



Evansville Acquisition

Full Mitigation Best Practice Story

Randolph County, Illinois



Evansville, IL - The village is a small community in southwestern Illinois along the Kaskaskia River, about 10 miles from its confluence with the Mississippi River. In the Great Flood of 1993, the village experienced record flooding as the Mississippi River floodwaters backed up the Kaskaskia River. Homes and businesses were inundated with more than ten feet of water, causing severe damage to over 20 structures.

The Village of Evansville utilized the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to acquire the substantially damaged structures. Funds from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs and U.S. Economic Development Administration were used to relocate the Water Treatment Plant away from the threat of flooding. The village acquired 12 properties, including residences and businesses. The properties are now all dedicated to open space and are planned to be used for recreation purposes to promote tourism in the village.

The village also developed a Hazard Mitigation Plan to address all hazards within the village, including earthquake since the village is within the New Madrid seismic zone. An ordinance implementing BOCA building codes was adopted to encourage earthquake-resistant construction.

The village has successfully removed many of its residences away from the threat of flooding. Evansville has received recognition across the Nation for its successful implementation of mitigation measures in a small community.

Activity/Project Location

Geographical Area: **Single County in a State**

FEMA Region: **Region V**

State: **Illinois**

County: **Randolph County**

City/Community: **Evansville**

Key Activity/Project Information

Sector: **Public**
Hazard Type: **Earthquake; Flooding**
Activity/Project Type: **Acquisition/Buyouts; Land Use/Planning; Relocation**
Structure Type: **Wood Frame**
Activity/Project Start Date: **04/1994**
Activity/Project End Date: **04/1996**
Funding Source: **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP); State sources; Other Federal Agencies (OFA)**
Funding Recipient: **Local Government**
Funding Recipient Name: **Village of Evansville**

Activity/Project Economic Analysis

Cost: **\$296,000.00 (Actual)**
Non FEMA Cost:

Activity/Project Disaster Information

Mitigation Resulted From Federal Disaster? **Yes**
Federal Disaster #: **997 , 07/09/1993**
Value Tested By Disaster? **Unknown**
Repetitive Loss Property? **Unknown**

Reference URLs

Reference URL 1: <http://www.floodsmart.gov/>
Reference URL 2: <http://www.state.il.us/iema/>

Main Points

- Relocate the Water Treatment Plant away from the threat of flooding. Acquired 12 properties, including residences and businesses. The properties are now all dedicated to open space and are planned to be used for recreation purposes to promote tourism in the village.
- The village developed a Hazard Mitigation Plan to address all hazards within the village, including earthquake.
- The village has successfully removed many of its residences away from the threat of flooding.