

6 Palos Hills 2021 MJ-HMP Jurisdictional Annual Report

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Annual Reporting Year: 2021

Background: Cook County and participating municipalities in the county developed a hazard mitigation plan to reduce risk from all hazards by identifying resources, information, and strategies for risk reduction. The federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires state and local governments to develop hazard mitigation plans as a condition for federal disaster grant assistance. To prepare the plan, the participating partners organized resources, assessed risks from natural hazards within the county, developed planning goals and objectives, reviewed mitigation alternatives, and developed an action plan to address probable impacts from natural hazards. By completing this process, these jurisdictions maintained compliance with the Disaster Mitigation Act, achieving eligibility for mitigation grant funding opportunities afforded under the Robert T. Stafford Act.

Purpose: The purpose of this report is to provide an annual update on the implementation of the action plan identified in the Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The objective is to ensure that there is a continuing and responsive planning process that will keep the Hazard Mitigation Plan dynamic and responsive to the needs and capabilities of the partner jurisdictions. This report discusses the following:

- Natural hazard events that have occurred within the last year
- Changes in risk exposure within the planning area (all of Cook County) Mitigation success stories
- Review of the action plan
- Changes in capabilities that could impact plan implementation
- Recommendations for changes/enhancement.

Hazard Analysis

Hazards that represent a county-wide risk are addressed in the Risk Assessment section of the 2019 Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. This section only addresses the hazards and their associated impacts that are **relevant** and **unique** to the municipality.

Dam/Levee Failure: In the City, the lagoon in the Hills has a levee to keep Stoney Creek from flooding the subdivision out. But this levee is old, in poor shape, and made with guardrail and dirt.

Flood: The overflow needs to be dredged because Roberts Rd. floods. When it floods, 50-year-old pumps at lift stations and the overflow go down side streets from 99th St. to 103 St. Lucas ditch. The City would benefit from adding a detention basin upstream in HH Golf Course, 103rd St. North to 99th St. (from 78th Ave to the Lucas Ditch is a FEMA floodplain). This area has repetitive flooding issues which result in hundreds of residences experiencing flooding and water damage.

Extreme Heat: The City doesn't have an elevated water tower which adds redundancy in case we have a power outage that compromises pumps. With an aging population and older homes that may not have air conditioning, extreme heat can be an issue. Cooling centers with AC and friendly policy can positively impact the elderly to seek shelter with pets.

High Winds: Since high winds result in tree damage, the City would benefit from more time and staff for pruning programs. Also, the lack of generators at sewage lift stations poses a critical power outage risk. Additionally, building codes with hurricane ties and uplift loads designed into structures could help protect the City.

Drought: The City is vulnerable to droughts because of its elevated water tower and lack of water pumps (they are 50 years old and need replacement).

Snow: In order to protect the community's residents and property, the City needs funding for new trucks. Some of the small trucks in the fleet are over 20 years old. In addition, 90th Ave. and 98th St. changes in grade make snow hazardous for transportation. These must be placed first and often to prevent hazardous conditions.

Blizzards: In order to protect the community's residents and property, the City needs funding for new trucks. Some of the small trucks in the fleet are over 20 years old. In addition, 90th Ave. and 98th St. changes in grade make snow hazardous for transportation. These must be placed first and often to prevent hazardous conditions.

Extreme Cold: The City needs backup power at water stations and sewer stations to safeguard its residents and facilities against the impacts of extreme cold. Currently, generators in multi-family buildings keep running during extreme events to keep heat and prevent pipe breaks.

Ice Storms: Backup power at water stations and sewer stations. Palos Hills is a tree city. The number and size of trees in the City make ice storms more dangerous for limb failures causing power outages, etc. The City would be less vulnerable to ice storms if there was backup power at water and sewer stations.

Tornado: The City would be less vulnerable to tornadoes if there was backup power at water and sewer stations.

Widespread Power Outage: The City is vulnerable to various severe weather conditions, and as noted the lack of backup power for essential stations puts risks for life and property.

Hazardous Material Release: Sewage pumping stations are all over 50 years old and lack backup power generation.

Natural Hazard Events in 2021

Instructions: Please use the **Edit** Tool to describe new hazard occurrences/incidents from the past year that have impacted your jurisdiction and had a

measurable impact on people or property. (Example: A tornado occurred on [Date] and impacted [insert area] and caused damage to [insert damages]). You may also use the Edit Tool to suggest any modifications/improvements to the hazards unique to your community, as described below from the 2019 plan.

Describe 2021 Natural Hazard Events Here: [Type Here]

Mitigation Strategies and Actions

The heart of the mitigation plan is the mitigation strategy, which serves as the long-term blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment. The mitigation strategy describes how the community will accomplish the overall purpose, or mission, of the planning process.

