



# 2025 St. Tammany Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Kickoff Meeting  
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024



# Introductions

- **St. Tammany Parish**
  - Clint Ory – STP OHSEP Director
  - deEtte Smythe – STP Regulatory Manager/CRS Coordinator
  - Planning Committee Members
- **Stephenson Disaster Management Institute (SDMI)**
  - Chris Rippetoe – Hazard Mitigation Program Manager
  - Jason Martin – Emergency Management Analyst
  - Brian Stevens – Project Manager
- **Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)**
  - Jeffrey Giering – State Hazard Mitigation Officer
  - Marion Pearson – Hazard Mitigation Planner



# Who is SDMI?

- Stephenson Disaster Management Institute (SDMI) at Louisiana State University
- Non-Academic, Applied Research Unit on campus
- Specialize in providing programmatic support and decision making tools for state and local emergency managers
  - Hazard Mitigation Plans
  - Emergency Operations Plans
  - Geographic Information Systems
  - Application Development
  - Data Visualization
  - Aerial Imagery Collection/Processing





# 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!***



# Why Have a Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Planning efforts help our communities become more sustainable and disaster-resilient
  - Focuses efforts on the hazards, disaster-prone areas and identifying appropriate mitigation actions for future projects
- Must have a FEMA approved plan as a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance
- **No Plan = No Mitigation Money = No Project Funding**



# 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 mitigation 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



# Plan Update Requirements

- The plan must be updated every five years
- Must identify & involve a comprehensive group of stakeholders
  - Includes local business, academia and those representing underserved populations (nonprofits, community-based organizations etc.)
- Re-assess vulnerability to natural hazards faced by each jurisdiction
  - Consider any changes and address events that have occurred since the completion of the previous plan
- Incorporate local planning efforts
- Report mitigation strategy (projects) progress and discuss adjustments



# The Planning Committee

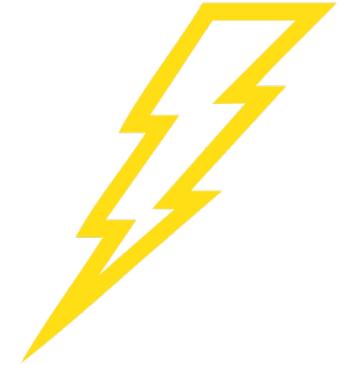
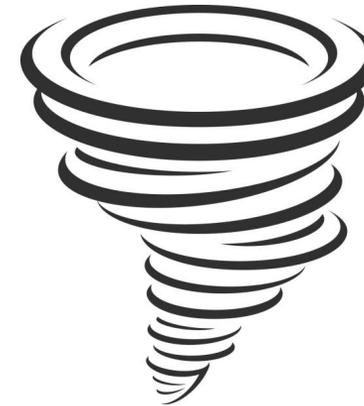
- Planning committee should consist of people from any department/agency who can provide input to planning process
  - Should also include those who represent private business and industry, as well as those who serve disadvantaged communities
- Responsibilities of jurisdiction representatives include:
  - Verifying and/or updating **Capability Assessment, NFIP, Jurisdiction-owned Building Inventory, and Vulnerable Population data** for the plan
  - Providing status updates for **existing mitigation actions** and proposing **new actions** if necessary.



# Hazard Identification And Risk Assessment

Hazards From Previous HMP Include:

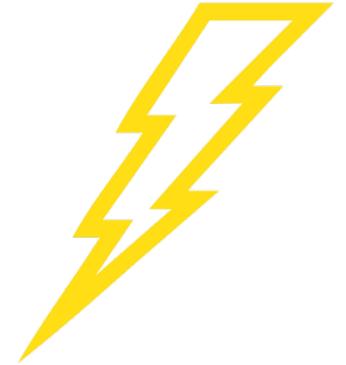
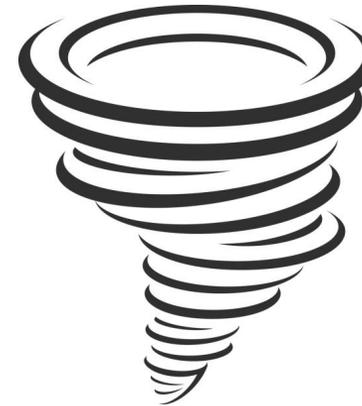
- Coastal Hazards
- Dam Failure
- Drought
- Flooding
- Fog
- Levee Failure
- Termites
- Thunderstorms
- Tornadoes
- Tropical Cyclones
- Wildfires



