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REGION III



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NATIONAL DISASTER
RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

STRENGTHENING
DISASTER RECOVERY
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FEDERAL DISASTER RECOVERY COORDINATOR'S CORNER

By: [Kevin Snyder](#), Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator, FEMA Region III

Last October I encouraged all of us to stay abreast of the Nation's response and recovery efforts post-Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. In particular, I urged us to keep an eye out for best practices that we may be able to apply in Region III to help us deal with similar levels of complexity and uncertainty post-disaster. Well, recently I was afforded the opportunity to act on my October urgings – since March I have been deployed to support the recovery operation in Puerto Rico, giving me a firsthand look into the innovative ways that Federal, Commonwealth and local partners are working together to advance recovery. This includes a unique organizational structure that integrates FEMA grant programs such as Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation, through “sectors,” with the efforts of our Federal Recovery Support Functions. The goal of this integration is to get all of our resources focused on developing and implementing creative solutions that will help Puerto Rico achieve their desired recovery outcomes. This integration is exciting to see and represents, in my mind, a real advancement in the way that we implement the concepts of the National Disaster Recovery Framework. I expect there will be many best practices we can apply in the Mid-Atlantic.

All of this is happening at a time when the Agency looks to “mature” the National Disaster Recovery Framework – an important objective in the Agency's new Strategic Plan. The Plan was developed with input from offices across the agency as well as our most important partners – state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector (see <https://www.fema.gov/strategic-plan> for more). How we achieve evolve of the NDRF will be informed by the 2017 hurricane season as well as the lessons you have learned in Region III over the past seven years of the NDRF. I look forward to sharing more with you from Puerto Rico and our future work together maturing the Framework. Take care.

RECOVERY PLANNING IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

By: [Ed Pomer](#), Director, Recovery and Resilience Division, Virginia Department of Emergency Management

As Hurricane Matthew churned out to sea after a glancing blow to southern Virginia in October 2016, the Commonwealth was left to pick up the pieces of an unprecedented amount of rainfall in a 30 day period, setting the stage for disastrous interior flooding. By the time it was all over, over 10 million dollars in individual and household assistance had been paid to 2,261 applicants in seven affected cities and counties, Public Assistance obligations topped 15 million dollars, and SBA and NFIP claims edged above the 50 million dollar mark. When the IA doors finally closed at the JFO in 2017, the VDEM Recovery Division took a good look at ourselves and concluded that we might not be as prepared as we thought we were for a cataclysmic event. What was needed was a statewide recovery plan.

A lot had happened since Virginia's last IA declaration. The country had been hit with an unprecedented number of disasters, and the post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act had been passed modifying the Stafford Act to enhance FEMA's responsibilities and authority. This in turn birthed the National Disaster Recovery Framework in short order, which established six Recovery-centric functions post disaster. Closer to home, VDEM was on the tail-end of a substantive and philosophical change in the way we did business, pushing resources out to seven separate regions and de-centralizing a system that had been historically stove-piped and concentrated in Richmond. It was time to take the next step.

Our journey in developing a plan for recovery started with an exhaustive review of what other states were doing given similar population profiles, geography, and threats. We found many in various states of development and with varying degrees of relevance, but none exactly struck a chord until we came across the Colorado Recovery Plan. Colorado had weathered a massive series of flooding events in 2013, which had created the impetus and the political will to develop not only a combined response and recovery plan, but also a resiliency framework for the State, a goal we aspire to as well. Borrowing from Colorado's success, we embarked on our own development plan tailored to the needs of the Commonwealth.

Over the course of 10 months, the Recovery division brought together over 30 state agencies and held two sets of meetings for each RSF function; an initial symposium and a follow-up meeting to incorporate changes. Once fully approved and vetted, the Recovery Plan (RP) will be an annex to the Commonwealth Emergency Operation Plan (COVEOP) and is organized in a similar layout. Both plans take a functional approach and are therefore laid out by either emergency support (ESF) or recovery support (RSF) function. The RP attempts to bridge historic gaps that have existed between traditional state emergency operations management by identifying those functions already being conducted by State agencies, identifying where those capabilities intersect with disaster recovery, and create assignments within that arena. The key to success was two fold: 1) At no time did we ask a State agency to change, alter or increase their involvement or capabilities in a disaster.

