

CRS Activity 510 Progress Report

Date this Report was Prepared: August 10, 2018
Name of Community: Linn County, Iowa
Name of Plan: Linn County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014-2019
Date of Adoption of Plan: October 22, 2014
5 Year CRS Expiration Date: October 1, 2017 (CRS recertification was delayed, it will now begin August 15, 2018)

1. How can a copy of the original plan or area analysis report be obtained:

Linn County contracted with the East Central Iowa of Governments (ECICOG) to complete a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, which includes nearly every community within the borders of Linn County. The Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted by the Linn County Board of Supervisors on October 22, 2014. This plan can be found on the Linn County website: <http://www.linncounty.org/748/Hazard-Mitigation-Plan>.

2. Describe how this evaluation report was prepared and how it was submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public:

This evaluation report was prepared by Linn County Planning and Development staff, including the CRS Coordinator. This report was submitted to the Linn County Board of Supervisors and the state NFIP coordinator via email on August 10, 2018. It has been made available to the media and general public on the floodplain information page on the Linn County Planning and Development department website: <http://www.linncounty.org/301/Floodplain-Information>.

3. Provide a review of each recommendation or action item in the action plan or area analysis report, including a statement on how much was accomplished during the previous year:

See attached Table 1. 2017 Flood Mitigation Action Progress

4. Discuss why any objectives were not reached or why implementation is behind schedule:

See attached Table 1. 2017 Flood Mitigation Action Progress

5. What are the recommendations for new projects or revised recommendations?

See attached Table 2. 2017 Proposed Flood Mitigation Actions

Table 1. 2017 Flood Mitigation Action Progress

Mitigation Action Step	Hazard(s) Addressed	Inclusion in Existing Plan	Status
Identify and complete flood mitigation projects to protect identified critical facilities and infrastructure	Flood	yes	No flood mitigation projects were identified outside of the Indian Creek Watershed during 2017.
Acquire, relocate, elevate, and/or demolish structures in the floodplain	Flood	yes	The county acquired and demolished 14 residential structures in the floodplain since 2008. No new structures were acquired in 2017.
Improve the county's rating in the Community Rating System	Flood	yes	Linn County was accepted into FEMA's CRS program in October 2012, with a Class 8 rating. This rating has been maintained; the next recertification will occur in October 2017.
Strengthen the Floodplain Ordinance to reduce development in the floodplain	Flood	yes	Amendments to the Linn County Unified Development Code were approved in October 2013, which further restricted construction within/near the special flood hazard area. No new amendments related to floodplains were adopted in 2017.
Strengthen development-related ordinances to improve stormwater management in new development	Flood	yes	Planning staff convened a work group to discuss ordinance amendments relating to stormwater management, low-impact development, and soil erosion/sediment control. Staffing challenges have delayed the amendment process; ordinance amendments are expected to be completed sometime in 2019.
Establish the use of the HAZUS and Iowa Flood Center flood modeling systems with the Linn County Emergency Management Agency	Flood	yes	Linn County Emergency Management was unable to coordinate staff training for HAZUS modeling. Plans still exist to use HAZUS modeling in the future; in the interim, GIS modeling is being used to estimate flood levels.
Participate in the development and implementation of the Indian Creek Watershed Management Plan to improve stormwater management, which may include regulatory or structural projects	Flood	yes	The Indian Creek Watershed Management Authority (WMA) was formed in 2012. Linn County participates on the WMA board in efforts to reduce flooding risk, improve water quality, and increase communication and coordination within the watershed area. The Indian Creek Watershed Management Plan was completed in June 2015.
Provide hazard-related educational materials on the county website	Flood	yes	An annual newsletter containing information about flood hazard areas, mitigation, and the CRS program was produced and distributed to rural county residents as a newspaper insert. Educational material pertaining to flood mitigation is also available on the Linn County Planning and Development website .

Table 2. 2017 Proposed Flood Mitigation Actions*

Priority Level	Proposed Mitigation Action	Lead	Potential Partner(s)	Benefit	Cost	Funding Source
1	Initiate continuity planning in all county departments	All department directors	Linn County EMA	Medium	Medium – Low	County
1	Purchase and install generators in critical facilities	County Engineer	IHSEMD	High	Medium - High	County, PDM, HMGP
1	Identify and complete flood mitigation projects to protect identified critical facilities and infrastructure	County Engineer	Planning and Development	High	Medium – High	County, PDM, HMGP, FMA
1	Acquire, relocate, elevate, and/or demolish structures in the floodplain	Planning and Development Director	IHSEMD	High	High	County, PDM, HMGP, FMA
1	Strengthen the Floodplain Ordinance to reduce development in the floodplain	Planning and Development Director	IDNR	High	Low	County
1	Strengthen development-related ordinances to improve stormwater management in new development	Planning and Development Director	County Engineer, IDNR	High	Low	County
1	Improve the county’s rating in the Community Rating System	Floodplain Manager	Planning and Development	High	Low	County
1	Establish the use of the HAZUS and Iowa Flood Center flood inundation modeling systems with the Linn County Emergency Management Agency	Planning and Development Director and County Engineer	Iowa Flood Center, Linn County EMA	Medium	Low	County
1	Participate in the development and implementation of the Indian Creek Watershed Management Plan to improve water management, which may include regulatory or structural projects	Planning and Development Director	County Engineer and Secondary Roads	High	Medium - High	County, PDM, HMGP, FMA, others to be identified
1	Provide hazard-related educational materials on the county website	Planning and Development Director	Information Technology, Linn County EMA	Medium	Low	County

*An explanation of the priority level, cost, and benefit categories can be found in the section titled, “Action Plan,” on pg. 279 of the [Linn County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014-2019](#).