

# Agenda Item Report



**Winnebago County**  
*The Wave of the Future*

DATE: March 21, 2022  
TO: Emergency Management Committee  
FROM: Becky Powers, Deputy Director of Emergency Management on behalf of  
Eric Rasmussen, Director of Emergency Management  
RE: Winnebago County Hazard Mitigation Plan

## **General Description:**

*The Winnebago County Hazard Mitigation Plan is intended to provide strategies for reducing susceptibility to future damage to public and private infrastructure in the county. A previous Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted by the County on November 20, 2015; this plan updates and supersedes that plan.*

## **Action Requested:**

*The requested action is for a motion and vote to approve the adoption of the updated Winnebago County Hazard Mitigation Plan.*

## **Procedural Steps:**

Committee of Jurisdiction Emergency Management  
Action taken: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Board

Meeting date: April 4, 2022  
Vote: \_\_\_\_\_  
Meeting date: April 26, 2022

## **Background:**

*The Winnebago County Emergency Management office applied for and was awarded a grant to update the hazard mitigation plan in 2019. This grant program is sponsored by the U. S. Dept. of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is administered by the Wisconsin Dept. of Military Affairs – Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM). The procedures utilized in preparing this plan are based on guidance provided by FEMA and WEM and should therefore be considered consistent with the requirements and procedures in the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.*

*Section 409 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (P.L. 93-228, as amended) states that the county is obligated to try to reduce damage susceptibility to any hazard that has received relief funding in the past. Developing a hazard mitigation plan provides an opportunity for communities to meet this requirement by developing strategies for reduction of potential losses from future natural disasters. FEMA rules for implementing Section 409 are in 44 CFR Part 206 Subpart M.*

*This grant funding revenue has been included in our budget since 2020. The grant award requires a 12.5% local match from the community (\$3,866.63) that we plan to meet through "in-kind" credit for staff time and in-kind services of local governmental organizations and other officials. We do not anticipate additional funding will be required.*

### **Policy Discussion:**

*The Winnebago County Hazard Mitigation Plan provides background information on the county and identifies those hazards that have occurred or could occur in the county. The plan is intended to provide strategies for reducing future damages to public and private infrastructure in the county. Completion of this plan should put Winnebago County in an advantageous position when competing for pre-and post-disaster mitigation project dollars because projects have been pre-identified. Over the long term it is hoped that implementation of this plan will save taxpayer dollars because less money is needed for post-disaster recovery activities.*

*Winnebago County Resolution No. 230-112015 "Adopt Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan" adopted the previous hazard mitigation plan and required that the plan be revisited and updated and subscribed to by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors for approval no later than five (5) years from the date of that resolution. Due to the occurrence of the COVID-19 pandemic, the update process has been extended and our previous plan expired in 2020. We are not considered non-compliant, since we were already in the update process prior to the plan expiration.*

*The FEMA grant award was approved in the amount of \$30,923.00 for updating our hazard mitigation plan and notice of the award was received November 12, 2019. The Winnebago County Emergency Management Dept. contracted with Emergency Planning, Training and Exercise Consulting (EPTec, Inc.) to draft this plan. This plan must be adopted in order to receive the grant funds awarded.*

### **Attachments:**

- *Grant Application Letter of Intent and Match Commitment*
- *Winnebago County Planning Grant Award letter*
- *Certified Resolution Adopting 2015 Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan*
- *Winnebago County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2022*