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PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Central Virginia Planning District Commission (CVPDC) Hazard Mitigation Plan 2020 Update Public Outreach - Community Meeting and Survey

The Central Virginia Planning District Commission (CVPDC), through grant funding provided by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), and in partnership with area localities and communities stakeholders is developing a pre-disaster plan or Hazard Mitigation Plan. A Hazard Mitigation Plan is developed for an area to assess natural hazards vulnerability and establish strategies to lessen the overall impact and vulnerability to individuals, families, businesses, and property within our region to natural disasters.

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act requires local governments, as a condition of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mitigation grant program eligibility, to develop and maintain a plan every five years that examines natural disaster risk and impacts and establishes strategies to mitigate, or lessen, human and property impacts. The CVPDC Hazard Mitigation Plan 2020 Update is the pre-disaster mitigation plan and planning process to serve this purpose for our region, which includes Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford and Campbell counties, the City of Lynchburg, and the Towns of Altavista, Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford and Brookneal.

The CVPDC has contracted with the Virginia Tech Center for Geospatial Information and Technology (CGIT) to guide and develop the pre-disaster planning effort. A CVPDC Hazard Mitigation Plan Technical Advisory Committee, comprised of local, state and regional facility and resource management professionals, VDEM staff, and CGIT, have guided the plan development. The final Draft CVPDC Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2020 Update will be complete in February 2020.

Public Participation Opportunities

Area residents, stakeholders and the business community have the opportunity and are encouraged to participate and provide input in the development of the region's pre-disaster or Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). How to Participate:

1. **Take a Survey!** Please, take six (6) minutes to provide your input on impact, concerns of natural disasters in your community. The Pre-Disaster Survey, will be open between 11/20 – 12/13. Access to the electronic survey is available at www.cvpdc.org or directly at [CVPDC Pre-Disaster Survey](#)
2. **Attend a Public Meeting.** At least two public meetings will be held during the plan development. Details on future public meetings will be available on the CVPDC website.

What: CVPDC Hazard Mitigation Plan – 1st Public Meeting
When: Wednesday, December 4, 2019; 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Where: The Miller Center; 301 Grove Street, Lynchburg

Learn More

Go to <https://www.cvpdc.org/regional-initiatives/hazard-mitigation.html> or contact Kelly Hitchcock to learn more about the regional pre-hazard mitigation and community resiliency plan.

Serving Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford and Campbell Counties;
the Towns of Altavista, Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford and Brookneal; and the City of Lynchburg.