

Dear Chickasaw County Communities,

Chickasaw County's Emergency Management Commission recently signed a contract to update the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plans (MJ-HMP) for the unincorporated area, as well as cities and school districts within the county. This is an update to the most recent plan, completed in 2014, which your community was a part of.

This planning process is important in identifying the potential impacts of various hazards as well as mitigation actions and strategies which can be implemented to reduce the negative impacts caused by natural, technological, and human-caused hazards within each community as well as the region. In addition, updating this plan is a federal requisite to for participating jurisdictions to become or remain eligible for mitigation grant programs offered by FEMA.

**The first public planning meeting will be held February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 5:30 P.M. at 260 E Prospect Street, New Hampton, Iowa, 50659.** Parking can be found at the rear of the building. During this meeting, we will discuss the purpose and benefits of a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan, project budget, and planning process/scope of work. **The primary focus on this meeting will be reviewing and updating the status of projects as well as the community profiles of participating jurisdictions from the existing plan.**

The MJ-HMP process requires that we actively seek public input including the development of a Planning Committee. Each jurisdiction is responsible for identifying individuals from your community to represent your jurisdiction on the Committee. Typical representatives include:

- Mayor
- Council member(s)
- City Administrator/City Clerk/Deputy Clerk
- Public works
- Parks and Recreation
- Police/Law Enforcement
- Fire Department
- Planning and Zoning
- Building Official
- Waste Management
- Emergency Medical Services
- Schools (especially if there is an interest for a tornado safe room to be located in the schools)
- Libraries
- Health Department
- Other interested citizens

**Please forward this email along to any city department, local groups, or citizens that may be interested in participating.**

The Committee's role is to provide information directly into the plan in the form of assessing the current and new hazards for each jurisdiction, reviewing and developing goals, and reviewing and identifying hazard action steps all jurisdictions should consider over the five-year life of the plan update.

This first meeting is to update and assess the progress communities have made since the last plan was written. Future meeting dates are yet to be scheduled, but are expected to take place in the early months of 2018.

Upon completion of the planning sessions, the final draft update will be presented to the Emergency Management Commission for recommendation and then on to the Board of Supervisors for adoption prior to submission to the Iowa Emergency Management Division and Federal Emergency Management Agency for review and approval. Ultimately, each participating jurisdiction will be asked to adopt the plan as well. More specifics regarding requirements will be explained at future meetings.

Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation. If you should have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact myself at (319)235-0311 or [rmckinley@incog.org](mailto:rmckinley@incog.org). Or contact Austen Seely, Chickasaw County Emergency Management Coordinator, at (641)394-2406 or [aj.seely@chickasawcoia.org](mailto:aj.seely@chickasawcoia.org).