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RECOVERY PLANNING IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA—CONTINUED

Rather, we highlighted those things that they do, identified and eliminated overlaps and redundancies, and wove them into the greater plan; and 2) Relationship building with other State agencies was paramount in developing the RP. VDEM partners with a few agencies routinely, but there were many which should be included that had rudimentary knowledge (or had never heard of) VDEM or emergency management outside of a general sense. Our project lead, Amanda Reidelbach, worked tirelessly to drum up enthusiasm, encourage and facilitate attendance at RSF meetings, and educate State agencies on the importance, relevance and ultimately, their invaluable assistance in a successful recovery.

There are 12 State recovery support functions in the RP (out of an initial 13). Each support function has been assigned a State agency lead with other agencies taking on support roles as necessary. Leads are responsible for ensuring lead and supporting roles are filled and tasks are conducted pre-disaster, during events, and post-disaster. By design, the RP aligns with the National Disaster Recovery Framework in all areas, but expands RSF functions in the State to better tailor recovery operations to the individual event. Still unresolved is private industry coordination and support, a key element of the framework that will be incorporated independently.

There is a special relationship between response and recovery, sometimes quite independent of each other, but often prosecuted in tandem as situations unfold. Upon embarking on this task, we assumed that we would need to provide “hard-line” connections between when response ended and when recovery began. As we delved deeper into development, we found that those inter-connecting lines were too hard to define, or often driven by the type of event, making for hundreds of iterations. In large part, this was the impetus

Recovery isn’t a static endeavor; it is constantly present through preparedness, mitigation and resilience planning.

FEMA AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS RELEASE PREPTALK ON LAND USE PLANNING

FEMA, in partnership with organizations that collectively represent the emergency management profession, released the fifth video presentation from the inaugural PrepTalks Symposium, Dr. Philip Berke’s “Land Use Planning for Community Resilience.”

In his PrepTalk, Dr. Berke explains how effective land use planning strengthens community resilience, through sharing research that he says shows “preventative land use policies have the highest benefit-cost ratios and Community Rating System incentives, yet are the least used actions to reduce vulnerability and promote mitigation.” He is a Professor of Land Use and Environmental Planning at College Station, Texas A&M, and Director of the Institute for Sustainable Communities there. He co-authored “Natural Hazard Mitigation: Recasting Disaster Policy and Planning,” selected as one of the 100 Essential Books in Planning of the 20th century by the American Planning Association Centennial Great Books.

Dr. Berke’s presentation, the question-and-answer session that followed, a discussion guide, and additional reference materials are available at <https://www.fema.gov/preptalks>. This is the fifth video of eight being produced from the PrepTalks Symposium held in Washington, D.C. in January. The next PrepTalks Symposium is tentatively scheduled for fall of 2018.

Upcoming PrepTalk video topics include disaster risk in developing countries and lessons learned from disaster survivors. The next PrepTalks video is currently scheduled for release later this month.

PrepTalks are a partnership between FEMA, the International Association of Emergency Managers, the National Emergency Management

Association, the National Homeland Security Consortium, and the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security. PrepTalks are given by subject matter experts and thought leaders to spread new ideas, spark conversation, and promote innovative leadership for the issues confronting emergency managers now and over the next 20 years. Other available PrepTalks include:

- Financial Literacy and Overcoming Liquid Asset Poverty: John Hope Bryant
- The Making of a Resilient Future - Disaster Risk in Developing Countries: Francis Ghesquiere
- Who’s at Risk? Rapid Mapping of Potential Hazard Exposure: Dr. Robert Chen
- Social Capital in Disaster Mitigation and Recovery: Dr. Daniel Aldrich
- The Next Pandemic: Lessons from History: John M. Barry
- Modernizing Public Warning Messaging: Dr. Dennis Mileti

Please email FEMA-TARequest@fema.dhs.gov with questions or comments on PrepTalks.

