

PLANNING PROCESS



ALAMO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL MITIGATION ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Section 5 Planning Process

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5.1 Interim Final Rule Requirements for the 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.*

Requirement §201.6(b): *An open public involvement process is essential to the development of an effective plan. 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 communities, 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.*

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5.2 Description of the Planning Process

5.2.1 How the Plan Update was Prepared (Overview)

The AACOG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update was prepared in accordance with the process established in the *State and Local Mitigation Planning How-to Guides* (FEMA Publication Series 386) produced by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the requirements of the February 26, 2002 Interim Final Rule (IFR). The process established in the FEMA 386 guides includes four basic steps:

- **Step 1:** Organize resources
- **Step 2:** Assess risks
- **Step 3:** Develop a mitigation plan
- **Step 4:** Implement the plan and monitor progress

The purpose of documenting the planning process is to ensure that this plan results from careful consideration of hazard priorities and the actions best suited for reducing loss of life and property. Documentation of the planning process also acts as a guide for future large-scale alterations in the plan or transitions of power. Ultimately, the plan is expected to evolve so that it consistently and accurately reflects both the resources available and the potential losses that may occur in any hazardous situation.

Because this Plan Update built off of an existing plan, it was necessary to review, consider and incorporate existing data where such data was still relevant and/or applicable. At each step in the plan update process, the data found in the existing plan was reviewed and considered by the planning team. Where it was applicable, the data from the 2005 plan was either incorporated directly into this Plan Update, or it was used as a base from which to develop new data for the Plan Update. This review / consideration / incorporation process was applied to all sections and phases of the Plan Update, including the following:

- Hazard identification;
- Risk assessment;
- Mitigation goals and actions; and
- Plan maintenance and monitoring.

All participants in the Plan Update were provided with an electronic copy of the 2005 Plan; they were asked to review the sections that pertained to their jurisdiction(s) prior to the committee meetings (held in July and October 2010) and their local hazard mitigation team meetings (held from November 2010 to January 2011).

The following table illustrates the 2005 Plan components/information that was reviewed and considered during the Plan Update process, who reviewed the information, how each component was analyzed, and if the information was incorporated directly, incorporated with revisions, or was not incorporated into the Plan Update.

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**Table 5.2.1-1
2005 Plan Data Record of Consideration and Disposition**

Disposition of Data from the 2005 Plan			
Data Component	Reviewer	Criteria for Decision	Disposition of Data
Hazard identification and profiles	Planning consultants; All participating jurisdictions	Availability of data and reliable information; frequency of occurrence; likelihood of damage(s)	Hazards from 2005 Plan were reviewed and considered by all participating jurisdictions; a consensus was reached as to which hazards to carry over, which ones to drop, and what additional hazards to add to the Plan Update
Risk Assessment	Planning consultants; AACOG GIS personnel; All participating jurisdictions	Availability of data and reliable information	Risk assessment data from the 2005 Plan was used as a starting point for the development of the Plan Update; the existing data provided a base upon which to build the updated risk assessment findings
Mitigation goals	Planning consultants; All participating jurisdictions	Applicability of previous goals to participant's current capability and capacity	The mitigation goals from the 2005 Plan were used as a starting point for the development of the goals for the Plan Update
Mitigation actions	Planning consultants; All participating jurisdictions; Local hazard mitigation team members	Participants were asked to provide information regarding status of previous actions, and details for newly identified actions, based on the findings of the updated risk assessment	Participants were asked to provide updated information regarding all previously described actions, and to identify any new jurisdictional-specific actions to be included in the Plan Update, based on the findings of the updated risk assessment
Plan monitoring	Planning consultants; All participating jurisdictions	The plan monitoring process was revised to allow for ease of separation of the jurisdictions in the next Plan Update (estimated 2016)	AACOG remains responsible for the monitoring of the overall Plan Update; Participating jurisdictions were provided with a process to monitor their specific portions of the Plan Update
Plan maintenance	Planning consultants; All participating jurisdictions	The plan monitoring process was revised to allow for ease of separation of the jurisdictions in the next Plan Update (estimated 2016)	AACOG remains responsible for the maintenance of the overall Plan Update; Participating jurisdictions were provided with a process to maintain their specific portions of the Plan Update

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5.2.1.1 Step 1: Organize Resources

The Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) was the lead agency responsible for the development of the Plan Update. At the beginning of the process, a consultant firm, James Lee Witt Associates (Witt Associates), was hired to provide technical support to the AACOG. In addition, several individuals and organizations worked together to develop the Plan Update. These participants were organized into the AACOG Executive Mitigation Committee (EMC).

The AACOG mitigation planning effort includes 58 jurisdictions and entities whose administrative boundaries are encompassed by the planning area. AACOG has included all jurisdictions in the planning area in the *Risk Assessment*. Should any jurisdiction's governing body not approve the mitigation actions its representatives have selected by the date this Plan is submitted to the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), AACOG will continue working with those jurisdictions to produce a completed Mitigation Action Plan in order to qualify them for disaster benefits and to assist them in planning for hazard reduction.

A multi-jurisdictional plan requires clear lines of communication and coordination with the public. To consolidate its mitigation-planning mandate, AACOG chose to coordinate its planning effort with participating jurisdictions through its existing Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (REPAC). The primary focus of the REPAC is to advise the AACOG Board of Directors on program and policy matters pertaining to First Responder, Homeland Security, and Emergency Preparedness issues within the region.

The selection of REPAC to guide mitigation activities was important for two reasons. REPAC is an established entity within AACOG and can quickly integrate regional mitigation planning efforts into the overall objectives of the organization. Furthermore, AACOG realized that a centralized coordinated effort was necessary. Coordinated efforts reduce duplication of the workload and facilitate the identification of multi-objective planning opportunities (i.e., mitigation projects and policies that may complement other AACOG initiatives).

