



# **Polk County, Iowa**

## **Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan**



### ***EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER***

**PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:**  
**ALLEMAN – ALTOONA – ANKENY – BON DURANT – CLIVE – DES MOINES – ELKHART**  
**GRIMES – JOHNSTON – MITCHELLVILLE – PLEASANT HILL – POLK CITY – POLK COUNTY**  
**RUNNELLS – URBANDALE – WEST DES MOINES – WINDSOR HEIGHTS**

Effective July 2014

Developed by Polk County with professional assistance from  
AMEC Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.  
Homeland Security and Emergency Management

## SPECIAL THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Polk County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

#### Jurisdictional Representatives

Name		Title	Department	Jurisdiction/Agency/Organization
Mark	Arentsen	City Administrator	Administration	City of Bondurant
Jeremy	Beker	AQ Engineer	Public Works	Polk County
Chad	Bentzinger	Safety Manager	Safety	Ankeny Schools
Ty	Blarkford	Councilman	City Council	City of Grimes
Mark	Bowersox	Police Chief	Police Department	City of Polk City
Bruce	Braun	Deputy Director	Public Works	City of Des Moines
Donna	Brooks	Major	Sheriff's Department	Polk County
Curtis	Brown	Director	Economic Development Department	City of Urbandale
Brad	Button	Supervisor	Westcom Dispatch Center	Cities of West Des Moines, Clive & Urbandale
Randy	Carroll	Director of Building and Grounds	Building and Grounds	North Polk Schools
Rob	Chiappano	DC of Operations	Fire Department	City of Ankeny
Skip	Conkling	Mayor		City of Altoona
Pamela	Cooksey	Deputy City Engineer	Engineering	City of Des Moines
Bob	Cox	Captain	Fire Department	City of Des Moines
Don	Cox	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of West Des Moines
David	Croll	GIS Coordinator	GIS Department	City of Johnston
Dave	Cubit	Director	Public Works	City of Johnston
Sheena	Danzer	City Inspector	Building Codes	City of Windsor Heights
Jon	Davis	Deputy Director	Emergency Management	Polk County
Paul	Dekker	Director	Community Development	City of Urbandale
Phil	Delafield	Community Development Director	Community Development	City of Des Moines
Betty	Devine	Deputy Director	Community, Family, & Youth Services	Polk County
Dave	Disney	Sergeant	Police Department	City of Urbandale
Makai	Echer	Captain	Police Department	City of Ankeny
Aubyn	Giampolo	Dispatch Superintendent	Westcom Dispatch Center	Cities of West Des Moines, Clive & Urbandale
Dan	Grimm	Lieutenant	Sheriff's Department	Polk County
Gary	Haines	Director of Building and Grounds	Building and Grounds	Southeast Polk Schools
Stephanie	Herbold	City Clerk	City Administration	City of Runnells
Jerry	Holt	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Urbandale
Kim	Keisler	Assistant Finance Directory	Administration	City of Urbandale
Mark	Konrad	Councilman	City Council	City of Pleasant Hill

