



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

MEMORANDUM

August 8, 2022

TO: Mayor and Board of Commissioners

FROM: Debora P. Díaz, Town Manager 

REF: New Business

4. Outer Banks Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan – Progress Report (Attached NB-4)

The Town of Kill Devil Hills participates in the National Flood Insurance Program and the Community Rating System (CRS), which is a voluntary incentive program that encourages community floodplain management practices and promotes reduced flood risk and damage to properties. With the Town's participation in CRS, property owners can realize substantial savings through decreased flood insurance rates.

As a part of its CRS participation, the Town reviews and regularly updates its portion of the Outer Banks Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, as the plan includes Currituck and Dare Counties, and their municipalities. Planning Director Meredith Guns' attached memorandum highlights the CRS Progress Report and updated Mitigation Strategy.

No Board action is necessary.

Director of
Planning and Inspections
MEREDITH GUNS

Building Inspector
MARTY SHAW
CHARLES THUMAN

Code Enforcement Officer
JORDAN BLYTHE



Assistant Director of
Planning and Inspections
CAMERON RAY

Senior Planner
RYAN LANG

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DONNA ELLIOTT

**THE TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS
NORTH CAROLINA**

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

August 8, 2022

Memorandum

To: Debbie Diaz, Town Manager

From: Meredith Guns, Planning Director 

Subject: Outer Banks Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan – Progress Report

As part of the Community Rating System Program the Town reviews and updates the Hazard Mitigation Action Plan. The Town is currently part of the Outer Banks Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan adopted in 2020. This plan includes Dare County, Currituck County and all municipalities within the county. Each local government developed Mitigation Strategies. This is part of the 2020 Outer Banks Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Town of Kill Devil Hills mitigation strategies is located in Appendix D of the Plan.

Attached to this memorandum is the CRS Progress Report and the updated Mitigation Strategy for your review. This will be sent to the Town CRS Coordinator as part of the Town's annual review.

CRS Activity 510

Progress Report on Implementation of Credited Plan

Date this Report was Prepared: July 20, 2022
Name of Community: Town of Kill Devil Hills
Name of Plan: 2020 Outer Banks Hazard Mitigation Plan
Date of Adoption of Plan: May 20, 2020
5 Year CRS Expiration Date: May 2025

How can a copy of the original plan or area analysis report be obtained:

The Town of Kill Devil Hills maintains a copy of the 2020 Outer Banks Hazard Mitigation Plan electronically on the Town website and in hardcopy at the Planning Department office.

Describe how this evaluation report was prepared and how it was submitted to the governing body, released to the media, and made available to the public:

The 2020 Outer Banks Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted in 2020. The mitigation efforts for Kill Devil Hills are located in Appendix D of the plan. Staff reviewed and revised the Town efforts and will present the revised matrix to the Board of Commissioners August 8, 2022 at a regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners meeting with proper public notice to receive input.

Provide a description of the implementation of each recommendation or action item in the action plan or area analysis report, including a statement on how the project was implemented or not implemented during the previous year:

Most action items were implemented in the past year (see attached Action Plan Update). Following the review, the following objectives were not fully implemented:

Open space preservation – *The Town was unable to secure more open space in the floodplain due to budgetary concerns, however, the Town was able to maintain its existing inventory of open space.*

Relocation/acquisition of repetitive loss properties - *The Town was unable to relocate or acquire repetitive loss properties due to budgetary limitations; however, relocation or elevation of structures was encouraged.*

What are the recommendations for new projects or revised recommendations?

Staff has accomplished the following action items as part of the Hazard Mitigation Plan update including:

- *Adding Freeboard to the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance - complete*
- *Schedule a “What’s new in Mitigation” briefing for the governing board annually. – In progress*
- *Emergency Responses – Continue to participate in countywide emergency operations hurricane exercise. – Last exercise was May 2022.*
- *Applied for a BRIC Grant to improve stormwater management. Awaiting grant aware notification.*

Dissemination

The 2022 Progress Report will be submitted to the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners, August 8, 2022, and released to the media and public on that date.

