

**City of Oak Harbor**  
**Jurisdiction-Specific Vulnerability Assessment**  
**&**  
**Mitigation Strategies**

**City of Oak Harbor Overview**

**Contact Information:**

Chief Mark Soptich  
Oak Harbor Fire Department and Municipal Emergency Manager  
855 East Whidbey Ave, Oak Harbor, WA. 98277  
(360) 279-4700

**Population of Jurisdiction:** 21,720 as of April 1, 2005

**Land Profile:** 9.378 Square miles

**Critical infrastructure/equipment:**

- 12 Sewer and or pumping stations
- 3 Water storage tanks
- 3 Water pumping stations
- 3 Wells

**Value of Critical infrastructure/equipment:** \$5,043,753

**Critical Facilities:**

- City Hall
- Fire Station
- Police Station
- Public Works Shop
- I-Com 911 Center
- Wastewater Treatment Facility & Lagoon
- Senior Center

**Value of Critical Facilities:** \$17,318,484

**Value of area served:** \$1,226,246,283

Note: A detailed list of critical infrastructure and facilities including detailed locations is available to qualified parties. The list has been removed from the published plan in the interest of security.

**Natural Hazard Event History**

For a detailed hazard impact history refer to the complete Island County HIVA, Appendix B. Oak Harbor received tidal flooding, beach and dike erosion and debris accumulation from the winter storm of 2006 (see HIVA).

Oak Harbor also sits aside one branch of the North Whidbey earthquake fault. The city and North Whidbey Island receive numerous small quakes in any given year. Based on the urban growth of the city, the hazard potential for the North Whidbey fault is considered high. Oak Harbor also has within the shoreline area a large area of marine silt and fill that is subject to liquefaction in a large earthquake. (See HIVA)

Bluff areas within Oak Harbor are also subject to landslide and slumping as happened with a portion of Scenic Heights Road. (See HIVA)

### **Natural Hazard Risk/Vulnerability Risk Ranking**

This City is most vulnerable to the following natural Hazards.

1. Severe storm and tidal flooding
2. Earthquake and liquefaction
3. Tsunami

### **Existing Hazards Mitigation Associated Codes, Plans and Ordinances**

- Municipal Code City of Oak Harbor
- City of Oak Harbor 2006 Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- Comprehensive Land Use Plan
- Transportation Improvement Plan
- International Building & Fire Codes
- Zoning Code
- Capital Facilities Plan
- Applicable Island County and Washington state Statutes

### **Hazard Mitigation Initiatives in Priority**

All initiatives are subject to yearly review and reprioritization. A cost benefit analysis for each action will be completed prior to submission for funding.

#### **1. Rehabilitate and equip City Emergency Operations Center**

Administering Agency: Oak Harbor Fire Department

Funding Source: Project Impact, Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program and other grants

Time Line: 3 to 5 years

#### **2. Community Emergency Response Team Program**

Administering Agency: Oak Harbor Fire Department

Funding Source: Citizen Corps funding, Emergency Management Program Grants

Time Line: 3 to 5 years

#### **3. Community and city employee emergency preparedness training programs**

Administering Agency: Oak Harbor Fire Department Departments

Funding Source: Citizen Corps funding, Emergency Management Program Grants

Time Line: 3 to 5 years

**Explanation of Priorities**

The Oak Harbor area has grown rapidly over the last two decades and while city services have been sized to meet daily needs, the existing EOC is inadequate to meet all emergency coordination functions during an emergency. The City EOC also serves as the back-up facility for the County emergency dispatch center and as the alternate County EOC.

Likewise, as recent national disasters have highlighted, citizens will have to help themselves in the first moments after a disaster. Also, city employees and their families who are expected to respond in an emergency will also be victims. Training to make these groups more self-reliant will save lives and property when regular emergency response is stressed.

**Additional Comments**

None