

### **1.3 PLAN INTEGRATION WITH OTHER INITIATIVES**

Effective state mitigation programs coordinate with various programs and agencies at all levels of government and the private sector to help achieve risk reduction. The Code of Federal Regulations 44 Part 201.4(b)(1) and Part 201.5(b)(1) recommends that state mitigation plans be integrated to the extent possible with 1) ongoing state and/or regional planning efforts, 2) FEMA mitigation programs, and 3) other initiatives that provide guidance to state and regional agencies. The list below identifies some of the many ways the SOHMP and programs are integrated.

#### **LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING**

Local entities are encouraged to review the State of Ohio Hazard Mitigation Plan (SOHMP); the state mitigation planner reviews all local plans for consistency with state plan and federal planning requirements. Local plan data will be reviewed and integrated into state plan.

#### **OHIO HOMELAND SECURITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch continues to participate in the development of the Ohio Homeland Security strategic plan by ensuring that the plan was consistent with the SOHMP. The Mitigation Branch currently participates on the OHS Strategic Plan Infrastructure and Structural Recovery Advisory Committees.

#### **OHIO EMA STRATEGIC PLAN**

The Ohio EMA updates its strategic plan on an annual basis. Different branches, including the Mitigation Branch, formulate branch strategic goals, objectives, and actions. The Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch strategic plan is partially based on actions in SOHMP.

#### **STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

The Ohio EOP is structured on 15 Emergency Support Functions (ESF) that correspond to the format of the National Response Framework. ESF-14 is titled, Recovery and Mitigation and is updated and maintained by the respective branches.

#### **STATE RECOVERY STRATEGIES**

From 2014-2016, state agencies, along with our federal, local and non-governmental organization partners developed five state recovery strategies covering the following areas: 1) economy, 2) infrastructure, 3) housing, 4) health and social services, and 5) natural and cultural resources. All disasters, whether natural or human-caused, require some level of recovery for the impacted survivors, businesses and local governments. These strategies are intended to document the roles and capabilities of local, state, federal and non-governmental agencies in support of recovery efforts. Roles and capabilities can include financial assistance and/or technical assistance. The Mitigation Branch participated in the development of these strategies.

#### **OHIO THREAT HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Ohio EMA Plans Branch is responsible for the development and maintenance of the Ohio Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) and the State Preparedness Report. The Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch participates in the annual update of both documents.

#### **OHIO HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Ohio EMA Plans Branch is responsible for the development and maintenance of the Ohio Hazard

Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA). The Mitigation Branch participates in the review and update of the HIRA. Data from the Risk Analysis in Section 2 of the SOHMP is used to inform the HIRA.

## **INTEGRATION WITH OTHER MITIGATION PROGRAMS**

### **CDBG AND HUD SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS/ OHIO DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY**

The Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) works both independently and with Ohio's mitigation programs to provide funding for non-structural mitigation projects in communities with populations of low to moderate income individuals. Such funds may match FEMA mitigation programs or may be used for projects independently. ODSA program staff are members of the SHMT.

### **OHIO SILVER JACKETS TEAM**

Silver Jackets is a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers program that began in Ohio in 2006 and the program is now active in majority states around the country. Silver Jackets is a strategic and collaborative initiative of Federal and state agencies to advance natural hazard risk reduction activities that align with state priorities. The initiative seeks to leverage resources available through all levels of government, the private sector, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) to identify and implement local solutions to risk vulnerability. The USACE participates on the SHMT and has recently funded multiple action items identified as priorities in the SOHMP with the annual Silver Jackets Program funding. The following link to the Ohio Silver Jackets website contains additional details: <https://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/State-Teams/Ohio>.

### **NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM/ ODNR DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES, FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

The ODNR Division of Water Resources is the state coordinating entity for the National Flood Insurance Program as well as state floodplain management office. ODNR Coordinates closely with the Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch, and participates on the SHMT. The Floodplain Management Program participates extensively on SOHMP updates. They are responsible for working with Ohio EMA during events and post-flood issues, and coordinating education and outreach for community floodplain administrators.

Staff from ODNR and OHIO EMA collaborate on facilitating Risk MAP in the state. Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) is the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Program that provides communities with flood information and tools they can use to enhance their mitigation plans and take action to better protect their citizens. Through more precise flood mapping products, risk assessment tools, planning and outreach support, Risk MAP strengthens local ability to make informed decisions about reducing risk.

### **OHIO DAM SAFETY PROGRAM/ ODNR DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES**

The Dam Safety Program has statutory authority for permitting/monitoring dams and levees in Ohio. The DSP provides data for the state plan HIRA and action items into the state mitigation strategy. The DSP coordinates closely with the National Dam Safety Program (NDSP) and has used NDSP grant funds to train state personnel and conduct dam safety awareness workshops.

### **OHIO BUILDING CODE/ OHIO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

The Ohio Department of Commerce – Board of Building Standards and the Ohio Building Officials Association work on state building codes and issues related to hazards in Ohio. The Ohio Residential Code of Ohio includes provisions for flood hazards and the ODNR – Floodplain Management Program

coordinates closely with them to ensure the Ohio RCO meets federal requirements. The state has utilized information provided in the “Flood Resistant Construction” section of the OBBC to outline expectations of the local jurisdictions, post-disaster, to help them achieve the flood reduction goals.

