



# Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Initial Planning Committee Meeting

March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Gonzales, LA



# Introductions

- Officials
- Mitigation Steering Committee members
- SDMI team members
- GOHSEP hazard mitigation team



# Who is SDMI?

- Stephenson Disaster Management Institute (SDMI) at Louisiana State University
- Non Academic, Applied Research Unit on campus under the SNCSRT umbrella.
- Founded by Toni and Emmet Stephenson





# The Hazard Mitigation Plan: What is in it for us?



# Hazard Mitigation Is.....

- Any action taken to reduce long term risk to life and property;
- On-going process that occurs before, during, and after disasters;
- Mitigation actions help prevent damage to a community's infrastructure, economic, cultural and environmental assets;
- Minimize operational downtime and accelerate recovery of government and the private sector after an event;
- Implementation of mitigation actions leads to building stronger, safer and smarter!





Hazard Mitigation Planning is a process that identifies natural hazard risks and develops strategies to reduce these risks.



# Planning Process



# Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Requirements

- The plan must be updated every 5 years
- Re-assess hazard identification and risk assessment
  - Consider any changes since the last plan update, and address events that have occurred since the last plan;
- Incorporate local planning efforts;
- Report mitigation strategy (projects) progress and discuss adjustments;
- Must be multijurisdictional



# Federal Requirements

- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000)
  - Section 322 of the Act specifically addresses mitigation planning and requires state and local governments to prepare multi-hazard migration plans as a precondition for receiving FEMA mitigation project grants.
- Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §201.6 for FEMA approval and eligibility to apply for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance



# The Planning Team: A Multi-jurisdictional Approach

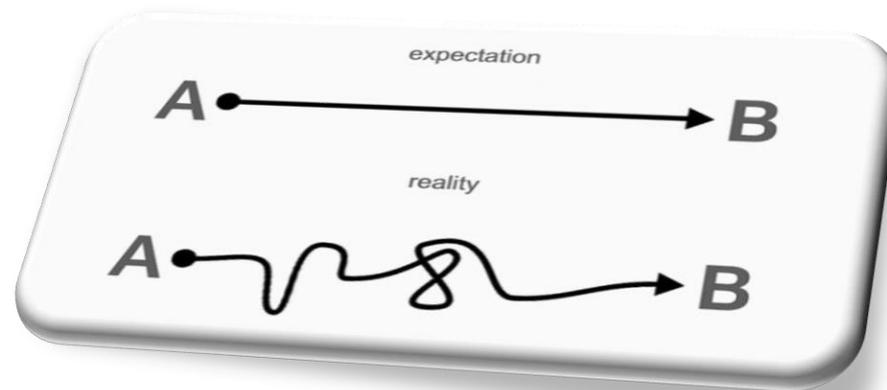
- Each jurisdiction must have one representative on the planning team.
- This representative will report back to their community on a regular basis, as well as gather feedback and input into the plan.
- Each jurisdiction is responsible for gathering NFIP, Capability Assessment, Critical Facilities and vulnerable population data for the plan.
- Each jurisdiction is responsible for updating mitigation actions and proposing new actions for the update.