In this planning process, the EMC fills the role of the executive mitigation team. The REPAC will be the instrument of policy development, decision-making and management for the regional Plan moving forwards. REPAC has a broad-base structure in which organization (department) leaders consult with one another during the execution of project tasks and provides an ideal mechanism to facilitate joint strategic planning and decision-making for AACOG constituents. During the execution of this planning process, REPAC has agreed to meet at least quarterly. The role of the EMC is three-fold: to assess progress regarding the developed project work plan; to facilitate coordination and cooperation between and among all jurisdictions; and to help develop recommendations for the AACOG Board of Directors regarding new initiatives and policy directions that result from this process.

The Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee consists of 22 members and 22 alternates. The committee is headed by a Chairperson that is selected to serve in this capacity for no more than two consecutive years. Further terms can be served by the Chairperson after an intervening term. Other members serve two year terms but may be recommended for additional term or terms. Alternates serve in the absence of appointed members. All alternates must be approved and appointed by the AACOG Board of Directors.

The membership of the REPAC is shown in Table 5.2.1-2.

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**Table 5.2.1-2
AACOG REPAC Members**

AACOG Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (REPAC) Members		
Name	Committee Position	Organization
Judge Danny Scheel	Chairperson	Comal County
Chief Joe Hamilton	Vice-Chairperson	Bulverde Police Department
Mark Cheatum	Alternate	Bulverde Police Department
Judge Nelson Wolff	Member	Bexar County
Scott Lampright	Alternate	Bexar County Office of Emergency Management
Dr. Charles (Chuck) Bauer	Member	UT Health Science Center
Dr. John Herbold	Alternate	UT Health Science Center
John Culpepper	Member	Gillespie County / Fredericksburg Office of Emergency Management
Lori Seewald	Alternate	Fredericksburg EMS
Carol Edgett	Member	Comal County Office of Emergency Management
Homer C. Emery	Member	San Antonio Water System
Meg Conner	Alternate	San Antonio Water System
Eric Epley	Member	STRAC/EHDG
Robert Cocke	Alternate	STRAC/EHDG
Jeffrey Fincke	Member	Kendall County Office of Emergency Management
Nathan Taylor	Alternate	Kendall County Office of Emergency Management
Gregory Pratt	Alternate	Federal Bureau of Investigation
Joanne Morales	Alternate	Federal Bureau of Investigation
Steve Hannemann	Member	Texas Department of Health, Region 6
Anna Lux	Alternate	Texas Department of Health, Region 6
LeAnn Hosek	Member	Wilson County Office of Emergency Management
Honorable Larry A. Wiley	Alternate	Wilson County Commission
Chief Rodney Hitzfelder	Member	San Antonio Fire Department
Chief Mike Walsh	Alternate	San Antonio Fire Department
Chief David Coatney	Member	San Antonio Fire Department
Captain Tom Polonis	Alternate	San Antonio Police Department
Jeffrey Dean	Alternate	San Antonio Office of Emergency Management
Henry King	Member	Chair, Bexar County Local Emergency Planning Committee
Chief Walton Daugherty	Alternate	Vice-Chair, Bexar County Local Emergency Planning Committee, Helotes Fire Department
Chief Mike Miller (ret.)	Member	Citizen Representative
Charlie Dyer	Alternate	CPS Energy
Brett Schneider	Member	Bexar Metro 911

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AACOG Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (REPAC) Members		
Name	Committee Position	Organization
Eddie Taylor	Alternate	Bexar Metro 911
Dr. Rasa Silenas	Member	TC-MEDSTAR
Harry Smith	Member	Greater San Antonio Hospital Council
Bill Rasco	Alternate	Greater San Antonio Hospital Council
Mayor Johnny Stahl	Member	City of Stockdale
Chief Edwin Baker	Alternate	City of Stockdale Fire Department
Jeffrey Wendling	Member	City of Kerrville Police Department
Rowan Zachry	Alternate	City of Ingram Fire Marshal
Chief Tom Winn (ret.)	Member	City of Windcrest Fire Department
Chief Ross Wallace	Alternate	City of Universal City
Carey Reed	Member	Bandera County Office of Emergency Management / 911
Constable Ernest Reich	Alternate	Bandera County, Precinct 2

The membership of the EMC is shown in Table 5.2.1-3. Note that this membership list is kept by title, rather than name.

**Table 5.2.1-3
AACOG EMC Members**

AACOG Emergency Management Committee (EMC) Members		
Position	Title	Jurisdiction
Elected Officials	County Judge	Atascosa County Bandera County Bexar County Comal County Frio County Gillespie County Guadalupe County Karnes County Kerr County Medina County Wilson County
Emergency Management Coordinators	EMC, Directors, Coordinators	Atascosa County Bandera County Bexar County Comal County Frio County Gillespie County Guadalupe County Karnes County Kerr County Medina County

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AACOG Emergency Management Committee (EMC) Members		
Position	Title	Jurisdiction
		Wilson County
Points of Contact	General Manager	San Antonio River Authority
Other interested Parties		General Public

In addition to the REPAC and the EMC, local hazard mitigation teams were established at the county and municipal levels. These teams were organized by county. In some instances, municipalities and counties formed a team together, with all or most jurisdictions represented. The diversity of jurisdictions in the region is reflected in the diversity of the local hazard mitigation teams. In the larger municipalities, several officials from various departments within the jurisdiction compose the local hazard mitigation team. In the more rural areas, the county and all of the jurisdictions within that county met together, often with each jurisdiction only having one representative on the team. In these county mitigation meetings, discussions centered on hazard assessment and the economic effects of potential damages and to compare mitigation actions by hazard.

