

**The State of Recovery
in New Orleans
*Hazard Mitigation***

by:

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Presented at the Public Policy Task Force Meeting
New Orleans June 25, 2009

Outline

1. The Policy Context for Mitigation

- ❖ Sustainable Development
- ❖ Environmental Hazards
- ❖ Multiple Lines of Defense

2. The State of Mitigation Efforts

- ❖ Institutional Capacity Building
- ❖ Strategy Setting
- ❖ Implementation

3. Ways to Improve Recovery Outcomes

- ❖ Broaden the Support Base
- ❖ Push for Policy Change
- ❖ Broaden the Impact

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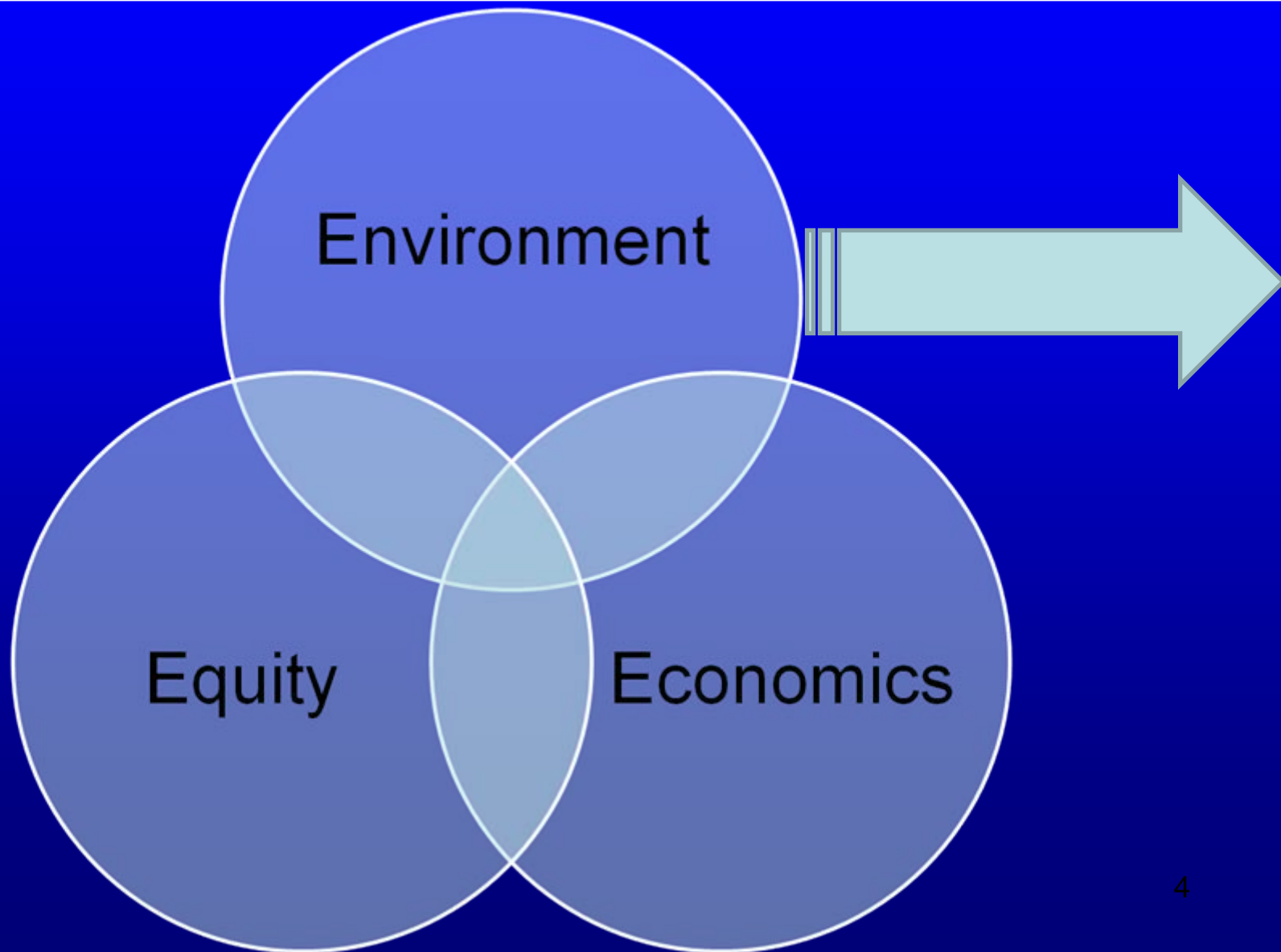
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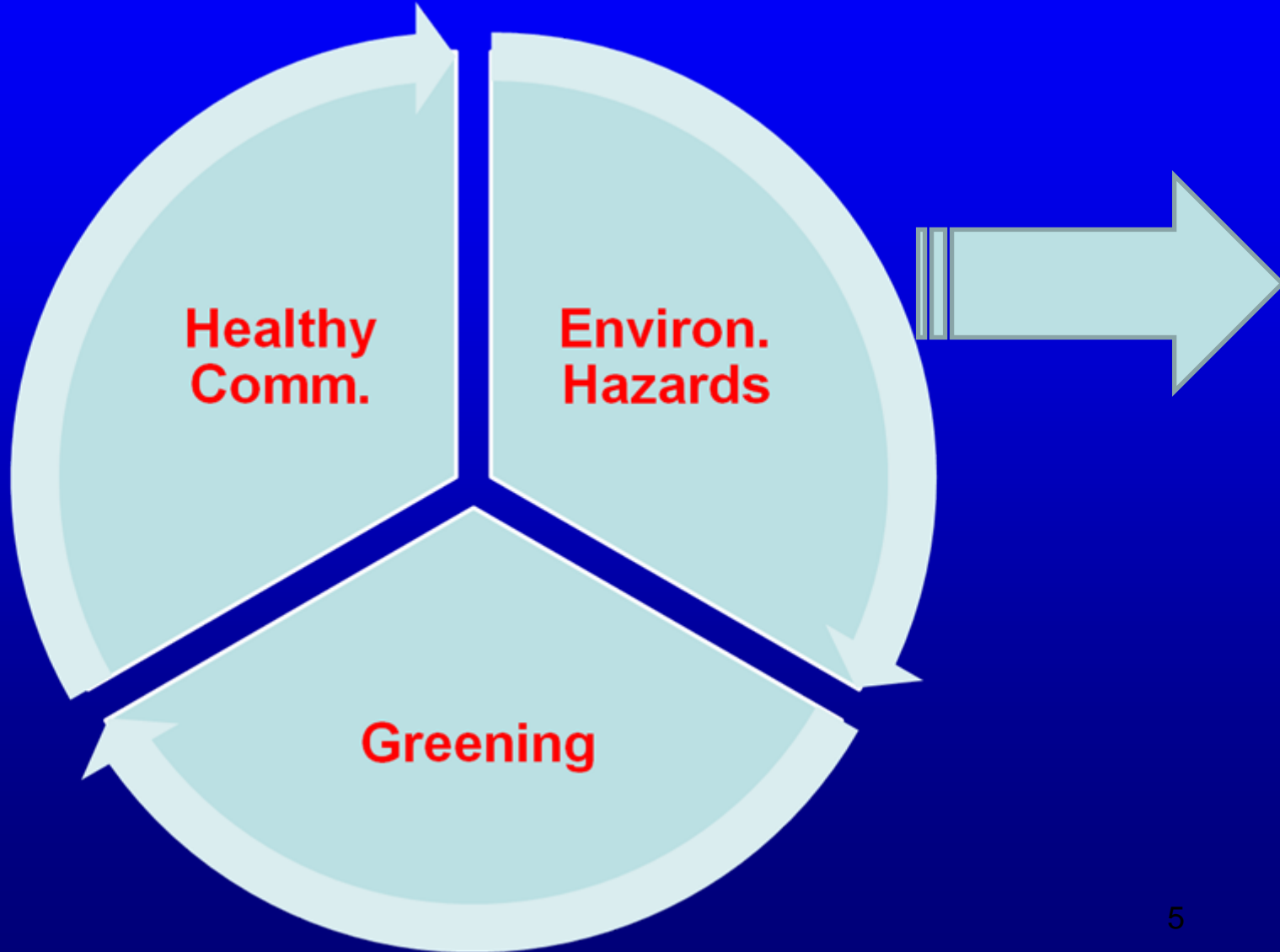
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Sustainable Development