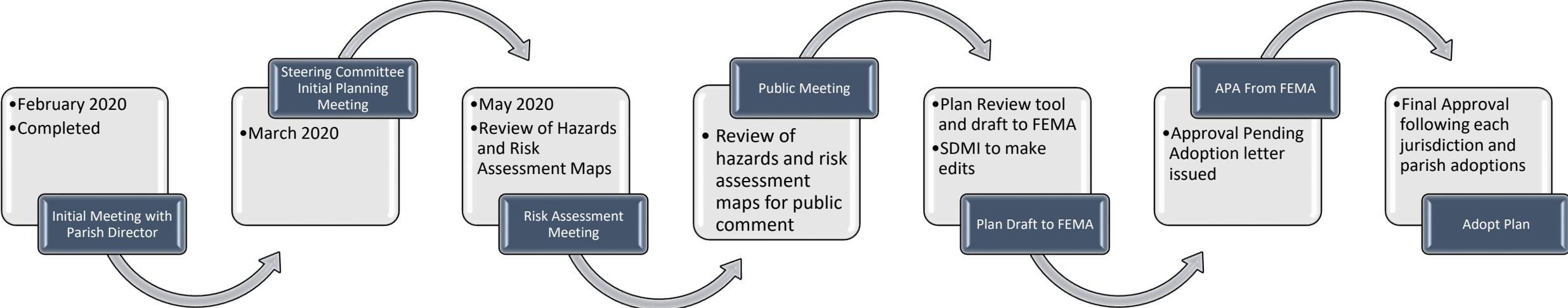
# Expectations

## Jurisdictions/Planning Committee

- Each jurisdiction **MUST** show active participation in the planning process by the following:
  - Completing state required worksheets;
  - Identifying jurisdiction specific mitigation actions (projects);
  - Have representation at all meetings;
  - Adopt the final plan.



# Plan Update Timeline – Next Steps



# Plan Development



**ASCENSION  
PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION  
UPDATE - 2015**



**LSU** STEPHENSON DISASTER  
MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE  
Stephenson National Center for  
Security Research and Training

# Plan Layout

- Section 1: Introduction
  - Updated demographics
  - Economics
  - Update parish/jurisdiction descriptions
- Section 2: Hazard Identification and Parish-wide Risk Assessment
- Section 3: Capability Assessment
- Section 4: Mitigation Strategies
  - New actions
  - Action updates
  - Survey results



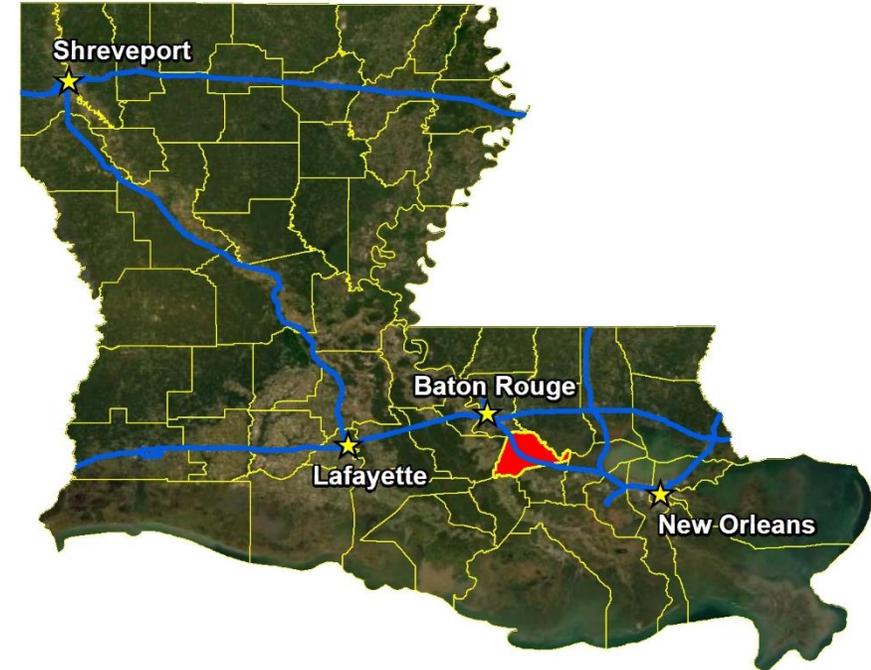
# Plan Layout

- Appendix A: Planning Process
- Appendix B: Plan Maintenance
- Appendix C: Parish Essential Facilities
- Appendix D: Plan Adoption
- Appendix E: State Required Worksheets
- **Appendix F: Community Rating System (CRS)**



# Section 1: Introduction

- Updated demographics
  - Census information
- Economic update
  - New facilities or companies that are leading to economic impact to the parish?
- Parish/Jurisdiction descriptive updates



# Section 2: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

- Based on currently profiled risks
- Any newly identified risks
- Prevalent Hazards
- Previous occurrences
- Probability of future events
- Assets Inventory
- Essential Facilities
- Hazard Impact
- Future Development
- Future Hazard Impacts
- Zoning and Land Use
- Hazard Profiles