In the State of Texas, Emergency Management Coordinators (EMCs) are appointed to their position by the jurisdiction’s Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Once the appointment is made, the Texas Division of Emergency Management is notified of the appointment, and the official records are updated. In some cases, municipal jurisdictions and counties may be combined for emergency management and planning purposes.

For many participants in this planning process, the day-to-day business of planning and emergency management is a consolidated effort, sometimes in the absence of any official documentation or agreement. Because of the size and limited resources of many of the participating jurisdictions, informal systems and agreements have been developed by which, for example, a representative from the County may stand on behalf of both the County and one or more incorporated jurisdictions. This approach has the advantage of maximizing staff time and resources as well as insuring that all planning and emergency management efforts are coordinated.

In some cases, the EMC appointed a delegate to act on behalf of the jurisdiction for the duration of the planning process. When this occurred, the EMC was briefed on the process, and was consulted for information. In other cases, a higher-ranking official acted as the jurisdiction’s representative for the planning process.

In the normal course of business, AACOG typically deals with officials at the county level, usually either the EMC or the County Judge. AACOG relies on those positions to transmit information to others within the county, and to the municipalities in the county. This is the normal, established process for planning and communications in the planning area.

Appendix L contains a table which lists the appointed EMCs as of June 01, 2010, when the planning process for the AACOG Regional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update began. The table also provides information as to if the EMC personally represented the jurisdiction, if a delegate represented the jurisdiction, or if a higher ranking official represented the jurisdiction. This appendix also contains the source material for this table, which was obtained from TDEM.

Because of the number of participating jurisdictions and the far-flung geography of the planning area, some participating jurisdictions were unable to send a representative to the planning meetings. This is particularly true of

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the smaller jurisdictions, of which this Plan Update contains many. These jurisdictions participated in the update of the plan and in the planning process in a variety of ways, which are described below.

County-Wide Representative

Atascosa, Bandera, Comal, Frio, Guadalupe, and Karnes Counties appointed a single representative to speak for both the county and at least some of (if not all of) the participating jurisdictions throughout the plan update process. The participants who opted for this process tended to be either counties with very small or mostly unincorporated communities, or those with a single incorporated jurisdiction that generally works closely with the county. This arrangement did not preclude the communities from sending a specific representative to the plan update meetings, but rather allowed greater flexibility in scheduling and a unified voice for the community.

Follow-Up Meeting with Consultants

Some communities, such as Leon Valley (Bexar County) were unable to attend one or more of the scheduled committee meetings. To ensure that they were able to fully participate in the plan update process, they arranged with the planning consultants to have the meeting documentation sent to them via email, and then scheduled a time to review it and speak with the planning consultants, to provide input and information where necessary.

County/Municipality Specific Meeting with Consultants

Another example of this process was practiced by Medina County and its participating municipalities. Scheduling conflicts prevented most of the jurisdictions within Medina County to attend the scheduled committee meetings (excepting the City of Devine, who had no such conflict). To offset this conflict, the county scheduled a meeting with the AACOG and the planning consultants, and invited all of the municipalities within the county to attend. This meeting was attended by all communities and the county. Information was gathered for the plan update, decisions were made regarding the information the county and the municipalities would include in the plan update, and assignments were given regarding the gathering and submission of other documentation and information needed for the plan update. Prior to this meeting, the handouts from the committee meeting were sent to the participants, all of whom were asked to review both the handouts and the previous plan prior to the meeting. As a result of this meeting, Medina County and the Communities of Castroville, Devine, Hondo and Natalia were able to participate in the plan update process.

Each jurisdiction within the planning area was invited to participate in the plan update process, including those that did not participate in the development of the original plan in 2005. All participants received the same requests for information to contribute to the plan update, and the same information regarding the findings of all assessments completed during the plan update. While there was some variation in the “how” each jurisdiction participated, the outcome – participation in the plan update process - was similar for all participants.

Some jurisdictions opted to be represented by the County in the plan update process. Others opted to send their own representatives to the plan update meetings. This decision was largely dependent on scheduling, and available staff resources. See Table 5.2.1-5 (below) for details as to how each jurisdiction participated in the Plan Update.

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**Table 5.2.1-4
Plan Update Participation Summation**

AACOG Plan Update Participation Summary		
Participating Jurisdiction	County	Method of Participation in Plan Update
Atascosa County		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Charlotte	Atascosa	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; participated in local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Christine	Atascosa	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; provided information to local team; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Lytle	Atascosa	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; provided information to local team; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Pleasanton	Atascosa	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; provided information to local team; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Jourdanton	Atascosa	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; participated in local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Poteet	Atascosa	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; provided information to local team; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Bandera County		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Bandera	Bandera	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; participated in local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Bexar County		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets; hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information

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AACOG Plan Update Participation Summary		
Participating Jurisdiction	County	Method of Participation in Plan Update
Alamo Heights	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Balcones Heights	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Converse	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; participated in Bexar County's local mitigation team meeting (jurisdiction is too small to have their own team); provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Helotes	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Kirby	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Leon Valley	Bexar	Jurisdiction was unable to attend AACOG plan update meetings - see page 5-7 for description of alternate participation methodology; held local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information

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AACOG Plan Update Participation Summary		
Participating Jurisdiction	County	Method of Participation in Plan Update
Live Oak	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Saint Hedwig	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; participated in Bexar County's local mitigation team meeting (jurisdiction is too small to have their own team); provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
San Antonio	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Somerset	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Terrell Hills	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Universal City	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Windcrest	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information

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AACOG Plan Update Participation Summary		
Participating Jurisdiction	County	Method of Participation in Plan Update
Von Ormy	Bexar	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Comal County		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets; hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Bulverde	Comal	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; provided information to local team; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Garden Ridge	Comal	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; provided information to local team; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
New Braunfels	Comal	Represented by County Representative at some AACOG plan update meetings; Jurisdictional representative was able to attend some plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Comal County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Frio County		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets; hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Dilley	Frio	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Frio County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Pearsall	Frio	Represented by County Representative at some AACOG plan update meetings; Jurisdictional representative was able to attend some plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Frio County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update

