



SECTION 5. CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

Existing laws, ordinances, plans, and programs at the federal, state, and local levels can support or impact hazard mitigation actions identified in this plan. Hazard mitigation plans are required to include a review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information as part of the planning process (44 CFR, Section 201.6(b)(3)). The following federal and state programs have been identified as programs that may interface with the actions identified in this plan. Each program enhances capabilities to implement mitigation actions or has a nexus with a mitigation action in this plan.

During the 2023 plan update process, all participating jurisdictions were tasked with developing or updating their capability assessment, paying particular attention to evaluating the effectiveness of these capabilities in supporting hazard mitigation and identifying opportunities to enhance local capabilities to integrate hazard mitigation into their plans, programs, and day-to-day operations.

County and municipal capabilities in the areas of planning and regulatory, administrative, technical, and fiscal may be found in the Capability Assessment section of their jurisdictional annexes in Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes).

5.1 Update Process Summary

The purpose of the capability assessment is to understand the planning, regulatory, administrative, technical, and financial capabilities present in Fort Bend County. This assessment helps Fort Bend County and its jurisdictions identify strengths and opportunities that can be used to reduce losses from hazard events and reduce risks throughout Fort Bend County.

To complete the capability assessment, the contracted consultant met with both counties and each jurisdiction virtually to review the capability assessment from the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) and update accordingly. In addition to virtual meetings, the consultant reviewed plans and codes/ordinances to enhance the information provided by the jurisdictions.

A summary of the various federal and state capabilities available to promote and support mitigation and reduce risk in Fort Bend County is presented below. Information provided by the County and municipalities is presented in Volume II, Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) of this plan update.

5.2 Planning and Regulatory Capability

Planning and regulatory capabilities are based on the implementation of ordinances, policies, local laws, state statutes, and plans and programs that relate to guiding and management growth and development. Planning and regulatory capabilities refer not only to the current plans and regulations but also to the jurisdiction's ability to change and improve those plans and regulations as needed. The following provides the planning and regulatory capabilities for Fort Bend County.

5.2.1 Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – Local

Table 5-1 summarizes the planning and regulatory capabilities available to Fort Bend County at the local level.



Table 5-1. Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – Local

Capability	Details	
Building Code, Certificates of Occupancy, and Zoning Ordinances – Verification Letter, January 1, 2022	Description:	Fort Bend County Engineering does not issue certificates of occupancy, and the County has not adopted building codes for single-family residential developments. However, Fort Bend County has adopted a County Fire Code, and the Fort Bend County Fire Marshal’s office issues certificates of compliance for certain multifamily and nonresidential developments.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas Department of Insurance
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fort Bend County Regulations of Subdivision- Rules, Regulations, and Requirements relating to the approval and acceptance of Improvements in Subdivisions or Re-Subdivisions – 07/23/2019	Description:	When approving the plat for recording in Fort Bend County, the Commissioners’ Court will consider the health, safety, morals, or general welfare of the citizens of Fort Bend County and the safe, orderly, and healthful development of the unincorporated area of the County. This will include all the specific items listed below, plus other considerations that are important to citizens of the area and Fort Bend County. These will include and not be limited to street specifications and widths, traffic patterns and traffic control, drainage and flood protection, sanitary sewers and water systems, recreational facilities, school sites, and any other amenity that applies to the area being considered. The final plat and the construction documents must be reviewed, approved, and signed by the County Engineer, and the drainage plans must be reviewed and approved by the Drainage District Engineer before the final plat is presented to Commissioners’ Court for approval. The design and construction of all drainage systems within Fort Bend County shall comply with the established standard principles and practices given in the Fort Bend County Drainage Criteria Manual. Subdivision plats that are filed in Fort Bend County shall contain a community green space dedication at a ratio of ¼ acre of green space for every 100 lots. Green space areas must be no smaller in size than ¼ acre and must be at least 20 feet in width in order to provide access and sufficient useable area.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County, Texas
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood/Erosion
Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) for the Fort Bend County Stormwater Quality Coalition – January 29, 2019	Description:	Each entity in the Coalition is entirely responsible for meeting the applicable SWMP requirements and has agreed to limit the implementation of their best management practices (BMPs) to the boundaries of their municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) within the urbanized area. The receiving water bodies for the Coalition’s storm sewer system include Brazos River Below Navasota River, Upper Oyster Creek, Clear Creek Above Tidal, and Oyster Creek Above Tidal. The Plan requires that All permittees shall develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive stormwater education and outreach program to educate public employees, businesses, and the general public of hazards associated with the illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste and about the impact that stormwater discharges can have on local waterways, as well as the steps that the public can take to reduce pollutants in stormwater. All permittees shall involve the public and, at minimum, comply with any state and local public notice requirements in the planning and implementation activities related to developing and implementing the SWMP, except that correctional facilities are not required to implement this portion of the MCM.
	Responsible Agency:	County Coalition
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood, Erosion
	Description:	This Manual was created for the purpose of reclamation and drainage of its overflowed lands and other lands needing drainage. The Fort Bend County Drainage District (FBC DD) will devise plans and construct works to reclaim lands in the



Capability	Details	
Drainage Criteria Manual for Fort Bend County Drainage District– last revised February 2011		District; to provide drainage facilities for the reclamation and drainage of the overflowed lands and other lands within the District needing drainage; to acquire or construct properties and facilities beyond the boundaries of the District where in the judgment of the governing body such properties or facilities are necessary to facilitate the drainage and reclamation of lands within the District; and to remove obstructions, natural or artificial, from the streams and water courses, and to clean, straighten, widen and maintain streams, water courses and drainage ditches.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioner’s Court
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood
Fort Bend County Disaster Recovery Voluntary Buyout Program Guidelines – last revised, May 27, 2022	Description:	<p>The Fort Bend County Disaster Recovery Voluntary Buyout Program is a program jointly operated through the Fort Bend County Community Development Department and the Fort Bend County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to assist owners whose homes were damaged by the 2016 flooding to relocate outside the threat of flooding. Buyout programs support hazard mitigation and resiliency by removing homeowners from the floodway and floodplain, thus eliminating vulnerability to future flooding situations. After homes are purchased, the structures are demolished or relocated. The land reverts to a natural floodplain, converts into a retention area, or is retained as green space for recreational purposes. The buyout program serves multiple objectives and provides a resiliency option versus rebuilding within a floodplain. Buyouts help prevent repetitive loss and extreme risk to human health and safety. When conducted sooner rather than later, buyouts prevent homeowners from making repairs and investing funds in properties that they then may not want to sell. The objectives of the program are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acquire properties that have been subject to 2016 floods to use for public space, green space, and/or flood control measures. 2. Assist homeowners in moving to an area with a reduced risk of flooding. 3. Return properties in the floodplain to natural and beneficial function, aiding in the storage of floodwaters. 4. Eliminate future flood damages and health and safety risks for owners and rescuers. 5. Reduce repetitive subsidized flood insurance payments and federal disaster assistance. <p>The program will focus on providing assistance to owners of properties that are located in a floodway and flood plain.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	Fort Bend County Community Development Department and the Fort Bend County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood
Historical Rainfall Study - Atlas 14 Implementation – Fort Bend County – January 1, 2020	Description:	A historical rainfall study completed by The National Weather Service. Published on September 28, 2018. This study shows that Central Texas is more likely to experience larger storms than previously thought. For example, for Fort Bend County: 100-yr 24-hour rainfall changed from 12.5 inches to 16.5 inches. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Atlas 14 rainfall values are used for infrastructure design and planning activities under federal, state, and local regulations. They also help delineate flood risks and manage development in floodplains for FEMA’s National Flood Insurance Program. The study included recommendations for elevating structures above flood elevations and enhanced stormwater guidance.
	Responsible Agency:	County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
	Description:	Due to the accelerated bank erosion along the Brazos River following significant flooding in 2015, 2016, and Hurricane Harvey in 2017, the Fort Bend County Drainage District selected Huitt-Zollars, Inc. to conduct a geomorphologic study



