

LONDON GROVE TOWNSHIP
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION 716

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN OF THE COUNTY OF CHESTER.

WHEREAS, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) (P.L. 106-390) provides an opportunity for states, Tribes and local governments to take a new and revitalized approach to mitigation planning; and,

WHEREAS, DMA 2000 amended the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (the Act) by repealing the previous mitigation planning provisions (Section 409) and replacing them with a new set of mitigation plan requirements (Section 322). This new section emphasizes the need for state, Tribal, and local entities to closely coordinate mitigation planning and implementation efforts; and,

WHEREAS, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding available after a Presidential Disaster Declaration shall only be made to municipalities having a Federal Emergency Management Agency approved Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan in place prior to the disaster declaration; and,

WHEREAS, London Grove Township 2019 updated the Municipal Assessment Hazard Mitigation Plan portion of the 2015 Chester County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the London Grove Township, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the adoption of the 2015 Chester County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, as amended.

ADOPTED this 6th day of March 2019.

(SEAL)
ATTEST:

By: Aaron Maciejnyk
SECRETARY

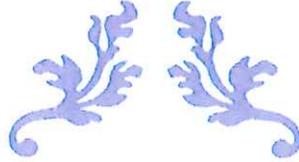
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MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENT

Hazard Mitigation Plan



FEBRUARY 14, 2019
LONDON GROVE TOWNSHIP
372 Rose Hill Rd

London Grove Township

Background Information

London Grove Township is a second-class township, covering 17.2 square miles, located in Chester County, Pennsylvania. The Council-Manager system includes a five-member elected Board of Supervisors and an appointed Manager. The elected officials serve a six-year term that is staggered, allowing two members to be elected every other year and one being elected the following municipal election.

The administration includes several departments; finance, public works, codes, zoning and planning. The township contracts legal, engineering, fire, EMS services and law enforcement is provided through the Pennsylvania State Police.

A Municipal Authority was incorporated in 1968 to provide water and wastewater to a dedicated portion of the township. Southeastern Chester County Refuse Authority (SECCRA) provides refuse and recycling services.

The township also has a 125-acre park and 18-hole golf course that provide additional open space for recreation and spray irrigation for the wastewater treatment.

Revenues

The 2019 budget represents \$3.5 million in revenues and expenses, with a proposed \$3.6 million-dollar budget for 2020. The revenues are generated through a taxing process that includes:

- .25% Open Space
- .5% Real Estate Transfer
- .5% Earned Income
- 1.25% Real Estate

Expenses

The revenues fund the townships facilities, equipment, staff, open space, and the contracted services. The elected officials have taken a proactive approach to community risk reduction through redeveloping the codes department to include a full-time Building Code Official and Fire Code Official. The contracted emergency services continue to demand increased funding to provide the desired level of services. The decline in volunteers has found the fire department's relying on career firefighter/EMT's to supplement volunteer staff. The inclusion of career staff has increased the financial support from the township to include current expenses for life safety:

- Fire-\$270,000
- EMS-\$150,000
- Code Enforcement \$180,000
- Community Risk Reduction \$100,000
- Emergency Management \$2,000

The township leadership continues to financially support the services that respond and mitigate risks and hazards within the township. The revenues are generated through the general fund;

however, conversations continue regarding a dedicated fire tax. Recent efforts have taken a more proactive approach through community risk reduction planning.

Demographics

According to United States Census Bureau, in 2010 there were 7,475 residents and 8,331 in 2016 that represents an increase of 10.3% (2017). The current population represents an even split between males and females, however there is a considerable influence of Hispanic. The Hispanic population increased nearly 47% from 2010 to 2016, while the White population saw a 4.4% decrease. The vulnerable groups include children under the age of 5 and adults over the age of 65, combined they have increased to contribute 19.5% of the population. The ability to determine those residents with disabilities has been difficult, even with efforts that include county resources.

Year	Population	Change %
1930	1,484	
1940	1,666	12.3%
1950	1,844	10.7%
1960	2,734	48.3%
1970	3,109	13.7%
1980	3,531	13.6%
1990	3,922	11.1%
2000	5,265	34.2%
2010	7,475	42.0%
Courtesy of VFIS		

In addition to the residential population, London Grove is home to a public high school, middle school, charter school grades 3-12, private school grades K-8, daycare/preschool. These educational institutions represent a population of approximately 4800 students and staff. There is one long-term care facility and a landfill in the rural northern portion of the township. Businesses include; Lowes, Acme, Perkins, Pet-supply, etc. that represent an estimated 2,150 persons working within the township. Each of these entities combined provides an estimated daily population of 15,281.