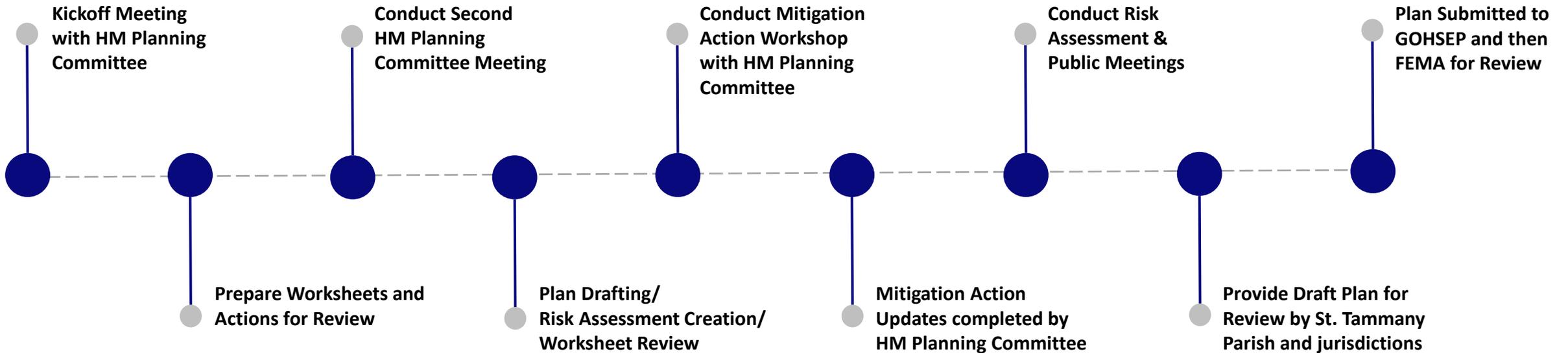
# Hazard Identification And Risk Assessment

Hazards based off High/Moderate NRI Classifications Include:

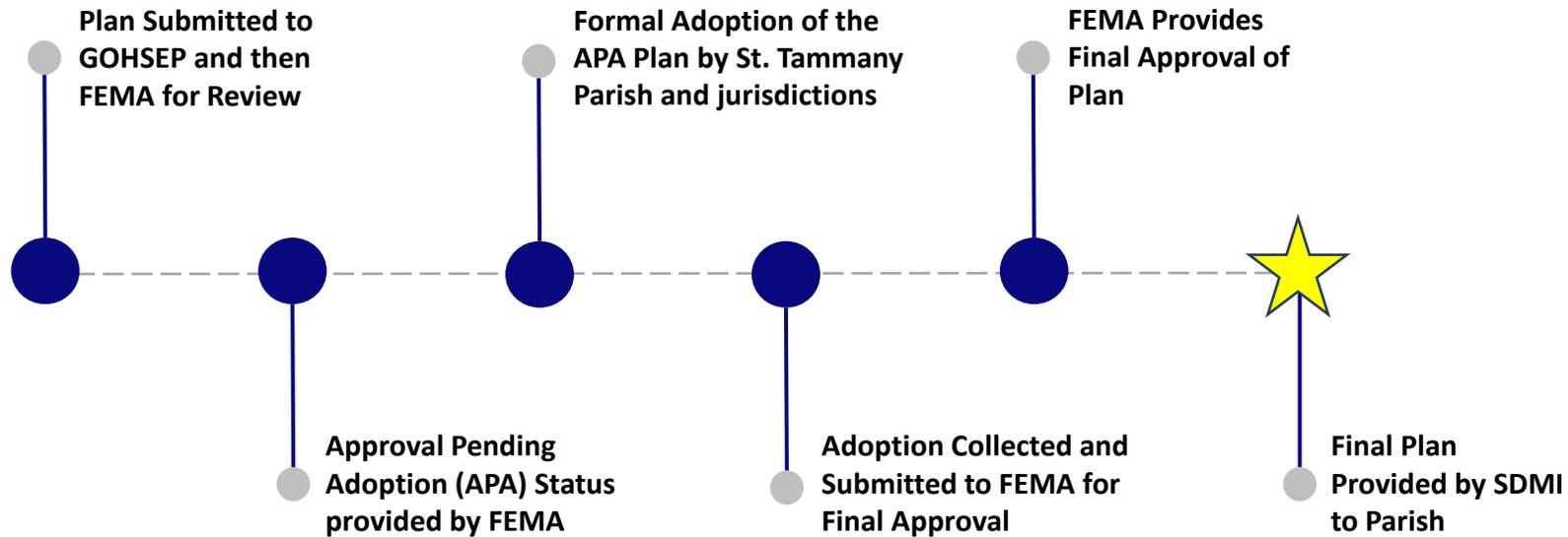
- Coastal Flooding
- Dam Failure\*
- Excessive Heat
- Flooding
- Levee Failure\*
- Thunderstorms
- Tornadoes
- Tropical Cyclones
- Wildfires
- Winter Weather