Capability	Details	
Brazos River Erosion Study for the Fort Bend County Drainage District – May 23, 2019		<p>of the bank erosion at selected locations along the 89 miles of the Brazos River in Fort Bend County, Texas. The selected locations were focused on government infrastructure and historic sites, such as roads, levees, bridges, buildings, and park lands along the river. The Brazos River is the 11th longest river in the United States and the longest river in Texas. Its watershed comprises over 44,620 square miles, which begins in New Mexico and extends 1,050 miles through Texas to its outfall to the Gulf of Mexico in Freeport, Texas. Potential Solutions to Minimize Future Bank Erosion: For sites near bridge abutments and other structures, structural alternatives to include steel sheet piles, reinforced concrete cut-off walls, timber piles, reinforced concrete drilled shafts, and concrete piles will be required along with anchorage systems, hydrostatic relief, and riprap. Based on the cost of the recent project on the right bank of the river at the Grand Parkway Bridge, a budgetary cost per linear foot for a structural alternative is around \$40,000 per linear foot. In other more natural, earthen areas, the clay bank can be sloped at a 1:4 or 1:5 slope with rock riprap and vegetative erosion protection. All potential solutions need to address the highly erodible sand layer at and below the normal water level of the river. Soil borings along the river in Fort Bend County have shown this sand layer to extend 40’ below the bottom of the river. These layers need to be protected from erosion in order for the clay layers above them not to shear off into the river during periods of high flows. An alternative for protecting this erosion is sheet piles (embedded in the clay layers below the sand) with anchorage, hydrostatic relief, and rip rap.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
Real Estate Disclosure - Texas Property Code Section § 5.008 - Seller’s Disclosure of Property Condition	Description:	Real Estate Disclosure ensures that property owners are aware of historical disaster impacts and gives them information necessary to plan for and mitigate future disasters.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas Real Estate Commission
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
Regulations for Floodplain Management – January 29, 2021	Description:	<p>To accomplish the purposes of these Regulations, the following methods of protecting life and property will be employed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Restrict or prohibit uses that are dangerous to health, safety, or property in times of flood or cause excessive increase in flood heights or velocities. 2. Require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities that serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction. 3. Control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers, which are involved in the accommodations of flood waters. 4. Control filling, grading, dredging, and other development which may increase flood damage. 5. Prevent or regulate the construction of flood barriers that will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court – County Judge
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
Fort Bend County Major Thoroughfare Plan – Adopted 2015 and amended through July 2022	Description:	The Major Thoroughfare Plan is designed to address the mobility needs of Fort Bend County as it continues to become more urbanized. It establishes a hierarchical network of controlled-access highways and toll roads, principal thoroughfares, major thoroughfares, and collectors. The classification of a particular roadway is based on the function of the road relative to mobility and access. Since the adoption of the Major Thoroughfare Plan in 2015, amendments to



Capability	Details	
		modify the plan to address development patterns, unforeseen impediments, and utilization of existing roadways have been approved through Commissioners Court and any applicable city, if within an extraterritorial jurisdiction.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court/County Engineering
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fulshear Transit Feasibility Study Final Report February 2021	Description:	<p>The Fulshear Transit Feasibility Study is a comprehensive study conducted to identify existing and future transit opportunities within the city and from the city to the Greater Houston area. The objectives of the study are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop transit options to connect Fulshear to regional employment centers • Develop transit options to bring employers and visitors to Fulshear • Determine the feasibility of local bus service in Fulshear • Enhance multimodal transportation in Fulshear • Explore transit-oriented development (TOD) and public-private partnership (P3) opportunities <p>The plan serves as a guide for the short- and long-range implementation of transit service within the Fulshear area as well as to and from the area and regional destinations. The recommended routes, service levels, and modes in the plan were developed to meet the following goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide transit choices for Fulshear residents, employees, and visitors • Provide high-quality commuting services to major activity centers in Houston • Enhance the quality of life in Fulshear • Support traffic and parking congestion mitigation • Improve multimodal connectivity • Build partnerships to share transit costs and benefits • Result in short-range and long-range actionable transit project
	Responsible Agency:	Public Transportation Department
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
The Rules Of Fort Bend County Texas Governing Water and Wastewater Infrastructure, A Supplement To Fort Bend County's Regulations of Subdivisions Adopted August 27, 2002 – Adopted April 6, 2010	Description:	These rules are adopted by Fort Bend County, Texas, under the authority of the Local Government Code Chapter 232 and Water Code §16.350. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, these rules apply only to a subdivision that creates two or more lots of five acres or less intended for residential purposes. Lots of five acres or less are presumed to be for residential purposes unless the land is restricted to nonresidential uses on the final plat and in all deeds and contracts for deeds. It is the purpose of these rules to promote the public health of the county residents, to ensure the adequate water and wastewater facilities are provided in subdivisions within the jurisdiction of the County, and to apply the minimum State standards for water and wastewater facilities to these subdivisions.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court/County Engineering
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Regulations of Subdivisions Section 7 – Green Space Regulations – July 7, 2019	Description:	Subdivision Green Space Requirements <i>Authority for these regulations is given in V.T.C.A., Local Government Code §232.101. Subchapter E (SB873).</i> A. Subdivision plats that are filed in Fort Bend County shall contain a community green space dedication at a ratio of ¼ acre of green space for every 100 lots. Green space areas must be no smaller in size than ¼ acre and must be at least 20 feet in width in order to provide access and sufficient useable area.



