Memorandum of Agreement for Participation in the Pennington County Multijurisdictional / Multi-Hazard Disaster Mitigation Planning Process

Purpose

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is hereby executed between the participating jurisdictions in the Pennington County Multijurisdictional / Multi-Hazard Disaster Mitigation Plan, “Participating jurisdictions” in this MOA are as follows:

- Pennington County, SD
- Box Elder, SD
- Hill City, SD
- Keystone, SD
- New Underwood, SD
- Quinn, SD
- Rapid City, SD
- Wall, SD
- Wasta, SD

The purpose of this MOA is to establish commitment from and a cooperative working relationship between all Participating Jurisdictions in the development and implementation of the Pennington County Multijurisdictional / Multi-Hazard Disaster Mitigation Plan. In addition, the intent of this MOA is to ensure that the plan is developed in accordance with Title 44 of the Federal Code of Regulations (CFR) Part 201.6; that the planning process is conducted in an open manner involving community stakeholders; that it is consistent with each participating jurisdiction’s policies, programs, and authorities; and it is an accurate reflection of the community’s values.

This MOA sets out the responsibilities and expectations of all participating jurisdictions as they pertain to creating and/or updating the content of this plan. The plan created as a result of this MOA will be presented to the governing body (Planning Commission, City Council and or Board of Commissioners) of each participating jurisdiction for adoption.

Background

Mitigation plans form the foundation for a community’s long-term strategy to reduce disaster losses and break the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage. The Participating Jurisdictions in a mitigation planning process would benefit by:
• identifying cost effective actions for risk reduction;
• directing resources on the greatest risks and vulnerabilities;
• building partnerships by involving people, organizations, and businesses;
• increasing education and awareness of hazards and risk;
• aligning risk reduction with other community objectives; and
• providing eligibility to receive federal hazard mitigation grant funding.

**Participating Jurisdiction Responsibilities**

Pennington County will act as the Lead Community and will assign a Chairperson of the Planning Team for the Pennington County Multijurisdictional / Multi-Hazard Disaster Mitigation Plan. The Participating Jurisdictions authorize the Lead Community to manage and facilitate the planning process.

The Participating Jurisdictions understand that representatives must engage in the following planning process, as more fully described in the Local Mitigation Planning Handbook (FEMA, 2013), including, but not limited to:

• Designate an individual who will regularly attend Planning Team meetings and serve as the primary representative from your jurisdiction on the Planning Team.
• Assist in developing the Work Program and Schedule with the Planning Team.
• Assist the Planning Team with developing and conducting an outreach strategy to involve other planning team members, stakeholders, and the public, as appropriate to represent their Jurisdiction.
• Identify community resources available to support the planning effort as necessary.
• Provide data and feedback to develop the risk assessment and mitigation strategy, including a specific mitigation action plan for their Jurisdiction.
• Submit the draft plan to their Jurisdiction for review.
• Work with the Planning Team to incorporate all their Jurisdiction’s comments into the draft plan.
• Submit the draft plan to their respective governing body for consideration and adoption.
• After adoption, coordinate a process to monitor, evaluate, and work toward plan implementation.
**MOA Implementation**

Pursuant to the authority vested to the participating jurisdictions by SDCL 1-24-3 as defined in SDCL 1-24-1, this MOA will be in effect from the date of signature by all parties, will remain in effect through the duration of the planning process, and will terminate after adoption of the final FEMA-approved mitigation plan by all participating jurisdictions, or 5 years after FEMA approval, whichever is earlier. It may be terminated prior to that time for any Participating Jurisdiction by giving 60 days written notice. This MOA is to be implemented through specific activities, programs, and projects as is described in the Local Mitigation Planning Handbook as published by FEMA in March of 2013 and the Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide as published by FEMA in April of 2022.

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