

## Section 1: Introduction and Planning Process

### **Requirement §201.6(b):**

*In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process shall include:*

- 1) An opportunity for the public to comment on the plan during the drafting stage and prior to plan approval;*
- 2) An opportunity for neighboring jurisdictions, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, and agencies that have the authority to regulate development, as well as businesses, academia and other private and non-profit interests to be involved in the planning process; and,*
- 3) Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.*

### **1.1 Purpose**

Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties (the Missouri counties of the MARC region), along with 35 other jurisdictions, updated this *Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* in order to sustain actions designed to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural and other hazards. The planning process is as important as the plan itself and creates a framework, both locally and regionally, for the development and implementation of public policy designed to protect citizens, critical infrastructure, public and private property, and the environment from the impact of hazards. This updated plan ensures the continuity of mitigation project grant funding through 2015.

### **1.2 Background and Scope**

Hazard mitigation is defined by FEMA as any action taken to eliminate or reduce the long-term risk to human life and property from natural, man-made and technological hazards. In 2005, the National Institute of Building Science's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council, in response to a congressional mandate, conducted an independent study on savings generated through mitigation activities. The study concluded that mitigation grant funded projects have an overall societal benefit/cost ratio of 4.0 (i.e., for every dollar spent on mitigation activities, four dollars are saved through loss avoidance).

Since initial plan approval in March 2005, Ray and Cass counties have been included in three federally declared major disasters; Platte County has been included in two; and Jackson and Clay counties have each been included in one. Additionally, all five counties have been involved in three federally declared emergency disasters. Twenty-four separate events related to hazardous weather have caused property damage and/or loss of life throughout the region. The consequences of these events have impacted the citizens of the region economically, socially and emotionally. As such, mitigation planning ranks among the most important initiatives the region can undertake to protect its residents and minimize property damage.

Through mitigation planning, each county has identified areas throughout the region vulnerable to potential hazards and developed strategies to reduce such vulnerability. This updated hazard mitigation plan documents the progress made on established mitigation actions and proposes new actions designed to reduce the impacts of hazards and increase resilience. The updated plan is the result of a collaborative effort by the following participating jurisdictions:

**Cass County**

Garden City  
Loch Lloyd  
Peculiar  
Pleasant Hill  
Raymore  
Strasburg  
Archie R-V School District  
Harrisonville School District  
Pleasant Hill School District  
Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District

**Clay County**

Gladstone  
Kearney  
Liberty  
North Kansas City  
Smithville

**Jackson County**

Blue Springs  
Grandview  
Independence

Kansas City, Mo  
Oak Grove  
Raytown  
Sni Valley Fire Protection District  
Fort Osage School District  
Lone Jack C-6 School District  
Metropolitan Community Colleges

**Platte County**

Houston Lake  
Northmoor  
Parkville  
Platte City  
Riverside  
Tracy  
Weatherby Lake  
Weston  
Park Hill School District  
West Platte R-II School District

**Ray County**

The updated *Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* was prepared pursuant to the requirements of Section 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5165, as amended by Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, P.L. 106-390 (DMA 2000) and regulations set forth in 44 CFR §201.6, *Local Mitigation Plans*. With an approved updated hazard mitigation plan, Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties and certain cities, school districts, colleges and universities will remain eligible for grants under the following federal hazard mitigation assistance programs:

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)
- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
- Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL)

## 1.3 Planning Process

**Requirement §201.6(c)(1):** *[The plan shall document] the planning process used to develop the plan, including how it was prepared, who was involved in the process, and how the public was involved.*

### 1.3.1 Background

The plan update process was set in motion on March 12, 2009, with MARC staff informing the Metropolitan Emergency Managers Committee (MEMC) that the five-year update to the Kansas City region's hazard mitigation plan was due March 8, 2010. Previously participating communities and any potential newly participating communities were informed that if they desired to continue (or begin) participation in the hazard mitigation plan update, MARC staff was available to assist with the update process. Mike O'Neal, Platte County Emergency Management, offered to coordinate the overseeing task force to accomplish the update process. This task force would function as the Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Review Subcommittee (HMPC) tasked with reviewing and implementing necessary changes to the plan. The HMPC consisted of selected representatives from the Missouri counties in the MARC region, as well as the cities of Kansas City and Independence, Mo. For a complete listing of HMPC members and their roles and responsibilities see Attachment 1 to this section. For the March 12, 2009 MEMC meeting summary, see Appendix B: Supporting Documents.