# Plan Update Process Timeline

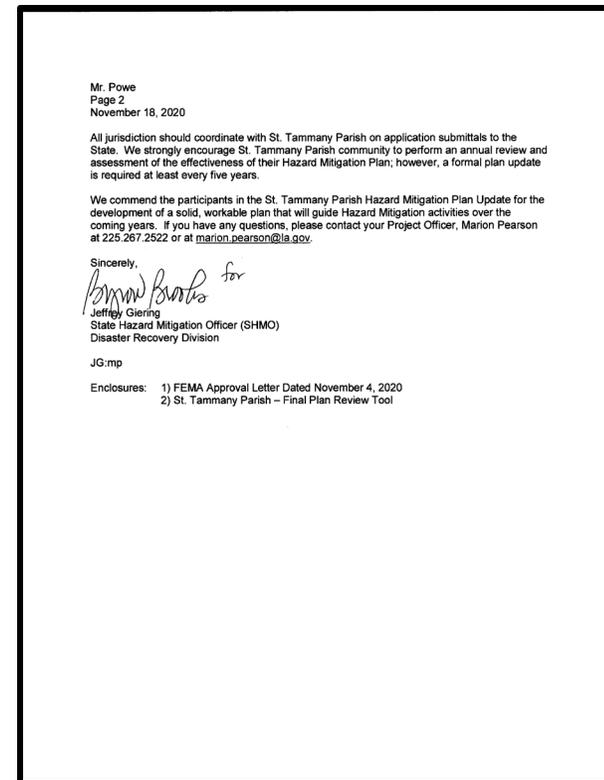
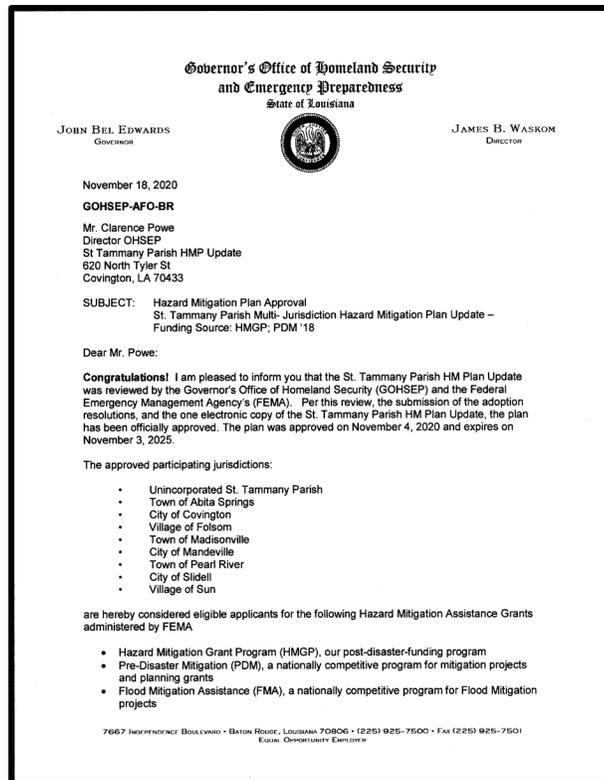