In 2013, the Ohio Board of Building Standards adopted reference standards in the Residential Building Code of Ohio specific to the construction and/or installation of tornado safe rooms. In 2015, the Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch hired experts from the National Storm Shelter Association to provide training to local and state building code officials on implementation of the ICC 500 standards and FEMA safe room design and construction requirements. Local and state building code officials review plans and inspect construction/installation of residential and community safe rooms. In 2017, the Board of Building Standards adopted the 2017 Ohio Building Code, which included Section 423, which now requires the construction of storm shelters in critical emergency operations structures and Group E occupancies.

#### **OHIO MINE SUBSIDENCE INSURANCE/ OHIO MINE SUBSIDENCE INSURANCE UNDERWRITING ASSOCIATION**

Underground mines, some of which have been abandoned for years, can be found in many parts of the state, particularly eastern Ohio. When buildings are constructed above mines, major damage to walls and foundations can occur if the mine collapses. The Ohio Legislature authorized the establishment of the Ohio Mine Subsidence Insurance Underwriting Association (OMSIUA), the Mine Subsidence Governing Board and the Mine Subsidence Insurance Fund in 1985. Ohio Mine Subsidence Insurance is a regional mitigation tool.

#### **FIREWISE/ODNR DIVISION OF FORESTRY**

The ODNR – Division of Forestry administers the Firewise program, which is a multi-organizational initiative designed to include not only fire safety professionals, but also homeowners, community leaders, planners, developers, and others in localized efforts to lessen the risk of interface with wildfires. The ultimate goal of this program is to reduce the susceptibility of homes, communities, and structures to wildfire through cooperative education and mitigation techniques. The Division of Forestry contributed to the wildfire portion of the HIRA.

#### **HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE/ FEMA**

FEMA’s hazard mitigation programs are closely coordinated with and consistent with state hazard mitigation efforts. The Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch coordinates the HMA programs at the state level. The HMA programs provide a significant portion of the mitigation funding resources to implement mitigation activities. PDM and HMGP funds are used to partially pay for state and local mitigation plan updates. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Branch staff are invited to all SHMT meetings.

#### **FLOOD GAUGING AND WARNING/ U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

The USGS’s Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Water Science Center assists local entities by entering into cooperative agreements for stream gauging and warning system development. These mitigation activities are identified in numerous local mitigation plans and factor into the state mitigation strategy. The USGS also attends the SHMT meetings and assist the Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch with data development for benefit cost analyses. Finally the USGS also produces reports on significant flood events in cooperation with Ohio DNR and Ohio EMA.

#### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACCREDITATION PROGRAM**

Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) is a standard-based voluntary assessment and

accreditation process for state and local government. In June 2008, Ohio EMA received EMAP Accreditation for requirements pertaining to a state mitigation program. Ohio EMA received EMAP Re-Accreditation in 2014, and is preparing for the next Re-Accreditation in 2019.

### **RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES**

Rural electric cooperatives (RECs) are customer owned organizations whose purpose is to deliver electricity to its members. Twenty-five different electric cooperatives serve more than 380,000 homes and businesses in 77 of Ohio's 88 counties. In the 2014 plan update, the Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch worked with the Ohio Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. to develop an appendix to the SOHMP that includes a risk assessment and identification of projects that will reduce risk to electric infrastructure and expedite recovery efforts.

### **THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

The Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch has partnered with the Ohio State University, Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture City and Regional Planning program on several successful initiatives. Every two years, a graduate level planning studio is offered at the university that provides students with an opportunity to work directly with a county emergency management agency to update their countywide hazard mitigation plan. The students gain real world planning experience, and the county gets needed help to update their plan. Fayette County, Perry County, and Guernsey County developed FEMA-approved mitigation plans as a result of this collaboration.

### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM (EMPG)**

Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch staff participate in EMPG exercise requirements and as such can be paid for certain mitigation related activities through the grant. Mitigation Branch staff have helped review applications for EMPG funding in the past and coordinates closely with the Ohio EMA Grants Branch to ensure that there is no duplication of programs and/or benefits.

### **COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM (CRS)**

The Ohio EMA Mitigation Branch staff recognize the value of the National Flood Insurance Programs CRS as mitigation tool to reward communities that take steps to exceed NFIP minimum standards. The CRS is promoted by Mitigation Branch staff as part of the Introduction to Emergency Management in Ohio Course, Local Mitigation Planning Course, and multiple other trainings throughout the year. Mitigation Branch staff also coordinate closely with the state coordinator for the CRS program at ODNR.

### **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CATEGORIES C-G**

At the onset of a disaster, the State Recovery Officer and the State Hazard Mitigation Officer coordinate with FEMA staff on how integration of mitigation through the 406 program will occur for that disaster. If it appears that there will be mitigation opportunities as part of the recovery process, the state requests that 406 Specialists are sent to the joint field office to ensure that 406 mitigation opportunities are considered in all Public Assistance worksheets. The need for assistance is outlined in the hazard mitigation strategy for that specific event.