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**ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT FOR
ALL NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN
2020 CALENDAR YEAR
FOR UNINCORPORATED LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

Prepared By: Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department

Prepared For: Lake County Public Works, Planning and Transportation Committee and
Lake County Board

November 9, 2021

INTRODUCTION

The Annual Evaluation Report assesses the implementation of goals described in the All Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan for Lake County, Illinois, within unincorporated Lake County, Illinois. All goal assessments are for the 2020 calendar year.

The Annual Evaluation Report for the All Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan within unincorporated Lake County, Illinois was prepared by the Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department. The Annual Evaluation Report was submitted to the Lake County Public Works, Planning and Transportation Committee, with a request to send the report to the Lake County Board for their information, and a Lake County Press Release was issued. The original [County-Wide All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan](https://www.lakecountyil.gov/DocumentCenter/View/19601/Final-2017-Lake-County-All-Natural-Hazards-Mitigation-Plan-PDF?bidId=) (<https://www.lakecountyil.gov/DocumentCenter/View/19601/Final-2017-Lake-County-All-Natural-Hazards-Mitigation-Plan-PDF?bidId=>) and the [Annual Evaluation Report for the All Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan](https://www.lakecountyil.gov/2076/Reports-Studies) (<https://www.lakecountyil.gov/2076/Reports-Studies>) are available online.

GOAL ASSESSMENT

Public Outreach

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department prepares an annual Repetitive Loss Area Mailing, which targets Repetitive Loss Properties and their surrounding repetitive loss area, and offers information on preparing for flooding, permanent flood protection measures, financial assistance, and flood insurance.

Remove High Risk Structures from Floodplain or Protect High Risk Structures

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department approved three (3) permitted projects for elevating the finished floor of existing structures to be above the regulatory floodplain elevation and four (4) permitted projects for either elevating utilities and/or adding foundation openings to bring the structures into compliance with the Lake County Unified Development Ordinance in 2020.

Mitigate All Repetitive Loss Structures Identified by FEMA

Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department is continually monitoring repetitive loss properties and is working with homeowners to elevate these structures when they achieve substantial improvement or substantial damage status.

Improve Capacity of Drainage Systems

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department works tirelessly with citizens and coordinates with other agencies such as the Township Highway Commissioners and Lake County Stormwater Management Commission to respond to drainage complaints affecting private properties.

SMC's Watershed Management Board (WMB) cost-share grant program helps fund local stormwater projects. The highest funding priority is flood damage prevention/mitigation but other project benefits are also included in funding decisions. In **2020**, SMC approved funding for the following projects in unincorporated Lake County:

The Des Plaines River Watershed

The Ela Township Highway Department was awarded funds for their Starry Lane Drainage Improvement. The Township plans to run a storm sewer through existing Township Right-Of-Way to transport runoff to an existing storm sewer that is low enough to provide a gravity drain for the depressional area north of Starry Lane. Removing this water will help alleviate nuisance flooding near the homes on Starry Lane.

Acquire Properties in Flood-Prone Areas

The Lake County Stormwater Management Commission pursues grant funding annually for projects that reduce flood damages and the risk of flooding. In 2020, SMC was awarded funding from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Office of Water Resources Flood Mitigation program to acquire and demolish four (4) repetitive loss homes located in Antioch, Cuba, Grant, and Russell Township in unincorporated Lake County. Two of the four homes were acquired, and the remaining two homes will be acquired in 2021. All four homes will be demolished in early 2022.

Implement Maintenance Programs for Drainage Systems

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department enforces the Lake County Code of Ordinances when reviewing and approving development plans. The Code requires all new drainage systems be maintained within drainage easements by a designated responsible party, and a Stormwater Management, Monitoring, and Maintenance Plan is required for systems involving a detention basin.

Reduce Inflow and Infiltration and Sewer Backups

The Lake County Public Works Department (LCPW) is committed to reducing sanitary sewer overflows caused by system inflow and infiltration. The annual Capacity Management, Operations and Maintenance (CMOM) program investigates and addresses inflow and infiltration, allowing the LCPW to take corrective measures and increase the capacity of the sanitary system when it is most needed, during critical rain events. As part of this program, the LCPW performs regular flow monitoring in all sanitary sewer service areas on an annual basis. The service areas include incorporated and unincorporated areas. Flow monitoring assesses field conditions and the impact of mitigation efforts, and the data informs further sanitary sewer evaluation studies, including smoke testing, dye testing, manhole inspections, and sanitary sewer main line televising and analysis. In 2020, LCPW completed modeling several interceptor sewers to assess I&I impacts and target I&I reduction strategies. Furthermore, additional flow monitoring reports have been prepared. In addition to identifying improvement projects to reduce I&I, these reports have informed maintenance activities to mitigate inflow and infiltration. LCPW continues to televise and clean sanitary sewers and perform preventative maintenance on pertinent portions of the sanitary sewer system to ensure the peak system capacity can be achieved.

Maintain Compliance with NFIP

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department has maintained its status as a National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community, while maintaining its status as a Class 6 Community in the NFIP Community Rating System, resulting in up to a 20 percent reduction in flood insurance premiums for unincorporated residents.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND REVISIONS

The Lake County Planning, Building and Development Department will continue to maintain Community Rating System status and will continue to work to reduce flood damages within unincorporated Lake County, Illinois, enforcement of floodplain regulations on individual permits, and completion of public outreach projects. The Lake County Public Works Department will continue to monitor sanitary sewer infrastructure and will work to address inflow and infiltration and sewer backups. The Lake County Stormwater Management Commission plans to pursue funding on an annual basis to continue to purchase flood-prone properties throughout the County.