Larimer County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Hazard Mitigation Plan Kick-Off Webinar
April 10, 2020 – 1pm-3pm
Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Hazard Mitigation Overview by CO DHSEM
3. Mitigation Planning Process and Requirements
4. Overview of the 2016 Larimer County Hazard Mitigation Plan
5. Coordination with Other Agencies, Related Planning Efforts, & Studies
6. Planning for Public Involvement
7. Community Rating System (CRS) Requirements
8. Project Schedule and Next Steps
9. Questions
Introductions
Introductions

• Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions
  – Scott Field – Project Manager
  – Jeff Brislawn – Program Lead and QAQC
  – Amy Carr – Hazard Mitigation Planner
• Colorado Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management
  – Mark Thompson
• Attendees (state name, department/agency, title/role)
Hazard Mitigation Overview
Local Hazard Mitigation Planning

Larimer County Multi-Jurisdictional

Hazard Mitigation Plan

May 2016

Larimer County HMP Update

by

8/1/2021

Patricia Gavelda and

Mark Thompson
Hazard Mitigation

- What is the ultimate purpose of hazard mitigation?
- What consequences are we trying to prevent?

Source: Masterson et al, 2014; Modified from Schwab, 1998; Lindell, Prater, and Perry, 2007
What Are the Benefits of an HMP?

❖ The planning process enables a community’s comprehensive assessment of its hazards, how it would like to mitigate them, and opportunities to integrate mitigation planning with other community plans.

❖ An approved Local HMP has a five-year lifecycle and creates eligibility for FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs (25% local share) for each participating jurisdiction:
  • Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM - Annual Cycle; All natural hazards)
  • Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA - Annual Cycle; Flood; NFIP insured structures & communities)
  • Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP - Post-Disaster; All natural hazards)
  • High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Program (New! - Annual Cycle; specific funding formula determined by FEMA)
  • Projects under these programs must be tied directly to the mitigation goals and objectives in your HMP; tying them to a specific mitigation action is better

❖ Other tangible benefits:
  • “Copy and Paste” updates of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP’s) for some jurisdictions
  • Simultaneous Community Rating System updates
Hazard Mitigation Examples

• Reduce the future demand for, and rising costs of, disaster response and recovery.

• Retrofit a critical facility, enforce building codes, land use planning, remove a structure from a hazard area.

**RESPONSE:**
- Purchase of Police Command Vehicle

**MITIGATION:**
- Elevated Home by the River
- Defensible Space, Fuels Reduction
- Home Removed from Landslide Area
Mitigation Financial Benefits

Table 1. Benefit-Cost Ratio by Hazard and Mitigation Measure.

Source: National Institute of Building Sciences, *Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves: 2017 Interim Report*
## Projects in Colorado to 2019

### Colorado Project Awards through FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wildfire Mitigation/Fuels Reduction (Coming Soon: Post-Fire Actions)</th>
<th>Flood Reduction/Drainage Improvements/Property Acquisition</th>
<th>Landslide/Slope Stabilization/Property Acquisition</th>
<th>Planning Grants (including Advance Assistance)</th>
<th>Other Projects: Generators, 5% Projects, Appraisals, Preparedness, Warning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obligated Projects</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>44</td>
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<td>FEMA Grant Fund</td>
<td>HMGP, PDM</td>
<td>HMGP, PDM, FMA</td>
<td>HMGP, PDM</td>
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<td>Project Costs</td>
<td>$12,470,757.66</td>
<td>$110,836,110.61</td>
<td>$11,717,794.00</td>
<td>$3,311,142.90</td>
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Total FEMA Funding and Local Match (2011-Present) = $142,601,033.18  
(Total Projects: 136)

Each project must be linked to the HMP’s Goals & Objectives

### 2018 Pending Awards

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<th>2018 Pending Awards</th>
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<td>$5,075,694.00</td>
<td>$3,574,431.61</td>
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Every dollar spent on mitigation saves three to six dollars in disaster response and recovery costs!
What the Plan is Not

❖ A regulatory document- It does not create new regulations.

