

TOWNSHIP OF Schuylkill
RESOLUTION 2007- 2

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF Schuylkill,
COUNTY OF SCHUYLKILL, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,
APPROVING AND ADOPTING A HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS, 44 CFR Part 201 Hazard Mitigation Planning, establishes criteria for hazard mitigation planning authorized by § 322 of the Stafford Act, as amended by § 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act. Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 mandates that the County of Schuylkill prepare, maintain and keep current a hazard mitigation plan for evaluating the County's hazards, identifying resources and capabilities, selecting appropriate actions, and developing and implementing mitigation measures to eliminate or reduce future damage from those hazards in order to protect the health and safety and the welfare of residents within the County; and

WHEREAS, in response to the mandate stated above, this Township has affirmed a commitment to the County, in that they have assisted in preparing a hazard mitigation plan to identify any cost-effective action which may be taken to eliminate or reduce the long-term risk to life and property from natural and technological hazards; and

WHEREAS, this Township has also committed to reducing the potential effects of a major emergency or disaster to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of this municipality through the efforts outlined by this plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the undersigned Supervisors of Schuylkill Township do hereby approve, adopt and place into immediate effect the Schuylkill County Hazard Mitigation Plan. This Plan shall be updated annually and reviewed every five years to make certain that it conforms to the requirements of the provisions set forth by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency's Guideline.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT this Resolution was adopted by the Schuylkill Township Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting on September 5th 200

Schuylkill TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:

Mary E. Kubel
Secretary

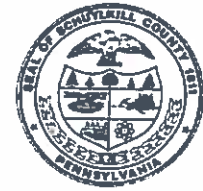
Joseph Boraw
Maurice E. Vaneck
Rinda DeGandri



Emergency Management Agency

County of Schuylkill

Office of Public Safety Building
435 North Centre Street
Pottsville, PA 17901-1705
Telephone 570-622-3739
Fax 570-621-9999



Commissioners

Frank J. Staudenmeier, Chairman of the Board
Robert S. Carl, Jr., Commissioner
Mantura M. Gallagher, Commissioner

Arthur D. Kaplan, CEM
Emergency Management Coordinator

TO: Municipal Officials

CC: Schuylkill County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Arthur D. Kaplan, CEM, Emergency Management Coordinator

DATE: August 1, 2007

SUBJECT: **Schuylkill County Hazard Mitigation Plan Ready for Review and Adoption**

One year after devastating floods hit Schuylkill County, a plan to consider all hazards and their risks is near completion. In accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, Schuylkill County has prepared a Hazard Mitigation Plan on behalf of your municipality and the County in its entirety. This project will not only guide Schuylkill County towards greater disaster resistance, but is part of on-going efforts to create a more sustainable county.

The Board of Commissioners and this office have previously communicated with you regarding the Hazard Mitigation Plan. We have requested your participation in the form of providing to us your intention to participate in this Plan. We have also requested that you submit any mitigation actions – that is - any action which could reduce or prevent the loss of life or property in your municipality. We had requested this information as part of the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act.

The Hazard Mitigation is now in final draft form. **As a concluding requirement, we are requesting that you review the Hazard Mitigation Plan and provide to us any comments as soon as possible. We are also requesting that you consider passing the enclosed (sample) resolution adopting this Plan during your September or October meeting.**

The review of the Hazard Mitigation Plan and passage of the enclosed (sample) resolution will satisfy the federal and state guidelines regarding participation in the Mitigation planning process. Please remember: your participation in the Hazard Mitigation Plan determines whether your municipality will be qualified to receive federal and state hazard mitigation funding.

The Executive Summary of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is enclosed; however, the entire Hazard Mitigation Plan is available by going to www.scema.org and following the link to the Plan. **Public comments will be accepted until August 17, 2007** by the Schuylkill County Emergency Management Agency at the address or fax number listed above. Adoption of this plan by the Schuylkill County Board of Commissioners Meeting will be scheduled shortly after the public comment period is concluded. For additional information, please contact the Emergency Management Agency at 570-622-3739.

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With the passage of the *Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000*, the Federal Emergency Management Agency established criteria for the development of multi-jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plans. DMA 2000 further required that local jurisdictions adopt a Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to remain eligible for mitigation funding. Schuylkill County has committed to providing coordination of the multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation planning process in an effort to increase public safety, protect property, implement a county-wide strategy and secure funding for the mutual benefit of the County.

This Plan is the result of a cooperative partnership between the Schuylkill County departments of Emergency Management, Real Estate/Engineering and the Planning Commission. The content of the plan was supplemented through input and technical guidance from a variety of agencies including the Schuylkill County Local Emergency Planning Commission, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Bureau of Forestry, Department of Transportation, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and FEMA. All 67 of Schuylkill County's municipalities participated in the development of this Plan. Public involvement also constituted an important step in the development of the Plan.

The goal of hazard mitigation planning is to increase the disaster resistance of a community, so that residents, businesses, and communities will be less susceptible to future exposures during natural and technological events. Mitigation measures save lives, reduce injuries, protect property and prevent or decrease financial losses. The mission and goals of the Schuylkill County Hazard Mitigation Plan are:

MISSION

“Reduce the impact of natural and technological disasters upon Schuylkill County and its municipalities.”

GOALS

- To protect lives and minimize the risk to property by increasing the resiliency of existing and future homes, businesses, infrastructure, critical facilities and other community assets from natural and technological disasters
- To maintain, strengthen and protect services, facilities and infrastructure essential to emergency services and disaster response activities
- To identify technically feasible and cost-effective risk reduction measures that reinforce community priorities and support sustainable development
- To balance natural resource management and land use planning with natural hazard mitigation to protect life, property, and natural resources including floodplains and riparian buffers
- To strengthen communication, response, and planning efforts among all levels of public agencies, citizens, non-profit organizations, businesses and industry
- To promote public awareness about hazards that occur in Schuylkill County and how the public can be impacted, and what actions can be taken to reduce impacts

A key component to reducing future losses is to have a clear understanding of what the current hazards are and what steps or strategies may be employed to lessen them. The Schuylkill County Hazard Mitigation Plan examines efforts and identifies cost-effective actions that will reduce or eliminate the damaging impacts of the hazards within the County. While some projects may be implemented with existing funding sources, this Plan will set forth a mitigation strategy and will guide the selection of eligible projects from the criteria described in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program process.

This Plan meets the Federal and State requirements set forth in the Stafford Act for a Hazard Mitigation Plan. It is a living document and will be regularly reviewed, updated on a five-year basis and become a companion document to the Schuylkill County Comprehensive Plan.

