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**DATE:** March 10, 2017

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Lauren Hollenbeck, Senior Planner

**SUBJECT:** Adopt Resolution 17-003 accepting all of Volume 1 and the Introduction, Appendices and the City of Camas portion of Volume 2 of the Clark Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt Resolution No. 17-003 accepting all of Volume 1 and the Introduction, Appendices and the City's portion of Volume 2 of the Clark Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**STAFF REPORT**

**Natural Hazard Mitigation Background:**

In July of 2015 Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (CRESA) formed a regional, seventeen member partnership comprised of Clark County, its cities and its special purpose districts and embarked on a planning process to prepare for and lessen the impacts of natural hazards by completely revising and updating the Clark Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP). The result of this effort will be a FEMA and Washington State Emergency Management Agency approved multi-jurisdictional, multi-hazard mitigation plan that meets federal mandates in the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) and establishes eligibility for hazard mitigation project funding under the unified hazard mitigation assistance grant program, which provides pre- and post-disaster grant opportunities.

The term "hazard mitigation" refers to actions that reduce or eliminate long-term risks caused by hazards such as earthquakes, floods, storms, and wildfires. It involves strategies such as planning, policy changes, programs, projects, and other activities that can mitigate the impacts of hazards. Without an investment in hazard mitigation, repeated disasters result in repeated damage and rebuilding. This recurrent reconstruction becomes more expensive as the years go by. Hazard mitigation breaks this costly cycle of damage and reconstruction by taking a long-term view of rebuilding and recovering from disasters.

The risk assessment in the hazard mitigation plan addresses the following hazards of concern within Clark County:

- Dam failure

- Drought
- Earthquake
- Flood
- Landslide
- Severe Weather
- Volcano
- Wildfire

A 15 member Steering Committee composed of representative stakeholders was formed early in the planning process to guide the development of the NHMP. Members of the public and other area stakeholders were invited and encouraged to participate in the process through a multi-media effort that included several presentations at local events, press and media releases, the establishment of a mitigation planning website, booths at local community events and a public survey.

### **Why adopt this Plan?**

Once the hazard mitigation plan is adopted by each jurisdictional partner and approved by FEMA, the partnership will collectively and individually become eligible to apply for hazard mitigation project funding under the unified hazard mitigation assistance grant program, which provides pre- and post-disaster grant opportunities. See the following FEMA website for more information - <https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance>

### **Where do we go from here?**

Upon adoption of Volume 1 and City of Camas Annex of Volume 2 of the Clark Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP) and subsequent approval of said plan by WAEMD and FEMA, the City will be eligible to apply for specified grants. The grant funds are made available to states and local governments and can be used to implement the long-term hazard mitigation measures specified within the City's annex of the NHMP before and after a major disaster declaration. The NHMP is considered a living document such that, as awareness of additional hazards develops and new strategies and projects are conceived to offset or prevent losses due to natural disasters, the NHMP will be evaluated and revised on a continual 5-year time frame.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Staff recommends Council move to adopt Resolution No. 17-003