BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Integrated local hazards planning

Project title: Local Planning Networks and Neighborhood Vulnerability Indicators **Researchers**: Dr. Phil Berke, Texas A&M University (PI); Jaimie Masterson, Texas A&M University

Some communities have dozens of plans covering comprehensive land use, emergency management, economic development, hazard mitigation, transportation, parks and other sectors. The sources of these plans and projects range from multiple departments within federal and local governments, community leadership, business owners, private and commercial builders, as well as the public at large.

Through the Plan Integration for Resilience Scorecard (PIRS) tool, communities can craft a comprehensive approach to hazard mitigation by ensuring that local plans align. PIRS allows local practitioners to self-evaluate their community's plans and make adjustments to bring them into better alignment. The strategies for doing this can be precisely tailored to each community's specific needs. Core activities of the project include applying PIRS to a broader set of communities in diverse geographic and socio-economic settings, and refining training materials to assist local planners and others to integrate mitigation into all relevant sectors of urban development.

FAST FACTS

- Norfolk, Va., revised its city plans in response to working through PIRS.
- Plan materials and case studies are available at mitigationguide.org.
- Global application plans include testing the tool in The Netherlands and China.

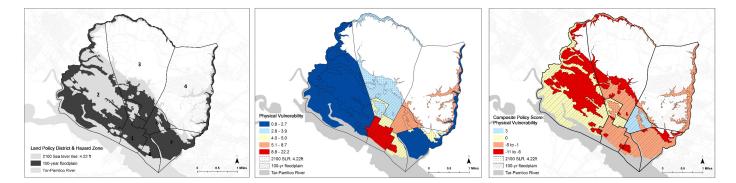


Fig. 1 Researchers assemble all relevant community plans that guide development decisions, identifying geographic areas or populations that are most vulnerable.

