



**MEETING MINUTES**

**Date & Time:** 2-17-22 11:00 AM  
**Location:** Zoom Meeting and In-person at Ottawa City Hall  
**Attending:** Ottawa Flood Commission members – see attached attendee lists  
**Concerning:** Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan update – Meeting #1  
**Discussion:**

1. Mat Stafford described the need to update the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP) to comply with CRS guidelines.
2. Election of Chairperson. Dave Noble nominated Rob Hasty. Bill Vogel seconded. No other nominations. Rob Hasty was elected Chairperson unanimously.
3. Rob Hasty called the meeting to order and asked Mat Stafford to make his presentation, attached.
4. Mat described the multi-step process to update the NHMP. There will be at least 5 meetings of the Flood Commission to review the plan and make recommendations.
5. Mat discussed “Assessing the Hazard” and asked if any natural hazards were missing from the current plan list.
  - a. The possibility of underground mines and sinkholes was discussed. Rob Hasty described how insurance maps show underground mine areas and Ottawa has none.
  - b. Jeff Hettrick suggested including loss of broadband and cellular service. It was decided that those would be good to add to the next meeting on the “Problems” created by the natural disasters.
  - c. No other additional natural hazards were identified.
6. Fred Moore noted that as we spoke, the gage at the Dayton River dam had risen 2 feet and he was going to visit the site to see if an ice jam was eminent.
7. Bill Vogel motioned and Andy Borkowski seconded to adjourn the meeting until February 24th. Unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 AM

Next meeting will be on February 24, 11:00 via Zoom and in-person

Respectfully submitted,  
David Noble





# **Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan\_Ottawa Update**

**Flood-Planning Commission**

**2-17-2022**

**11:00 a.m.**

## **Quick Summary... Where are we today.**

- **Original Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan was created in 2008. This was a Multi Jurisdictional Plan that encompassed 5 Counties (including all participating communities within those Counties i.e. municipalities, townships, and Counties)**
- **FEMA requires these plans to be updated every 5 Years. Subsequent updates to the Plan were completed in 2015 and 2020.**
- **For CRS (Community Rating System) purposes, this NHMP plan works as our Flood Management Plan. The City of Ottawa's Class 2 requirement requires this to be evaluated annually.**
- **The City's recent CRS review revealed that the recent update to the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan in 2020 did not meet certain CRS requirements.**
- **The City is attempting to update our portion of the plan by going through the planning process outlined in CRS in order to try and maintain our current Class 2 rating.**

## **The Steps in CRS Planning Process:**

- Step 1: Organize**
- Step 2: Involve the Public**
- Step 3: Coordinate**
- Step 4: Assess the Hazard**
- Step 5: Assess the Problem**
- Step 6: Set Goals**
- Step 7: Review possible activities**
- Step 8: Draft an Action Plan**
- Step 9: Adopt a Plan**
- Step 10: Implement, evaluate, revise**

## Step 1: Organize

Where are we at? The original plan was developed in 2008 and subsequently updated in 2015 and 2020. The Ottawa Flood Commission has evaluated the Ottawa portion of the plan on an annual basis.

### For this update:

1. The Flood Commission has recommended an evaluation and update to the City's portion of the plan (December 2021).
2. The City of Ottawa passed a resolution to initiate the update (January 2022 / #009-2022).
3. The City added the City Planner to the Flood Commission (January 2022)
4. The City resolution states that the Ottawa Flood Commission will be the active plan Committee for this update. This committee includes citizens, stakeholders, department staff (January 2022)
5. Planning Committee is scheduled to meet at least 5 times to discuss key steps in the planning process (i.e. assess the hazard, assess the problem, set goals, review possible activities, draft the an action plan). February - March 2022

**THE COMMITTEE NEEDS TO APPOINT A CHAIRPERSON.**

## Step 2: Involve the Public

The current Natural Hazards Mitigation was originally adopted in 2008 and has been updated through similar planning processes in 2015 and in 2020.

