



Regional Resilience Collaborative Workshop #1

Notes

Meeting Information

January 18, 2023

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Meeting Attendees

- Benj Korson – Project Manager, IEM
- Mark Howell – EM Coordinator – Lincoln County
- Kent Greene - Director, Irdell County Fire Services and EM
- Clayton Voignier - Director of Strategy and Innovation, Union
- Ian Crane – EM Coordinator, City of Concord
- Ann Kitalong-Will – Direct of Grants Admin/Govt.
- Rodney Diggs
- David Morris – City of Salisbury
- Adrian Miller- Assistant City Manager of Gastonia
- Melody Braddy – Assistant City Manager of Gastonia
- Quentin McPhatter – Asst. City Manager of Gastonia
- Sara Scheirer – Local Disaster Recovery Manager, Union County
- Rodney Diggs – EM Anson County
- Jeanne Bunting – Hazard Mitigation Specialist III, IEM
- Jason Burnett – EM, Cabarrus County
- Robert Parnell – City of Salisbury
- Jim Greene – City of Salisbury
- Kelly Sifford - Cabarrus County Manager's Office
- Wike Graham – Division Chief, Charlotte FD, Deputy Director, Char-Meck EM
- Dena Diorio – Meck City Manager
- Brandi Hunter – Emergency Planner, IEM

Meeting Notes

- I. Welcome & Introductions
 - a. The work will be successful by empowering others, the 9 counties working collaboratively, and lessons learned.
 - b. Christina Danis is the organizer and the facilitator of the RRC Contract.



- c. Benj Korson is the Project Manager
- d. Katie Canady is supporting the Long-Term Recovery Planning and technical assistance
- e. Jeanne Bunting is supporting the application development

II. Background

- a. RRC Participants have been identified stakeholders for recovery and resilience by city or county IEM managers.
- b. Importance of the RRC Workshops:
 - i. better prepare for the next economic impact
 - ii. save tax-payer dollars
 - iii. save time and resources
 - iv. correct forms and documentations will be used
 - v. familiarized with connections
 - vi. who to go to for direction
 - vii. peer-to-peer workgroups
- c. The Economic Development District requested from EDA Disaster Coordinator Grant that was related to Hurricane Florence and Michael.
 - i. Resulted in a relationship between Economic development districts
 - ii. This allowed to receive grants and assist with economic development.
 - iii. EDA is interested in supporting economic recovery
- d. Discussing pre-disaster recovery economics, resilience planning with local government and Emergency Managers
- e. Funded by the Office of Budget and Management to the COG
- f. RRCG
 - i. Launched with ARPA funds
 - ii. Awarded the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management grant
 - iii. Given disaster recovery money to aid with recovery capacity building - conducted by June 2023 and continued into June 2024

III. Workshops (Benj Korson, speaker)

- a. RRC Roundtable Strategy
 - i. Emergency Managers and Partners collaborated to assess strategies and approaches to build a strong recovery program
 - 1. Round table strategy was developed with a scope of work with three major tasks
 - a. Establish a baseline for where we are, where we want to be and what does the recovery and resilience approach look like
 - b. Facilitate the development of a pre-disaster recovery plan.



- c. Support the development of tools and data collection to support opportunities for grant funding at local level to fund and resource programs.
 - b. Full Program Timeline
 - i. Part one: Involves everyone
 - ii. Part two: Workshops scheduled bimonthly to not overload, to complete assignments and collect data
 - iii. Workshops will have three sections
 - 1. Roadmap to resilient recovery
 - 2. Grant Development
 - 3. Pre-disaster recovery plan
 - c. QUESTIONS
 - i. Christina – Think about these components moving forward:
 - 1. Who should be attending these workshop meetings
 - 2. Who is your economic community development contact?
 - 3. Who is your health and services contact?
 - 4. Who is your housing contact?
 - 5. Who is your infrastructure, natural and cultural contact?
 - 6. Gather the people who need to be at the workshops who can help with the homework and partner.
 - d. Roadmap to Resilient Recovery and things to be discussed
 - i. Establishing your coordination methods with the groups your organized with
 - ii. Creating recovery plans
 - iii. Integrating hazard mitigation with recovery
 - iv. Tying related programs so that they support each other
 - v. Prioritizing and accomplishing projects
 - vi. Implementing resilient systems
 - vii. Integrating approach to recovery programs
 - viii. Identifying potential recovery staffing and opportunities to have recovery focused staffing
 - ix. Managing your financials
 - x. Leveraging resources and finances to accomplish goals and priorities
 - xi. Pursue grant opportunities for funding
 - xii. Implementing the Improvement process and collaborating with partners for a successful outcome
 - e. Roadmap Overview
 - i. Participants to receive a follow up email with a list of documents, one of which is the Roadmap to Resilient to Recovery.



