

Chapter 9

In this chapter the projects that the Hazard Analysis Committee would like to implement but may not be eligible for FEMA funding are included. All of the action items can be tied to the listed goals and guidelines and the recommendation(s) in Chapters 4 – 7. The recommendations and the discussions in the earlier chapters provide more background and direction on these action items.

Program Action Items –

Non-Eligible FEMA Funded Action Items/Projects

Action Item 1: Improve the EAS System

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is a national warning system that utilizes broadcast radio and television stations and local cable televisions systems. Additional equipment will help improve the EAS warning system in the County.

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Severe Weather, Flooding, Wildfire, Public Health Emergencies, Civil Disturbances

Responsible Agencies: Chippewa Co. Office of Emergency Services

Cost: Salary and benefits of any additional staff. Consultant fees to determine needs that would adequately address the County. Equipment purchase, installation, maintenance and recurring costs. Training costs associated with new equipment and software.

Benefits: Provides a more improved and reliable method for early warning to citizens and visitors in the County. Early warning and advance notice allows citizens to engage in protective actions. Improved community confidence in government.

Anticipated Funding Source: County general fund, dedicated emergency services funds

Timeline: December, 2006

Action Item 2: Improve GIS capabilities with up-to-date equipment and software

By having the best equipment and software the County can expand on the current GIS base and keep track of much more information. Effective management of disasters requires an in-depth understanding of the changing circumstances, as well as a method of maintaining critical building information. This data can be utilized to support response needs (evacuation, traffic routing, shelter management, 911 calls), detailed damage assessments, identifying mitigation projects, establishing environmental baselines, and monitoring changes in land use.

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Flooding, Wildfire, Severe Winter Weather, Drought, Subsidence

Responsible Agencies: Chippewa Co. Office of Emergency Services, Information Systems Department, Equalization Department, Road Commission, Health Department, EUP Regional Planning

Costs: Consultant fees, equipment/ software purchase and installation, additional staff salary and benefits. Staff training and development of resource sharing agreements.

Benefits: Current digital data assists in locating and identifying service roads in national forest areas, identifies bridges that can be utilized by heavy equipment during forest fire operations. Maximize use of available resources. Provides for current ownership, identification and value of affected property.

Anticipated Funding Source: County general funds, Local funds, grant funds available through State Homeland Security Program, ESRI grant program, Kellogg Foundation grant.

Timeline: Ongoing

Action Item 3: Develop priority routes for snow removal on major arteries during extreme snow storms

Having priority routes established before snowstorms occur will greatly improve the safety efforts during the many snowstorms this area receives. The OES department along with the Chippewa Co. Road Commission and units of government should establish and map priority routes for dissemination.

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Severe Winter Weather, Land Transportation Accidents, Hazardous Materials Transportation Accidents

Responsible Agencies: Chippewa Co. OES, Road Commission, EUP Regional Planning, Local municipalities

Cost: Staff time to review, plan routes and digitize into GIS system. Supply cost for mapping paper and ink. Overhead costs including costs of printing and dissemination to local road commissions and emergency response agencies.

Benefits: More efficient manner to clear main roads leading to improved emergency response time.

Anticipated Funding Source: County general fund, Local funds, Chippewa Co. Road Commission funding, Michigan Department of Transportation funds

Timeline: Annually

Action Item 4: Get involved and assessed as a Storm Ready Community

Work with National Weather Service to become designated as a storm ready community. Following the guidance and implementing the recommendations of the National Weather Service to create a ‘Storm Ready’ community is beneficial to our county.

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Severe Weather, Tornados, High Winds, Thunderstorms

Responsible Agencies: Chippewa Co. Office of Emergency Services, Local municipalities

Cost: Staff time for training, planning, and meetings. Equipment purchase, installation, maintenance and recurring costs.

Benefits: To be better prepared for severe weather events. Better protection of property. Following the recommendations for ‘Storm Ready’ communities ensures that specific recommendations from the National Weather Service have been implemented.

Anticipated Funding Source: County general funds, Emergency Services funds, National Weather Service

Timeline: December, 2006

Action Item 5: Work with local DNR office and adopt Firewise Strategies

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Wildfires, Structural Fires

Responsible Agencies: Local municipalities, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Forest Service

Cost: Staff time for training, planning, and meetings. Equipment purchase, installation, maintenance and recurring costs. Information – research, dissemination.