Name		Title	Department	Jurisdiction/Agency/Organization
Rick	Kozin	Director	Health Department	Polk County
Jim	Krohse	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Johnston/City of Grimes
Kathleen	Larson	City Clerk	City Administration	City of Alleman
John	Lees	Superintendent	Administration	Urbandale Schools
John	Lins	Incident Manager		Des Moines Water Works
Richard	Long	Public Works Director	Public Works	City of Alleman
Barb	Malone	Councilperson	City Council	City of Pleasant Hill
Dan	Mart	Superintendent	Administration	North Polk Schools
Chip	Mathis	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Elkhart
Dennis	McDaniel	Police Chief	Police Department	City of Windsor Heights
David	McKay	City Engineer	City Hall	City of Urbandale
Reylon	Meeks	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Pleasant Hill
Eric	Melton	Library Director	Public Library	City of Johnston
Paul	Mills	Director	District Support Services	Bondurant-Farrar School District
Kathy	Moline	Clerk of Works	Administration	Dallas Center-Grimes CSD
Paul	Moritz	Assistant Manager	Administration	City of Ankeny
A.J.	Mumm	Director	Emergency Management	Polk County
Rex	Mundt	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Ankeny
Deb	Nabity	Assistant City Administrator	Administration	City of Polk City
Terry	Nielsen	Lieutenant	Police Department	City of Urbandale
T.K.	Ouverson	Lieutenant	Police Department	City of West Des Moines
Tom	Patava	District Chief	Fire Department	City of Des Moines
John	Peterson	Assistant Manager	Administration	City of Ankeny
Emily	Price	Public Information Officer	Communications Dept	City of Johnston
Dan	Pritchard	Civil Engineer II	Public Works Department	City of Des Moines
SK	Prophet	Assistant City Manager	Administration	City of Urbandale
Peggy	Reelitz	Office Specialist	Emergency Management	Polk County Emergency Management
Jeff	Robbins	Operations Superintendent	Operations	West Des Moines Schools
Bill	Roberts	Mayor	City Hall	City of Mitchellville
Rick	Roe	Chief	Fire Department	City of Clive
Pamela	Rosa	Safety Compliance Specialist	Safety	Des Moines Independent Schools
Teresa	Rotschafer	Finance Director	Administration	City of Johnston
Jim	Sanders	City Administrator	Administration	City of Johnston
Joe	Schaffer	Captain	Police Department	City of Ankeny
John	Schmite	Director	Parks & Recreation Dept.	City of Johnston
Kevin	Schneider	Chief	Sheriff's Department	Polk County
Tim	Sittig	Chief	Police Department	City of Pleasant Hill
George	Smith	Assistant Director	Building and Grounds	Johnston Schools
Matt	Sonnenburg	Deputy Chief	Fire Department	City of West Des Moines
Jim	Spradling	City Manager	Administration	City of Ankeny
Ross	Stafford	Permit & Development Administrator	Community Development Department	City of Des Moines
Scott	Strait	Councilman	City Council	City of Runnells

Name		Title	Department	Jurisdiction/Agency/Organization
Madeline	Sturms	Planner	Planning	City of Pleasant Hill
Mike	Twohey	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Mitchellville
Jeanne	Uhl	City Clerk	Administration	City of Elkhart
Jason	VanAusdall	Director	Public Works	City of Windsor Heights
Bill	Vaughn	Chief	Police Department	City of Johnston
Peggy	Vint	Superintendent	Administration	Bondurant-Farrar School District
Bart	Weller	Director	Public Works	City of Clive
Joel	Westendorf	Chief	Fire Department	Delaware Township Fire Department
Jerry	Whetstone	Fire Chief	Fire Department	City of Altoona
Anna	Whipple	GIS Manager	Information Technology Department	City of Des Moines
David	Wilwerding	Director	Community Development	City of Johnston

### **Stakeholder Representatives**

Name		Title	Department	Agency/Organization
Mathew	Armstrong	Project Engineer	RiskMap	STARR
Troy	Bass	Coordinator	Emergency Management	Warren County Emergency Management
Joe	Chandler	Senior Mitigation Planner	FEMA, Planning	FEMA Region VII
Roger	Elliot	Guard Emergency Situational Awareness Contact	National Guard	Iowa National Guard
Steve	Green	Mitigation Planner	FEMA, Planning	FEMA Region VII
Barry	Halling	Coordinator	Emergency Management	Dallas County Emergency Management
David	Hempen	Continuity manager		MidAmerican
Tim	Hoskins	Director of Public Works	Public Works	City of Norwalk
Jon	Keeling	Project Manager	RiskMap	STARR
Jerry	Loghry	Assistant Section Manager		EMC Insurance
Mark	McKinley	Facilities Manager	Facilities	On With Life
Matt	Noble	Mitigation Planner	Mitigation	Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division
Scott	Ralston	Floodplain Mapping Coordinator	Floodplain Management	Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Jeff	Ritzman	Homeland Security Coordinator	Department of Public Safety	Iowa Fusion Center
Cynthia	Rolli	Regional Program Manager	RiskMap	FEMA Region VII
Joe	Solem	Volunteer		American Red Cross
Pat	Stillwell	Administrator	Administration	On With Life
Jessica	Turba	Hazard Mitigation Project Officer	Mitigation	Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division
John	Wilson	Maintenance Manager		Iowa Department of Transportation

