June 7, 2010

**Kittitas County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Dear Kittitas County Stakeholder,

Kittitas County has secured grant funding and hired a consultant for the preparation of a Hazard Mitigation Plan to meet the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) of 2000. The DMA is federal legislation that establishes the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program and the national post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). These programs encourage and reward disaster planning efforts by providing grants to states, local governments and special purpose districts who implement long-term disaster mitigation activities that reduce risk to life and property. To be eligible for pre- and post-disaster mitigation assistance afforded under the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant programs, local governments must develop and adopt multi-hazard mitigation plans.

It is the County’s intent for this plan to be a multi-jurisdictional planning effort that will include all of the eligible local governments within Kittitas County interested in participating in this effort. *Your jurisdiction has been identified as a potential planning partner* for this process who would benefit from gaining or re-establishing eligibility under the DMA. The County would like to invite you to attend a “kick-off” meeting to explore the planning process, benefits, expectations, timeline and grant opportunities available to your jurisdiction. This meeting has been scheduled for:

**Tuesday, June 22, 2010 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

Kittitas Valley Event Center (Fairgrounds)
Manastash Room
512 N Poplar St
Ellensburg, WA 98926

This is your jurisdiction’s opportunity to share experiences about local natural hazards and exchange ideas about how to better reduce Kittitas County’s overall vulnerability to disaster events. Given your jurisdiction’s profile and role in the community, we strongly encourage you to take part in this process. We kindly ask you to confirm your participation by **June 18, 2010** so that we can make sure there will be sufficient information packets for all that attend.

We look forward to meeting you and discussing the benefits a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan can provide to your jurisdiction. Please feel free to contact Rob or Laura with any questions at 208-939-4391/Rob.Flaner@tetratech.com or 206-883-9344/Laura.Hendrix@tetratech.com.

Respectfully,

Rob Flaner, CFM
**Tetra Tech Infrastructure Group**

Attachments:
FEMA HMA Grants Fact Sheet
Local Hazard Mitigation Plan – FAQ
Kittitas Valley Event Center (KVEC) Map

CC:
Christina Wollman, Kittitas County Department of Public Works
Mark Stewart, Washington State Emergency Management Division