

# 5.0 Capability Assessment

## 5.1 – Introduction

*44 CFR 201.6 does not require a capability assessment to be completed for local hazard mitigation plans. However, 201.6(c)(3) states "A mitigation strategy that provides the jurisdiction's blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs and resources, and its ability to expand on and improve these existing tools."*

This section of the plan discusses the current capacity of regional communities to mitigate the effects of identified hazards. A capability assessment is conducted to determine the ability of a jurisdiction to execute a comprehensive mitigation strategy, and to identify potential opportunities for establishing or enhancing specific mitigation policies, programs or projects.

A capability assessment helps to determine which mitigation actions are practical based on a jurisdiction's fiscal, staffing and political resources. A capability assessment consists of:

- An inventory of relevant plans, ordinances, or programs already in place
- An analysis capacity to carry them out.

A thoughtful review of jurisdictional capabilities will assist in determining gaps that could limit current or proposed mitigation activities, or potentially aggravate a jurisdiction's vulnerability to an identified hazard. Additionally, a capability assessment can detail current successful mitigation actions that should continue to receive support.

For this plan each participating jurisdiction was given an opportunity to present their capability assessment information.

## 5.2 – Granted Authority

In implementing a mitigation plan or specific action, a local jurisdiction may utilize any or all of the four broad types of government authority granted by the State of Kansas. The four types of authority are defined as:

- Regulation
- Acquisition
- Taxation
- Spending

### ***Regulation***

The scope of this local authority is subject to constraints, however, as all of Kansas' political subdivisions must not act without proper delegation from the State. Under a principle known as "Dillon's Rule," all power is vested in the State and can only be exercised by local governments to the extent it is delegated.





## ***Acquisition***

The power of acquisition can be a useful tool for pursuing local mitigation goals. Local governments may find the most effective method for completely “hazard-proofing” a particular piece of property or area is to acquire the property, thus removing the property from the private market and eliminating or reducing the possibility of inappropriate development occurring. Kansas legislation empowers cities, towns, counties to acquire property for public purpose by gift, grant, devise, bequest, exchange, purchase, lease or eminent domain (County Home Rule Powers, K.S.A. 19-101, 19-101a, 19-212).

## ***Taxation***

The power to levy taxes and special assessments is an important tool delegated to local governments by Kansas law. The power of taxation extends beyond merely the collection of revenue and can have a profound impact on the pattern of development in the community. Communities have the power to set preferential tax rates for areas which are more suitable for development in order to discourage development in otherwise hazardous areas. Local units of government also have the authority to levy special assessments on property owners for all or part of the costs of acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, extending or otherwise building or improving flood control within a designated area. This can serve to increase the cost of building in such areas, thereby discouraging development. Because the usual methods of apportionment seem mechanical and arbitrary, and because the tax burden on a particular piece of property is often quite large, the major constraint in using special assessments is political. Special assessments seem to offer little in terms of control over land use in developing areas. They can, however, be used to finance the provision of necessary services within municipal or county boundaries. In addition, they are useful in distributing to the new property owners the costs of the infrastructure required by new development.

## ***Spending***

The Kansas General Assembly allocated the ability to local governments to make expenditures in the public interest. Hazard mitigation principles can be made a routine part of all spending decisions made by the local government, including the adoption of annual budgets and a Capital Improvement Plan. A Capital Improvement Plan is a schedule for the provision of municipal or county services over a specified period of time. Capital programming, by itself, can be used as a growth management technique, with a view to hazard mitigation. By tentatively committing itself to a timetable for the provision of capital to extend services, a community can control growth to some extent. In addition to formulating a timetable for the provision of services, a local community can regulate the extension of and access to services. A Capital Improvement Plan that is coordinated with extension and access policies can provide a significant degree of control over the location and timing of growth. These tools can also influence the cost of growth. If the Capital Improvement Plan is effective in directing growth away from environmentally sensitive or high hazard areas.





## 5.3 – Governance

All counties within Kansas Region G operate under a county commissioner form of governance, with the elected board of commissioners overseeing county operations.

**Table 5.1: County Governance**

Jurisdiction	Government Structure	Number of Commissioners
Butler County	Commission	5
Cowley County	Commission	3
Harper County	Commission	3
Harvey County	Commission	3
Kingman County	Commission	3
Marion County	Commission	3
McPherson County	Commission	3
Reno County	Commission	3
Rice County	Commission	3
Sedgwick County	Commission	5
Sumner County	Commission	3

In general, the participating towns and cities in Kansas Region G operate either under a Mayoral form of governance or an elected city council form of governance.

## 5.4 – Jurisdictional Capabilities

Information as to the current capacity of participating jurisdictions is summarized in the following sections and tables. All capability information was provided by jurisdictional officials through the above referenced questions and through outreach from the MPC.

The ability of a local government to develop and implement mitigation projects, policies, and programs is directly tied to its ability to direct staff time and resources for that purpose. Administrative capability can be evaluated by determining how mitigation-related activities are assigned to local departments and if there are adequate personnel resources to complete these activities. The degree of intergovernmental coordination among departments will also affect administrative capability for the implementation and success of proposed mitigation activities.

Many smaller jurisdictions have very limited to no planning, management, response or mitigation capabilities. Often these jurisdictions rely on the county or nearby larger municipalities for assistance. This lack of capabilities is reflected in the following tables. Additionally, many very small or extremely limited participating small jurisdictions, largely townships, are not listed on the capability list. This in no way diminishes the participation in the process of these jurisdictions. Finally, special district capabilities are included in their overarching jurisdiction.





### 5.4.1 – Jurisdictional Planning Capabilities

The planning capability assessment is designed to provide a general overview of the key planning and regulatory tools or programs in place or under development. This information helps identify opportunities to address existing planning gaps and provides an opportunity to review areas that mitigation planning actions can be utilized with existing plans. Jurisdictions were asked if they had completed the following plans:

***Comprehensive Plan:*** A comprehensive plan establishes the overall vision for a jurisdiction and serves as a guide to decision making, and generally contains information on demographics, land use, transportation, and facilities. As a comprehensive plan is broad in scope the integration of hazard mitigation measures can enhance the likelihood of achieving risk reduction goals.