ANNEX D: TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

D.5 MITIGATION STRATEGY

Action #	Action Description	Hazard(s) Addressed	Goal & Objective Addressed	Priority	Lead Agency / Department	Potential Funding Source	Implementation Timeline	2022 Status	2022 Implementation Status Comments
Prevention									
KDH1	Drainage System Maintenance - Continue mowing drainage ditches and conduct normal maintenance and storm event driven maintenance	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	2.2	High	Public Services, NCDOT	General Fund	Annually	Carry Forward	Continue to maintain ditches and other storm water systems to reduce/eliminate standing water. This is constantly updated and prioritized quarterly. <i>Capital Project for Street improvement continue to include drainage improvements.</i>
KDH2	Erosion and Sediment Control - Continue to enforce local and state regulations	Flood, Coastal Hazards	3.2	High	Planning Department	General Fund	Annually	Carry Forward	Review and Enforcement of State Sedimentation regulations and staff serving as S&E inspector
KDH3	Maritime Forest Environmental Zoning District - Continue to enforce the Maritime Forest Environmental Zoning District	Wildfire	3.2	High	Planning Department	General Fund	Annually	Carry Forward	Action modified. Participate in control burn of the marsh and other portion of Maritime forest to prevent forest fires.
KDH4	Flood Response - Coordinate efforts to expedite reconstruction and rebuilding efforts in cooperation with Dare County Emergency Management staff.	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards, Winter Storm	3.1	High	Planning Department	General Fund	1-3 years	Carry Forward	In state of Emergency, offer no cost permits for damage repair and work with Dare County to coordinate mitigation grants.
KDH5	Fire Protection - Implement Water Systems Master Plan	Wildfire	3.3	High	Public Services, Water Department	Water Fund	1-5 years	Carry Forward	Continue replacing waterlines in accordance with the Water Master Plan. Require flow test for new development sites. <i>Water line replacement part of capital Street projects as much as possible.</i>
KDH6	Storm water Management - Continue to implement the storm water management plan. Local Planning and Regulations.	Flood, Coastal Hazards	3.3	High	Public Services	General Fund	6 months	UPDATED	Development of regulatory requirements for maintenance. Maintain and use staff BMP inspection certificates. <i>Town has developed stormwater regulations for large single family dwellings and will continue to implement regulations.</i>
KDH7	Map Information - Maintain updated flood map information for citizens and customers. Map Erosion areas annually to help inform the public of high erosion areas.	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	1.1	High	NC Division of Emergency Management, Planning Department	NC Division of Emergency Management	1 year	Carry Forward	Maintain current and historic flood maps. Provide education information to citizens annually. Map erosion prone areas to better regulate development.
KDH8	Continue to participate in CRS	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	3.3	High	Planning Department	General Fund	Annually	Carry Forward	Work to increase score in CRS program specifically for public outreach and education. <i>Town improved in the CRS program to Class 5 Community in 2021.</i>
KDH9	Add freeboard to the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance for development in and outside the SFHA	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	3.1	High	Planning Department	General Fund	1 year	COMPLETE	Update the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance in conjunction with updated flood maps. <i>2020 Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance was updated including high regulatory standards in the</i>

ANNEX D: TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

									<i>X zone and 3 foot of freeboard in AE Zone, one foot in AO.</i>
Property Protection									
KDH10	Relocation - Expedite permitting for the relocation of repetitive loss situations	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	1.2	Medium	Planning Department	General Fund	3-5 years	Carry Forward	Incomplete
KDH11	Acquisition - Encourage repetitive loss properties to consider acquisition as a possible solution	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	1.2	Low	Planning Director, Board of Commissioners	NC Division of Emergency Management, FEMA	5+ years	Carry Forward	Incomplete by lack of funding
KDH12	Critical Facilities Protection - Take appropriate actions to prevent and/or minimize damages to critical facilities. Use generators or other forms of redundant power to ensure that critical facilities and infrastructure remain operational.	All	2.1/2.2	High	Police, Fire & Rescue, Public Works, NC Dominion Power	General Fund	1-3 years	Carry Forward	Utilize shutters on windows in municipal buildings. Test and fuel alternative power sources and install alternative energy sources on all Town buildings. <i>2021 Generators were replaced in Town Hall.</i>
Natural Resource Protection									

Action #	Action Description	Hazard(s) Addressed	Goal & Objective Addressed	Priority	Lead Agency / Department	Potential Funding Source	Implementation Timeline	2022 Status	2022 Implementation Status Comments
KDH13	Open Space Preservation - Support efforts to preserve natural areas	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards, Severe Weather	3.3	High	Planning Department	General Fund	3-5 years	Carry Forward	Incomplete due to lack of funding
KDH14	Wetlands Protection - Continue to utilize the zoning ordinance and the Land Use Plan to protect wetlands, implement and enforce CAMA AEC regulations and refer applicants to US Army Corps of Engineers for Section 404 wetlands.	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	3.2	High	USACE, Planning Department, NCDEQ	General Fund	Annually	Carry Forward	Protect wetlands and look into living shorelines in public estuarine areas.
KDH15	Reservoirs - 1. Continue protection efforts concerning the Fresh Pond. 2. Maintain liaison with NC Division of Coastal Management concerning the development of the Kill Devil Hills Land Use Plan	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards, Winter Storm	3.1	High	Planning Department, CAMA	General Fund	1 year	Updated	Updating CAMA Land Use Plan and Maintain AEC at Fresh Pond. <i>2020 Kill Devil Hills Land Use Plan was adopted by Board of Commissioners and Coastal Resources Commission.</i>
KDH16	Surface Water Quality - Preserve surface water quality and enhance water quality through storm water management and zoning.	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	3.2	High	Planning Department, Public Services	General Fund	3-5 years	Updated	Continue to maintain storm water system and improve run off. Follow Town Storm water Master Plan to reduce dependency on NCDOT Ocean Outfalls for drainage. <i>2021 Town applied for the BRIC grant to improve stormwater management on Wrightsville. Awaiting grant notification</i>
Structural Projects									
KDH17	Dune and Beach Maintenance - Continue ongoing beach nourishment efforts	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	3.2	High	Planning Director, Board of Commissioners	General Fund	Monitor Annually, nourish every 5 years	Carry Forward	Initial Beach Nourishment Project completed in 2016. Ongoing stabilization and re-nourishment in accordance with the adopted Shore Protection Project Maintenance Plan. <i>2022 Beach Nourishment is underway and will be</i>

