

Section 2. Plan Adoption

2.1 Overview

This section contains information regarding adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update by Allegany County and each participating jurisdiction.

2.4.1.1 Plan Adoption by Local Governing Bodies

Adoption by the local governing bodies demonstrates the commitment of Allegany County and each participating jurisdiction to fulfill the mitigation goals and objectives outlined in this HMP. Adoption legitimizes the plan and authorizes responsible agencies to execute their responsibilities.

All participating jurisdictions, including Allegany County, will proceed with formal adoption proceedings when the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides conditional approval of this plan. Following adoption or formal action on the plan, the jurisdiction must submit a copy of the resolution or other legal instrument showing formal adoption (acceptance) of the plan to the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (NYS DHSES). Each copy will then be submitted to FEMA, along with the resolution provided in Appendix A of this plan. The jurisdictions understand that FEMA will acknowledge verification of formal plan adoption, and its official approval to the mitigation plan coordinator.

The resolution issued to support adoption of the plan is included as Appendix A, Resolution of Plan Adoption.

In addition to being required by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000), adoption of the plan is necessary because official plan adoption:

- Lends authority to the plan to serve as a guiding document for all local and state government officials.
- Gives legal status to the plan in the event that it is challenged in court.
- Certifies the program and demonstrates to grant administrators that the plan’s recommendations have been properly considered and approved by the governing authority and citizens within that jurisdiction.
- Helps to ensure the continuity of mitigation programs and policies over time because elected officials, staff, and other community decision-makers can refer to the official document when making planning decisions about the community’s future.

Source: FEMA. 2003. “How-to Series” *Bringing the Plan to Life* (FEMA 386-4).