

Public Participation Plan Winnebago County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update

Working in concert with local jurisdictions, Winnebago County has initiated a project to update its countywide natural hazards mitigation plan to comply with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. The items listed below are the ways in which the County will facilitate public participation and local government involvement in the preparation, review, and adoption of the plan update.

- ◆ **Formation of a Steering Committee.** An advisory steering committee will be established to guide the project and provide oversight and input. Members may include county officials and staff and local government officials and representatives who wish to participate.
- ◆ **Public Notices for Steering Committee Meetings.** All Steering Committee meetings will be open to the public consistent with the state's open meeting law.
- ◆ **Local Government Involvement.** Each of the local governments in Winnebago County will be contacted early in the process and informed about the project and asked to provide input.
- ◆ **Local Jurisdiction Survey.** A listing of critical facilities in the jurisdiction and a draft version of the assessment matrix used in the plan will be sent to each of the local jurisdictions in the County. Local officials will have an opportunity to review and comment on the materials prepared up to that date.
- ◆ **Website.** Information about the project will be posted on the County's website, along with draft documents, maps, meeting notices and agendas, and project-related news.
- ◆ **Material Availability.** A draft of the plan will be sent to each of the local jurisdictions in Winnebago County and other interested parties for review and comment. Drafts will also be posted on the County's website.
- ◆ **Local Adoption.** County staff will work with the local jurisdictions to answer questions about the plan and the adoption process. Staff will, as needed, meet with local officials or attend city council and village board meetings to provide additional assistance.
- ◆ **County Adoption.** County staff will work with the County Board in the adoption of the plan.
- ◆ **Press Releases.** Press releases will be issued to the local media as may be needed.
- ◆ **Other Means.** The County may provide other avenues for public participation and local government involvement during the course of the project as the opportunity arises.