

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

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Timothy Huey
Director

To: Dee F Bruemmer, County Administrator
From: Timothy Huey, Planning Director
Date: January 10, 2012
Re: Public Hearing on adoption of a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for Scott County.

In March, 2009 the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management approved a planning grant for the preparation of a Scott County Multi Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation. In April, 2009 Scott County entered into an Agreement for Services with Bi-State Regional Commission for the preparation and adoption of this plan.

The Scott County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed to meet the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. This Federal law places increased emphasis on local mitigation planning. It requires local governments to develop and submit mitigation plans as a condition of receiving Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) project funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). These grant programs enable communities to be proactive in their hazard mitigation by minimizing or eliminating potential risk to hazards. In addition to supporting ongoing mitigation actions, the plan assesses the vulnerability of the planning area to all hazards referenced in the State of Iowa Hazard Mitigation Plan 2007. The Plan identifies priority mitigation actions and establishes a process for implementation and maintenance of the plan. Scott County received a grant of HMGP planning funds to initiate the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan process. Sixteen of the incorporated municipalities, three community school districts, and one community college district in Scott County agreed to participate in order to make it a county-wide multi-jurisdictional plan. The active participation of all these jurisdictions is recorded within the plan document. As each jurisdiction adopts the plan, it receives the same eligibility to apply for and receive its own FEMA project funds as described above.

Requirements for FEMA approval of the plan document include adoption of the plan by the local governing body. Chapter Two of the plan documents the planning process used and public participation. The process included a planning committee made up of representatives of the participating jurisdictions who assisted in reviewing and refining plan draft sections. Each participating jurisdiction designated one or more primary contacts to receive information and to respond to requests for data pertinent to that jurisdiction. Although other representatives may have been called on to attend meetings or respond to data requests, the primary contact structure established some continuity in the flow of information for each jurisdiction. In addition, an extended advisory committee was invited to represent a broader range of community interests and expertise. A list of those who received mailings or attended meetings during the planning process is included as an appendix to the document. For public participation, Scott County made use of its website to keep the public informed as the plan was developed and drafted, including the schedule of planning committee meetings, which were open to the public. An e-mail subscription through the website was utilized to allow citizens the opportunity to receive

additional information and news as the planning process progressed. In addition, a separate public notice was published on two separate occasions.

Chapter Three of the plan addresses hazard analysis and risk assessment. Sixteen natural and 24 human-caused hazards were identified for the planning area and profiled. A scoring methodology was agreed upon by the Planning Committee and was used as an objective means of establishing an initial priority ranking of the hazards. With review and consultation of the Planning Committee, the hazards identified as a first priority for the county-wide planning area as a whole include:

- Thunderstorm and Lightning
- Fixed Hazardous Materials Incident
- Flash Flood
- Windstorm
- River Flood
- Transportation of Hazardous Materials Incident
- Severe Winter Storm
- Structural Fire
- Tornado
- Hailstorm
- Energy Failure

As a requirement of a multi-jurisdictional plan, each individual jurisdiction has its own risk assessment section in the plan. These highlight where local conditions differ from the county-wide planning area as a whole and reflect local hazard priorities.

Chapter Four of the plan develops the mitigation strategy. First, local hazard mitigation goals and objectives were developed for the county-wide planning area. The Planning Committee identified mitigation actions to address a comprehensive range of categories including prevention, property protection, public education and awareness, natural resource protection, and structural projects. Using FEMA guidance, all mitigation actions considered were analyzed under STAPLEE criteria (STAPLEE is an acronym for Social, Technical, Administrative, Political, Legal, Economic, and Environmental criteria). Mitigation actions were selected to address first priority hazards with an emphasis on flood mitigation. Each jurisdiction was required to develop at least one mitigation action specific to that jurisdiction's local priorities. The priority mitigation actions provide justification for future funding requests and grant applications.

Chapter Five describes existing planning mechanisms that will assist participating jurisdictions in implementation of priority actions. This part also outlines procedures for monitoring, evaluating, and updating the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. Based on Federal requirements, once FEMA has reviewed and approved the plan document, it must be reviewed and updated every five years or in the event of a Federal Presidential Disaster Declaration, whichever comes first. Chapter Five provides for the schedule of continued plan maintenance and continued public input.

The following jurisdictions have scheduled their adoptions and public hearings (if they are choosing to do so).

Scott County: C.O.W. 1/17/2012, Public Hearing 1/19/2012,
C.O.W. 1/24/2012; Adoption 2/2/2012 (tentative)

Bettendorf: C.O.W. 2/6/2012, Adoption 2/15/2012 (tentative)
Blue Grass: Public Hearing and Adoption 2/21/2012
Buffalo: Public Hearing and Adoption 1/9/2012
Davenport: C.O.W. 2/1/2012, Adoption 2/8/2012 (tentative)
Dixon: TBD
Donahue: Public Hearing and Adoption 2/6/2012
Eldridge: Public Hearing and Adoption 2/20/2012
LeClaire: C.O.W 1/16/2012 with Adoption 1/23/2012
Long Grove: Adoption 2/14/2012
Maysville: Presentation to Council 1/9/2012, Adoption 2/13/2012
McCausland: Adoption 1/10/2012
New Liberty: TBD
Panorama Park: 1/18/2012 (tentative – may have too much on agenda)
Princeton: Presentation to C.C. 1/12/2012, Public Hearing and Adoption 2/9/2012
Riverdale: Adoption 1/17/2012
Walcott: Adoption 2/6/2012
BCSD: TBD
NSCSD: TBD
PVCSD: TBD
EICCD: TBD

The draft of the plan is available on the County website at:

[http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/planning/hazmit_docs.php?folder=hazmit!/Hazard Mitigation
Plan DRAFT Document](http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/planning/hazmit_docs.php?folder=hazmit!/Hazard_Mitigation_Plan_DRAFT_Document)