

2025 Regional Multi-hazard Mitigation Plan



For Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties
and their incorporated cities in Missouri.



FORWARD

To Residents of the Kansas City Region:

Since its beginnings in the early 1800s, the Kansas City metropolitan area has experienced the adverse effects of natural disasters. Historical records indicate that natural hazards, particularly floods and tornadoes, have had a profound effect on the region. Unfortunately, there is no way to prevent disasters from occurring. The impact of disasters, however, can be mitigated. Their effects can be lessened and losses reduced through the development and application of prudent hazard mitigation strategies and actions. In doing so, the Kansas City metropolitan area can be made to be a safer place to live, work and play.

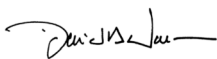
Our climate is changing, and the occurrence and intensity of natural hazard events requires that all local jurisdictions in the Kansas City region focus attention on goals and mitigation strategies.

As of November 1, 2004, all local governments and school districts must have an approved hazard mitigation plan to be eligible to apply for and receive certain FEMA funds. This FEMA program provides funds to communities to mitigate the impact of natural disasters, such as floods and tornadoes. MARC, at the request of SEMA and in partnership with the Missouri Association of Councils of Government (MACOG), has developed this *Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* to assist the local governments, school districts, businesses, community groups and residents of Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties with information on hazards posing risks to life and property, and identifies actions that could be taken to reduce the impacts from disaster events. This plan addresses priority natural hazards that have in the past and may in the future affect the Kansas City region, including tornadoes; floods and dam and levee failures; severe winter weather, drought, heat and wildland fires; and severe thunderstorms and storm winds and hail.

Hazard mitigation is a dynamic and ongoing process. This plan is a continuation of the mitigation planning work begun in 2003; it provides a framework for hazard mitigation planning, both regionally and locally. This plan will be reviewed and updated at least annually to determine the effectiveness of mitigation actions; reflect changes in laws, regulations and/or policies; re-prioritize mitigation actions, if necessary; and consider other issues affecting hazard mitigation in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

MARC, as the facilitator of this mitigation planning effort, welcomes your comments and suggestions for improving this plan. Please direct your comments and suggestions to the Mid-America Regional Council, 600 Broadway, Suite 200, Kansas City, MO 64105 or info@marc.org.

Sincerely,



David A. Warm
Executive Director

Executive Summary

The purpose of hazard mitigation is to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of natural, man-made and technological disasters. Hazard mitigation plans form the foundation for a community's long-term strategy to reduce disaster losses and break the cycle of disaster damage and reconstruction. Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties and participating jurisdictions developed a *Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* that was approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in July 2020. The plan was prepared pursuant to the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000). In accordance with DMA 2000 requirements, Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties and participating jurisdictions must update the plan every five years.

The *Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* is a multi-jurisdictional plan that represents a number of local governments, school districts and other jurisdictions within the Kansas City region. The following jurisdictions participated in plan development and are represented by the plan through formal adoption:

Cass County

Belton
Harrisonville
Lake Annette
Lake Winnebago
Peculiar
Pleasant Hill
Raymore
Archie R-V School District
Harrisonville School District
Pleasant Hill R-III School District
Raymore-Peculiar School District
Sherwood-Cass R-8 School District

Clay County

Excelsior Springs
Gladstone
Kearney
Lawson
Liberty
Mosby
North Kansas City
Smithville
Excelsior Springs School District
Lawson School District
North Kansas City School District
Smithville R-II School District

Jackson County

Blue Springs
Grain Valley
Grandview
Greenwood
Independence
Kansas City, Mo.
Lee's Summit
Levasy
Oak Grove
Raytown
Central Jackson Co Fire Protection District
Sni Valley Fire Protection District
Blue Springs School District
Fort Osage R1 School District
Grain Valley School District
Independence School District
Kansas City School District
Lee's Summit R-7 School District
Oak Grove R-VI School District
Metropolitan Community Colleges

Platte County

Farley
Lake Waukomis
Northmoor
Parkville
Platte City
Platte Woods
Riverside
Tracy
Weatherby Lake
Weston
Northland Regional Ambulance District
West Platte Fire Protection District
Park Hill School District
Platte County R-3 School District
West Platte R-II School District
Park University

Ray County

Richmond
Richmond School District

The planning process followed the methodology prescribed in FEMA publications *Local Mitigation Planning Handbook* (March 2013) and *Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Planning* (August 2006), beginning with the formation of a Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee (HMSC) comprised of key stakeholders from Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte and Ray counties and participating jurisdictions. The HMSC reviewed each section of the plan, including the planning process, risk assessment, mitigation strategy and plan maintenance. Revisions were made as appropriate to ensure the plan reflects current vulnerability within each jurisdiction.

The goals of the *Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* are:

Prevention:

- ☐ Develop, implement and improve hazard assessment information to prevent hazards from impacting the community where possible.

Protection of Life and Property:

- ☐ Implement activities that help to protect lives and property by making homes, businesses, public and private buildings, and other structures more resistant to the effects of hazards.

Natural Resources Protection:

- ☐ Preserve, rehabilitate and restore wetlands and other natural areas to serve hazard mitigation purposes. Minimize negative effects of disasters on the environment. Integrate and coordinate hazard mitigation activities with local land use and park and open space planning.

Integration with Emergency Services:

- ☐ Enhance local and regional emergency planning, operations and training through collaboration and coordination among local, state and federal government agencies, business and industry, and community groups. Integrate and coordinate hazard mitigation activities with emergency operations plans and procedures.

Increasing Public Awareness:

- ☐ Develop and conduct public education and outreach programs to increase awareness of the risks associated with hazards in the Kansas City area.
- ☐ Provide local governments, community groups, businesses and residents with information on opportunities for partnerships, funding, tools and related mechanisms to help communities implement mitigation activities.

To meet plan goals, mitigation actions have been identified and are discussed in Section :5 Mitigation Strategy. Social, technical, administrative, political, legal, economic and environmental factors were considered when identifying and prioritizing mitigation actions. Online tools were updated as part of this plan update. Those tools will enable local jurisdictions to review their information each year and make updates to support the next plan process.

The *Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* will be updated again in five years, by 2030.