Advisory Committee Meeting
September 12, 2012
AGENDA FOR TODAY

- **Purpose of Meeting**
  - Engage All Advisory Committee Members
  - Distribute Project Binders
  - Review Work Plan and Gather Input on Public Outreach Strategy, Hazard Identification, and Mitigation Goals

- **Project Work Plan and Schedule**
  - Review Advisory Committee Roles
  - Discussion / Q&A

- **Public Outreach Strategy**
  - Review Essential Components
  - Discuss Additional Ideas

- **Hazard Identification**
  - Preliminary Consensus Building Exercise
  - Data Collection Update

- **Mission Statement, Goals and Objectives**
  - Review Examples
  - Identify Key Themes

- **Discussion and Next Steps**
  - Survey Participation
  - Next Meeting
Key Project Tasks:
1. Planning Process
2. Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
3. Capability Assessment
4. Mitigation Strategy
5. Plan Maintenance Process
6. Plan Adoption and Approval

Theme: Municipalities are individual entities with specific characteristics/risks that need to be addressed.
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ROLES

- Participate in 8 Advisory Committee meetings
- Coordinate and assist with local workshops
- Identify stakeholders in each municipality, assist with local site visits and meetings (work with Eugene Livshits to schedule meetings for October)
- Make decisions on plan process and content
- Submit mitigation action implementation worksheets
- Review draft plan deliverables
- Be a resource to the SCRCOG and contractors
PUBLIC OUTREACH STRATEGY

- **Purpose:**
  - Engage public to meet FEMA requirements for mitigation planning
  - Generate public interest, solicit citizen input, engage additional partners in the planning process
  - “Ground-truthing”
  - Consensus building
  - Create multiple opportunities to participate

OUTREACH STRATEGIES

- Advisory Committee
- Municipality Meetings
- Regional Public Workshops
- Toolkit for Floodplain Management
- Project Fact Sheet
- Municipality Survey
- Public Survey
- SCRCOG Website
- Consider Social Media
- News Media
- Draft Plan Review
MEETINGS AND PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

- Advisory Committee Meetings
- Municipality Visits with Key Stakeholders
  - Identify essential facilities
  - Locate possible risk areas
  - Discuss past areas that have been damaged
  - Focus on individual municipalities
  - Meetings held in October – start thinking about who should attend and collaborate with Eugene Livshits on logistics!

- Regional Public Workshops
TOOLKIT AND PROJECT FACT SHEET

- **Toolkit for Floodplain Mapping**
  - To be produced for public workshops held as part of this project
  - To include non-technical guidance and visuals for property owners on:
    - FEMA floodplain mapping process
    - Differences in flood zones
    - Insurance requirements
    - Procedures for appeals, map amendments or revisions

- **Fact Sheet**
  - Basic project information
  - Link to the SCRCOG Mitigation Planning webpage
  - Double-sided PDF available for printing or posting on the web.
2 Surveys – Public and Municipal Stakeholder

- **Public Opinion Survey**
  - Opportunity to share opinions and participate in the mitigation planning process
  - Help local and regional officials understand public’s hazard concerns and interest and knowledge in mitigation and preparedness

- **Municipal Survey**
  - Help identify unique hazard risks and areas of concern
  - Share information on local mitigation capabilities
  - Share mitigation goals and actions currently engaged in

- Each is Voluntary!
NEWS MEDIA

- SCRCOG Website
  - Links from municipal sites
- Social Media – consideration
  - Facebook
  - Twitter
  - LinkedIn
  - YouTube
- Regional Media
  - Press releases
  - Public notices
DRAFT PLAN REVIEW

- Distributed to the Advisory Committee
- Posted on the SCRCOG Mitigation Planning page
- Shared with key stakeholders:
  - Neighboring communities
  - Local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities
  - Agencies that have the authority to regulate development
  - Businesses, academia and other private and non-profit interests
# Hazard Identification

- Focus of Plan is on **Natural** Hazards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Hazards (SCRCOG)</th>
<th>Connecticut’s Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (2010)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>River/Coastal Flooding</td>
<td>Tropical Cyclones (Hurricane &amp; Tropical Storm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Severe Thunderstorm/Tornado</td>
<td>Winter Storms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hurricane/Tropical Storm</td>
<td>Flooding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nor’easter</td>
<td>Ice Jams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Severe Winter Storm</td>
<td>Dam Failures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ice Jam</td>
<td>Wildland Fires</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Tornadoes</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Extreme Heat</td>
<td>Drought</td>
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<tr>
<td>Climate Change</td>
<td>Earthquakes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tsunami</td>
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HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

- Hazards Recommended for Initial Consideration:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Atmospheric</th>
<th>Hydrologic</th>
<th>Geologic</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extreme Temperatures</td>
<td>Coastal Erosion</td>
<td>Earthquake</td>
<td>Wildfire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hurricane/Tropical Storm</td>
<td>Dam Failure</td>
<td>Expansive Soils</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nor’easter</td>
<td>Drought</td>
<td>Land Subsidence</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Thunderstorm (includes high winds, hail, and lightning)</td>
<td>Flood (includes coastal, riverine and flash flooding). Also includes ice jams and storm surge.</td>
<td>Landslide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tornado</td>
<td>Sea Level Rise</td>
<td>Sinkhole</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Winter Storm (includes snow and ice)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tsunami</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Climate change may be addressed in terms of its potential effects on the frequency and intensity of natural hazards.
HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

