

An aerial photograph of a town completely inundated with floodwater. The water is a dark, murky grey. In the foreground, a large fire with bright orange and yellow flames is burning, sending a thick plume of white and grey smoke into the air. The fire appears to be consuming a structure or a large pile of debris. Surrounding the fire are several houses and buildings, some with roofs visible above the water. In the background, a large body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river, is visible, with many boats and structures along the shoreline. The overall scene depicts a severe natural disaster with significant property damage and a secondary hazard of fire.

# MULTI-JURISDICTION MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

# PLANNING TEAM

## ■ FNSB

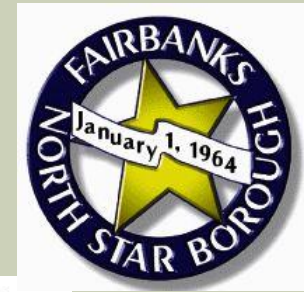
- Emergency Operations
- Community Planning
- Land Management

## ■ City of Fairbanks

- Engineering Department
- Building Department
- Fire Department
- Public Works Department

## ■ City of North Pole

- Fire Department
- Public Works Department



# SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS & STAKEHOLDERS

- **National Weather Service Fairbanks Office**
- **University of Alaska Fairbanks Faculty**
- **Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy**
- **Alaska Fire Science Consortium**
- **Alaska Division of Forestry- Fairbanks Office**
- **Fairbanks International Airport**
- **Alaska DOT&PW Fairbanks Area**
- **Local Utilities**
- **Local Fire Depts**

# WHY DO WE NEED THIS PLAN?

- Helps prepare our community for natural hazards
- Helps establish area-wide pre- and post-disaster mitigation priorities
- Required by FEMA and the State of Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHS&EM) to receive non-emergency disaster assistance

# REQUIREMENTS FOR PLAN UPDATES

- The plan must describe changes in development that have occurred in hazard prone areas and increased or decreased the vulnerability of each jurisdiction since the last plan was approved.
- The plan must describe the status of hazard mitigation actions in the previous plan by identifying those that have been completed or not completed.
- The plan must describe if and how any priorities changed since the plan was previously approved.

# WHAT DOES THIS PLAN DO?

- **Goals, objectives, and strategies**
  - Identifies long-term capital improvement projects
  - Suggests possible changes to ordinances or existing plans
  - Fosters public education and outreach
  - Establishes grant eligibility and priorities
- **Non-binding!**
  - Does not obligate funds or policy changes; simply justifies making future decisions.

# WHAT ARE THE PLAN GOALS?

- **Protect public safety and prevent loss of life.**
- **Reduce harm to existing and future development.**
- **Prevent damage to the unique economic, cultural and environmental assets in the Fairbanks North Star Borough, City of Fairbanks, and the City of North Pole.**

# WHAT ARE THE PLAN GOALS?

- **Minimize operational downtime and accelerate recovery of government and businesses after disasters.**
- **Reduce the costs of disaster response and recovery and the exposure to risk for first responders**
- **Help accomplish other community objectives, such as leveraging capital improvements, infrastructure protection, open space preservation, and economic resiliency.**

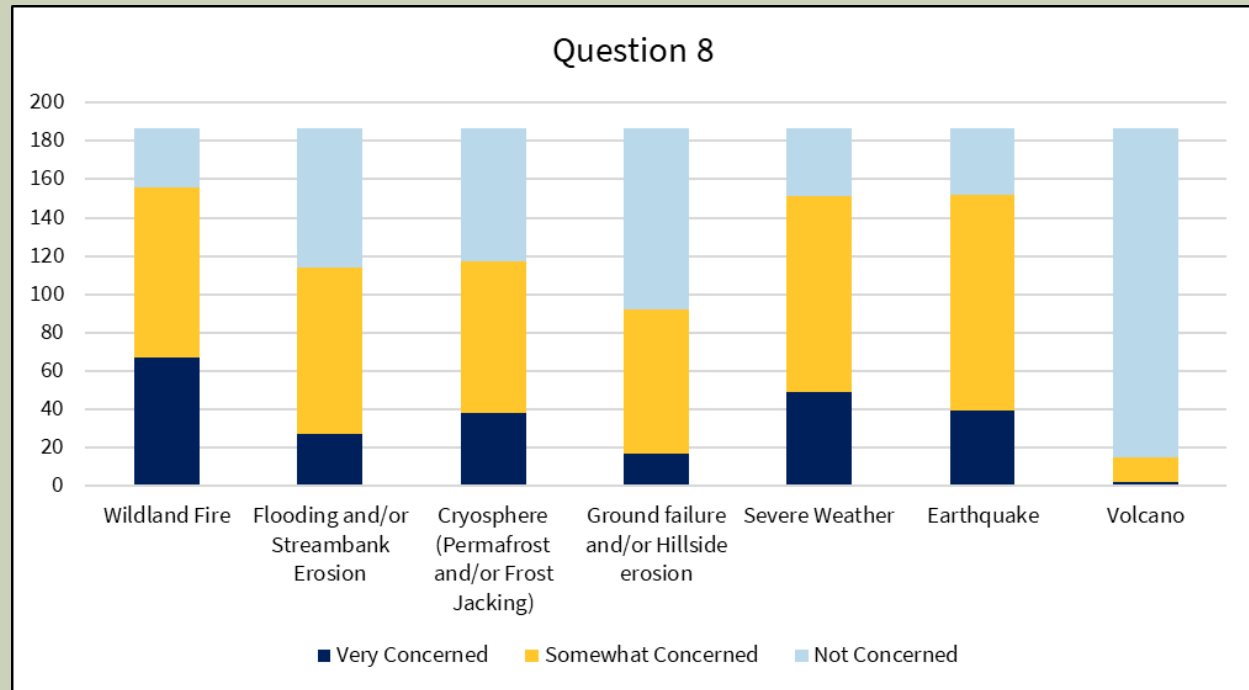


# PLAN UPDATE PROCESS

- Conducted a Spatial Analysis of Hazards and Vulnerabilities
- Assessed the Status of Mitigation Actions from 2014 HMP
- Reviewed current Hazards Studies, state and community plans, publications, actions
- Assessed Development Trends in the area
- Worked with Subject Matter Experts
- Public Outreach/Input (various events and Public Survey)
- Completed a Draft Plan