PREPTalks
New perspectives for emergency managers



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FEMA RELEASES 2018– 2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

On March 15, FEMA released today its [2018-2022 Strategic Plan](#), which seeks to unify and further professionalize emergency management across the country, helping us build a stronger agency and a more resilient nation. When disasters strike, FEMA cannot succeed alone in the mission of helping people. We need to work in coordination with our partners and stakeholders to ensure that response and recovery is federally coordinated, state managed, and locally executed. This strategic plan strives to rally all our stakeholders and the Agency around the three goals of preparedness, catastrophic readiness, and reducing complexity. The Strategic Plan outlines three ambitious, but achievable goals for the next five years:

Build a culture of preparedness. Every segment of our society, from individual to government, industry to philanthropy, must be encouraged and empowered with the information it needs to prepare for the inevitable impacts of future disasters.

Ready the nation for catastrophic disasters. FEMA will work with its partners across all levels of government to strengthen partnerships and access new sources of scalable capabilities to quickly meet the needs of overwhelming incidents.

Reduce the complexity of FEMA. FEMA must continue to be responsible stewards of the resources we are entrusted to administer. We must also do everything that we can to leverage data to drive decision-making, and reduce the administrative and bureaucratic burdens that impede impacted individuals and communities from quickly receiving the assistance they need. These goals, and their supporting objectives, reflect recommendations and perspectives from conversa-

tions with disaster survivors and communities, and from what FEMA learned from the recent historic disaster season, through insights shared in collaborative Discovery Change Sessions with employees, and an online IdeaScale campaign.

“Each of these goals represents a major undertaking, and FEMA won’t be able to accomplish them without the help of the entire community,” said Administrator Long. “This plan is just the beginning, as we galvanize the whole community to help individuals and families during times of need. We are going to be talking about it a lot and acting on it.”

2018-2022 Strategic Plan
Helping People. Together.

I. BUILD A CULTURE OF PREPAREDNESS

- 1.1 Incentivize investments that reduce risk, including pre-disaster mitigation, and reduce disaster costs at all levels
- 1.2 Close the insurance gap
- 1.3 Help people prepare for disasters
- 1.4 Better learn from past disasters, improve continuity, and innovate

II. READY THE NATION FOR CATASTROPHIC DISASTERS

- 2.1 Organize the “BEST” (Build, Empower, Sustain, and Train) scalable and capable incident workforce
- 2.2 Enhance intergovernmental coordination through FEMA Integration Teams
- 2.3 Posture FEMA and the whole community to provide life-saving and life-sustaining commodities, equipment, and personnel from all available sources
- 2.4 Improve continuity and resilient communications capabilities

III. REDUCE THE COMPLEXITY OF FEMA

- 3.1 Streamline the disaster survivor and grantee experience
- 3.2 Mature the National Disaster Recovery Framework
- 3.3 Develop innovative systems and business processes that enable FEMA’s employees to rapidly and effectively deliver the agency’s mission
- 3.4 Strengthen grants management, increase transparency, and improve data analysis

FEMA Vision: A prepared and resilient Nation.

GET INVOLVED!! FEMA REGION III PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL LEVEL EXERCISE 2018

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) leads national-level exercises every two years. National Level Exercise (NLE) 2018 will examine the ability of all levels of government, private industry, and nongovernmental organizations to protect against, respond to, and recover from a major Mid-Atlantic hurricane. The scenario involves a major hurricane that makes landfall near Hampton Roads, Virginia, causing severe damage to residences, businesses, and critical infrastructure throughout the Mid-Atlantic. Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria last fall reinforced our need to prepare for hurricanes, and NLE 2018 provides a well-timed opportunity to apply lessons from those storms in advance of the 2018 Atlantic hurricane season, which begins on June 1.

