

MAY 11, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PUBLIC COMMENTS REQUESTED ON OSAGE COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

Osage County Emergency Management, incorporated cities, school districts, special districts, and private non-profit partners have worked together to complete the final draft of the multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan which is now available for public review and comment.

The purpose of this plan is to develop a strategy to reduce the vulnerability of people and property in the County to the impacts of natural hazards and to become eligible for mitigation funding programs from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Additionally, proactive mitigation planning will help reduce the costs of disaster response and recovery by protecting critical community facilities, reducing liability exposure, and minimizing overall community impacts and disruptions.

From May 18-29, the final draft plan will be available for your review at the Osage County Courthouse and the website: <ftp://Mitigation-Topeka:Topeka@ftp2.na.amec.com>, Username:Mitigation-Topeka, Password: Topeka, Folder: Osage County

“Active public feedback is vital to this process,” said Bryce Romine, “this plan will serve the citizens because it will be molded and approved by the same citizens.”

We encourage you to please review and comment on the final version of this plan, which must be approved by the Osage County Board of Commissioners, the governing bodies of each participating jurisdiction, the State of Kansas, and FEMA. Your comments will be considered by the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee and incorporated into the plan, as appropriate.

Public comments will be accepted through May 29, 2009. You may email Emergency Management Coordinator Bryce Romine at bromine@oscosherriff.org or call at 785-828-3323 with your comments.