- ii. List of links to resources to active programs and tools
- iii. Scan and focus on the areas that you are trying to improve on
- iv. Built on FEMA's recovery toolkit and information from the APA, studies, white papers, and organizations like resilience committees
- f. Part 1 –
 - i. Organizing
 - 1. A resilient community gets organized before working on the development of a recover program
 - 2. Requires leadership, champions, stakeholders
 - ii. Organize your local leadership
 - 1. Official Government, elected officials, community leaders
 - a. Create a committee or a meeting to get them invested before and after a disaster
 - iii. Involve the Whole-Community
 - 1. Tribal, local, territorial, and federal partners
 - 2. Local small businesses
 - 3. Faith-based organizations
 - 4. Non-profits groups
 - 5. Schools and Academia
 - 6. Media Outlets
 - 7. Individuals and families
 - 8. Representation from different backgrounds
 - iv. Establish Coordination Methods
 - 1. Long-term recovery committees
 - 2. Local planning committee
 - 3. Committee resilience committees
- g. Part 2 – Recovery Planning
 - i. Assess Capabilities and Threats
 - 1. What are the things you have now?
 - 2. Types of disruptions that the community might face
 - 3. What are your community resources? (Example, large venues)
 - 4. What financial resources are available
 - 5. Look at your threats
 - a. Tie in your mitigation plan into your assessment

Robert Graham (Comment)

- *One of the counties on the call has a strong LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) primarily for HAZMATS for Charlotte, Mecklenburg.*
- *Uses an All-Hazard advisory committee that meets every three months.*
- *The state pays for hazard mitigation plans that is done regionally*
- *These are great tools for us, and they have their own committees that we keep up with.*
- *If you are part of the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) for Charlotte-Mecklenburg we pay a contractor to do our THIRA.*



These are all the tools that we have in the hopper.

Benj Korson (Response)

- *Peer-to-peer engagement is vital. It is important for everyone to work together, communicate and share best practices while supporting each other in the effort.*

- ii. Create Recovery Plans
 - 1. Recovery plans are not a step-by-step process, but focus on establishing clear lines of responsibilities,
 - a. In charge of what areas of effort
 - b. Financial needs and requirements that arise
 - c. Things that can develop an overall preparedness effort (e.g., training and exercises, personnel)
 - d. Encourages culture awareness and preparedness
 - e. Encourages exercises shifting from being response focused to conducting exercises
- iii. Integrate Hazard Mitigation with Recovery
 - 1. Making sure you have your mitigation plan is tied into the recovery plan
- iv. Prioritize Projects
 - 1. Determine the highest priorities
 - a. Prepare to make adjustment as funding comes available
 - 2. Make them realistic and accomplishable. Needs to be associated with your threats and capabilities
- v. Implement Resilient Systems
- vi. Integrated Approach to Recovery Programs
 - 1. Involving Senior Leadership
 - 2. Looking at your infrastructure
 - 3. Looking at your ordinance
- h. Part 3 – Managing Recovery Programs
 - i. Identify Recovery Staffing
 - 1. How do we tie together various relationships that have recovery related responsibilities
 - a. Connect with your local government
 - b. Grants that can provide staffing requirements
 - 2. Manage Financials
 - 3. Leverage Available Resources
 - a. Utilize existing resources in your community
 - 4. Pursue Grant Opportunities
 - a. Projects are competitive
 - 5. Implement Improvement Process