New Mitigation Actions

Please submit [here](#)

Ongoing Mitigation Actions

The following are ongoing actions. During the 2019 update, these "ongoing" mitigation actions and projects were modified and/or amended, as needed. Reviewers of this report should refer to the Hazard Mitigation Plan for more detailed descriptions of each action and the prioritization process. Address the following for each mitigation action:

- Was any element of the action carried out during the reporting period?
- If no action was completed, why?
- Is the timeline for implementation or the action still appropriate?
- If the action was completed, does it need to be changed or removed from the action plan?

TABLE: HAZARD MITIGATION ACTION PLAN MATRIX								
Completion status legend: N = New O = Action Ongoing toward Completion C = Project Completed R = Want Removed from Annex X = No Action Taken								
2021 Status	2020 Status	2019 Status	Hazards Mitigated	Objectives Met	Lead Agencies	Estimated Cost	Sources of Funding	Timeline/Projected Completion Date (a)
Action P3.1 —Conduct a building code education/land use and severe weather awareness program. With the goal to educate residents about building codes that preserve drainage pattern on private property and education on how to plan and respond to severe weather events.								
Status Description:								
Completed	Completed	Completed	All Hazards	1, 5, 6, 13	City of Palos Hills	Low	Grants and General Fund	Completed
Action P3.2 —Improve stormwater drainage capacity through re-routing of the stormwater drainage systems in the flood zone under and east of Roberts Road.								
Status Description:								
Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Flooding	2, 8, 9, 12	County	High	MWRD, County, Grants	Long-term
Action P3.3 —Severe weather/warning system. Early warning system to call landline and cell phones to notify residents of approaching severe weather impacts for all severe weather and other urgent community notifications, i.e., water main breaks, water shortage due power outage, road closures, extreme cold, frozen pipes etc.								
Status Description:								
Completed	Completed	Completed	All	1, 5, 6, 8	City of Palos Hills	Medium	Grants and General Fund	Completed
Action P3.4 —Increase salt storage. During severe winter weather conditions. Salt becomes scarce due to frozen shipping routes. Additional storage would negate the need for salt usage restrictions and eliminate the use of sand and slag that choke storm sewer drainage systems and waterways.								
Status Description:								
Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	Severe Winter Weather	1, 2, 9, 13	City of Palos Hills	High	Grants and General Fund	Long-term
Action P3.5 —Where appropriate, support retrofitting, purchase, or relocation of structures in hazard-prone areas to prevent future structure damage. Give priority to properties with exposure to repetitive losses.								
Status Description:								
Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	All	7, 13	City of Palos Hills	High	FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants	Long-term (depending on funding)
Action P3.6 —Continue to support the countywide actions identified in this plan.								
Status Description:								
Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	All	All	City of Palos Hills	Low	General Fund	Short- and long-term

Action P3.7 —Actively participate in the plan maintenance strategy identified in this plan.								
Status Description:								
Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing	All	3, 4, 6	DHSEM, City of Palos Hills	Low	General Fund	Short-term
Action P3. 8 —Consider or maintain participation in incentive-based programs such as Tree City and StormReady.								
Status Description:								
Completed	Completed	Completed	All	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13	City of Palos Hills	Low	General Fund	Completed
Action P3.9 —Maintain good standing under the National Flood Insurance Program by implementing programs that meet or exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Such programs include enforcing an adopted flood damage prevention ordinance, participating in floodplain mapping updates, and providing public assistance and information on floodplain requirements and impacts.								
Status Description:								
Completed	Completed	Completed	Flooding	4, 6, 9	City of Palos Hills	Low	General Fund	Completed
Action P3.10 —Where feasible, implement a program to record high water marks following high-water events.								
Status Description:								
Completed	Completed	Completed	Flooding, Severe Weather	3, 6, 9	City of Palos Hills	Medium	General Fund; FEMA Grant Funds (Public Assistance)	Completed
Action P3.11 —Integrate the hazard mitigation plan into other plans, programs, or resources that dictate land use or redevelopment.								
Status Description:								
Completed	Completed	Completed	All	3, 4, 6, 10, 13	Palos Hills Building Department	Low	General Fund	Completed
Action P3.12 —No water tower, water and sewage pumping stations are all over 50 years old. Add backup power generation and upgrade station.								
Status Description:								
		New	Drought, Flood, Extreme Heat, Lightning, High Wind, Extreme Cold, Ice Storms, Tornado, Epidemic or Pandemic, Widespread Power Outage	2, 12	Palos Hills	\$3,000,000; High	Public Works	2030
(a) Ongoing indicates continuation of an action that is already in place. Short-term indicates implementation within five years. Long-term indicates implementation after five years.								

Mitigation Success Stories: Examples of mitigation success stories include, but are not limited to: received a Grant, completed a major mitigation project, etc.

Future Needs: Examples of future needs include, but are not limited to: receiving training to better understand the mitigation grant application process, studies that may be needed to better understand hazards/risks, etc.