

**MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY**

c/o Novato Fire Protection District

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**DATE:** January 11, 2017

**TO:** MERA Executive Board

**FROM:** Dave Jeffries, Deputy Executive Officer for the Next Gen Project

**SUBJECT:** AGENDA ITEM **C-1**: MERA PARTICIPATION IN THE MARIN COUNTY  
LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Recommended Action: Review, discuss and file.

Background:

Marin County Office of Emergency Services is coordinating an effort to develop a Multi-Agency Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. As part of that process, MERA was contacted as a Special District. The agencies you represent are either involved in or have been contacted about this project. The Hazard Mitigation Planning process is a result of the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 which supports these five-year plans. In the past, local agencies that had developed these plans often developed them on their own, or, as occurred several years ago, in a bay area wide plan. This wide area regional plan created some consternation for covering such a large area, but Cal OES and FEMA have supported this current county-wide effort.

After discussion with our Executive Officer, we have started to participate in this project. I was involved in finalizing Novato's current Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and am already involved in this effort on behalf of Novato. In discussions with Marin OES, MERA's involvement will be minimal and our development of potential hazard mitigation (resiliency) projects could improve opportunities for grant funding for those projects.

The current plan is to have the plan finalized in mid-2017 and following approval by the Board of Supervisors, local agencies, including MERA, would then be asked to approve the plan as well. This approval would be scheduled for a future Governing Board meeting.