



Polk County, Iowa
Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan



EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

**PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:
ALLEMAN – ALTOONA – ANKENY – BONDRANT – CLIVE – DES MOINES – ELKHART
GRIMES – JOHNSTON – MITCHELLVILLE – PLEASANT HILL – POLK CITY – POLK COUNTY
RUNNELLS – URBANDALE – WEST DES MOINES – WINDSOR HEIGHTS**

Effective July 2019

Developed by Polk County with professional assistance from Des Moines Area Metropolitan
Planning Organization

SPECIAL THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Polk County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

Jurisdictional Representatives

Name	Title	Department	Jurisdiction/Agency/Organization
Jason Albrecht		Safety and Security Operations	Ankeny School District
Bruce Amendt	Associate Superintendent	School District Administrative Team	Johnston Community School District
Marta Andelson	Intern	Public Health Department	Des Moines University
Scott Atzen	Public Works Director	Public Works Department	City of Altoona
Kurt Bailey	Polk County Engineer	Public Works Department	Polk County
Drew Barden	Preparedness Coordinator		Iowa Department of Public Health/Healthcare Coalition
Steve Bass	Superintendent	Administration	Urbandale Community School District
Tracey Bearden	911 Coordinator	Emergency Management	Polk County
Jeff Behan	Associate Engineer	Engineering Services	City of West Des Moines
Brian Bishop	Deputy Building Official	Community Development Department	City of Des Moines
Norm Bormann	Director of Property Management		The Diocese of Des Moines
Bruce Braun	Deputy Director	Public Works	City of Des Moines
Erich Braun	Park Superintendent	Parks Division	Polk County
Amanda Brown	Project Coordinator		Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District
Steven Brown	District Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Des Moines
Dave Burgess	Mayor		City of Windsor Heights
Juan Cademillas	Public Health Planner	Health Department	Polk County
Alexander Carl	Planner	Community Development	City of West Des Moines
Chad Carlson	Director of Administrative Services	Administrative Services	Bondurant-Farrar School District
Randy Carroll	Director of Building and Grounds	Building and Grounds	North Polk Community School District
Cody Christensen	Permit & Development Administrator	Community Development Department	City of Des Moines
Jim Clack	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Ankeny
Jim Clark	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Johnston
Joe Cory	Deputy Director	Public Services Department	City of West Des Moines
Kolleen Dahl	Emergency Preparedness Coordinator		Unity Point Health - Des Moines
Pat Daly	Safety Manager		Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority
Jon Davis	Deputy Director	Emergency Management	Polk County
Phil Delafield	Community Development Director	Community Development	City of Des Moines
Michael Delp	Planning Intern		Polk County Emergency Management
Jennifer Ellison	Planner	Public Works Department	Polk County
Jonathan Gano	Public Works Director	Public Works Department	City of Des Moines
Aaron Greiner	GIS Manager	Information Technology Department	City of Des Moines