- “Mayor for a Day” Exercise
  - $20M hazard mitigation grant has just been awarded to your community
  - As Mayor, you must first prioritize your hazards for mitigation projects
  - At least 50% of funds must be spent on the same hazard
RISK ASSESSMENT

- Helps establish mitigation priorities
- Key Steps
  - Data Collection and Analysis
  - Hazard Identification
  - Hazard Profiles and Mapping
    - Location
    - Extent
    - Previous occurrences
    - Probability of future occurrences
  - Inventory of Community Assets
  - Vulnerability Assessment
DATA “WISH LIST”

- GIS Data Inventory spreadsheet is currently being completed in cooperation with SCRCOG and municipalities
  - Administrative / Political Boundaries
  - Population and Demographics
  - Buildings, Infrastructure and Critical Facilities
  - Topography, Hydrology and Geology
  - Transportation
  - Land Use
  - Aerial Imagery
  - Hazards
Mitigation Techniques

1. Prevention
   • Typically government programs – building codes, floodplain regulations

2. Property Protection
   • Modification of buildings, building elevation, seismic retrofit

3. Natural Resource Protection
   • Protect natural resources, land acquisition, floodplain protection

4. Structural Projects
   • Modify environment with construction, dams, storm sewers, beach nourishment

5. Emergency Services
   • Warning systems, sandbagging, evacuation planning

6. Public Education and Awareness
   • Outreach projects, hazard mapping, real estate disclosure
MISSION STATEMENT, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Mitigation Strategy
  - Long-term blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment. The mitigation strategy describes how the community will accomplish the overall purpose, or mission, of the planning process.

- Goals
  - Long-term outcomes

- Actions
  - Specific actions taken to reduce risk to hazards
  - Objectives – can be used to organize actions and are still measurable

- Action Plan
  - How the actions will be prioritized and implemented
STATE OF CONNECTICUT - GOAL

- State of CT 2010 Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, Mission to mitigate effects of natural hazards by minimizing loss of life and property damage.
  1. Promote implementation of sound floodplain management and other natural hazard mitigation principles on a state and local level;
  2. Encourage research to support management and planning activities for natural hazard mitigation and State investment policies; and
  3. Promote implementation of effective natural hazard mitigation projects on a state and local level.
GOAL: REDUCE LOSSES OF LIFE AND PROPERTY, AND MINIMIZE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCE OF NATURAL HAZARDS.  

- **Objective 1.** Update town policies and plans to encourage sound practices.
- **Objective 2.** Ensure access to critical facilities.
- **Objective 3.** Improve capacity to deal with hazards by investing in necessary equipment and training.
- **Objective 4.** Enable residents to better help themselves through preparedness education.
- **Objective 5.** Continue participation in National Flood Insurance Program.
EXAMPLE GOAL STATEMENTS

- To reduce the loss of life and property and economic consequences as a result of natural disasters. (New Canaan)
- Reduce the loss of life and property and economic consequences as a result of flooding, high winds, severe winter storms and dam failure. (Norwalk)
- The primary goal of this hazard mitigation plan is to reduce the loss of or damage to life, property, infrastructure, and natural, cultural, and economic resources from natural disasters. This includes the reduction of public and private damage costs. Limiting losses of and damage to life and property will also reduce the social, emotional, and economic disruption associated with a natural disaster. (Guilford & East Haven)
DEVELOPING, ADOPTING, & IMPLEMENTING PLAN WILL... (GUILFORD & EAST HAVEN)

- Increase access to and awareness of funding sources for hazard mitigation projects.
- Identify mitigation initiatives to be implemented if and when funding becomes available.
- Connect hazard mitigation planning to other community planning efforts.
- Improve the mechanisms for pre-disaster and post-disaster decision making efforts.
- Improve the ability to implement post-disaster recovery projects.
- Enhance and preserve natural resource systems.
- Educate residents and policy makers about natural hazard risk and vulnerability.
- Complement future Community Rating System (CRS) efforts.
1. Mecklenburg County and participating municipalities will **identify and implement hazard mitigation projects** designed to reduce the impact of future hazard events.

2. Mecklenburg County and participating municipalities will **conduct education and outreach activities** intended to better inform people about natural hazards and the steps that can be taken to reduce their impact.

3. Mecklenburg County and participating municipalities will **conduct training and exercises** intended to better prepare government officials to respond to, mitigate against and recover from emergencies and disasters.

4. Mecklenburg County and participating municipalities will **improve their ability to warn people** of impending hazards and disasters.

5. Mecklenburg County and participating municipalities will **enact planning and policy measures** to reduce the impacts of identified hazards.

6. Mecklenburg County and participating municipalities will **implement traffic control procedures** intended to reduce injuries and the loss of life before, during and after emergencies and disasters.
DISCUSSION AND NEXT STEPS

- **Contract Team**
  - Finalize Public Outreach Strategy and begin implementation
  - Continue GIS data collection, begin hazards analysis

- **SCRCOG**
  - Assist with data collection
  - Maintain SCRCOG Webpage
  - Implement Public Outreach Strategy – including surveys

- **Advisory Committee**
  - Continue assisting SCRCOG with data collection
  - Identify local stakeholders for municipality meetings
  - Distribute survey link

- **Schedule Next Meeting**
  - October 10, 2012 (1:30-3:30 PM)
THANK YOU

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