WHEREAS, the State of Delaware and New Castle County, like all other jurisdictions in the Mid-Atlantic Region, are vulnerable to hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, and other natural and technological disasters including pandemics, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction that in the past have or could have caused extensive loss of life and property, and severe disruption to essential human services, and

WHEREAS, in the past twenty years, nine federally declared disasters have caused the loss of lives, personal injuries and on average $ 6.50 per capita in property damages in New Castle County; and

WHEREAS, billions of dollars’ worth of residential, commercial, and coastal property in Delaware are at risk from hurricanes and weather-related damages; and

WHEREAS, the Stafford Act was amended by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 Section 322 (DMA2K) (P.L. 106-39) which provides approaches to mitigation planning and emphasizes the need for state, local and tribal entities to closely coordinate mitigation planning and implementation efforts as outlined in 44 CFR Part 201; and

WHEREAS, County Code Section 2.05.201 (4) states that the New Castle County Office of Emergency Management shall prepare and maintain a comprehensive emergency operations plan and other plans as appropriate to provide guidance and direction to units of County government, and which are integrated into and coordinated with emergency management plans of the federal government, the State of Delaware and the political subdivisions in the County; and

WHEREAS, the New Castle County Office of Emergency Management regularly participates with the Delaware Hazard Mitigation Council, the Delaware Yellowjackets Group led by Army Corps of Engineers, and County and State Floodplain Managers, to address hazard planning and mitigation efforts in a collaborative effort; and

WHEREAS, partners with all levels of government, the private sector, and the residents of Delaware can reduce the impact of future events through hazard mitigation planning; and
WHEREAS, led by the Office of Emergency Management, the NCC Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee comprised of County, Local Municipal, State, and Private sector participants completed a review and revision of the 2020 Plan for submission to FEMA for approval; and

WHEREAS, the entire 2020 Update was revised utilizing internal County resources with the Office of Emergency Management, the Land Use Department’s Geographic Information System Section, the Municipality Managers, and consultation with University of Delaware’s Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Update involved multiple levels of review and input, including integration of Comprehensive Land Use Plans, Climate Adaptation Plans, and Vulnerability Assessments; meeting with each municipality individually, briefing the County Council Executive Committee, and presenting at the NCC Planning Board Public Hearing; and

WHEREAS, compliance with the mitigation plan requirements as determined by the DEMA and FEMA Region 3 review and approval, will position New Castle County and its municipalities to receive pre- and post-disaster mitigation funding and disaster assistance funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that New Castle County does hereby adopt the 2020 update of the “New Castle County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan.”

Adopted by County Council of New Castle County on:

______________________________
President of County Council of New Castle County

SYNOPSIS: Same as title

FISCAL IMPACT:
This Resolution adopting the 2020 Plan approved by FEMA will provide NCC the ability to apply for Disaster Assistance and Disaster Mitigation Grants, however, it does not have a direct impact on current Fiscal Budget.