# Section 2: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (Previous Update)

- Flooding
- Tropical Cyclones
- Sinkholes
- Subsidence
- Levee Failure



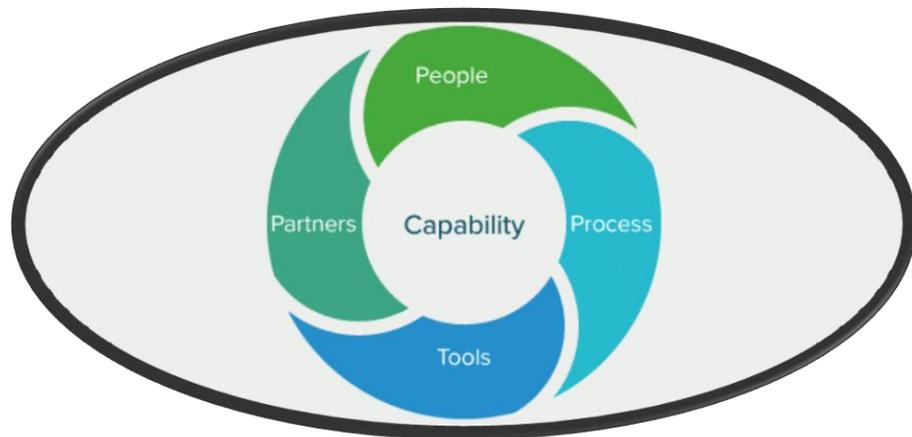
- Tornadoes
- Thunderstorms/  
Lightning/High Winds
- Winter Weather



# Section 3: Capabilities Assessment

**Primary types of capabilities for reducing long-term vulnerability through mitigation planning are:**

- Planning and regulatory
- Administrative and technical
- Financial
- Educational and outreach



# Section 4: Mitigation Strategy

## Goals

- Identify and pursue preventative structural and non-structural measures that will reduce future damages.
- Enhance public awareness and understanding of disaster preparedness.
- Reduce repetitive flood losses in parish and municipalities.
- Facilitate sound building practices in the parish and municipalities so as to reduce or eliminate the potential impact of hazards.
- Improve the ability of the parish and municipalities to rapidly recover and restore facilities and services to the public.



# Mitigation Action Update and New Mitigation Actions

- Mitigation Action Update on old actions/projects
- New Mitigation Actions Identification for 2020 Update for each jurisdiction
- Is a mitigation action workshop needed?



\*\* We will discuss Mitigation Actions with the steering committee at a later date.

Table 4-1: Ascension Parish Unincorporated

Ascension Parish - Unincorporated							
Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Target Completion Date	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Goal	Status
A1: Flood Plain Management Partnerships	Effectively communicate and coordinate all flood mitigation issues.	HMPG; PDM; FMA, local budgets	1-5 years	Ascension OHSEP	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	2, 5	New
A2: Construct Safe Rooms to protect parish employees	n/a	HMGP	n/a	Ascension OHSEP and Public Works	Tornadoes	n/a	In Progress

# Section 4: Project Updates

- Provide status update of projects from last update (in progress, completed, or deleted).



# Appendix A: Planning Process

- Overview of planning process
- Meeting documentation and summaries
- Discussion of integration of neighboring community participation
- Discussion of integration of other parish and jurisdiction plans to the HM Update
- Steering committee members identified



# Appendix B: Plan Maintenance

- Review of HM plan **annual** maintenance by the Ascension Parish OHSEP Director.
- Assign responsible parties for review and edits of the plan



# Appendix C: Essential Facilities

- Updated list of essential facilities by jurisdiction
- Will identify which hazards within the risk assessment pose a threat to each facility
- Facilities must be parish or city owned



# Appendix D: Plan Adoption

- Parish council and city council resolutions must be adopted, signed, and placed into the final planning document

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PARISH OF ASCENSION

A RESOLUTION OF THE PARISH OF ASCENSION ADOPTING THE  
ASCENSION PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2015

WHEREAS the Parish of Ascension recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within Ascension Parish; and

WHEREAS the Parish of Ascension has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as THE ASCENSION PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2015 in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS THE PARISH OF ASCENSION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2015 identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in Ascension Parish from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS adoption by the Ascension Parish Council demonstrates their commitment to the hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in THE ASCENSION PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – 2015 UPDATE.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASCENSION COUNCIL THAT:

Section 1. In accordance with Ascension Parish Home Rule Charter, the Ascension Parish Council adopts THE ASCENSION PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2015.