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Participating Jurisdiction	County	Method of Participation in Plan Update
Gillespie County		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets; hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Fredericksburg	Gillespie	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; attended and provided information to joint City/County local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Guadalupe County		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets; hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Cibolo	Guadalupe	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Guadalupe County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Seguin	Guadalupe	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; Jurisdictional representative was able to attend some plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Guadalupe County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Schertz	Guadalupe	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; Jurisdictional representative was able to attend some plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Guadalupe County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Karnes County		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets; hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information

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AACOG Plan Update Participation Summary		
Participating Jurisdiction	County	Method of Participation in Plan Update
Falls City	Karnes	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Karnes County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Karnes City	Karnes	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; Jurisdictional representative was able to attend some plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Karnes County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Kenedy	Karnes	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; Jurisdictional representative was able to attend some plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Karnes County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Runge	Karnes	Represented by County Representative at AACOG plan update meetings; Jurisdictional representative was able to attend some plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Karnes County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Kerr County		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets; hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Ingram	Kerr	Jurisdictional representative attended AACOG plan update meetings; attended and provided information to joint City/ County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Kerrville	Kerr	Jurisdictional representative attended AACOG plan update meetings; attended and provided information to joint City/ County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
Medina County		Jurisdiction was unable to attend AACOG plan update meetings - see narrative for description of alternate participation methodology; held joint City/County local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information

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AACOG Plan Update Participation Summary		
Participating Jurisdiction	County	Method of Participation in Plan Update
Castroville	Medina	Jurisdiction was unable to attend AACOG plan update meetings - see narrative for description of alternate participation methodology; held joint City/County local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Devine	Medina	Jurisdiction attended some AACOG plan update meetings - see narrative for description of alternate participation methodology; held joint City/County local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Hondo	Medina	Jurisdiction was unable to attend AACOG plan update meetings - see narrative for description of alternate participation methodology; held joint City/County local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Natalia	Medina	Jurisdiction was unable to attend AACOG plan update meetings - see narrative for description of alternate participation methodology; held joint City/County local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Wilson County		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting, provided information regarding assets; hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Floresville	Wilson	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information

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AACOG Plan Update Participation Summary		
Participating Jurisdiction	County	Method of Participation in Plan Update
La Vernia	Wilson	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; held local mitigation team meeting; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information
Stockdale	Wilson	Attended AACOG plan update meetings; attended and provided information to Wilson County local team meeting; provided information regarding mitigation actions (completed and new) for plan update
San Antonio River Authority		Attended AACOG plan update meetings; attended and participated in local mitigation team meetings in Bexar, Karnes and Wilson counties; provided information regarding assets, hazard occurrences, and mitigation actions (completed and new) for incorporation into plan update; held follow-up meetings with planning consultants to provide specific jurisdictional information

In addition to EMCs and elected officials, participating jurisdictions were also encouraged to involve their floodplain manager or administrator in the planning process. Each NFIP participating jurisdiction should have a Floodplain Administrator (FPA), according to the NFIP and FEMA, and the majority (though not all) of the participants in this planning process do have one. In many cases, however, the FPA is an appointed position, and is not a CFM or otherwise experienced floodplain manager. Rather, they are more of a point of contact for floodplain management and regulatory compliance issues.

Participants in this planning process were encouraged to involve their floodplain managers in the plan development process, and many choose to heed this encouragement. For many participants in this planning process, the day-to-day business of planning and floodplain management is a consolidated effort, sometimes in the absence of any official documentation or agreement. Because of the size and limited resources of many of the participating jurisdictions, informal systems and agreements have been developed by which, for example, a representative from the County may stand on behalf of both the County and one or more incorporated jurisdictions. This approach has the advantage of maximizing staff time and resources as well as insuring that all planning and emergency management efforts are coordinated. It also ensures that someone with knowledge of the floodplain issues and concerns of the area is available throughout the process.

Appendix L contains a table that lists the FPAs for the participating jurisdictions (as of 05-11-10) as of the Kickoff Meeting for this planning process, and whether or not those FPAs were involved in the planning process, based on the documentation provided. The source documentation for this table, which was obtained from FEMA via the Texas Water Development Board, can be found at the end of this appendix.

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Meeting Schedule

There were several meetings conducted during the development of the Plan Update. These meetings are described in Table 5.2.1-4. The meetings focused primarily on the review of work-in-progress for the development of the Plan Update. However, in some cases, the meetings were essentially working sessions for identification of potential mitigation projects.

**Table 5.2.1-5
AACOG EMC Meeting Schedule and Summary**

AACOG Region EMC Meeting Schedule and Summary		
Date	Meeting Name	Meeting Summary
June 18, 2010	Kickoff Meeting	EMC members attended kickoff meeting for plan update project. An overview of the mitigation planning process was presented; project timeline and responsibilities were identified; hazards to be profiled were determined. A list was provided to participants that gave them information regarding hazards included in the 2005 Plan, hazards identified in the most recent State Plan, and other potential hazards to consider, as outlined in FEMA 386.
July 29 and 30, 2010	Meeting #2	EMC members attended one of two identical meetings held over two days. Attendees reviewed the hazards to be profiled, and determined to make adjustments to the listing. Attendees also participated in a qualitative risk assessment ranking exercise. Discussions were held with representatives from each jurisdiction regarding information and documentation that would be needed from each jurisdiction. A timeline for gathering and submission of this information was established.
October 18, 2010	Meeting #3	EMC members attended one of two identical meetings held on this date. The results of the risk assessment (to date) were reviewed. The capability assessment was discussed, and guidance was provided for local team meetings, at which final mitigation actions and prioritizations will be decided. Attendees were provided with guidance on information still needed from their jurisdiction. A discussion was held as to the mitigation goals that were identified in the 2005 Plan, and the applicability of those goals to the participant's current capability and capacity. Revisions were made to the 2005 goals.

