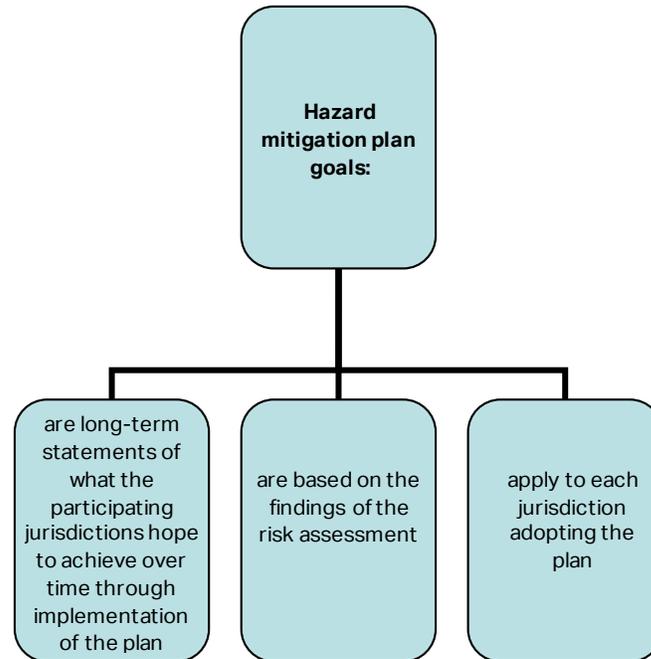


SECTION 5 - MITIGATION GOALS

This section of the plan presents 2019 State Plan goals, and updated goals for this county-wide, multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan.



New Jersey State Hazard Mitigation Plan Goals

As outlined in the New Jersey State Hazard Mitigation Plan (2019), the State's goals are:

1. Protect life
2. Protect property
3. Increase public preparedness and awareness
4. Develop and maintain and understanding of risks from natural hazards
5. Enhance State and local mitigation capabilities to reduce hazard vulnerabilities
6. Support continuity of operations pre-, during, and post- hazard events

To accomplish the State goals through the mitigation strategy, New Jersey has documented in Section 6 of the 2019 State Plan that it will use the following approach:

- Recognize flooding as the major disaster threat facing the State and use mitigation methods such as building elevation or land acquisition between a voluntary seller and a public agency as a means to accomplish all of the goals and objectives (with additional Repetitive Loss Strategy information discussed in Section 8 of the State Plan, and summarized at the end of this subsection).

- Another means of accomplishing the State goals is to offer assistance in the elevation of homes where or when acquisition is not an option.
- Work with county and municipal governments that have an approved local mitigation plan or plans that are nearing completion to develop sound and beneficial projects to alleviate the impacts of all-natural disasters, including but not limited to flooding.
- Cooperative focused efforts to address energy and retail fuel resiliency, and continuity of operations
- Coordinated funding efforts
- Incentivizing best practices through the creation and prioritization of mitigation actions

New Jersey Repetitive Loss Strategy: The State's strategy to reduce the number of repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss properties is documented in full in Section 8 of the 2019 State Plan. In summary, the State's strategy for mitigation Repetitive Loss (RL) and Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) properties consists of the following objectives:

- Ensure that local jurisdictions with SRL properties take actions to reduce the number of these properties
- Include SRL in the description of process for providing funding and technical assistance to prepare mitigation plans
- Prioritize project grants for communities that have RL and SRL properties.

The 2019 State Plan lists the following six priorities to fund elevation and buyouts projects, and indicates that funding to mitigate SRL properties that are substantially damaged is the State's highest priority.

1. Substantially Damaged, Severe Repetitive Loss Properties (FEMA insured)
2. Substantially Damaged, Repetitive Loss Properties (FEMA insured)
3. Severe Repetitive Loss Properties (FEMA insured)
4. Repetitive Loss Properties (FEMA insured)
5. Substantially Damaged (FEMA insured)
6. Other Properties (Non FEMA Insured)

Atlantic County Multi-Jurisdictional Vision Statement and Goals

[Vision Statement](#)

Per FEMA guidance (386-1), a mission statement (vision statement) or guiding principle describes the overall duty and purpose of the planning process and serves to identify the principal message of the plan. Atlantic County did not opt to develop a formal vision statement as part of its 2016 Plan. However, the plan did include a general statement of the overall aim of the plan. As part of the 2022 Plan update, Atlantic County OEP opted to transform this overall aim statement into a formal vision statement. The draft plan section featuring the vision statement was made available to the CPG for review and comment via the

plan website on June 2, 2021. No comments were received suggesting revisions, hence the statement below represents the CPG's final vision statement for this 2022 Plan Update.

Atlantic County and its participating jurisdictions will continually aim to reduce deaths, injuries, and economic losses stemming from natural and man-made hazards, and to lead by example in fostering community resilience and protecting the environment in the face of future natural events to improve the lives of the people of the County.

Goals

Goals for the Atlantic County multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan were developed by taking into consideration both state and jurisdictional goals for mitigation. The goals or actions in this County plan are in close alignment with the goals of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan. Since this plan's inception in 2010, Atlantic County's multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan goals had been largely structured around specific hazard types. The previous goals (as presented in the original 2010 plan and the 2016 update) were as follows:

1. Promote disaster-resistant development.
2. Build and support local capacity to enable the public to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.
3. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to flooding caused by floods, hurricanes and nor'easters (including storm surges).
4. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to earthquakes.
5. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to lightning strikes.
6. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to droughts.
7. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to coastal erosion and wave action.
8. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to dam failure.
9. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to wildfires.
10. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to winter storms.
11. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to extreme temperatures.
12. Reduce the possibility of damage and losses due to tornadoes and high winds caused by windstorms, hurricanes and nor'easters.
13. Reduce the possibility of damages to emergency and critical facilities from damage due to flooding, storm surge, wildfires, and extreme winds.

As part of the 2021 Plan update, and in consideration of the 2019 State Plan goals, the planning team reconsidered its 2016 Plan goals and opted to streamline them. Preliminary goal statements were developed by Atlantic County OEP (with consultant guidance) and the draft plan section featuring the streamlined goals was made available to the CPG for review and comment via the plan website on June 2, 2021. No comments were received suggesting further revisions, hence the list below represents the CPG's updated goals for the 2021 Plan Update.

- 1) **Increase Public Awareness.** Promote and sustain disaster resilient communities by increasing the awareness of hazard risks within the whole community (general public, County government, local governments, and key stakeholders), and how these risks can be mitigated.
- 2) **Improve Capabilities.** Enhance and support the capacity and capability of the County and its communities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters and ensure continuity of operations.
- 3) **Protect Existing Assets.** Reduce the potential dangers and losses caused by hazards that pose a significant risk to Atlantic County through implementation of hazard mitigation initiatives that will protect people and property (structures, infrastructure, and critical facilities) in harm's way during future hazard events, with a particular focus on NFIP Repetitive Loss and Severe Repetitive Loss properties when possible.
- 4) **Promote Resilient New Development.** Promote mitigation actions and construction and design techniques that will minimize or eliminate potential impacts of natural hazards at sites where new development is taking place or where existing development is being expanded.