

Northern Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Code of Virginia §44-146.19 authorizes and requires each political subdivision within the Commonwealth to be responsible for local disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, as amended requires that local governments develop, adopt, and update natural hazard mitigation plans in order to receive certain federal assistance. The Code of Virginia requires City Council approval of the plan.

A Mitigation Advisory Committee (MAC), comprised of representatives from the Counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William; the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park; and Dumfries, the Towns of Haymarket, Herndon, Leesburg, Lovettsville, Middleburg, Purcellville, Occoquan, Round Hill, and Vienna, was convened in order to assess the risks of hazards facing the Northern Virginia Region, and to make recommendations on actions to be taken to mitigate these hazards.

The Northern Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan incorporates the comments, ideas, and concerns of the community and of the public in general, which this plan is designed to protect, ascertained through a series of public hearings, publication of the draft plan, press releases, and other outreach activities.

The 2017 Northern Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan includes the following:

- Four Basic Components of a Risk Assessment:
 - Identify Hazards;
 - Profile Hazard Events;
 - Inventory Assets; and
 - Estimate Losses