For the original 2004 version of this plan, MARC formed a multi-disciplinary project steering committee comprised of representatives from city and county governments in Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties that was facilitated by MARC staff and a consultant. This committee helped determine the project's scope, direction and organization and included representatives from the following agencies:

- Buckner City Clerk's Office
- Cass County Emergency Management
- Central Jackson County Fire Protection District
- Clay County Emergency Management
- Clay County Planning and Zoning Department
- Excelsior Springs Fire Department
- Grandview Fire Department
- Harrisonville Community Development
- Independence Community Development
- Independence Fire Department
- Jackson County Office of the County Executive
- Jackson County Sheriff's Department
- Kansas City, Mo., Department of City Planning and Development
- Kansas City, Mo., Office of Emergency Management
- Kansas City, Mo., Office of the Mayor
- Lee's Summit Fire Department
- Liberty Planning Department
- Parkville Community Development Department
- Platte County Sheriff's Department
- Platte County Public Works Department
- Raymore Emergency Management

As part of the process to develop the 2004 plan, the consultant and MARC staff reviewed a variety of government documents, Web sites, books, periodicals, newspaper articles, maps and related reference materials. In addition, a number of local and state government officials, as well as private sector sources, were contacted to obtain information necessary for the development of this plan. Appendix C lists the references used to develop this plan. To the greatest extent possible, these efforts have not been duplicated, but rather refurbished with current information. No outside consultants were utilized for this update.

### 1.3.2 Formation of Planning Team

The 2009 update planning process began in earnest at the April 24, 2009, kick-off meeting, where HMPC members were provided with background information, changes to FEMA guidance, required updates and a nominal timeline for the plan update process. As its first order of business, the HMPC adopted the Combination Model (FEMA 386-8, 12) as a means to fulfill the requirements of multi-jurisdictional plan development. Through this Combination Model, MARC was designated the Plan Author; and the HMPC was designated the Planning Team. Additional business included determination of satisfactory participation requirements for jurisdictions and beginning initial outreach and information collection efforts.

Additionally, participating jurisdictions, were asked to provide information for the update through a two-step process: a survey by mail, and through county meetings (or separate work sessions as described in Prerequisites) and public meetings facilitated by MARC. All information, including meeting notices, summaries, etc., about the update process was made available in accordance with Missouri Sunshine Law provisions. As such, neighboring communities, agencies, businesses, academia, nonprofits, and other interested parties were provided the opportunity to be involved in the planning process. Additional information regarding Missouri's Sunshine Law can be found on the Web site of Missouri's Attorney General at <http://ago.mo.gov/sunshinelaw/>. Further, informational updates and participation opportunities were reported at the monthly meetings of the Metropolitan Emergency Managers Committee (MEMC), which are open to the public and other interested parties.

Table 1.1 summarizes the meetings conducted throughout the planning timeline by date held, agenda and attendees (noted by title, agency, organization or jurisdiction). Meeting agendas, summaries and sign-in sheets can be found in Appendix B: Supporting Documents.

<b>TABLE 1.1: SUMMARY OF PLANNING MEETINGS</b>			
<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Purpose of Meeting</b>	<b>Attendees</b>
Kick-off	4/24/09	Background, Planning Team formation, Initial planning, participation requirements.	Planning Team, MARC
HMP Review	5/22/09	Discuss revisions and plan reformatting, Adding hazards, mitigation actions, schedule for future meetings.	Planning Team, MARC
Intro and Information	6/30/09	Provide introduction, background, information and requirements regarding the planning process to representatives of the city of Kansas City, Mo.	KCMO Reps (Health Dept., Parks, Aviation, FD, Water, EM, IT), MARC
Intro and Information	7/01/09	Provide introduction, background, information and requirements regarding the planning process to representatives of Platte County jurisdictions.	Platte County (EM, Codes, P&Z) Platte Woods, Parkville, Riverside, Platte City, Tracy, MARC

