1.3 PROGRAM INTEGRATION

The 44 CFR 201.4(b) indicates the States mitigation planning process should be integrated to the extent possible with other ongoing State planning efforts as well as other FEMA mitigation programs and initiatives.

A kick off meeting similar to the briefings began the development of the state plan. The Section directors of six regional planning organizations were invited to attend the opening meeting of the plan kickoff. OEMA’s goal is to improve the connection between the work products of the various regional planning sections and the state hazard mitigation plan.

The OEMA Planning Branch is active in the development of numerous plans that contain mitigation elements. The list of plans is extensive including: the state emergency operating plan, HAZMAT, weapons of mass destruction, terrorism / bio-terrorism annex, infectious human disease annex, homeland security planning along with developing county emergency operation plans and a full array of local planning support. Members of the Mitigation Branch participate in exercises to test the effectiveness of the plans. The Mitigation Branch staff continues to actively pursue inclusion of mitigation concepts in the development of all plans.

OEMA and ODNR are the primary Departments that actively promote mitigation activities, but many other State agencies have policies and procedures affecting mitigation.

1.3.1 STATE MEASURES

This section includes a discussion of the state agencies the Mitigation Branch cooperates with as essential partners in the effort to save lives and reduce damage from natural disaster. Throughout the planning process, OEMA utilized information provided by the agencies. Section 4.2 identifies policies and activities within other state agencies that affect the states mitigation priorities. As planning efforts mature, interaction is fostered among the various agencies. State agencies were also active in the creation of the goals and objectives provided in the Mitigation Strategy section. Many are lead agencies that will assist OEMA to achieve the outlined goals that are specific to their program area. Table 1.3.1.a lists the agencies that were active in the planning process and their contribution.