Social

An interesting statistic is the increased percentage of residents that are in the educational category. Education overall found an 32% increase, while three of the five categories found a 40% increase and residents without a high school diploma rose by 30% to total 5,785 residents in the educational category. In 2010, there was a total of 2,315 households and efforts to determine the same for 2016 were unsuccessful. The number of housing units grew by nearly 9% to include a total of 2,634 units. Types of units and owner versus renter remained even, however more mobile homes have increased life safety concerns. The 2006-2010 period provided the highest increase in new homes built and there has not been a significant increase since that time. There has been an increase in commercial properties within the last decade.

Economic

The increase in commercial properties represented a 38% in major local employers, while increasing the total number of employees, by 83%. This not only helps to provide jobs, it also increases the township revenues because of the earned income tax. Unemployment was decreased, however so was the median income throughout the township. The private sector still maintains the highest number of jobs, causing workers to commute for an average of twenty-nine minutes.

In 2016, an independent emergency services study was conducted for future planning. The redevelopment of the codes department to include a life safety culture and community risk planning will provide the mission. Creation of an emergency services committee that includes; fire, medical, township and resident’s representation has assisted to determine adequate levels of service. A Standard of Response Cover (SORC) for fire and rescue services (Appendix A) and Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) (Appendix B) has been adopted by the Township Board of Supervisors. The SORC uses data to identify types of emergencies and response capabilities within the township. Additionally, the data enables the ability to map incident responses (Appendix C).

Future

The housing growth the township experienced in the last decade, does not appear to be a strong influence in the future. The 2018 budget proposed 60 homes to be built over the next two years. Commercial properties are anticipated to grow because of the desire to influence development through changes in zoning. Houses will be another decade older and more vulnerable to risks of fire. Mobile home parks have found an increase in the Hispanic population that provide language challenges for education in life safety. Elected official’s support will provide the necessary funding to meet the needs of the entire community.

Capabilities

Planning and Regulatory Capabilities		Administrative and Technical Capabilities	
Building Code	2015 IBC	Building Code Official	
Fire Code	2012 IFC	Assistant Building Official	
Property Maintenance	2012 IPC	Fire Code Official	
Use of Occupancy Inspections		Assistant Fire Code Official	
Capital Improvement Plan		Zoning Officer	
Comprehensive Plan (last update)	3/24/2018	Assistant Zoning Officer	
Emergency Operations Plan		Assistant Zoning Officer	
Standard of Response Cover - Fire	2/6/2019	Emergency Services Committee	
Standard of Response Cover - EMS	2/6/2019	Emergency Management Coordinator	
Floodplain Ordinance		Public Works Department	
NFIP Participant		Municipal Sewer/Water Authority	
Stormwater Management Ordinance		Engineer – Civil (contracted)	
SALDO Ordinance		Engineer	
Zoning Ordinance		Planning Commission	
Restrictions on building in floodplain		Zoning Hearing Board	
		Environmental Preservation Committee	
		Historical Preservation Committee	
		GIS Capability	

Emergency Services Providers

Type	Agency
ALS	Southern Chester County EMS
BLS	Avondale Fire Company, West Grove Fire Company
Fire	Avondale Fire Company, West Grove Fire Company
Police	Pennsylvania State Police-Avondale Barracks

Utility Providers

Electric	Natural Gas	Water
PECO	PECO	London Grove Township Municipal Authority

Risk Assessment

Fire, Rescue, EMS, and the loss of volunteers are among the most significant risks facing the community. Data can be helpful to identify trends and assist in the development of a risk assessment. The county providing fire and EMS response data is an asset for the township. A challenge is that data is difficult to gather, since there are multiple data sources. West Grove Fire Company covers 60 % of London Grove and the other 40% by Avondale Fire Company. These agencies should provide quantitative data to assess adequate staffing levels, response times, and an assessment of risk. The county’s GIS and third-party studies are additional resources that can be used to assist with risk assessment.

There were studies conducted by both, the fire department and the township that have assisted in developing a community risk assessment. The intention of this document is to develop a formal community risk reduction plan. The county has developed a Hazard Mitigation plan that includes risks and hazards within the county and individual municipalities. Generally, the individual municipalities have included the county risks and hazards in their portion of the plan. London Grove Township has redeveloped their code department and public works continues to increase the level of service.