I hereby certify that I am the duly acting and qualified Secretary of the Ascension Parish Council and that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the Resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Council held on June 18, 2015, at which meeting a quorum was present and voted in favor of said Resolution, said Resolution never having been modified or rescinded and is still in full force and effect.

Secretary, Ascension Parish Council  
Date: June 18, 2015



# Appendix E: State Required Worksheets

Each jurisdiction **MUST** fill these out:

- Capability Assessment
- NFIP Worksheet
- Critical Facilities/Building Inventory
- Vulnerable Populations



# Element E: State Required Worksheet – Capability Assessment

Worksheet 4.1: Capability Assessment Worksheet -		
Local mitigation capabilities are existing authorities, polices and resources that reduce hazard impacts or that could be used to implement hazard mitigation activities. Please complete the tables and questions in the worksheet as completely as possible.		
Planning and Regulatory		
Please indicate which of the following plans and regulatory capabilities your jurisdiction has in place.		
Plans	Yes / No	Comments
Comprehensive / Master Plan		
Capital Improvements Plan		
Economic Development Plan		
Local Emergency Operations Plan		
Continuity of Operations Plan		
Transportation Plan		
Stormwater Management Plan		
Community Wildfire Protection Plan		
Other plans (redevelopment, recovery, coastal zone management)		
Building Code, Permitting and Inspections	Yes / No	
Building Code		
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Score		
Fire Department ISO/PIAL rating		
Site plan review requirements		
Land Use Planning and Ordinances	Yes / No	
Zoning Ordinance		
Subdivision Ordinance		
Floodplain Ordinance		
Natural Hazard Specific Ordinance (stormwater, steep slope, wildfire)		
Flood Insurance Rate Maps		
Acquisition of land for open space and public recreation uses		
Other		
Administration and Technical		

*Place answers in Yes/No column, add comments if necessary (i.e. what year the plan was updated last)*





# Appendix E: State Required Worksheets – Critical Facilities and Vulnerable Populations

Vulnerable Populations Worksheet					
Ascension Parish					
Name	Street	City	Zip Code	Latitude	Longitude
<b>All Hospitals (Private or Public)</b>					
* There are no Hospitals located in the Town of XXXXXX					
<b>Nursing Homes (Private or Public)</b>					
* There are no nursing homes located in the City/Town of XXXXXXXXX					
<b>Mobile Home Parks</b>					

# Plan Update Worksheet – NFIP

ELEMENT F: STATE REQUIREMENT		
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)		
<b>Parish:</b> Ascension Parish		
<b>Insurance Summary</b>		<b>Comments</b>
How many NFIP policies are in the community? What is the total premium and coverage?		
How many claims have been paid in the community? What is the total amount of paid claims? How many of the claims were for substantial damage?		
How many structures are exposed to flood risk with in the community?		
Describe any areas of flood risk with limited NFIP policy coverage.		
<b>Staff Resources</b>		
Is the Community FPA or NFIP Coordinator certified?		
Is flood plain management an auxiliary function?		
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, GIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability)		
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?		
<b>Compliance History</b>		
Is the community in good standing with the NFIP?		
Are there any outstanding compliance issues(i.e., current violations)?		
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact(CAC)?		
Is a CAV or CAC scheduled or needed? If so when?		

- FEMA can provide this information, or local /parish floodplain managers



# Appendix F: Community Rating System

- Only applies to CRS communities
- This appendix must be entirely provided by the parish



OMB No. 1660-0022  
Expires: March 31, 2020

National Flood Insurance Program  
Community Rating System

## Coordinator's Manual

FLA-15/2017



FEMA

## Community Rating System

- The goal is to encourage communities and states to exceed the minimum standards of the NFIP by the use of flood insurance premium adjustments
- The objective is to reward communities that are exceeding the minimum standards



