

## **Agenda Item Summary**

**To:** Policy Board

**From:** Maureen Goulet, Principal Program Manager

**CC:** Matt Hart, Executive Director

**Meeting Date:** February 22, 2023

**Subject:** Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

**Background:** Since 2008, CRCOG and our member towns have prepared a regional natural hazard mitigation plan. The intent of this plan is to identify known or potential hazards, to develop a plan to mitigate those hazards, and to implement the mitigation plan. In January 2022, we received notice that CRCOG had received an earmark through DEMHS to update our existing plan that was adopted in Spring of 2019. Because the current plan expires in 2024, CRCOG is beginning the process of updating the existing plan.

**Benefit to Member Towns/CRCOG:** To receive FEMA funds in the event of a natural disaster, municipalities need an approved Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation plan. CRCOG will use the DEMHS funds will be used to engage with our municipalities to inventory and prepare GIS data for the vulnerability and planning process, provide feedback on the regional vulnerability assessment, provide mapping analysis, identify and review potential adaptation and resilience projects, and to update existing plans to include climate vulnerability assessments.

**Financial/Operational Impact:**

The \$189,000.00 in funds we will receive from DEMHS will be used to engage a consultant to assist all towns in the region with updates of their current hazard mitigation plans. We will leverage the DEMHS funds with \$63,000 from the Regional Services Grant for cost share, and \$40,000 from CIRCA for public engagement activities required by the grant guidelines.

**Project Schedule:** Due to a significant delay in the receipt of the funding, the schedule will commence as soon as possible. We expect the work to be completed and approved by March of 2024.

**Recommendation:** To receive the benefits of these grant funds, staff recommends that the Board approve the Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of funds from the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

**Attachments:**

- RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS TO UPDATE THE CAPITOL REGION NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR 2024-2029

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS TO UPDATE THE  
CAPITOL REGION NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR 2024-2029**

**WHEREAS**, the Capitol Region Council of Governments has worked with our member municipalities to develop a FEMA approved five-year regional natural hazard mitigation plan since 2008, and is currently preparing to update the 2019-2024 plan for 2024-2029; the purpose of this plan is to set forth mitigation strategies that will reduce the loss of life and property, economic disruptions, and the cost of post-disaster recovery for the thirty-eight Capitol Region communities; and

**WHEREAS**, these funds have been used to create and update the Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan which must be approved by FEMA in order to receive FEMA funds in the event of a disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, CRCOG has been awarded \$189,000.00 through Congressionally Directed Spending as a FEMA subgrant through the Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security to update the 2019-2024 Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation plan, and has budgeted \$63,000.00 in match funds and accepted \$40,000.00 from CIRCA for public engagement activities, making a total budget of \$292,000.00 to update the existing plan;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the CRCOG Policy Board, that its Executive Director may authorize any necessary documents and agreements to accept the Congressionally Directed funds to begin the planning process for the 2024-2029 Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation plan update.

I certify that the above is a true copy of the resolution adopted by the CRCOG Policy Board at its meeting on February 22, 2023. I further hereby certify that the above resolution has not been in any way altered, amended, or repealed, and is now in full force and effect.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Bowsza, Secretary

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_