The scenario involves a major hurricane that makes landfall near Hampton Roads, Virginia, causing severe damage to residences, businesses, and critical infrastructure throughout the Mid-Atlantic. The scenario will include power outages and cascading effects, including impacts to communications, transportation, water/ wastewater, and hospital systems.

There are many ways to participate in NLE 2018 and become better prepared for hurricanes. If your organization is vulnerable to hurricanes, it is important that you understand your risk, develop a preparedness and mitigation plan, and take action. Doing so will not only increase the safety of your membership, but will help your organization remain open after disasters strike. When you are able to continue operations after a disaster, you also improve your community’s ability to recover. Visit FEMA’s [National Level Exercise 2018](#) homepage to download the Community Engagement Fact Sheets. Also, visit the [FEMA Preparedness Toolkit](#), an online portal that provides the whole community with tools to aid in implementing all six areas of the National Preparedness System.

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MITIGATION CORNER—THE GAME OF FLOODS WORKSHOP IN PHILADELPHIA

On March 2, 2018, the [Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission \(DVRPC\)](#), with support from the [Urban Sustainability Directors Network \(USDN\)](#), held an interactive workshop in Philadelphia known as The Game of Floods. This interactive game-based exercise serves as a public education activity on the intricacies and challenges of floodplain management, sea level rise adaptation and the process of conducting vulnerability and risk assessments. The Game of Floods encourages participants to think critically about strategies to protect public assets from current and future flooding (in addition to other climate change impacts) and focuses on potential ramifications to the transportation, housing and stormwater management sectors. The game also uses real-world examples of impacts from coastal, riverine, and urban flooding, while players take on the role and priorities of Mayor, Transportation Planner, Home Owners Association President, Utility Administrator, etc.

A team of local public works engineers and planners in Marin County, California developed [The Game of Floods](#) in 2015 in response to rising sea levels and high king tides threatening the lives and homes of Marin County residents. By inviting residents to play the part of planning commissioners assessing adaptation strategies against the rising sea levels for a hypothetical “Marin Island,” The Game of Floods was an innovative way for county officials to involve the public in the hazard mitigation planning process. Marin County earned recognition for its innovative planning methods and received a national award for public outreach from the American Planning Association (APA). The USDN was inspired by the success of the original Game of Floods to adapt the game for a wider audience based on the hypothetical community of “Resilience Harbor.” FEMA Region III saw the success of this effort when the City of Baltimore developed their own version of the game as part of their Hazard Mitigation Plan outreach strategy.

The game is set in Resilience Harbor, which is a low-lying urban waterfront community that is historically prone to flooding during coastal storms and hurricanes. Participants are broken up into teams and assigned a budget, climate scenario, and a role of either an elected official, city planning or public works staff, a utility provider, community member, or a representative of another interest group. The first exercise requires team members to work together to select nine assets that are most important when considering comprehensive climate adaptation planning for a community. Participants must assign rankings for the exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity of each asset, and then perform a risk assessment of extreme weather impacts on each asset in terms of damage, disruption, and overall relative cost. Based on available funding, team members must then develop an implementable adaptation plan. Sea level rise and budget scenarios differ by team, allowing an opportunity for group discussion at the end of the game on how these constraints impacted their choices.

The Game of Floods workshop held in Philadelphia was a remarkable success, with roughly 80 attendees from an array of organizations, such as Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Amtrak, the City of Philadelphia, nearby counties and municipalities, local universities, and many more. Participants were trained to facilitate the game for future events. It also proved to be a great example of partnerships across various levels of government and provided an opportunity for participants to make connections and meet potential partners for future collaborative mitigation planning initiatives.

