

**MIAMI VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGIONAL RESILIENCY PLAN WORKSHOP
SUMMARY**

**VIA Zoom Conference/Video Call
(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85306746983>)**

**August 11, 2022
9:30 AM**

MVRPC Staff Present

Elizabeth Baxter
Savannah Diamond
Matt Lindsay
Brian Martin

Attendees Present

Matt Biggs, Sincliar Community College
Phil Clayton, OEMA
Dan Douglas, Dayton Realtors
Chad Downing, City of Trotwood
Sally Dyer, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
H. Figgers
Jeff Fiorita, Beavercreek Police Department
Tim Franck, Washington Township
Georgeann Godsey, Harrison Township
Rap Hankins, City of Trotwood
Chuck Hecht, ODOT District 8
Sarah Hippensteel Hall, MCD Water
Nia Holt, City of Riverside
Gregory Howard, Cybersecurity &
Infrastructure Security Agency
Tawana S. Jones, Montgomery County
Jim Reheman, City of Riverside
Yolanda Junior, Sinclair Community College
S. Kegley
Stephanie Kellum, City of Trotwood
Jack Kuntz, City of Clayton
Jeff Lewis, Miami County EMA
Timothy Little, FEMA
Katie Lunne, CityWide Development
Corporation
Erin Meyer, Catholic Social Services of the
Miami Valley
Mayor Robin Oda, City of Troy
Ethan Raby, Greene County EMA
Tom Robillard, City of Kettering

Gene Saunders, Congressman Turner's Office
Michele Simmons, City of Dayton
Sam Reed, Ohio EMA
Woody Stroud, Greene CATS
Dan Suerdiek, Miami County

The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission Disaster Recovery Impacted Jurisdictions met on Thursday, August 11, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom Video Conference (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85306746983>).

I. Welcome and Introductions

Matt Lindsay welcomed participants and introduced Executive Director Brian Martin. Brian gave opening remarks by defining resilience and recalling the economic challenges the region has experienced in recent years.

II. Workshop Introduction

Matt explained the format of the meeting to participants. They were split into break-out rooms and asked to give their names, organizations, and how developing a resiliency plan would benefit their work.

III. The groundwork for a Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan Workshop

Break-out rooms commenced. Matt introduced Elizabeth Baxter as the lead on the resiliency planning effort. Elizabeth greeted participants and thanked them for their participation and feedback from the pre-survey. She introduced the [National Disaster Recovery Framework](#) and explained that the document will be used to further develop the resiliency plan. Clarifying the goal is to sustain and coordinate the delivery of all recovery efforts across the board and prepare for recovery in advance of a disaster.

Elizabeth introduced Tim Little from FEMA, who was participating in the meeting to answer questions regarding the *National Disaster Recovery Framework*. The goals of the framework were expanded upon to include determining the local recovery functions that are needed, the roles and responsibilities of those functions and seeking funding for post-disaster recovery to help communities become more resilient and recover faster from disasters that occur.

To further organize the development of the resiliency plan, a review of the six identified [Recovery Support Functions \(RSFs\)](#) was provided.

Recovery Support Functions:

1. Community Planning and Capacity Building – Focuses on identifying resources available to the community and managing the recovery.
2. Economic Recovery – Returning our economies and businesses to a state of health.
3. Health and Social Services – Supports recovery efforts from public health and other essential social services.
4. Housing – Implementing housing solutions that support sustainability and resiliency for adequate and affordable housing.

5. Infrastructure – Ensures all infrastructure systems are viable and protected against future natural disasters.
6. Natural & Cultural Resources- Ensures natural, cultural, and historical resources are protected from disasters or if they are impacted, they can be restored to their original state.

Elizabeth asked participants to identify a Recovery Support Function that is of interest to them. She explained the resiliency plan will be designed to address natural and human-made disasters. Representatives from a 6-county geographic region were introduced as neighboring partners and communities. The six counties represent MVRPC's member jurisdictions, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble and Shelby counties.

