

NEWS RELEASE

MASON COUNTY

Division of Emergency Management
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MASON COUNTY DRAFT HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

In December 2022, a coalition of Mason County cities and special purpose districts embarked on a planning process to prepare for impacts of disasters.

Responding to federal mandates in the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390), the coalition was formed to pool resources and create a uniform hazard mitigation strategy that can be consistently applied to the defined planning area. This planning coalition has now completed that effort. The planning process was led by Mason County Emergency Management with support from Bridgeview Consulting, LLC, the technical consultant. The project was funded by a planning grant from FEMA, and took approximately 10 months to complete.

During this process, citizens were asked to contribute by sharing local knowledge of the region's vulnerability to hazards based on past occurrences, as well as identify initiatives which could help reduce the level of impact of those hazards. Public involvement was solicited via a multi-media campaign that included: press releases; public council/board presentations and meetings; web-based information; questionnaires, and safety fairs.

That process has now culminated with the development of the Mason County 2023 Draft Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan, (Volumes 1 and 2) which are now available for review and comment at the informational website established for this planning effort at:

<https://www.masoncountywa.gov/dem/plan-update/index.php>

The public is highly encouraged to provide input on the draft plan to Tammi Wright, Project Manager, Emergency Management Coordinator of Mason County Division of Emergency Management at the email address listed above. The comment period for review of draft plan will begin May 15, 2023 and end May 30, 2023.