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<thead>
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<th>Agency</th>
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<td>Ohio Department of Commerce</td>
<td>- The ODC is involved in many industrial compliance issues in the state and regulates much of the construction industry. The Industrial Compliance, Board of Building Standards administers the OBBC, which incorporates provisions of the BOCA. BOCA is a model code governing building regulations for the protection of public health, safety and welfare. If local authorities determine a building or structure requires flood resistant construction, they must comply with the OBBC, which assists the State with their planning goals to reduce flood damage. The State utilized information provided in the</td>
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| Ohio Department of Development             | “Flood Resistant Construction” section of the OBBC to outline expectations of the local jurisdictions, post-disaster, to help them achieve the flood reduction goals.  
• Provides a catalog of businesses and industrial sites in Ohio, which assisted the State and local jurisdictions with identification of hazardous material locations as part of the planning process. As more hazards are examined, the catalog will continue to be utilized for critical facility identification in future updates of the plan. |
| Ohio Department of Health                  | • The ODOD, Office of Housing and Community Partnerships assist local communities with mitigation projects through CDBG. CDBG is a source of funding for a variety of mitigation-related activities and can be used as the cost-share portion of the HMGP. The CDBG program works to ensure decent affordable housing for all, and to provide services to the most vulnerable in our communities, to create jobs and expand business opportunities. CDBG is an important tool in helping local governments tackle the most serious challenges facing their communities. The primary priority of the Plan’s flood section is reduction of damage from flooding. The projects funded with CDBG work to prevent or reduce flood damage and save lives, which meet the main objectives of the section.  
• The ODOD is also a liaison between the 12 Regional Planning Commissions and the State Hazard Mitigation Team to provide information on the status of the Plan and acquire valuable insight the State could incorporate into their plan. |
<p>| Ohio Department of Insurance               | • The ODI will relay information in the Plan, which includes mitigation options to reduce damage from hazardous events, to Local insurance agencies. The agencies are responsible for providing the information to their policyholders, since any pre-disaster mitigation actions or mitigation during the repair process will reduce or eliminate the number of policy claims filed after future hazard events. The cooperation between the State, ODI and Local Agencies will reduce or prevent damage from the natural hazards, which is a goal outlined in the Plan. |
| Ohio Department of Natural Resources       | • ODNR staff has provided text, review, and comment on State of Ohio mitigation plans since 1999, and has helped establish mitigation priorities and strategies. One staff member was provided to submit information for the Flood Section of the Plan. |</p>
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<td>Plan and will continue to work with the Mitigation Planner for future updates of the Plan.</td>
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<td>• ODNR has three representatives supporting State Hazard Mitigation Team, which reviews HMGP applications and recommends grant award recipients.</td>
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<td>• Staff from ODNR and OEMA collaborated to create the Ohio Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidebook. This document was developed to provide mitigation planning guidance to communities participating in the Appalachian Flood Risk Reduction Initiative (AFRRI). The AFRRI was a grant program created in 2002 that provided funding and technical assistance to develop DMA2K natural hazard mitigation plans in fifteen Appalachian communities. The goal of AFRRI was to ensure sustainable development by increasing local capability to address natural hazards. ODNR staff facilitated over 100 mitigation planning meetings in communities that participated in AFRRI. Some participating communities developed multi-jurisdictional plans and as a result of AFRRI, 41 jurisdictions are covered by natural hazard mitigation plans. Information from the plans was utilized in the Local Capability section and will continually be updated as more plans are approved.</td>
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<td>• The Ohio Floodplain Management Program requires all developments located in flood hazard areas, which are funded or financed by the state, to be consistent with local floodplain management standards modeled after the NFIP. Development is subject to more stringent flood damage reduction standards. The overall goal of the Program is to reduce flood loss and damage through wise use of the flood hazard areas. The OEMA mitigation staff will coordinate with ODNR to ensure that local jurisdictions meet the requirements, which support the flood reduction goals of the Plan.</td>
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<td>• The Ohio Dam Safety Program provides for safe dams, dikes and levees, and to protect life, health and property. The program contributes to reduced exposure and lessened impact from a dam failure or flooding hazard. State law requires that permits be obtained to construct dams, dikes, levees and inspection of existing dams, dikes and levees be performed every five years to ensure the continued use and operation does not constitute a hazard. The State utilized information from the Program as part of the Dam Failure Section analysis and will work update the Plan as new information is available. OEMA will continue to encourage the promotion of dam safety as a method to reduce damage and save lives, which supports the goals outlined in the section.</td>
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<td>• The Coastal Erosion Management Program insures wise use of the coastal area’s land and water resources. The legislation requires shoreline communities to either participate in the NFIP or adopt floodplain management standards consistent with the NFIP requirements. The program furthers mitigation by limiting the location of new development to avoid exposure to hazards by using a thirty-year erosion setback limit. The objectives of the Coastal</td>
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<td>Ohio Department of Transportation</td>
<td>Management Program are consistent with those outlined in the Flood Section. Reduction of flood damage is a main goal of the Plan. OEMA will utilize information provided by the Program staff for the Coastal Erosion Hazard Analysis for future updates of the Plan.</td>
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| Ohio Emergency Management Agency | • ODOT provided information regarding State resources available for mitigation activities for the State Capability Section. OEMA will update the section as new resources are identified.  
• Through engineering and design assistance, ODOT identifies opportunities to utilize mitigation objectives as part of their project development. Mitigation activities reduce the vulnerability to hazards, which meets the State’s goals and objectives for hazard reduction.  
• ODOT will continue to be an important resource for future updates of the Plan. OEMA will utilize information provided to identify vulnerable infrastructure for the nine remaining hazard analysis assessments. |
| Ohio Environmental Protection Agency | • OEMA serves as a liaison between FEMA and the SHMT. Mitigation Staff will incorporate the goals and objectives of the Plan into the interaction with FEMA during project development. Projects are the primary flood reduction tool available, which helps with the achievement of their goals.  
• OEMA worked with numerous agencies to identify programs and capabilities available for the success of the Plan. OEMA, as part of the analysis of the nine remaining hazards for the updating process, will identify and incorporate programs of other State agencies into the Planning process. The programs will be added to the State Capability Section.  
• OEMA Mitigation Staff worked with Local jurisdictions to create their Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. The goals and objectives outlined in those plans was incorporated into the Local Capability Section and the State’s Strategy. As more plans are approved, the information will be updated. |
| Ohio Historical Society         | • OEPA defines regulated waste streams and outlines requirements for proper management and disposal. The regulations include flood reduction criteria, which support the goals outlined in the Plan.  
• OEPA also is part of project development by providing clearance for the projects. The projects are the Mitigation Branch’s primary method to achieve their flood reduction goals. |
| Ohio Public Works Commission    | • As part of the project application review process, OHPO, ensures the archeological integrity of lands and structures are addressed and reviewed for environmental applicability. The Plan outlines the prioritization process that the SHMT and OHPO adhere to as part of the project ranking process.  
• The OHS provided information, specific to their agency, for the State Capability Section. The Section is a resource for the State and Local governments to use as part of the planning process. |
|                                | • Provides funding to assist Ohio jurisdictions in repairing/replacing public infrastructure, including emergency |