***Critical Facilities Plan:*** A critical facilities plan is used to identify a jurisdiction’s critical facilities, including fire stations, police stations, hospitals, schools, day care centers, senior care facilities, major roads and bridges, critical utility sites, and hazardous material storage areas. Additionally, this plan may be used to determine methods to mitigate damage to these facilities.

***Debris Management Plan:*** A debris management plan covers the response and recovery from debris-causing incidents such as tornados or floods. Planning considerations include debris removal and disposal, disposal locations, equipment availability, and personnel training.

***Emergency Operations Plan:*** An emergency operations plan outlines responsibility, means and methods by which resources are deployed during and following an emergency or disaster.

***Evacuation Plan:*** A plan that outlines routes and methods by which populations are evacuated during and following an emergency or disaster.

***Fire Mitigation Plan:*** A fire mitigation plan is used to mitigate a jurisdictions wildfire risk and vulnerability. The plan documents areas with an elevated risk of wildfires, and identifies the actions taken to decrease the risk. A fire mitigaion plan can influence and prioritize future funding for hazardous fuel reduction projects, including where and how federal agencies implement fuel reduction projects on federal lands.

***Flood Mitigation Assistance Plan:*** The purpose of the flood mitigation assistance plan is to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings and other structures insured under the NFIP.

***Recovery Plan:*** A disaster recovery plan guides the recovery and reconstruction process following a disaster. Hazard mitigation principles should be incorporated into disaster recovery plans to assist in breaking the cycle of disaster loss.

***Vulnerable Population Plan and/or Inventory:*** A vulnerable populations plan is used to develop a strategic approach for support to persons with functional or special needs before, during and following a disaster.

The table below summarizes relevant jurisdictional planning capabilities.

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**Table 5.2: Jurisdictional Planning Capabilities**

Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan	Critical Facilities Plan	Debris Management Plan	Emergency Operations Plan	Evacuation Plan	Firewise or other Fire Mitigation Plan	Flood Mitigation Assistance Plan	Recovery Plan	Vulnerable Population Plan or Inventory
<b>Butler County</b>	x			x	x				
Andover	x	x	x	x	x				
Augusta	x			x	x				
Benton	x	x		x					
Cassoday									
Douglass	x			x					
El Dorado	x		x		x		x	x	
Elbing									
Latham				x					
Leon									
Potwin	x	x		x			x		
Rose Hill	x			x					
Towanda	x								
Whitewater									
<b>Cowley County</b>		x		x	x				
Arkansas City	x			x				x	
Atlanta				x					
Burden									
Cambridge	x			x					
Dexter									
Geuda Springs	x			x					
Parkerfield									
Udall	x								
Winfield	x	x		x					
<b>Harper County</b>	x	x		x	x	x		x	x
Anthony									
Attica									
Bluff City									
Danville	x								x
Harper	x			x		x			
Waldron									
<b>Harvey County</b>	x			x			x		
Burrton	x	x	x	x					
Halstead	x			x	x				
Hesston	x			x					
Newton	x		x	x		x		x	





**Table 5.2: Jurisdictional Planning Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Comprehensive Plan</b>	<b>Critical Facilities Plan</b>	<b>Debris Management Plan</b>	<b>Emergency Operations Plan</b>	<b>Evacuation Plan</b>	<b>Firewise or other Fire Mitigation Plan</b>	<b>Flood Mitigation Assistance Plan</b>	<b>Recovery Plan</b>	<b>Vulnerable Population Plan or Inventory</b>
North Newton	x			x	x				
Sedgwick	x			x					
Walton	x			x					
<b>Kingman County</b>	x			x				x	
Cunningham									
Kingman									
Nashville									
Norwich									
Penalosa									
Spivey									
Zenda									
<b>McPherson County</b>	x	x		x	x				
Canton									
Galva									
Inman	x			x					x
Lindsborg									
Marquette									
McPherson	x			x					
Moundridge	x	x		x					
Windom									
<b>Marion County</b>	x		x	x				x	
Burns									
Durham									
Florence									
Goessel									
Hillsboro									
Lehigh									
Lincolnville									
Lost Springs									
Marion									
Peabody									
Ramona									
Tampa									
<b>Reno County</b>	x		x	x				x	
Abbyville	x		x				x	x	
Arlington				x					





**Table 5.2: Jurisdictional Planning Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Comprehensive Plan</b>	<b>Critical Facilities Plan</b>	<b>Debris Management Plan</b>	<b>Emergency Operations Plan</b>	<b>Evacuation Plan</b>	<b>Firewise or other Fire Mitigation Plan</b>	<b>Flood Mitigation Assistance Plan</b>	<b>Recovery Plan</b>	<b>Vulnerable Population Plan or Inventory</b>
Buhler	x	x		x			x		
Haven	x			x					
The Highlands				x					
Hutchinson	x			x					
Langdon									
Nickerson	x	x	x	x					
Partridge									
Plevna	x			x	x				
Pretty Prairie			x	x					
South Hutchinson	x	x		x					
Sylvia	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Turon				x					
Willowbrook			x	x	x				
<b>Rice County</b>	x		x		x			x	x
Alden									
Bushton									
Chase		x		x			x		
Geneseo									
Little River									
Lyons									
Raymond									
Sterling									
<b>Sedgwick County</b>	x			x					
Andale									
Bel Aire	x	x	x	x	x		x		x
Bentley									
Cheney	x		x	x					x
Clearwater									
Colwich									
Derby				x					
Eastborough									
Garden Plain	x		x	x	x				
Goddard									
Haysville	x	x		x			x		
Kechi	x		x	x					
Maize	x	x	x	x					
Mount Hope									