1. For this Update the City of Ottawa has held one public open house. This was done within the first 2 months of project initiation (February 8, 2022)
  - Meeting was held separately from the Plan Commission
  - Presentation provided on the planning process and what input we are seeking from the public
  - Questionnaire was handed out at meeting requesting information and input on natural hazards, problems, and possible solutions. This questionnaire is also available at city hall and online on the City's website. <https://cityofottawa.org/news/natural-hazards-mitigation-plan-community-risk-assessment/>
2. Members of the Flood Commission and Planning Committee are comprised of residents, businesses, property owners, and tenants in the floodplain.
3. The initial Public Open house and all Plan Committee meetings are open to the public and posted publicly at City Hall and on the City's website.
4. The Flood Committee is also the committee that develops and evaluates the City's PPI (program for public information). This is the same Committee that evaluates the FMP/NHMP on an annual basis.
5. An additional public meeting will be held after the draft update is completed and prior to sending the plan to the City Council



## **Step 3 Coordinate:**

1. Review of the existing plan, studies, reports and technical information in the plan. Link to the existing plan: <https://www.ncicg.org/planning-services/natural-hazard-mitigation-plans/lasalle-county-nhmp-2020-update/>
2. Assess any updates needed for Ottawa's needs, goals, and plans for the area.
3. Coordinate with other agencies and organizations outside the Communities government structure.
  - The City is contacting outside agencies and organizations to seek their help, their expertise, and ask for them to provide any input with data/related hazard information that could/should be updated and incorporated into Ottawa's section. Looking for any information that was not part of the 2020 update; or things that have happened since 2020 update (2020 flood, 2020 Derecho/Tornado).

## **Step 4: Assess the Problem**

In this step of the planning process, the Committee reviews, analyzes, and summarizes data collected about the natural hazard(s) that the Community faces. This step focuses on the sources, frequency, extent and causes of the flooding/other natural hazard that affect Ottawa:

### **Current plan addresses:**

Thunderstorms, Lightning, Hail, Tornadoes, Dangerous Winds, Heavy Rain, Flooding, Riverine Flooding, Overbank Flooding, Flash Flooding, Levee and Dam Failures, Ice Jams, Urban Drainage, Basement Flooding and Backup, Agricultural Drainage, Flood Designations, Flooding Fatalities, Winter Storm Events, Drought, Extreme Temperatures, Landslides, Wildfires, Earthquakes

### **Are we missing any hazard?**

## Step 4: Assess the Problem (continued)

### Updates and Additional Information regarding Flooding in the City of Ottawa... Items we know we will update

- Update Flood Maps in the existing plan for Ottawa
- Provide section describing areas not mapped on the SFHA, a history of flooding/description of these areas, cause of flooding, extent of damage or issues caused by such flooding (including sources of water, depth of flooding, velocities, and warning time/requirements).
- Add other known areas of surface flooding. Areas should be mapped and explained.
- Are there any other flood related special hazards that exist in the City: alluvial fans, moveable bed streams, and other floodplains within which the channel moves during a flood; Closed-basin lakes; Ice jams; Land subsidence; Mudflow hazards; Coastal erosion; Tsunamis.

Ice Jams are identified in the plan. Log Jam at the aqueduct? Deposition at the confluence?

- Add section that discusses areas that may be affected by flooding as a result of :
  1. Demographics
  2. Development in the watershed
  3. Climate change

## **Next Meeting**

<sup>24</sup>  
**February 23, 2022**

**11:00 am via Zoom or in Lincoln Room  
We will send out Zoom link and reminder**

### **Step 5: Assessing the Problem**

**After identifying what the risks are (i.e. flooding), this step focuses on what hazards are associated with the hazard (i.e. road closures, damaged homes, etc.)**

**Thanks for your help and participation!**

# Important Links

## **Link to current Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan:**

<https://www.ncicg.org/planning-services/natural-hazard-mitigation-plans/lasalle-county-nhmp-2020-update/>  
<https://lasallecounty.org/natural-hazard-mitigation-plan/>

## **Link to Public Questionnaire for Public Comment(QR Code below works, too)**

<https://cityofottawa.org/news/natural-hazards-mitigation-plan-community-risk-assessment/>

## **CRS Manual Planning Process we are Using (Section 510)**

<https://crsresources.org/manual/>

