

Possible Funding- This mitigation project can be done at minimal cost and would likely be funded primarily by local city governments.

Priority Level- 2

Hazard: Summer Storms

- **Mitigation Project-** Some Faribault County cities should focus on designating and/or creating public shelters for residents. Fire and police departments will work with city councils, business owners and rental facilities to identify appropriate shelters during summer storms. Through zoning cities can negotiate with rental and trailer park owners on the establishment of appropriate shelter sites and procedures.

Timeframe- This project should be undertaken and completed as soon as possible, due to the fact that it is a serious gap in the preparedness to adequately prepare for a summer storm event.

Responsibility- The following cities of Blue Earth, Easton, Elmore, Frost, Kiester, Minnesota Lake, Walters, Wells, and Winnebago are responsible for the creation and implementation of this project.

Possible Funding- Funding for the identification and/or creation of adequate storm shelter facilities would be the responsibility of Blue Earth, Easton, Elmore, Frost, Kiester, Minnesota Lake, Walters, Wells, and Winnebago to fund by any means available to them that would be appropriate for use in this project.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Use of specially-trained fire department personnel as severe weather spotters. City fire departments will work with police and administration to alert other city staff and emergency responders to coming storm events. This strategy is used primarily for summer storms.

Timeframe- The Cities of Blue Earth, Elmore, Winnebago, Wells, Frost, Walters, Easton, Minnesota Lake, and Kiester should train and utilize severe storm spotters as soon as possible if they are not being actively used. This should be used as needed indefinitely.

Responsibility- It would be up to individual communities within Faribault County to decide how and when to utilize severe storm spotters

Possible Funding- Storm spotter should be either fire department members or police officers, so funding for them may come out of applicable city funds.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Utilization of severe storm spotters network in all Faribault County cities. The severe storm spotters network are specially trained to spot and report severe summer storm activity, which is in turn used to provide warnings to specific areas of an

impending severe summer storm threat. This strategy can be used in coordination with the fire-department personnel spotter strategy, as the two are very similar.

Timeframe- Most cities already utilize severe storm spotters. This should be continued as needed indefinitely.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- It would be up to individual communities within Faribault County to decide how and when to utilize severe storm spotters.

Funding- Many severe storm spotters are fire department members or police officers, so funding for them may come out of applicable city funds.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Encourage the public to listen to local news sources, including television and radio broadcasts. These broadcasts can be extremely useful in disseminating information to residents in the event of a severe summer storm event, but are only effective if they are utilized. Reminders could be placed in city correspondence (such as water bills or newsletters) and on city web sites, if they are available.

Timeframe- This mitigation project can be implemented immediately, and should especially be encouraged during the summer storm season when events are most likely to occur.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Local cities would be largely responsible for implementation of this mitigation project. Local news sources may also be involved through use of their own broadcasts making note of their severe weather alert capabilities.

Possible Funding- This mitigation project can be done at minimal cost and would likely be funded primarily by local city governments.

Priority Level- 3

- **Mitigation Project-** Provide education and public outreach regarding disaster preparedness as it relates to summer storm events. Providing such education would increase the public's knowledge of what to do prior to, during, and after a severe storm event, and help protect them from the hazard itself or secondary hazards associated with a summer storm event.

Timeframe- Some communities currently provide such education, and this should be continued, but those that do not should undertake education on disaster preparedness in the near future. This may come in the form of community classes that may be offered annually or bi-annually, or other forms of educational outreach that communities may deem appropriate.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City staff and county emergency task force members would primarily be responsible for educational outreach regarding disaster preparedness for summer storms in their jurisdiction. Information and assistance may also come from other Faribault County departments, the State of Minnesota, and Federal agencies such as FEMA.

Funding- Funding for summer storm preparedness education could come from city funds as well as by grant money available for such projects, assuming the community qualifies to receive such grant funding.

Priority Level- 3

- **Mitigation Project-** Create and maintain Mutual Aid Agreements for all Faribault County Communities. If such agreements are already in place, then they shall be continually reviewed and maintained to ensure their continued viability.