**Table 5.2: Jurisdictional Planning Capabilities**

Jurisdiction	Comprehensive Plan	Critical Facilities Plan	Debris Management Plan	Emergency Operations Plan	Evacuation Plan	Firewise or other Fire Mitigation Plan	Flood Mitigation Assistance Plan	Recovery Plan	Vulnerable Population Plan or Inventory
Mulvane									
Park City	x	x		x					
Sedgwick									
Valley Center	x	x	x	x	x				
Viola									
Wichita	x	x	x	x			x	x	
<b>Sumner County</b>									
Argonia									
Belle Plaine	x		x	x			x		
Caldwell									
Conway Springs									
Geuda Springs									
Mulvane									
Oxford									
South Haven									
Wellington									

**5.4.2 – Jurisdictional Codes and Ordinances**

Participating jurisdictions were asked if the following codes and ordinances and plans were established and enforced:

**Building Code:** Many structural mitigation measures involve constructing and retrofitting homes, businesses and other structures according to standards designed to make the buildings more resilient to the impacts of natural hazards. Many of these standards are imposed through the building code.

**Floodplain Ordinance:** In general, floodplain ordinances are used to:

- Minimize the extent of floods by preventing obstructions that inhibit water flow and increase flood height and damage.
- Prevent and minimize loss of life, injuries, and property damage in flood hazard areas.
- Promote the public health, safety and welfare of citizens in flood hazard areas.

Floodplain ordinances may allow jurisdictions to:

- Manage planned growth







- Adopt local ordinances to regulate uses in flood hazard areas
- Enforce those ordinances
- Grant permits for use in flood hazard areas that are consistent with the ordinance

These ordinances can also help ensure meeting the minimum requirements of participation in the NFIP. The incentive for local governments adopting such ordinances is that they will afford their residents the ability to purchase flood insurance through the NFIP.

**Stormwater Ordinance:** The purpose of a stormwater ordinance is to protect the quality and quantity of local, regional and state waters from the potential harm of unmanaged stormwater. Stormwater ordinances include protection from activities that result in the degradation of properties, water quality, stream channels, and other natural resources.

**Nuisance Ordinance:** Local governments may use their ordinance-making power to abate “nuisances,” which could include, by local definition, any activity or condition making people or property more vulnerable to any hazard.

**Zoning:** Zoning is the traditional and most common tool available to local jurisdictions to control the use of land. Zoning is used to promote health, safety, and the general welfare of the community. Zoning is used to dictate the type of land use and to set minimum specifications for use such as lot size, building height and setbacks, and density of population. Local governments are authorized to divide their jurisdiction into districts, and to regulate and restrict the erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair or use of buildings, structures, or land within those districts. Districts may include general use districts, overlay districts, special use districts or conditional use districts. Zoning ordinances consist of maps and written text.

The table below summarizes relevant jurisdictional policies and ordinances.

**Table 5.3: Jurisdictional Codes and Ordinances**

Jurisdiction	Building Code	Floodplain Ordinance	Nuisance Ordinance	Storm Water Ordinance	Zoning Ordinance
Butler County	x	x	x		x
Andover	x	x	x	x	
Augusta	x	x	x		x
Benton	x	x	x	x	x
Cassoday		x			
Douglass	x	x	x		x
El Dorado	x	x	x	x	x
Elbing		x			
Latham		x	x		





**Table 5.3: Jurisdictional Codes and Ordinances**

Jurisdiction	Building Code	Floodplain Ordinance	Nuisance Ordinance	Storm Water Ordinance	Zoning Ordinance
Leon		X			
Potwin	X	X	X		X
Rose Hill	X	X	X		X
Towanda	X	X	X	X	X
Whitewater	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Cowley County</b>			X		X
Arkansas City	X	X	X	X	X
Atlanta			X		
Burden	X	X	X		
Cambridge		X	X		
Dexter		X			
Geuda Springs		X	X		
Parkerfield		X			
Udall	X	X	X		X
Winfield	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Harper County</b>		X			X
Anthony		X	X		
Attica		X	X		
Bluff City			X		
Danville	X		X		X
Harper	X	X	X		X
Waldron			X		
<b>Harvey County</b>	X	X			X
Burrton	X	X	X		X
Halstead	X	X	X	X	X
Hesston	X	X	X		
Newton	X	X	X	X	X
North Newton	X	X	X		X
Sedgwick	X		X	X	X
Walton	X	X	X		X
<b>Kingman County</b>		X			
Cunningham					
Kingman		X	X		
Nashville			X		
Norwich			X		





**Table 5.3: Jurisdictional Codes and Ordinances**

Jurisdiction	Building Code	Floodplain Ordinance	Nuisance Ordinance	Storm Water Ordinance	Zoning Ordinance
Penalosa			X		
Spivey			X		
Zenda			X		
<b>McPherson County</b>	X	X			X
Canton			X		
Galva		X	X		
Inman		X	X		
Lindsborg		X	X		
Marquette		X			
McPherson	X	X	X	X	X
Moundridge	X	X	X		X
Windom					
<b>Marion County</b>		X			X
Burns		X	X		
Durham		X	X		
Florence		X	X		
Goessel		X	X		
Hillsboro		X	X		
Lehigh		X	X		
Lincolville			X		
Lost Springs			X		
Marion		X	X		
Peabody		X	X		
Ramona		X	X		
Tampa		X	X		
<b>Reno County</b>					
Abbyville	X	X	X		X
Arlington	X	X	X		
Buhler		X	X		
Haven	X	X	X	X	X
The Highlands					X
Hutchinson	X	X	X	X	X
Langdon		X			
Nickerson	X	X	X	X	X
Partridge		X			





