



Press Release – 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan for Thunderbolt, Georgia

Town of Thunderbolt, Georgia – September 20, 2018

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For Immediate Release

The Town of Thunderbolt along with Chatham County and its municipal governments are required to update their hazard mitigation plans every five years so the jurisdictions remain eligible for federal mitigation funding. Chatham County plans to update the hazard mitigation plan early due to recent disaster events. The Town of Thunderbolt will be invited to participate in the mitigation planning process. Local hazard mitigation planning is the process of organizing community resources, identifying and assessing hazard risks, and determining how to best minimize or manage those risks. This process culminates in a hazard mitigation plan that identifies specific mitigation actions, each designed to achieve both short-term planning objectives and long-term community vision.

The recent Chatham County Pre-disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan provides a coordinated structure to guide county hazard mitigation efforts and investments in the coming years. The purpose of the plan is to consolidate, collate, and organize data from the Chatham County Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) capabilities assessment and analysis of existing conditions to make Chatham County eligible for federal hazard mitigation grant programs such as: Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

As part of our Community Rating System for our Flood Rating under CRS Activity #510, a progress report must be made available to the Public and governing body. The Town Administrator and Chief of Police reviewed each item under the Town of Thunderbolt Mitigation Actions section of the plan and labeled the status of each item at the present time. This 2018 Town of Thunderbolt progress report, obtained from the Chatham County Multi-Jurisdiction Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan, is detailed in the Progress Report table.

A part of the CRS Activity #510 is how it is advertised to the public for their viewing, how it was presented to the governing body, and how it was released to the press. The entire Chatham County Multi-Jurisdictional Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan can be found on the CEMA web-site at <http://www.chathamemergency.org/hazard-mitigation-plan.php>. A copy of the Thunderbolt Progress Report is available at Town Hall and on the Thunderbolt website at <http://www.thunderboltga.org>.



2018 Town of Thunderbolt Hazard Mitigation Plan Progress Report

Action #	Description	Implementation Status
P-1	Increase the area for debris following a storm with an MOU with the Board of Education to use the fields at Johnson High School as an additional area.	Pending – The Town only has one location for debris at Cesaroni ball field and the capacity was determined to be unfeasible. Alternate locations are being sought.
P-2	Conduct a full inspection of the Thunderbolt bridge to ensure that it will be open during any event or extreme threat.	Completed – GDOT conducts bridge inspections. It was determined that the local jurisdiction decides on closures during extreme events.
P-3	Assist and coordinate with Tara Nursing Home for evacuation of patients in the event of a threat.	Completed - The Nursing Home has a plan in place; however, the Town's involvement would be to ensure the evacuation and transition of patients is seamless
PP-1	Harden Town Hall and the Fire Station.	Reinstated – Applied for mitigation grants in 2017; No update on grant funds at this time
PP-3	Infrastructure Retrofit	Pending – Public Works is identifying applicable projects eligible for funding
PP-4	Purchase Generator for Senior Center Facility and Equip Building for Evacuation Staging Purposes	Pending – seeking eligible funding
PP-5	Purchase Vactor Truck for Stormwater	Pending – seeking eligible funding
ES-1	Acquire portable generator for water well.	Reinstated - Applied for mitigation grant in 2017; No update on grant funds at this time
ES-2	Acquire portable bypass pump for lift stations at Robertson, Mechanics, and Downing Avenues.	Reinstated - One bypass pump was purchased to address the sewage overflow, however additional pumps are needed.
ES-3	Purchase generator for Public Works Critical Facility	Pending – Applied for mitigation grant in 2017; No update on grant funds at this time.