

ADOPTION AND APPROVAL



ALAMO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL MITIGATION ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Section 4 Adoption and Approval

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4.1 Interim Final Rule Requirement for Adoption and Approval

Requirement §201.6(c)(5): *[The local hazard mitigation plan shall include] documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan (e.g., City Council, County Commissioner, Tribal Council). For multi-jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan **must** document that it has been formally adopted.*

Requirement §201.6(a)(3): *Multi-jurisdictional plans (e.g., watershed plans) may be accepted, as appropriate, as long as each jurisdiction has participated in the process ... Statewide plans will not be accepted as multi-jurisdictional plans.*

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000), approved by Congress and signed into law (Public Law 106-390) in October 2000, is a key component of the Federal government's attempt to reduce the rising cost of disasters. The DMA 2000 provides an opportunity for local governments to take a new and revitalized approach to mitigation planning. It should be noted that DMA 2000 specifically requires mitigation planning for natural disasters, but not for manmade hazards. However, FEMA supports those jurisdictions that choose to consider technological and man-made hazards in their respective mitigation plans.

The AACOG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update is a multi-jurisdictional plan that identifies goals, information, and pro-active measures to enhance the region and its political subdivisions long-term sustainability. Both natural and technological hazards are addressed in the Plan.

The Plan follows the DMA 2000 planning requirements and associated guidance for developing Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. This guidance sets forth a four-task mitigation planning process: 1) organize resources, 2) assess hazards and risks, 3) develop a mitigation plan, and 4) evaluate your work. The plan also utilizes the process set forth in FEMA's Crosswalk Reference Document for Review and Submission of Local Mitigation Plans.

The overall purpose of DMA 2000 was to establish a national program for pre-disaster mitigation, streamline administration of disaster relief at both the federal and state levels, and control federal costs of disaster assistance. Congress envisioned that implementation of these new requirements would result in the following key benefits:

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- Reduction of loss of life and property, human suffering and economic disruption;
- Prioritization of hazard mitigation planning at the local level, with an increased emphasis placed on planning and public involvement, assessing risks, implementing loss reduction measures, and ensuring critical services/facilities survive a disaster; and
- Establishment of economic incentives, awareness and education via federal support to state, tribal and local governments that will result in forming community-based partnerships, implementation of effective hazard mitigation measures, leveraging of additional non-federal resources, and establishment of commitments to long-term hazard mitigation efforts.

4.2 Authority

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is the federal agency responsible for assisting communities to develop their plans. The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) is the state agency ensuring that Texas communities comply with DMA 2000.

TDEM has determined that the proper planning entity for Texas is at the local level. However, some circumstances warrant regional plans rather than county-based plans. Through a signed Memorandum of Understanding, the following counties and incorporated communities acknowledge the authority of the AACOG in developing a Regional hazard mitigation plan:

- Atascosa County
 - City of Charlotte
 - City of Christine
 - City of Jourdanton
 - City of Lytle
 - City of Pleasanton
 - City of Poteet
- Bandera County
 - City of Bandera
- Bexar County
 - City of Alamo Heights
 - City of Balcones Heights
 - City of Converse
 - City of Kirby
 - City of Leon Valley
 - City of Live Oak
 - City of St. Hedwig
 - City of San Antonio
 - City of Somerset
 - City of Terrell Hills
 - City of Universal City
 - City of Von Ormy
 - City of Windcerst
- Comal County

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- City of Bulverde
 - City of Garden Ridge
 - City of New Braunfels
 - Frio County
 - City of Dilley
 - City of Pearsall
 - Gillespie County
 - City of Fredericksburg
 - Guadalupe County
 - City of Cibolo
 - City of Schertz
 - City of Seguin
 - City of Staples
 - Karnes County
 - City of Falls City
 - City of Karnes City
 - City of Kenedy
 - City of Runge
 - Kerr County
 - City of Ingram
 - City of Kerrville
 - Medina County
 - City of Castroville
 - City of Devine
 - City of Hondo
 - City of Natalia
 - Wilson County
 - City of Floresville
 - City of La Vernia
 - City of Stockdale
- San Antonio River Authority

Each of these counties and communities has cooperated in the development process and will have the opportunity for review prior to adoption of the plan.

As of May 2010, TDEM will no longer allow regional hazards mitigation plans. The State has chosen to enforce a “2 county rule,” and will limit future hazard mitigation plans to no more than 2 counties. This Plan Update was given an exception to that policy. Future incarnations of this plan will adhere to the policy announced in May 2010.

4.3 Adoption and Approval Procedure

Note to TDEM/FEMA Reviewers: Section will be completed once actions have been completed.

The original AACGOG Regional Hazard Mitigation plan was officially adopted in 2005. For the Plan Update, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region VI determined that the Plan Update was “approvable pending adoption” on **Date**. On **DATE**, the AACOG Executive Mitigation Committee met and recommended that the

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AACOG Region and participating counties, municipalities, and SARA adopt the Plan Update. The Plan Update was submitted to the AACOG as well as the appropriate entity for each participating municipality for review and adoption. The resulting Adoption Resolutions were then submitted to FEMA Region VI for approval. FEMA subsequently issued formal approval letters to AACOG and each participating county, municipality, and SARA.

4.4 Adoption Resolutions

Appendix C contains the signed Adoption Resolutions for the AACOG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

4.5 Approval Letters

Appendix B contains the formal Approval Letters from FEMA Region VI for AACOG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.