

Section 3

Capability Identification Requirements

Planning Process---Requirement §201.6(b):

An open public involvement process is essential to the development of an effective plan.

Documentation of the Planning Process---Requirements §201.6(b):

In order to develop a more comprehensive approach to reducing the effects of natural disasters, the planning process shall include:

(3) Review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.

- Does the planning process describe the review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information?

Assessing Vulnerability: Analyzing Development Trends---Requirement §201.6(c)(2) (ii)(C):

[The plan **should** describe vulnerability in terms of] providing a general description of land uses and development trends within the community so that mitigation options can be considered in future land use decisions.

- Does the plan describe land uses and development trends?

**PIERCE COUNTY
CAPABILITY IDENTIFICATION**

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Introduction

DMA 2000 requires a “review and incorporation, if appropriate, of existing plans, studies, reports, and technical information.” For the purposes of this plan, these elements are referred to as capabilities and their “review and incorporation” as a capability identification. The capability identification provides a scope for what mitigation measures can and cannot be implemented and identifies specific capabilities that Pierce County has which may help in the implementation of mitigation measures. Further it identifies those actions already undertaken that mitigate natural hazards, whether labeled as such or not. The identification therefore canvasses all aspects of County government that relate both directly and indirectly to mitigation activity.

The ability of a community to develop an effective hazard mitigation plan depends upon its capability to implement policy and programs. The FEMA 386 publication describes a capability assessment and outlines the types of capabilities that should be considered:

- Legal and Regulatory
- Administrative and Technical
- Political and Fiscal

Legal and regulatory capabilities refer to the laws, regulations, authorities, and policies that govern current and potential mitigation measures. Administrative and technical capabilities refer to a jurisdiction’s staff and technical resources, as well as completed plans and studies that have considered, directly or indirectly, mitigation of natural hazards. Technical capabilities also include the existing electronic and systemic resources political and fiscal capabilities refers to the level of support from elected officials for pursuing mitigation and the financial resources available to achieve the identified mitigation strategies.

For the organizational purposes of this Plan, administrative capabilities are identified and categorized by Pierce County department, i.e., which departments conduct activities relevant to mitigation. The fiscal capabilities at the County level are thus correlated to the budgets and expenditures of these departments. Political leadership of Pierce County is divided into two components (County Executive and County Council) and these are identified within the structure of the aforementioned administrative capabilities. Thus fiscal capabilities at the County level are assumed to be an inextricable element of the administrative/political capabilities. Therefore the structure of this plan was altered from 386.3 to review and identify capabilities in three separate categories:

- Legal and Regulatory
- Political, Administrative, and Fiscal
- Technical

The following section begins with an identification of capabilities at the State and Federal level that dictate what counties in Washington can and cannot pursue with regards to mitigation, as well as what assistance may be available. While not necessarily focusing on the state and federal *capabilities*, this section identifies those mechanisms that provide the basis for that which follows at the county-level identification. The end of Section 3.1 identifies fiscal capabilities in the form of federal grants that can be applied to mitigation measures. Table 3-1 provides a summary of the information in this subsection.

Sub-sections 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 narrow the identification to Pierce County capabilities. Sub-section 3.2 identifies the legal and regulatory capabilities of the County with particular emphasis on the County's Comprehensive Plan and Development Regulations. Sub-section 3.3 identifies the political, administrative, and fiscal capabilities by focusing on those departments that currently conduct activities related to mitigation, whether or not those activities are defined as such. This section is organized by department, identifies mission statements and funding sources, and includes project expenditures where relevant. Subsection 3.4 identifies the studies, plans, programs, and projects that the County has conducted or is currently conducting. Tables 3-2 and 3-3 provide summary information on specific legal and regulatory capabilities. Table 3-4 provides further summary information on specific technical capabilities. Table 3-5 provides further summary information on specific administrative capabilities.

