



Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
Milwaukee County
Director, Christine Westrich

DATE: September 18, 2017

TO: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Christine Westrich, Director, Office of Emergency Management

SUBJ: Report from the Director, Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Requesting Designation of the Milwaukee County Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Official Hazard Mitigation Plan for the County of Milwaukee, for the period of the next five years.

Background:

Milwaukee County's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property and that taking mitigation action before disasters occur will reduce loss of life and property, human suffering, economic disruption, and disaster assistance costs.

Adoption of a county Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of federal grant funding for future mitigation projects funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

The Office of Emergency Management participated jointly in the planning process with the municipal units of government in Milwaukee County, achieving intergovernmental cooperation. This collaboration allows these municipal governments to adopt the 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan which places Milwaukee County in an advantageous position when competing for pre- and post-disaster mitigation project dollars from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The Adoption of this plan is valid for five years and also complies with the Disaster Mitigation Act 2000 (DMA 2000) amendment of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act which states that the county is obligated to try to reduce any hazard that has received relief funding in the past.

Finally, OEM submitted this plan to FEMA and Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) officials, receiving plan approval on May 17th and 19th, 2017, respectively.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan be designated by the County Board of Supervisors as the official hazard mitigation plan for the County of Milwaukee.

Fiscal Impact:

A Fiscal Note is attached.



Christine Westrich, Director
Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

Cc: Chris Abele, County Executive
Supervisor Peggy A. West, Chair, Committee on Finance and Audit
Supervisor Sheldon Wasserman, Vice-Chair, Committee on Finance and Audit
Finance and Audit Committee Members
Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors
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