The Mitigation Division of FEMA Region 3 is already planning to offer this interactive planning opportunity as a step towards the FIMA Moonshot goal of quadrupling mitigation investment by 2023. Mitigation shouldn’t just be financed with FEMA grants, but it should be built into all forms of community planning including capital improvement and operational budgets. The game could also be the perfect way to kick off a Hazard Mitigation Plan update, as stakeholder groups take a new approach with assessing risk and strategizing action to address it. Incorporating Game of Floods early in the mitigation planning process can also encourage greater cross-departmental collaboration, which is critical to successful planning and implementation at all levels of government. The Game of Floods is more than a game – it is a means to encourage people to think about the impacts of planning decisions and how communities can shape those choices.

Anyone interested in viewing the workshop materials or organizing their own Game of Floods can download the Climate Training Toolkit developed by the USDN here: <https://www.usdn.org/public/page/18/Climate-Change-Preparedness#ClimateTraining>. For more information about incorporating Game of Floods into your mitigation planning process, please contact FEMA Region III Community Planning Lead, [Mari Radford](#).



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COMMUNITY PLANNING & CAPACITY BUILDING FEATURETTE



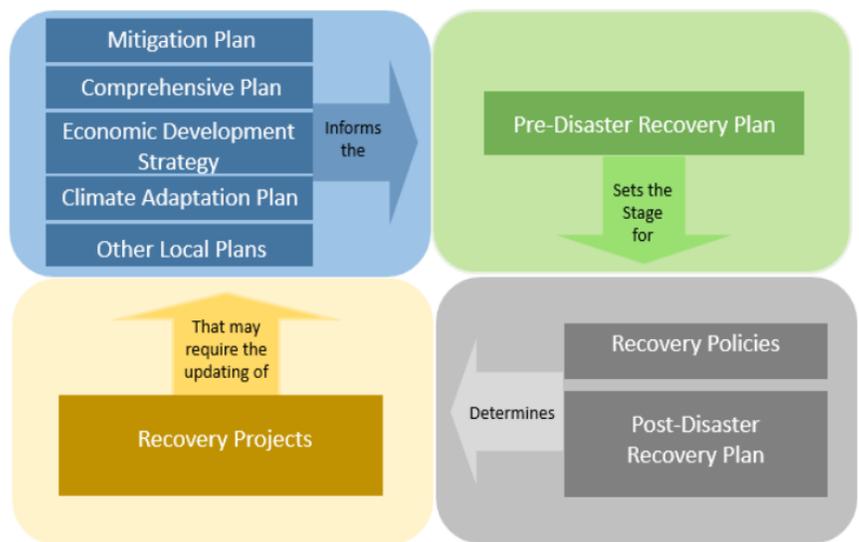
The **Community Planning and Capacity Building (CPCB) Recovery Support Function** supports and builds the community planning resources and recovery capacities of Tribal, State and local governments needed to effectively plan for, manage, and implement disaster recovery activities in large, unique, or catastrophic incidents.

CPCB AND OTHER RSFs SUPPORT “INTERAGENCY RESPONSE TO DISASTER RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE” PANEL AT NADO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The National Association of Development Organizations held their annual Washington, DC Conference on March 18th to 21st. Matt Campbell, CPCB RSF National Coordinator, along with the coordinators for the Infrastructure and Economic Recovery Support Functions presented at a session titled, “*Interagency Response to Disaster Recovery and Resilience*”.

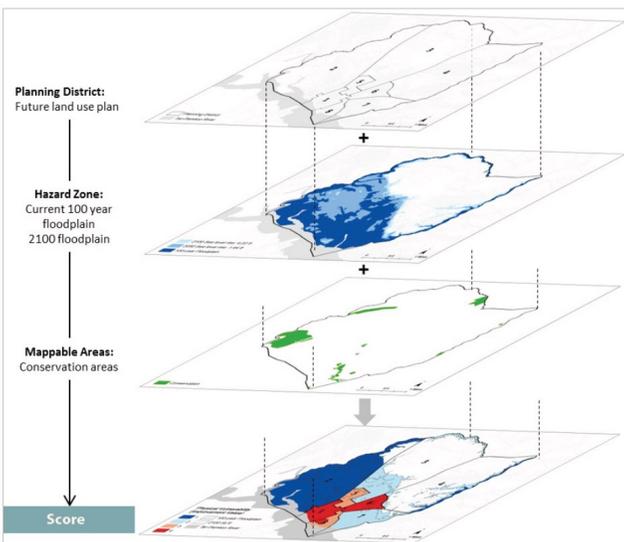
[NADO](#) is a professional association representing members of Regional Planning Commissions, Economic Development Districts and Councils of Government. These organizations, if they receive Economic Development Assistance funding, are required to develop a resiliency component within their regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDs).

