

## Draft Hazard Mitigation Vision, Goals, and Objectives

The vision for Multnomah County and its partners is to foster a disaster-resilient community in which

- Risk-consciousness at all levels – from individuals and businesses to government agencies – is forefront in decision-making.
- Efforts to reduce risk are conducted in an inclusive and collaborative environment.
- Equity is a key consideration in identifying and implementing mitigation and disaster recovery actions.
- The risk to health and safety of all citizens from disaster events is minimized.
- All communities within the county are able to effectively and efficiently recover from disasters because impacts to the economy, built environment, and natural and cultural resources have been greatly reduced.

To reach this vision of resilience, the mitigation strategy is built upon the following goals and objectives:

Goal 1. Strengthen the capacity of the whole community<sup>1</sup> to reduce risk by increasing hazard awareness, creating partnerships, and leveraging multiple implementation mechanisms and funding opportunities.

Obj. 1.1. Ensure the risk assessment and related risk information materials are current with the best available science and appropriate for diverse audiences.

Obj. 1.2. Support community outreach activities that increase stakeholder awareness and understanding of hazard risk and mitigation options.

Obj. 1.3. Continue efforts to build effective partnerships with community-based organizations, businesses, and government agencies to identify and implement mitigation actions.

Obj. 1.4. Integrate risk reduction concepts, policies, and projects into existing planning and implementation mechanisms, such as comprehensive plans, development codes, and capital improvement plans.

Obj. 1.5. Seek various funding opportunities including mitigation-specific grant sources and local financing solutions.

Obj. 1.6. Enhance efforts to monitor vulnerability reduction and document progress towards resiliency.

Goal 2. Develop mitigation actions that consider all community systems: economic, health and social services, housing, infrastructure, and natural and cultural resources.

Obj. 2.1. Consider strategies that support a prosperous and resilient economy and that would expedite economic restoration following an incident.

Obj. 2.2. Consider strategies that promote the health, independence, and well-being of the whole community.

---

<sup>1</sup> The whole community includes individuals, families, and households; communities; non-governmental organizations; private sector entities; and government agencies (National Mitigation Framework, 2013).

- Obj. 2.3. Consider strategies that mitigate existing housing risks and increase resilience in new construction, repair, and rebuilding.
- Obj. 2.4. Consider strategies that strengthen essential infrastructure and services, decrease disruptions, and increase resilience in new construction, repair, and rebuilding.
- Obj. 2.5. Consider strategies that conserve, protect, and restore the natural and cultural assets of the community.

Goal 3. Prioritize mitigation actions that have a high benefit-to-cost ratio and increase social equity.

- Obj. 3.1. Prioritize actions that have a positive benefit-cost ratio by estimating whether the expected long-term benefits of losses avoided will exceed the cost of the mitigation action.
- Obj. 3.2. Prioritize the allocation of resources for mitigation actions that benefit underserved and under-represented communities<sup>2</sup>, especially those in high hazard risk areas.
- Obj. 3.3. Use a social equity lens to assess the potential impact of mitigation actions and to evaluate the level of equity achieved during implementation.
- Obj. 3.4. Seek opportunities in which hazard mitigation also benefits other community goals, such as economic development, energy efficiency, public health, universal design, or environmental conservation.
- Obj. 3.5. Consider the increased benefit an action may have that reduces risk from multiple hazards.

Goal 4. Plan for including mitigation activities during post-disaster recovery and reconstruction.

- Obj. 4.1. Integrate policies that reduce disaster risk into recovery plans and reconstruction standards by planning for recovery prior to a disaster.
- Obj. 4.2. Educate stakeholders on post-disaster mitigation funding sources and opportunities to build back resiliently.
- Obj. 4.3. Ensure policies and public outreach strategies are in place to provide equitable access to post-disaster mitigation opportunities.

---

<sup>2</sup> *Under-served* means people and places that historically and currently do not have equitable resources, access to infrastructure, healthy environments, housing choice, etc. Due to historical inequitable policies and practices, disparities may be recognized in both access to services and in outcomes. *Under-represented* recognizes that some communities have historically and currently not had equal voice in institutions and policy-making and have not been served equitably by programs and services.