

Mission statement, Goals and Objectives

Ada County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Mission Statement:

To reduce the vulnerability to natural hazards in order to protect the health, safety, welfare and economy of the Ada County community.

Goals:

1. Protect lives and reduce hazard related injuries
2. Minimize or reduce current and future damages from natural hazards to property, including critical facilities and environment
3. Encourage the development and implementation of long-term, cost-effective mitigation projects
4. Maintain, enhance, and restore the natural environment's capacity to deal with the impacts of natural hazard events.
5. Improve emergency management preparedness, collaboration, and outreach within the planning area.

Objectives:

1. Minimize disruption of local government and commerce operations caused by natural hazards.
2. Using best available data, science, and knowledge, continually improve understanding of the location and potential impacts of natural hazards.
3. Based on willing participation, encourage retrofit, purchase, or relocation of real property based on one or more of the following criteria: level of exposure, repetitive loss history, and previous damage from natural hazards.
4. Based on understanding of the risk, prevent, or discourage, new development in hazardous areas; if building occurs in high-risk areas, ensure that it is done in such a way as to minimize risk.
5. Strengthen codes and code enforcement to ensure that new construction and redevelopment of property and infrastructure can withstand the impacts of natural hazards.
6. Integrate hazard mitigation policies into local government land use plans that not only protect the built environment, but also maintain or enhance the natural environment's ability to withstand and recover from natural disasters, with an emphasis on the promotion of regional consistency in policy.
7. Develop new, and improve existing, early warning emergency notification protocols, systems, and evacuation procedures.
8. Educate the public on the area's potential natural hazards and ways to personally prepare, respond, recover and mitigate the impacts of these events.
9. Establish partnerships among all levels of government, the business community, and other stakeholders to improve and implement methods to protect life, property and the natural environment.
10. Increase the resilience and continuity of operations of identified critical facilities and infrastructure within the planning area.