

Appendix B

# Dane County Flood Mitigation Plan

## *Public Participation Plan*

2003

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## *PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN*

### **Purposes of the Public Participation Plan**

The basic purpose of this public participation plan is to provide for a meaningful process through which Dane County citizens, public officials, and stakeholder groups may effectively participate in developing Dane County's Flood Mitigation Plan. This plan has been developed based upon the understanding that citizens and groups are the source of tremendous creativity, and that their creativity and input will produce better planning decisions. This public participation plan recognizes every citizen's right to participate in the process of making local government decisions. Significant financial, time, and energy investments will be needed to complete this planning effort. Given these investments, Dane County regards broad public participation in the planning process as an essential strategy for developing a county plan that stands the test of time.

A wide variety of public participation methods, representing distinct purposes, will be employed to provide for broad public participation. These purposes of public participation are as follows:

- **Public Awareness** - to share information
- **Public Education** - to educate citizens and help them make more informed choices
- **Public Input** - to provide citizens and groups with opportunities to inject ideas into the planning process
- **Public Interaction** - to exchange views and ideas as a means of reaching consensus
- **Public Partnership** - to involve citizens in the decision making process

### **Objectives of the Public Participation Plan**

1. Recognizing that there are many levels of public participation, to provide for an effective mix of participation opportunities that include public information, public education, public input, public interaction, and public partnership.
2. Recognizing that not everyone participates in the same way or at the same time, to include a mix of participation strategies that provides for a broad and diverse set of participation opportunities that considers the diversity of the county.
3. Recognizing Dane County's history of public participation within past planning projects, the County will continue to provide the public with opportunities to review, clarify, and update previously generated information, as well as generate new policies, goals, objectives, and information.
4. To build public support for, and ultimately ownership of, the Dane County Flood Mitigation Plan.

The following public participation steps are outlined in conjunction with the flood mitigation steps to give a better picture of how they are linked in the process.

## DANE COUNTY FLOOD MITIGATION PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

Date	Flood Mitigation Planning Steps	Public Participation Steps
February-March 2003	Conduct data analysis and draft plan goals and objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct data analysis with the assistance of the planning committee (a public partnership group) and use analysis to define and prioritize draft goals and objectives</li> <li>• Build public awareness and education by using mass media, newsletters, and websites related to the flood mitigation process and how people can get involved</li> <li>• Solicit public input by requesting the Lakes and Watershed Commission and the county committees for Land Conservation, Planning and Development, Public Works , and Public Protection and Judiciary to review draft data findings, goals and objectives (March 12, 2003)</li> <li>• Utilize planning committee to refine findings, goals, and objectives</li> </ul>
March-April 2003	Revise plan goals and objectives and draft preliminary mitigation plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold quadrant (regional) public listening sessions to refine and validate the draft data findings and plan goals and objectives</li> <li>• Determine who are the key stakeholders needing to review the preliminary draft</li> <li>• Use planning committee and other resource people to begin draft of preliminary mitigation plan</li> </ul>
May-June 2003	Revise and finalize mitigation plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build public awareness and education of this stage of the planning process and the opportunities to give public input through mass media, newsletters, presentations to key stakeholder group, and Web sites</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use steering committee to develop key questions reviewers of the preliminary draft should assess</li> <li>• Send out the preliminary draft plan to reviewers for comment and post draft plan on Web site for comment</li> <li>• Hold focus groups or workshops for key stakeholders of flood mitigation to provide insightful review of the preliminary draft plan</li> <li>• Use steering committee to revise draft given the input from reviewers</li> <li>• Hold public hearings if necessary</li> </ul>
July 2003	Plan adoption and begin implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Send final report through required committees and to county board</li> <li>• Build public awareness and education of the finalized and adopted plan through the use of mass media, newsletters, presentations to key stakeholder groups, and by posting the final plan on the county's Web site.</li> </ul>
August 2003	Evaluate plan and process	
	Celebrate	