



Section 5: Plan Maintenance

Plan Maintenance Process

Subsections 201.6(c)(4)(i – iii) of DMA 2000 specify the requirements to maintain the county’s multi-jurisdictional plan. These requirements are specified below.

Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating the Plan

Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(i): The plan maintenance process shall include a section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle.

Incorporation into Existing Planning Mechanisms

Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(ii): The plan shall include a process by which local governments incorporate the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans, when appropriate.

Continued Public Involvement

Requirement §201.6(c)(4)(iii): The plan maintenance process shall include a discussion on how the community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process.

The following discussion addresses these requirements.

Introduction

Hazard mitigation planning in Snyder County is a function of both the Snyder County Planning Commission and Snyder County Emergency Services. The director of the Snyder County Planning Department is the County’s designated Hazard Mitigation Planning Officer (HMPO) and manages the preparation, maintenance, and updating of the County’s Multi-jurisdictional HMP in concert with the *Snyder County Comprehensive Plan*, Snyder County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, and the *Snyder County Regional Emergency Operations Plan*.

Snyder County Comprehensive Plan

Method

Article III of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Act 247 of 1968, as reenacted and amended) requires all Pennsylvania counties (except Philadelphia) to adopt a comprehensive plan and update it at least every 10 years. Snyder County adopted a new comprehensive plan



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in May 2001; it is available for public review at the County courthouse in Middleburg and through the County Planning Commission's website at <http://www.snydercounty.org/snyder>.

The Snyder County Planning Commission is responsible for maintaining and updating the *County Comprehensive Plan* and the Snyder County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. The Commission meets monthly to review, discuss, and comment on municipal subdivision and land development plans. It uses this information to identify necessary revisions and to amend both the comprehensive plan and the subdivision/land development ordinance. The Planning Commission's meetings are open to the public and are advertised according to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act (65 PA C.S.A.).

Technical assistance on community planning matters is provided to the Snyder County Planning Commission and County Board of Commissioners through the Snyder County Planning Department. The Planning Department administers the *County Comprehensive Plan*, along with the County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. The Planning Department also performs technical reviews of municipal subdivision and land development plans, municipal floodplain ordinances, municipal storm water management plans and ordinances, and other community planning and development matters.

In addition to the County Planning Department, the Snyder County Conservation District is responsible for the technical reviews of all erosion and sedimentation plans prepared for applicable land development plans. The County Planning Commission and Planning Department should consider the Conservation District's technical reviews in relation to the County's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to identify improvement opportunities.

Maintenance Schedule

Snyder County Planning Commission is next scheduled to update its County Comprehensive Plan in 2011, based on the Municipalities Planning Code's 10-year review cycle (Figure 5-1). This timeframe, coupled with the DMA 2000-required five-year maintenance cycle for HMPs, will allow the County to update both the *County Comprehensive Plan* and its Multi-jurisdictional HMP simultaneously to better integrate the planning processes and strengthen public participation. Moreover, the next update to the *Comprehensive Plan* will enable the County to consider expanding its scope and create a multi-municipal comprehensive plan as permitted under Article XI, Intergovernmental Cooperation of the Municipalities Planning Code.

Snyder County Regional Emergency Operations Plan

Method

The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code, 35 PA C.S Sections 7701-7707, as amended, requires each county and municipality to prepare, maintain, and keep current an emergency operations plan (EOP). Snyder County Emergency Services is responsible for



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preparing and maintaining the County's Regional EOP, which applies to both county and municipal emergency operations and procedures.

The Regional EOP is reviewed at least biennially. Whenever portions of the plan are implemented in an emergency event or training exercise, a review is performed and changes are made where necessary. These changes are then distributed to the County's 21 local emergency management coordinators for safekeeping.

Maintenance Schedule

Snyder County Emergency Services should consider the County's Multi-jurisdictional HMP during its biennial review of the County EOP (See Figure 5-1). Recommended changes to the HMP will then be forwarded to the County HMPO.



Figure 5 - 1
County Comprehensive Plan Inter-Relationships

