

PRESS RELEASE
September 16, 2003

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Mason County Emergency Management Council Receives a Grant to Complete Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan

The Mason County Division of Emergency Management has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Washington State Military Department and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The funds will allow the Emergency Management Council to develop a Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan.

The plan includes the development and documentation of a vulnerability assessment, the development and prioritization of a mitigation strategy, the development and documentation of a plan maintenance process, and a plan review every five years. The Mason County Emergency Management Council meets twice a month to assure that the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan is established by November 1, 2004.

The Mason County Emergency Management Council is working with each local fire jurisdiction to gather information for neighborhood profiles. Currently, the council is made up of department representatives from city and county governments along with port authorities, local fire districts, schools, the American Red Cross, and the hospital district. The committee is looking for additional representatives from community organizations, religious groups and the county at large.

To volunteer to be part of the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan process or for answers to any questions you might have, please contact the Division of Emergency Management at (360) 427-7535.