

Appendix D – Planning Process Documentation

The first meeting of the Ramsey County Hazard Mitigation Plan update process will be held Thursday, June 13 at 1 PM. The meeting will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams – the login information is below.

- * Hazard mitigation planning and why it is important
- * The hazard mitigation plan update process and schedule
- * The role of communities in hazard mitigation planning
- * Capabilities assessment
- * Reporting on 2019 hazard mitigation actions
- * Public participation

If you have any questions, please let me know at kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com <<mailto:kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com>> or 515-460-4711, or contact Brvan Meyer at brian.meyer@co.ramsev.mn.us <<mailto:brian.meyer@co.ramsev.mn.us>> or 651-266-1017.

[illegible]

Dial in by phone
+1 914-294-5479,,929315462# <tel:+19142945479,,929315462> United States, Yonkers
Find a local number <https://dialin.teams.microsoft.com/f9a8d180-71df-478e-aaf7-54711b1b13cb?id=929315462>
Phone conference ID: 929 315 462#
For organizers: Meeting options <https://teams.microsoft.com/meetingOptions/?organizerId=3f6eb921-0475-4639-8851-cc3c6bcfcf59&tenantId=f009051e-b7f6-444f-87ae-3622c748f8ed&threadId=19_meeting_Mm15MGYwNWMTnJq1Yy00YzRiLTkzMdItODc1M2EzNTVkJzYx@thread.v2&messageId=en-US> | Reset dial-in PIN <https://dialin.teams.microsoft.com/usp/pstnconferencing>



RAMSEY COUNTY, MN HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Kickoff Meeting – Thursday, June 13, 2024 – 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. CT

Last Name	First Name	Representing	Contact
Brosnahan	David	Roseville	David.Brosnahan@cityofroseville.com
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Diaz	Izzy	St. Anthony	izzy.diaz@savmn.com
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Krause	Nick	Vadnais Heights	nate.krause@cityvadnaisheights.com
Lawrence	Melissa	Gem Lake	melissa.lawrence@gemlakemn.org
Lovas	Mike	St. Paul	Mike.lovas@ci.stpaul.mn.us
Mayer	Bryan	Ramsey County	bryan.mayer@CO.RAMSEY.MN.US
Peterson	Greg	White Bear Lake	gpeter@whitebearlake.org
Richter	Mike	Vadnais Heights	mike.richter@cityvadnaisheights.com
Sather	Matt	Arden Hills, North Oaks & Shoreview	msather@ljfd.org
Schroeder	Ryan	Maplewood	ryan.schroeder@maplewoodmn.gov
Sieben	Terry	St. Paul	terry.sieben@ci.stpaul.mn.us
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Zender	Ben	Mounds View	ben.zender@moundsviewmn.org
Karsjen	Kyle	Tidal Basin	kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com
Evans	Kerry	Tidal Basin	kerry.evans@tidalbasingroup.com
Henry	Jessica	Tidal Basin	jessica.henry@tidalbasingroup.com
Scott	Kymmie	Tidal Basin	kymmie.scott@tidalbasingroup.com

Agenda / Discussion

Welcome and Introductions

- Kyle Karsjen, Tidal Basin Project Manager welcomed the group and asked attendees to sign in via Teams Chat, leaving their name, title, jurisdiction, phone, and email. He introduced himself and the team. The meeting was recorded.
- Judd Freed and Bryan Mayer from Ramsey County also welcomed the group and thanked them for their participation, noting that this is the first time the City of St. Paul was participating in the multijurisdictional plan. Judd hopes this updated plan will not be just aspirational, but truly actionable. Bryan will be the primary point of contact for the County.

Meeting Purpose: Update the Ramsy County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Kyle discussed the purpose for the plan update, explaining FEMA's requirements for Hazard Mitigation Plans and the five-year life cycle of FEMA approval. The previous plan was approved by FEMA in 2019. Kyle defined hazard mitigation and explained what a hazard mitigation plan is and does. A hazard mitigation plan:

- Helps a community assess its level of capability in a disaster.
- Helps a community conduct a data-driven review of their hazards, vulnerabilities, and risks.
- Helps a community develop a hazard mitigation strategy.
 - o What can we do? How can a community build off the capabilities in place to buy down the level of risk and vulnerability identified in the plan?
 - o A hazard mitigation strategy can include things like building a flood wall, removing brush off wooded areas to remove some of the risk of forest fire, building earthquake-resistant structures, and removing structures from the floodplain, for example.

What is Hazard Mitigation?

Kyle spoke about what is covered in a hazard mitigation program and taking sustained actions to mitigate against the hazards. Mitigation takes place at the beginning and the end of the disaster process. It breaks the cycle of damage and repair in hazardous areas.

He spoke about why hazard mitigation is important, including gaining eligibility for hazard mitigation funding sources. Kyle covered the mission areas of emergency management and where hazard mitigation fits in, at both the beginning and end of the emergency management cycle.

What is a Hazard Mitigation Plan?

Hazard Mitigation is a comprehensive process that allows the participating jurisdictions to answer:

- o Who are we?
- o What are our current community capabilities?

- What are our hazards and risks?
- What can we realistically do to mitigate those risks?
- Hazard Mitigation Plans:
 - Guide community hazard mitigation actions
 - Are created with the whole community
 - Are comprehensive and data driven.
 - Ensures eligibility for hazard mitigation funding sources.

Major Focus Areas of the Update

- Reporting on community progress
- Updating community and hazards information where needed
- Additional climate change focus
- Meaningfully include underserved communities in the planning process
- Reviewing and tightening the hazard mitigation strategy

Planning Process Overview

- **Phase 1 – Kickoff and Community Reporting**
 - Kyle outlined the participating jurisdictions, the community benefits from participation, and the requirements for participation, listed below:
 - Attend planning meetings and participate in the process.
 - This meeting serves as the first of 3 planning meetings.
 - Identify/update status of community capabilities.
 - Update status of any previous hazard mitigation actions.
 - Share public survey and public review drafts.
 - Develop at least one new or continuing hazard mitigation action.
 - Review and provide input on the plan and plan elements.
 - Adopt the plan once approved by FEMA.
 - Public Outreach
 - Public Survey
 - Traditionally Underrepresented Populations Engagement
 - Public Review Draft

- **Phase 2 – Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment**

Tidal Basin will conduct an analysis on the following hazards:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| • Animal Infectious Disease | • Dam/levee failure |
| • CBRNE/Terrorism | • Earthquake |
| • Cyber Attack | • Extreme temperatures |
| • Civil Unrest | • Flooding |

- Hazardous Materials
- Human Infectious Diseases
- Invasive Species
- Slope Failure
- Summer Storm Events
- Supply Chain Disruption
- Tornado and High Wind Events
- Utility Failure
- Wildland Fire
- Winter Storm Events

Each hazard listed will have a hazard analysis and a risk assessment and will be ranked in order of threat, vulnerability and impact.

