

Should this item be pulled from the Consent Agenda the following motion is suggested:

POSSIBLE MOTION

I MOVE TO approve Resolution 2019-03 on
first and final reading.



City and Borough of Sitka

100 Lincoln Street • Sitka, Alaska 99835

Coast Guard City, USA

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Paxton and Members of the Assembly
Keith Brady, Municipal Administrator

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

Subject: Resolution 2019-03 Adoption of the Sitka Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Date: February 4, 2019

The Sitka Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is on the Assembly agenda for consideration and approval. The Planning Commission approved the draft version of the plan update during the January 16, 2019 meeting on a 4-0 vote.

Background:

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 Multi-Hazard 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. This update was written by Jill Missal of Missal, LLC.

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 lists 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, an Assembly Worksession, and Planning Commission hearing and recommendation of adoption.

The draft update was 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.

Fiscal Note:

After the plan is approved by the Assembly, the State of Alaska, and FEMA, there are a number of grants and funding programs that become available to Sitka to help in reducing the natural risks to our community. Adoption of this plan does not commit us to completing and/or funding the included mitigation actions. The City and Borough of Sitka must have an adopted Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to receive FEMA funding in times of emergency/disaster.

Recommendation:

The Planning Commission recommends that the Assembly takes action to approve Resolution 2019-03 Adopting the Sitka Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.