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AACOG Region EMC Meeting Schedule and Summary		
Date	Meeting Name	Meeting Summary
November and December 2010	Local Team Meetings	Jurisdictions held or participated in local team meetings. These public meetings were held to review previous actions, determine new actions, and to prioritize all actions for inclusion in the plan. (Details later in this section.)

Appendices E, F and G contain documentation for these meetings including agendas, sign-up sheets, presentation materials, and meeting notes where appropriate.

5.2.1.2 Step 2: Assess Risks

In accordance with general mitigation planning practice, as well as the process FEMA established in its *How-to Guides*, the risk assessment forms the basis for this Plan Update by quantifying and rationalizing information about how natural and manmade hazards affect the AACOG Region and the participating jurisdictions, including SARA.

To begin the hazard identification and risk assessment process, the consultants analyzed the hazards, vulnerabilities and risks identified in the 2005 Plan. Lists were developed from this existing information; these lists served as the basis for all hazard identification and risk assessment discussion going into the Plan Update.

The processes used to complete the hazard identification and risk assessments, and the results of these activities, are described in Section 6 of this Plan. The assessment determined several aspects of the risks of hazards faced by the AACOG Region, participating jurisdictions, and SARA:

- The hazards profiled in the 2005 Plan;
- The risks and vulnerabilities defined in the 2005 Plan;
- The hazards that are most likely to affect the AACOG Region;
- How often hazards are expected to impact the AACOG Region;
- The expected severity of the hazards;
- What areas of the AACOG Region are likely to be affected by hazards;
- How the AACOG Region's assets, operations, people, and infrastructure may be impacted by hazards;
- How private and commercial assets, operations, infrastructure may be impacted by hazards; and
- The expected future losses if the risk is not mitigated.

Each member of the EMC received a memo detailing the hazards considered in the previous Plan, and a listing of additional hazards that could be considered for inclusion in the Update. Members were asked to consider the hazard history, and to provide their thoughts on which hazards should be included in the Update. Next, using quantitative data, the EMC reduced the initial list of hazards down to 14 that were considered the most relevant for this type of planning process at the regional scale. These hazards are described in the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment portion of the Plan Update (Section 6). These are considered by the EMC to represent the most predominant risks to the area.

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- Flooding (Flash and Riverine)
- Dam and Levee Failure
- Tornado
- Tropical System / Hurricane
- Thunderstorm
- Drought
- Hail
- Wildfire
- Winter Storm
- Geologic Hazards: Earthquakes and Sinkholes
- Energy Pipeline Failure
- Hazardous Materials Incident (Transportation and Fixed Site)
- Pandemic (Human and Animal)
- Terrorism

These are considered by the EMC to represent the most predominant risks to the area.

These hazards were further considered for qualitative and quantitative risk assessments. All hazards profiled received a qualitative risk assessment. Discussion and consideration by the Committee, which focused on historical occurrence, probability of future occurrence and impact, and availability of quantitative data, further reduced the list to 5 (five) hazards that were selected to receive quantitative risk assessments. Those hazards are as follows:

- Flooding (Flash and Riverine)
- Dam and Levee Failure
- Tropical Systems / Hurricanes
- Wildfire
- Earthquakes

For each of these hazards, the consultants performed detailed risk assessments, i.e. calculations of future expected damages, expressed in dollars where appropriate. Where applicable and reasonable, the risk assessment data from the 2005 Plan served as the basis for the risk assessment developed for this Plan Update. These results were discussed in detail with the EMC at the third Meeting, and determinations were made as to each hazard's risk to People Life Safety, Buildings and Critical Facilities, and Infrastructure. The results of the risk assessment were also made available to the public during the public presentations (see Section 5.3). The full process and results of this work is presented in the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment portion of this Plan (Section 6).

Unless otherwise noted, all counties and municipalities within the AACOG Region were determined to have the same risk from the assessed hazards.

5.2.1.3 Step 3: Develop the Mitigation Plan

The goals and objectives outlined in the 2005 Plan were reviewed and used as a basis for developing the goals and objectives in the Plan Update. After reviewing the existing information, the EMC developed an updated series of goals and objectives in response to the results of the updated hazard identification and risk assessment.

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A capability assessment was also conducted to help determine the capacity of the AACOG Regional plan participants to implement hazard mitigation projects. In order to show progression or regression in capability, the 2005 Plan's capability assessment was analyzed, and the Plan Update assessment was modeled on the 2005 version.

In addition, the EMC and the consultants worked with the participating jurisdictions, on an individual basis, to identify potential problems and hazard mitigation project solutions to include in the Mitigation Action Plan. The participants were asked to review and update the 2005 Mitigation Action Plan for their jurisdiction, and to update the status of all strategies identified there. They were also asked to identify any new strategies that would address any new vulnerabilities identified by the Plan Update. The Mitigation Action Plan was discussed and validated by the EMC. The results of these efforts are detailed in Section 8.

5.2.1.4 Step 4: Implement the Plan and Monitor Progress

Finally, the EMC identified a process for on-going monitoring and revisions to the Plan over the next five years. Section 9 details the resulting monitoring, evaluation, and plan update procedures. Consideration was given to the process described in the 2005 Plan. The EMC determined that the process described should be revised, given that this Plan Update will be the last Regional Mitigation Plan in the State of Texas, and that future updates will be limited to no more than two counties per plan. It was determined that the process described in the Plan Update should allow the participating jurisdictions to assume more responsibility for the monitoring and maintenance of the data in the Plan Update that pertains to their jurisdiction, while AACOG will remain responsible for the overall Plan Update monitoring and maintenance.