Timeframe- Creation of Mutual Aid Agreements, if not already completed, can be implemented in the time span of 3-6 months and should be considered ongoing thereafter. They shall be periodically reviewed and amended as need be.

Responsible Agencies/Jurisdictions- City personnel, including administration and police and fire departments, would be largely responsible for the implementation of this project.

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project would come from any available and appropriate source available to the communities involved.

Priority Level- 3

Hazard: Flooding

- **Mitigation Project-** Upgrade existing storm sewer systems in Blue Earth, Winnebago, and any other applicable Faribault County communities as they are needed. Blue Earth and Winnebago have identified that their existing sewer systems would benefit from upgrades to be able to adequately handle excessive amounts of water during flood events.

Timeframe- These projects should be undertaken as soon as community funding and resources allow, but due to the costs incurred with such improvements it is possible that this may take several years and would likely be included as part of a city Capital Improvements Program (CIP). The City of Winnebago had indicated that they were already looking into these upgrades to their existing storm sewer system at the time the city survey was conducted as part of this plan.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City officials, including administrators/managers, city council members, and public works staff from involved cities would be responsible for the implementation of this project.

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project would be provided out of any applicable and appropriate city funds, and likely included as part of a Capital Improvements Program (CIP).

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Focus on eliminating or limiting effects of a flood event on flood-prone areas, particularly those areas that have been mentioned in the “Flooding” hazard

section of this plan. By working to eliminate flood-prone areas before a flood occurs, the impact will not be as great at the time of the flood.

Timeframe- This project should be considered as ongoing until all flood-prone areas have been mitigated to as much a degree as can be considered reasonable.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Could include Faribault County and all communities within the county have areas that are particularly flood-prone.

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project could come from any source available to Faribault County or communities thereof, including disaster mitigation grants.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Encouragement of and careful review of well-designed wetland projects in all Faribault County areas. Wetland projects help to alleviate the potential for flooding as they provide an area for waters to retreat to, rather than flooding streets and homes. Cities should encourage projects that protect or create wetlands as much as possible.

Timeframe- This mitigation project, if not already being performed, should be undertaken immediately and be considered as an ongoing project.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Review and encouragement of wetland projects can be accomplished via Faribault County environmental and planning/zoning personnel, as well as by planning/zoning staff at the local level. Private developers and landowners may also be involved.

Possible Funding- Would likely be funded through available county funds and city government funds, probably through use of staff time.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Have items available for victims and response to flood events. Educational information may be provided in public locations such as city offices and schools, and in times of serious flood events emergency management responders and facilities shall be equipped with such equipment and materials that they may be able to adequately assist those in need. This mitigation project is also to be considered as a strategy for all possible hazard events throughout Faribault County and not just flooding.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be undertaken immediately (if it is not already being performed to some degree), and should be considered ongoing in all Faribault County communities.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Faribault County and City officials would be primarily responsible for the creation and implementation of this project, with possible assistance from State emergency response departments.

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project may come from any and all appropriate funds available to Faribault County or Cities thereof. It may also be aided by possible State of Minnesota or federal funding opportunities.

Priority Level-2

- **Mitigation Project-** Faribault County communities should consider educating key personnel in environmental hazards. City staff, with assistance from the county emergency management will provide educational information to personnel and citizens with the assistance of county emergency management personnel. This information will also be provided on the city and county websites. Information will be provided in 2007 and reassessed annually. City staff and countywide emergency task force would perform assessment.

Timeframe- This mitigation project is already in place in many communities, but it should be ongoing for all of them. Education workshops, seminars, conferences, etc. are held occasionally and applicable training should be considered at all times.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City fire department and police staff would be the most likely to be involved with ongoing education regarding flood hazard events. County officials may be involved as well. Some of the training may be conducted State of Minnesota agencies (including the DNR), federal agencies such as FEMA, and the U.S. Corps of Engineers.

Possible Funding- Funding for education of key personnel can come from local city governments, from fire department or police department funds, and grants for emergency preparedness.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Creation and maintenance of a communications plan for use in the event of a flood emergency. Faribault County, as well as all cities within the county, should have a communications plan in place to direct methods and lines of communications in the event of a flood emergency, such as points of contact for different agencies and assignments of radio frequencies for electronic communications devices.