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Special Thanks and Acknowledgements..... ii  
Table of Contents..... v  
Executive Summary ..... vi  
Prerequisites..... ix

1 Introduction and Planning Process..... 1.1  
2 Planning Area Profile and Capabilities ..... 2.1  
3 Risk Assessment..... 3.1  
4 Mitigation Strategy ..... 4.1  
5 Plan Maintenance Process ..... 5.1

Appendix A: References  
Appendix B: Planning Process  
Appendix C: Completed/Deleted Mitigation Actions  
Appendix D: Adoption Resolutions  
Appendix E: Critical/Essential Facilities (For Official Use Only)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The purpose of hazard mitigation is to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards. Polk County and participating jurisdictions developed this multi-jurisdictional local hazard mitigation plan update to reduce future losses to the County and its communities resulting from hazard events. The plan was prepared pursuant to the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and to achieve eligibility for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Programs.

The Polk County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is a multi-jurisdictional plan that covers the following 27 jurisdictions that participated in the planning process:

- Unincorporated Polk County
- City of Alleman
- City of Altoona
- City of Ankeny
- City of Bondurant
- City of Clive
- City of Des Moines
- City of Elkhart
- City of Grimes
- City of Johnston
- City of Mitchellville
- City of Pleasant Hill
- City of Polk City
- City of Runnells
- City of Urbandale
- City of West Des Moines
- City of Windsor Heights
- Des Moines Water Works
- Ankeny School District 261
- Bondurant-Farrar School District 720
- Dallas Center-Grimes School District 1576
- Des Moines Independent School District 1737
- Johnston School District 3231
- North Polk School District 4779
- Southeast Polk School District 6101
- Urbandale School District 6579
- West Des Moines School District

The Saydel School District was invited to participate in the planning process, but did not meet all of the established requirements for official participation. When the five-year required update is completed for this plan, this school district will be invited again to participate.

There are several cities within Polk County that have portions of their city limits in adjacent counties. These cities are treated in one of two ways for purposes of participation in this plan:

1) Official Plan Participants: The following cities are bi-county/multiple-county cities that are either a part of the Des Moines Metro Area that have portions of their city limits in other counties, or cities that have the majority of their corporate limits in Polk County. These cities will be invited as official plan participants in the Polk County plan. The Risk Assessment will include incorporation of analysis of building exposure/critical facilities of the entire city limits for these jurisdictions:

- Clive-parts in Dallas County,
- Urbandale-parts in Dallas County,
- West Des Moines-parts in Dallas County, Madison County, & Warren County,
- Grimes-parts in Dallas County,
- Des Moines-parts in Warren County, and
- Mitchellville-parts in Jasper County.

2) Stakeholder Participants: To provide a comprehensive analysis, the Risk Assessment includes incorporated areas of several cities that have a portion of their city limits in Polk County, but are considered official cities of adjacent counties. The Risk Assessment will include analysis of building exposure/critical facilities ONLY for those portions of the incorporated areas that are within the Polk County boundary. Although these cities are not official participants of the Polk County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, they are stakeholders in the planning process and as such, were invited to planning meetings and to comment on plan drafts.

- Carlisle-parts in Warren County,
- Granger-parts in Dallas County,
- Norwalk-parts in Warren County, and
- Sheldahl-parts in Story County & Boone County.

Polk County and the incorporated areas that participated in this plan update developed a Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan that was approved by FEMA on July 14, 2009 (hereafter referred to as the *2009 Polk County Hazard Mitigation Plan*). Therefore, this current planning effort serves to update the previous plan.