- **Phase 3 – Develop a Mitigation Strategy**
 - Following the identification of capabilities and the analysis of hazards, the planning team and participating jurisdictions will work to identify mitigation actions that will buy down identified levels of risk. Each participating jurisdiction will be required to have at least one hazard mitigation action that they support.
- **Phase 4 – Plan Review and Approval**
 - Kyle went over the review processes with the planning committee, public review, state review, and finally FEMA review.

Immediate Next Steps

- **Community Reporting**
 - Kyle discussed initial community reporting that each jurisdiction must submit. Jurisdictions will be asked to review and update their community capabilities assessment, as well as provide information on the status of projects identified in the 2019 hazard mitigation strategy. Tidal Basin will follow up with a separate email sent to each of the jurisdictional representatives identified in a community's Letter of Intent to Participate. **Forms will be sent no later than end of day, Monday, June 17, and reporting will be due June 28, 2024**
- **Public Engagement**
 - The survey will be open to all members of the public. The response period for this will be **June 24 through July 12.**
 - Once the first draft of the plan update is completed, Tidal Basin will work with jurisdictions to post a public review draft in multiple public places, complying with jurisdictional rules on notifying the public and gaining their input.

Future Steps

- Planning Meeting #2 – NLT July 31
- HIRA Update – NLT August 30
- Planning Meeting #3 – August/September
- Draft Mitigation Strategy – NLT September 30
- Plan Finalization and Review – NLT November 30
- Plan Approval and Adoption – NLT December 31

From: [Kyle Karsjen](#)
To: [Kymmie Scott](#); [Kerry Evans](#); [Jessica Henry](#); [Artig-Swomley, Gretchen - External Contact](#); [ben.zender](#); [Brosnahan, David](#); [Christopherson, Pat - External Contact](#); [Diaz, Izzy](#); [Hamdorf, Trevor](#); [Hearden, Chris](#); [Butkowski, Heather - External Contact](#); [Jason Mallinger](#); [Linehan, Jack - External Contact](#); [Mondor, Michael](#); [msather](#); [Peterson, Greg](#); [Judd.Freed@co.ramsey.mn.us](#); [Sieben, Terry - External Contact](#); [Don Smiley](#); [Mayer, Bryan L](#); [melissa.lawrence@gemlakemn.org](#); [Ryan Schroeder](#); [Jim Bownik](#); [Mike Lovas](#)
Cc: [Jennifer Minwegen](#); [Paul Peltier](#)
Subject: Ramsey County Hazard Mitigation Plan - Meeting #2
Start: Tuesday, July 30, 2024 9:00:00 AM
End: Tuesday, July 30, 2024 11:00:00 AM
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

The second meeting of the Ramsey County Hazard Mitigation Plan update process is scheduled for July 30, 2024 at 10 AM CT over Microsoft Teams. During this meeting, we will review Tidal Basin's initial findings for the updated risk assessment and discuss feedback and insights that the planning team can provide to ensure that the risk assessment provides a robust and accurate understanding of risk over the entire planning area. We will also discuss plan goals and begin the formulation of the updated hazard mitigation strategy.

Community participation is vitally important to the hazard mitigation planning process. Please plan to attend this meeting, or if you cannot attend, please identify an alternate representative to attend in your place to ensure that your community remains an active part of the process.

If you have any questions, please let me (kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com <<mailto:kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com>>) or Bryan Mayer (bryan.mayer@co.ramsey.mn.us <<mailto:bryan.mayer@co.ramsey.mn.us>>) know.

Thank you, and I look forward to talking hazards and risks with everyone on 7/30.

Kyle

Kyle Karsjen
Senior Preparedness Specialist
Policy, Mitigation and Resilience

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RAMSEY COUNTY, MN HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Planning Meeting #2 – Tuesday, July 30, 2024 – 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. CT

Last Name	First Name	Representing	Contact
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Zender	Ben	Mounds View	ben.zender@moundsviewmn.org
Karsjen	Kyle	Tidal Basin	kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com
Evans	Kerry	Tidal Basin	kerry.evans@tidalbasingroup.com

Agenda / Discussion

Welcome and Project Review

- Kyle Karsjen, Tidal Basin Project Manager welcomed the group and asked attendees to sign in via Teams Chat, leaving their name, title, jurisdiction, phone, and email. He introduced himself and the team, and the attendees introduced themselves. The meeting was recorded.
- Kyle reviewed the purpose for the plan update, explaining the importance of mitigation. He then provided the plan update status; Task 1 – Project Initiation has been completed. The team is in the process of Task 2 – Capabilities and Hazard Identification which will be the focus of this meeting (Planning Meeting #2). The next meeting (Planning Meeting #3) will focus on mitigation strategies. Once the plan is drafted, it will be provided to the state and then FEMA for review and approval.
- After reviewing the participant requirements, Kyle reminded the attendees that each jurisdiction will need to return their capability assessment and mitigation action status worksheets, if they have not already done so.

Hazard Review

Kyle walked the group through a discussion about each of the identified hazards listed below, including the understanding of the hazard, any updates to the hazard history since 2019, and any local context to provide in the final plan. The HMP will include both a hazard analysis and vulnerability assessment for each hazard.

Dam/Levee Failure

There are 5 identified dams in the county.

- Classification: 1 High Hazard, 1, Significant Hazard, and 4 Low Hazard.
- History: There is no history of dam failures/issues.
- Impacts: St. Anthony Falls and Coon Dam could have some impact to the county water flow if they fail.
- Ongoing Strategies: Battle Creek and Ford dams are required to and have EAPs. St. Paul has been involved in some planning efforts, but do not believe Battle Creek has ever conducted an exercise. This dam is the responsibility of the watershed.

Drought

- History: There is some history of drought in the region. Previous droughts have caused stoppage of passenger vessels and impacts to the port.
- Impacts: In addition, White Bear Lake's levels can impact recreational and residential used of the lake. There is an ongoing lawsuit regarding White Bear Lake.
- Ongoing Strategies: Many, if not most, jurisdictions have instituted an even/odd watering schedule for residential use. Only the Governor can completely restrict water usage.