❖ A set-in-stone commitment of resources:
  • FEMA and the State encourage communities to be both ambitious and practical.
  • Both FEMA and the State understand that actions are dependent on the availability of resources.
  • If actions included in the plan are unable to be completed, the community will not be punished.
Each jurisdiction seeking plan approval must do the following tasks during the planning process*:

- Participate in the planning process
- Assess unique risks
- Identify specific mitigation activities
- Adopt the plan

* Jurisdictions cannot simply adopt the plan after the fact. The options are to participate during or do their own full plan.
Building Your Mitigation Strategy

Build on the previous plan—what’s changed since 2015/16?

Graphics from FEMA G318, Local Mitigation Planning
Questions?
Hazard Mitigation Planning Process and Requirements
# Mitigation Planning Tasks

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<tr>
<td><strong>Phase 1: Organize Resources</strong></td>
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<td>Task 1: Coordination &amp; Contracting</td>
<td>1: Determine the Planning Area and Resources</td>
<td>Step 1. Organize Resources</td>
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<td>Task 2: Data Collection &amp; Review</td>
<td>2: Build the Planning Team 44 CFR 201.6(c)(1)</td>
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<td>Task 6: Public Education and Input</td>
<td>3: Create an Outreach Strategy 44 CFR 201.6(b)(1)</td>
<td>Step 2. Involve the public</td>
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<td>Task 8: Floodplain Management and CRS</td>
<td>4: Review Community Capabilities 44 CFR 201.6(b)(2) &amp; (3)</td>
<td>Step 3. Coordinate with Other Agencies</td>
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<td><strong>Phase 2: Identify Hazards and Assess Risks</strong></td>
<td>5: Conduct a Risk Assessment 44 CFR 201.6(c)(2)(i); 44 CFR 201.6(c)(2)(ii) &amp; (iii)</td>
<td>Step 4. Assess the hazard</td>
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<td>Task 3: Risk Assessment</td>
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<td>Step 5. Assess the problem</td>
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<td><strong>Phase 3: Develop a Mitigation Strategy</strong></td>
<td>6: Develop a Mitigation Strategy 44 CFR 201.6(c)(3)(i); 44 CFR 201.6(c)(3)(ii); and 44 CFR 201.6(c)(3)(iii)</td>
<td>Step 6. Set goals</td>
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<td>Task 4: Develop Mitigation Goals &amp; Objectives</td>
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<td>Step 7. Review possible activities</td>
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<td><strong>Phase 4: Plan Adoption, Monitoring and Evaluation</strong></td>
<td>7: Keep the Plan Current 44 CFR 201.6(c)(4)</td>
<td>Step 8. Draft an action plan</td>
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<td>Task 5: Draft Plan</td>
<td>8: Review and Adopt the Plan 44 CFR 201.6(c)(5)</td>
<td>Step 9. Adopt the plan</td>
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<td>Task 7: Plan Approval, Submittal &amp; Adoption</td>
<td>9: Create a Safe and Resilient Community 44 CFR 201.6(c)(4)</td>
<td>Step 10. Implement, evaluate, and revise</td>
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Larimer County HMP – Kick-Off Webinar
Organize Resources – Getting Started

• Obtain community commitment to mitigation
• Determine and assign staff
• Establish your mitigation planning team
• Determine planning area
## Organize Resources – Establishing Your Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC)

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<tr>
<th>County Departments</th>
<th>Others:</th>
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<td>- Emergency Management</td>
<td>- Elected Officials</td>
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<td>- Community Development</td>
<td>- Businesses</td>
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<td>- Building</td>
<td>- Nonprofits</td>
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<td>- Planning</td>
<td>- Members of public</td>
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<td>- Engineering</td>
<td>- Schools</td>
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<td>- Public Health &amp; Environment</td>
<td>- Watershed coalitions</td>
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<td>- Others?</td>
<td>- Other special districts</td>
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### Starting points:
- Existing HMP planning committee members
- Emergency management coordinating groups
- LEPC
Organize Resources – Participating Jurisdictions

