



MEMORANDUM

Date: October 12, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner 
County Administrator

Re: **Additional Information for the Board of Supervisors October 18, 2022 Meeting – Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, Agenda Item No. 18**

The Pima County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan) is a community-wide regional planning endeavor facilitated by Pima County but involving all incorporated city, towns and one tribal partner. The current agenda item updates a document which was most recently reviewed in 2017.

The Plan assesses the risk of floods, drought, wildfires, severe weather, and other natural hazards that may be of concern to the County. While hazards are not always preventable, a hazard mitigation plan establishes the foundation for a long-term community strategy to reduce disaster losses and facilitates recovery. Natural hazard mitigation efforts are critical to manage the rising costs associated with disaster response, and recovery and a focused attention of federal, state, and local governments on addressing natural hazards before they occur. Events like torrential rains and floods cannot be prevented, however, planning for natural hazards and implementing mitigation measures can reduce the impact of such events when they do occur.

A Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved hazard mitigation plan allows agencies to apply for pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant funding. Under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, local jurisdictions are required to have a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan to position resources in advance of a disaster and to maintain eligibility for a range of disaster assistance and hazard mitigation funding. Having such a Plan in place also improves the community rating used by the National Flood Insurance Program, and can result in lower flood insurance premiums through the program.

Emergency response and recovery costs; property damage and monetary losses; personal injury and loss of life; and the overall economic and social impact on the community can all be reduced, and in some instances eliminated, through natural hazard mitigation.

JKL/dym

c: Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator and Chief Medical Officer
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Shane Clark, Director, Office of Emergency Management