Flood

- History: MN has received 30 federal disaster declarations due to flooding since 1957. Recent major Ramsey flood occurred in June 2014, July 2011, March 2010, and Sept 2007.
- Impact: Ramsey is likely to be impacted by riverine and urban flooding. Heavy rains in conjunction with freezing temperatures and snowfall have caused impacts to urban areas. Areas of St. Paul (Water St. area) has low-lying roads, with both a number of local businesses and the Metro Water Treatment Plant have repetitive issues due to flooding and could be good to have a better flood water system considered for this area.
- Ongoing strategies: There has been planning and additional mitigation strategies conducted for flooding in the county. This has helped mitigate past issues around the airport, Fort Snelling, and other park areas.

Geological Hazards (Landslide, Slope Failure, Karst Soils)

- History: There is a history of small landslides in the county, including in St. Paul and Gem Lake in the past few years. The landslide in St. Paul killed 2 children, and injured 2 more in 2013, when a bluff gave way. The landslide in Gem Lake caused a disruption to the railroad tracks.
- Impact: Even with some sealing, there are still caves within the rock walls of the bluff which cause confined space issues. Additionally there are a number of old landfill sites which cause issues for development.
- Ongoing strategies: Standard building permits do require soil analysis in most, if not all, jurisdictions. St. Paul has conducted some mitigation strategies including building a wall to protect from falling rocks.

Hazardous Materials (Spills, Pipeline, Trucking, Rail)

- History: There have been a few major events reported in recent history, in addition many smaller events have occurred which typically have a smaller footprint and don't require widespread evacuation.
- Impact: Gem Lake, and other jurisdictions, do not have city water, but utilize private wells. Chemical spills can impact ground water. There are a number of transportation routes (both rail and road) that traverse the county, carrying hazardous materials. Roseville has several fuel tank facilities, with approximately 370 semi trucks coming in and out on a daily basis.
- Ongoing strategies: There were none identified during this meeting.

Summer Weather Hazards (Heat, Hail, Lightning)

- History: Ramsey County has reported at least \$7M in damages due to summer weather events, primarily hail. Hail damage is covered by insurance and is typically underreported publicly.
- Impact: Due to ongoing climate change, summers are expected to be higher temperatures with increased precipitation. Heat is a growing and significant concern. The population is changing, and recent immigrants are not used to the weather and tend to live with many people in homes without AC. Providing educational information about the impacts is also a challenge due to the number of languages spoken in the county. The unhoused population number is also growing.

- Ongoing Strategies: The Twin Cities metro area is starting an experimental program to analyze wet blub impacts. Traditional cooling centers have not been utilized. Public is instructed to use public facilities. The county is starting to look at resilience hubs as a potential mitigation strategy.

Tornado and Windstorm

- History: The largest recorded tornado in the county was in 1965, but given its geography, the county typically experiences straight line winds annually.
- Impact: Typically there are not long lasting effects from these types of events, but property damage and power outages are always a concern.
- Ongoing Strategies: 98% of the county is covered by outdoor warning sirens, but the technology is aging. Utility companies tend to maintain trees along major power lines. Small shelters, typically brick restrooms, are available in many public parks.

Winter Weather Hazards (Cold, Blizzard, Ice Storm)

- History: Since 1950, Ramsey County has reported 109 significant weather events.
- Impact: There is an almost 100% probability of a severe winter storm in a given year, and climate change is expected to result in heavier snowfall and more extreme events, including warmer temperatures. Ongoing concern is not from snowfall, but an ice storm that causes significant and long duration power outages.
- Ongoing Strategies: Ramsey typically uses a shelter in place strategy during a major winter event, with some facilities open on highways for trucks and passenger vehicles.

Infrastructure Failure (Transportation, Electricity and Fuel, Supply Chain Disruption, Water Systems)

- History: There have been some notable failures in recent history, such as the I-35 bridge collapse in 2007, water contamination in St. Paul in 2017, nationwide supply chain shortages during COVID, and electrical/fuel shortages due to annual winter storms.
- Impact: Major concerns include aging infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, water infrastructure, and human caused impacts to communications systems and power grids.
- Ongoing Strategies: These are not traditionally included in hazard mitigation plans as they are more random, without clearly defined areas, and are hard to build resiliency against, unlike most natural hazards.

Human Caused Hazards (Terrorism, Active Shooter/Hostile Incidents, Civil Disturbance, Cyber Attack)

- History: In addition to the incidents presented (cyber-attack in 2020, civil unrest in response to George Floyd killing in 2020, and protests and civil unrest surrounding the 2008 RNC), there have been at least 3-4 major incidents, including officer involved shootings, and the aftermath of presidential election results that need to be included. The county was also recently impacted by a major cyber outage, CrowdStrike.

- Impact: Hazards such as cyber attack can impact the county even if they are not located within the county as the city relies on outside services. Civil disturbances have caused damage to property and blocked roads and highways.
- Ongoing Strategies: These are not traditionally included in hazard mitigation plans as they are more random, without clearly defined areas, and are hard to build resiliency against, unlike most natural hazards.

Mitigation Strategy

The focus of the next meeting, Kyle started the discussion around mitigation strategies including goals which describe the overall direction of the plan and actions which describe specific activities of projects designed to achieve the goals.

Goals

Common categories of Mitigation Goals are: public education, policies/planning/training/communication, reduce risk to life and property, and the protection of critical/essential facilities. It was decided to make the 2025 HMP goals more specific than were outlined in the 2019 plan. This will be a discussion item at Meeting #3.

Actions

These will be partly based on the information provided by each jurisdictions' Mitigation Action Worksheet for reporting status updates of remaining 2019 actions and the development of any additional mitigation actions. It was noted that each participating jurisdiction must have at least one mitigation action in the plan, and that all jurisdictions that participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) must have an additional action that relates to the continued compliance in the program. Ahead of the next meeting, jurisdictions are encouraged to discuss potential mitigation actions with other representatives in their jurisdiction.

Planning Meeting #3

The next planning meeting is set for Tuesday, August 27 at 1pm CT. This will be a virtual meeting focused on mitigation actions, including what actions should be included in the plan update.