# WHAT HAZARDS DOES THE PLAN PROFILE?

- Cryosphere
- Seismic Event
- Flood
- Ground Failure
- Severe Weather
- Wildland Fire



# CHANGES SINCE LAST HMP

- **Hazards Profiled**
  - Added new hazards chapters on cryosphere and ground failure/hillside erosion
  - Removed Volcanic Ash from the plan
- **Aligned the mitigation strategy with the 2018 State Mitigation Plan**
  - emphasized all-hazards mitigation efforts that reduce the risk from several natural threats.
  - Made the mitigation strategies more open and flexible to allow participating jurisdictions and critical infrastructure partners the ability to secure grant funding for a wider range of mitigation projects.

# 2014 HMP SUCCESSES

- **FNSB area emergency generator projects:**
  - Juanita Helms Administration Center (JHAC)
  - Golden Heart Utilities Sewage Treatment Plant
  - Fairbanks Memorial Hospital
- **City of Fairbanks: constructed numerous projects funded via collaboration with the Metropolitan Planning Organization/Fairbanks Area Surface Transportation (MPO/FAST) Planning using Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds that included significant drainage improvements.**

# 2014 HMP SUCCESSES

- Hosted and/or attended the following National Earthquake Technical Assistance Program Courses:
  - Reducing the Risks of Nonstructural Earthquake Damage
  - Rapid Visual Screening of Buildings for Potential Seismic Hazards (Pre-Disaster)
  - Post-Earthquake Safety Evaluation of Buildings (Post-Disaster)
  - Homebuilders' Guide to Earthquake Resistant Design and Construction
  - Simplified Seismic Assessment and Retrofit Guidelines for Detached, Single-Family, Wood-Frame Dwellings
  - Seismic Rehabilitation Training for One and Two Family Wood-Frame Dwellings

# MITIGATION ACTION PLAN GOALS

- **MH 1: Provide outreach activities to educate and promote recognition and mitigation of natural hazards that affect the Fairbanks North Star Borough. (5 Actions)**
- **MH 2: Integrate community plans, mitigation goals, and initiatives throughout Fairbanks North Star Borough, City of Fairbanks, and City of North Pole planning processes and projects. (6 Actions)**
- **MH 3: Promote construction activities that reduce potential natural hazard damages and losses to support initiatives, such as National Flood Insurance Program participation and Repetitive Loss property mitigation, etc. (2 Actions)**
- **MH 4: Seek funding opportunities for hazard mitigation actions and projects; community planning; and project implementation. (3 Actions)**

# MITIGATION GOALS

- CR 5: Reduce potential cryosphere (CR) vulnerability, damage, and loss (1 Action)
- EQ 6: Reduce potential earthquake (EQ) vulnerability, damage and loss (1 Action)
- FL 7: Reduce potential riverine flood (FL) and streambank erosion vulnerability, damage, and loss (4 Actions)
- GF 8: Reduce potential ground failure (GF) vulnerability, damage, and loss. (1 Action)
- WX 9: Reduce potential severe weather (WX) vulnerability, damage, and loss. (3 Actions)
- WF 10: Reduce potential wildland fire (WF) vulnerability, damage, and loss (3 Actions)

# SAMPLE MITIGATION ACTIONS

- **MH 1.4:** Educate community members about the benefits of the NFIP, Storm Ready, and Firewise programs.
- **MH 4.2:** Fund multi-hazard hazard mitigation retrofits projects for public facilities.
- **FL 7.4:** Continue active and consistent involvement in NFIP (LOMRs, studies, removing Repetitive Loss Properties and apply for Community Rating System when eligible)



# PUBLIC REVIEW

- Where can I read the plan?
  - Online at [www.fnsb.gov/hmp](http://www.fnsb.gov/hmp)
  - Hard-Copies located in FNSB, Fairbanks, and North Pole Clerks offices
- How can I comment on the plan?
  - Fill out a comment form at [www.fnsb.gov/hmp](http://www.fnsb.gov/hmp)
  - Fill out a comment form at your jurisdiction's Clerks Office
  - at Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly meetings
  - at Fairbanks City Council meetings
  - at North Pole City Council meetings

# IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

- 30- Day Public Comment Period 1/11/21-2/12/21
- FNSB
  - Planning Commission work session 2/9/21
  - Assembly 2/25/21 (Advance Resolution)
  - Assembly 3/11/21 (Adopt Resolution)
- Fairbanks City Council
  - Possible Work Session 2/8/21
  - Public Hearing 2/22/21
- North Pole City Council
- TBD February (either 1st Monday or 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)
- Submit Plan for Review
  - Alaska DHSEM (30 days)
  - FEMA Region X (45 days)
- Annual review and update cycle