Name		Title	Department	Jurisdiction/Agency/Organization
Matt	Greiner	Public Works Director	Public Works Department	City of Johnston
Amanda	Grutzmacher	Planner/GIS Specialist	Community Development	City of Clive
Elizabeth	Hansen	City Administrator	City Administration	City of Windsor Heights
Jon	Hanson	City Engineer	Engineering Department	City of Altoona
Stephanie	Herbold	Chief City Clerk		City of Runnells
Jeff	Hilsabeck	Environmental Health and Safety Manager	EHS	Helena Industries, Inc.
Jerry	Holt	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Urbandale
Joseph	Horton	Associate Superintendent of Schools	Administration	Southeast Polk School District
John	Horton	Public Works Director	Public Works Department	City of Bondurant
Jordan	Hutchens	Civil Engineer I	Engineering Department	City of Des Moines
Carmella	Jones	Mayor	City Hall	City of Alleman
Evan	Kellis	Fire Chief	Fire Department	Delaware Township
Trace	Kendig	Police Chief	Police Department	City of Polk City
John	Konior	Director of Risk Management and Support Services	City Manager/Administration	City of Urbandale
Aaron	Kreuder	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Bondurant
Kari	Lebeda Townsend	Disease Prevention Supervisor	Health Department	Polk County
John	Lees	Building and Ground Manager	Administration	Urbandale Community School District
Craig	Leu	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of West Des Moines
Joe	Libby	Executive Director	Teaching and Learning Services	West Des Moines Community Schools
John	Lins	Utility Incident Manager	Distribution Department	Des Moines Water Works
Sheilah	Lizer	Building and Zoning Official	Building & Zoning Department	City of Windsor Heights
Jerry	Loghry	Assistant Vice President	Corporate Security and Safety	EMC Insurance Companies
Brent	Long	Major	Polk County Sheriff's Office	Polk County
Karla	Lower	Human Resources Director	Human Resources Department	City of Urbandale
Dillon	Lundy	Street Projects Manager		City of Grimes
Scott	Lyon	Assistant Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Urbandale
William	Mabuce	Engineering Manager	Management Team	West Des Moines Water Works
Christine	Maduro	Director of Operations	Operations	West Des Moines Community Schools
Barb	Malone	Council Member	City Council	City of Pleasant Hill
Troy	Mapes	Lieutenant Police Officer	Police Department	City of Waukee
Chad	McCluskey	Public Safety Director/Chief of Police	Police Department/Fire Department	City of Windsor Heights
Dennis	McDaniel	Police Chief	Police Department	City of Windsor Heights
Dean	McGhee	Council Member	City Council	City of Mitchellville
Brenda	McGraw	Emergency Management Coordinator		Mercy Medical Center
Franny	Medeiros	Administrative Assistant	Emergency Management	Polk County
Derek	Meyer	Police Captain	Police Department	City of Windsor Heights
Kathy	Moline	Clerk of Works	Administration	Dallas Center-Grimes Community School District
Paul	Moritz	Assistant City Manager	Administration	City of Ankeny
Mark	Mueller	Public Works Director	Public Works Department	City of Ankeny
AJ	Mumm	Director	Emergency Management	Polk County

Name		Title	Department	Jurisdiction/Agency/Organization
Jeff	Nash	Principal Engineer	Engineering Services	City of West Des Moines
Mat	Noble	Planner		Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Steve	Nolte	Firefighter / Council Member	City Council	City of Elkhart
Jared	Ogbourne	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Altoona
Doug	Ollendike	Community Development Director	Community Development Department	City of Clive
Karen	Oppelt	Assistant Utilities Director	Public Works Department	City of Altoona
Noreen	O'Shea	Doctor of Osteopathy / FAACP		Des Moines University
Adam	Prilipp	Civil Engineer II		City of Des Moines
Dan	Pritchard	Civil Engineer II	Public Works Department	City of Des Moines
Vern	Rash	Senior Engineer	Engineering Department	Des Moines Water Works
Rick	Roe	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Clive
Pamela	Rosa	Safety Compliance Specialist	Safety	Des Moines Independent Schools
Brad	Rose	Athletic Director	Athletics & Activities Department	West Des Moines Community Schools
Jim	Sanders	City Administrator	City Administration	City of Johnston
Dan	Schellhase	Division Chief	Fire Department	City of Ankeny
Linda	Schemmel	Development Coordinator	Development Services Department	City of West Des Moines
AJ	Seely	Coordinator	Emergency Management	Dallas County
Scott	Slater	Deputy Health Director	Health Department	Polk County
Adam	Smith	Sewer Operations Manager	Public Works Department	City of Des Moines
George	Smith	Director of Building and Grounds	Building and Grounds	Johnston Community School District
Joe	Solem	Government Operations	Disaster Action Team	American Red Cross
Derrick	Spoerry	Police Chief	Police Department	City of Mitchellville
Greg	Stallman	Police Chief	Police Department	City of Altoona
Cameron	Stufflebeam	Emergency Management Program Assistant	Emergency Management	Polk County
John	Swanson	WMA Coordinator	Watershed Management Authority	Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District
Patt	Sweeney	Emergency Preparedness Coordinator	Health Department	Polk County
Rodney	Tucker	Safety/Loss Control Specialist	Human Resources Department	Polk County
Lynne	Twedt	Development Services Director	Development Services Department	City of West Des Moines
Rod	Van Genderen	Chief Building Official	Development Services Department	City of West Des Moines
Bret	VandLune	Planning & Development Manager	Public Works Department	Polk County
David	Walker	Director of Nutrition and Facilities		Bondurant-Farrar School District
Neil	Wellner	Lieutenant	Iowa Department of Public Safety	Iowa Department of Public Safety
Lindsay	Williams	Assistant City Administrator	City Administration	City of Polk City
David	Wilwerding	Community Development Director	Community Development Department	City of Johnston
Jamie	Xayavong	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Pleasant Hill
Jeff	Zogs	Senior Hydrologist		NOAA/NWS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of hazard mitigation is to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards. Polk County and participating jurisdictions developed this multi-jurisdictional local hazard mitigation plan update to reduce future losses to the County and its communities resulting from hazard events. The plan was prepared pursuant to the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and to achieve eligibility for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Programs.

The Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan is a multi-jurisdictional plan that covers the following 28 jurisdictions that participated in the planning process:

- Unincorporated Polk County
- City of Alleman
- City of Altoona
- City of Ankeny
- City of Bondurant
- City of Clive
- City of Des Moines
- City of Elkhart
- City of Grimes
- City of Johnston
- City of Mitchellville
- City of Pleasant Hill
- City of Polk City
- City of Runnells
- City of Urbandale
- City of West Des Moines
- City of Windsor Heights
- Delaware Township
- Des Moines Water Works
- Ankeny School District 261
- Bondurant-Farrar School District 720
- Dallas Center-Grimes School District 1576
- Des Moines Independent School District 1737
- Johnston School District 3231
- North Polk School District 4779
- Southeast Polk School District 6101
- Urbandale School District 6579
- West Des Moines School District 6957

The Saydel School District was invited to participate in the planning process, but did not meet all of the established requirements for official participation. When the five-year required update is completed for this plan, this school district will be invited again to participate.

There are several cities within Polk County that have portions of their city limits in adjacent counties. These cities are treated in one of two ways for purposes of participation in this plan:

1) Official Plan Participants: The following cities are bi-county/multiple-county cities that are either a part of the Des Moines Metro Area that have portions of their city limits in other counties, or cities that have the majority of their corporate limits in Polk County. These cities will be invited as official plan participants in the Polk County plan. The Risk Assessment will include incorporation of analysis of building exposure/critical facilities of the entire city limits for these jurisdictions:

- Clive-parts in Dallas County,
- Urbandale-parts in Dallas County,
- West Des Moines-parts in Dallas County, Madison County, & Warren County,
- Grimes-parts in Dallas County,
- Des Moines-parts in Warren County, and
- Mitchellville-parts in Jasper County.

2) Stakeholder Participants: To provide a comprehensive analysis, the Risk Assessment includes incorporated areas of several cities that have a portion of their city limits in Polk County, but are considered official cities of adjacent counties. The Risk Assessment will include analysis of building exposure/critical facilities ONLY for those portions of the incorporated areas that are within the Polk County boundary. Although these cities are not official participants of the Polk County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, they are stakeholders in the planning process and as such, were invited to planning meetings and to comment on plan drafts.

- Carlisle-parts in Warren County,
- Granger-parts in Dallas County,
- Norwalk-parts in Warren County, and
- Sheldahl-parts in Story County & Boone County.

Polk County and the incorporated areas that participated in this plan update developed a Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan that was approved by FEMA on July 16, 2014 (hereafter referred to as the *2014 Polk County Hazard Mitigation Plan*). Therefore, this current planning effort serves to update the previous plan.

