



MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 27, 2014

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COOK COUNTY RELEASING DRAFT OF FIRST EVER HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Residents invited to review and comment on largest plan of its kind in the U.S.

The Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) invites residents to review and comment on the county's draft Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) in a series of public meetings beginning tonight.

Under the leadership of Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, DHSEM has worked diligently with area municipalities and other partnering agencies to formulate the HMP to address severe weather events and other natural hazards.

The HMP has been designed to reduce the county's vulnerability to natural hazards while protecting the health, safety, welfare and economy of communities by identifying cost-effective strategies to reduce their impact. A uniform HMP will make Cook County and participating entities eligible to receive funds through the federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

The draft HMP will be available for public review and comment starting this evening:

Tuesday, May 27

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**Berwyn Police Department
6401 W. 31st St.
Berwyn, IL 60402**

Wednesday, May 28

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**Orland Fire Protection District
9790 W. 151st. St.
Orland Park, IL 60462**

Thursday, May 29

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**Glenview Fire Department
2500 East Lake Ave.
Glenview, IL 60026**

When completed, Cook County's plan will be the largest of its kind, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Currently, more than 100 of the county's 134 municipalities and 30 townships have partnered with DHSEM.

For more information about the Hazard Mitigation Plan, visit www.cookcountyhomelandsecurity.org/hazard-mitigation-plan/.

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The Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management integrates first responders, their departments and resources from 134 Cook County municipalities, and serves as the central agency in Cook County for coordinating efforts to prevent, protect against, mitigate the effects of, respond to and recover from all incidents, whether manmade or natural. For more information, visit our website at www.cookcountyhomelandsecurity.org.