Capability	Details	
		1. Landscape setbacks and ditch rights-of-way along roadways will not be considered green space unless they are wider than required by County or City regulations. 2. Pipeline easements will be accepted as green space if they contain an improved walking trail as defined above. 3. Detention easements, excluding the actual detention pond area, will be accepted as green space if they contain an improved walking trail as defined above. There shall be a credit given toward the tree requirement for the preservation of any existing tree, on the approved planting list, located within the dedicated landscape reserve.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood/Erosion
Fort Bend County, Texas FY 2015 Consolidated Plan Draft September 1, 2015 - August 31, 2020	Description:	The overall goal of the community planning and development programs covered by the Consolidated Plan is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low- and moderate-income persons. The primary means towards this end is to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including for-profit and nonprofit organizations, in the production and operation of affordable housing by providing <i>decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities</i> . In addition, the Consolidated Plan discusses how the County will address the goal of ending chronic homelessness. Fort Bend County Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery 2017 was made available by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) following the impacts of Hurricane to provide mitigation funding.
	Responsible Agency:	Fort Bend Community Development
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Emergency Management - Texas Government Code Chapter 418	Description:	Emergency Management requirements provide for the planning, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery activities necessary for a high-impact coastal community.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas Division of Emergency Management
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards

5.2.2 Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – Federal and State

Table 5-2 summarizes the federal and state level planning and regulatory capabilities available to Fort Bend County.

Table 5-2. Planning and Regulatory Capabilities – Federal and State

Capability	Details	
Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA)	Description:	The DMA is the current federal legislation addressing hazard mitigation planning. It emphasizes planning for disasters before they occur. It specifically addresses planning at the local level, requiring plans to be in place before Hazard



Capability	Details	
		Mitigation Assistance grant funds are available to communities. This plan is designed to meet the requirements of DMA, improving eligibility for future hazard mitigation funds.
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	HMPs designed to meet the requirements of DMA will remain eligible for future FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance funds
	Hazard:	All natural hazards
State of Texas Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Mitigation Action Plan - January 24, 2020	Description:	The Plan includes the following initiatives: The Texas General Land Office (GLO) is administering \$4,297,189,000 in U.S. Department of HUD CDBG-MIT funds. The GLO developed a mitigation needs assessment to determine programs. The GLO will administer state programs focused on infrastructure, housing, and planning. HUD requires that at least 50% of total funds must be used for activities benefiting low- to moderate-income (LMI) persons. All programs will have an LMI priority. These CDBG-MIT funds will be used to build and implement structural and non-structural projects, programs, and partnerships throughout the State of Texas that reduce the risks and impacts of future natural disasters. The State of Texas CDBG Mitigation Action Plan: Building Stronger for a Resilient Future outlines the use of funds, programs, eligible applicants, and eligibility criteria.
	Responsible Agency:	General Land Office
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	Description:	The NFIP is a federal program enabling property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance as a protection against flood losses in exchange for state and community floodplain management regulations that reduce future flood damages (FEMA 2023). The Flood Hazard Profile in Section 4.3.6 (Flood) provides information on recent legislation related to reforms to the NFIP. All communities in Fort Bend County participate in the NFIP. As of June 2023, there are 9,669 NFIP policies in the County, with a majority of them in Missouri City, Fulshear, and Sugar Land.
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Full compliance and good standing under the NFIP are application prerequisites for all FEMA grant programs for which participating jurisdictions are eligible under this plan.
	Hazard:	Flood
NFIP Community Rating System (CRS)	Description:	As an additional component of the NFIP, CRS is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS: (1) reduce flood losses, (2) facilitate accurate insurance rating, and (3) promote the awareness of flood insurance. As of April 2023, the following communities participate in the CRS program: Missouri City (Class 7), Pearland (Class 6), and Sugar Land (Class 6).
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	CRS premium discounts on flood insurance range from 5 percent for Class 9 communities up to 45 percent for Class 1 communities.
	Hazard:	Flood
Local Government Code Title 7. Regulation Of Land Use, Structures, Businesses, and Related Activities Subtitle A. Municipal Regulatory	Description:	The powers granted under this subchapter are for the purpose of promoting the public health, safety, morals, or general welfare and protecting and preserving places and areas of historical, cultural, or architectural importance and significance. The governing body of a municipality may regulate the size of buildings and other structures, lot coverage, size of open spaces, population density, the location and use of buildings and groundwater use. Zoning regulations



Capability	Details	
Authority Chapter 211. Municipal Zoning Authority Subchapter A. General Zoning Regulations		<p>must be adopted in accordance with a comprehensive plan and must be designed to: (1) lessen congestion in the streets. (2) secure safety from fire, panic, and other dangers. (3) promote health and the general welfare. (4) provide adequate light and air. (5) prevent the overcrowding of land. (6) avoid undue concentration of population; or (7) facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water, sewers, schools, parks, and other public requirements. The governing body of a municipality may divide the municipality into districts of a number, shape, and size the governing body considers best for carrying out this subchapter. Within each district, the governing body may regulate the erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, or use of buildings, other structures, or land. Zoning regulations must be uniform for each class or kind of building in a district, but the regulations may vary from district to district. The regulations shall be adopted with reasonable consideration, among other things, for the character of each district and its peculiar suitability for uses, with a view of conserving the value of buildings and encouraging the most appropriate use of land in the municipality.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	State of Texas
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Texas Silver Jackets	Description:	<p>Silver Jackets is a program under National Flood Risk Management Program to support agency collaboration and coordination with interagency, state-led flood risk and multiple hazard management teams. Provides resources and develops tools to support information sharing and networking and promotes implementation of flood risk management efforts that improve flood risk awareness and result in actions to reduce risk. For more information: http://silverjackets.nfrmp.us/</p>
	Responsible Agency:	US Army Corp of Engineers
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
Texas General Land Office (GLO)	Description:	<p>The Texas GLO, through the Community Development and Revitalization division, works to rebuild Texas communities by putting Texans back in their homes, restoring critical infrastructure, and mitigating future damage through resilient community planning. The GLO is setting a record pace administering both CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT funds from the U.S. HUD on behalf of the State of Texas. More than \$14 billion have been allocated for recovery and mitigation following Hurricanes Rita, Dolly, and Ike, the 2011 wildfires, the 2015 and 2016 floods, Hurricane Harvey, the 2018 South Texas floods, and the 2019 disasters. These grants can be used for a wide variety of activities, including housing redevelopment, infrastructure repair, and long-term planning, depending on HUD guidance.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	Texas General Land Office
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood, Hurricane, Wildfire
Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Act (CEPRA)	Description:	<p>The average erosion rate for the 367 miles of Texas coast is 4.1 feet per year. Sixty-four percent of the Texas coast is eroding at an average rate of about 6 feet per year, with some locations losing more than 30 feet per year. FEMA estimates that every dollar spent on erosion control and mitigation to preserve wetlands and other natural ecosystems will provide a return on average of \$4 in future cost-savings. Since 2000, the GLO's Coastal Erosion Planning and Response Program has received \$111.4 million in state-appropriated funding. Project partners (local governments, nonprofits, state, and federal entities) have contributed \$52 million in non-federal matching funds and in-kind contributions, along with \$165.2 million in federal funds and in-kind contributions that have resulted in more than 355 coastal erosion response projects.</p>
	Responsible Agency:	General Land Office