Mr. Campbell spoke about key elements and principles of the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) and focused on relevance for these regional organizations, including approaches and key aspects for integrating local and regional plans into recovery or resilience efforts. There was a brief discussion of the intersection of comprehensive plans, hazard mitigation plans, capital facilities plans, land use and other plans and how they can come into play to coordinate not only policies but also stakeholders before and after disaster. Mr. Campbell spoke from a key graphic contained in FEMA’s Pre-Disaster Planning Guide for Recovery to highlight pre and post disaster connections.



PLAN INTEGRATION FOR RESILIENCE SCORECARD GUIDEBOOK

A new method is helping communities clear a difficult disaster planning hurdle: integrating all the plans they have—such as those for transportation, parks, economic development, hazard mitigation, emergency management and comprehensive land use—so that the plans work together to reduce vulnerabilities to hazards. The **Plan Integration for Resilience Scorecard** is a collaborative spatial plan evaluation tool developed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) [Coastal Resilience Center of Excellence](#) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Overlaying Planning Districts with hazard zones and other ‘mappable areas’ to generate scores for each plan and for the community overall.

Working with communities, researchers and planning practitioners converted this method into a guidebook and scorecard that walks users through (1) evaluating community plans with respect to hazards risk and how well they target areas of the community that are most vulnerable, (2) identifying when and where those plans are in conflict, and (3) resolving those conflicts across plans to reduce hazards vulnerabilities.

The research team since July 2016 has worked with three pilot communities to test the Scorecard: League City, Texas; Norfolk, Virginia; and San Luis Obispo, California. Results to date demonstrate that the Scorecard method makes it easier to recognize gaps and conflicts across a community’s network of plans. Having this information enables planners and emergency managers to engage the whole community to improve the integration, consistency and responsiveness of their networks of plans. For more information on the scorecard method and [guidebook](#), visit www.mitigationguide.org

COMMUNITY PLANNING & CAPACITY BUILDING FEATURETTE



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BOUNCING BACK—THE PHILADELPHIA DISASTER RECOVERY WORKSHOP SERIES

By Nicola Mammes, Recovery Planning Coordinator, City of Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management

Philadelphia's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) this winter hosted *Bouncing Back – The Philadelphia Disaster Recovery Workshop Series*. This two-part convening engaged representatives from agencies and organizations serving the Philadelphia region on disaster recovery operations. Participants investigated various disaster recovery themes, such as housing, infrastructure systems, and economic recovery, to name a few. Highlights from the workshop are below:

Developing a disaster recovery framework

During the workshops, Philadelphia OEM introduced stakeholders to the draft Philadelphia Disaster Recovery Framework, a high-level document that provides a scalable and adaptable approach to recovery. The Framework identifies objectives and strategies to support decision making by establishing priorities, identifying roles and responsibilities, and locating available resources. Working in breakout groups, participants discussed the application of the Framework to localized, large-scale and catastrophic threats facing Philadelphia, and clarified organizational roles and responsibilities in disaster recovery.

Tapping into existing relationships and building new ones

The workshops reinforced that existing relationships among Philadelphia-based agencies are an invaluable resource to be leveraged in the event of a disaster. The workshops also identified opportunities to develop new relationships with agencies that Philadelphia OEM may not engage with regularly during or after an emergency.