Next Steps

Future Steps

- Collect outstanding Capability Assessments and Mitigation Action Status spreadsheets - ASAP
- HIRA Update – NLT August 30
- Planning Meeting #3 – August 27 at 1PM CT
- Draft Mitigation Strategy – NLT September 30
- Plan Finalization and Review – NLT November 30

- Plan Approval and Adoption – NLT December 31

From: [Kyle Karsjen](#)
To: [Mayer, Bryan L](#); [Jessica Henry](#); [Kerry Evans](#); [Kymmie Scott](#); [Artig-Swomley, Gretchen - External Contact](#); [ben.zender](#); [Brosnahan, David](#); [Christopherson, Pat - External Contact](#); [Diaz, Izzy](#); [Hamdorf, Trevor](#); [Hearden, Chris](#); [Butkowski, Heather - External Contact](#); [Jason Mallinger](#); [Linehan, Jack - External Contact](#); [Mondor, Michael](#); [msather](#); [Peterson, Greg](#); [Judd.Freed@co.ramsey.mn.us](#); [Sieben, Terry - External Contact](#); [Don Smiley](#); [melissa.lawrence@gemlakemn.org](#); [Ryan Schroeder](#); [Jim Bownik](#); [Mike Lovas](#)
Cc: [Christopher Hearden](#); [Jim Lindner](#)
Subject: Ramsey County Hazard Mitigation Plan - Meeting #3
Start: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 12:00:00 PM
End: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 2:00:00 PM
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

The third and final planning meeting for the Ramsey County Hazard Mitigation Plan update will be held Tuesday, August 27th from 1-3 PM via Microsoft Teams. This meeting will focus on mitigation action planning – we've identified community capabilities and identified community risks. What actions can each community identify to buy down those levels of risk?

We will also use the meeting to button up some final elements of the plan. Please plan to attend this meeting; if you cannot attend, please identify an alternate representative to attend in your place to ensure your community remains up to speed on the planning process.

If you have any questions, please contact me at kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com <<mailto:kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com>> or Bryan Mayer at bryan.mayer@co.ramsey.mn.us <<mailto:bryan.mayer@co.ramsey.mn.us>> .

Thank you,

Kyle

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Meeting ID: 233 606 703 437

Passcode: jpZuYv

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For organizers: Meeting options <https://teams.microsoft.com/meetingOptions/?organizerId=3f6eb921-0475-4639-8851-cc3c6cbcf59&tenantId=f009051e-b7f6-444f-87ae-3622c748f8ed&threadId=19_meeting_NzExN2Q5MTgtMmM2ZS00NGY3LTNmOTgtYWZkZWZhNjE4ODk5@thread.v2&messageId=0&language=en-US> | Reset dial-in PIN <<https://dialin.teams.microsoft.com/usp/pstnconferencing>>



RAMSEY COUNTY, MN HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Planning Meeting #3 – Tuesday, August 27, 2024 – 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. CT

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Lovas	Mike	St. Paul	Mike.lovas@ci.stpaul.mn.us
Mayer	Bryan	Ramsey County	bryan.mayer@CO.RAMSEY.MN.US
Mallinger	Jason	North St. Paul	Jason.mallinger@northstpaul.org
Montain	Matt	Mounds View	mmontain@sbmfire.org
Peterson	Greg	White Bear Lake	gpetereson@whitebearlake.org
Sather	Matt	Arden Hills, North Oaks & Shoreview	msather@ljfd.org
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Smiley	Don		
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Scott	Kymmie	Tidal Basin	Kymmie.scott@tidalbasingroup.com

Agenda / Discussion

Welcome and Project Review

- Kyle gave a reminder on what hazard mitigation means, and how it relates to the other

phases of emergency management (preparedness, response and recovery). According to FEMA, hazard mitigation is “any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from hazard events.” Hazard mitigation can also be defined as “any action that breaks the cycle of damage and repair in hazardous areas.” Kyle encouraged communities to keep these definitions in mind as they began updating their hazard mitigation strategies.

- Hazard Mitigation is important for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is that it ensures eligibility for hazard mitigation funding sources.

Risk Assessment Review

- Planning Meeting #2 focused on Ramsey County’s vulnerability to each of the listed failures. As a reminder, for a more well-rounded view of hazards, the County has included human-caused and infrastructure failures.
- Kyle reviewed information on the risk assessment, including hazards assessed and the risk assessment components (threat, vulnerability, and consequence)
- The risk assessment will be provided via email following this meeting for review and comment through Friday, September 13. Kyle encouraged the group to review and provide feedback, noting that communities know and understand their hazards and risks better than anyone, and we want to make sure that the information is included in the updated assessment.

Mitigation Strategy Overview

- Kyle reviewed the next step in the process – developing a hazard mitigation strategy with mitigation actions from each participating jurisdiction. Based on the risk assessment and available capabilities, the 2025 updated mitigation strategy will align with the County’s mitigation goals and objectives.
- This strategy will guide a community’s approach for implementing mitigation activities that are cost effective, technically feasible, and environmentally sound as well as allowing strategic investment of limited resources.
- Kyle reminded each jurisdiction that they have a baseline mitigation strategy to work from – the actions each community identified on the mitigation strategy worksheets, during the reporting process in the early summer as continuing in the new plan.
- Kyle reviewed the goals for the 2025 hazard mitigation plan update. The goals are:

Goal 1: Mitigate impacts to life, property, the economy, and the environment from natural, technological, and human-caused hazards.

Goal 2: Build and support local capacity to create resiliency from natural, technological, and human-caused hazards.

Goal 3: Build resilience for critical infrastructure and systems against the impacts of natural, technological, and human-caused hazards.

Goal 4: Increase outreach and awareness to the whole community to build resilience.

- Communities were encouraged to focus on hazard mitigation actions when developing and updating their mitigation strategies.
- Kyle reviewed the information needed for each carryover and new mitigation action. He also reviewed some helpful hints on what counts as mitigation and what doesn't. Each action will include the following information to inform development and prioritization:
 - Problem statement/background
 - Method of implementation
 - Hazard(s) to be mitigated
 - Responsible party/parties
 - Estimated costs and benefits
 - Budget range
 - Potential funding sources
- Each mitigation action will be scored and ranked in the final plan, based on potential lives saved, potential for reduced property damages, potential for reduced response actions, benefits exceeding costs, and community priority.
- Each community has two options when it comes to mitigation planning:
 - Option 1: If a community would like some additional support, Tidal Basin invites you to set up a virtual meeting to further discuss your specific mitigation strategy and potential ideas for additional actions.
 - Option 2: If a community doesn't need additional support, Tidal Basin will share materials and instructions to submit new mitigation actions.
- All updated mitigation strategies and information are due no later than Friday, September 13.

