

Table 5-1. 2015-2020 Floodplain Management Action Plan

#	Mitigation Actions by Goal Area and Objective	Implementation Responsibility	Timeframe for Completion	Funding Source	Priority
1	Goal for Prevention. Manage the development of land and buildings to minimize risks of loss due to flooding and related natural hazards.				
1.1	Elevation Certificates. Maintain FEMA Elevation Certificates for buildings in the floodplain.				
1.1.1	Continue to maintain FEMA Elevation Certificates for all new construction, substantial improvements, and additions to existing buildings in the floodplain.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	<i>2018 Status: FEMA Elevation Certificates continue to be reviewed and maintained by the Office of the City Engineer.</i>				
1.1.2	To the furthest possible extent, maintain FEMA elevation certificates for all existing buildings in the floodplain, including all "post-FIRM" buildings constructed since the City entered the NFIP in 1973 and pre-FIRM buildings prior to 1973.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	Low
	<i>2018 Status: FEMA Elevation Certificates continue to be maintained to the furthest possible extent by the Office of the City Engineer.</i>				
1.2	Floodplain Mapping. Keep accurate and current floodplain maps and data used for regulatory purposes.				
1.2.1	Develop new flood elevations, floodway delineations, and other regulatory flood hazard data for areas not mapped in detail by the most recent NFIP Flood Insurance Study (FIS).	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	TBD	High
	<i>2018 Status: Cribbs Mill Creek Flood Study was completed and new LOMR became effective 11/20/2017.</i>				
1.3	Higher Regulatory Standards. Establish regulatory standards that exceed the NFIP minimums.				
1.3.1	Consider freeboard of more than one foot for minimum flood protection elevation.	Office of the City Engineer	Mid-Range	Existing City funds	Medium
	<i>2018 Status: Flood ordinance amendment adopted by Tuscaloosa City Council on 6/27/17 requiring two-foot freeboard. This goal has been met.</i>				

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1.3.2	Prohibit all new buildings and substantial improvements and additions to existing buildings in the floodway.	Office of the City Engineer	Mid-Range	Existing City funds	Medium
	2018 Status: No new regulations have been adopted.				
1.3.3	Protect critical facilities (police, fire, public utilities, schools, medical, etc.) to the 500 year flood elevation.	Office of the City Engineer	Mid-Range	Existing City funds	Medium
	2018 Status: No new regulations have been adopted.				
1.3.4	Consider requiring compensatory storage for fill.	Office of the City Engineer	Mid-Range	Existing City funds	Medium
	2018 Status: No new regulations have been adopted.				
1.3.5	Require elevation of hazardous materials storage indoors.	Office of the City Engineer	Mid-Range	Existing City funds	Medium
	2018 Status: No new regulations have been adopted.				
1.3.6	Maintain Certified Floodplain Managers (CFM) on staff for ordinance administration.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	2018 Status: One staff member maintains CFM designation.				
1.4	Flood Data Maintenance. Maintain essential field data for floodplain management.				
1.4.1	Maintain elevation reference marks.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	Low
	2018 Status: The Office of the City Engineer maintains elevation reference marks.				
1.5	Stormwater Management. Effectively manage stormwater to maintain water quality and minimize flooding.				
1.5.1	Continue to maintain stormwater management standards (design storm and size of development) for the regulation of new development to ensure that post-development peak runoff is no worse than pre-development conditions.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High

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	2018 Status: The Office of the City Engineer continues to maintain stormwater management standards as outlined in city code.				
1.5.2	Enact regulations to require the implementation of low impact development (LID) techniques to minimize the need for more traditional stormwater management controls (pipes, channels, and detention).	Office of the City Engineer	Long-Range	Existing City funds	Low
	2018 Status: No new regulations have been adopted in regards to LID techniques.				
1.5.3	Continue to regulate new construction to protect or improve water quality.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	2018 Status: Current regulations continue to be enforced by the Office of the City Engineer.				
2	<i>Property Protection Goal. Protect structures and their occupants and contents from the damaging effects of flooding and related natural hazards.</i>				
2.1	Acquisition and Relocation. Remove flood-threatened buildings from high risk flood locations.				
2.1.1	Acquire and demolish flood-prone buildings and maintain the property as permanent open space.	Office of the City Engineer	Long-Range	FEMA HMA Grants	Low
	2018 Status: Several single family residential properties within a designated floodway have been purchased, the building demolished, and the properties converted into open space.				
2.2	Flood Insurance Promotion. Promote the purchase of flood insurance, especially for high risk properties in the flood plain.				
2.2.1	Perform a flood insurance coverage assessment of the City's current level of coverage and identify shortcomings.	TBD	Long-Range	TBD	Low
	2018 Status: The City is evaluating options to achieve this goal.				
2.2.2	Prepare and implement a coverage improvement plan under the direction of a committee of local lenders and insurance agents.	TBD	Long-Range	TBD	Low
	2018 Status: The City is evaluating options to achieve this goal.				

