Flood Mitigation Committee Annual Status Report

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Introduction

The Flood Mitigation Committee has the following objectives:

1. Promote hazard mitigation planning and implementation through mutual support, sharing best practices, and review of new technical assistance products for dissemination.
2. Include climate change and other future conditions impacts in flood mitigation discussions and planning considerations.
3. Look for opportunities to include and engage marginalized floodplain populations to gain an understanding about how social inequities and environmental injustice issues impact flood mitigation. Seek solutions for a fair and balanced application of mitigation actions across diverse populations.
4. Maintain partnerships with other national and federal agencies, as well as for-profit and non-profit groups to enhance flood mitigation efforts and programs throughout the country, when possible.
5. Support the mitigation approaches and concepts set forth in ASFPM’s No Adverse Impact (NAI) initiative.
6. Build the committee through outreach, conference calls, and project engagement.

Key Accomplishments in 2022- 2023

Activities during the past year included:

- Co-chairs participated on the ASFPM Social Justice and Climate Change Task Forces to continue consistent messaging with Flood Mitigation Committee
- Co-chairs participated in Flood Insurance and Regulations Committee meetings to track NFIP Reform progress and RR2.0 ongoing issues
- Presented on FEMA’s FMA Swift Current initiative (ASFPM 2022 conference)
- STORM Act: outreach to understand which states plan to participate and what technical assistance is needed to increase participation
- DRRA 1206—worked to bring about clarification/preparedness for use of this resource
- Distributed messaging about NAI and supported NAI presentations
- Revision of the National Flood Insurance Program’s (NFIP) floodplain management standards: comments collected & shared with leadership
- Worked with leadership to develop draft legislation for the “CAP-MIT” initiative, ongoing
- Worked with FEMA/others to distribute information about several updates to the BCA
- Worked with Flood Science Center’s working group to release the ReduceFloodRisk.org site
- Reviewed issues regarding state building codes and BRIC application scoring criteria
- Jana Henderson testified before the Senate Banking Committee June 2022
- Worked with national leaders to prepare guidance for RE flood disclosure practices (still draft)
• Risk Rating 2.0 issues related to mitigation of flood-prone properties and lack of connection with RR2.0 rating approach; contributed to ASFPM RR2.0 Letter, published February 2022
• Continued to monitor rising issues related to flood mitigation across the nation
• Attended ASFPM annual Co-chairs Retreat, September 2022
• Attempted to coordinate with other states on HMA update comments, September 2022
• Coordinated availability to FEMA’s survey link for PA guidance comments, October 2022
• Worked with Paul Osman on draft of FPM public awareness project, November 2022
• Worked with ASFPM Certification Director to coordinate on webinar training opportunities
• Worked to update Flood Mitigation Committee page on website
• Distributed opportunity for comments on updates to CDBG-DR program, February 2023
• Continuing to monitor federal activity on the FFRMS, Spring 2023
• Coordinating with the Natural & Beneficial Functions committee for dual committee presentation

Priorities

• Continue to monitor and share rising flood mitigation issues with committee/ ASFPM leadership
• Continue to support development of state capacity to access and oversee state use of STORM Act program/ funds
• Continue to educate about 406 mitigation and DRRA 1206 resources/ issues
• Monitor NFIP Reform, especially regarding mitigation for income-based premiums reduction
• Continue to monitor HMA grant programs (BRIC, HMGP, FMA, LPDM) for equitable distribution practices

Recommended Actions

• Committee membership calls/ presentations
• Attend Social Justice & Climate Change Working Group meetings
• Attend ASFPM-FEMA Mitigation and RR2.0 calls
• Collaborate with appropriate groups to push above priorities