**Table 5.3: Jurisdictional Codes and Ordinances**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Building Code</b>	<b>Floodplain Ordinance</b>	<b>Nuisance Ordinance</b>	<b>Storm Water Ordinance</b>	<b>Zoning Ordinance</b>
Plevna		x	x		
Pretty Prairie		x	x		x
South Hutchinson	x	x	x		
Sylvia		x	x		
Turon	x	x	x		
Willowbrook		x			x
<b>Rice County</b>		x			x
Alden		x			
Bushton		x			
Chase	x	x	x		x
Geneseo					
Little River		x			
Lyons		x			
Raymond		x			
Sterling		x			
<b>Sedgwick County</b>	x	x			x
Andale		x			
Bel Aire	x	x	x		x
Bentley		x			
Cheney	x	x	x		x
Clearwater		x			
Colwich		x			
Derby	x	x	x		x
Eastborough		x			
Garden Plain	x	x	x		x
Goddard		x	x		
Haysville	x	x	x		x
Kechi	x	x	x		x
Maize	x	x	x		x
Mount Hope		x			
Mulvane					
Park City	x	x	x		x
Sedgwick		x	x		
Valley Center	x	x	x	x	x
Viola		c	c		
Wichita	x	x	x	x	x





**Table 5.3: Jurisdictional Codes and Ordinances**

Jurisdiction	Building Code	Floodplain Ordinance	Nuisance Ordinance	Storm Water Ordinance	Zoning Ordinance
Sumner County		x			
Argonia		x			
Belle Plaine	x	x	x	x	x
Caldwell		x			
Conway Springs		x			
Geuda Springs		x			
Mulvane		x			
Oxford		x			
South Haven		x			
Wellington		x			

**5.4.3 – Jurisdictional Programs**

This part of the capability’s assessment includes the identification and evaluation of existing programs for each participating jurisdiction:

**Community Rating System program under the National Flood Insurance Program:** The NFIP's Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. Participants are offered flood insurance premium rates at a discount to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS. These goals are the reduction of flood damage to insurable property, the strengthening and support of insurance aspects of the NFIP, and the encouragement of a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

**Firewise Community Certification:** The Firewise Communities Program encourages local solutions for safety by involving homeowners in taking individual responsibility for preparing their homes from the risk of wildfire. Firewise is a key component of Fire Adapted Communities, a collaborative approach that connects all those who play a role in wildfire education, planning and action with comprehensive resources to help reduce risk. The program is co-sponsored by the USDA Forest Service, the US Department of the Interior, and the National Association of State Foresters.

**ISO Fire Rating:** This assessment also includes the identification and evaluation of existing ISO fire ratings. The Fire Suppression Rating Schedule is a manual containing the criteria ISO uses in reviewing the fire prevention and fire suppression capabilities of individual communities or fire





protection areas. The schedule measures the major elements of a community’s fire protection system and develops a numerical grading called a Public Protection Classification.

**National Flood Insurance Program:** In 1968, Congress created the NFIP to help provide a means for property owners to financially protect themselves. The NFIP offers flood insurance to homeowners, renters, and business owners if their community participates in the NFIP. Participating communities agree to adopt and enforce ordinances that meet or exceed FEMA requirements to reduce the risk of flooding.

**National Weather Service StormReady Program:** StormReady uses a grassroots approach to help communities develop plans to handle all types of severe weather. The program encourages communities to take a new, proactive approach to improving local hazardous weather operations by providing emergency managers with clear-cut guidelines on how to improve their hazardous weather operations

The table below summarizes relevant local programs.

**Table 5.4: Jurisdictional Programs**

Jurisdiction	Community Rating System program	Firewise Community Certification	ISO Fire Rating	National Flood Insurance Program	National Weather Service Storm Ready Certification
<b>Butler County</b>	x		x	x	x
Andover			3	x	
Augusta			5	x	
Benton			7		
Cassoday			9	x	
Douglass			9	x	
El Dorado	x		3	x	
Elbing			6	x	
Latham			9	x	
Leon				x	
Potwin			x	x	
Rose Hill			6	x	
Towanda			5	x	
Whitewater			6	x	
<b>Cowley County</b>			x	x	x
Arkansas City			x	x	x
Atlanta			x		
Burden			6	x	x





**Table 5.4: Jurisdictional Programs**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Community Rating System program</b>	<b>Firewise Community Certification</b>	<b>ISO Fire Rating</b>	<b>National Flood Insurance Program</b>	<b>National Weather Service Storm Ready Certification</b>
Cambridge				x	
Dexter				x	
Geuda Springs			7	x	
Parkerfield			4	x	
Udall			6	x	x
Winfield			x	x	x
<b>Harper County</b>					
Anthony	x		4	x	
Attica				x	
Bluff City					
Danville					
Harper			3	x	
Waldron					
<b>Harvey County</b>					
Burrton			x	x	x
Halstead			3	x	
Hesston			x	x	
Newton	x		x	x	
North Newton			3	x	x
Sedgwick			x	x	
Walton			5	x	x
<b>Kingman County</b>					
Cunningham					
Kingman				x	
Nashville			9		
Norwich					
Penalosa					
Spivey					
Zenda					
<b>McPherson County</b>					
Canton			x	x	
Galva	x			x	
Inman			5	x	
Lindsborg				x	
Marquette				x	





**Table 5.4: Jurisdictional Programs**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Community Rating System program</b>	<b>Firewise Community Certification</b>	<b>ISO Fire Rating</b>	<b>National Flood Insurance Program</b>	<b>National Weather Service Storm Ready Certification</b>
McPherson			3	x	
Moundridge	x		x	x	
Windom					
<b>Marion County</b>				x	
Burns				x	
Durham				x	
Florence	x			x	
Goessel				x	
Hillsboro				x	
Lehigh				x	
Lincolnvile					
Lost Springs					
Marion				x	
Peabody				x	
Ramona				x	
Tampa				x	
<b>Reno County</b>				x	
Abbyville			x	x	
Arlington				x	
Buhler			x	x	
Haven			x	x	
The Highlands					
Hutchinson			x	x	
Langdon				x	
Nickerson				x	
Partridge				x	
Plevna				x	
Pretty Prairie			x	x	
South Hutchinson			7	x	
Sylvia		x	x	x	x
Turon			x	x	
Willowbrook				x	
<b>Rice County</b>			x	x	x
Alden				x	
Bushton				x	
Chase			6	x	