Capability	Details	
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood, Hurricane, Land Subsidence
	Description:	Texas receives approximately \$2 million annually in grants from NOAA, and 90% of the funds are passed through to local governments and entities to address environmental needs and promote sustainable economic development along the coast. Projects must improve the management of the state’s coastal resources and ensure long-term ecological and economic productivity. Section 306 administrative funds can be used for non-construction, coastal planning and education, and research. Section 306A improvement funds can be utilized for construction and land acquisition projects and preservation and restoration. CMP funding categories include Coastal Natural Hazards Response, Critical Areas Enhancement, Public Access, Water/Sediment Quantity and Quality Improvements, Waterfront Revitalization and Ecotourism Development, Permit Streamlining/Assistance, Governmental Coordination and Local Government Planning Assistance.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas General Land Office
Coastal Management Program (CMP)	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood, Hurricane
	Description:	GOMESA significantly enhances oil and gas leasing activities and creates revenue-sharing provisions for the oil- and gas-producing states of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas and their coastal political subdivisions (CPSs). GOMESA funds are used for coastal conservation, restoration, and hurricane protection. The second phase of GOMESA revenue-sharing began in Fiscal Year 2017 and expands the definition of qualified Outer Continental Shelf revenues to include receipts from Gulf of Mexico leases subject to withdrawal or moratoria restrictions. A revenue-sharing cap of \$500 million per year for the four Gulf-producing states, their CPSs, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund applies from fiscal years 2016 through 2055. The \$500 million cap does not apply to qualified revenues generated in those areas associated with Phase I of the GOMESA program. From 2009 through 2016, the State of Texas received \$3,192,269, and its 18 CPSs received \$798,036. The goal of GOMESA funding is to conserve, restore, enhance, and protect the diversity, quality, quantity, functions, and values of the state’s coastal natural resources. A primary focus for the GLO will be to protect coastal natural resources while facilitating multiple human uses of coastal resources. The GLO’s priority for the expenditures of GOMESA funds include: restoring and enhancing coastal natural resources, providing hurricane protection for coastal public resources, improving water quality, enhancing the balance between the protection of coastal natural resources and public use of those resources, improving environmental management, mitigating coastal erosion, and stabilizing shorelines.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas General Land Office
Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA)	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood, Hurricane, Manmade Disasters
	Description:	The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is responsible for safety inspections of some federal and non-federal dams in the United States that meet the size and storage limitations specified in the National Dam Safety Act. USACE has inventoried dams and has surveyed each state and federal agency’s capabilities, practices, and regulations regarding design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the dams. USACE has also developed guidelines for inspection and evaluation of dam safety (USACE 1997).
	Responsible Agency:	USACE
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – Dam Safety Program	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood



Capability	Details	
Natural Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA)	Description:	The natural resource trustees are the designated federal, state, and tribal agencies that are responsible for the natural resources impacted by an oil spill or hazardous substance release. They have common interests in sharing information, ideas, and expertise necessary to compensate the public for harm to natural resources because of oil spills and hazardous substance releases.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Manmade Disasters
Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP)	Description:	Lands being targeted for protection through TCELCP include coastal and estuarine areas with significant ecologic, conservation, recreation, historic, and aesthetic values. Many of these lands are threatened by conversion from their natural state to other uses. This section describes the geographic extent of the TCELCP boundary, outlines the types of lands and values to be protected, and gives an assessment of their status and trends (when known), functions and values, and potential threats. When NOAA provides funding for CELCP, the GLO provides coastal communities an opportunity to apply for up to three projects per year, with federal grants for any single project not to exceed \$3 million.
	Responsible Agency:	NOAA, Texas General Land Office
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood, Hurricane
Texas Division of Emergency Management	Description:	TDEM is charged with carrying out a comprehensive, all-hazard emergency management program for the state and assisting cities, counties, and state agencies in implementing their own emergency management programs.
	Responsible Agency:	
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Community Health and Resource Management (CHARM)	Description:	CHARM is directed by the Texas Coastal Watershed Program, a part of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. It is a mapping application that gives local officials, stakeholders, and citizens the power to analyze growth with real-time feedback. Using the tool that transforms an ordinary tabletop into an interactive computer interface, CHARM allows participants to engage the public and gather their input regarding the community's future. The mapping application is supported by a library of data about urbanization, storm surge, conservation, public facilities, and coastal resources. The CHARM application can leverage local knowledge for better long-term planning and is an ideal tool for communities, watersheds, and environmental projects.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
Home Program	Description:	The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) administers the HOME Program on behalf of the state. The purpose of the program is to expand the supply of decent, safe, affordable housing and strengthen public-private housing partnerships between units of local governments, public housing authorities, nonprofits, and for-profit entities. TDHCA has set aside funding for Disaster Relief and Persons with Disabilities, among others.
	Responsible Agency:	TDHCA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards



Capability	Details	
Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) – Flood Insurance Program	Description:	TWDB is the state agency charged with collecting and disseminating water-related data, assisting with regional planning, preparing the State Water Plan, which addresses the development of the state’s water resources. The agency also administers cost-effective financial assistance programs for the construction of water supply, wastewater treatment, flood control, and agricultural water conservation projects. The TWDB has made great strides in floodplain management since the last update to the 2013 SHMP. Examples include hiring full-time staff to manage the State’s Cooperating Technical Partner floodplain mapping program, developing a State Flood Plan (see below for information on both), and creating a website to assist citizens and first responders during a flood event (www.TexasFloods.org). The following is a list of programs available that may assist with flooding and the mitigation of Repetitive and Severe Repetitive Loss properties. TWDB’s National Flood Insurance Program group conducts Community Assistance Visits (CAV), Community Assistance Contacts (CAC), and floodplain management training to assist communities with maintaining NFIP compliance and sound floodplain management practices. The CAV is a scheduled visit to an NFIP community for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive assessment of the community’s floodplain management program and evaluating its knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the NFIP. The purpose of the CAV is also to assist the community in understanding NFIP requirements when program deficiencies are discovered. Floodplain Management 101 workshops are offered to local officials and other interested parties, which cover the NFIP and various flood loss reduction techniques and strategies, such as the CRS. The workshops contain training modules on the Texas Water Code, Elevation Certificates, FEMA requirements, community awareness, map reading, permitting, and ordinance comprehension.
	Responsible Agency:	TWDB
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood
Cooperation Technical Partners (CTP)	Description:	TWDB also administers the FEMA Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) Program, which allows communities, tribal nations, universities, and regional and state agencies to be active partners in FEMA’s flood hazard mapping program. The CTP program at the state level aims to produce flood risk information through leveraging state and local funds, updated flood risk products, and coordination between statewide cooperating technical partners.
	Responsible Agency:	TWDB
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
Fund Development Program	Description:	TWDB also administers the Fund Development Program to provide loans for the planning, design, and construction of water supply, wastewater, and flood control projects. Structural flood protection improvements may include construction of storm water retention basins, the enlargement of stream channels, public beach re-nourishment, the control of coastal erosion, and the modification or reconstruction of bridges. Non-structural flood protection improvements may include the acquisition of floodplain properties for use as public open space, the acquisition and removal of buildings and residents located within a floodplain, flood warning systems, and the development of floodplain management plans. The agency conducts an environmental review for all construction projects.
	Responsible Agency:	TWDB
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood
Texas Natural Resources Information System (TNRIS)	Description:	The TNRIS is a division of TWDB and is responsible for producing, archiving, and distributing geographic data to agencies, businesses, and the public. TNRIS supports hazard mitigation planning and implementation in three ways:



