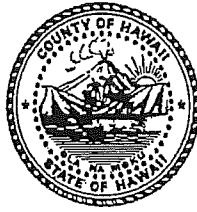


William P. Kenoi
Mayor

Walter K.M. Lau
Managing Director



Darryl J. Oliveira
Civil Defense Administrator

County of Hawaii

CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY

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September 8, 2014

Frank DeMarco, Civil Engineer IV
Department of Public Works
County of Hawaii

Dear Mr. DeMarco,

I would like to provide you with this letter and the enclosed information as it pertains to Hawaii County's annual recertification application for the Community Rating System (CRS). This letter includes information regarding the status of the County of Hawaii Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan and those flood events or incidents that presented with damages in excess of \$50,000.

1. Over the course of the last year from August 1, 2013 through July 31 2014, the County of Hawaii experienced multiple moderate to minor flood activity events and one (1) significant flood event that damaged structures and caused an excess of \$50,000 in damages. Specifically, during the last week of December 2013, a substantial and fairly regionalized rainfall event occurred in the North Hilo through Hamakua, and the South Kohala Districts. The impact and severity of the flood conditions varied across the districts with the most severe conditions and damages occurring in the Hamakua areas of Honokaa and Paauilo. The heavy deluge and associated runoff and high volume stream flows resulted in minor flooding of some structures and the damage and displacement of a large culvert system and the collapse of the superior roadway of Pohakea Road in the Paauilo Mauka area. The estimated damages for the repair and replacement of the culvert system totaled in excess of \$360,000.00. During this event and other moderate to minor flood events of the year, the County implemented and deployed its flood warning systems and response plans as prescribed. This included, but was not limited to the identification and recognition of potential weather systems and phenomena, the performance of event and locale specific hazard/risk assessments, development and dissemination of public warnings and advisories, and the activation of appropriate response plans and procedures.
2. In addition to the actual events and incidents that triggered the activation and deployment of flood response plans, the various stakeholder agencies and organizations of Hawaii County participated in the annual Makani Pahili Statewide Hurricane Preparedness Exercise. Understanding and recognizing the elements of a hurricane that include high winds, heavy rains and flooding, and storm surf and surge; this annual exercise affords participating agencies with the opportunity to review and identify the potential impacts of these elements. Utilizing various predictive models and impact measurement tools such as Flood Insurance Rating Maps (FIRM) and storm surge and run-up models.

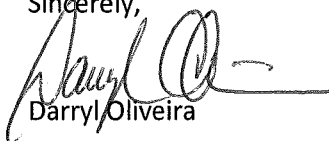


3. With respect to the review, update, and revision of the Hawaii County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP), the following is a summary of those associated activities and efforts:
 - a. The current MHMP was adopted in August 2010 and is targeted for update and FEMA approval by October 2015.
 - b. The Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency (HCCDA) submitted an application for the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program for the purpose of acquiring funding to support the technical revision and update of the MHMP.
 - c. In addition to the ongoing internal review of the current MHMP, the HCCDA has hired (employee contract) a project manager effective August 18, 2014 to manage and coordinate the revision, review, and adoption of the revised plan to include the review and approval of FEMA and the State and County processes of adoption.
 - d. As part of the review and update of hazard specific elements of the MHMP, the update and revision of Tsunami Inundation and Evacuation Maps was completed. Dr. Kwok Fai Cheung of the University of Hawaii completed the modeling of historical events (five recent history tsunamis) for Hawaii Island. The model data and analysis was utilized to review current evacuation maps for effectiveness and safety margins and public release and published maps have been updated and disseminated. It should be noted that the updated maps published for public use and access now contain evacuation area information for the populated areas of Hawaii Island and have addressed gaps previously not included (Kawaihae to Kohala Ranch).
 - e. A common mitigation element of nearly all hazards is the community or public warning systems. One component of the warning system that is currently undergoing upgrade and renovation is the outdoor warning siren system. In partnership with the State Civil Defense/Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, the HCCDA continues to assist with the statewide siren expansion and modernization and renovation projects. The first is a project consisting of four (4) phases; phase 1, replacement sirens in tsunami prone areas; phase 2, new sirens in tsunami prone areas; phase 3, replacement sirens in non-tsunami prone areas; and phase 4, new sirens in non-tsunami prone areas. The modernization project involves the upgrade of the siren activation from a radio signal system to a satellite/cellular signal activation that is expected to improve system reliability and provide for remote diagnostic assessments of system operations.
 - f. Consideration is also being given to the inclusion of Hazardous Material Release as a possible hazard based on specific facility concerns and as it may relate to land use, warning systems, public education, and effective risk assessment measures.

As stated and planned, the Hawaii County MHMP revision is expected to be completed and the updated plan adopted by October 2015.

The aforementioned information has been summarized and attached as an overview of the project status and for submittal with the recertification of the Hawaii County CRS application. If you have any questions regarding this information please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Darryl Oliveira

**Hawaii County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan
Annual Report
September 2014**

1. **Tsunami Inundation and Evacuation Mapping:** As part of the review and update of hazard specific elements of the MHMP, the update and revision of Tsunami Inundation and Evacuation Maps was completed. Dr. Kwok Fai Cheung of the University of Hawaii completed the modeling of historical events (five recent history tsunamis) for Hawaii Island. The model data and analysis was utilized to review current evacuation maps for effectiveness and safety margins and public release and published maps have been updated and disseminated. It should be noted that the updated maps published for public use and access now contain evacuation area information for the populated areas of Hawaii Island and have addressed gaps previously not included (Kawaihae to Kohala Ranch).
2. **All Hazards Warning Systems:** A common mitigation element of nearly all hazards is the community or public warning systems. One component of the warning system that is currently undergoing upgrade and renovation is the outdoor warning siren system. In partnership with the State Civil Defense/Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, the HCCDA continues to assist with the statewide siren expansion and modernization and renovation projects. The first is a project consisting of four (4) phases; phase 1, replacement sirens in tsunami prone areas; phase 2, new sirens in tsunami prone areas; phase 3, replacement sirens in non-tsunami prone areas; and phase 4, new sirens in non-tsunami prone areas. The modernization project involves the upgrade of the siren activation from a radio signal system to a satellite/cellular signal activation that is expected to improve system reliability and provide for remote diagnostic assessments of system operations.
3. **Hazard Updates and Modifications:** Consideration is also being given to the inclusion of Hazardous Material Release as a possible hazard based on specific facility concerns and as it may relate to land use, warning systems, public education, and effective risk assessment measures.
4. **Plan Update Status:** The current MHMP was adopted in August 2010 and is targeted for update and FEMA approval by October 2015.
 - a. The Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency (HCCDA) submitted an application for the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program for the purpose of acquiring funding to support the technical revision and update of the MHMP.
 - b. In addition to the ongoing internal review of the current MHMP, the HCCDA has hired (employee contract) a project manager effective August 18, 2014 to manage and coordinate the revision, review, and adoption of the revised plan to include the review and approval of FEMA and the State and County processes of adoption.

All previously identified plan revision actions, recommendations, and projects have either been completed or remain in progress with the ongoing efforts to meet the scheduled review and update of the Hawaii County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan and target adoption by October 1, 2015.