Self-Assessment



- 0 - is not identifiable
- 1 - is Limited Activity
- 2 - Active Program
- 3 - Robust Program
- 4 - Best Practice

This self-assessment will be in the shared folder
Roadmap not intended to be static

Improvement Planning

- Do at least an annual assessment
- How are you going to fund it?
- Prioritizing projects
 - What's the most important
 - What will help reduce the impact

Roadmap Action Items (slide 23)

- i. There is going to be a whole training
- j. Grant Workshop (Jeanne)
 - i. Grant Workshop Schedule
 1. January 23rd and summarizing
 2. Anson Awarded BRIC/TA Funding
 3. March 2023 start prepping for BRIC
 4. May 2023 start collecting information and look at your hazard mitigation plan
 5. Sept 2023 get to know your state hazard mitigation officer
 - a. Start developing your LOI
 6. October LOI
 7. November LOI status
 8. Dec if your LOI is identified you submit your application in FEMAGO
 9. Jan gets your application status
 10. Restarts in March 2024
 - ii. Overview of Grant Processes
 1. Establish an account in SAM to get a
 2. Go into FEMAGO and create an account to submit your application
 - a. Does NC have EMGrants? Yes, they do.
 3. Develop and submit your application to the state in FEMAGO in November 2023, Jeanne will walk through the process
 4. You must have a SF-424
 - a. Have the information ahead of time
 5. Having your funding match letter and Maintenance Agreements
 6. Information to Collect is you Who, what why when and where



CENTRALINA
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- a. Collect as much information as possible
 - i. Partners - Who are your partners going to be
 - ii. Lifelines –
 - iii. Building Codes – Know what year, what is the code, and know what your BGS rating, you must
 - iv. Nature based solutions – FEMA looks at this when they are determining who they give funds too.
 - v. Future Conditions – example: how is climate change going to affect that area?
- 7. State Submits Application to FEMA
 - a. Request for Information (RFI)
- 8. Develop and Submit LOI to the State
- 9. Award Duration
 - a. You have to put 36 months so you don't have to go back to amend
- 10. Grant Management
- 11. Close Out
- k. Lessons Learned from BRIC Application
 - i. Have it done ahead of the deadlines
 - ii. Ensure your SOW is clear and concise
 - iii. Read through the NOFO – every grant has different guidelines
 - iv. Understand guidelines
 - 1. Nature Based Solutions
 - 2. Underserved and functional need pop
 - 3. Get DFIRMs
 - v. Gather all the necessary information
 - 1. Anything that has been done and gather ahead of time
 - vi. Provide grant information, requirement and education to jurisdiction leadership

Question

Robert Parnell Are Hazard Mitigation Grants for Natural Disaster mitigation only? Can the Mitigation grants be used for building security? preventing an active violence event?

- I. Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning
 - i. Designed to be a functional document
 - ii. Work on recovery strategies the plan is to help expedite the process
 - iii. Why is Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning Important

Pulse Check

-No concerns

- j. Why is Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning Important?
- k. What are the Benefits of Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning?



IV. Next Steps

a. Action Items

i. Receive and Invite to a Shared Folder

ii. Roadmap to Resilient Recovery:

1. Gather recovery related personnel, stakeholders, and partners and:
2. Read/review the Roadmap to Resilient Recovery
3. Conduct a self-assessment and fill out the worksheet
4. Discuss which areas in the Roadmap to target
5. Send a copy of the assessment and indicate your target areas in an email to cdanis@centralina.org by March 1st, 2023

iii. Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning:

1. Review Local Leader Disaster Recovery Guide
2. Engage local agencies by encouraging attendance at future workshops
3. Identify local stakeholders, using planning worksheet if necessary

b. Next RRC Workshop: March 15, 2023, 9:00 AM (via Teams)