The plan update process followed a methodology prescribed by FEMA, which began with the formation of a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) comprised of representatives from Polk County and participating jurisdictions. The HMPC updated the risk assessment that identified and profiled hazards that pose a risk to the Polk County planning area, assessed the vulnerability to these hazards, and examined the capabilities in place to mitigate them. The planning area is vulnerable to several hazards that are identified, profiled, and analyzed in this plan. Riverine and flash flooding, winter storms, tornadoes and windstorms are among the hazards that can have a significant impact.

Based upon the risk assessment, the HMPC updated goals for reducing risk from hazards. The goals are listed below:

1. Protect the public health, safety, and welfare by increasing public awareness of hazards and by encouraging collective and individual responsibility for mitigating hazard risks.
2. Improve capabilities, coordination, and opportunities at municipal and county levels to plan and implement hazard mitigation projects, programs, and activities, including incorporation of lessons learned from previous events and exercises *to prevent or lessen impacts from future hazards*.
3. Improve data collection, use, and sharing to *improve data-driven decision making and future outcomes*.
4. Protect the most vulnerable populations, buildings, and critical facilities through the implementation of cost-effective and technically feasible mitigation actions.

To meet the identified goals, the recommended mitigation action details are in Chapter 4. The HMPC developed an implementation plan for each action, which identifies priority level, background information, ideas for implementation, responsible agency, timeline, cost estimate, potential funding sources, and more.

PREREQUISITES

44 CFR requirement 201.6(c)(5): The local hazard mitigation plan shall include documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan. For multi-jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan must document that it has been formally adopted.

Note to Reviewers: *When this plan has been reviewed and approved pending adoption by FEMA Region VII the adoption resolutions will be signed by the participating jurisdictions and added to Appendix D. A model resolution is provided.*

The following jurisdictions participated in the development of this plan and have adopted the multi-jurisdictional plan. Resolutions of Adoptions are included in Appendix D.

- Unincorporated Polk County
- City of Alleman
- City of Altoona
- City of Ankeny
- City of Bondurant
- City of Clive
- City of Des Moines
- City of Elkhart
- City of Grimes
- City of Johnston
- City of Mitchellville
- City of Pleasant Hill
- City of Polk City
- City of Runnells
- City of Urbandale
- City of West Des Moines
- City of Windsor Heights
- Delaware Township
- Des Moines Water Works
- Ankeny School District 261
- Bondurant-Farrar School District 720
- Dallas Center-Grimes School District 1576
- Des Moines Independent School District 1737
- Johnston School District 3231
- North Polk School District 4779
- Southeast Polk School District 6101
- Urbandale School District 6579
- West Des Moines School District 6957

Model Resolution

Resolution # _____

Adopting the Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

Whereas, the (Name of Government/District/Organization seeking FEMA approval of hazard mitigation plan) recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within our community; and

Whereas, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences; and

Whereas, the U.S Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (“Disaster Mitigation Act”) emphasizing the need for pre-disaster mitigation of potential hazards;

Whereas, the Disaster Mitigation Act made available hazard mitigation grants to state and local governments; and

Whereas, an adopted Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple FEMA pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs; and

Whereas, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) fully participated in the hazard mitigation planning process to prepare this Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

Whereas, the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VII officials have reviewed the “Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan,” and approved it contingent upon this official adoption of the participating governing body; and

Whereas, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) desires to comply with the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act and to augment its emergency planning efforts by formally adopting the Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

Whereas, adoption by the governing body for the (Name of Government/District/Organization) demonstrates the jurisdictions’ commitment to fulfilling the mitigation goals outlined in this Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

Whereas, adoption of this legitimizes the plan and authorizes responsible agencies to carry out their responsibilities under the plan;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the (Name of Government/District/Organization) adopts the “Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan” as an official plan; and

Be it further resolved, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) will submit this Adoption Resolution to the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VII officials to enable the plan’s final approval.

Date: _____

Certifying Official: _____