<b>TABLE 1.1: SUMMARY OF PLANNING MEETINGS</b>			
Intro and Information	7/07/09	Provide introduction, background, information and requirements regarding the planning process to representatives of Cass County jurisdictions.	Cass County (EM, Codes, Public Health), Raymore, Garden City, Loch Lloyd, Strasburg Dogwood Energy, MARC
Intro and Information	08/13/09	Provide introduction, background, information and requirements regarding the planning process to representatives of Clay County jurisdictions.	Clay County (EM, P&Z), Smithville, Gladstone, N. Kansas City, Liberty, Kearney, Pleasant Valley, MARC
Intro and Information	08/14/09	Provide introduction, background, information and requirements regarding the planning process to representatives of Jackson County jurisdictions.	Jackson County (Emergency Prep., Public Health, Public Works, Planning), Blue Springs, Independence, Grandview, Oak Grove/Sni Valley FPD, Raytown, Prairie FPD, Lee's Summit, LCAAP, MARC
Intro and Information	09/1/09	Provide introduction, background, information and requirements regarding the planning process to Platte County school districts and jurisdictions.	Platte County (EM) Houston Lake, Weatherby Lake, Park Hill School Dist., West Platte R-II School Dist., Platte County R-III School Dist., MARC
Intro and Information	09/22/09	Provide introduction, background, information and requirements regarding the planning process to Cass County school districts and jurisdictions.	Cass County (EM), Belton, Lone Jack C6 School Dist., Pleasant Hills Schools, Belton 124 School Dist., Harrisonville Schools, Sherwood R-VIII School Dist., Archie R-V School Dist., MARC
Intro and Information	10/5/09	Provide introduction, background, information and requirements regarding the planning process to Clay County school districts and jurisdictions.	Clay County (EM), Metropolitan Community Colleges, Excelsior Springs School District, MARC
Intro and Information	10/14/09	Provide introduction, background, information and requirements regarding the planning process to representatives of Ray County jurisdictions.	Ray County (Public Health, Social Services, 911, Commissioners), MARC
Intro and Information	10/27/09	Provide introduction, background, information and requirements regarding the planning process to Jackson County school districts and jurisdictions.	Jackson County (Emergency Prep), Independence, Grandview CSD #4, Blue Springs School Dist., Lone Jack C-6 School Dist., Don Bosco Charter HS, Fort Osage R-1 School Dist., Center School District, MARC

<b>TABLE 1.1: SUMMARY OF PLANNING MEETINGS</b>			
Public Involvement	11/04/09	Public involvement meeting to provide residents an opportunity to offer feedback on the mitigation strategies considered by jurisdictions in Cass County.	Cass County (EM), Peculiar, Raymore, Loch Lloyd, Pleasant Hill, Strasburg, Belton, Garden City
Public Involvement	11/09/09	Public involvement meeting to provide residents an opportunity to offer feedback on the mitigation strategies considered by jurisdictions in Platte County.	Platte County (EM, Sheriff, Commissioner), Riverside, Houston Lake, Tracy, Parkville, Platte City, Weatherby Lake, Northmoor, Weston
Public Involvement	11/10/09	Public involvement meeting to provide residents an opportunity to offer feedback on the mitigation strategies considered by jurisdictions in Jackson County.	Jackson County (Emergency Prep), Independence, Oak Grove, Grandview, Raytown, Blue Springs, Lee's Summit
Public Involvement	11/16/09	Public involvement meeting to provide residents an opportunity to offer feedback on the mitigation strategies considered by jurisdictions in Clay County.	Clay County (Emergency Management) North Kansas City, Liberty, Smithville, Pleasant Valley, Kearney, Gladstone
Public Involvement	11/17/09	Public involvement meeting to provide residents an opportunity to offer feedback on the mitigation strategies considered by the city of Kansas City, Mo.	City of Kansas City representatives (EM, Public Safety, Health Department, Fire Department, Community Development)
Public Involvement	11/18/09	Sherwood Cass R-VIII School Board meeting to provide the public an opportunity to offer feedback on the mitigation strategies considered by the Sherwood Cass R-VIII School District.	Sherwood Cass R-VIII School Board, School Safety Coordinator
HMP Draft Review	11/23/09	Review and approval for submission of HMP first draft.	Planning Team, MARC
Public Involvement	12/23/09	Public involvement meeting to provide residents an opportunity to offer feedback on the mitigation strategies considered by the Ray County.	Ray County Commissioners

