

Summary

The City of Beaverton (the City) developed and maintains this Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan in an effort to reduce future loss of life and property resulting from natural disasters. It is impossible to predict exactly when these disasters will occur, or the extent to which they will affect the City. However, with careful planning and collaboration among public agencies, private sector organizations, and citizens within the community, it is possible to minimize the losses that can result from natural disasters.

This is the second revision to the original NHMP which was originally completed in 2003 and revised in 2011.

The information used to inform this plan is constantly changing. The specific information in this revision is a “snapshot” in time and was the most current information available at that point in the plan update process.

Natural Hazard Mitigation

Natural hazard mitigation is defined as a method permanently reducing or alleviating losses of life, property, and injuries resulting from natural hazards through long and short-term strategies. Example strategies include planning, policy changes, programs, projects, and other activities. Natural hazard mitigation is the responsibility of individuals, private businesses and industries, state and local governments, and the federal government.¹

Why Have a Mitigation Plan

Federal law requires that the City identify a comprehensive set of mitigation measures related to local natural hazards. An additional stipulation is that to receive pre- and post- disaster mitigation funds from FEMA, local governments must have a current, FEMA approved NHMP. NHMPs must be updated and re-approved every five years.

These requirements were established when Congress passed and the President signed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, commonly known as DMA 2000. Under DMA 2000 and the associated rules published in 44 CFR Part 201.6, communities, states, and tribal governments must have FEMA-approved natural hazard mitigation plans to be eligible for certain federal assistance programs such as the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).²

What are the City’s Overall Risk to Natural Hazards?

The City of Beaverton’s Emergency Management Program reviews and updates the risk assessment regularly to evaluate the probability of each natural hazard as well as the vulnerability of the community to those hazards. Scores are based on the City’s Hazard Analysis that is submitted to the Oregon Office of Emergency Management as part of the update cycle of the City’s Emergency Operations Plan. Table 1 below summarizes hazard probability and vulnerability as determined by the methodology developed by FEMA and refined by Oregon Office of Emergency Management (for more information see Section 2, Risk Assessment and Appendix G).

Table 0.1 Risk Assessment Summary

Hazard	Probability	Vulnerability	Total Score	Hazard Rank
Severe Weather - Windstorms	High	High	208	#1
Severe Weather - Winter Storms	High	Moderate	203	#2
Earthquakes	High	High	203	#3
Flood	High	Moderate	188	#4
Volcano (Ash Fall)	Moderate	Moderate	178	#5
Drought	Moderate	Moderate	155	#6
Landslides and Debris Flow	Moderate	Low	86	#7

How Does the Plan Reduce Risk?

This Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP) is intended to assist the City of Beaverton in reducing its risk from natural hazards by identifying resources, information, and strategies for risk reduction. It will also help to guide and coordinate mitigation activities throughout the City. The City received one third of the funds to develop the original plan, with the assistance of a consultant, from the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program, a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant program. The City of Beaverton provided the additional funds for the plan’s development from its General Fund. The maintenance and update to the plan was conducted by City staff and volunteers from the community serving on the NHMP Steering Committee. All costs associated with the maintenance, update and distribution of the plan were paid for out of the City’s general fund.

Mitigation Plan Mission

The mission of the Beaverton Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan is to assist in reducing risk, preventing loss, and protecting life, property, and the environment from future natural hazard events. The plan fosters coordinated partnerships and the development of multi-objective strategies for reducing the risks posed by natural hazards.

Mitigation Plan Goals

The mitigation plan goals help to guide the direction of future activities aimed at reducing risk and preventing loss from natural hazards. These goals serve as checkpoints as the City continues implementing mitigation action items.

The following are the goals for the City of Beaverton's Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan.

Goal 1: Develop and Implement Strategies to Protect Human Life, Commerce, Property, and Natural Systems from Natural Hazards

Goal 2: Improve Partnerships for Communication and Coordination

Goal 3: Enhance Emergency Services

Goal 4: Ensure Implementation of Mitigation Strategies

Who Participated in Developing the Plan?

The initial City of Beaverton Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan was the result of a collaborative effort between Beaverton citizens, public agencies, non-profit organizations, the private sector, and state and regional organizations. Public participation played a key role in the development of goals and action items. The research team conducted interviews with stakeholders throughout the City, held multiple focus groups, and researched and reviewed information on each of the hazards most common to Beaverton. A project steering committee consisting of City staff and stakeholders guided the process of developing the plan.

Plan Revision

Federal requirements for the maintenance of natural hazards mitigation plans, and for remaining eligible for mitigation grants, includes the need to review and update the plan at least every five years. This is to help ensure that the plan remains an active and relevant document. The City's Emergency Management Program, assisted by the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP) Steering Committee, is responsible for the review and update of the plan.

This is the second revision to the original NHMP which was originally completed in 2003 and revised in 2011. While this current update was started in 2015 to meet the 5

year requirement of being completed in 2016; various factors contributed to multiple delays in getting the revision completed. During that timeframe a number of people were involved in the review and comments; including some who no longer work for the City or the agency that they were representing.

NHMP Steering Committee

The Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Steering Committee serves as the coordinating body for the plan and is responsible both for coordinating the implementation of plan action items and for undertaking the formal review process. The Mayor's Office will ensure that appropriate representatives are assigned from the applicable City departments and programs, including, but not limited to, the current Natural Hazards Mitigation Steering Committee members. Members of the steering committee include representatives from:

- City of Beaverton Emergency Management Program
- City of Beaverton Community Development Department
- City of Beaverton Public Works
- City of Beaverton Finance/ISD/GIS Service
- Beaverton Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Beaverton Committee for Citizen Involvement (BCCI)
- City of Beaverton Mayor's Office
- City of Beaverton City Council

The Natural Hazards Mitigation Steering Committee meets no less than bi-annually. These meetings provide an opportunity to discuss the progress of the action items in the plan, and maintain the partnerships that are essential for the sustainability of the Mitigation Plan. Some of these meetings are conducted electronically.

External partners who have participated on the Steering Committee or have provided recommendations on plan sections includes:

- Washington County Emergency Management
- Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue
- Portland General Electric (PGE)
- Northwest Natural
- Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

How is the Plan Organized?

There are two parts of the plan, the Basic Plan and the Appendices. Each section provides specific information and resources to assist readers in understanding the

hazard-specific issues facing City of Beaverton residents, businesses, and the environment. Combined, the sections work together to create a mitigation plan that furthers the community’s mission to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and their property from hazards and their effects. The plan’s structure also enables stakeholders to easily locate and use the section(s) of interest to them. Additional details on the plan components are contained in Section 1 of the Basic Plan.

Basic Plan

Plan Summary

Section 1 - Introduction

Section 2 - Risk Assessment

Section 3 - Mitigation Strategy

Section 4 - Implementation and Maintenance

Map Directory

Appendices

Appendix A: Action Items

Appendix B: Planning and Public Process

Appendix C: Community Profile

Appendix D: Economic Analysis of Natural Hazard Mitigation Projects

Appendix E: Grant Programs and Resources

Appendix F: 2019 Preparedness and Mitigation Survey

Appendix G: Hazard Analysis

Executive Summary Endnotes

¹ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management. 1999. “Hazard Mitigation: Managing Risks, Lowering Costs. <http://www.state.ma.us/dem/programs/mitigate/whatis.htm> Accessed 8/2/02

² DMA 2000, State and Local Plan Criteria: Mitigation Planning Workshop for Local Governments, http://www.fema.gov/fima/planning_toc4.shtm

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