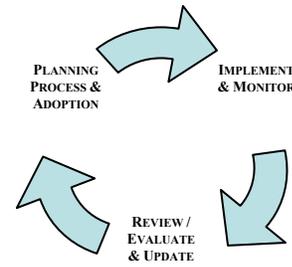


In accordance with 44 CFR 201.6(d)(3), local mitigation plans must be “reviewed, revised if appropriate, and resubmitted for approval within five years in order to continue to be eligible for... grant project funding.” FEMA’s *Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance under DMA 2000* (a.k.a., the “Blue Book”) is the official FEMA guidance to support the development and review of mitigation plans under 44 CFR Part 201, and it is currently being revised to address these five-year updates for Local Mitigation Plans. The guidance is scheduled to be completed for use by FEMA, States, Indian tribal governments and local communities **by the Fall of 2007**. Until this detailed guidance is released, local communities should consider the following general guidelines in their plan reviews and updates.

- All mitigation plans must be reviewed, re-adopted and submitted to FEMA for approval.
- The revised or updated plan must include documentation of the formal adoption of the updated plan, regardless of the degree of modifications to the previously approved plan.
- A comprehensive review must be completed for all sections of the Plan, including the Planning Process, Risk Assessment, Mitigation Strategy and Plan Maintenance Process.
- Triggers for plan revisions include, but are not limited to:
  - Declared disasters or other new hazard events in the plan area;
  - Changes in land use, growth or development that affect vulnerability to populations and structures;
  - New data or data deficiencies previously identified that are now available (e.g., risk assessment or mapped data);
  - Changes in the mitigation strategy (particularly where actions have been completed); and/or
  - FEMA mitigation grants, non-federal funds or initiatives that resulted in reduced vulnerability in the plan areas.
- The updated plan must document the current planning process to review and update the plan, as well as any changes in how the plan will be maintained over the next five-year period.
- Local communities should review the Local Mitigation Plan guidance to ensure that the updated plans continue to meet all requirements in accordance with 44 CFR Part 201.6.
- Generally, the Plan review and update process is already self-defined by the community; that is, the Plan Maintenance section of the current plan should already describe how the plan will be updated.
- The updated plan must clearly demonstrate that the public was given the opportunity to comment on the plan, including any revisions.



The first Local Mitigation Plan was approved by FEMA in early 2004, and since then over 13,500 jurisdictions developed FEMA-approved local mitigation plans (57% of the U.S. population is covered). Mitigation plans have assisted States, local and Tribal governments define their risk and identify appropriate mitigation strategies to help reduce those risks to natural and man-made hazards. Additional information, including guidance, will be posted on the FEMA website at: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/mitplanning/index.shtm>.