

# **FEMA**

## **LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN** – Executive Summary

### **Brief Summary of the Need:**

The Congress changed the Robert T. Stafford Act by passing the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000). This law requires that every local, county and state government:

- 1) Conduct an assessment of the natural hazards that pose a threat to the jurisdiction;
- 2) Determine the potential financial impact of these hazards;
- 3) Create a plan to mitigate these hazards; and
- 4) Implement the plan to reduce the impacts of natural disasters.

Consensus building, regional coordination, public participation and prioritization of resources results from the recognition that an effective Hazard Mitigation Plan is a product of a “POLITICAL PROCESS” requiring the support of top management within the governmental body; a structured steering committee made up of people that have an interest in the project, the technical information to contribute to the process, and a willingness to continue ongoing work on the DMA 2000 plan; and a program to incorporate public input throughout the planning process. The DMA-2000 process includes regional considerations and public/private decision processes as applied to previously successful planning efforts. The result is mitigation through DMA 2000 becomes a visible, viable asset to the community.

### **Brief Summary of the Problem**

The law states that FEMA must deny or restrict eligibility for pre- and post-disaster hazard mitigation grants for those governmental agencies and organizations that choose not to comply with the Disaster Mitigation Act.

In order to comply with Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and qualify for any future hazard mitigation grant awards, the District must develop a District-wide multi-hazard mitigation plan.

This can be a very significant penalty on the District. Since the Northridge earthquake, the LAUSD has received nearly **\$78 in mitigation grants.**

### **Brief Summary of the Proposed Solution:**

January 2004 the leadership task of complying with DMA 2000 became the responsibility of Risk Management. The District formed a Hazard Mitigation Task Force comprised of representatives from various District divisions and branches.

This District Task Force collected data from many other departments to develop the plan and will implement, support, and maintain the District's newly developed Hazard Mitigation Plan which will include mitigation measures for existing schools and in the design and construction of new schools.

Our plan must be submitted to FEMA by November 1, 2004. Then FEMA will either grant pending approvable, or return it with comments to be reworked. Our plan once granted pending approval by FEMA must then be approved by our governing board. Once formally adopted by the LASUD Board of Education, it will be resubmitted to FEMA for their final approval.

### **THE HAZARD MITIGATION TASK FORCE:**

Office of Risk Management and Insurance Services – Chairman, Steven La Shier

Office of Environmental Health and Safety – Vice Chairman, Bob Spears

School Police

Office of Emergency Services

Design and Architecture/Engineering Technical Support

Master Planning and Demographics

Maintenance and Operations

Transportation Branch

School Building Planning

KLCS (District owned and operated television station)

Earthquake Recovery

Charter Schools Branch

Facilities Grants and Funding

The task force began work on February 3, 2004, meeting every three weeks since to develop the plan and implement and coordinate the planning process:

- Develop Task Force Mission Statement
- Adoption of Task Force Operating Procedures
- Hazard Vulnerability Analysis
  - Risk Analysis Matrix
  - Mapping identification
  - Development of Community Hazards Mitigation and Preparedness Questionnaire
- Identification of Existing Hazard Mitigation, Disaster Recovery and Emergency Operations Documents, policies, and procedures
- Identify LAUSD’s Master Plan/Safety Plan/Strategic Plan
- Document assets and values
- Document asset proximity to hazards and technological risks
  - Identify District owned critical facilities
  - Identity non-district owned critical facilities that affect operations
- Schedule ongoing and future mitigation projects.

**LAUSD Hazard Mitigation Risk Priority Rating**

<b>Hazard</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Earthquake Biological/Health (Disease) Wildland/Urban Interface Fire WMD/Terrorism Severe Weather Data Telecommunication Floods	High Risk
Economic Disruption Utility Loss Transportation Accident/Incident Civil Disorder/Unrest Drought Transportation (road system failure)	Moderate Risk
Aviation affecting school property Dam Failure Tsunami Explosions Special Events Volcanic Disruption/Ash fallout	Low Risk

## **HAZARD MITIGATION STRATEGIES**

The benefit of this effort is that we have had multiple disciplines within the District identifying possible mitigation grant opportunities. These strategies are too numerous to list in this summary however a complete list can be found in our filed plan. While the Task Force as it has existed since January will be dissolved after November, the Task Force will remain after plan approval with a few key representatives who will meet quarterly to discuss and search for future mitigation opportunities and grants.

Some highlighted strategies in the plan: [this will become a much longer list]

- Grant to pay for the LHMP; \$131,333.00
- Underpinning temporary classrooms, bond costs \$10MM, potential savings 75%
- Emergency power generators for special need schools [elevators, medical equipment] and facilities [transportation fueling stations]