Learning from the experts

Prominent guest speakers shared insights and best practices for disaster recovery. Daniel Craig, the former Director of Recovery at FEMA, reviewed federal disaster policy and funding resources, and spoke about his experience working on interim and long-term disaster housing in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria. Michael King, Recovery Chief for Richland County, South Carolina, spoke about local disaster recovery

coordination and the importance of developing strong partnerships with local Volunteers Active in Disaster (VOAD) organizations.

Learning from the community

Local nonprofit organizations and representatives that work with neighborhoods and communities in Philadelphia also contributed their expertise and viewpoints. Understanding how to navigate federal disaster policy, is one thing, but it is another to understand the needs and interests of communities and neighborhoods. Gathering and incorporating community input will be a key component of disaster recovery planning and coordination in Philadelphia.

Disaster recovery planning is more important than ever. Last year is our most expensive year on-record for natural disasters in the United States, and like many other parts of the country, weather conditions in Philadelphia are only expected to get wetter, warmer, and more intense. Philadelphia joins a handful of cities across the country working through the disaster recovery process prior to a major event occurring, and the City aims to develop a program that is coordinated, equitable, and community-driven. Stay tuned!



Local, state and Federal stakeholders support the Infrastructure RSF breakout group at the February 9th Workshop in Philadelphia, PA.

FEMA REGION X'S INTEGRATING MITIGATION—RECOVERY PLANNING WEBINAR

A key goal of both hazard mitigation and recovery is increasing resilience. Although these two activities differ in many respects, this shared objective of increased resilience allows mitigation and recovery planning to reinforce one another and leverage greater benefits within the development of plans, and programs or projects. Because both mitigation and recovery planning can be carried out pre-disaster, there is generally ample time to coordinate activities and promote more widespread attention to resilience.

On December 8, 2017, FEMA Region X's Community Planning & Capacity Building Coordinator, Tom Donnelly, co-hosted a [Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning Coffee Break Series](#) presentation "Informing Recovery through Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning" with FEMA Region X's Mitigation Team and the City of Seattle. This informative webinar provided participants with a better understanding of the pre-disaster recovery planning process, the difference between pre-disaster and post-disaster recovery planning, and integration opportunities of pre-disaster recovery planning into mitigation planning.

You can view the webinar recording [here](#). To download the presentation and other reference materials from the webinar, click [here](#).

COMMUNITY PLANNING & CAPACITY BUILDING FEATURETTE



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CPCB FIELD UPDATES—HURICANE'S HARVEY AND MARIA

HURRICANE HARVEY - TEXAS CPCB TEAM SUPPORTS COMMUNITY FORUMS



On August 24, Harvey hit the coast near Rockport, Texas, as a category 4 hurricane. The winds weakened, but the storm continued to dump an unprecedented amount of rain that lingered around south Texas before slowly following the coast and making a final landfall around Cameron, Louisiana on August 30, 2017. The slow movement of the hurricane caused devastating flooding and property damage in more than 50 southeast and central Texas counties.

The CPCB team in Texas has been actively involved in supporting [Texas A&M's AgriLife's](#) upcoming forums and the [Community Health and Resource Management \(CHARM\)](#) workshops.

AgriLife with support from FEMA is putting together peer-to-peer forums geared towards local officials and their staff (planners, city managers, etc). Presenters in the forums are other Texas officials who have experience disasters and wish to share lessons learned, pitfalls, and best practices. Other organizations such as Rebuild are also involved. Meanwhile, CPCB is also helping out the Texas A&M CHARM events. CHARM is a Texas A&M University Program that seeks to bring the power of scenario planning a mapping to communities around the gulf dealing with hazards, suitability, and resiliency. The interactive and collaborative nature of the workshop allows communities to witness the long-term impact of planning decisions. CHARM events target local officials and attendance to these workshops is by invite only.

The team continues to coordinate and collaborate with dozens of partners on strategies and activities that support Texas communities with recovery planning and local capacity. For more information about the CPCB Texas mission, please contact CPCB Field Coordinator, De'An.Bass@fema.dhs.gov or CPCB Deputy Field Coordinator, Richard.Martinjr@fema.dhs.gov.