5.3 Involvement by the Public and Other Interested Parties

During the development of this Plan Update, and prior to the adoption of the Plan Update by the participating jurisdictions, the public was involved through requesting their participation in three public presentations/meetings, providing drafts of the Plan for their review, and inviting their comments on the contents of the Plan. The public presentations and meetings are detailed in Table 5.3.-1.

**Table 5.3-1
AACOG EMC Public Meeting Schedule**

AACOG Region EMC Public Meeting Schedule		
Date	Meeting Name	Meeting Location
June 18, 2010	Kickoff Meeting	AACOG Office – San Antonio, TX
July 29 and 30, 2010	Meeting #2	Wilson County Criminal Justice Facility (July 29 th) AACOG Office – San Antonio, TX (July 30 th)
October 18, 2010	Meeting #3	AACOG Office – San Antonio, TX

Each participating jurisdiction was asked to hold a public meeting during the plan update development process. The purpose of this public meeting was to determine, discuss and prioritize the mitigation actions that would be included in the plan update for that jurisdiction. While not all jurisdictions were able to hold this meeting, the majority were able to do so, with the meetings published and open to the public. (Note: Some jurisdictions opted to consolidate their efforts with other jurisdictions.) The following table provides information regarding these meetings.

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Note to Reviewers: A second public meeting will be held by all participating jurisdictions prior to adoption of the Plan Update. The text above and the table below will be amended to include information regarding those meetings once this activity occurs.

**Table 5.3-2
Jurisdictional Public Meeting Schedule**

AACOG Region EMC Public Meeting Schedule			
Jurisdiction	Date	Meeting Name	Meeting Location
Atascosa County	11/15/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Jourdanton, TX
City of Charlotte	11/15/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Jourdanton, TX
City of Christine	11/15/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Jourdanton, TX
City of Lytle	11/15/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Jourdanton, TX
City of Pleasanton	11/15/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Jourdanton, TX
City of Jourdanton	11/15/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Jourdanton, TX
Bandera County	11/29/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Bandera, TX
City of Bandera	11/29/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Bandera, TX
Bexar County	11/18/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	San Antonio, TX
City of Alamo Heights	11/23/2010	City of Alamo Heights Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	San Antonio, TX
City of Balcones Heights	11/23/2010	City of Balcones Heights Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Balcones Heights, TX
City of Converse	11/18/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	San Antonio, TX
City of Helotes	11/18/2010	City of Helotes Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Helotes, TX
City of Kirby	11/03/2010	City of Kirby Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Kirby, TX
City of Leon Valley	12/29/2010	City of Leon Valley Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Leon Valley, TX
City of Live Oak	11/09/2010	City of Live Oak Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Live Oak, TX
City of Saint Hedwig	11/18/2010	County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	San Antonio, TX
City of San Antonio	08/02/2010	EOC Partnership Meeting	San Antonio, TX
City of Somerset	01/04/11	City of Somerset Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Somerset, TX
City of Terrell Hills	11/08/2010	City of Terrell Hills Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Terrell Hills, TX
City of Universal City	11/04/2010	City of Universal City Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Universal City, TX
City of Von Ormy	11/29/2010	City of Von Ormy Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Von Ormy, TX

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AACOG Region EMC Public Meeting Schedule			
Jurisdiction	Date	Meeting Name	Meeting Location
City of Windcrest	11/29/2010	City of Windcrest Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Windcrest, TX
Comal County	11/23/2010	Comal County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	New Braunfels, TX
City of Bulverde	11/23/2010	Comal County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	New Braunfels, TX
City of Garden Ridge	11/23/2010	Comal County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	New Braunfels, TX
City of New Braunfels	11/23/2010	Comal County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	New Braunfels, TX
Frio County	11/22/2010	Frio County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Pearsall, TX
City of Dilley	11/22/2010	Frio County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Pearsall, TX
City of Pearsall	11/22/2010	Frio County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Pearsall, TX
Gillespie County	11/18/2010	Gillespie County / Fredericksburg Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Fredericksburg, TX
City of Fredericksburg	11/18/2010	Gillespie County / Fredericksburg Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Fredericksburg, TX
Guadalupe County	11/10/2010	Guadalupe County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Seguin, TX
City of Cibolo	11/10/2010	Guadalupe County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Seguin, TX
City of Santa Clara	11/10/2010	Guadalupe County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Seguin, TX
City of Seguin	11/10/2010	Guadalupe County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Seguin, TX
City of Schertz	11/10/2010	Guadalupe County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Seguin, TX
Karnes County	12/02/2010	Karnes County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Kenedy, TX
City of Falls City	12/02/2010	Karnes County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Kenedy, TX
City of Karnes City	12/02/2010	Karnes County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Kenedy, TX
City of Kenedy	12/02/2010	Karnes County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Kenedy, TX
City of Runge	12/02/2010	Karnes County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Kenedy, TX
Kerr County	11/23/2010	City of Kerrville / City of Ingram / Kerr County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Kerrville, TX
City of Ingram	11/23/2010	City of Kerrville / City of Ingram / Kerr County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Kerrville, TX
City of Kerrville	11/23/2010	City of Kerrville / City of Ingram / Kerr County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Kerrville, TX