**Table 5.4: Jurisdictional Programs**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Community Rating System program</b>	<b>Firewise Community Certification</b>	<b>ISO Fire Rating</b>	<b>National Flood Insurance Program</b>	<b>National Weather Service Storm Ready Certification</b>
Geneseo					
Little River				X	
Lyons	X			X	
Raymond				X	
Sterling				X	
<b>Sedgwick County</b>			3/3y	X	
Andale				X	
Bel Aire	X		X	X	
Bentley				X	
Cheney			X	X	
Clearwater				X	
Colwich				X	
Derby				X	
Eastborough				X	
Garden Plain			4	X	
Goddard				X	
Haysville	X		2	X	X
Kechi			X	X	
Maize			3	X	
Mount Hope				X	
Mulvane					
Park City				X	
Sedgwick				X	
Valley Center	X		4	X	
Viola				X	
Wichita			X	X	
<b>Sumner County</b>				X	
Argonia				X	
Belle Plaine			6	X	X
Caldwell				X	
Conway Springs				X	
Geuda Springs				X	
Mulvane				X	
Oxford				X	
South Haven				X	
Wellington				X	





In addition, participating jurisdictions operate with mutual aid agreements. These are understandings among localities to lend assistance across jurisdictional boundaries. Mutual aid may be requested only when an emergency occurs that exceeds local resources.

#### 5.4.4 – Jurisdictional Staffing and Departmental Capabilities

A comprehensive mitigation program relies on many skilled professionals. These professionals include:

- Planners
- Emergency managers
- Floodplain managers
- GIS personnel

While exact responsibilities differ from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, the general duties of applicable departments are described below:

***Building Official:*** Building officials are generally the jurisdictional administrator of building and construction codes, engineering calculation supervision, permits, facilities management, and accepted construction procedures. They may also inspect structures to ensure compliance with the plans and to check workmanship as well as code compliance.

***Emergency Management Coordinator:*** The Emergency Management office is responsible for the mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery operations that deal with both natural and man-made disaster events. The formation of an emergency management department in each county is mandated under Kansas General Statutes.

***Local Emergency Planning Committee:*** Local Emergency Planning Committees are generally housed at the county or municipal level. They do not function in actual emergency situations, but attempt to identify and catalogue potential hazards, identify available resources, mitigate hazards when feasible, and write emergency plans. The role of the LEPC is to anticipate and plan the initial response for foreseeable disasters in their jurisdiction.

***Mapping Specialist:*** A geographic information system (GIS) is a system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of geographical data. A GIS mapping specialist uses this data to create county maps, including flood plain, fire hazard, drought and other mitigation maps.

***NFIP Floodplain Administrator:*** The NFIP floodplain administrator ensures a jurisdiction is meeting the minimum requirements of participation in the NFIP, and often is tasked with applying for funding or grants.

***Planning Department:*** A planning department usually provides management and oversight of development through the application of codes, ordinances, building regulations and public input.





**Public Works Official:** Public works officials usually provide management and oversight of infrastructure projects such as public buildings (municipal buildings, schools, hospitals), transport infrastructure (roads, railroads, bridges, pipelines, airports), public spaces (public squares, parks), public services (water supply, sewage, electrical grid, dams), and other physical assets and facilities.

The table below summarizes relevant local staffing and departmental capabilities.

**Table 5.5: Jurisdictional Staffing and Departmental Capabilities**

Jurisdiction	Building Code Official or Inspector	Emergency Management Coordinator	Local Emergency Planning Committee	Mapping Specialist	NFIP Floodplain Administrator	Planning Department	Public Works Official
<b>Butler County</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Andover	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Augusta	x	x	x		x	x	
Benton	x					x	x
Cassoday					x		
Douglass	x			x	x	x	x
El Dorado	x		x	x	x	x	x
Elbing					x		
Latham					x		x
Leon					x		
Potwin		x			x	x	
Rose Hill	x		x		x	x	x
Towanda	x				x	x	x
Whitewater					x	x	x
<b>Cowley County</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Arkansas City	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Atlanta		x		x			x
Burden		x	x		x		x
Cambridge					x		
Dexter					x		
Geuda Springs			x			x	x
Parkerfield		x	x	x	x		
Udall	x	x	x		x		
Winfield	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>Harper County</b>		x	x	x	x	x	x
Anthony					x		x
Attica					x		x
Bluff City							x
Danville		x	x				x





**Table 5.5: Jurisdictional Staffing and Departmental Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Building Code Official or Inspector</b>	<b>Emergency Management Coordinator</b>	<b>Local Emergency Planning Committee</b>	<b>Mapping Specialist</b>	<b>NFIP Floodplain Administrator</b>	<b>Planning Department</b>	<b>Public Works Official</b>
Harper		x			x	x	x
Waldron							x
<b>Harvey County</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Burrton	x				x	x	x
Halstead	x		x		x	x	x
Hesston	x		x		x	x	x
Newton	x		x	x	x	x	x
North Newton	x		x		x	x	x
Sedgwick	x	x		x		x	x
Walton	x		x	x		x	x
<b>Kingman County</b>		x			x		x
Cunningham							x
Kingman					x		x
Nashville							x
Norwich							x
Penalosa							x
Spivey							x
Zenda							x
<b>McPherson County</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Canton							x
Galva					x		x
Inman					x	x	x
Lindsborg					x		x
Marquette					x		x
McPherson	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Moundridge	x				x	x	x
Windom							x
<b>Marion County</b>		x	x	x	x	x	x
Burns					x		x
Durham					x		x
Florence					x		x
Goessel					x		x
Hillsboro					x		x
Lehigh					x		x
Lincolnvile							x