Capability	Details	
		Provides data to organizations for planning or response activities. Develops, locates, and prepares data for specific needs and/or projects. Updates the State Critical Facility Database.
	Responsible Agency:	TWDB
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Texas Flash Flood Coalition	Description:	The TFFC is an organization dedicated to decreasing the number of deaths caused by flash flooding in Texas. More than 30 representatives of higher education, media, private industry, local, state, and federal governments participate in the Coalition. Its strategy is to (1) brainstorm and share ideas, data, resources, and best practices; (2) include a diversity of folks from all levels of education, the public, private entities, and academia, an (3) attack the flash flood problem with mitigation, research, technology, education, awareness, warning, and communication.
	Responsible Agency:	Works with the Texas Floodplain Management Association
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood, Flash Flood
Community Hazard Analysis and Mitigation Planning Support (CHAMPS)	Description:	The CHAMPS reports are summarized descriptions of historical hazard events and future hazard risks for each county in Texas. These have been developed by the Texas Geographic Society in a project funded by FEMA and administered by TDEM. CHAMPS reports have been developed to provide local mitigation planners with data, maps, and other information they can use to support the hazard assessment portion of the mitigation planning process. Each report includes information on county populations and built environments, historical losses from multiple hazards, and expected future likelihood of more hazard events. Also included with every hazard is a comparative display showing how the number of hazard events in that county compares with the number of events in other counties for that hazard over the same timeframe.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas Geographic Society
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Urban Tree Canopy Project – Resilient Landscapes Program	Description:	TFS has programs and funding opportunities, such as the Urban Tree Canopy Project, that address mitigation by decreasing impact from summer heat, flooding, and erosion. The Fire-Adapted Communities Program provides cost-share funds to assist in informing and preparing citizens to safely co-exist with wildland fire. The Resilient Landscapes Program provides cost-share reimbursement funds to restore healthy, fire-adapted ecosystems. The Firewise USA Program provides cost-share funds in cooperation with the National Fire Protection Administration to encourage homeowners to take individual responsibility for protecting their homes from the risk of wildfire.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas A&M Forest Service
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Wildfires
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation	Description:	Licenses and regulates weather modification programs and hosts the Texas Weather Modification and Advisory Committee meetings. Cloud seeding projects designed to increase rainfall from convective cloud towers are conducted in nearly 31 million acres of Texas. In administering the Texas Weather Modification Act, TDLR’s weather modification program issues license and permits for projects using specialized aircraft and sophisticated weather radar systems at sites near Amarillo, San Angelo, and Pleasanton. TDLR also issues permits for hail suppression projects.
	Responsible Agency:	TDLR



Capability	Details	
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Drought
Texas Department of Transportation	Description:	TxDOT incorporates tornado safe rooms into their Safe Rest Stops program through a federally funded Transportation Enhancement program (See Section 6.3). TxDOT also revises its design manual to include improved guidance on NFIP requirements. The agency supports the effort to certify floodplain managers by encouraging all their personnel to become certified. All engineers in TxDOT’s central hydraulics branch are certified.
	Responsible Agency:	TxDOT
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
Texas Residential Safe Room Rebate Program	Description:	TDEM, through the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grants, began offering a rebate incentive for builders and homeowners to build or install residential safe rooms. This program is implemented by local units of government that choose to administer the program through a grant provided through the HMGP or Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program. TDEM has also published a residential safe room handbook to assist local jurisdictions with the implementation of the program. This program has raised the viability and the visibility of safe rooms in high tornado/windstorm regions of Texas.
	Responsible Agency:	TDEM
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Tornado, Windstorm

5.3 Administrative and Technical Capabilities

Table 5-3 below summarizes the administrative and technical capabilities in Fort Bend County. Detailed information regarding administrative and technical capabilities in Fort Bend County and the municipalities can be found in each jurisdictional annex found in Volume II, Section 9 (Annexes).

Table 5-3. Administrative and Technical Capability

Capability	Details	
Fort Bend County Stormwater Quality Coalition	Description:	The Fort Bend County Stormwater Quality Coalition consists of Fort Bend County and Fort Bend County Drainage District. The Coalition was formed in February 2008 as an effort by the members to assist one another in complying with stormwater quality regulations established by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.
	Responsible Agency:	County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood, Drought, Severe Storms



Capability	Details	
Fort Bend Transit	Description:	In 2005, the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court approved the creation of the Fort Bend County Public Transportation Department (PBC PTD) to serve the general public in Fort Bend County. The purpose of the FBC PTD was to provide seamless service between urban and rural communities, access rural transit funding, and increase services to residents in Fort Bend County without increasing the financial burden to the taxpayers. Today, the Fort Bend County Public Transportation Department is known as Fort Bend Transit (FBT). Fort Bend Transit’s mission is to provide safe and efficient public transportation services while maintaining service quality and customer satisfaction. FBT provides approximately 392,000 annual passenger trips (data from October 2018 – September 2019) to destinations in Fort Bend and Harris Counties. The services provided are Demand Response and Commuter Park and Ride Services. FBT is located in Rosenberg and has a core inventory of vehicles as well as a fleet provided through a contracted service provider.
	Responsible Agency:	County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All
Fort Bend Texas Agri-Life Extension Service	Description:	The Fort Bend County Office of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Cooperative Extension Program (CEP) educates Texans in all areas of agriculture, youth & adult life skills, human capital & leadership, and community economic development. Extension offers the knowledge resources of both Texas A&M and Prairie View A&M Universities to educate Texans for self-improvement, individual action, and community problem-solving. We are part of a statewide educational network and a member of the Texas A&M University System linked in a unique partnership with the nationwide Cooperative Extension System and Fort Bend County Commissioners’ Court. Agricultural planning reduces the risk to the animals and community during times of disaster. This includes a Texas Extension Disaster Education Network.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood, Hurricane, Severe Winter Storm
Fort Bend County Community Development Department	Description:	The Fort Bend County Community Development Department was created in 1992 by the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court to administer the CDBG Program and other federal housing programs for the County. Since that time, the Community Development Department’s scope has been expanded to include the administration of several other programs. In 1994, Fort Bend County was designated a participating jurisdiction (PJ) and therefore became eligible to receive a grant directly from the HUD through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. In 1995, Fort Bend County became eligible to receive a grant through the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Program, which is now Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program. Fort Bend County is part of the Houston Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) for the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Program (HOPWA). HUD requires a Consolidated Plan, a single submission for the planning and application aspects of the CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA formula programs. The consolidated submission also consolidates the reporting requirements for HUD programs, replacing five general performance reports with one performance report, the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).
	Responsible Agency:	County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fort Bend Parks and Recreation Department	Description:	Fort Bend County has 12 active parks, three leased parks, five community centers, and three parks under development. Our parks feature walking trails, playgrounds, basketball courts, baseball fields, soccer fields, football fields, cricket fields, splash pads, fishing holes, and other outdoor recreation. We also offer pavilions, community centers, and building rentals