### 1.3.3 Plan Section Review and Update Methodology

The Planning Team set a review period from April 25 through May 31, 2009, to evaluate the plan in its entirety, determining which sections required revision in accordance with FEMA's *Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance, 2008* and *Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Planning, 2006*. Using this guidance, the Planning Team determined all parts necessitated amendment due to the availability of new information, conformity with FEMA recommendations, changes in priorities, etc.

Table 1.2 illustrates the results of the plan review. As noted in the introduction, this update includes a format alteration from the earlier plan. Table 1.2 identifies these changes where applicable. MARC staff conducted research, collected information, developed maps and authored the plan update. As changes, updates and recommendations were drafted into the plan, the Planning Team provided MARC with comments and feedback via e-mail. The final draft of the plan was presented to the Planning Team for review on November 9, 2009 and approved at the November 23, 2009 concluding Planning Team meeting.

<b>TABLE 1.2: REVIEW PROCESS SUMMARY</b>				
<b>Section</b>	<b>Reviewed (Yes/No)</b>	<b>Revisions Made (Yes/No)</b>	<b>Basis for Revisions</b>	<b>Summary of Revisions</b>
Prerequisites	Yes	Yes	Plan reformatting	Added separate prerequisites section. Updated list of adopting jurisdictions
Planning Process	Yes	Yes	Plan reformatting	Added separate planning process section. Updated review methodology and participation requirements
All-Hazard Mitigation Actions*	Yes	Yes	Plan reformatting	Deleted
Regional Profile	Yes	Yes	Changes in jurisdiction demographics	Updated with current information
Risk Assessment/Hazard Analysis	Yes	Yes	Re-evaluation of regional hazards	Identified four additional man-made/technological hazards. Updated historical hazard data
Vulnerability Assessment	Yes	Yes	New methodology for vulnerability assessment	Each hazard re-evaluated
Mitigation Strategy	Yes	Yes	Jurisdictional re-evaluation of mitigation actions	Each jurisdiction evaluated and re-prioritized mitigation actions from previous plan. Changes made to reflect jurisdiction-specific actions
Plan Maintenance	Yes	Yes	Change in procedure	Removed MEMC oversight, created an annual review process monitored by the Planning Team

\* Located in 2004, *Regional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan*

### 1.3.4 Review and Incorporation of Existing Plans

Existing plans, studies, reports and technical documents were reviewed and integrated in the planning process utilizing two data-collection instruments. The first such instrument gathered an inventory of reviews of existing plans, studies, reports and technical documents by participating jurisdictions through a survey developed and distributed by MARC. The survey requested information on the following topics:

- Types of natural and other hazards that affect or concern local governments
- Participation in federal hazard mitigation programs, e.g., NFIP, FMA, PDM
- Plans related to natural hazard mitigation, land use or development
- Local ordinances related to natural hazard mitigation
- Building, fire and related codes
- Existing mitigation practices
- Use of technical documents

The survey asked communities to indicate if these plans/programs/policies had been reviewed within the last five years. Where applicable, the survey requested jurisdictions describe how these documents and measures were integrated in the planning process.

The second instrument used for the review process was the MARC-created, Web-based data warehouse of hazard mitigation actions. Jurisdictions were asked to enter into the database how their actions are/will be implemented into other planning mechanisms.

Table 1.3 summarizes the results of the survey. Information regarding implementation of mitigation actions into other planning mechanisms can be found in Section 4: Mitigation Strategy.