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AACOG Region EMC Public Meeting Schedule			
Jurisdiction	Date	Meeting Name	Meeting Location
Medina County	11/30/2010	Medina County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Hondo, TX
City of Castroville	11/30/2010	Medina County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Hondo, TX
City of Devine	12/07/2010	City of Devine Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Devine, TX
City of Hondo	11/30/2010	Medina County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Hondo, TX
City of Natalia	11/30/2010	Medina County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Hondo, TX
Wilson County	11/22/2010	Wilson County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Floresville, TX
City of Floresville	11/18/2010	City of Floresville Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Floresville, TX
City of La Vernia	12/17/2010	City of La Vernia Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	La Vernia, TX
City of Stockdale	11/22/2010	Wilson County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Floresville, TX
San Antonio River Authority	11/18/2010	Bexar County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	San Antonio, TX
	12/02/2010	Karnes County Hazard Mitigation Team	Kenedy, TX
	11/22/2010	Wilson County Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting	Floresville, TX

As a part of the public meeting process, all meeting announcements were published, and all meetings were open to the public. Other parties that may have an interest in the plan development process were welcome to attend, including neighboring communities, other agencies, local businesses, non-profit organizations, and academia. Despite this public announcement, no non-participating entities choose to attend the meetings, either during the development phase or during the public comment phase. All attendees either attended as representatives of the participating jurisdiction or as private citizens.

In addition, notice was sent to participating jurisdictions and other interested parties that the Draft and Final Plans were available for review prior to adoption by the AACOG and the participating jurisdictions, including SARA. Meetings materials and copies of relevant correspondence are included in Appendices E, F and G.

5.4 Review and Incorporation of Plans, Studies, Reports, and Other Information

Existing plans and programs were reviewed during the planning process. This plan does not replace other planning efforts, such as the Texas Homeland Security Strategic Plan or the State Emergency Operations and Response Plan. This hazard mitigation plan complements other planning efforts and builds on their recommendations.

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5.4.1 Federal Government

Selected key federal sources of information and pre-existing planning work are presented in Table 5.4.1-1.

**Table 5.4.1-1
Federal Documents and Data Utilized**

Federal Documents and Data Utilized	
Existing Program/Policy/Technical Documents	Method of incorporation into the Plan
FEMA disaster declarations database and other general hazard data	Used in hazard identification and risk assessment (HIRA) development and history of loss data for multiple hazards
FEMA/National Flood Insurance Program Flood Maps (Flood Insurance Rate Maps, Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM))	Used in developing HIRA, strategies, and mitigation actions
FEMA Hazards-US (HAZUS) v.1.1	Used in developing various risk assessments and critical facilities inventories
FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis methodology	Used in developing various risk assessments
FEMA/NFIP Community Status Book, Community Rating System Eligible Communities	Used in developing capability assessments and mitigation actions
FEMA tornado activity in the United States	Used in developing HIRA and history of loss data
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)/National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) database	Used in developing history and description of major hazard events for multiple hazards
NOAA Coastal Service Center - Historic Hurricane Tracks Database	Used in developing HIRA, strategies and mitigation actions
NOAA National Hurricane Center (NHC) - Hurricane Preparedness, Storm Surge	Used in developing HIRA, strategies and mitigation actions
United States Army Corp of Engineers - Hurricane Evacuation Study Transportation Analysis, including storm surge mapping	Used in developing HIRA, strategies and mitigation actions
United States Census Bureau data	Used in developing various risk assessments and establishing planning context
United States Department of Agriculture – community and disaster declaration information	Used in identifying Special Circumstance Communities, Secretarial Disaster Declarations
United States Geological Survey (USGS) National Hazard Seismic Mapping Project	Used in developing HIRA and history of loss data
United States Environmental Protection Agency Toxic Release Inventory	Used in developing hazard identification, strategies, and mitigation actions
United States Department of Transportation Hazardous Materials Incident Data	Used in developing hazard identification, strategies, and mitigation actions

5.4.2 State of Texas

Selected state sources of information and pre-existing planning work are presented in this section.

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2009 State of Texas Hazard Mitigation Plan

The State of Texas completed the current 2009 State Hazard Mitigation Plan Update to meet the requirements of IFR Section 201.4(d), which mandates that states update their mitigation plans every three years, “to reflect changes in development, progress in state wide mitigation efforts, and changes in priorities.” The latest update to the State Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike.

The plan is the demonstration of Texas’ commitment to reduce risks from natural hazards and serves as a guide for both state and local decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of natural hazards on lives and property. It is designed to outline a strategy to reduce risks from natural hazards in Texas, and to aid state and local emergency management officials in developing hazard reduction programs.

It is TDEM’s intent to use the plan as a way to provide data to local and regional governments to support their mitigation planning processes, and to provide guidance on best practices. For each on-going plan development effort, TDEM mitigation planning staff is available to answer any questions and to direct planners to state resources or tools. TDEM staff also is available during the draft plan development to answer any questions or provide guidance and assistance.

The statewide mitigation strategies, goals, and objectives, methods of incorporating a varied cross section of relevant disciplines, hazard specific information, and specific data sources are present within the plan and were utilized in the development of the AACOG Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

Other State of Texas Information

In addition to the State of Texas Hazard Mitigation Plan, selected state sources of information and pre-existing planning work are presented in Table 5.4.2-1.

**Table 5.4.2-1
State Documents and Data Utilized**

Other State Documents and Data Utilized	
Existing Program/Policy/Technical Documents	Method of incorporation
State of Texas Hazard Mitigation Plan (2009)	Used in development of HIRA.
Data from the Bureau of Economic Geology (University of Texas)	Used in hazard profiling and loss estimation
Data from the Texas General Land Office	Used in development of HIRA, strategies and mitigation actions
Data from the Alamo Area Council of Governments	Used in future development analysis, development of HIRA and strategies
Data from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Used in development of HIRA and community profile
Data from the Texas Railroad Commission	Used in development of HIRA
Texas Hazard Mitigation Package	Used in development of HIRA

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Other State Documents and Data Utilized	
Existing Program/Policy/Technical Documents	Method of incorporation
Texas Water Development Board	Used in development of participation documentation

5.4.3 AACOG

Established in 1967, the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) is a voluntary association of local governments and organizations that serves its members through planning, information and coordination activities. The 12 counties that comprise the Alamo Area planning region are Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Medina and Wilson. In addition, several special districts, public utilities, municipal organizations, and planning/advisory committees are also members of AACOG.

