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FRANKLIN COUNTY

PRESS RELEASE

Franklin County Focuses on Disaster Preparedness

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Receives Stamp of Approval

Franklin County, July 22, 2016: Franklin County municipalities will be better prepared for disasters with the recent approval of a local hazard mitigation plan. The plan is a long-term strategy to reduce the community's vulnerability to natural disasters.

Adopted plans identify hazards and potential hazards in the communities, and create a framework to help community officials make decisions that may ultimately protect lives and property.

The plan also outlines a strategy for implementing mitigation projects in Franklin County. Through projects such as Local Plans Review, Structural Projects, Natural System Protection and Preparedness and Response Action, Franklin County and its municipalities (Bunn, Louisburg, Centerville, Franklinton and Youngsville) are taking proactive steps to lessen the impact of future disasters and the costly expenses associated with them.

History shows physical, financial and emotional losses caused by disasters can be reduced significantly through hazard mitigation planning. The planning process encourages communities to integrate mitigation with day-to-day decision making regarding land-use planning, floodplain management, site design and other activities.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency reviews and approves state, tribal and local hazard mitigation plans, which are required as a condition for states and communities to receive certain types of disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation projects. State mitigation plans must be approved every five years, and local and tribal mitigation plans must be approved at least once every five years.

For additional information, please contact Jeff Lewis, Emergency Services Director, at (919) 496-5005.

Franklin County Government is committed to effective and innovative public services for all Franklin County citizens and businesses.