**Date: October 5, 2021**

**URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

**BUILDING CODE SERVICES**

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**To: The City of Gulfport, Mayor and**

**City Council**

**Subject: Floodplain Management Plan’s Annual Progress Report**

The City of Gulfport participates in a multiple jurisdictional “MEMA District 9 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan” Date of the plan is February 2017. This plan is approved for a period of 5 years. The MEMA District 9 Regional Hazard Mitigation Council shall meet, at a minimum, annually in February to review and contribute to the development of a range of mitigation options for solutions that may prevent additional damage from future natural disasters and report on progress of the implementation activities.

For credit under the Community Rating System, this memo must be distributed to the media and made available to the public. Copies of this report are available for the public review at the offices of the City of Gulfport Building Official, on the city’s web page and at the Harrison County Library, Orange Grove Branch.

1. Background

The MEMA District 9 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan was put in place and developed to implement the Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) 2000 requirements, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) prepared and Interim Final Rule, published in the Federal Register, as the 44CFR Parts 201.6 ( c) (3) (iii) establishing planning criteria for states and local governments. In order to receive funding from the Hazard Mitigation Grants Program.

The Plan reviews a variety of actions and measures that can reduce the hazards and/or protect people and property when flooding occurs.

1. A review of the Plan’s Mitigation Action items:

The 52 Action items are found in Section 9 of the Mitigation Action Plan. The MEMA District 9 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan was Implemented in 2017 and is effective until September 5th, 2022. Action items are organized according to priority, hazard and priority; and assigned to the department responsible for implementing them. Actions are ongoing in nature.

Hazard Mitigation Council

1. Appointed to provide information, analyze information about hazards, consider and contribute to the development of mitigation options for solutions that may prevent additional damage from future natural disasters. Consider and prioritize criteria that will be used to rank mitigation options that will be undertaken by the community.

Status: The City’s Department of Urban Development and Floodplain Management Office have keep the City’s Council Member up to date on programs to assist homeowner living in flood hazard areas to mitigate the properties. City CFM’s have attended seminars, webinars and training conducted by industry pertaining to wind and flood construction methods and building code.

1. The Council Member shall monitor the implementation of the Hazard Mitigation and Flood Protection Plan and meet yearly with department directors to determine and benchmark the progress being made in the realization of goals and actions.

Status: This memo is the status report.

1. **Meetings:**

**Status: Meetings held each February. These meeting are generally held at various locations in MEMA Region 9 Area. During these meetings, all are invited to voice their opinions, make suggestions about current and future mitigation actions and gain a better understanding of hazard mitigation challenges and actions.**

**Department of Urban Development.**

1. **The** Department of Urban Development **Community Rating System (CRS) classification.**

**Status: As of October 1st, 2016, the City of Gulfport was awarded a Class 7 rating under the Community Rating System.**

 **Building Code Services**

1. **Provide flood protection information to residents through a variety of means, including:**
* **Flood protection references maintained at the Public Library.**
* **Making FEMA flood guides and pamphlets available in the Building**

 **Official Office.**

* **Continuing public information activities credited by the Community**

 **Rating System**

**Status:**

* **Floodplain Materials, and information are available to the public at the**

 **Downtown Gulfport and Orange Grove Branch, Public Libraries..**

* **Flood map is posted on the City’s web site.**
* **Flood map and FEMA Information documents and pamphlets are**

 **available at the Building Code Office.**

* **Public notification of flood evacuation zones were posted on the city’s**

 **web site.**

* **Hurricane tracking map published in the local phone book.**
* **Mail out City-wide Flood Protection Information. Current**
* **Mail out Repetitive Flood Protection Information loss areas in the city. Current.**
1. **Enforcement of flood regulation relative to easements, development in the floodplain, and new construction.**

**Status: This is an ongoing activity.**

1. **Provide site-specific information and assistance to inquirers, including map information, flood protection advice, and information on selecting and dealing with contractors.**

**Status: This is an ongoing activity. Documented by log entries.**

**Hazard Mitigation Action Matrix (Plan)**

1. There are 52 action items found in the Hazard Mitigation Action Matrix in Section 9 – Mitigation Strategy. MEMA District 9 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, dated 2017 and adopted WHEN January 21, 2014 **(Only items pertaining to the (CRS) are listed below.)**
* **Action P1: Require that the City continue to participate with the C-HOST program. C-HOST is a multi-jurisdiction – multi hazard Awareness Organization.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action through monthly meetings and scheduled event participation.**

* **Action PP1: Storm proof new critical facilities and infrastructure.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action.**

* **Action SP-1: Promote/Build detention ponds when appropriate.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action through the permit and plans review process in which each city department takes part.**

* **Action PP-10: Promote elevation/acquisition activities to residents/commercial owners located in the SFHA.**
1. **Continue to enforce building codes.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action through the permit and plans review process in which each city department takes part.**

* **Action SP-2: Upgrade drainage systems and culverts..**

**Status: This is an ongoing action through the permit and plans review process in which each city department takes part.**

* **Action P-8: Improve/maintain CRS rating and the NFIP Program.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action.**

* **Action P-13: Update the City’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. (CEMP).**

**Status: This is an annual action.**

* **Action P-14: Update and implement the Master Drainage Plan for the City to protect public and private property from flooding in accordance with the Master Drainage Plan.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action. As development projects are introduced and submitted, developers are required to submit their drainage pans and State permits, plans are reviewed and compliance is required and enforced. Continue to require a substantial damage rule.**

* **Action P-15: Continue to enforce/improve, as needed the city’s ordinances and regulation for all hazards.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action.**

* **Action P-16: Enforce the city’s substantial damage and substantial improvement rule.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action through the permit and plans review process.**

* **Action P-17: Require non-conversion agreements for enclosures below the base flood elevation.**

**Status: This is an ongoing. Enforced through site plan review and permitting process.**

* **Action P-20: Conduct annual reviews of the hazard mitigation and flood protection plan.**

**Status: This is an ongoing / annual event.**

* **Action P-21: Pursue funding for mitigation action.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action.**

* **Action PEA-1: Establish and maintain a hazard preparedness link on the city’s web page.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action.**

* **Action PEA-2: Promote workshops for emergency preparedness plans.**

**Status: This is an ongoing action.**