Table 3-1 Federal and State Capability Identification

LEGAL AND REGULATORY	TECHNICAL	ADMINISTRATIVE	FISCAL
Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 Federal Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Program NPDES Storm Water Permit Program National Flood Insurance Program Forest Practices Act Washington Forest Practices Act Revised Code of Washington Washington Administrative Code State Environmental Policy Act Shoreline Management Act Growth Management Act Zoning Ordinance Building Code Authority Real Estate Disclosure Acquisition Authority Eminent Domain Comprehensive Emergency Management	FEMA 386 Series “How To Manuals” Community Rating System (CRS) Coordinator’s Manual CTED Comprehensive Plan Element for Natural Hazard Reductions Puget Sound Water Quality Management Plan Multibeam Mapping of the Major Deltas of Southern Puget Sound Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan WA State Emergency Management Program WA State Emergency Management Plan WA State HIVA WA State Hazard Mitigation Program The Puyallup River Valley Pilot Lahar Detection System FEMA-154: <i>Rapid Visual Screening of Buildings for Potential Seismic Hazards: A Handbook.</i> FEMA-310: <i>NEHRP Handbook for the Seismic Evaluation of Existing Buildings: A Pre-Standard.</i> Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) Program	Federal Emergency Management Agency FEMA Region X US Geological Survey Cascade Volcano Observatory US Department of Agriculture Environmental Protection Agency National Weather Service Forecast Office Seattle WA Emergency Management Division WA Department of Natural Resources WA Department of Ecology WA Office of Financial Management WA Department of Community Trade and Economic Development Office of Community Development WA Firefighter Association WA State Association of Fire Chiefs WA State Fire Commissioners Ass Puyallup Tribe of Indians Puget Sound Regional Council (Regional) American Red Cross (National Agency) United Way (National Agency) Municipal Research & Service Center of Washington State (State Level Research Agency)	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program Flood Mitigation Assistance Program Flood Control Account Assistance Program Community Development Block Grants Hazard Mitigation Technical Assistance Program Contract National Earthquake Technical Assistance Program Wind and Water Technical Assistance Program Emergency Management Program Grant Conservation Futures Fund Community Facilities Grant Program Cascade Land Conservancy

Table 3-2 Pierce County Legal and Regulatory Capability Identification

LEGAL AND REGULATORY			
Comprehensive Plan* Capital Facility Plan Rural Areas Plan Zoning Ordinance Subdivision and Site Plan		Real Estate Disclosure Economic Development Plan Comprehensive Emergency Management Acquisition Authority Enforce Burn Bans	PC Building Code PC Planning Requirements Flood Hazard Reductions Ordinance (NFIP) PC Farmland Protection Ordinance Rural Farm Land Use Designation
PIERCE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OBJECTIVES			
Land Use Element		Environmental and Critical Element	Utilities Element
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Growth Areas • Employment Centers (9) • Mixed Use Districts • Employment Centers (10) • High Density Residential District (11) • Resource Lands—Agriculture (15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Lands—Forestry (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28) • Residential (33, 34, 37, 42) • Industry (51) • Recreation (54, 55, 56, 56a) • Open Space (57, 58, 59, 60, 61) • Public and Community Facilities (62, 66) • Surface Water (80, 81, 82, 83, 84) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Goals (2) • Coordination Among Governmental Entities (3) • Water Quality (5) • Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecosystems (6) • Fish and Wildlife (8) • Hazardous Areas (9) • Wetlands (10) • Best Available Science and Adaptive Management (13) • Environmental Regulations and Permitting Process (15) • Preservation of Historic and Cultural Heritage (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General (2, 6, 8) • Sewer Services and Wastewater Treatment (14, 15) • Solid Waste Management (16, 18) • Domestic Water Systems (21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28)
			Capital Facilities Areas Element
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Facility Needs (1) • Coordination and Consistency with Other Plans and Policies (4) • Implementation Programs (5)
Rural Element		Housing Element	Community Plans Element
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Uses Generally (1) • Rural Densities (2) • Conservation of Rural Resources (3) • Rural Centers Element (6) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and Awareness Programs (1) • Solutions to Housing Issues (2) • Housing Costs (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Autonomy (1) • Community Character (2) • New Community Plans (3) • Consistency with Plan (4)
Economic Development Element		Transportation Element	Essential Public Facilities Element
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing Business (1) • Business Development - Economic Diversity (2) • Employment Centers (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure (5) • Environment (8) • Regulatory Framework (9) • Coordination (10) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-Motorized Transportation (2) • Roads (3) • Other Motorized Transportation (4) • Implementation Strategies and Actions (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siting Process • 19A.120.020 Participation • 19A.120.030 Recognition of Existing Essential Public Facilities • 19A.120.040 Siting Criteria

Table 3-3 Pierce County Development Regulations

MULTI-HAZARD	VOLCANIC
Critical Areas (Title 18E)	Volcanic Hazard Areas (Title 18E.60)
Subdivisions and Platting (Title 16)	SEVERE STORMS
Road and Bridge Design and Construction Standards (Title 17B)	Building Code: Wind
Building and Fire Codes (Title 17C)	Construction and Infrastructure Regulations—Site Development and Stormwater Drainage (Title 17A)
General Provisions (Title 18)	TSUNAMI
Zoning (Title 18A)	Flood Hazard Areas (Title 18E.70)
Site Development (Title 18C)	Seismic Hazard Areas (Title 18E.90)
Environmental (Title 18D)	Shoreline Area Regulations (Title 20)
Design Standards and Guidelines (Title 18J)	LANDSLIDE
Shoreline Regulations (Title 20)	Landslide Hazard Areas (Title 18E.80)
EARTHQUAKE	Erosion Hazard Areas (Title 18E.110)
Seismic Hazard Areas (18E.90)	Building Code: Landslide and Erosion
Building Code: Seismic Hazard Areas	WUI FIRE
FLOOD	Forest Practices (Title 18H)
Flood Hazard Areas (Title 18E.70)	Building Code: WUI Fire
Site Development and Stormwater Drainage (Title 17A)	County Land Use
Wetland Areas (Title 18E.30)	
Seismic Hazard Areas (Title 18E.90.20)	
Erosion Hazard Areas (Title 18E.110.20)	
Shoreline Regulations (Title 20)	
Building Code: Flood Hazard Areas	