**Table 5.5: Jurisdictional Staffing and Departmental Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Building Code Official or Inspector</b>	<b>Emergency Management Coordinator</b>	<b>Local Emergency Planning Committee</b>	<b>Mapping Specialist</b>	<b>NFIP Floodplain Administrator</b>	<b>Planning Department</b>	<b>Public Works Official</b>
Lost Springs							X
Marion					X		X
Peabody					X		X
Ramona					X		X
Tampa					X		X
<b>Reno County</b>		X			X		X
Abbyville	X				X		X
Arlington	X				X		
Buhler	X	X			X	X	X
Haven	X				X	X	X
The Highlands	X					X	
Hutchinson	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Langdon					X		
Nickerson	X				X	X	X
Partridge	X				X	X	X
Plevna					X		X
Pretty Prairie	X	X			X	X	X
South Hutchinson	X	X	X		X		X
Sylvia		X	X		X		X
Turon					X		X
Willowbrook					X		
<b>Rice County</b>		X	X	X	X		X
Alden					X		X
Bushton					X		X
Chase		X			X	X	X
Geneseo							X
Little River					X		X
Lyons					X		X
Raymond					X		X
Sterling					X		X
<b>Sedgwick County</b>	X				X	X	X
Andale					X		X
Bel Aire	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bentley					X		X
Cheney	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Clearwater					X		X





**Table 5.5: Jurisdictional Staffing and Departmental Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Building Code Official or Inspector</b>	<b>Emergency Management Coordinator</b>	<b>Local Emergency Planning Committee</b>	<b>Mapping Specialist</b>	<b>NFIP Floodplain Administrator</b>	<b>Planning Department</b>	<b>Public Works Official</b>
Colwich					X		X
Derby	X				X	X	X
Eastborough					X		X
Garden Plain	X				X		X
Goddard					X		X
Haysville	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Kechi	X				X	X	X
Maize	X			X	X		X
Mount Hope					X		X
Mulvane							X
Park City	X	X			X	X	X
Sedgwick					X		X
Valley Center	X	X		X	X		X
Viola					X		X
Wichita	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Sumner County</b>		X			X		X
Argonia					X		X
Belle Plaine					X	X	X
Caldwell					X		X
Conway Springs					X		X
Geuda Springs					X		X
Mulvane					X		X
Oxford					X		X
South Haven					X		X
Wellington					X		X

**5.4.5 – Non-Governmental Organizations Capabilities**

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are legally constituted corporations that operate independently from any form of government and are not conventional for-profit businesses. In the cases in which NGOs are funded totally or partially by a government agency, the NGO maintains its non-governmental status by excluding government representatives from membership in the organization. The following is a brief discussion of both the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army, both of which provide regional operations and coverage.





**American Red Cross:** The American Red Cross is a humanitarian organization that provides emergency assistance, disaster relief and education. In addition, they offer services in five other areas: community services that help the needy; communications services and comfort for military members and their family members; the collection, processing and distribution of blood and blood products; educational programs on preparedness, health, and safety; and international relief and development programs.

**Salvation Army:** The Salvation Army is a Christian denomination and international charitable organization. In addition to being among the first to arrive with help after natural or man-made disasters, the Salvation Army runs charity shops and operates shelters for the homeless.

#### 5.4.6 – Jurisdictional Fiscal Capabilities

In general, the jurisdictions of the Kansas Region G receive the majority of their revenue through state and local sales tax and federal and state pass through dollars. Based on available revenue information, and given that both the state and counties are experiencing budget deficits, funding for mitigation programs and disaster response is at a premium. Adding to the budget crunch is the increased reliance on local accountability by the federal government.

The following provide brief definitions of applicable fiscal programs:

**Application and Management of Grant Funding:** The jurisdiction has the staffing and capabilities to apply for grant funding and oversee all necessary provisions of the funding.

**Authority to Levy Taxes:** The authority to levy taxes would allow the jurisdiction to tax its population base.

**Authority to Withhold Spending in Hazard Prone Areas:** The ability of a jurisdiction to not provide funding for activities or actions in an area that is known to be prone to specific hazards.

**Incur Debt through General Obligation Bonds:** General obligation bonds are issued with the belief that a municipality will be able to repay its debt obligation through taxation or revenue from projects. General obligation bonds can be used to generate funds for mitigation projects.

**Usage of Capital Improvement Funding for Mitigation Projects:** Capital improvement allows for spending on identified capital projects and for equipment purchases, in this context related to mitigation projects.

The following table highlights each jurisdiction’s fiscal capabilities.





**Table 5.6: Jurisdictional Financial Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Apply for and Manage Grant Funding</b>	<b>Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes</b>	<b>Authority to Withhold spending in hazard prone areas</b>	<b>Incur Debt through General Obligation Bonds</b>	<b>Usage of Capital Improvement Funding for Mitigation Projects</b>
<b>Butler County</b>	x	x	x	x	x
Andover	x	x		x	x
Augusta	x	x		x	x
Benton	x	x		x	x
Cassoday					x
Douglass	x	x		x	x
El Dorado	x	x	x	x	x
Elbing	x	x			x
Latham	x	x			x
Leon	x	x			x
Potwin	x	x			x
Rose Hill	x	x		x	x
Towanda	x	x		x	x
Whitewater	x	x		x	x
<b>Cowley County</b>	x	x	x	x	x
Arkansas City	x	x	x	x	x
Atlanta	x	x		x	x
Burden	x	x		x	x
Cambridge	x	x			x
Dexter	x	x	x	x	x
Geuda Springs	x	x	x	x	x
Parkerfield	x	x	x	x	x
Udall	x	x	x	x	x
Winfield	x	x			x
<b>Harper County</b>	x	x		x	x
Anthony	x	x			x
Attica	x	x			x
Bluff City	x	x			x
Danville	x	x	x	x	x
Harper	x	x	x	x	x
Waldron	x	x			x
<b>Harvey County</b>	x	x	x	x	x
Burrton	x	x	x	x	x
Halstead	x	x	x	x	x
Hesston	x	x	x	x	x
Newton	x	x		x	x