Next Steps

Tidal Basin

- Each community will receive a follow up email NLT end of week regarding information from this meeting.
- Email will include current hazard mitigation strategy, instructions on setting up community meetings, instructions to submit new mitigation actions.

Communities

- Decide whether you want a community meeting. Let us know sooner rather than later.
- Review and provide feedback on Draft #1 of Hazard Analysis and Risk Assessment.
- Update carryover mitigation actions and submit any new mitigation actions **NLT Friday, September 13**

Timeline for Future Activities

- Draft plan compiled – Early October
- Draft plan sent to communities for review – Early October
- Public review draft – Mid October
- State review – Early November
- FEMA review – Mid November
- FEMA approval – December
- Plan adoption – December/January

Action Items

Task	Responsibility	Date
Provide first draft of hazard analysis and risk assessment	Tidal Basin	August 30, 2024
Distribute meeting materials and materials for updating community mitigation strategies	Tidal Basin	August 30, 2024
Complete community meetings	Tidal Basin	September 11, 2024
Review and provide comment on first draft of hazard analysis and risk assessment	Participating jurisdictions	September 13, 2024
Provide new mitigation actions and updated mitigation strategies for each community	Participating jurisdictions	September 13, 2024

RAMSEY COUNTY, MN HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

2025 Plan Update Goals

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Goal 1 | Mitigate impacts to life, property, the economy and the environment from natural, technological, and human-caused hazards. |
| Goal 2 | Build and support local capacity to create resiliency from natural, technological and human-caused hazards. |
| Goal 3 | Build resilience for critical infrastructure and systems against the impacts of natural, technological and human-caused hazards. |
| Goal 4 | Increase outreach and awareness to the whole community to build resiliency. |

Ramsey County, MN Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Mitigation Action Planning

What does my community need to complete by Friday, September 13? Communities are asked to utilize the excel spreadsheet attached to this document to refine the actions already included, and to add new any mitigation actions as appropriate. Answer the questions at the top of each column for each action added or refined. Please answer every question. Some questions include a drop-down menu where respondents can select from a pre-identified list of answers. Answers do not have to be perfect but should give an idea of the parameters of the mitigation actions. The excel spreadsheet is currently populated with all mitigation actions contained in the 2019 hazard mitigation plan, along with some Tidal Basin recommendations.

Why Is mitigation action planning important? Throughout the mitigation planning process, each community has already provided multiple inputs into the process – you’ve reported on the status of your 2019 hazard mitigation actions, you’ve provided an update on community capabilities, and you’ve reviewed and provided comment on the hazard analysis and risk assessment. The next step is mitigation action planning – now that we have a new and better understanding of our risk, what should we do to mitigate the impacts of the hazards to which we are vulnerable? When implemented, a good hazard mitigation strategy effectively buys down risk and is “where the rubber meets the road” in the hazard mitigation plan update.

What tools are available to help my community refine mitigation actions and add additional actions to our mitigation strategy? There are a few resources communities should utilize when refining and adding new mitigation actions to their mitigation strategy.

- Plan Goals – the goals were updated from the 2019 plan update. These goals can be used to generate mitigation actions. A list of the goals can be found [here](#).
- We also discussed some helpful hints for mitigation action development during our third planning meeting Tuesday, August 27. I encourage you to review that recording if you weren’t able to attend (found [here](#)).

What do I do if my community is totally lost and needs some additional help? If your community could use some extra help, Tidal Basin is offering to hold 30 – 60 minute virtual meetings to help walk you through the process and provide some additional insights. Virtual meetings can be set up by email Kymmie Scott at kymmie.scott@tidalbasingroup.com.

My community provided updates to the projects listed in our strategy from the 2019 plan – why do I have to do anything else? The actions identified by each community in the 2019 plan serve as a baseline for the 2025 update, but communities are asked to review the list again, refine their existing migration actions, and add new ones based on updated hazard and risk information found in the updated plan.

From: [Kyle Karsjen](#)
To: [Artig-Swomley, Gretchen - External Contact](#); [ben.zender](#); [Brosnahan, David](#); [Christopherson, Pat - External Contact](#); [Diaz, Izzy](#); [Hamdorf, Trevor](#); [Hearden, Chris](#); [Butkowski, Heather - External Contact](#); [Jason Mallinger](#); [Linehan, Jack - External Contact](#); [Mondor, Michael](#); [msather](#); [Peterson, Greg](#); [Judd.Freed@co.ramsey.mn.us](#); [Sieben, Terry - External Contact](#); [Don Smiley](#); [Mayer, Bryan L](#); [melissa.lawrence@gemlakemn.org](#); [Ryan Schroeder](#); [Jim Bownik](#); [Mike Lovas](#)
Cc: [Kymmie Scott](#); [Kerry Evans](#); [Jessica Henry](#)
Subject: Ramsey County Hazard Mitigation Survey - please share far and wide
Date: Monday, June 24, 2024 1:15:00 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[Ramsey County HMP Survey Flyer.jpg](#)
[Ramsey County HMP Survey Flyer.pdf](#)
[image001.jpg](#)

Good afternoon,

As discussed during our hazard mitigation plan kickoff earlier this month, we are pleased to announce that the public survey intended to gather information from respondents on their experiences, knowledge, and concerns about local hazards as a component of the *Ramsey County Hazard Mitigation Plan* is live and will remain open through **Friday, July 12th**. We are asking each community to share the survey far and wide, using whatever methods you would traditionally use to share information with your residents. This can include posting the information on public websites, sharing it through a community's social media such as Facebook, or utilizing messaging systems to invite the public to complete the survey. Please share the survey **no later than Wednesday, June 26th**. When you share it, **please send screenshots of what you've shared to kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com** so that we can include those records as part of the plan.

Please let me know if your community has any questions on the resources below or need any additional information. The survey can be found at <https://forms.office.com/r/tk5ySqn1Ha>. I've also attached a flyer in both jpeg and adobe pdf you can use as you see fit to share. See below for some sample text that you can use to share the survey:

Use or adapt the following when posting or communicating the availability of this survey to the public:

Ramsey County has begun the process of updating the 2019 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) so all municipalities in Ramsey County remain eligible to receive certain types of federal mitigation funding to reduce hazard risk. The HMP focuses on understanding the natural risks and hazards that threaten the county, identifying community capabilities that can be used to mitigate risks, and laying out a comprehensive hazard mitigation strategy to buy down risks from those hazards.

Public participation and feedback is an important part of the hazard mitigation planning process. Ramsey County Emergency Management and Homeland Security has developed a brief survey to assist in providing the public with an opportunity to contribute to the plan update. The survey focuses on the public's experiences with hazards, including recommendations for hazard reduction. The input provided is vital to completing the plan update.