Sustainable Development: Environment



Environmental Hazards

- ❖ Flooding (coastal surge, riverine, rainfall)
- ❖ Wind (hurricanes, tornadoes)
- ❖ Land Loss (erosion, subsidence)
- ❖ Contamination (air, water, soil)
- ❖ Increasing Storm Activity
- ❖ Rising Sea Level
- ❖ Rising Temperature
- ❖ etc.

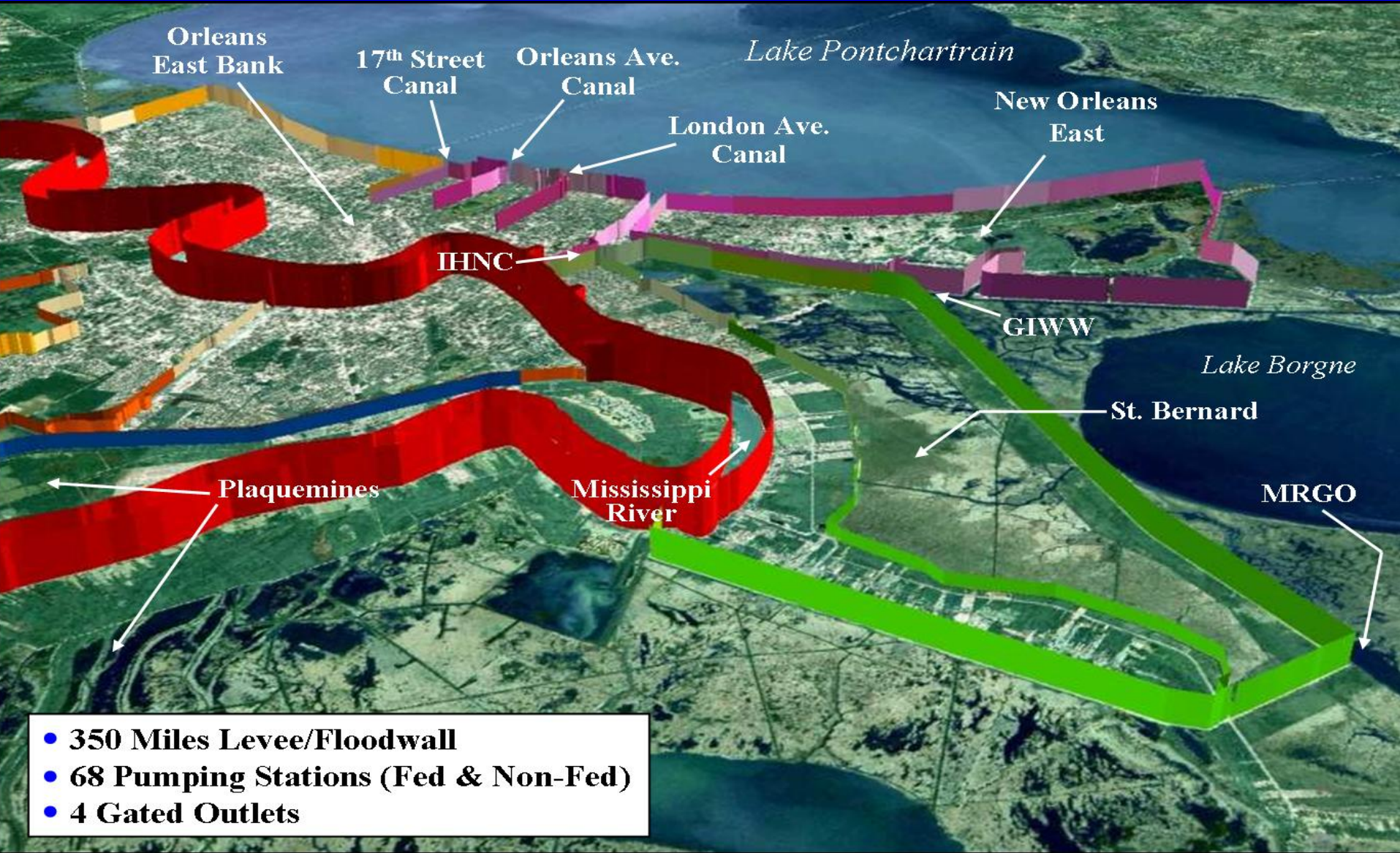
Environmental Hazards

Hazards do not become disasters until they collide with the human, or "built", environment.

Multiple Lines of Defense

- ❖ Outer Protection
 - ❖ Coastal Wetlands
 - ❖ Levee System
- ❖ Inner Protection
 - ❖ Total Water Management
 - ❖ Neighborhood Drainage
 - ❖ Elevation in Place
 - ❖ Flood-proofing
 - ❖ Secondary Levees/Polders
 - ❖ Structure Relocation
 - ❖ Permitting Decisions
 - ❖ Building Code Enforcement
 - ❖ Evacuation Planning
 - ❖ Disaster Warning System
 - ❖ Flood Insurance