- Larimer County
- Berthoud Fire Protection District
- Town of Berthoud
- City of Fort Collins
- Crystal Lakes Fire Protection District
- Estes Park Health
- Estes Valley Fire Protection District
- Estes Valley Parks & Recreation
- Glacier View Fire Protection District
- Town of Johnstown
- Livermore Fire Protection District
- City of Loveland
- Northern Water
- Poudre Fire Authority
- Pinewood Springs Fire Protection District
- Town of Estes Park
- Town of Timnath
- Town of Wellington
- Windsor Fire Protection District
- Town of Windsor
- Thompson Valley EMS
- Upper Thompson Sanitation District
- Wellington Fire
- Town of Wellington
Organize Resources – State & Federal Stakeholders

- CO DHSEM
- CO Division of Water Resources - Dam Safety Branch
- CO State Forest Service
- CDOT
- CO State Patrol
- CO Geological Survey
- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- US Forest Service
- Neighboring Counties
- FEMA Region VIII
- US EPA
- National Weather Service
- Others?
Organize Resources – Other Stakeholders

- Neighboring jurisdictions
- Businesses
- Nonprofits
- Members of public
- Schools
- Watershed coalitions
- Other special districts
Role of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

- If you are an **HMPC Member**
  - Attend meetings and participate in planning process
  - Provide requested information to update plan sections
  - Provide status of previous mitigation projects
  - Identify new mitigation projects
  - Review drafts and provide comments
  - Assist with and participate in the public input process
  - Track your time for local match purposes
Role of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

• If you are a **Participating Jurisdiction**
  – Participate in the County HMPC (previous slide)
  – Conduct Local Planning Team (LPT) meetings for your jurisdiction
  – Provide requested information to update jurisdictional annexes
  – Coordinate formal adoption
Role of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

- If you are **Stakeholder**, there are several ways to participate:
  - Attend HMPC meetings or stay in loop via email list
  - Provide data/information
  - Review & comment on draft plan
  - Partner on mitigation efforts
What’s already in place related to hazard mitigation?

- Inventory of a community’s existing and proposed policies, programs, and ordinances that may reduce vulnerability to hazards
- Determine each jurisdiction’s technical and fiscal abilities to implement mitigation initiatives. Include ability to attract and leverage funding
- Identify opportunities to expand or improve capabilities
  - Evaluate the effectiveness
  - Note gaps, shortfalls or conflicts associated with their design, enforcement or implementation.
Identify Hazards and Assess Risks

Components

– Hazard identification (what can happen here?)

– Vulnerability assessment (what will be affected?)
Hazard Identification –
*Has It Happened Here Before?*

- Identify all possible hazards affecting the planning area
- Profile the hazards of concern
- Information sources:
  - Past disaster declarations
  - Planning team / community members
  - Existing plans and reports
  - GIS-based maps and data
  - Internet websites and databases
  - Newspaper / historical records
  - Local, state, and federal experts
  - Insurance data
Hazard Identification – *Profile the Hazards*

- Hazard/problem description
- Location/area
- Extent (magnitude/severity)
- Past occurrences
- Frequency/future probability
- Overall significance
Vulnerability Assessment – What Will Be Affected?

- Inventory residential and commercial structures
- Inventory critical facilities and infrastructure
- Determine value of structures
- Determine the number of people in hazard areas
- Identify vulnerable infrastructure
- Identify development trends / constraints
- Identify historic, cultural, and natural resource areas
- Estimate losses
Develop a Mitigation Strategy

- Update plan goals/objectives
- Review possible mitigation activities
- Draft an action plan
Review Possible Mitigation Activities

- Plans and Regulations
- Structure and Infrastructure Projects
- Education and Awareness
- Natural systems protection
- Actions must be prioritized
Wildfire Mitigation Projects Eligible for FEMA Funding

• Defensible Space
• Hazardous Fuels Reduction Activities
  – Community level vegetation management
  – Vegetation removal
  – Vegetation clearing and/or thinning
  – Slash removal
  – Vertical clearance of tree branches
• Structural Protection Through Ignition-Resistant Construction Activities
Flood Mitigation Projects Eligible for FEMA Funding

- Acquisition
- Dry and Wet Flood-proofing
- Elevation
- Minor Localized Flood Reduction Projects
  - Detention ponds
  - Channel stabilization
- New Policy Change: Levee Projects if no duplication of programs with Army Corp
- Infrastructure Retrofit
  - Culverts, bridges, etc.
Other Mitigation Projects Eligible for FEMA Funding