**Table 5.6: Jurisdictional Financial Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Apply for and Manage Grant Funding</b>	<b>Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes</b>	<b>Authority to Withhold spending in hazard prone areas</b>	<b>Incur Debt through General Obligation Bonds</b>	<b>Usage of Capital Improvement Funding for Mitigation Projects</b>
North Newton	X	X		X	X
Sedgwick	X	X		X	X
Walton	X	X		X	X
<b>Kingman County</b>	X	X			X
Cunningham	X	X			X
Kingman	X	X			X
Nashville	X	X	X	X	X
Norwich	X	X			X
Penalosa	X	X			X
Spivey	X	X			X
Zenda	X	X			X
<b>McPherson County</b>	X	X	X	X	X
Canton	X	X			X
Galva	X	X			X
Inman	X	X		X	X
Lindsborg	X	X			X
Marquette	X	X			X
McPherson	X	X		X	X
Moundridge	X	X	X	X	X
Windom	X	X			X
<b>Marion County</b>	X	X		X	X
Burns	X	X			X
Durham	X	X			X
Florence	X	X			X
Goessel	X	X			X
Hillsboro	X	X			X
Lehigh	X	X			X
Lincolnvill	X	X			X
Lost Springs	X	X			X
Marion	X	X			X
Peabody	X	X		X	X
Ramona	X	X			X
Tampa	X	X			X
<b>Reno County</b>	X	X			X
Abbyville	X	X	X	X	X
Arlington	X	X		X	X





**Table 5.6: Jurisdictional Financial Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Apply for and Manage Grant Funding</b>	<b>Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes</b>	<b>Authority to Withhold spending in hazard prone areas</b>	<b>Incur Debt through General Obligation Bonds</b>	<b>Usage of Capital Improvement Funding for Mitigation Projects</b>
Buhler	X	X	X	X	X
Haven	X	X		X	X
The Highland	X	X	X	X	X
Hutchinson	X	X		X	X
Langdon	X	X			X
Nickerson	X	X	X	X	X
Partridge	X	X		X	X
Plevna	X	X		X	X
Pretty Prairie	X	X		X	X
South Hutchinson	X	X	X	X	X
Sylvia	X	X	X	X	X
Turon	X	X		X	X
Willowbrook	X	X		X	X
<b>Rice County</b>	X	X	X	X	X
Alden	X	X			X
Bushton	X	X			X
Chase	X	X		X	X
Geneseo	X	X			X
Little River	X	X		X	X
Lyons	X	X			X
Raymond	X	X		X	X
Sterling	X	X			X
<b>Sedgwick County</b>	X	X		X	X
Andale	X	X			X
Bel Aire	X	X	X	X	X
Bentley	X	X			X
Cheney	X	X		X	X
Clearwater	X	X			X
Colwich	X	X			X
Derby	X	X		X	X
Eastborough	X	X			X
Garden Plain	X	X		X	X
Goddard	X	X			X
Haysville	X	X		X	X
Kechi	X	X		X	X
Maize	X	X		X	X
Mount Hope	X	X			X





**Table 5.6: Jurisdictional Financial Capabilities**

Jurisdiction	Apply for and Manage Grant Funding	Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Authority to Withhold spending in hazard prone areas	Incur Debt through General Obligation Bonds	Usage of Capital Improvement Funding for Mitigation Projects
Mulvane	x	x			x
Park City	x	x	x	x	x
Sedgwick	x	x			x
Valley Center	x	x	x	x	x
Viola	x	x			x
Wichita	x	x		x	x
<b>Sumner County</b>	x	x			x
Argonia	x	x			x
Belle Plaine	x	x	x	x	x
Caldwell	x	x			x
Conway Springs	x	x			x
Geuda Springs	x	x			x
Mulvane	x	x			x
Oxford	x	x			x
South Haven	x	x			x
Wellington	x	x			x

### 5.4.7 – School Capability Assessment

Participating school districts were provided with a different set of questions that participating governmental jurisdictions. These questions were asked to ascertain the level of preparedness of the institution.

The following provides brief definitions of terms used in the capability assessment of schools. Please note that some definitions have been provided in previous sections.

**Access to Local, Regional and State Funds:** The ability to use local, regional and state funding on school activities and improvements.

**Active Shooter Plan:** An active shooter plan outlines responsibility, means and methods by which resources are deployed during an active shooter scenario.





**Capital Improvement Plan:** A capital improvement plan guides scheduling of, and spending on, school improvements. A capital improvement plan can guide future development away from identified hazard areas, and incorporate identified mitigation strategies.

**District Master Plan:** A master plan establishes the overall vision and serves as a guide to decision making. A master plan generally contains information on demographics, land use, transportation, and facilities. As a master plan is broad in scope the integration of hazard mitigation measures can enhance the likelihood of achieving risk reduction goals.

**Emergency Operations Plan/Evacuation Plan:** An emergency operations plan outlines responsibility, means and methods by which resources are deployed during and following an emergency or disaster. Often included in these plans are detailed evacuation procedures and policies.

**Incur Debt through General Obligation Bonds:** General obligation bonds are issued with the belief that an entity will be able to repay its debt obligation through taxation or revenue from projects. General obligation bonds can be used to generate funds for mitigation projects.

**School Safety or Resource Officer:** A person with overall responsibility for safety of the school, students and staff.

Information as to the current capacity of participating schools, colleges and universities is summarized in the following table.