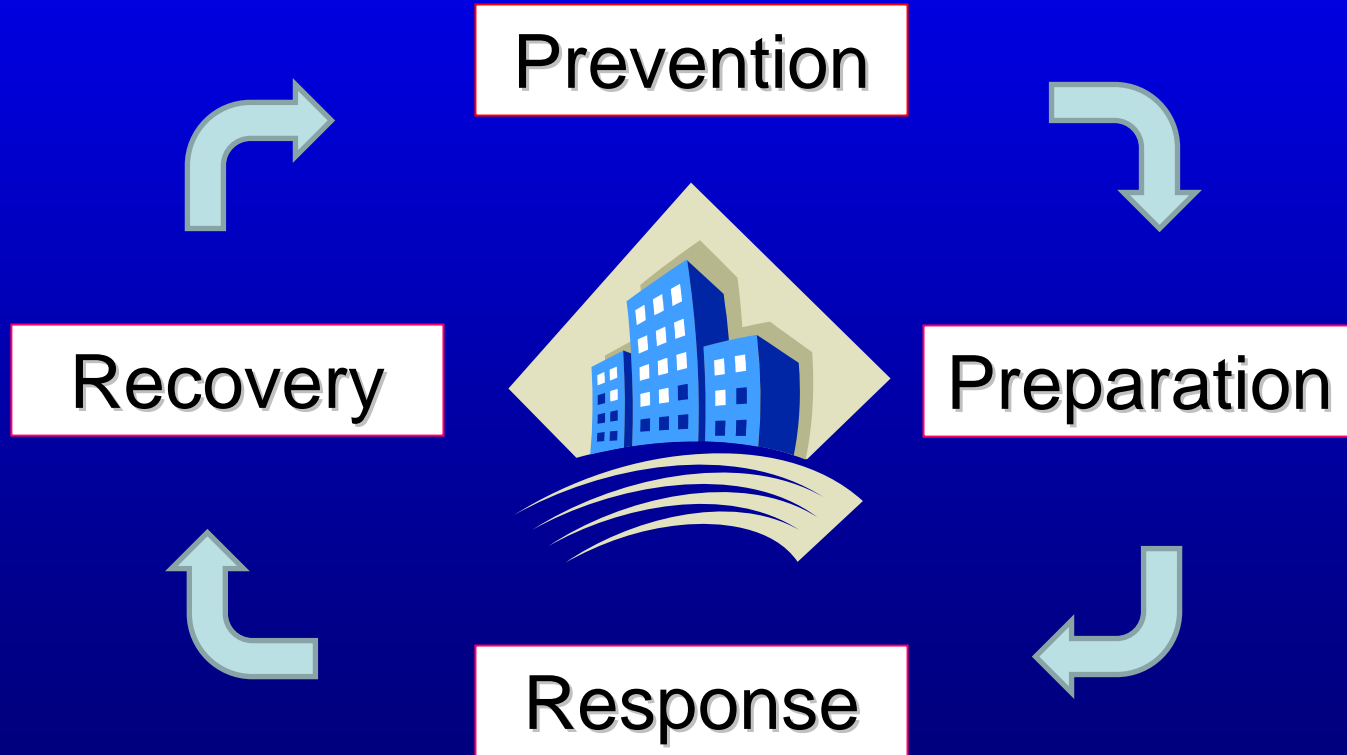
Levee System



- 350 Miles Levee/Floodwall
- 68 Pumping Stations (Fed & Non-Fed)
- 4 Gated Outlets

What is Mitigation?

Mitigation is sustained action that reduces or eliminates long-term risk to people and property from environmental hazards.



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Institutional Capacity Building

❖ Hazard Mitigation Unit

- ❖ One of the first mitigation departments in the country.
- ❖ First specialized mitigation unit in the city's history.
- ❖ Focus on hazard mitigation and floodplain management.

❖ Energy Unit

- ❖ First specialized energy unit in the city's history.
- ❖ Focus on green building, alternative energy, and greenhouse gas reduction.

❖ Environmental Unit

- ❖ Developed new soil remediation specialization.
- ❖ Developed new urban farm programming.

Strategy Setting

- ❖ **GreenOLA Strategy for a Sustainable New Orleans**
 - ❖ Formally integrates hazard mitigation into sustainable development.
- ❖ **New Orleans Hazard Mitigation Plan**
 - ❖ Multi-hazard plan with special focus on flood hazard.
 - ❖ First to define widespread soil contamination as a hazard.
- ❖ **Master Plan**
 - ❖ Integrates hazard mitigation into city planning and urban development processes.
 - ❖ Incorporates the GreenOLA and Hazard Mitigation Plans.
- ❖ **Unified New Orleans Plan**
 - ❖ Priorities used to guide mitigation funding decisions.