The County Hazard Mitigation plan includes several potential risks, however the priorities for our community include, fire, ems, weather, active shooter, transportation incidents, and volunteers. Residential fires in the United States are considered the most frequent with a high risk of life safety. Most of the community is considered residential, with moderate commercial and industry. The schools offer a higher concentration of life risk and is believed to be a high risk. Agriculture, specifically mushroom growing, is a large contributor to the fire risk, however a lower life risk with larger property losses. Medical responses continue to provide new challenges, overdoses have significantly increased in the past few years. The challenges provide risks to first responders and the community.

Weather events occur on a regular basis, winter storms, thunderstorms, flooding, tornados, etc. The two that occur most frequently in the community are winter storms and thunderstorms. London Grove Township maintains a quality fleet of equipment and full-time staffing to mitigate most weather events. However, thunderstorms and the risks of lightning strikes are increased for the

townships golf course. Currently, there is not any detection or warning device at the golf course. Flooding and tornados are not as frequent, but they have occurred in recent history.

The nation has experienced an increase active shooter hostile environment responses (ASHER) and London Grove Township is not exempt from these threats. The threats are not only considered for the schools but the entire community. Response to these emergency events requires significant collaboration and communication among all agencies. The township continues to work with different stakeholders ensure agencies are aware of and capable of a response to these types of threats.

Transportation incidents have the potential to occur through pipeline, rail, and truck. The frequency is not high, but the risk and impacts have the potential to be significant.

Volunteers may not be the typical type when looking at risk reduction, however they are important to the mitigation and financial obligations of the community. The number of personnel that are required for a residential fire in the community can range from 25 to 50. Areas of the community are rural, and water is not readily accessible requiring additional resources. The number of emergency personnel required for a larger incident; including a commercial or industrial incident and mass casualty events, can deplete current resources. The large-scale incidents can require the need for additional personnel to manage traffic, evacuate residents, and other tasks.

Exposure to Flood Hazard

According to the NFIP records, residents within London Grove Township have received \$14,723 in total payouts from a total of four flood claims since 1978. There are 18 flood insurance policies currently in effect within the township. There are no repetitive loss properties, and no severe repetitive loss properties.

Potential Hazard Mitigation Actions

Location	Mitigation Measure	Comments
Township wide	Public Information programs	
Inniscrone Golf Club	Emergency alerting/public notification system	
Indian Run Rd	Widen bridge and bridge approaches	
Emergency Responders	Volunteers & career staffing	
Schools/Township wide	Discussions, tabletops and drills for mass-casualty events	

Buildings in the 1% (100) and 0.2% (500 year) chance floodplain

Total		1% Annual flood chance			0.2% Annual flood chance		
Parcel Count	Building Count	Parcel Count	Building Count	Structure Value	Parcel Count	Building Count	Structure Value
3,004	4,290	41	68	\$7,034,130	25	33	\$4,978,350

Conclusion

London Grove Township maintains a healthy financial status that continues to depend on current tax sources. The decrease in volunteers is considered the most risk and may require the supervisors to consider other sources of revenues. The current level of internal and external resources provides a status quo approach to risk and hazard mitigation. Community Risk Reduction is a proactive approach to prevent and minimize risks within the township. The loss of volunteers, utility emergencies, and large-scale incidents should be the highest priority for the future.

APPENDIX A

Fire/Rescue

SERVICE DELIVERY STATEMENT

STANDARD OF RESPONSE COVER

Fire Department alerting to an emergency call for service in London Grove Township will be provided within one (1) minutes of the initial call and be enroute with one piece of fire apparatus in four (4) minutes, with a crew of three (3) qualified members, 90 percent of the time.

A full complement of 14 firefighters will be on scene within ten (10) minutes of dispatch, 90 percent of the time

Future goal

SERVICE DELIVERY STATEMENT

STANDARD OF RESPONSE COVER

Fire Department alerting to an emergency call for service in London Grove Township will be provided within one (1) minute and thirty (30) seconds of the initial call, be enroute with one (1) piece of fire apparatus in four (4) minutes and on scene in (12) twelve minutes with a crew of three (3) qualified members, eighty (80) percent of the time.

A full complement of fourteen (14) firefighters will be on scene within twenty (20) minutes of dispatch, eighty (80) percent of the time.

Current

This is an anticipated response and may be unattainable due to volunteer staffing and simultaneous incidents

APPENDIX B

Summary

The following chart is a representation of data collected through the County of Chester 911 Center and simplified to meet the objectives of the London Grove Township Emergency Services Committee. Data was collected from January 1 to November 30th of 2018. It assists in analyzing and developing a Standard of Response Cover (SORC) for EMS within the township. There was a total of 625 events recorded, however only 581 were used to ensure incomplete data did not skew outcomes. The categories were determined to be those that are truly “lights and sirens” emergencies in accordance with state, county, and local authorities.