Table 3-4 Pierce County Technical Capability Identification

Technical		
<p><u>Multi-Hazard</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Plans • Buildable Lands Program • PC Capital Facilities Plan • PC Transportation Improvement Program and Plan • PC Non-Motorized Transportation Plan • PC Fourteen Year Ferry Program • PC Annual Road Program • Roads Maintenance Management System • PC Web Portal • PC GIS System and CountyView • Critical Area Data Enhancement Project • Parcel Based Hazard Mapping • PC Mitigation 20/20 Database • USGS National Map • NOAA Weather Radio Network • Pierce Responder • PC-NET Program • Underground Utilities • PC DEM-Sponsored Training Programs • PC Intra-Governmental Training • PC Emergency Training and Exercise • Public Education • PC CAFR • Riverside Fire and Rescue Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan • Pierce County Land Conservancy <p><u>Earthquake Hazard</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Port to Port” Transportation Corridor Earthquake Vulnerability Project • Contingency Route Planning • County Facilities Seismic Evaluation • Bridge Seismic Retrofit Program and Report • Earthquake Home Retrofit Program • Project Impact • PC KidsCorps—Childcare Non-Structural Retrofit Program • HAZUS Vulnerability Mapping • ATC 20 and 21 Training 	<p><u>Flood Hazard</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC Low Impact Development Study • PC Water Programs Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan • WRIA 15 Kitsap Basin Water Pollution Control and Abatement Plan • Puyallup River Flood Control Management Plan • Puyallup River Basin Comprehensive Flood Control Management Plan • PC Repetitive Loss Plan • PC Storm Drainage and Surface Water Management Plan • Watershed Action Plans • Basin Plans • Chambers-Clover Management Plan Project: Watershed Management Plan • Nisqually River Management Plan • The PC Coordinated Water System Plan • Clover Chambers Creek Groundwater Management Plan • Puyallup River Water Quality Management Plan • Lake Tapps Facilities Plan, as appended • PC River Improvement Program • Floodplain Mapping • General Purpose Hydrology Database • Title and Plat Notification • PC Flood Warning and Response Program • Levee and Dike Maintenance Program • Repetitive Flood Loss Property Acquisition Program • Property Acquisition Program (all Hazards??) • Retention Dams • Roadside Vegetation Programs • 2002 CIP Construction Accomplishments 	<p><u>Volcanic HazardMt. Rainier Response Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mt. Rainier Evacuation Plan • Lahar Warning System • Severe Storms Hazard • Warm and Dry Program • Tree Maintenance <p><u>Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Hazard</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC Fire Service Emergency Resource Plan • Fire Districts • Fire District Annexations • Fire Safety Burn Bans • Burning Permits • Road Access • WUI Fire Public Education • Firewise Communities

Table 3-5 Pierce County Administrative Capability Identification

Administrative—County Departments and Fiscal Resources		
<p>County Council (elected officials)</p> <p>County Executive (elected official)</p> <p>Assessor-Treasurer (elected official)</p> <p>Prosecuting Attorney (elected official)</p>	<p>Community Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Action • Community Development • Cooperative Extension • Economic Development • Housing Repair Program • Low Income Housing Fee Fund • Prevention Services and Programs <p>Emergency Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Medical Services • Emergency Management Grants Fund • Fire Prevention Services • Radio Communications Fund • 911 System <p>Facilities Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Improvement Projects • Real Estate Excise Tax Capital Improvement Fund • Real Property Management - in Special Projects <p>Information Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographical Information Services 	<p>Parks and Recreation Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Futures Fund • Golf Courses • Paths and Trails • Parks Construction Fund • Parks Impact Fee Fund • Parks Sales Tax Bond Fund • Parks Sales Tax Fund • Parks REET Bond Fund • Peninsula Recreation Program • Second REET-Parks <p>Planning and Land Services</p> <p>Public Works and Utilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Services • Transportation Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Road Fund • Pierce County Ferry Services • Public Works Construction Fund • Second REET - Roads • Water Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real Estate Excise Tax – River • Surface Water Management Fund • Water Utility <p>Risk Management</p>