All information collected from this survey will be anonymous. Please complete the survey by

Friday, July 12th at: <https://forms.office.com/r/tk5ySqn1Ha>.

Kyle Karsjen

Senior Preparedness Specialist

Policy, Mitigation and Resilience

M: 515.460.4711 kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com
tidalbasingroup.com



WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

RAMSEY COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Ramsey County and participating municipalities are preparing an update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The goal of this plan is to identify ways that Ramsey County communities can reduce damages from future hazards.

As part of the planning process, we seek your input on which hazards impact you most and in what ways.

Ramsey County resident, or work in the county?

Take our survey!

<https://forms.office.com/r/tk5ySqn1Ha>

Or Scan:



From: [Kyle Karsjen](#)
Bcc: mmountain@sbfire.org; [Mayer, Bryan L](#); [Jessica Henry](#); [Kerry Evans](#); [Kymmie Scott](#); [Artig-Swomley, Gretchen - External Contact](#); [ben.zender](#); [Brosnahan, David](#); [Christopherson, Pat - External Contact](#); [Diaz, Izzy](#); [Hamdorf, Trevor](#); [Hearden, Chris](#); [Butkowski, Heather - External Contact](#); [Jason Mallinger](#); [Linehan, Jack - External Contact](#); [Mondor, Michael](#); [msather](#); [Peterson, Greg](#); Judd.Freed@co.ramsey.mn.us; [Sieben, Terry - External Contact](#); [Don Smiley](#); melissa.lawrence@gemlakemn.org; [Ryan Schroeder](#); [Jim Bownik](#); [Mike Lovas](#)
Subject: Ramsey County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment - Review Draft
Date: Friday, August 30, 2024 2:26:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)

Good afternoon, and happy long weekend!

The first draft of the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) for Ramsey County's Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) update is ready for review and comment. This draft represents our first stab at reviewing Ramsey County's hazards and their potential impacts on the community. The draft also includes an initial hazard prioritization based on three factors – threat, vulnerability and consequence.

Please note that **you** have direct control over everything in the HIRA – please provide me any feedback on where we may have gotten something wrong on hazards, or other edits we can make. As you read through the document, I would also be appreciative if you share any additional anecdotal experience you may have with these hazards so that we can add some of that color to the document.

- The draft HIRA can be found [here](#).
- Please provide any comments on the document using the comment collection tool, which can be found [here](#).
- Please input all comments into this form **no later than Friday, September 13**.

If you have any questions or have any issues accessing the document, please let me know.

Also as a reminder, the Tidal Basin planners assigned to your communities should have sent the worksheet out to each community this week to develop each community's mitigation strategy. This information is also due **no later than Friday, September 13**. Please let us know if we can provide any assistance as you develop your updated mitigation strategy.

I hope everyone has a great holiday weekend.

Thank you,

Kyle

Kyle Karsjen
Senior Preparedness Specialist
Resilience, Mitigation and Policy



M: 515.460.4711

kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com
tidalbasingroup.com



From: [Kyle Karsjen](#)
Bcc: mmountain@sbfmfire.org; [Mayer, Bryan L](#); [Jessica Henry](#); [Kerry Evans](#); [Kymmie Scott](#); [Artig-Swomley, Gretchen - External Contact](#); [ben.zender](#); [Brosnahan, David](#); [Christopherson, Pat - External Contact](#); [Diaz, Izzy](#); [Hamdorf, Trevor](#); [Hearden, Chris](#); [Butkowski, Heather - External Contact](#); [Jason Mallinger](#); [Linehan, Jack - External Contact](#); [Mondor, Michael](#); [msather](#); [Peterson, Greg](#); Judd.Freed@co.ramsey.mn.us; [Sieben, Terry - External Contact](#); [Don Smiley](#); melissa.lawrence@gemlakemn.org; [Ryan Schroeder](#); [Jim Bownik](#); [Mike Lovas](#)
Subject: RE: Ramsey County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment - Review Draft
Date: Friday, September 6, 2024 11:39:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image005.jpg](#)

Good afternoon, and happy Friday! This email serves as a reminder of some deadlines coming up next **Friday, September 13th**:

- The first draft of the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) is available for review and comment. Please scroll down to see the links and information for the HIRA, or reference the original email sent Friday, August 30.
- Updated community hazard mitigation strategy information is also due next Friday. Each community received a specific email tailored to their community, sent Wednesday, August 28. As a reminder, Tidal Basin staff are available to provide support to each community in developing mitigation strategies if needed.

Thank you and have a great weekend.

Kyle

Kyle Karsjen

Senior Preparedness Specialist

Resilience, Mitigation and Policy

M: 515.460.4711 kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com
tidalbasingroup.com



From: Kyle Karsjen

Sent: Friday, August 30, 2024 2:27 PM

Subject: Ramsey County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment - Review Draft

Good afternoon, and happy long weekend!

The first draft of the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) for Ramsey County's Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) update is ready for review and comment. This draft represents our first stab at reviewing Ramsey County's hazards and their potential impacts on the community. The draft also includes an initial hazard prioritization based on three factors – threat, vulnerability and consequence.

Please note that **you** have direct control over everything in the HIRA – please provide me any feedback on where we may have gotten something wrong on hazards, or other edits we can make. As you read through the document, I would also be appreciative if you share any additional anecdotal experience you may have with these hazards so that we can add some of that color to the document.

- The draft HIRA can be found [here](#).
- Please provide any comments on the document using the comment collection tool, which can be found [here](#).
- Please input all comments into this form **no later than Friday, September 13**.

If you have any questions or have any issues accessing the document, please let me know.

Also as a reminder, the Tidal Basin planners assigned to your communities should have sent the worksheet out to each community this week to develop each community's mitigation strategy. This information is also due **no later than Friday, September 13**. Please let us know if we can provide any assistance as you develop your updated mitigation strategy.

I hope everyone has a great holiday weekend.