Elizabeth then opened the floor for questions and informed participants that the [National Disaster Recovery Framework](#) is posted on MVRPC's website for review.

IV. Pre-Survey Summary Results

Participants were sent a pre-survey prior to the meeting asking to help identify a baseline of information that will be useful for establishing a definition of resiliency, determining what additional community plans should be factored into the resiliency plan, and providing feedback on which stakeholders, community groups and agencies should be included in the planning process.

The [Pre-Survey Summary](#) results were shared with participants. The survey is still open and participants can still take the survey if they had not already done so. Based on the survey summary, there was an even response from rural communities and a higher response from urbanized communities, such as Montgomery County. Survey respondents were asked to provide feedback on the definition of resilience, as defined by the FEMA. 90.5% of respondents agreed that the FEMA definition was a great start for a resilience definition. The 9.5 percent who did not agree provided feedback which was reviewed during the meeting. Feedback was also provided on existing plans that should be considered in the planning process. It was emphasized that this is more than just a preparedness or mitigation plan; it is an overall resiliency plan.

The pre-survey asked who else should be invited to participate in the planning process and it was indicated all suggestions would be considered and invited to attend future sessions.

V. Laying the Groundwork for a Regional Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan

Matt provided a target of 2023 for the Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan (PDRP) to be adopted. The meeting goals were restated, which were to review existing conditions in Disaster Recovery work and reach a consensus on PDRP themes. Matt explained the Miami Valley received disaster recovery funds as a result of the 2019 Memorial Day tornadoes and the recovery work associated with the tornadoes is facilitated through that funding.

- Individual Recovery wrapped in the fall of 2021 with a property recovery estimate at 90%. A grant fund was set up to assist local governments with public property recovery.
- The organization RETREET is assisting with tree planting for the next few years.
- As a part of long-term community recovery, the Region committed to developing a Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan (PDRP). The 6-county area that MVRPC is developing this PDRP for consists of Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Shelby counties. PDRP will recommend actions to take before a disaster that will facilitate resource sharing, mutual aid, and cost recovery after a future disaster.

The full scope of Disaster Recovery consists of four phases; Relief, Response, Long-term Recovery, and Resiliency. Matt reiterated the six Recovery support functions, explained earlier, and opened the floor for comments and questions.

VI. White Board Exercise

The whiteboard feature was opened on Zoom. Matt walked participants through how to use the sticky note function and the prompts for the exercise. Responses from the exercise are described below.

VII. For Recovery from the 2019 tornadoes...

A. What worked well?

What worked well with Relief?

1. Faith-based volunteer groups help in the immediate aftermath alongside county volunteers.
2. Having MVRPC lead efforts and coordinate FEMA applications for recovery was tremendous.

What worked well with Response?

1. Dayton Foundation stepping in to handle monetary donations.
2. FEMA coordination with City Staff efforts.
3. IA Damage Assessment.
4. Mutual Aid response.
5. Willingness to participate no matter how long it took.
6. Community Volunteers.

7. The influx of surrounding agencies for debris cleanup.
8. Meeting frequently to keep information current.

What worked well with Long Term Recovery?

1. Tremendous community engagement with appropriate stakeholders.
2. Multijurisdictional teamwork.
3. Sharing information.
4. Making social services mobile was monumental!
5. Quick establishment of both community and individual long-term recovery committees.
6. Schools working with agencies.
7. The communication flowed well from the County to the public, jurisdictions.

What worked well with Resiliency?

1. Awarded federal funds for future resilience.
2. Volunteer groups provided residents with tools to begin clean-up.
3. Agency partnerships, sharing resources, and knowledge.
4. Teamwork went well among jurisdictions, volunteers, and nonprofits.

Sam Reed expressed his sincerest appreciation for MVRPCs involvement and leadership throughout the recovery planning to keep communications consistent and up to date. Elizabeth added that recovery work will continue until everyone is recovered, adding that property recovery is at 93% only 3 years since the disaster.

