Institutionalizing Preparedness & Resilience
Natural Hazard Preparedness & Resilience
Natural Hazard Mitigation

• “Sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards.”

• Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief & Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) (1974 & 1988)

• Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) 2000

• Codified:
  – 44 CFR §201 (FEMA/State responsibilities)
  – 44 CFR §201.6 (local, multi-jurisdictional plans)
  – 44 CFR §201.7 (new Tribal guidance)
Mitigation Guiding Principles

• *Foster Cooperative Relationships*
  – FEMA, State, local communities

• *Emphasis on the Planning Process*
  – comprehensive & inclusive

• *Focus on Reducing Risks*
  – resiliency: ability to adapt & recover

• *Improve Mitigation Capabilities*
  – opportunities for engagement & support
SOURCE:
Masterson et al, 2014; Modified from Schwab, 1998; Lindell, Prater, and Perry 2007)
State & Local - Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMPs)

Form a foundation to reduce risks from natural hazards to people, property, and infrastructure:

✓ A vision for a safer community developed by and tailored to the community.
✓ An effort to make the community as independent and self-reliant as possible.
✓ An opportunity to comprehensively assess risks & develop a strategy to address those risks through preparedness, mitigation, and post-event recovery. *Mitigation reduces demand for response.*
✓ Opportunity to integrate hazard planning into other planning projects.
FEMA Mitigation Grant Funding Eligibility

• Includes “green infrastructure” projects
• Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA)
  – Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)
  – Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
  – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
• Public Assistance (PA) Permanent Work
  – Categories C-G
• Fire Management Assistance Grants (FMAG)
The Hazard Mitigation Plan is Not:

• A regulatory document - it does not create new regulations.

• A set-in-stone commitment of resources:
  ✔ FEMA and the State encourage communities to be both ambitious and practical.
  ✔ Both FEMA and the State understand that actions are dependent on the availability of resources.
  ✔ If actions included in the plan are unable to be completed, the community will not be punished.
Plan Integration

- Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Comprehensive / Master Plan
- Resiliency Plan
- Climate Action Plan
- Economic Development Plan
- Capital Improvement Plan
- Infrastructure Plan
- Parks, Open Space, Trails (POST) Plan
- Stormwater Management Plan
- Water Plan
- Energy Plan
- Supply Chain Plan
- Sustainability Plan
- Others....
How to Institutionalize

• Plans & Actions
  – Integration, Implementation, Maintenance
• Compounding Impacts of Climate Change
• Political Will
• Systems Thinking / Overall Planning Process
• Prioritization Methods
• Social Vulnerability & Impacts
Future Vision

• Vision is larger than just one agency or community
• Institutionalize mitigation actions & commitments
• Buy-in from all levels of government & communities
• Economic impacts
• Climate impacts & resiliency