

HOW TO SUBMIT A HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN TO MEMA

Updated February 2023

Plan Submission Process/Technical Requirements:

- Submit all Hazard Mitigation plans to the Mitigation Mailbox (mitigation@mass.gov), with a cc to Jeffrey Zukowski (jeffrey.zukowski@mass.gov)
- For direct questions please contact Jeffrey Zukowski:
Jeffrey Zukowski, Hazard Mitigation Planner
Mass Emergency Management Agency
400 Worcester Road
Framingham MA 01702
Desk: 508-820-1422
jeffrey.zukowski@mass.gov
- With all new and updated plan submissions, include:
 - A completed **Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool** Checklist (Appendix A of the FEMA *Local Mitigation Plan Policy Guide* (FP-206-21-0002) Effective April 19, 2023
 - Download a MS Word copy from the MEMA Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Page: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/local-hazard-mitigation-planning>
 - You must provide the **contact info** (mailing addresses and email) for the Chief Elected or Appointed Official (usually Board of Selectmen Chair, Mayor, City Council, etc.) as well as the points of contact (the staff who worked on the plan) who should be cc'd on any correspondence.
- For multi-jurisdictional plans, a completed Checklist (link above) must be included for all participating jurisdictions.
- Revised plans must include tracked changes and/or highlights along with a revised Checklist(s) indicating where changes have been made.
- Acceptable electronic **plan formats** are Word or PDF documents. You are not required to send a hard copy.
- If the **file size** is over 8 MB you can submit a plan via a file sharing website. There are many free sites you can use, examples are Dropbox, Google Drive, etc. MEMA does not endorse or have a preference in what file sharing website you use. Please send a separate email informing us of this to ensure we received the link to the plans.
- File Naming Convention is required to conform with the following examples:
 - **Local Plans:** Jurisdiction Name State Abbreviation (e.g. Burlington VT.docx)
 - **Multi-jurisdictional Plans:** Acronym for Planning Agency State Abbreviation; if an Annex, put jurisdiction name after State Abbreviation (e.g. OCPC MA.docx **OR** OCPC MA Bridgewater.docx)
 - **Tribal Plans:** Tribal Name (e.g. Penobscot Tribe.docx)

1st Submission for New/Updated Plans

- If a plan is found to satisfactorily meet all required elements:
 - MEMA will send on to FEMA for review.
 - If FEMA finds the plan to satisfactorily meet all required elements FEMA will issue an **Approvable Pending Adoption (APA)** notice via email to the local, state and/or tribal CEO's and POCs as listed above.



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Revisions/ Subsequent Resubmissions:

- If MEMA finds that the plan requires revisions they will send the Plan Review Tool Checklist with comments to the local POC(s).
- If the FEMA review finds required revisions they will email the State a Plan Review Tool Checklist with the required revisions.
 - After reviewing FEMA's comments, the State will email the Plan Review Tool containing FEMA's comments to the local POC(s).
- **Resubmit revised plans** to the State with **tracked changes and/or highlights** along with a revised Checklist(s) indicating where changes have been made.
- If a plan is found to satisfactorily meet all required elements:
 - MEMA will send on to FEMA for review.
- If FEMA finds the plan to satisfactorily meet all required elements FEMA will issue an APA notice via email to the local, state and/or tribal POCs
- If the FEMA review finds required revisions they will email the State a Plan Review Tool Checklist with the required revisions.
 - After reviewing FEMA's comments, the State will email the Plan Review Tool containing FEMA's comments to the local POC(s).

Final Plan & Adoption:

- **After** FEMA has issued an APA, the community must officially **adopt the plan**. Following adoption, the community is to submit a copy of the signed adoption resolution to the State.
- For specific guidance on the plan adoption, please reference Part 4.6 "Element F: Plan Adoption" in the [*Local Mitigation Plan Policy Guide \(FP-206-21-0002\)*](#) for the specific requirements for Plan Adoption.
- You must provide the contact info (mailing addresses and email) for the Chief Elected or Appointed Official (usually Board of Selectmen Chair, Mayor, City Council, etc.) as well as the points of contact (the staff who worked on the plan, i.e. EMD, Fire Chief, Town Planner, etc.) who should be cc'd on any correspondence.
- The State will submit the adoption to FEMA Region 1 for review and final approval.
- FEMA will issue a Formal Approval to the State.
- The State will forward the formal approval documents via email to the local CEO (Chief Elected Official) and to the second POC in the community. In the case of a multi-jurisdiction plan, the formal approval will be sent to the Local Planning Body submitter and the CEO & POC of each participating jurisdiction. In the case of a state or tribal plan to the designated state or tribal official(s).