FEMA

CRS Overview

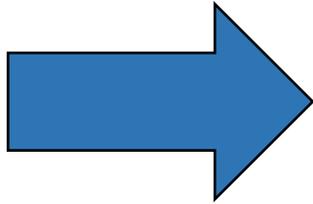


**LSU**

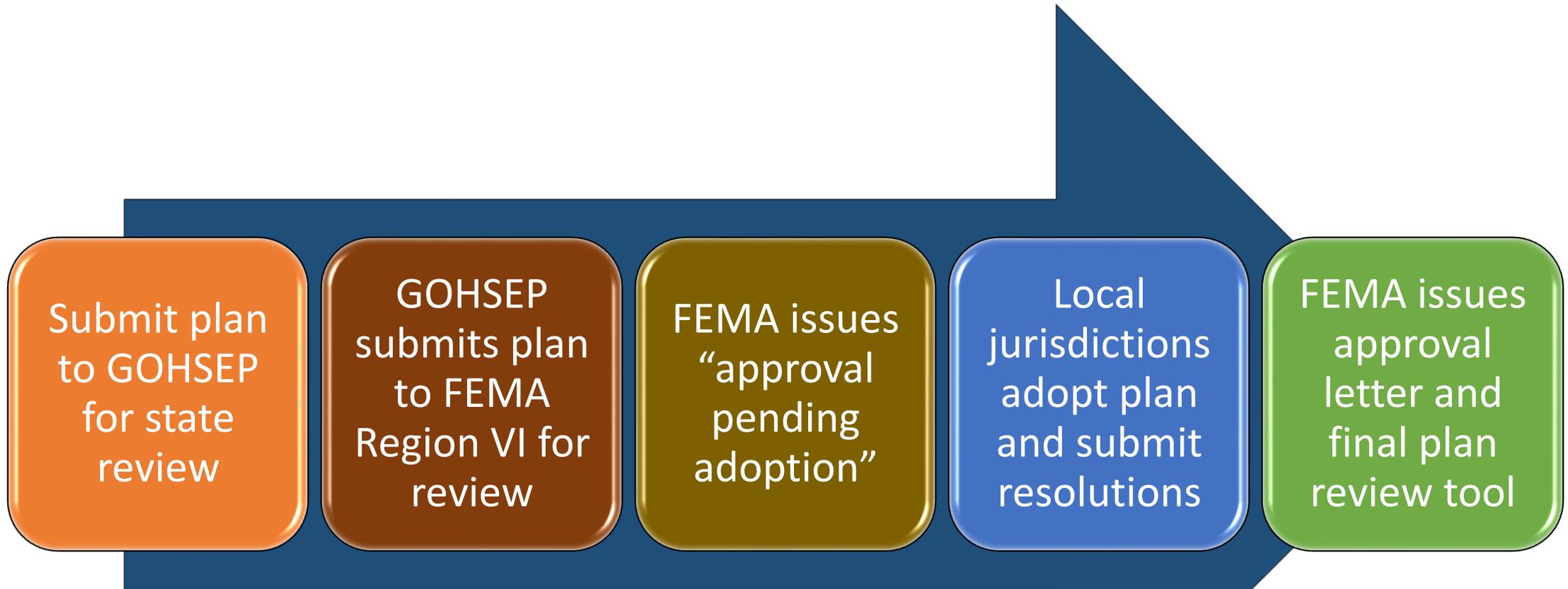
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# Parish Mitigation Survey

- Collects information from citizens regarding their perceptions of local hazards and mitigation efforts
- Results will be included in the plan if there are enough responses
- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AscensionHM2020>



# Plan Approval Process



**The plan will be subject to revisions as it moves through the review process.**

# Plan Adoption

Each jurisdiction **MUST** adopt the final plan.

- Templates can be provided if needed
- As a planning team member be aware of the policies for your jurisdiction
  - Know the process for putting this plan on the docket for adoption
  - Make sure you make the required deadlines



# The Final Product

- FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan
  - Meets requirements of Title 44 Code of Regulations (CFR) §201.6 for approval and eligibility to apply for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs.
  - A hazard mitigation project strategy for each jurisdiction
  - A comprehensive list of jurisdiction owned properties
  - Assessment of natural disaster-related risks and vulnerabilities



# Contact Us

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