



City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Coast Guard City, USA

Planning and Community Development Department

Date: January 9, 2019

To: Planning Commission

From: Maegan Bosak, Community Affairs Director
Dave Miller, Fire Chief
Scott Brylinsky, Interim Planning Director

Re: Recommendation of City and Borough of Sitka Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Sitka Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

BACKGROUND/PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In order to be eligible for FEMA funding in times of emergency/disaster or with hazard mitigation assistance programs, the City and Borough of Sitka must have an approved All-Hazards Mitigation Plan. This Plan must be approved by both the State of Alaska Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Sitka completed an approved plan in 2010 and received a grant in 2017 from FEMA to undergo an update as required on a five-year cycle.

The City and Borough of Sitka Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan includes information to assist the borough government and residents with planning to avoid potential future disaster losses. The plan provides information on natural hazards that affect Sitka, descriptions of previous disasters, and list projects that may help the community prevent disaster losses. The plan was developed to help the community of Sitka make future decisions regarding natural hazards that affect the City and Borough.

The 2018 plan update provides information on new development and population changes as well as highlights local and federal resources. The update reviews the status of past mitigation actions as well as identified new priorities such as Stormwater System Repair and Upgrade, Gavan Hill Landslide Mitigation Study, Gavan Hill Landslide Mitigation Implementation, All-Hazards Public Education Campaign, Data Collection Plans and Systems, Community Emergency Response Team Development, and Improving Food Security for Vulnerable Populations.

These priority projects were developed through public participation including multiple community meetings, community surveys, Planning Commission hearing and deliberation, Local Emergency Planning Commission hearing and deliberation, and an Assembly Work Session.

The draft update has been recently approved by DHSEM and FEMA, allowing final review and approval by the City and Borough of Sitka.

The City and Borough of Sitka HMP is intended to be a “living” document that will help inform all interested parties about the community’s hazard mitigation policies and projects. It will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis, including an annual review by the Planning Commission. The mitigation strategy identified will act as a guide for City departments in determining projects for which to seek FEMA assistance and other mitigation funds from outside sources.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission make a motion recommending approval of the Sitka Hazard Mitigation Plan 2018 Update.

Recommended Motion:

- 1) I move to recommend approval of the Sitka Hazard Mitigation Plan 2018 Update to the Assembly.

-OR-

- 2) I move to recommend approval of the Sitka Hazard Mitigation Plan 2018 Update to the Assembly, with the following changes:
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