



City of Medical Lake  
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Terri Cooper, Mayor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Public Invited to Review and Provide Input on the City of Medical Lake’s Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.**

Medical Lake, WA. – The City of Medical Lake invites residents, businesses, and stakeholders to review and provide feedback on its Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). This plan, developed in collaboration with federal, state, and local partners, identifies strategies to minimize risks and enhance the city’s resilience against natural disasters and other hazards.

The updated plan is in compliance with requirements outlined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000). This legislation mandates that local governments develop and adopt a HMP to remain eligible for federal mitigation funding and disaster recovery assistance.

**Why Review the Plan?**

The Hazard Mitigation Plan serves as a roadmap for identifying vulnerabilities and implementing measures to protect life, property, and critical infrastructure in the event of emergencies such as wildfires, floods, severe storms, and earthquakes. By providing input, the public helps ensure that the plan reflects community concerns, incorporates local knowledge, and prioritizes actions that address the city’s most pressing risks.

**Key Objectives of the Hazard Mitigation Plan Include:**

- Assessing hazards and vulnerabilities specific to Medical Lake.
- Identifying and prioritizing cost-effective mitigation projects.
- Increasing public awareness and preparedness.
- Aligning with FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Planning requirements, including compliance with Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 201.

**How to Participate:**

The draft Hazard Mitigation Plan is available for public review online at [www.medical-lake.org/city-government/hazard-mitigation-plan/](http://www.medical-lake.org/city-government/hazard-mitigation-plan/) or in-person at City Hall, 124 S. Lefevre St in Medical Lake. Public comments will be accepted from 20 January 2024 through 21 February 2024. Residents are encouraged to submit feedback via email to [city@medical-lake.org](mailto:city@medical-lake.org), by attending public meetings scheduled for January 23 at 5:30 pm and February 4 at 6:30 pm, both in City Hall.

## What Happens Next?

Following the public review period, the city will incorporate feedback into the final version of the HMP before submitting it to FEMA for approval. Once approved, the plan will guide future investments in mitigation projects and increase the city's eligibility for federal grant programs.

"The safety and well-being of our community is a top priority," said Mayor Terri Cooper. "This plan is not just a requirement but an essential tool for reducing risks and ensuring we are prepared to respond to disasters. Your input is invaluable to making this plan as comprehensive and effective as possible."

For more information, please contact Sonny Weathers at 509-565-5000 or [city@medical-lake.org](mailto:city@medical-lake.org).

Together, we can build a safer, more resilient Medical Lake.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Terri Cooper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Terri Cooper, Mayor  
City of Medical Lake

CC: Sonny Weathers, City Administrator