

Public Meetings for Hazard Mitigation Planning

The Butte-Silver Bow Disaster and Emergency Services Agency will hold public meetings as part of ongoing efforts to update the 2004 Hazard Mitigation Plan. The meetings will be held at three locations:

**Tuesday, April 20, 2010
7:00 - 8:30 pm
Blaine Community Center, Walkerville**

**Wednesday, April 21, 2010
2:00-3:30 pm
Silver Bow Fire Training Center
350 Josette Ave, Butte**

**Wednesday, April 21, 2010
7:00-8:30 pm
Terra Verde Fire Hall
569 Janney Rd, Butte**

The purpose of the open meetings are to update the community of the progress in developing the plan and to solicit information that can help the project team in identifying and analyzing hazards affecting residents, as well as recommending possible actions that can be taken to reduce the impact of those hazards and reduce the risk of loss of life and property. The public is invited and encouraged to attend one of the meetings.

The Agency is undertaking the development of a comprehensive hazard mitigation plan for the City and County of Butte-Silver Bow and the Town of Walkerville. The resulting Hazard Mitigation Plan will comply with the hazard mitigation planning standards and criteria of the State of Montana and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The goal of the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan for Butte-Silver Bow is to minimize or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from known hazards by identifying and implementing cost-effective mitigation actions. *Mitigation* is defined by FEMA as *sustained actions taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards and their effects*.

The plan will also serve as a basis for future funding that may become available through grant and technical assistance programs offered by state or Federal agencies; and ensure that Butte-Silver Bow and the Town of Walkerville maintain its eligibility for the full range of future Federal disaster relief. Certain forms of Federal hazard mitigation assistance for projects are made available only to local governments that have a FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in place.

At the public meetings, a briefing will be provided on the planning process and hazards identified to date. An opportunity will be provided for the public to offer thoughts on their hazards of concern and recommended ways to reduce future risk.

Questions about the Hazard Mitigation Plan should be addressed to Roger Ebner, Coordinator for the Disaster and Emergency Services Agency. You may reach Mr. Ebner (406) 497-6295 or by email at rebner@bsb.mt.gov. Additional project information can be obtained on the internet at www.bsb-hmpupdate.com.