Thank you,

Kyle

Kyle Karsjen

Senior Preparedness Specialist

Resilience, Mitigation and Policy

M: 515.460.4711

kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com
tidalbasingroup.com



From: [Kyle Karsjen](#)
Bcc: mmountain@sbfire.org; [Mayer, Bryan L](#); [Jessica Henry](#); [Kerry Evans](#); [Kymmie Scott](#); [Artig-Swomley, Gretchen - External Contact](#); [ben.zender](#); [Brosnahan, David](#); [Christopherson, Pat - External Contact](#); [Diaz, Izzy](#); [Hamdorf, Trevor](#); [Hearden, Chris](#); [Butkowski, Heather - External Contact](#); [Jason Mallinger](#); [Linehan, Jack - External Contact](#); [Mondor, Michael](#); [msather](#); [Peterson, Greg](#); Judd.Freed@co.ramsey.mn.us; [Sieben, Terry - External Contact](#); [Don Smiley](#); melissa.lawrence@gemlakemn.org; [Ryan Schroeder](#); [Jim Bownik](#); [Mike Lovas](#)
Subject: RE: Ramsey County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment - Review Draft
Date: Thursday, September 12, 2024 8:47:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Good morning! Thank you to those communities who have already sent in their updated strategies, and those communities who have met with us this week to further discuss mitigation action planning. This email serves as a final reminder of some deadlines coming up **tomorrow, September 13th**:

- The first draft of the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) is available for review and comment. Please scroll down to see the links and information for the HIRA, or reference the original email sent Friday, August 30.
- Updated community hazard mitigation strategy information is also due next Friday. Each community received a specific email tailored to their community, sent Wednesday, August 28. As a reminder, Tidal Basin staff are available to provide support to each community in developing mitigation strategies if needed.

Thank you!

Kyle

Kyle Karsjen
Senior Preparedness Specialist
Resilience, Mitigation and Policy



M: 515.460.4711 kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com
tidalbasingroup.com



From: Kyle Karsjen
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2024 2:27 PM
Subject: Ramsey County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment - Review Draft

Good afternoon, and happy long weekend!

The first draft of the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) for Ramsey County's Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) update is ready for review and comment. This draft represents our first stab at reviewing Ramsey County's hazards and their potential impacts on the community. The draft also includes an initial hazard prioritization based on three factors – threat, vulnerability and consequence.

Please note that **you** have direct control over everything in the HIRA – please provide me any feedback on where we may have gotten something wrong on hazards, or other edits we can make. As you read through the document, I would also be appreciative if you share any additional anecdotal experience you may have with these hazards so that we can add some of that color to the document.

- The draft HIRA can be found [here](#).
- Please provide any comments on the document using the comment collection tool, which can be found [here](#).
- Please input all comments into this form **no later than Friday, September 13**.

If you have any questions or have any issues accessing the document, please let me know.

Also as a reminder, the Tidal Basin planners assigned to your communities should have sent the worksheet out to each community this week to develop each community's mitigation strategy. This information is also due **no later than Friday, September 13**. Please let us know if we can provide any assistance as you develop your updated mitigation strategy.

I hope everyone has a great holiday weekend.

Thank you,

Kyle

Kyle Karsjen

Senior Preparedness Specialist

Resilience, Mitigation and Policy

M: 515.460.4711

kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com
tidalbasingroup.com



From: [Kyle Karsjen](#)
Bcc: [Mayer, Bryan L](#); [Jessica Henry](#); [Kerry Evans](#); [Kymmie Scott](#); [Artig-Swomley, Gretchen - External Contact](#); [ben.zender](#); [Brosnahan, David](#); [Christopherson, Pat - External Contact](#); [Diaz, Izzy](#); [Hamdorf, Trevor](#); [Hearden, Chris](#); [Butkowski, Heather - External Contact](#); [Jason Mallinger](#); [Linehan, Jack - External Contact](#); [Mondor, Michael](#); [msather](#); [Peterson, Greg](#); [Judd.Freed@co.ramsey.mn.us](#); [Sieben, Terry - External Contact](#); [Don Smiley](#); [melissa.lawrence@gemlakemn.org](#); [Ryan Schroeder](#); [Jim Bownik](#); [Mike Lovas](#); [Christopher Hearden](#); [Jim Lindner](#)
Subject: Ramsey County DRAFT Hazard Mitigation Plan for Review - Due Wednesday, October 30
Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 12:13:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)

Good morning!

As you know, Ramsey County and its communities have been participating in an update of the county's hazard mitigation plan. Thank you to everyone who has participated – attending meetings, providing information, updating your hazard mitigation strategies and other actions that have contributed to plan development. We are pleased to share the first full draft of the updated hazard mitigation plan with the Local Planning Team (LPT) and provide a final opportunity for community review and comment. **Please read this whole email, as it is each community's last opportunity to provide review and input on the draft plan before finalization.**

We ask that communities review two separate documents:

- Base Plan
- Hazard mitigation strategy (you only need to review for your community)

The deadline for these reviews is **no later than 4 PM CT, Wednesday October 30.**

Base Plan

The Base Plan document encompasses the main portions of the plan. It can be viewed [here](#). The base plan includes:

- Section 1 Introduction and Planning Process
- Section 2 Community Profile and Capabilities
- Section 3 Risk Assessment
- Section 4 Hazard Mitigation Strategy
- Section 5 Plan Implementation and Maintenance

You'll notice a few areas still highlighted in yellow as you read through the document; these are areas where we are still collecting information through the process and will be finalized before the plan goes out for public review. You'll also notice a few references to appendices; these will be developed with the final draft.

Hazard Mitigation Strategy

Thank you to each community that submitted updates to its hazard mitigation strategy. Please click [this link](#) to access it. It should open up an Excel file with the mitigation strategy for the plan compiled. ***You only need to review the actions for your community.*** The strategy contains each mitigation action identified through the update process. **Please make sure you review your community's strategy for accuracy.** For most communities, we made some additional edits and added any information that was missing. We also filled in some of the prioritization for each action where it wasn't provided. If you see anything that we did that you don't agree with or want me to change, please let me know and I'm happy to do it.

In addition to reviewing the document, please let me know if your community has any other hazard mitigation actions you would like to add. We didn't get many new hazard mitigation actions added during the strategy update process, and **we are asking communities to review and provide at least ONE new hazard mitigation action to its strategy if the community hasn't done so already.** There is still time to edit before we finalize the document and send it off to public review. If you'd like any additional support in identifying and adding actions, please let me know.

Timeline and Next Steps

Please complete a review of this documentation and submit any new mitigation actions no later than **4 PM CT, Wednesday October 30**. Send any feedback on your community information or the base plan to me at kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com. If you have any questions or would like support in adding any more hazard mitigation actions, please let me know. Also please let me know if you have any access issues with the folder and we'll figure something else out.

Once each community has completed its review, the document will go out for public review. We'll ask for your help in sharing that document. I will send a separate email about that process soon.