Capability	Details	
		for banquets, weddings, and other private events. The Parks and Recreation Department also includes the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds.
	Responsible Agency:	County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fort Bend County Drainage District	Description:	The primary mission of the Fort Bend County Drainage District is to maintain the drainage channels, where the District has easements, in their existing flow conditions. This is accomplished through appropriate structural repairs and vegetation control. Secondly, the District provides a review of plats and drainage plans of new development to be approved by Commissioners Court to ensure the elimination of an adverse drainage impact on current and future residents.
	Responsible Agency:	County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
Fort Bend Engineering Department	Description:	The Engineering Department provides comprehensive planning, design, mapping, and management services to facilitate quality construction of private development, public roads, and public infrastructure to enhance public safety and quality of life in the County.
	Responsible Agency:	County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fort Bend County Drainage District	Description:	The primary mission of the Fort Bend County Drainage District is to maintain the drainage channels, where the District has easements, in their existing flow conditions. This is accomplished through appropriate structural repairs and vegetation control. Secondly, the District provides a review of plats and drainage plans of new development to be approved by Commissioners Court to ensure the elimination of an adverse drainage impact on current and future residents.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	Flood
Fort Bend County Environmental Enforcement Program	Description:	The goal of this program is to investigate environmental health crimes and violations on public and private properties within the unincorporated areas of Fort Bend County. This includes violations of the Texas Health & Safety Code, Texas Water Code, Texas Penal Code, and Texas Transportation Code. In addition to responding to complaints received, investigators proactively patrol the County looking for environmental crimes and violations. The Program also provides Disaster Resource Information for all disasters.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court/Health and Human Services
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fort Bend County Health and Human Services Department	Description:	Fort Bend County Health & Human Services is the principal agency for protecting the health of County residents and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves. The mission of Fort Bend County Health & Human Services (FBHHS) is to promote and protect the health and well-being of the residents of Fort



Capability	Details	
		Bend County through disease prevention and intervention, public health emergency preparedness and response, community engagement, and helping to ensure the equitable provision of basic human needs.
	Responsible Agency:	County
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fort Bend County Homeland Security & Emergency Management	Description:	It is the mission of the Fort Bend County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to create an environment of readiness for the whole-community through a comprehensive program of prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and disaster recovery. It is the Department's vision to provide effective coordination and collaboration to create a culture of preparedness that builds and sustains a disaster-resilient community in Fort Bend County. The Department administers the Emergency Alerts & Warnings Program (Fort Bend County Alert). The system enables the Department to provide the participating public with critical information quickly in a variety of situations, such as severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons and evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fort Bend County Information Technology Department	Description:	The Director of Information Technology is an Executive Manager reporting directly to Commissioners Court. The Director works with Commissioners Court, other elected officials, and department heads to provide information technology components for strategic planning and the implementation of information technology components within approved strategic plans. The Director also provides central Information Technology (IT.) policy direction for all County departments and supervises and directs the I.T. Department personnel. Under the direction of Commissioners Court, the Director is responsible for managing and coordinating the development, operation, and maintenance of the County's I.T. systems. The Department's duties include but are not limited to: Recommends countywide policies and standards for privacy, security, and protection of data integrity in technology infrastructure, electronic commerce, and technology vendor relationships as part of the County's strategic planning process as well as oversees the implementation of adopted policies and standards. Participates in activities and duties related to emergency management during a local state of disaster as directed by appropriate county managers.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fort Bend County Road & Bridge Department	Description:	In January 1996, the Road & Bridge Department was formed. This organization began beating its heart to a very public audience. Citizens groups were formed to monitor the development and effectiveness of the department. To date, this department has proven to be an asset and has also provided extreme savings to the taxpayers of Fort Bend County. The Road & Bridge Department is committed to providing the most efficient, most <u>responsive</u> , and most courteous services possible. The fleet of vehicles and equipment is kept in top shape and are replaced only when the cost of repair exceeds the value of the equipment. An updated, mechanically sound fleet provides a safe and productive environment. Services provided by this department include: Road Construction, Maintenance and Repair, County Road Drainage, Herbicide Treatment, Right-of-Way Mowing, Residential Driveway Installation, Repair, Replacement Installation, Maintenance & Repair of Street Signs & Barricades, and Road Striping.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No



Capability	Details	
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office	Description:	The Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office (FBCSO) was founded in 1837 and is the largest law enforcement agency in Fort Bend County—the most diverse county in Texas. The FBCSO has over 800 employees, including 565 sworn peace officers and 25 reserve deputies dedicated to protecting and serving nearly 900,000 Fort Bend County residents. Among the ten fastest-growing counties in the nation, Fort Bend covers 885 square miles and includes 21 unincorporated communities. Fort Bend County also includes 16 incorporated municipalities, including Sugar Land, Katy, Missouri City, Richmond, Rosenberg, and Stafford.
	Responsible Agency:	Commissioners Court
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	No
	Hazard:	All hazards

5.4 Fiscal Capabilities

Fiscal capabilities are the resources that a jurisdiction has access to or is eligible to use to fund mitigation actions.

Table 5-4 provides a list of programs, descriptions, and links for those jurisdictions seeking funding sources. This table is not intended to be a comprehensive list but rather a tool to help begin identifying potential sources of funding.

Table 5-4. Fiscal Capabilities

Capability	Details	
Federal		
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	Description:	The HMGP is a post-disaster mitigation program. It is made available to states by FEMA after each federal disaster declaration. The HMGP can provide up to 75% funding for hazard mitigation measures. The HMGP can be used to fund cost-effective projects that will protect public or private property in an area covered by a federal disaster declaration or that will reduce the likely damage from future disasters. Examples of projects include acquisition and demolition of structures in hazard-prone areas, flood-proofing or elevation to reduce future damage, minor structural improvements, and development of state or local standards. Projects must fit into an overall mitigation strategy for the area identified as part of a local planning effort. All applicants must have a FEMA-approved HMP (this plan). Applicants who are eligible for the HMGP are state and local governments, certain nonprofit organizations or institutions that perform essential government services, and Indian tribes and authorized tribal organizations. Individuals or homeowners cannot apply directly for the HMGP; a local government must apply on their behalf. Applications are submitted to TDEM, placed in rank order for available funding, and submitted to FEMA for final approval. Eligible projects not selected for funding are placed in an inactive status and may be considered as additional HMGP funding becomes available. For additional information regarding HMGP, please refer to: https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards



Capability	Details	
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program	Description:	The FMA program combines the previous Repetitive Flood Claims and Severe Repetitive Loss Grants into one grant program. The FMA provides funding to assist states and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the NFIP. The FMA is funded annually; no federal disaster declaration is required. Only NFIP-insured homes and businesses are eligible for mitigation in this program. Funding for FMA is very limited, and, as with the HMGP, individuals cannot apply directly for the program. Applications must come from local governments or other eligible organizations. The federal cost-share for an FMA project is at least 75 percent. For the non-federal share, at most 25 percent of the total eligible costs must be provided by a non-federal source; of this 25 percent, no more than half can be provided as in-kind contributions from third parties. At minimum, a FEMA-approved local flood mitigation plan is required before a project can be approved. The FMA funds are distributed from FEMA to the state. TDEM serves as the grantee and program administrator for the FMA program. The FMA program is detailed on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/flood-mitigation-assistance-grant-program .
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood, Severe Weather
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program	Description:	BRIC will support states, local communities, tribes, and territories as they undertake hazard mitigation projects, reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards. BRIC is a new FEMA pre-disaster hazard mitigation program that replaces the existing PDM program. The BRIC program guiding principles are supporting communities through capability- and capacity-building; encouraging and enabling innovation; promoting partnerships; enabling large projects; maintaining flexibility; and providing consistency. For additional information regarding the BRIC program, please refer to: https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Extraordinary Circumstances	Description:	For PDM and FMA project subawards, the (FEMA) Region may apply extraordinary circumstances when justification is provided and with concurrence from FEMA Headquarters (Risk Reduction and Risk Analysis Divisions) prior to granting an exception. If this exception is granted, a local mitigation plan must be approved by FEMA within 12 months of the award of the project subaward to that community. For HMGP, PDM, and FMA, extraordinary circumstances exist when a determination is made by the Applicant and FEMA that the proposed project is consistent with the priorities and strategies identified in the State (Standard or Enhanced) Mitigation Plan and that the jurisdiction meets at least one of the criteria below. If the jurisdiction does not meet at least one of these criteria, the Region must coordinate with FEMA Headquarters (Risk Reduction and Risk Analysis Divisions) for HMGP; however, for PDM and FMA the Region must coordinate and seek concurrence prior to granting an exception: The jurisdiction meets the small, impoverished community criteria (see Part VIII, B.2). The jurisdiction has been determined to have had insufficient capacity due to lack of available funding, staffing, or other necessary expertise to satisfy the mitigation planning requirement prior to the current disaster or application deadline. The jurisdiction has been determined to have been at low risk from hazards because of low frequency of occurrence or minimal damage from previous occurrences because of sparse development. The jurisdiction experienced significant disruption from a declared disaster or another event that impacts its ability to complete the mitigation planning process prior to award or final approval of a project award. The jurisdiction does not have a mitigation plan for reasons beyond the control of the State, federally recognized tribe, or local community, such as Disaster Relief Fund restrictions that delay FEMA from granting a subaward prior to the expiration of the local or Tribal Mitigation Plan. For HMGP, PDM, and FMA, the Applicant must provide written justification that identifies the specific criteria or circumstance listed above, explains why there is no longer an



Capability	Details	
		impediment to satisfying the mitigation planning requirement, and identifies the specific actions or circumstances that eliminated the deficiency. When an HMGP project funding is awarded under extraordinary circumstances, the Recipient shall acknowledge in writing to the Regional Administrator that a plan will be completed within 12 months of the subaward. The Recipient must provide a work plan for completing the local or Tribal Mitigation Plan, including milestones and a timetable, to ensure that the jurisdiction will complete the plan in the required time. This requirement shall be incorporated into the award (both the planning and project subaward agreements, if a planning subaward is also awarded).
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Individual Assistance (IA)	Description:	IA provides help for homeowners, renters, businesses, and some nonprofit entities after disasters occur. This program is largely funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration. For homeowners and renters, those who suffered uninsured or underinsured losses could be eligible for a Home Disaster Loan to repair or replace damaged real estate or personal property. Renters are eligible for loans to cover personal property losses. Individuals are allowed to borrow up to \$200,000 to repair or replace real estate, \$40,000 to cover losses to personal property, and an additional 20 percent for mitigation. For businesses, loans could be made to repair or replace disaster damages to property owned by the business, including real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and supplies. Businesses of any size are eligible. Nonprofit organizations, such as charities, churches, and private universities are eligible. An Economic Injury Disaster Loan provides necessary working capital until normal operations resume after a physical disaster but are restricted by law to small businesses only. IA is detailed on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/individual-disaster-assistance .
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Public Assistance (PA)	Description:	PA provides cost reimbursement aid to local governments (state, county, local, municipal authorities, and school districts) and certain nonprofit agencies that were involved in disaster response and recovery programs or that suffered loss or damage to facilities or property used to deliver government-like services. This program is largely funded by FEMA with both local and state matching contributions required. PA is detailed on the FEMA website: https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-nonprofit .
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Department of Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)	Description:	The HSGP plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. In FY 2019, the total amount of funds available under HSGP was \$1.095 billion. HSGP is composed of three interconnected grant programs, including the State Homeland Security Program, Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI), and the Operation Stonegarden. Together, these grant programs fund a range of preparedness activities, including planning, organization, equipment purchase, training, exercises, and management and administration. Additional information regarding HSGP is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/homeland-security-grant-program .
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA



Capability	Details	
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Fire Management Assistance Grant Program	Description:	Assistance for the mitigation, management, and control of fires on publicly or privately-owned forests or grasslands that threaten such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. Provides a 75% federal cost-share, and the state pays the remaining 25% for actual cost. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/fire-management-assistance-grant-program .
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Wildfire
Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program	Description:	The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated Emergency Medical Services organizations, and State Fire Training Academies. This funding is for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience. Information regarding this grant program is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program .
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Wildfire
High Hazard Potential Dams (HHPD) Grant Program	Description:	The Rehabilitation of HHPD Grant Program provides technical, planning, design, and construction assistance in the form of grants to non-federal governmental organizations or nonprofit organizations for rehabilitation of eligible high hazard potential dams. Information regarding this program is available on the website: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=316238 .
	Responsible Agency:	FEMA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flood
Small Business Administration (SBA) Loan	Description:	The SBA provides low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and most private nonprofit organizations. SBA disaster loans can be used to repair or replace the following items damaged or destroyed in a declared disaster: real estate, personal property, machinery and equipment, and inventory and business assets. Homeowners could apply for up to \$200,000 to replace or repair their primary residence. Renters and homeowners could borrow up to \$40,000 to replace or repair personal property-such as clothing, furniture, cars, and appliances that were damaged or destroyed in a disaster. Physical disaster loans of up to \$2 million are available to qualified businesses or most private nonprofit organizations. Additional information regarding SBA loans is available on the SBA website: https://www.sba.gov/managing-business/running-business/emergency-preparedness/disaster-assistance .
	Responsible Agency:	SBA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Community Development Block (CDBG) Grant Program	Description:	CDBG are federal funds intended to provide low and moderate-income households with viable communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, roads and infrastructure, housing rehabilitation and preservation,



