

AGENDA



Thursday, October 28, 2010

**Office of Emergency Management
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 15**

Subject: Approve a resolution adopting the City of Austin Hazard Mitigation Action Plan Update.

For More Information: Otis Latin, 974-0450; Billy Atkins, 974-0463

Prior Council Action: The City of Austin's initial Hazard Mitigation Action Plan was completed and adopted by City Council in February 2003, and by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in 2004.

The Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management requests the City Council formally adopt the update to the City of Austin Hazard Mitigation Action Plan (HMAP). The plan is available on the City's public web site under the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, at <http://www.austinhsem.com/clients/2333/363375.pdf>.

Hazard mitigation planning is a collaborative process whereby: 1) hazards affecting the community are identified; 2) vulnerability to the hazards are assessed; and 3) consensus is reached on strategies to minimize or eliminate the effects of the identified hazards. This collaborative process involved multiple opportunities for comment and input from the public and a broad cross section of local partner agencies and stakeholders.

On February 26, 2002, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published 44 CFR Parts 201 and 206 - Hazard Mitigation Planning and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program; Interim Final Rule in the Federal Register. This Rule, required by the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, outlines requirements for local government Hazard Mitigation Action Plans. For disasters declared after November 1, 2003, governments must have a HMAP approved by the FEMA to be eligible for certain disaster-related funding. This law encourages and rewards local pre-disaster planning, promotes sustainability as a strategy for disaster resistance, and has as its aim, the strengthening of local and statewide mitigation planning.

The City of Austin's initial HMAP was completed and adopted by City Council and FEMA in 2004. FEMA requires communities to update their approved HMAP every five years. The Hazard Mitigation Action Plan update has been completed and FEMA approved the Plan on September 15, 2010 pending adoption by the City Council. The City Council is requested to adopt this updated Plan.