

VILLAGE OF TUNTUTULIAK HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Newsletter #1

January 2015

This newsletter describes the Village of Tuntutuliak Hazard Mitigation Planning project development processes to interested agencies, stakeholders, and the public. This newsletter also serves to solicit comments. It can be viewed online at the State of Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Website at <http://www.ready.alaska.gov/plans/localhazmitplans.htm>.

The State of Alaska, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) was awarded a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to prepare Hazard Mitigation Plans (HMP) for fifteen Alaskan Communities. The Village of Tuntutuliak was selected for participation in this effort.

URS was contracted to assist the community with preparing a FEMA approvable hazard mitigation plan and subsequent hazard mitigation grant program application during 2012 and 2013.

The Tuntutuliak Hazard Mitigation Plan will identify all natural hazards, such as earthquake, erosion, flood, severe weather, and wildland fire hazards, etc. The plan will also identify the people and facilities potentially at risk and ways to mitigate damage from future hazard impacts. The public participation and planning process is documented as part of these projects.

What is Hazard Mitigation?

Across the United States, natural and human-caused disasters have increasingly caused injury, death, property damage, and business and government service interruptions. The toll on individuals, families, and businesses can be very high. The time, money, and emotional effort required to respond to and recover from these disasters takes public resources and attention away from other important programs and problems.

The people and property in the State of Alaska are at risk from a variety of natural hazards that can potentially cause human injury, property damage, or environmental harm.

Hazard mitigation projects eliminate the risk or reduce the hazard impact severity to people and property. Projects may include short- or long-term activities to reduce exposure to or the effects of known hazards. Hazard mitigation activities include relocating or elevating buildings, replacing insufficiently sized culverts, using alternative construction techniques, or developing, implementing, or enforcing building codes, and education.

Why Do We Need A Hazard Mitigation Plan?

Communities must have a State, FEMA approved, and community adopted mitigation plan to receive a project grant from FEMA's pre- and post- disaster grants identified in their Hazard Mitigation Assistance and other agency's mitigation grant programs. The Village of Tuntutuliak plans to apply for mitigation funds after our plan is complete.

A FEMA approved and community adopted HMP enables the Local government to apply for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), a disaster related assistance program. Applicants typically compete on a statewide basis.

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and the National Insurance Program's Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), grant programs are nationally competitive funding programs. These grants use the same application process and eligibility requirements.

The Planning Process

There are very specific federal requirements that must be met when preparing a hazard mitigation plan. These requirements are commonly referred to as the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, or DMA2000 criteria. Information about the criteria and other applicable laws and regulations may be found at: <http://www.fema.gov/mitigation-planning-laws-regulations-guidance>.

The DMA2000 requires the plan to include and document the following topics:

- Plan development process
- Identify hazards specific to the community
- Identify the population's and structures' risks
- Define the jurisdiction's mitigation goals
- List the community's mitigation strategy, selected actions, and implemented projects
- Provide a copy of the community's HMP Adoption Resolution

FEMA has prepared a Local Planning Review Guide) and (available at:

<http://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?fromSearch=fromsearch&id=4859>). It explains how the HMP meets each of the DMA2000 requirements.

FEMA has prepared and "Mitigation Planning Guidance) and "How to" Guides (available at: <http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-planning-resources>). The Village of Tuntutuliak's Hazard Mitigation Plan will follow those guidelines.

We are currently in the very beginning stages of preparing the plan. We will be conducting a public meeting to introduce the project and planning team, and to gather comments from our community residents. Specifically we will complete the hazard identification task, and collect data to conduct the risk assessment.

DHS&EM has previously identified natural hazards that occur in the Lower Kuskokwim Regional Educational Attendance Area (REAA) that may also occur specifically in Tuntutuliak.

We Need Your Help

Please use the following table to identify any hazards you have observed in your area that DHS&EM is not aware of AND any additional natural hazards that may not be on the list.

Tuntutuliak Hazard Worksheet		
Hazard	Lower Kuskokwim REAA*	Village of Tuntutuliak
Earthquake	Yes (Moderate)	Yes
Erosion	Yes (Low)	Yes
Flood	Yes (High)	Yes
Ground Failure (Avalanche, Landslide, Permafrost)	No	Yes
Severe Weather	Yes (High)	Yes
Tsunami & Seiche	No	No
Volcano	No	No
Tundra/Wildland Fire	Yes	Yes

*Hazard Matrix from the 2010 State of Alaska Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Lower Kuskokwim REAA. (Parentheses show threat level and number of historical events)

DHS&EM identified critical facilities within the Village of Tuntutuliak as part of the Alaska Critical Facilities Inventory, but the list of critical facilities needs to be updated and the estimated value and location (latitude/longitude) determined.

In addition, the number and value of structures, and the number of people living in each structure will need to be documented. Once this information is collected we will determine which critical facilities, residences, and populations are vulnerable to specific hazards in Tuntutuliak. Please add additional facilities if needed.

The Planning Team

The planning team is being led by Scott Simmons (AECOM-URS), with assistance from Elizabeth Appleby (AECOM-URS) and Tuntutuliak's Planning Team. AECOM-URS has been contracted by DHS&EM to provide assistance and guidance to the Planning Team throughout the planning process.

Public Participation

Public involvement will continue throughout the project. The goal is to receive comments, identify key issues or concerns, and improve ideas for mitigation. When the Draft C Hazard Mitigation Plan is complete, the results will be presented to the community before DHS&EM and FEMA approval and community adoption

Tuntutuliak Critical Facilities*	
Facility Type	Facility Name
Airport	02/20
Cemetery	1
Cemetery	2
Church	Moravian Church
Church	Russian Orthodox Church
Community Hall	NA
Community Storage Shed	Airport Storage
Fire Station	Water and Sewer Office
Fuel Storage Tanks (>500gal)	Fuel Storage
Fuel Storage Tanks (>500gal)	Fuel Storage 2
Fuel Storage Tanks (>500gal)	Washeteria fuel storage
Hospital/Clinic/ER	Kathleen Daniel Memorial Hospital
Landfill/Incinerator	Tuntutuliak Class III Muni Landfill, Active
Landfill/Incinerator	Tuntutuliak Landfill, Old
National Guard	National Guard Armory
Offices	Community Hall/ Traditional Council Offices
Offices	TCSA Office (Electric)
Park	Play Deck
Police Station	VPSO Office
Post Office	Community Hall/Traditional Council Office
Power Generation Facility	Village Generator Plant 1
Power Generation Facility	Village Generator Plant 2
Reservoir/Water Supply	LKSD Tuntutuliak Angapac SC
Reservoir/Water Supply	Tuntutuliak Washeteria
School	LEWIS ANGAPAK MEMORIAL SCHOOL
School	Pre-school
Sewage Lagoon	2
Sewage Lagoon	NA
Store	Millers Store
Store	Paul Andrew Store
Store	Store
Store	Village Corporation Store
Teachers Quarters	Old Elementary School
Teachers Quarters	Teachers Quarters
Telephone	United Utilities/ Alascom
Washeteria	NA
Wind Turbines	5 wind turbines, 4 operating and 1 damaged

* Alaska Critical Facilities Inventory

Please email updated hazard and critical facility information directly to AECOM or provide it to your community planning and project team leader.

We encourage you to take an active part in Tuntutuliak's Hazard Mitigation Plan development effort. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed and to allow you every opportunity to voice your opinion regarding these important projects. Please contact your community HMP Team Leader or Elizabeth Appleby, URS directly if you have any questions, comments, or requests for more information:

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