Capability	Details	
		development activities, public services, economic development, and planning and administration. Public improvements could include flood and drainage improvements. In limited instances and during times of “urgent need” (e.g., post-disaster) as defined by the CDBG National Objectives, CDBG funding could be used to acquire a property located in a floodplain that was severely damaged by a recent flood, demolish a structure severely damaged by an earthquake, or repair a public facility severely damaged by a hazard event. Additional information regarding CDBG is available on the website: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg-entitlement/ .
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) -Emergency Relief	Description:	The FHWA Emergency Relief is a grant program through the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) that can be used for repair or reconstruction of federal-aid highways and roads on federal lands that have suffered serious damage as a result of a disaster. The Texas Department of Transportation serves as the liaison between local municipalities and FHWA. Additional information regarding the FHWA Emergency Relief Program is available on the website: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/programadmin/erelief.cfm_
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. DOT
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Federal Transit Administration - Emergency Relief	Description:	The Federal Transit Authority (FTA) Emergency Relief is a grant program that funds capital projects to protect, repair, reconstruct, or replace equipment and facilities of public transportation systems. Administered by the Federal Transit Authority at the U.S. DOT and directly allocated to Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) and Port Authority, this transportation-specific fund was created as an alternative to FEMA PA. Currently, a total of \$5.2 billion has been allocated to New Jersey-related entities. Additional information regarding the FTA Emergency Relief Program is available on the website: https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/emergency-relief-program/emergency-relief-program .
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. DOT
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Disaster Housing Program	Description:	Emergency assistance for housing, including minor repair of home to establish livable conditions, mortgage, and rental assistance available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/publications/dhap_
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
HOME Investment Partnerships Program	Description:	Grants to local and state government and consortia for permanent and transitional housing (including financial support for property acquisition and rehabilitation for low-income persons). Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/affordablehousing/programs/home/_
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards



Capability	Details	
HUD Disaster Recovery Assistance	Description:	Grants to fund gaps in available recovery assistance after disasters (including mitigation). Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hud.gov/info/disasterresources_
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Section 108 Loan Guarantee	Description:	Enables states and local governments participating in the CDBG program to obtain federally guaranteed loans for disaster-distressed areas. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/section-108/
	Responsible Agency:	HUD
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Smart Growth Implementation Assistance Program	Description:	The Smart Growth Implementation Assistance (SGIA) program through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) focuses on complex or cutting-edge issues, such as stormwater management, code revision, transit-oriented development, affordable housing, infill development, corridor planning, green building, and climate change. Applicants can submit proposals under 4 categories: community resilience to disasters, job creation, the role of manufactured homes in sustainable neighborhood design, or medical and social service facilities siting. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth_
	Responsible Agency:	EPA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Partners for Fish and Wildlife	Description:	Financial and technical assistance to private landowners interested in pursuing restoration projects affecting wetlands and riparian habitats. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fws.gov/partners/
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All natural hazards
Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER)	Description:	Investing in critical road, rail, transit, and port projects across the nation. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.transportation.gov/tags/tiger-grants_
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. DOT
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program	Description:	This program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community in a primarily rural area and does not include private, commercial, or business undertakings. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program_
	Responsible Agency:	USDA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes



Capability	Details	
	Hazard:	All hazards
Emergency Loan Program	Description:	USDA’s Farm Service Agency provides emergency loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters, or quarantine. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/emergency-farm-loans/index_
	Responsible Agency:	USDA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All natural hazards
Emergency Watershed Protection Program	Description:	The Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program provides assistance to relieve imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fires, drought, windstorms, and other natural occurrences through the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/landscape/ewpp/
	Responsible Agency:	USDA
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All natural hazards
Financial Assistance	Description:	Financial assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns or opportunities to help save energy and improve soil, water, plant, air, animal and related resources on agricultural lands and non-industrial private forest land. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/
	Responsible Agency:	NRCS
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) Program	Description:	Assist local, tribal, territorial, and state governments in enhancing and sustaining all-hazards emergency management capabilities. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.fema.gov/emergency-management-performance-grant-program .
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. DHS
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	All hazards
Reimbursement for Firefighting on Federal Property	Description:	Provides reimbursement only for direct costs and losses over and above normal operating costs. Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/grants/firefighting_federal_property.html
	Responsible Agency:	U.S. DHS
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Wildfire
Land & Water Conservation Fund	Description:	Matching grants to states and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities (as well as funding for shared federal land acquisition and conservation strategies). Information on this program is available on the website: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/index.htm .
	Responsible Agency:	National Park Service
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes



Capability	Details	
	Hazard:	All natural hazards
State		
Texas Water Development Board Flood Funding	Description:	The TWDB offers a variety of cost-effective loan and grant programs that provide for the planning, acquisition, design, and construction of water-related infrastructure and other water quality improvements.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas Water Development Board
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flooding
Texas A&M Forest Service Prescribed Burn Grants	Description:	Texas A&M Forest Service offers grants to landowners to complete prescribed fires on private land. Each grant targets landowners in different priority areas across the state.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas A&M Forest Service
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Wildfire
Flood Control Dam Infrastructure Projects - Supplemental Funding	Description:	Projects to repair and rehabilitate flood control structures across Texas will now be funded due to a \$150 million appropriations bill legislators passed this session.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flooding, Dam Failure
Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF)	Description:	FIF program provides financial assistance in the form of loans and grants for flood control, flood mitigation, and drainage projects.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas Water Development Board
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flooding
Texas Coastal Management Program Grant	Description:	Funding for projects that address environmental concerns and promote economic development within the Texas coastal zone.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas General Land Office
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Erosion and Flooding
Texas Farm and Ranch Lands Conservation Program (TFRLCP)	Description:	Funding conserves natural resources by protecting working lands from fragmentation and development. TFRLCP maintains and enhances the ecological and agricultural productivity of these lands through Agricultural Conservation Easements.
	Responsible Agency:	Texas Parks and Wildlife
	Provides Funding for Mitigation:	Yes
	Hazard:	Flooding



5.5 Plan Integration

Described earlier in this section and within each annex, participating jurisdictions identified integration of hazard risk management into their existing planning, regulatory, and operational/administrative framework (“integration capabilities”) and intended integration promotion (integration actions). Volume II, Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) provides details on how each jurisdiction integrates hazard mitigation into their existing capabilities.

5.5.1 Integration Process

Hazard mitigation is a sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. Integrating hazard mitigation into a community’s existing plans, policies, codes, and programs leads to development patterns that do not increase risk from known hazards or leads to redevelopment that reduces risk from known hazards. The Fort Bend County Planning Partnership was tasked with identifying how hazard mitigation is integrated into existing planning mechanisms. Section 9 (Jurisdictional Annexes) details how this is done for each participating municipality and each County. During this process, many municipalities recognized the importance and benefits of incorporating hazard mitigation into future municipal planning and regulatory processes and have added new mitigation actions to support this effort. The Planning Partnership representatives will continue to incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of daily government operations.

Planning Partnership representatives will continue to work with local government officials to integrate the newly adopted hazard mitigation goals and actions into the general operations of government and partner organizations. Further, the sample adoption resolution presented in Appendix A (Plan Adoption) includes a resolution item stating the intent of the local governing body to incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of government and partner operations. By doing so, the Planning Partnership anticipates that:

1. Hazard mitigation planning will be formally recognized as an integral part of overall planning and emergency management efforts.
2. The Hazard Mitigation Plan, Master Plans, Emergency Management Plans, and other relevant planning mechanisms will become mutually supportive documents that work in concert to meet the goals and needs of County residents.

Section 7 (Plan Maintenance) provides for additional information on the implementation of the mitigation plan through existing programs.