TYPE	ACCIDENT	MEDICAL-ALS	315 E LG ALS	315 E LG-BLS	MEDICAL-All	DATA USED
Percentile						
75%	7:29	9:06	8:50	11:59	10:30	10:39
80%	7:42	9:28	9:00	12:16	11:11	11:14
85%	9:31	9:53	9:27	12:45	12:06	12:15
90%	10:46	11:19	9:44	13:34	13:17	13:32
95%	12:16	12:51	11:18	15:10	15:59	15:25
Total Calls	55	217	72	59	493	581

Service Delivery Statement
Standard of Response Cover
Basic Life support

Agency alerting to a medical emergency call for service in London Grove Township will be provided within (1) one minute and (30) thirty seconds of the initial call and be enroute with one Basic Life Support (BLS) piece of apparatus in (2) two minutes with a crew of (2) Emergency Medical Technicians, 95 percent of the time.

Initial resources will be on scene within (14) fourteen minutes of dispatch 95 percent of the time.

Service Delivery Statement
Standard of Response Cover
Advanced Life Support

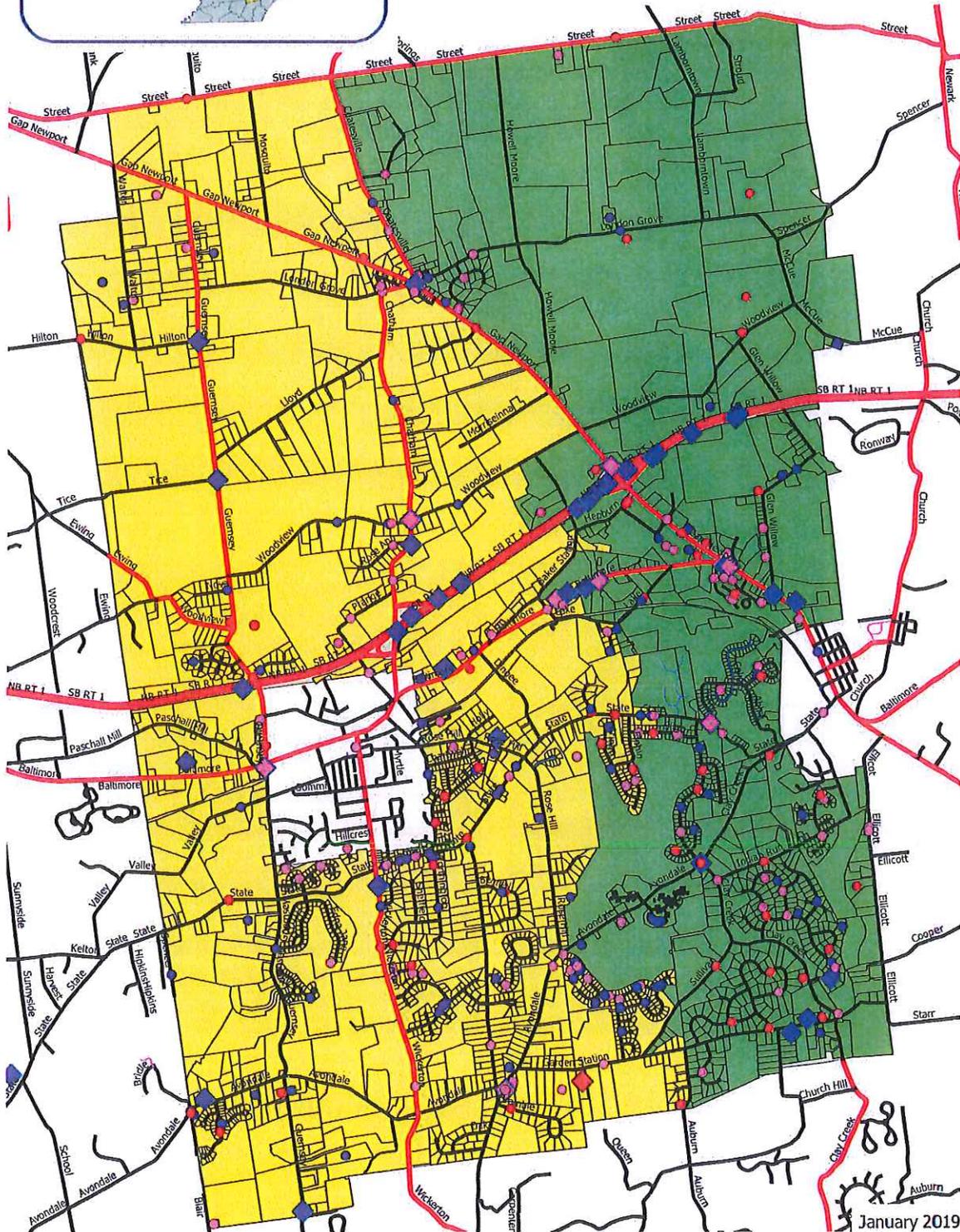
Agency alerting to a medical emergency call for service in London Grove Township will be provided within (1) one minute and (30) thirty seconds of the initial call and be enroute with one Advanced Life Support (ALS) piece of apparatus in (2) two minutes with a crew of (1) certified Paramedic, 95 percent of the time.