The plan update process followed a methodology prescribed by FEMA, which began with the formation of a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) comprised of representatives from Polk County and participating jurisdictions. The HMPC updated the risk assessment that identified and profiled hazards that pose a risk to the Polk County planning area, assessed the vulnerability to these hazards, and examined the capabilities in place to mitigate them. The planning area is vulnerable to several hazards that are identified, profiled, and analyzed in this plan. Riverine and flash flooding, winter storms, tornadoes and windstorms are among the hazards that can have a significant impact.

Based upon the risk assessment, the HMPC updated goals for reducing risk from hazards. The goals are listed below:

1. Protect the public health, safety, and welfare by increasing public awareness of hazards and by encouraging collective and individual responsibility for mitigating hazard risks.
2. Improve capabilities, coordination, and opportunities at municipal and county levels to plan and implement hazard mitigation projects, programs, and activities, including incorporation of lessons learned from previous events and exercises.
3. Improve data collection, use, and sharing to reduce the impact of hazards.
4. Protect the most vulnerable populations, buildings, and critical facilities through the implementation of cost-effective and technically feasible mitigation actions.

To meet the identified goals, the recommended mitigation action details are in Chapter 4. The HMPC developed an implementation plan for each action, which identifies priority level, background information, ideas for implementation, responsible agency, timeline, cost estimate, potential funding sources, and more.

## PREREQUISITES

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**44 CFR requirement 201.6(c)(5): The local hazard mitigation plan shall include documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan. For multi-jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan must document that it has been formally adopted.**

***Note to Reviewers:** When this plan has been reviewed and approved pending adoption by FEMA Region VII the adoption resolutions will be signed by the participating jurisdictions and added to Appendix D. A model resolution is provided.*

The following jurisdictions participated in the development of this plan and have adopted the multi-jurisdictional plan. Resolutions of Adoptions are included in Appendix D.

- Unincorporated Polk County
- City of Alleman
- City of Altoona
- City of Ankeny
- City of Bondurant
- City of Clive
- City of Des Moines
- City of Elkhart
- City of Grimes
- City of Johnston
- City of Mitchellville
- City of Pleasant Hill
- City of Polk City
- City of Runnells
- City of Urbandale
- City of West Des Moines
- City of Windsor Heights
- Des Moines Water Works
- Ankeny School District 261
- Bondurant-Farrar School District 720
- Dallas Center-Grimes School District 1576
- Des Moines Independent School District 1737
- Johnston School District 3231
- North Polk School District 4779
- Southeast Polk School District 6101
- Urbandale School District 6579
- West Des Moines School District

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# Model Resolution

Resolution # \_\_\_\_\_

## **Adopting the Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan**

**Whereas**, the (Name of Government/District/Organization seeking FEMA approval of hazard mitigation plan) recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within our community; and

**Whereas**, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences; and

**Whereas**, the U.S Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (“Disaster Mitigation Act”) emphasizing the need for pre-disaster mitigation of potential hazards;

**Whereas**, the Disaster Mitigation Act made available hazard mitigation grants to state and local governments; and

**Whereas**, an adopted Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple FEMA pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs; and

**Whereas**, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) fully participated in the hazard mitigation planning process to prepare this Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

**Whereas**, the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VII officials have reviewed the “Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan,” and approved it contingent upon this official adoption of the participating governing body; and

**Whereas**, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) desires to comply with the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act and to augment its emergency planning efforts by formally adopting the Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

**Whereas**, adoption by the governing body for the (Name of Government/District/Organization) demonstrates the jurisdictions’ commitment to fulfilling the mitigation goals outlined in this Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

**Whereas**, adoption of this legitimizes the plan and authorizes responsible agencies to carry out their responsibilities under the plan;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved**, that the (Name of Government/District/Organization) adopts the “Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Mitigation Plan” as an official plan; and

**Be it further resolved**, the (Name of Government/District/Organization) will submit this Adoption Resolution to the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VII officials to enable the plan’s final approval.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Certifying Official: \_\_\_\_\_