Thank you,

Kyle

Kyle Karsjen

Senior Preparedness Specialist

Resilience, Mitigation and Policy



M: 515.460.4711

kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com

tidalbasingroup.com



From: [Kyle Karsjen](#)
Bcc: [Mayer, Bryan L](#); [Kerry Evans](#); [Kymmie Scott](#); [Artig-Swomley, Gretchen - External Contact](#); [ben.zender](#); [Brosnahan, David](#); [Christopherson, Pat - External Contact](#); [Diaz, Izzy](#); [Hamdorf, Trevor](#); [Hearden, Chris](#); [Butkowski, Heather - External Contact](#); [Jason Mallinger](#); [Linehan, Jack - External Contact](#); [Mondor, Michael](#); [msather](#); [Peterson, Greg](#); [Judd.Freed@co.ramsey.mn.us](#); [Sieben, Terry - External Contact](#); [Don Smiley](#); [melissa.lawrence@gemlakemn.org](#); [Ryan Schroeder](#); [Jim Bownik](#); [Mike Lovas](#); [Christopher Hearden](#); [Jim Lindner](#); [Matt Montain](#)
Subject: Ramsey County Hazard Mitigation Plan - Public Review Draft sharing information
Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 9:00:00 AM
Attachments: [WinterHazardSurveyFlyer-final pdf.pdf](#)
[social sharing text.docx](#)
[hazardmitigation-socialmedia-Final.jpg](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Good morning!

We are pleased to announce that the Ramsey County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) draft is now ready for public review. The review period will last until Sunday, December 22. We are asking communities to share the plan draft and opportunity to review using whatever mechanisms you would normally use to share important information.

I have attached the following to this email:

- A flyer has been developed that can be shared that includes the embedded links to the plan and comment sheet (WinterHazardSurveyFlyer-final pdf). This flyer can be shared via email to any of your partners that you think would find value in reviewing the full HMP. If you share the survey via email, please cc me.
- We've developed some materials that can be used to develop a post on social media. I have attached the text that can be used (social sharing text); please ensure that the links transfer to the posting. I have also attached an image that can be used in your post if you wish as well (hazardmitigation-socialmedia-Final).

Finally, the plan will be shared on the Ramsey County website and Ramsey County social media channels today.

When you do share the document, please remember to send me screenshots of the posting so that I can include it in the plan. If you have any further questions, please let me know.

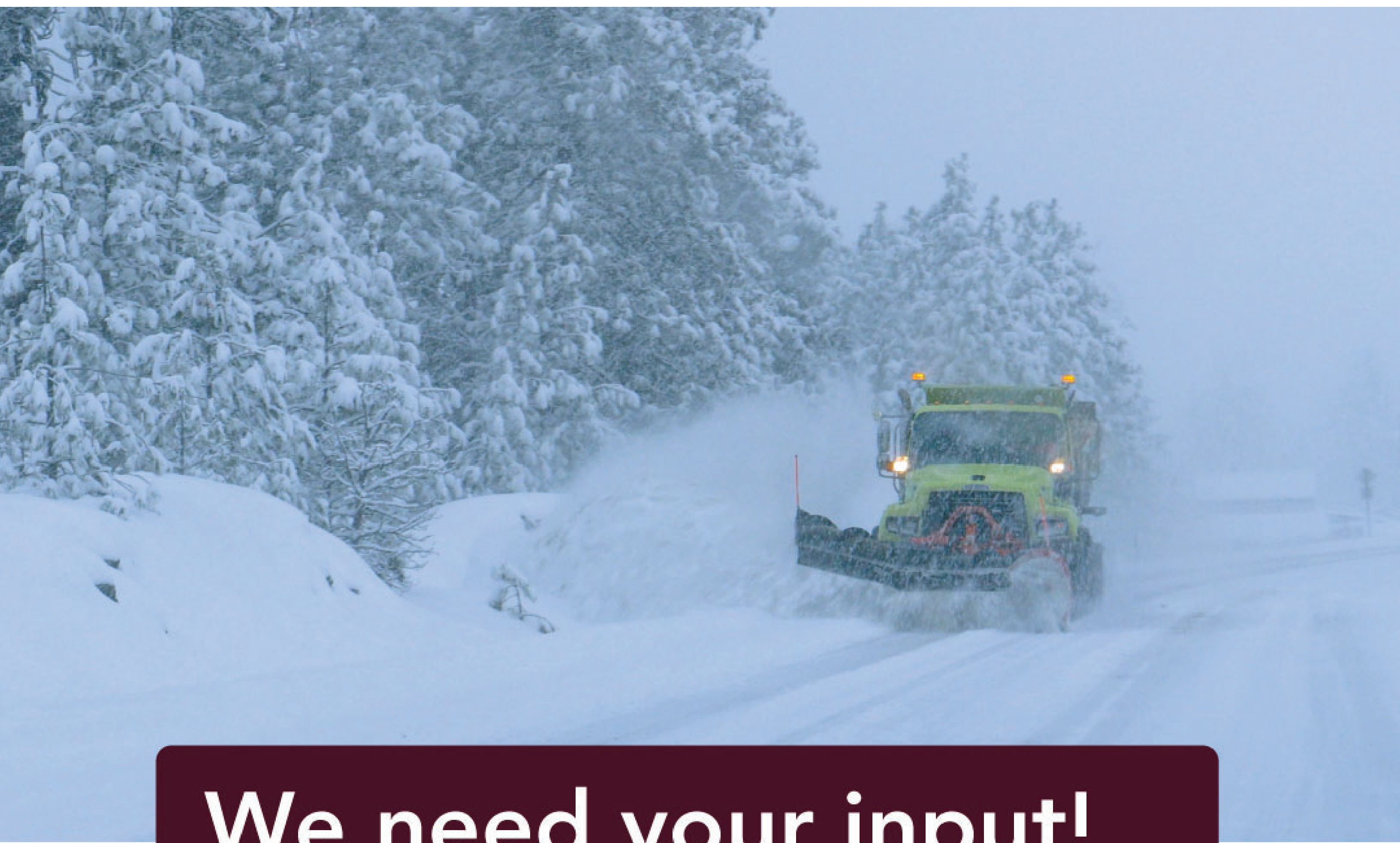
Thanks!

Kyle Karsjen

Senior Preparedness Specialist

Policy, Mitigation and Resilience

M: 515.460.4711 kyle.karsjen@tidalbasingroup.com
tidalbasingroup.com



We need your input!

Help us create a safer, stronger community by sharing your thoughts on the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