Outer Banks

ANNEX D: TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

									<i>complete in August 2022. Next re-norishment will be 2027.</i>
Emergency Services									
KDH18	Hazard Warning - Facilitate evacuation	All	1.1	High	Dare County Control Group	General Fund	Annually	Updated	Utilize the Regroup Emergency Alert System to the fullest potential for all hazards and emergency information. <i>2021 Town implemented the I - PAWS system for alert notifications to all cell phones within an area.</i>
KDH19	Health and Safety Maintenance - Develop ongoing protocols to assure the maintenance of critical public services	All	2.1	High	Police, Fire & Rescue, Public Works, Dare County Emergency Management	General Fund	Annually	Carry Forward	Conduct annual training session with all emergency response departments. Develop a plan for action. Develop a multi-jurisdictional response plan. <i>2021 and 2022 staff did a minimum of one training per year and will continue to do so.</i>
KDH20	Emergency Services - Hurricane Exercises	Hurricane & Tropical Storm	2.1	High	Planning Department	General Fund	1 year	Carry Forward	Continue to participate in countywide emergency operation hurricane exercises. Update local plan accordingly. <i>Provide after action report of exercises</i>
Public Education & Awareness									
KDH21	Hazard Recovery - Coordinate efforts to expedite recovery.	All	1.1	High	Planning Department, Board of Commissioners	General Fund	1 year	Carry Forward	Work with Dare County Emergency Management on information dissemination after an event and develop a website for post hazard information
KDH22	Insurance - Maintain outreach efforts and continue making flood insurance available to the Town's residents	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	1.1	High	Planning Department, Town Clerk	General Fund	1 year	Carry Forward	Update materials and distribute to property owners and residents and specialty groups. <i>Town has two brochures about the importance of flood insurance</i>
KDH23	Compile and maintain current information in the Kill Devil Hills Floodplain Management Library	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	1.1	High	CRS Coordinator	General Fund	Annually	Carry Forward	Scan current and past flood maps; scan elevation certificates for future reference and future property owners; scan building permits <i>Continue to scan all permits and EC. Brought additional equipment to facility this process.</i>
KDH24	Outreach Projects - Initiate outreach projects to inform the public on Town and County initiatives that will reduce hazard related losses of property and life	All	1.1	High	Planning Department, Dare County Emergency Management	General Fund	1 year or Annually	Carry Forward	Provide printed educational materials for citizens regarding hazards. Create videos for hazard awareness and safety. Post education and prevention techniques on website.
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ANNEX D: TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

KDH25	Circulate brochure specifically on NFIP	Flood, Hurricane & Tropical Storm, Coastal Hazards	1.1	High	Planning Department	General Fund	Annually	Carry Forward	Work to increase score in CRS program specifically for public outreach and education. <i>2021 Town improved CRS rating to a Class 5 Community.</i>
KDH26	Conduct contractors meeting	All	3.1	High	Planning Department	General Fund	1 year	Carry Forward	Work to increase score in CRS program specifically for public outreach and education <i>2021 Town improved CRS rating to a Class 5 Community.</i>
KDH27	Outreach Projects - Hold annual outreach meeting for citizens to discuss hazards and how to protect themselves. Hold annual outreach to engineer and developers on how to construct to a higher standard to prevent damage.	All	1.1	High	Planning Department	General Fund	1 year	Carry Forward	Schedule annual meeting to discuss hazards and prevention
KDH28	Create educational brochure on the dangers of extreme heat and cold and steps the public can take to protect themselves	Extreme Heat, Winter Storm	1.1	Medium	Planning Department	General Fund	1-2 years	Carry Forward	Develop education program
KDH29	Mitigation education	All	1.1	Medium	Planning Department	General Fund	2-3 years	Carry Forward	Develop mitigation possibilities and present to governing board annually