- Property Acquisition
- Landslide channel/slope stabilization
- Utility Protection/ Infrastructure Retrofit
- Safe Rooms
- Generator Installation
- Climate Resilience Activities
  - Groundwater Recharge
  - Green Infrastructure
Develop the Mitigation Strategy
Draft the Updated Plan

- Develop/Update mitigation actions with Planning Team
- Determine status of implementation for actions in 2016
- Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Update maintenance and implementation procedures
- 4 drafts:
  - HMPC review
  - Public review
  - DHSEM review
  - FEMA review
Plan Adoption, Monitoring & Evaluation

Review and adopt the plan
- FEMA approval pending adoption
- Official adoption by governing board
- Final plan approval by FEMA

Implement the Plan
- Assign a project manager
- Integrate actions into staff work plans, other plans/mechanisms
- Monitor changes in vulnerability
- Track progress of mitigation actions
- Monitor & evaluate the plan
- Report on progress, publicize successes
- Create a safe and resilient community

Keep the Plan Current
- HMPC continues to meet “regularly”
- Revise the plan as necessary (every 5 years for DMA)
- Continue public involvement
Implementation Steps

Integrate the HMP Into Other Plans & Processes

– Comprehensive Plan
– THIRA
– Community Wildfire Protection Plan
– EOP & Operational Plans
– Strategic Plans & Staff Work Plans
– COOP/COG
– Critical Infrastructure Protection
– Recovery Plan
– Resilience Plan
– Training & Exercises
Overview of the 2016 Larimer County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
Plan Update Requirements

• Re-convene Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee
• Review and analyze each section
• Update risk assessment, noting changes
• Note changes in risk exposure due to successful mitigation projects or development/annexation
• Revisit goals
• Identify completed, deleted, deferred actions
• Plan maintenance review/changes
2016 Hazard Mitigation Plan Goals

Goal 1: Protect people, property, and natural resources

*Goal 2: Improve capability to reduce disaster losses

*Goal 3: Strengthen communication and coordination among public agencies, non-governmental organizations, businesses, and citizens

Goal 4: Increase public awareness of natural hazards and mitigation options

*Goal 5: Integrate hazard mitigation into other planning mechanisms

*New in 2016
## Hazard Rankings from the 2016 Plan

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<th>Civil Disturbance</th>
<th>Earthquake</th>
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<td>High Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Thompson Sanitation District</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Wellington</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington Fire Protection District</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town of Windsor</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>Moderate Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
<td>High Risk</td>
<td>Low Risk</td>
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<td>High Risk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hazard Information Resources

• What existing or recent plans, reports or studies exist?
  – 2018 Colorado State Hazard Mitigation Plan
  – 2019 Larimer County Comprehensive Plan
  – 2019-2023 Larimer County Strategic Plan
  – 2018 Larimer County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
  – 2016 Larimer County Community Resiliency Framework
  – State and Local THIRAs
  – Flood Insurance Rate Map Update in Progress
  – Recent and historic incidents/incident reports – e.g. recent flood, drought, wildfires
  – Scientific studies
  – Other plans and reports
  – Public perception
County and Municipal Assets Exposed

- Use of best available data
- Building Inventory
  - Assessor’s database
- Critical Facilities/Assets
  - Local lists or databases
  - HAZUS or other state/federal sources
Coordination with Other Agencies, Related Planning Efforts, and Recent Studies
Coordination with Related Planning Efforts

• What related planning efforts or studies are underway?

• What related plans/efforts is this plan linked to?

• What related plans/efforts *should* this plan be linked to?
Coordination with Related Planning Efforts

• Colorado Division of Water Resources, Dam Safety Branch study of downstream floodplain impacts from High Hazard Dams
Coordinate with Other Stakeholder Departments & Agencies

- State, Federal, Regional, Local Businesses
- CDOT
- DIA
- DRCOG
- DOLA
- CO Geological Survey
- Colorado Water Conservation Board
- Neighboring Counties
  - Boulder, Grand, Jackson, Weld
  - Wyoming Counties? – Laramie, Albany
- Municipalities/Special Districts
Planning for Public Involvement
Organize Resources: Plan for Public Involvement