1.3.2 FEDERAL PROGRAMS

FEMA is the lead federal agency for coordination of federal disaster relief and long-term recovery efforts, which direct federal financial/technical assistance to ensure that future losses from all hazards will be minimized. OEMA utilizes all the hazard mitigation programs provided by FEMA as a method to achieve their planning initiatives.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

The NFIP, a component of FEMA, is administered by the ODNR. The National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, created the program. The NFIP mitigates future flood damage by making insurance available to protect individuals and establish floodplain management criteria. NFIP has a two-fold purpose: to reduce flood damage impact on individuals and communities by providing flood insurance and reducing the impact on the built environment (structures and infrastructure) through enforcement of flood damage reduction standards.

The political jurisdictions in Ohio that are eligible to participate in the NFIP include cities, villages, and unincorporated areas (through the county government). There are 248 cities, 690 villages, and 88 counties in Ohio. There are 712 Ohio communities (includes cities, villages, and 86 counties) that participate in the NFIP. FEMA has identified flood hazard areas in every county in the state. As of September 2004, there are 35,080 flood insurance policies in effect for $3,767,463,400 in coverage statewide. Since 1978, the NFIP has paid 15,734 claims totaling $114,857,256.

OEMA encourages participation in the program and requests that mitigation strategies of local communities contain information about repetitively or substantially damaged structures to assist with their planning initiatives. As outlined in the Risk Assessment, flooding is Ohio’s highest-ranking hazard. The NFIP provides the State with a method to reduce their flooding vulnerability and lessen the impact, which are the main objectives of mitigation. The insurance coverage reduces loss of contents and structures, while the development standards and land use controls reduce vulnerability and control increased flood risk. Floodplain management criteria, such as zoning, building, subdivision and special purpose regulations, modify the development susceptibility to flood damage and assist with State and Local planning initiatives.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Authorized under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, the HMGP funds provided by the FEMA allocates grants to States and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures.
State of Ohio Enhanced Mitigation Plan

The purpose of HMGP is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. The HMGP requires a 75% Federal and 25% local cost-share match. The SHMO reviews all applications prior to presentation to the SHMT. The SHMT will review, select, and prioritize applications for potential projects.

Hazard mitigation planning is an important aspect of a successful mitigation program. A fundamental component of the DMA2K is the emphasis on planning. If the State has an approved Standard All Hazards Mitigation Plan, the State receives 7.5% of the overall federal disaster expenditures to complete HMGP projects. States with Enhanced Plans receive 20% of the overall federal disaster expenditures for HMGP projects. DMA2K also required local jurisdictions to have an approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan to maintain eligibility for program funds. Hazard mitigation planning is a collaborative process whereby hazards affecting the community are identified, the vulnerability to hazards are assessed, and a consensus is reached on how to minimize or eliminate the effects of these hazards.

The projects funded through HMGP help achieve the State’s hazard reduction goals outlined in the Plan. OEMA has funded a variety of projects through HMGP. OEMA worked diligently during the 1997 flood event with the State Controlling Board to secure a 100% match to the federal HMGP allocation. Since 1997, a total of $56,845,000 in Federal, State and Local funds have been allocated for HMGP projects. The State’s ability to match dollar for dollar continued through disaster declarations of March 2003. More recently, the State’s fiscal stability has prevented the State from providing a 100% match to federal funds.

**Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA)**

FMA, a pre-disaster program, was created as part of NFIRA of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 4101) with the goal of reducing or eliminating claims under the NFIP. Funding for the program is provided through the National Flood Insurance Fund. FMA, which is funded at $20 million nationally, provides funding to assist States and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the NFIP.

There are three types of grants available under FMA: Planning, Project, and Technical Assistance Grants. FMA Planning Grants are available to States and communities to prepare Flood Mitigation Plans. NFIP-participating communities with approved Flood Mitigation Plans can apply for FMA Project Grants. FMA Project Grants are available to States and NFIP participating communities to implement measures to reduce flood losses. Ten percent of the Project Grant is made available to States as a Technical Assistance Grant. These funds may be used by the State to help administer the program. Communities receiving FMA Planning and Project Grants must be participating in the NFIP. A few examples of eligible FMA projects include: the elevation, acquisition, and relocation of NFIP-insured structures.

