

Section 4

Plan Goals and Action Items

This section introduces the goal and action item framework for the University of Oregon Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. The framework consists of three parts— Mission, Goals and Action Items:

Mission

The mission statement is a philosophical or value statement that answers the question “Why develop a plan?” In short, the mission states the purpose and defines the primary function of the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. It is broad enough that it need not change unless the campus environment changes

Goals

Goals are intended to represent the general ends toward which the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan is directed. Goals identify how the campus intends to work toward mitigating risk from natural hazards. The goals are guiding principles for the specific recommendations outlined in the action items. They do not specify how the university is to achieve the level of performance.

Action Items

The action items are detailed recommendations for activities that the university and its partners could engage in to reduce risk from natural disasters. These specific recommendations/activities may be considered for state, federal, or other outside funding.

Figure 4.1: Level of Specificity: Mission, Goals & Action Items



Methodology

The plan goals and action items were developed through an analysis of the issues identified in the risk assessment, steering committee and stakeholder input, and background research on the disasters that could affect the university. Steering Committee members met on May 19th to discuss the mission statement and goals for the plan. A mission statement and seven goals were developed. On May 26th Steering Committee members and stakeholders met to discuss action items. Following the meeting, ONHW staff met one on one with committee members to refine action items that fall under their authority. On June 27th and July 15th, 2005 Steering Committee reviewed the proposed action items.

Mission

The University of Oregon is a community of scholars dedicated to the highest standards of academic inquiry, learning, and service. To carry out its missions, the university must be able to provide a safe environment for students, staff, faculty and visitors, and must be able to recover quickly from any disaster that might jeopardize its functioning.

The purpose of the University of Oregon Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan is to protect life and assist the University of Oregon in achieving its missions by enhancing disaster safety, resistance and resilience.

In doing so, the university will be better prepared to protect lives, critical functions, and the physical campus, and to withstand, respond and recover from a disaster.

Goals

Goals are designed to drive actions and are intended to represent the general end toward which the university's effort is directed. Goals also identify how the university intends to work toward mitigating risk from natural hazards. The goals are guiding principles for the specific recommendations that are outlined in the action items.

GOAL 1: Reduce risk posed by seismic, flood, and severe storm events to the physical campus.

GOAL 2: Enhance resiliency of teaching, research, and administrative services.

GOAL 3: Enhance emergency services.

GOAL 4: Increase awareness and promote risk reduction activities through education and outreach.

GOAL 5: Integrate risk reduction strategies into university plans, policies and practices.

GOAL 6: Establish and maintain methods to ensure plan implementation and further mitigation practices on campus.

GOAL 7: Continue to establish and enhance external partnerships to further mitigation efforts.

Action Items

The action items are detailed recommendations for activities that the university and its partners could engage in to reduce risk to natural hazards. The action items address the issues identified in the risk assessment and the values identified in the planning process. To facilitate implementation, each action item is described in a worksheet including information on rationale, ideas for implementation, coordinating and partner organizations, timeline, and plan goals addressed.

Rationale

Each action item includes a summary of the critical issues that the item will address. Issues were identified from a number of sources, including participants of the planning process, noted deficiencies in campus capability, and the risk assessment.

Ideas for Implementation

The ideas for implementation offer a transition from theory to practice. This component of the action items is dynamic, as some ideas may be not feasible and new ideas can be added during the plan maintenance process. (For more information on how this plan will be implemented and evaluated, refer to Section 5 of this plan.)

Coordinating Organization

The coordinating organization is the group on campus that is willing and able to organize resources, find appropriate funding, and oversee activity implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

Internal Partners

Internal partners are groups within the university that may be able to assist in the implementation of action items by providing relevant resources to the coordinating organization.

External Partners

External partner organizations can assist the coordinating organization in implementing the action items in various functions and may include local, regional, state, or federal agencies, as well as local and regional public and private sector organizations.

The internal and external partner organizations listed are potential partners recommended by the project steering committee, but were not necessarily contacted during the development of the plan. The coordinating organization should contact the identified partner

organizations to see if they are capable of and interested in participation.

Timeline

Action items include both short and long-term activities. Each action item includes an estimate of the timeline for implementation. *Short-term action items* are activities that may be implemented with existing resources and authorities within one to two years. *Long-term action items* may require new or additional resources and/or authorities, and may take between two and five years to implement.

Goals and Action Item Matrix

The Goal and Action Item Matrix portrays the overall framework, linkages between the goals and action items, and the Coordinating Organization. Each action item has a corresponding action item worksheet describing the project, identifying the rationale for the project, identifying potential ideas for implementation, and assigning coordinating and supporting organizations.