
 - Extreme Temperatures
 - Flooding
 - Hurricanes and Tropical Storms

Mitigation Plans and Actions in Takoma Park

- The City of Takoma Park's pursuit of EPA funding through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG), which will support the community in implementing the goals of the 2018 HMP.
- Takoma Park (and Garrett Park) residents comprised the majority of Community Survey respondents
- The City of Takoma Park Master Plan identifies stormwater management as a major environmental concern in the Central Business District.
- The Takoma Park Planning Office has made significant improvements to bus ridership, improvements to stops and shelters, and access to county provided services for underserved populations.

Mitigation Actions Affecting Takoma Park

- Install uninterruptible power supplies on Critical Facilities
- Purchase emergency generators for critical facilities
- Public outreach for the use of the Alert Montgomery System
- Install Emergency Power at Glenview
- Continue to research and provide alternative measures to notify individuals with disabilities of winter emergencies
- Assess sheltering to determine if space is adequate and what other agencies can support the effort. Provide shelters for both residents and animals during severe winter weather
- Provide relief through cooling centers during extreme heat and warming centers during extreme cold events, designed to aid to adversely impacted underserved populations. Conduct education and outreach regarding additional considerations needed to support these populations