Benefits: Public and private property in the urban/wildland interface can be better protected from the risk of damage or destruction by possible wildfires. The scenic and fish and wildlife resources which attract tourists to the area will also be better protected as a result of improved forest management, thereby preventing the loss of important tourism-related income in the local area.

Anticipated Funding Source: County general funds, Emergency Services funds

Timeline: Ongoing

Action Item 6: Encourage local community emergency planning to coordinate with County OES Department

Communities lacking emergency plans should consider working with the OES department to develop plans to work in cooperation with the County. Incorporation of local government support plans ensures activation and coordination of local response and resources during emergencies.

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: All

Responsible Agency: Chippewa Co. Office of Emergency Services, Local municipalities

Cost: Meeting, training and planning costs.

Benefits: Collaborative planning efforts improve emergency preparedness, response, and recovery efforts during emergencies and disasters.

Anticipated Funding Source: County Emergency Services fund, Local funds

Timeline: December, 2007

Action Item 7: Purchase and stockpile supplies for emergency needs

Determine supplies needed such as emergency generators, cots/blankets, food, water, sand bags, etc., purchase, and house.

Specific Vulnerable Areas: Designated shelters.

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Severe Winter Weather, Tornados, Infrastructure Failures, Public Health Emergencies

Responsible Agency: Chippewa Co. Office of Emergency Services, Local Municipalities, Red Cross

Cost: Equipment purchase and storage, Staff training, Study/evaluate functionality of existing assets.

Benefits: By stockpiling specific items such as cots, blankets, food, water, sandbags the emergency needs can be met at the time of the emergency or disaster. Utilize existing resources. Maximize use of existing assets.

Anticipated Funding Source: County general fund, Local funds, Centers for Disease Control – HRSA grant, American Red Cross, Community Emergency Response Team Grant

Timeline: December, 2006

Action Item 8: Building Code Improvements

Enforce and maintain construction codes to ensure buildings' ability to withstand severe weather. Enforce and maintain codes and standards to maintain and preserve a safe and orderly community that mitigates development of blighted conditions, older structures and neighborhoods and eliminates potential dangers while maintaining public services and quality of life.

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Extreme Temperatures, Severe Winter Weather, Fire, Flooding, Subsidence, Winds

Responsible Agency: Chippewa Co. Building Department, County Board of Commissioners, Local municipalities

Costs: Staff time, training, and studies/consultants.

Benefits: Maintain quality of community through sound structure and protected property values.

Anticipated Funding Source: County general fund, Local funds

Timeline: Ongoing

Action Item 9: Improved Code Enforcement

Seek training for building department staff on the natural hazards aspects of the Building Codes, regulation of mobile home installation, flood protection, wetland protection, erosion and sediment control and best management practices provisions.

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Severe Winter Weather, Flooding, Tornadoes, Subsidence, Extreme Temperatures

Responsible Agency: Chippewa Co. Building Department, Local municipalities

Cost: Additional staff salary/benefits, training/education costs

Benefits: Ensure quality of community through sound structure and protected property values.

Anticipated Funding Source: County general fund, Local funds

Timeline: Ongoing

Action Item 10: Improved Address Ordinance Enforcement

Take inventory of properties that are not properly addressed and work with property owners to obtain and install the proper signage in accordance with the County's Address Ordinance. Chippewa County has an ordinance in place but no enforcement occurs.

Specific Vulnerable Areas: County-wide

Specific Hazard(s) Addressed: Extreme Temperatures, Severe Winter Weather, Fire, Flooding, Subsidence, Winds, Civil Disturbances, Accidents – Transportation/Hazardous Materials

Responsible Agency: Chippewa Co. Equalization, Chippewa Co. 911, Local municipalities

Cost: Staff salary/benefits, overhead associated with communication, supplies, etc., purchase of sign material, installation of signs.

Benefits Every building in Chippewa County has been assigned an address number. Not all have posted the address number nor have taken steps to remove the prior numbers utilized by the postal service. Address signs prominently displayed improve response time during emergencies.

Anticipated Funding Source: County general funds

Timeline: December, 2007