

# Albany Dougherty Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan

## Chapter 7 – Conclusion

### **1. Conclusion Summary**

The drastic rise in the cost of responding to and recovering from disasters in recent decades has prompted a movement towards planning for disasters before they occur. Mitigation planning has become increasingly important to Dougherty County, thanks to the passage of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, which requires a jurisdiction to have an adopted mitigation plan in order to be eligible for certain hazard mitigation grant programs. The basic goal of hazards mitigation is to reduce the risks of individual citizens and the society from hazards. Thus, the development of effective hazards mitigation measures will be its central task. Through the implementation of these measures, it should be possible to reduce significantly the fatalities of people, loss of properties and destruction of the environment caused by natural hazards.

In order to mitigate the damages, both in terms of loss of property, injuries and loss of life, Albany Dougherty Pre-Disaster Mitigation Committee thoroughly reviewed its existing policies, programs and ordinances to determine the effectiveness of each policy, program and ordinance in mitigating damages from natural hazards. Upon evaluating these policies, programs and ordinances, the committee discovered that we have done an adequate job of trying to minimize the effects of damages from these hazards, however, we did discover that there are several key areas that we could improve in which would reduce the damage to property, the severity of injuries and the loss of life when one of these natural hazards does occur. As a result of these discoveries, new policies, programs and ordinances are being established. It is the goal of this committee to continually review our policies, programs and ordinances to make sure that we are doing all that we can to mitigate the damages that occur when we experience these natural, technological or man-made hazards and the associated damages.

### **2. References**

Numerous reference materials were used in the preparation of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan.

- **Publications:**

- The Albany Herald newspaper
- Albany Dougherty Emergency Operation Plan
- FEMA State and Local Mitigation Planning how-to guides
- GEMA Supplements to FEMA how-to guides
- Albany Dougherty Comprehensive Plan
- U.S. Census Bureau
- Albany Dougherty Community Greenspace Plan
- Albany Dougherty Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
- Southwest Georgia Regional Plan

## Albany Dougherty Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan

- **Web Sites:**

U.S. Department of Transportation ([www.hazmat.dot.gov](http://www.hazmat.dot.gov))

Georgia Department of Transportation ([www.dot.state.ga.us](http://www.dot.state.ga.us))

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)  
([www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov))

FEMA ([www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov))

GEMA ([www.gema.state.ga.us](http://www.gema.state.ga.us))

Albany Dougherty County ([www.albany.ga.us](http://www.albany.ga.us))

American Red Cross ([www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org))

EPA ([www.epd.gov](http://www.epd.gov))