TABLE 1.3: RECORD OF REVIEW (SUMMARY)													
Jurisdiction	Existing Program/Policy/Technical Document												
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Clay County	✓	✓	N	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	N	X	✓	✓	✓
Cass County	✓	X	X	N	X	X	✓	N	X	N	X	X	✓
Jackson County	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	N	✓	✓	✓	✓
Platte County	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	✓	✓	✓
Ray County	✓	✓	N	N	✓	X	✓	✓	N	X	N	✓	✓
Blue Springs	N	N	X	N	N	N	X	X	X	X	X	N	✓
Garden City	N	X	N	N	X	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	✓
Gladstone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	✓	N	✓	✓	✓
Grandview	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Houston Lake	N	N	X	N	N	N	✓	N	N	N	N	N	✓
Independence	N	✓	N	N	✓	✓	✓	N	✓	N	✓	N	✓
Kansas City, Mo.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kearney	N	✓	N	N	✓	✓	✓	N	✓	N	✓	N	✓
Lee's Summit	N	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N	X	N	X
Liberty	N	X	X	N	X	X	X	N	X	N	X	X	✓
Loch Lloyd	✓	N	N	N	✓	✓	N	N	N	X	X	N	✓
North Kansas City	N	✓	N	N	✓	✓	✓	N	✓	✓	✓	N	✓
Northmoor	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	N/A	N	✓	N	N	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓
Oak Grove	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	N	✓	✓	✓	✓
Parkville	X	N	N	X	N	N	X	X	X	X	N	X	✓
Peculiar	N	✓	✓	N	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	✓
Platte City	N	X	X	N	X	✓	N	N	N	N	✓	N	✓
Pleasant Hill	X	X	X	N	X	X	X	X	X	N	X	N	X
Raytown	✓	✓	✓	N	✓	✓	✓	N	N	N	✓	N	✓
Raymore	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	N	N	✓

TABLE 1.3: RECORD OF REVIEW (SUMMARY)													
Jurisdiction	Existing Program/Policy/Technical Document												
Riverside	✓	✓	✓	X	N	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	✓
Smithville	N	✓	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	✓	✓	✓
Sni Valley Fire Protection District	✓	N/A	N/A	N	N/A	N/A	✓	N/A	✓	✓	N	✓	✓
Strasburg	N	✓	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N/A
Tracy	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	✓	N	✓
Weatherby Lake	✓	N	✓	N	✓	✓	✓	N	N	N	✓	N	✓
Weston	X	X	X	N	X	X	X	X	X	N	X	N	✓

N/A: Not applicable

X: Jurisdiction has adopted but not reviewed

N: Jurisdiction has not adopted

✓: Jurisdiction has adopted and reviewed

**Key:**

- A. Hazard vulnerability analysis
- B. Floodplain management ordinance
- C. Soil and erosion control ordinance
- D. Hazard zone identification
- E. Stormwater engineering studies
- F. Elevation certificates
- G. Emergency Management Plan
- H. Growth Management Plan

- I. Capital Improvement Plan
- J. Critical facilities maps
- K. Existing land use maps
- L. Missouri State Hazard Mitigation Plan
- M. Building codes

**TABLE 1.4: RECORD OF REVIEW (SUMMARY, SCHOOL DISTRICTS)**

School District	Vulnerability Analysis	Evacuation Plan	Storm Sheltering plan	Shelter-in-place plan	Infectious disease plan	Water conservation measures	Other Plans	Applied for Mitigation Grant Funding?	Reviewed State HMP
Archie R-V	N	✓	✓	✓	✓	N		N	✓
Lone Jack C-6	N	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	Invader/ Intruder/ Bomb threat plans	N	✓
Fort Osage R-I	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N	Intruder	N	N
Harrisonville	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N		N	N
Park Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N		N	✓
Pleasant Hill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N		N	✓
Sherwood Cass R-VIII	N	✓	N	N	✓	N		N	✓
West Platte R-II	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	N		PDM	✓
Metropolitan Community Colleges	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		PDM, HMGP	✓

N/A: Not applicable

N: District has not adopted

X: District has adopted but not reviewed

✓: District has adopted and reviewed

### 1.3.5 Public Involvement

Hazard mitigation planning is best accomplished when those with a stake in the plan are actively involved. Because hazards can affect everyone, these stakeholders are not just local government officials, but also private industry, nonprofit organizations and most importantly private citizens. Seeking public feedback on the mitigation strategies considered by each jurisdiction ensures that the concerns of the community are adequately addressed and provides insight as to where scarce resources might best be used.

