

SKAGIT

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PROJECT

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Skagit County Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee Members
FROM: Charles Bennett, Chairperson, Skagit Natural Hazards Mitigation Steering Committee
DATE: August 4, 2008
SUBJECT: Background Information; Skagit County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide you with information regarding the Skagit Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan and its relationship to the Skagit River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan, the United States Army Corps of Engineers Skagit General Investigation, and the work being done by the Skagit County Flood Control Zone District.

The Skagit Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan was developed in 2003 in response to the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 that required jurisdictions to have a FEMA approved mitigation plan in place in order to receive federal mitigation grant funds. Simply put, the mitigation plan opens the federal mitigation checkbook for all incorporated municipalities within Skagit County as well as the unincorporated areas of the county thereby increasing the amount of federal grant funds available for flood mitigation projects within Skagit County.

Because of the similarity in hazards that pose threats to the various communities within Skagit County, the mitigation plan was designed to be multi-jurisdictional thereby satisfying the natural hazard mitigation planning requirements for all communities within Skagit County. To meet FEMA requirements, the mitigation plan must include a list of proposed mitigation measures. The mitigation plan contains a list of multi-jurisdiction/multi-hazard mitigation goals and multiple-hazard mitigation action items. These goals and action items are broad-based and are applicable to all jurisdictions participating in the plan. In addition, each jurisdiction maintains a list of proposed mitigation measures specific to their community within their individual portion of the plan.

Because of the flood hazard that exists in Skagit County, the Skagit General Investigation, the Skagit River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan, and the Skagit County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan are, in some manner, linked to each other. For this reason, it is important that some level of coordination be established and maintained to help insure these planning efforts do not conflict with each other. Doing so will (hopefully) maximize the potential for receiving federal funding for flood mitigation projects.

I hope this information is helpful to you. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at 360-708-1593 or the other 2008 Skagit Natural Hazards Mitigation Steering Committee members listed below:

Margaret Fleek, City of Burlington; 360-755-9717
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