# Plan Approval Timeline



# Plan Adoption

- St. Tammany Parish and all jurisdictions **MUST** adopt the final plan once it is approved by FEMA
- Parish council and jurisdiction resolutions must be formally adopted, signed, and placed into the final planning document.



# 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 St. Tammany Parish
  - A comprehensive list of parish owned properties
  - Assessment of natural disaster-related risks and vulnerabilities



# Community Rating System (CRS)

- The CRS program is a voluntary, incentive-based program that encourages communities to participate in floodplain management practices.
- Participating communities can receive flood insurance premium discounts for all NFIP policies, including those outside of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)
- Current Community Ratings:
  - St. Tammany Parish – Class 7
  - City of Covington – Class 8
  - City of Mandeville – Class 5
  - City of Slidell – Class 6



# Activity 510: Floodplain Management Plan (FMP)

- The FMP is divided into 10 steps. Each step has a different set of tasks/activities to complete in order to receive credit.
- Some of the steps that are included in the FMP will be accomplished with the completion of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- The maximum points an FMP can receive is 382.
- St. Tammany Parish and participating jurisdictions are responsible for facilitating all meetings and data collection that is involved with the completion of the FMP.



# 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://lsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8hW0tiW3bKZz5We](https://lsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8hW0tiW3bKZz5We)



# SDMI Hazard Mitigation Website

- Repository for materials used during update process
- <https://hmplans.sdmi.lsu.edu/Home/Parish/st-tammany>



The screenshot displays the website interface for St. Tammany Parish. At the top, the LSU logo and "Stephenson Disaster Management Institute" are visible, along with a navigation bar containing "Intro", "Events", "FEMA Resources", "Parish Plans", and "Settings". The main heading is "St. Tammany Parish" with a "PLAN DUE DATE: NOVEMBER 3 2025" indicator.

The "DEVELOPMENT STATUS" section shows a progress bar with four stages: "PLAN DEVELOPMENT" (yellow), "PLAN REVIEW" (purple), "PLAN ADOPTION" (purple), and "COMPLETED" (purple). Below this, a timeline indicates "COORDINATION MAY 2024" and "TBD" for the subsequent stages.

The "PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS" section lists several entities: Town of Abita Springs, City of Covington, Village of Folsom, Town of Madisonville, City of Mandeville, Town of Pearl River, Village of Sun, and City of Slidell. St. Tammany, Unincorporated Areas is also listed.

Two meeting events are listed: "MEETING #0: STP PRE-PLANNING DISCUSSION" on July 30, 2024, and "MEETING #1: STP KICKOFF/EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW MEETING" on September 17, 2024.

The "PREVIOUS PLANS" section is organized by year. For 2015, it includes links to download the "2015 ST. TAMMANY HMP UPDATE KICKOFF MEETING", "2015 ST. TAMMANY HMP UPDATE PUBLIC MEETING", and "2015 ST. TAMMANY PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN". For 2020, it includes links to download the "2020 ST. TAMMANY HMP UPDATE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING", "2020 ST. TAMMANY HMP UPDATE PUBLIC MEETING", and "2020 ST. TAMMANY PARISH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN".

A "Survey" section at the bottom features a button labeled "Access Survey".

The footer contains the LSU logo and contact information for the Stephenson Disaster Management Institute at Louisiana State University, including the address, phone number, and email.

# Next Steps

- Identify Neighboring Community
  - Tangipahoa was used previously
- Dates for Next Meetings
  - Next Planning Committee Meeting
  - Mitigation Action Workshop
  - Risk Assessment Review with Committee
  - Public Meeting
  - Additional CRS Meetings\*