FUNDER'S FORUM IN THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

In the U.S. Virgin Islands, CPCB has been supporting the Territory through three Recovery Planning processes on St. Croix, St. John, and St. Thomas. Each of the islands have Long-Term Recovery Planning Committees and various subcommittees whose goal is to shape reconstruction through grass roots engagement on critical issues.

Due to the unique one level structure of the Territorial government, local foundations and local philanthropic foundations have stepped in to fill a role that is usually played by local governments. This presents an opportunity to capitalize on their fundraising capabilities to implement identified projects in the future. CPCB is working closely with both the FEMA Philanthropic Advisor and national partners and has already identified and secured funding for a number of projects.

On March 8 to March 11, philanthropic groups gathered in St. Croix to support a Funder's Forum. Topics discussed included historical perspectives of St Croix and the Diaspora, model focused investments in strategic places, the power of data to influence philanthropy. The workshop was put together by the St. Croix Foundation. The St. Croix Foundation for Community Development has served as a catalyst for strategic philanthropic investments within the U.S. Virgin Islands since 1990. The St. Croix Foundation for Community Development believes in the role of nonprofits working with the private sector to fulfill gaps that the government alone cannot fill. They have been working hard to convene philanthropic and non-profit groups, and have been a key partner in recovery.

Various philanthropic groups, as well as FEMA, were invited to attend the workshop. The workshop was very well received and organizations walked away with an increased understanding of recovery opportunities. CPCB has also remained engaged with all other Recovery Support and U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) deployed to the field to support the overall recovery. American Planning Association (APA) is reviewing an application to target planning resources to the redevelopment of a critical healthcare and commercial hub on St. Thomas that was identified during the Recovery Planning Process.

On St. Croix, CPCB is partnering with the Governors Recovery Taskforce to hold two public recovery planning events on 4/16 and 4/17. This will help St. Croix planning stakeholders leverage planning processes that are already underway.

For more information about the CPCB USVI mission, please contact CPCB Field Coordinator, Jonathon.Halfon@fema.dhs.gov.

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TOOLS, TRAININGS, AND RESOURCE UPDATES

TOOLS AND REPORTS

[Community Recovery Management Toolkit](#)

[Annual Report of the Flood Insurance Advocate](#)

PUBLIC INPUT NEEDED—
[New Draft National Mitigation Investment Strategy \(NMIS\) for Public Comment](#)

SIGN UP FOR A LISTSERV!

[FEMA Region III Resilience Report](#)
(email for request to join)

[Resilient Virginia newsletter](#)

[Coastal Resilience Center newsletter](#)

[HQ's National Community Planning & Capacity Building Recovery Support Function Quarterly Bulletin](#)
(email for request to join)

[Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities Network \(EPIC-N\)](#)

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VIDEO & WEB RESOURCES

[MAX.gov Resources](#)
[Harvey, Irma, Maria CPCB National Hub](#)
[Texas CPCB Home Page](#)
[Florida CPCB Home Page](#)
[Puerto Rico CPCB Home Page](#)
[U.S. Virginia Islands Home Page](#)

[American Planning Association's Disaster Recovery Resources](#)

[Beyond the Basics Best Practices in Local Mitigation Planning](#)

[National Level Exercise 2018](#)

EVENTS AND WEBINARS

[FEMA Region III Mitigation Coffee Break](#)
[New Approaches to Improving Your Hazard Mitigation Assessments—May 23](#)
[Integrating Your Long Range Vision with your Hazard Mitigation Plan—July 25](#)

[Association of State Floodplain Managers \(ASFPM\) 2018 Annual Conference](#)
[June 17-21](#)

[Emergency Management Institute \(EMI\) E209 State Recovery Planning & Coordination](#)
[July 23—July 26](#)
[E210 Recovery From Disaster: The Local Community Role](#)
[August 27-30](#)