

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: June 24, 2013
	Agenda Item No. 29 Roll Call No. [_____] Communication No. <u>13-337</u> Submitted by: John F. TeKippe, Fire Chief

AGENDA HEADING:

Approve City of Des Moines’ support of the National Weather Service StormReady Program as a participant of the Polk County Emergency Management Commission.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommending approval of the City of Des Moines’ support for the National Weather Service StormReady Program, its six (6) guidelines, and letter of support to the Central Iowa StormReady Advisory Board.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Since 2001, Polk County has been designated as a StormReady community by the National Weather Service and the Central Iowa StormReady Advisory Board. The National Weather Service has asked all the communities in Polk County to reaffirm their support of the six (6) guidelines necessary to be considered a StormReady Community. The essence of the StormReady program is to promote the reception and dissemination of severe weather information and mitigate the effects of severe weather through preparedness. The City of Des Moines, as a member of the Polk County Emergency Management Commission, is currently compliant with the following six (6) guidelines of the StormReady program:

1. Maintain a 24-hour Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to receive National Weather Service information.
2. Maintain a 24-hour EOC capable of receiving multiple communication methods of National Weather Service warnings.
3. Maintain a 24-hour EOC capable of gathering ancillary weather information, such as internet, river gauging stations, etc.
4. Maintain several means of ensuring timely warning dissemination to citizens, which includes weather radios at County, City, and School facilities, outdoor warning sirens, etc.
5. Through the Emergency Management Commission, conduct or facilitate safety talks for schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and industries; publicize use of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radios; send EOC staff to free National Weather Service storm spotter training at least every other year; host a spotter training session every year.
6. Maintain a formal hazardous weather operations plan, assure biennial visits by the Emergency Coordinator to National Weather Service, and assure annual visits by National Weather Service official to the community.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: September 24, 2012

Roll Call Number: [12-1494](#)

Action: [Rescinding](#) the Fire Chief as the City's Representative to the Polk County Emergency Management Commission, appointing the Mayor as the City's Representative to the Commission and approving the Members of the City Council and the Fire Chief as the City's Alternate Representatives. ([Council Communication No. 12-523](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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