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3	Public Education and Awareness Goal. Educate and inform the public about the risks of flooding and related natural hazards and the techniques available to reduce threats to life and property.				
3.1	Map Information Service. Provide flood map information to the public.				
3.1.1	Continue to provide Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) information to people who inquire, and publicize this service.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	2018 Status: The Office of the City Engineer continues to provide FIRM information to citizens that request information. Our website provides a link for citizens to request information of city staff.				
3.2	Outreach Projects. Regularly perform public outreach and education programs to inform the public of flood risks and mitigation alternatives.				
3.2.1	Send information about the flood hazard, flood insurance, flood protection measures, and/or the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains to residents.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	Medium
	2018 Status: Outreach information is distributed, as requested by residents.				
3.2.2	Participate in the Tuscaloosa County EMA's annual "Be Ready Day" event by distributing information to the public on flood hazard mitigation	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	2018 Status: There was no "Be Ready Day" this year. EMA hopes to have "Be Ready Day" or a similar event next year.				
3.3	Hazard Disclosure. Take steps to inform the public of flood hazards.				
3.3.1	Encourage real estate agents to advise potential purchasers of flood-prone property about the flood hazard.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	2018 Status: The City is evaluating options to continue to achieve this goal.				
3.3.2	Support the National Weather Service/Tuscaloosa County EMA "Turn Around Don't Drown" program by installing signs at hazardous bridge crossings	Office of the City Engineer	Long-Range	TBD	Medium
	2018 Status: No action was taken this year, but this item remains a long-range goal.				
3.4	Flood Protection Information. Distribute flood protection information to the general public.				

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3.4.1	Maintain publications and reference materials at public libraries.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	2018 Status: FEMA publications are maintained at the main branch of the Tuscaloosa Public Library.				
3.4.2	Create a community's website to disseminate flood protection information to the public.	Office of the City Engineer	Mid-Range	TBD	Medium
	2018 Status: The Office of the City Engineer is in the process of updating the City's Floodplain Management webpage in order to add flood protection information.				
3.5	Flood Protection Assistance. Provide technical guidance for protection of buildings from flood damage.				
3.5.1	Give inquiring property owners technical advice on how to protect their buildings from flooding, and publicize this service.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	Medium
	2018 Status: Advice is given to property owners, as requested.				
4	Natural Resources Protection Goal. Preserve and restore the beneficial functions of floodplains and the natural environment to promote sustainable community development that balances the constraints of nature with the social and economic demands of the community.				
4.1	Open Space Preservation. Preserve open space to restore the natural functions of the flood plain, where feasible.				
4.1.1	Preserve City-owned floodplain lands as permanent open space, kept free from development through deed restrictions.	Office of the City Attorney	Long-Range	TBD	Low
	2018 Status: City-owned floodplain lands remain permanent open space.				
4.1.2	To the extent possible, maintain or restore City-owned flood plains to their natural condition.	TBD	Long-Range	TBD	Low
	2018 Status: No action was taken this year, but this item remains a long-range goal.				
4.1.3	Provide zoning and subdivision incentives to set aside flood plains as permanent open space in new developments. Consider provisions for clustering and conservation subdivisions.	Urban Development	Mid-Range	Existing City funds	Medium
	2018 Status: A comprehensive plan update is currently under way and the consultants have a copy of the FMP and will look to incorporate this goal into the new comprehensive plan.				

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5	Structural Projects Goal. Apply engineered structural modifications to natural systems and public infrastructure to reduce the potentially damaging impacts of flooding and related natural hazards, where found to be feasible, cost effective, and environmentally suitable.				
5.1	Drainage System Maintenance. Maintain natural and manmade drainage systems to effectively discharge stormwater and reduce flooding.				
5.1.1	Conduct regular inspections and maintenance of all channels and conveyance facilities and remove debris as needed.	Infrastructure	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	2018 Status: Inspection and maintenance are ongoing.				
5.1.2	Regularly inspect all detention and retention facilities constructed pursuant to the City's stormwater management regulations and all city-owned facilities to ensure proper functioning.	Infrastructure	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	2018 Status: A citywide detention pond inventory is currently underway.				
5.1.3	Maintain a comprehensive GIS inventory of the conveyance system and storage basins.	Office of the City Engineer	Long-Range	TBD	Medium
	2018 Status: An asset inventory assessment is currently underway. This item remains a long-range goal.				
5.1.4	Establish an annual capital improvements programming process for drainage system improvements.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	2018 Status: Drainage system improvement projects have been completed and are currently under construction.				
5.1.5	Enact and publicize no stream dumping regulations.	Office of the City Attorney	Mid-Range	Existing City funds	Low
	2018 Status: No new regulations have been adopted.				
5.2	Flood Protection. Implement structural improvements where deemed effective to reduce flooding.				
5.2.1	Continue to perform engineering studies that evaluate the feasibility of structural flood controls.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	Existing City funds	High
	2018 Status: Engineering studies are ongoing.				

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5.2.2	Protect existing floodplain development by structural projects, where deemed feasible.	Office of the City Engineer	Ongoing	City Bond Funds/FEMA HMA Grants	High
	2018 Status: Capital Improvement Projects, that include structural remedies, are currently under construction.				
6	<i>Emergency Services Goal. Improve the efficiency, timing, and effectiveness of response and recovery efforts for flooding and related natural disasters.</i>				
6.1	Flood Warning and Response. Apply advanced technological systems to monitor flood threats and warn the public.				
6.1.1	Establish an automated flood threat recognition and forecasting system to identify impending floods.	Office of the City Engineer	Long-Range	TBD	Low
	2018 Status: No action has been taken. The Office of the City Engineer will continue to work with Tuscaloosa County EMA on this long-range goal.				
6.1.2	Establish methods for early flood warnings to the public.	Tuscaloosa County EMA	Long-Range	Existing funds	Medium
	2018 Status: Tuscaloosa County EMA continues to evaluate ways to implement this long-range goal.				
6.1.3	Develop a detailed flood response operations plan keyed to flood forecasts for City Council adoption.	Tuscaloosa County EMA	Mid-Range	TBD	Medium
	2018 Status: The Tuscaloosa County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is currently in effect while a detailed flood response operations plan is considered.				
6.1.4	Coordinate flood warning and response activities with critical facilities operators.	Tuscaloosa County EMA	Ongoing	Existing funds	High
	2018 Status: The City will continue to partner with Tuscaloosa County EMA, as needed, with flood warning and response activities.				