• **DMA Requirement**: Provide two opportunities
  – During drafting stage
  – Prior to approval

• **Additional CRS Requirement**:  
  – Conduct a public meeting within first 2 months of process
  – Public participation in planning committee

• **Advantages**:  
  – Solutions fit local needs better
  – Strengthens local support for plan
  – Special interests are considered; avoids getting blindsided
  – It is a fair process
  – Generates new ideas
Plan for Public Involvement – Several Options

- Host public input meetings or webinars
- Piggyback on other public forums or related meetings or webinars
- Use online questionnaires/surveys
- Post draft plan online for comment prior to finalization
- Use Social Media Channels
- Document process for 2020 in plan
Planning for Public Involvement

• Public workshop/webinar TBD
• Online public survey will be developed
• Advertise public survey and public meetings through public information channels, official websites, social media, email blasts etc.
• Any opportunities for outreach at scheduled public meetings or webinars?
• Other ideas/recommendations?
Community Rating System (CRS) Requirements
Community Rating System (CRS)

• Voluntary program
• Recognizes activities above and beyond the minimum requirements of the NFIP
• Provides discounts on flood insurance premiums
• Modeled on the fire insurance rating system
• Goals:
  – Reduce flood damage to insurable property,
  – Strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the NFIP, and
  – Encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management
• CRS Credits for Activity 510 Floodplain Management Planning can be achieved in the development or update of LHMP
## CRS – “What If” Savings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Current Rating</th>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>Total Premiums</th>
<th>Class 9 Annual Savings</th>
<th>Class 8 Annual Savings</th>
<th>Class 7 Annual Savings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Larimer County</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>$650,554</td>
<td>$26,687</td>
<td>$51,629</td>
<td>$76,572</td>
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<tr>
<td>Berthoud</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
<td>---</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estes Park</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>$135,919</td>
<td>$3,600</td>
<td>$5,543</td>
<td>$7,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fort Collins</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>$214,259</td>
<td>$6,996</td>
<td>$12,504</td>
<td>$18,011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnstown</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>$5,395</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loveland**</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>$110,393</td>
<td>$3,814</td>
<td>$7,204</td>
<td>$10,594</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timnath</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$1,596</td>
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<td>---</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>$24,092</td>
<td>$480</td>
<td>$960</td>
<td>$1,441</td>
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<tr>
<td>Windsor</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>$29,138</td>
<td>$186</td>
<td>$294</td>
<td>$402</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Fort Collins current Class 2 annual savings = $47,038
** Loveland current Class 6 annual savings = $14,408
Project Schedule and Next Steps
## Project Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Milestones</th>
<th>Anticipated Timeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HMPC Meeting #2 – HIRA Review</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMPC Meeting #3 – Mitigation Strategy</td>
<td>June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Updated HIRA</td>
<td>June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMPC Meeting #4 – Plan Review</td>
<td>August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HMPC Review Draft</td>
<td>September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Review Draft</td>
<td>September - October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO DHSEM Review</td>
<td>October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Plan for FEMA Review (estimated)</td>
<td>Late October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEMA Review (estimated)</td>
<td>October - December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Approved HMP for local adoption</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Staying Involved – Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

• Attend meetings and participate in the planning process
• Provide requested information to update or develop jurisdictional annexes
• Review drafts and provide comments
• Identify mitigation projects specific to jurisdiction for all profiled hazards & provide status
• Assist with and participate in the public input process
• Coordinate formal adoption
Staying Involved – Other Stakeholders

• Attend HMPC meetings or stay in loop via email list
• Provide data/information
• Partner on mitigation efforts
• Assist with the public input process
• Review and comment on draft plan
Information Needs and Next Steps

- County & Participating Jurisdictions
  - Review existing hazard mitigation plans
  - Recent hazard events (since 2016) – damages, incident logs, damage assessments, etc.
  - Growth and development trends
  - Recent updated plans and policies
  - Stay informed by email of upcoming meetings

- Wood
  - HIRA update
  - GIS Data – in process
  - Develop public survey
  - Review and analysis of 2016 plan for additional needs
Questions?

Thank you!

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970-498-7148

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Wood E&IS
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