The agency is also designated as the regional clearinghouse that reviews and comments upon grant applications submitted for state and federal funding by organizations throughout the 12-county region. Further, AACOG provides direct technical assistance to member governments in their planning functions, preparation of applications and the administration of area-wide programs. Support for these activities is provided through local dues, state appropriations, state and federal grants that are matched by local monies and other public and private funds.

Citizen participation is encouraged at all AACOG meetings, which include the meeting of the Area Council, the Board of Directors, and program advisory and community committees. The Area Council, made up of representatives of the member governments, meets twice yearly to set general policy, review and approve the annual budget and to elect officers. All meetings are open to the public and accessible to people with disabilities. All residents of the Alamo Area region are strongly encouraged to become informed about and involved in the important activities and planning processes occurring daily through the programs and staff support of the Alamo Area Council of Governments.

Selected key AACOG sources of information and pre-existing planning work are presented in Table 5.4.3-1.

**Table 5.4.3-1
AACOG Documents and Data Utilized**

AACOG Documents and Data Utilized	
Existing Program/Policy/Technical Documents	Method of incorporation into the Plan
2005 AACOG Regional Mitigation Plan	Basis of plan update
Various GIS datasets	Used in development of HIRA

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5.4.4 Counties

Upon initiating the plan development process, the AACOG point of contact made initial contacts to re-activate the EMC. Concurrent with that effort, all of the local Emergency Management coordinators were made aware of the significance of this planning effort. A comprehensive *wish list* of documents, data sources, maps, studies, Emergency Operations Plans, land use data, laws, and ordinances was provided with the task of collecting as much of the items as possible. The EMC and AACOG regularly provided guidance and support in this gathering effort through the use of e-mail inquiries, phone contact, and agenda items at the meetings.

Selected key county sources of information and pre-existing planning work are presented in Table 5.4.4-1.

**Table 5.4.4-1
County Documents and Data Utilized**

County Documents and Data Utilized	
Existing Program/Policy/Technical Documents	Method of incorporation into the Plan
County Emergency Management Plans	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
County Storm Water Management Plans	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
County Emergency Operations Plans	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
County Capital Improvement Plans	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
County Evacuation Annexes	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
County Mitigation Annexes	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
County Recovery Annexes	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
County Comprehensive Plans	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
County Historic Preservation Plans	Used in development of community profiles
County After Action Reports and other incident documentation	Used in development of HIRA

5.4.5 Municipalities

Upon initiating the plan development process, the AACOG point of contact made initial contacts to reform the EMC. Concurrent with that effort, all of the local Emergency Management coordinators were made aware of the significance of this planning effort. A comprehensive *wish list* of documents, data sources, maps, studies, Emergency Operations Plans, land use data, laws, and ordinances was provided with the task of collecting as much of the items as possible. The EMC and AACOG regularly provided guidance and support in this gathering effort through the use of e-mail inquiries, phone contact, and agenda items at the meetings.

Selected key municipal sources of information and pre-existing planning work are presented in Table 5.4.5-1.

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**Table 5.4.5-1
Municipal Documents and Data Utilized**

Municipal Documents and Data Utilized	
Existing Program/Policy/Technical Documents	Method of incorporation into the Plan
Municipal Emergency Management Plans	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
Municipal Storm Water Management Plans	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
Municipal Emergency Operations Plans	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
Municipal Capital Improvement Plans	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
Municipal Evacuation Annexes	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
Municipal Mitigation Annexes	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
Municipal Recovery Annexes	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
Municipal Comprehensive Plans	Used in development of HIRA, loss estimations, community profiles
Municipal After Action Reports and other incident information	Used in development of HIRA

5.5 Non-Participating Jurisdictions

All members of the AACOG, and all jurisdictions that would logically be included in the Plan Update, were repeatedly invited to participate in the Plan Update process. Some jurisdictions did not respond to these invitations. They did not participate in the Plan Update process, did not attend any meetings, and did not submit any documentation or information, despite repeated requests. In some cases, these jurisdictions did attend a meeting and/or did submit some of the requested information/documentation, but their involvement was insufficient to be described as a participant. This is particularly true when compared to those jurisdictions who did fully participate. These jurisdictions are not included in this Plan Update, as they cannot be said to have participated in the planning process.

(Note: In the case of Kendall County and its municipalities, non-participation was due to their inclusion in a different hazard mitigation plan.)

The table below identifies those 2005 participants who choose not to participate in the Plan Update, as well as new participants to the Plan Update.

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**Table 5.5-1
Changes in Participants Between 2005 and 2012 Plans**

2005 Participants Not Participating in Plan Update	New Participants to the Plan Update
City of China Grove (Bexar County)	City of St. Hedwig (Bexar County)
City of Castle Hills (Bexar County)	City of Von Ormy (Bexar County)
City of Fair Oaks Ranch (Bexar County)	City of Cibolo (Guadalupe County)
City of Grey Forest (Bexar County)	
City of Hill Country Village (Bexar County)	
City of Hollywood Park (Bexar County)	
City of Olmos Park (Bexar County)	
City of Selma (Bexar County)	
City of Shavano Park (Bexar County)	
Goliad County	
City of Goliad (Goliad County)	
City of Lacoste (Medina County)	
City of Poth (Wilson County)	
City of Marion (Guadalupe County)	
City of New Berlin (Guadalupe County)	
City of Staples (Guadalupe County)	

All municipalities listed as “not participating” in the above table are not included in this Plan Update.