Implementation

Funding	Personal Services	Other Operating	Total
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0
HMPG	\$258,000	\$46,316,206	\$46,574,206
PDM	\$146,862	\$1,071,043	\$1,217,905
SRL	\$175,000	\$12,950,000	\$13,125,000
PPGP	\$0	\$154,500	\$154,500
Total	\$579,862	\$60,491,749	\$61,071,611

The State of Hazard Mitigation

Current Grade = C

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Broaden the Support Base

- ❖ Philanthropic Foundations
- ❖ Non-Governmental Organizations
- ❖ Neighborhood Associations
- ❖ Universities
- ❖ Professional Associations
- ❖ Other Municipal Agencies

Push for Policy Change

- ❖ FEMA Hazard Mitigation Policy
- ❖ State of LA Hazard Mitigation Policy
- ❖ Army Corps Flood Risk Reduction Policy
- ❖ Stafford Act Disaster Policy
- ❖ Dutch Model for “Living with Water”
- ❖ Target local mitigation actions based on distribution of risk throughout the city:
 - ❖ Viable neighborhoods
 - ❖ High frequency risk
 - ❖ High consequence risk
 - ❖ The “big one”

Broaden the Impact

- ❖ Permanent funding for the city's hazard mitigation and energy units.
- ❖ Improvements in stormwater management and floodplain management.
- ❖ Creation of a sustainability office.
- ❖ Development of a water institute and/or a public policy institute.
- ❖ Ongoing dialogue, outreach, and education.
- ❖ Regional approach.
- ❖ Develop mitigation outcome measures to track performance.

Thank you