

# Wyoming County 2024 All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Update

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Wyoming County, Pennsylvania



## PROJECT DETAILS

**DIFFICULTY:** Medium

**COST:** \$50,000 - \$60,000

**TIMEFRAME:** Nine (9) Months

**DELIVERABLES:** A County-Wide All-Hazards Mitigation Plan for Wyoming County and its 23 municipalities.

### CORE COMPETENCIES:

- Project Management
- Meeting Coordination and Facilitation
- Public Engagement
- Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
- Mitigation Strategy Development
- Plan Preparation

## PROJECT TEAM

Vision Planning and Consulting

### CLIENT CONTACT

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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

VPC conducted the 2024 All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Update for Wyoming County Pennsylvania, and its 23 municipalities. The Plan was updated in compliance with DMA 2000 and 44-CFR part 78.5 Flood Mitigation Plan Development regulations. VPC also developed the 2019 and 2012 HMPs. Working with the County since 2012 provided valuable insight into the County's growth and evolution, as well as the unique needs and challenges the county faces, which helped VPC in efficiently conducting the mitigation plan update.

## PROJECT SUMMARY

VPC employed a comprehensive stakeholder engagement strategy, through which public involvement was captured via open houses, municipal workshops, and various activities, and served as a critical component of the planning process. Each engagement opportunity included a variety of activities that allowed for input and participation.

The activities helped to develop actions that were cost-effective, and would not strain County capacity during Plan implementation. Extensive efforts were made to involve all 23 municipalities in various stages of the planning process through: questionnaires, phone calls, and meetings. To improve participation, VPC contacted the municipalities individually and worked one-on-one with each through individual phone calls to capture the necessary information. VPC received 100% municipal participation in the County through these efforts.

VPC conducted a plan integration exercise, reviewing County plans to: identify gaps, identify connections with hazard mitigation principles, and develop recommendations for future integration of plans and planning processes. Plans included: Sediment and Erosion Control Regulations; Zoning and Subdivision Regulations; the Comprehensive Plan; County Stormwater

Regulations; and the County Emergency Operations Plan.

VPC also developed a Mitigation Capability Assessment form that included questions related to: past hazard events; critical facilities in high hazard areas; mitigation projects; and municipal mitigation capabilities (technical and staffing). The mitigation strategy was created based on the identified risks and vulnerabilities in the County.

VPC developed a High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Analysis to address potential risks associated with the 11 County HHPDs. Tasks included: coordination between the PA Dam Safety Organization, individual dam owners and the County; review of EAPs and potential impacts to institutions/critical infrastructure; a risk assessment of the HHPDs; and the development of mitigation goals and actions related to flood protection measures for dam breach or failure. The risk assessment included the type and number of structures expected to be inundated, as well as the total structure and content value for each dam. Few comments were received from PEMA and FEMA, and the Plan received Approval.