**Table 5.7: College, Unified School District or University Capabilities**

Jurisdiction	Access to Local, Regional and State funds	Active Shooter Plan or Policy	Capital Improvement Plan	District Master Plan	School Emergency and Evacuation Plans	School Safety or Resource Officers or Dedicated Law Enforcement
<b>Butler County</b>						
Butler County Community College	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 205 - Bluestem	x	x			x	
USD 206 – Remington	x	x	x		x	
USD 375 – Circle	x	x			x	





**Table 5.7: College, Unified School District or University Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Access to Local, Regional and State funds</b>	<b>Active Shooter Plan or Policy</b>	<b>Capital Improvement Plan</b>	<b>District Master Plan</b>	<b>School Emergency and Evacuation Plans</b>	<b>School Safety or Resource Officers or Dedicated Law Enforcement</b>
USD 385 – Andover	x	x			x	
USD 394 – Rose Hill	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 396 – Douglass	x	x			x	
USD 402 – Augusta	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 490 – El Dorado	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 492 – Flinthills	x	x			x	
<b>Cowley County</b>						
Cowley County Community College	x	x			x	x
USD 462 – Central	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 463 – Udall	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 465 – Winfield	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 470 – Arkansas City	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 471 – Dexter	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>Harper County</b>						
USD 361 - Anthony / Harper	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD - 511 Attica	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>Harvey County</b>						
Bethel College	x	x	x		x	
Hesston College	x	x	x	x	x	
USD 369 - Burrton	x	x	x	x	x	
USD 373 - Newton	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 439 - Sedgwick	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 440 - Halstead	x	x	x	x	x	
USD 460 - Hesston	x	x	x	x	x	
<b>Kingman County</b>						
St Patrick Catholic School		x			x	
USD 331 - Kingman / Norwich	x	x			x	x
USD 332 - Cunningham	x	x			x	
<b>McPherson County</b>						
Bethany College		x			x	
Central Christian College of Kansas		x			x	
Elyria Christian School		x			x	
Hutchinson Community College	x	x			x	
McPherson College	x	x			x	
St. Joseph Catholic School	x	x			x	
USD 400 - Smoky Valley	x	x			x	





**Table 5.7: College, Unified School District or University Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Access to Local, Regional and State funds</b>	<b>Active Shooter Plan or Policy</b>	<b>Capital Improvement Plan</b>	<b>District Master Plan</b>	<b>School Emergency and Evacuation Plans</b>	<b>School Safety or Resource Officers or Dedicated Law Enforcement</b>
USD 418 - McPherson	x	x			x	
USD 419 - Canton	x	x	x	x	x	
USD 423 - Moundridge	x	x			x	
USD 444 - Windom	x	x			x	
USD 448 - Inman	x	x			x	
<b>Marion County</b>						
Tabor College		x				
USD 397 - Centre	x	x	x	x	x	
USD 398 - Peabody / Burns	x	x			x	
USD 408 - Marion / Florence	x	x			x	
USD 410 - Hillsboro	x	x			x	
USD 411 - Goessel	x	x	x	x	x	
USD 617 - Florence	x	x	x	x	x	
<b>Reno County</b>						
Central Christian School		x			x	
Hutchinson Catholic Schools	x	x	x		x	
Hutchinson Community College	x	x			x	
St. Joseph Catholic School		x	x		x	
USD 308 - Hutchinson	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 309 - Nickerson	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 310 - Fairfield	x	x	x	x	x	
USD 311 – Pretty Prairie	x	x			x	
USD 312 - Haven	x	x		x	x	
USD 313 - Buhler	x	x	x		x	x
<b>Rice County</b>						
Sterling College		x			x	
USD 112 – Central Plains	x	x			x	
USD 376 - Sterling	x	x	x		x	
USD 401 - Chase	x	x			x	
USD 405 - Lyons	x	x	x	x	x	
USD 444 - Windom	x	x	x	x	x	
<b>Sedgwick County</b>						
KU School of Medicine, Wichita	x	x			x	x
USD 259 - Wichita	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 260 - Derby	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 261 - Haysville	x	x			x	





**Table 5.7: College, Unified School District or University Capabilities**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Access to Local, Regional and State funds</b>	<b>Active Shooter Plan or Policy</b>	<b>Capital Improvement Plan</b>	<b>District Master Plan</b>	<b>School Emergency and Evacuation Plans</b>	<b>School Safety or Resource Officers or Dedicated Law Enforcement</b>
USD 262 - Valley Center	x	x			x	
USD 263 - Mulvane	x	x			x	
USD 264 - Clearwater	x	x			x	
USD 265 - Goddard	x	x			x	
USD 266 - Maize	x	x			x	
USD 267 - Renwick	x	x			x	
USD 268 - Cheney	x	x			x	
USD 312 - Haven	x	x			x	
USD 356 - Conway Springs	x	x			x	
USD 375 - Circle	x	x			x	
USD 385 - Andover	x	x			x	
USD 439 - Sedgwick	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 440 - Halstead / Bentley	x	x			x	
Wichita State University	x	x			x	x
<b>Sumner County</b>						
USD 353 - Wellington	x	x			x	
USD 356 - Conway Springs	x	x			x	
USD 357 - Belle Plaine	x	x			x	x
USD 358 - Oxford	x	x			x	
USD 359 - Argonia	x				x	
USD 360 - Caldwell	x	x	x	x	x	x
USD 509 - South Haven	x	x			x	
Wellington Christian Academy		x			x	

Additionally, under K.S.A. 72-5457 (General Provisions for the Issuance of Bonds), all Kansas USDs may issue general obligation bonds to:

- Purchase or improve any site or sites necessary for school district purposes including housing and boarding pupils enrolled in an area vocational school
- Acquire, construct, equip, furnish, repair, remodel or make additions to buildings including housing and boarding pupils enrolled in an area vocational school operated under the board of education of a school district





## 5.5 – Opportunities for Capability Improvement

As part of this plan update, the MPC identified the following opportunities for improvement across the region concerning current capabilities:

- **Local Funding**
  - Integration of mitigation plans with other local plans and programs, such as capital improvement plans
  - Adoption of cost-effective mitigation measures when developing capital improvement projects
- **Public Education and Outreach**
  - Regular deployment of hazard awareness campaigns to enhance public awareness
- **Land Use Planning and Regulations**
  - Continued encouragement of using land use planning to identify areas at risk to natural hazards
  - Stormwater retention/detention projects to reduce flooding
  - Locally funded buyouts of hazard prone properties
- **Floodplain Management**
  - Encourage and support new participation in the NFIP and in the CRS
  - Continue the promotion and enforcement of NFIP and CRS floodplain management programs

