



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

John Cooper
Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
METROPOLITAN COURTHOUSE
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37201

May 8, 2020

TO: Metro Departments and the citizens of Nashville-Davidson County,

The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County daily works toward safeguarding our community against hazards with the potential to inflict damage and/or loss of life. Local governments—in partnership with the public they serve—must strategically pursue comprehensive resilience priorities across environmental, social, economic, and infrastructural improvement goals. Rising global temperatures endanger human and environmental health and pose serious economic risks for cities. By acting boldly to understand and address risk, we can improve the lives of Nashvillians today—and build a safer, healthier future for generations to come. Reviewed and approved at the local, state, and federal levels of government, the 2020 Metro Nashville-Davidson County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is a central component of Nashville’s urban-resilience and climate-adaptation strategy.

2020 is an appropriate moment to reflect on how best to respond in a crisis, as two of the four or five worst disasters in the 238 years of Nashville history have occurred during the first quarter. A category EF-3 tornado touched down on March 3rd, and a pandemic outbreak of a contagious, debilitating coronavirus has dramatically changed how we must conduct business and move through society. And every year, rainfall flooding alone begets enormous costs in property damage and economic disruption. All these events, identified as formidable risks in our Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, present significant challenges to public safety and health, prosperity, and environmental sustainability. Our willingness to plan and prepare is what will position Nashville to withstand and bounce back from these threats that are increasingly part of 21st Century urban life, by making smart investments to address our challenges head-on—ultimately building a Nashville that’s ready for whatever comes next.

By virtue of the powers and authority vested in me by the Metropolitan Charter and the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, and in accordance with the provisions of the Tennessee Code Annotated and the federal Civil Defense Act of 1950, as amended, as Mayor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, I hereby promulgate and issue, effective this date, the Metro Nashville-Davidson County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Further, I declare this plan to be the official multi-hazard mitigation plan for The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County and its municipalities. It shall serve as the central policy and guidance document for such mitigation actions, upon all agencies and political subdivisions within. This plan is effective upon receipt and for execution when so directed. The Nashville-Davidson County Office of Emergency Management is responsible for maintaining and updating this plan, in coordination with the appropriate departments, agencies, and the community at-large.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Cooper".

John Cooper, Mayor
Metropolitan Government of Nashville & Davidson County