OEMA gives FMA project grant applications that include repetitive loss properties a higher priority when ranking projects. Flood reduction projects support OEMA’s
planning initiatives. OEMA utilized FMA funds for a variety of projects. OEMA worked diligently during the 1997 flood event, with the State Controlling Board to identify a 100% match to the federal HMGP allocation. Since 1997, a total of $1,625,000 in Federal, State and Local funds has been allocated for FMA projects. The State’s ability to match dollar for dollar continued through disaster declarations of March 2003. More recently, the State’s fiscal stability has prevented the State from providing a 100% match to federal funds.

**Map Modernization (Map Mod)**

FEMA developed a plan in 1997 to modernize their flood mapping program and outlined the steps necessary to update and digitally format FEMA’s flood maps for the nation and streamline FEMA’s operations in raising public awareness of the importance of the maps. Map Mod has continually evolved as new products, processes, and technical specifications have been developed and implemented within present funding levels. The goal Map Mod is to upgrade the 100,000-panel flood map inventory by:

- Developing up-to-date flood hazard data for all floodprone areas nationwide to support sound floodplain management and prudent flood insurance decisions;
- Providing the maps and data in digital format to improve the efficiency and precision with which mapping program customers can use this information;
- Fully integrating FEMA’s community and state partners into the mapping process to build on local knowledge and efforts.

The updated maps outline flood hazard areas, which helps with the implementation of mitigation actions by easily identifying if structures are within floodplains. OEMA utilizes flood maps during eligibility determinations for acquisition, elevation, and relocation projects. Projects help the state achieve their planning initiatives by removing the hazard threat, minimizing damage and saving lives.

**Hazards United States – Multi-Hazard (HAZUS-MH)**

HAZUS – MH is a powerful risk assessment software program for analyzing potential losses from floods, hurricane winds and earthquakes. It was developed by the FEMA under contract with the National Institute of Building Sciences. The information received from HAZUS – MH is an imperative tool for any planning initiatives. The OEMA Mitigation staff encourages and facilitates local and state use of HAZUS to support mitigation planning and development of mitigation strategies for areas at risk to earthquake and flood. Estimating losses is essential to decision-making at all levels of government, providing a basis for developing mitigation plans and policies, emergency preparedness, and response and recovery planning. Current scientific and engineering knowledge is coupled with the latest GIS technology to produce estimates of hazard related damage before, or after, a disaster occurs. HAZUS – MH takes into account various impacts of a hazard event such as:
Physical damage: damage to residential and commercial buildings, schools, critical facilities, and infrastructure;

Economic loss: lost jobs, business interruptions, repair and reconstruction costs;

Social impacts: impacts to people, including requirements for shelters and medical aid.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM)

The PDM Program was authorized by §203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief Act (Stafford Act), 42 USC, as amended by §102 of the DMA2K. Funding for the program is provided through the National Pre-Disaster Mitigation Fund to assist States and local governments in implementing cost-effective hazard mitigation activities that complement a comprehensive mitigation program. All applicants must be participating in the NFIP if they have been identified as having a SFHA. In addition, the community must not be suspended or on probation from the NFIP.

44 CFR Part 201, Hazard Mitigation Planning, establishes criteria for State and local hazard mitigation planning authorized by §322 of the Stafford Act, as amended by §104 of the DMA. After November 1, 2003, local governments and Indian Tribal governments applying for PDM funds through the States need to have an approved local mitigation plan prior to the approval of local mitigation project grants. States are also required to have an approved Standard State mitigation plan in order to receive PDM funds for State or local mitigation projects after November 1, 2004. Therefore, the development of State and local multi-hazard mitigation plans is key to maintaining eligibility for future PDM funding.

Ohio utilized the PDM planning funds for the first two years, to assist local communities with their Local Hazard Mitigation Plans. Flood hazard reduction is the primary planning goal. Since 2000, a total of $5,332,000 in Federal, State and Local funds has been allocated for PDM projects.

In 2003, the State was awarded its first PDM-C grant of $2.5 million for a mitigation project in the City of Fairfield. The City will acquire 23 flood-prone structures located in the 100 year floodplain. Seventeen Structures lie within the floodway. Six of the proposed homes have documented repetitive loss claims with the NFIP in the amount of $280,000 between 1979 and 2003. The City’s main objective is the remove flood-prone structures from the floodplain. A park will be constructed on the acquired lots for the social benefit of the entire community. The grant will relieve twenty-five years of flooding problems associated with the Great Miami River, Pleasant Run Creek and the tributary of Pleasant Run.