In order to make best use of limited time and resources during the planning process, one public meeting was held at a central location in each county; a separate meeting was held for the city of Kansas City, Mo. Prior to the meetings, MARC staff organized the mitigation strategies provided by participating jurisdictions. This information was then presented on posters with symbols indicating what mitigation actions jurisdictions were undertaking, as well as those that had been completed since the 2004 plan. The meetings were an “open-house” format; citizens were invited to walk around and comment on their city’s or county’s chosen mitigation actions. Representatives from each participating jurisdiction were present at the meetings and encouraged the public to ask questions. Following the meetings, MARC staff collected the public comments and provided them to the appropriate jurisdiction for review and incorporation into their mitigation strategy as desired.

To get the word out about the public meetings to as many residents as possible, MARC staff advertised the events through multiple venues. Advertisements were placed in several local newspapers and ran on the following dates:

<b>TABLE 1.5: PUBLIC MEETING ADVERTISEMENTS AND RUN DATES</b>		
<b>County/City</b>	<b>Publication</b>	<b>Run Date(s)</b>
Cass County	<i>Star Herald</i>	10/28/2009, 10/30/2009
Cass County	<i>Cass County Democrat</i>	10/28/2009, 10/30/2009, 11/4/2009
Cass County	<i>Pleasant Hill Times</i>	10/28/2009, 11/4/2009
Platte County	<i>Platte County Citizen</i>	11/4/2009
Platte County	<i>Sun Papers - NPG</i>	11/5/2009
Platte County	<i>Sun Gazette</i>	11/5/2009
Platte County	<i>Parkville Luminary</i>	11/6/2009
Platte County	<i>The Landmark of Platte County</i>	11/4/2009
Jackson County	<i>The Examiner</i>	11/6/2009
Jackson County	<i>Oak Grove Focus</i>	11/5/2009
Jackson County	<i>Lee's Summit Journal</i>	11/6/2009
Jackson County	<i>Blue Springs Journal</i>	11/7/2009
Jackson County	<i>Jackson County Advocate</i>	11/5/2009
Kansas City, Mo	<i>The Call</i>	11/13/2009
Kansas City, Mo	<i>Northeast News</i>	11/11/2009
Kansas City, Mo	<i>KC Globe</i>	11/12/2009
Kansas City, Mo	<i>Sun Papers - NPG</i>	11/11/2009
Clay County	<i>Sun Papers - NPG</i>	11/12/2009
Clay County	<i>Excelsior Springs Standard</i>	11/13/2009
Ray County	<i>Richmond Daily News</i>	12/21/2009, 12/22/2009

Posts were created on social networking sites such as Twitter, Flickr and Facebook. A homepage story was created on the MARC Web site. E-mail invitations were sent through MARC listservs, requesting regional partners and committees forward to their constituents. Jurisdictions were provided with fliers advertising the events for distribution around their community. Additionally, jurisdictions were asked to link notices for the public meetings to their cities' Web sites and community calendars, where applicable. Jurisdictions were also asked to use any other available outlets to advertise the events, such as local government access TV channels, e-newsletters and posting information to their own social networking accounts. Meeting dates and participants for each public meeting are listed in Table 1.1.

The final plan, prior to submission to SEMA and FEMA, was provided to all participating jurisdictions. The plan was placed in its entirety on MARC's website and an online feedback mechanism was created through One KC Voice to provide a concluding opportunity for the public to comment on the plan. MARC staff issued press releases, sent email notifications through local listservs and distributed fliers detailing instructions on where to access the plan and how to provide feedback. Jurisdictions were again asked to link these items to their Websites as well as utilize other available outlets to spread the word regarding the final review period.

Following FEMA's approval of the plan "pending adoption" and prior to formal adoption of the plan, jurisdictions were encouraged to hold public meetings to discuss the plan's adoption.

Copies of meeting notices, fliers, advertisements, press releases, etc. are provided in Appendix B: Supporting Documents.