



MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission
From: Patrick L. Mauney, Executive Director
Date: October 19, 2021
Subject: RRRC Application to VDEM for Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

You may recall that staff submitted an application last December for funding to update the regional hazard mitigation plan. Subsequently, Virginia Department of Emergency Management staff indicated that our application would not be funded due to limited funding, but that we should expect to follow up with an application this fall.

As a reminder, the Regional Commission serves as the coordinating agency for the region's Hazard Mitigation Plan, a requirement under the Stafford Act of 2000. The regional plan was first adopted in 2005, with mandated updates completed in 2012 and 2018. [A copy of the current plan](#) is available on the Commission's website.

Proposed Update to the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

In 2020, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) restructured several grant programs into the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program. Funding is included in the BRIC program for eligible projects, inclusive of updates to existing hazard mitigation plans.

The Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan was most recently approved on December 13, 2018, and must be updated within five years in order for participating jurisdictions to maintain eligibility for funding through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and future BRIC programs. The update process is expected to take 18 months and will include review of the existing plan, updates to plan sections, local mitigation strategy review and revisions, public outreach, and adoption by each participating jurisdiction.

The Regional Commission is requesting \$75,000 from the BRIC program to coordinate the review and update of the current plan with participation and oversight from local emergency management, planning, and administrative staff. The BRIC program requires a 25% local match, which staff proposes to meet via a combination of Regional Commission in-kind staff time derived from local per capita dues, as well as local in-kind contributions in the form of staff participation in meetings, plan review and plan updates.

Request for Locality Commitment to Participate

All five counties in the region and the Towns of Culpeper, Gordonsville, Madison, Orange, Remington and Warrenton participated and adopted the current plan in 2018/2019. As part of the grant application, FEMA and VDEM require demonstration of local intent to participate in the planning process.

Intent letters were submitted with the previous application in January 2021 and are allowable for this application. Staff will confirm with County Administrators and Town Managers that the existing intent letter will be appropriate for each participating locality.

REQUESTED ACTION: Approval for the Executive Director to submit the grant application to VDEM for Hazard Mitigation Plan update