

6-25-15

Ex 1



**RIEMA** RHODE ISLAND  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Gina M. Raimondo **Governor**  
Peter T. Gaynor **Director**

June 15, 2015

John L. Lewis, Jr., Town Council President  
Town of Foster  
181 Howard Hill Road  
Foster, Rhode Island 02825

Subject: Expired Foster Hazard Mitigation Plan

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Please allow this letter to serve as a reminder that the Foster Hazard Mitigation Plan expired on June 29, 2010, making the Town ineligible to be selected for mitigation project funding. Under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, local governments are required to develop a hazard mitigation plan and receive approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a condition of eligibility to receive funding under FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs.

In light of the five federally-declared disasters Rhode Island has experienced since 2010, I am writing to encourage the Town of Foster to pursue mitigation plan funding opportunities to update the Town's expired hazard mitigation plan. The Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) is currently soliciting sub-applications for the FY 2015 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program. More information about this funding opportunity is available on the RIEMA website at [www.riema.ri.gov](http://www.riema.ri.gov). Please be advised that RIEMA staff is also available to assist the community with application development and other technical assistance, as needed.

Mitigation is most effective when it is based on a comprehensive, long-term plan that is developed before a disaster occurs. The purpose of mitigation planning is to identify local policies and actions that can be implemented over the long term to reduce risk and future losses from hazards. These mitigation policies and actions are identified based on an assessment of hazards, vulnerabilities, and risks and the participation of a wide range of stakeholders and the public in the planning process.

In coordination with FEMA, RIEMA has developed a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan template to promote comprehensive mitigation planning in accordance with the federal guidelines. The recommended template was designed to complement FEMA's Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool. The tool is used by State and Federal reviewers to determine if the hazard mitigation plan meets requirements outlined in the 44 Code of Federal Regulations §201.6. RIEMA staff is

available to explain how utilizing the State template may expedite the plan update and review processes at any time during the planning process.

For more information about hazard mitigation plan development, please contact Michelle Burnett, Assistant Chief of Planning, at 401-462-7048 or michelle.burnett@ema.ri.gov.

Sincerely,



Peter T. Gaynor  
Director

cc: Sharon Cotter, EMA Director  
Juliana King, Town Planner

up to \$25,000 grants available for completion of plan from FEMA

70% Federal → \$18,750

30% Town Match → \$6,250 can be mitigated by labor/working hours

---

Greater Bay asks the Council to approve up to \$6,250 as matching funds in order to apply for this grant.