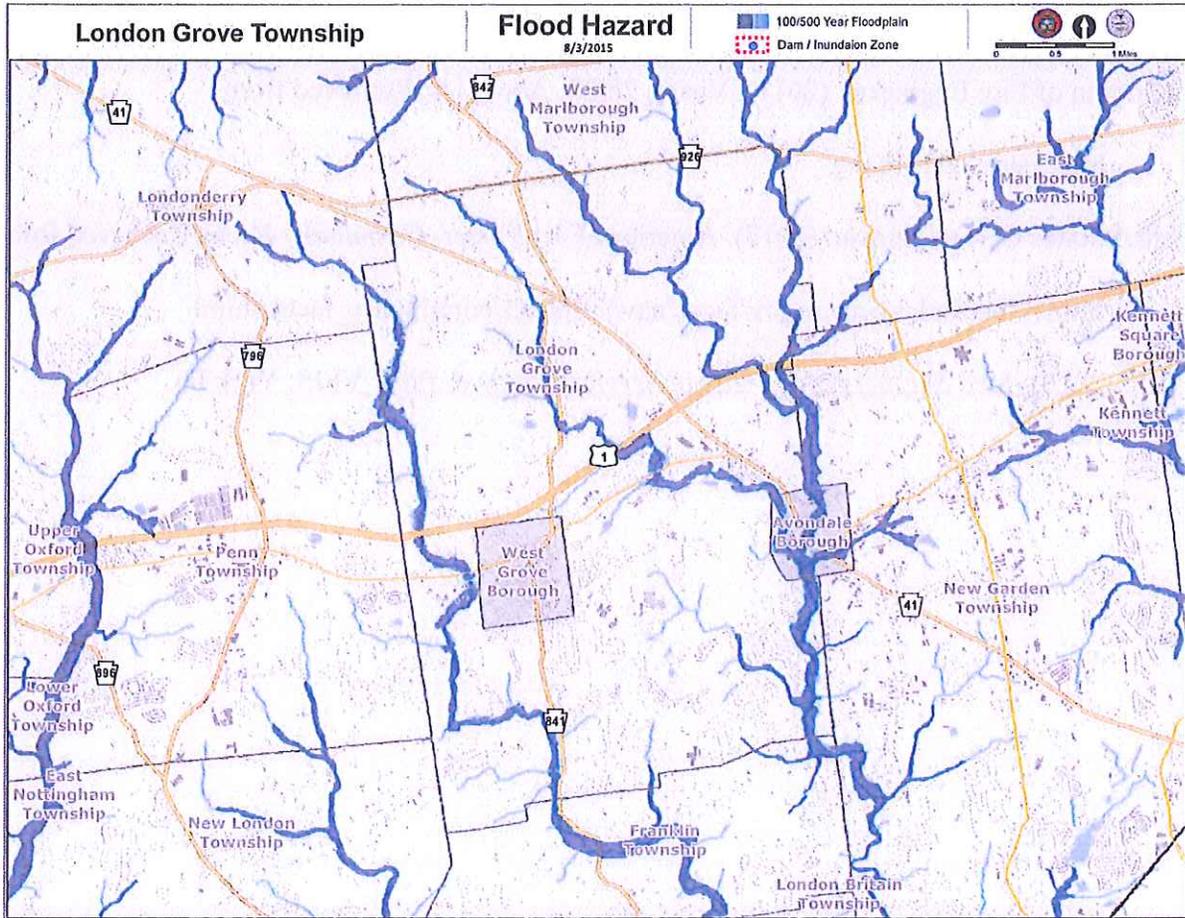
Initial resources will be on scene within (11) eleven minutes of dispatch 95 percent of the time.

This is an anticipated response and may be unattainable due to staffing and simultaneous incidents



- 2018 Emergency Incidents
- FIRE
 - ◆ ACCIDENT - ALS
 - ◆ ACCIDENT - BLS
 - ◆ ACCIDENT - ENTRAP
 - BLS
 - ALS





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