B. What didn't work well?

Jim Rearmen, City of Riverside commented that when the disaster happened, a lot of the staff in Riverside were fairly new and were not aware of the recovery efforts and resources available. He mentioned better lines of communication and education on funding and processes for organizations would be extremely helpful.

What didn't work well with Relief?

1. Info about debris piles was not clear.
2. Initial response coordination.

3. Recognizing that smaller communities do not have staff to do the documentation needed to receive assistance & funding.
4. Volunteer and donations management in the initial response to 1-2-months out wasn't great.

What didn't work well with Response?

1. Use of local media to inform the general public of needs and progress.
2. Usage of NIMS for coordination and lack of published ICS positional tasks and responsibilities.
3. Lack of published Incident Action Plan.
4. Would the requirement to have all rental properties registered have helped identify those who needed assistance?

What didn't work well with Long Term Recovery?

1. Not having after-hours phone numbers for public agencies such as RTA.
2. If we could coordinate with the federal government on making revisions to the census counting procedures about disasters it would positively impact jurisdictions with recovery and resiliency. People who were displaced were not able to claim their residency in the displaced jurisdiction.

What didn't work well with Resiliency?

1. Availability of temporary housing was a major concern.
2. Not having contact numbers for public agencies like RTA was an issue.

C. What are the critical elements or core commitments about how we will do disaster recovery work?

Participants were asked again to write on digital sticky notes that were populated on the screen. The responses were as follows:

- High spirit of Collaboration
- Strong Partnerships
- Open and frequent communications
- Practice together
- Volunteerism – people are supportive of others and take joy in helping others in need
- Philanthropy
- Community Engagement
- Updated Emergency Op Plans
- An up-to-date action plan that is published, shared, and easy to find
- Stakeholder participation in response, recovery, and mitigation planning, as a foundation for resilience planning
- Inclusive

- Special efforts to include the most vulnerable in our community
- Make sure those directly impacted by the disaster are at the table and heard
- Realizing that our Assisted Living and senior community was just outside the tornado, is that a part of this plan?
- Volunteer Coordination- understanding available volunteer organizations, personnel, and capabilities available to the region
- More individual education on preparedness for Disaster i.e. homeowner/renter's insurance

A question was posed to Tim Little with FEMA about trends from other jurisdictions who have worked with FEMA through recovery. Tim explained that community engagement is one of the biggest things and best ways towards success in disaster work. However, it is up to the Miami Valley to build context around what the Miami Valley wants to see in a Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan. FEMA does not want to dictate the plan and wants to make sure that the Miami Valley people are well represented.

City of Beavercreek Police Chief, Jeff Fiorita commented that having up-to-date emergency operation plans and contact records should be a top priority. He added having the plans are wonderful but practicing operations plans is equally as important.

Matt then began dot voting, each participant was asked to mark two sticky notes with a dot according to the order of importance. Those who could not utilize the sticky note feature commented in the chat box and Matt updated the sticky notes accordingly. Responses were reviewed as a group.

VII. Wrap-up/ Next Steps

Elizabeth addressed the group regarding the next steps, stating she is going to organize future planning sessions into smaller and more targeted sessions based on the six Recovery Support Functions. This will allow information to be collected easier and allow MVRPC to engage more stakeholders. Information for each planning session will be sent out to everyone who registered along with the refinement of the next steps.

Elizabeth opened the floor for questions, concerns, worries, and areas of excitement. Sally Dyer of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance asked how the meeting directly or indirectly impacts the work they have been doing to try and form a COAD (Community Organization Active in Disaster) in the region. Elizabeth explained the work that has been occurring around establishing a regional COAD. Montgomery County previously had a COAD but dissolved before the 2019 Memorial Day tornadoes. COADs are comprised of first responders to a disaster. The hope is that a regional COAD will be an outcome of the Pre-Disaster Recovery (Resiliency) Plan. The COAD will help make disaster recovery more impactful and resilient.

Elizabeth asked Executive Director Brian Martin if he had anything to add. Brian thanked everyone for their input. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.