

Dubuque County, Iowa Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

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Dubuque County Planning Team Seeks Public Input on Hazard Mitigation Plan

Dubuque County, IA — Dubuque county residents and stakeholders are encouraged to review and comment on the Dubuque County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update before it is finalized in early August.

The plan includes an updated strategy to reduce damage and losses caused by hazard events. The final draft of the plan is available online and in hard copy through July 30th, 2018. The purpose is to provide information to the public on the Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update as well as gain public input.

Taxpayers pay billions of dollars each year for disaster recovery. Some events are predictable, and often damages could be reduced or eliminated. The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires communities to develop an approved local hazard mitigation plan to remain eligible for certain federal funding.

Dubuque County invited representatives from county departments, the incorporated cities, public school districts, and other mitigation planning stakeholders to work together to develop this plan update. The planning team addressed a variety of hazards—ranging from extreme heat and severe winter storms to tornadoes and flooding—and considered the impacts of these events on local communities. Based on the results of an updated risk assessment of the hazards, team members updated the strategies for their jurisdictions to reduce damages caused by the various hazards. Through a state grant, the team consulted with Amec Foster Wheeler, Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. to assist with the plan update and ensure that the final plan meets federal regulations.

The planning team is welcoming input from the public on the updated strategy to reduce impacts of future disasters on people and property in Dubuque County. The plan will also be concurrently reviewed by the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department (IA HSEMD) and then submitted to FEMA for review and approval. Public comments will be considered by the Hazard Mitigation Planning Team and incorporated into the final plan, as appropriate. The final plan must be approved by the governing body of each participating jurisdiction, IA HSEMD, and FEMA before becoming official.

The final draft plan will be available for public review through July 30 at the following locations:

Online at: <https://dubuquecounty.org/emergency-management/>

Printed copies are available during normal operating hours at:

Dubuque County Courthouse, 4th Floor, Auditors Office, 720 Central Avenue, Dubuque, IA.
Epworth City Hall, Clerk's Office, 191 Jacoby Drive East, Epworth, IA.

For more information on this planning effort, or to provide your comments, please contact Dubuque County Emergency Management Coordinator Tom Berger at 563-589-4170 or via email at tom.berger@dbqcoema.com.