Timeframe- This mitigation project could be prepared and implemented relatively rapidly, likely within a few months time.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- County emergency management officials, sheriff and law enforcement departments at the city and county levels, fire departments, and city public works may all be involved to some degree.

Possible Funding- Establishment of a communications plan would not be very costly, and would rely more on coordination with other local agencies, but any required funding could come from the cities or Faribault County.

Priority Level- 3

- **Mitigation Project-** Coordination of preparations for and response to a flood emergency with other agencies, including any applicable Faribault County, State of Minnesota, and federal agencies. In the event that a serious flood event occurs, local resources alone will not be adequate for anything beyond a very short-lived event. All agencies involved will have to work together efficiently and effectively to make the most of their resources.

Timeframe- Already in progress and should be considered an ongoing project.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Faribault County officials and cities within Faribault County should be responsible for the implementation of this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- This mitigation project should not require extensive funding, and most of the costs would probably be incurred due to use of staff time from coordination activities. This may be funded by any proper means available to the responsible agencies.

Priority Level- 3

Hazard: Wildfire

- **Mitigation Project-** Provision of proper equipment to adequately fight wildfires for all Faribault County fire departments. The rough terrain and remote locations associated with wildfires can only be reached by dedicated off-road vehicles that not all fire departments have. Arrangements to share equipment may also be considered and is discussed as an earlier mitigation project. Larger jurisdictions with more equipment should be ready to assist smaller communities.

Timeframe- Agreements to share off-road capable equipment can be made quickly and easily, but significant time may be required to raise funds needed to purchase proper off-road equipment if this is considered.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Individual Faribault County community fire departments would be responsible for this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- Funding for new equipment can come out of fire department funds and can be assisted by grants or fund-raising activities and even private donations (such as those sometimes provided by local non-profit civic groups).

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Encourage fire department participation in annual DNR-provided training classes specific to wildfires, and any other relevant training exercises as needed.

Timeframe- This project can be undertaken as soon as possible in not already being utilized by all Faribault County fire departments. This mitigation project is likely to be performed on an annual or bi-annual basis.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Local level fire departments would be primarily responsible for this project.

Possible Funding- Could be provided as part of fire department operating costs, if needed. Emergency management grants may be available to pay for some costs.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Participation by all County cities in the national Fire Wise wildfire education program, which provides tools for risk assessment/reduction to interested communities.

Timeframe- Depending on the amount of time required to become involved with the Fire Wise program, this project could be implemented over the course of 6 months to one year. It may be continued on an annual basis or any other reasonable set schedule as deemed appropriate.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Local city governments and fire departments would be involved and would oversee this project, which is administered by the Minnesota State DNR. The Fire Wise program itself is a national program so it may have some federal oversight.

Possible Funding- Participation in Fire Wise could be paid for by city funds and could also possibly be offset by some form of grant opportunities.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Clarification of state land management issues. The DNR is responsible for operating all state lands within Faribault County, and clearing brush and vegetation in fire-prone areas can be an effective strategy. Who is responsible for clearing brush and fighting wildfires in these areas should be clearly understood by all fire departments involved.

Timeframe- This project can be undertaken immediately. This project would operate on a short timeframe and can be easily achieved.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The Minnesota DNR, Faribault County environmental officials, and local fire departments would all be involved in this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- This project should not require extensive funding as it relies more on basic communication between agencies, and costs would primarily be limited to staff time used by different agencies.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Coordination between fire departments and fire districts in times of increased need for assistance. Fire departments respond to any wildfires within their own district, but they may coordinate and assist each other in the event of a large wildfire.

Timeframe- This coordination between fire departments and districts is already in place and should be continued indefinitely, and revised occasionally to ensure the best possible use of services.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- All Faribault County fire departments may be considered as responsible agencies for the implementation of this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- This mitigation project requires minimal costs, if any, but any associated costs would likely be provided by local fire department funds.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Utilization of zoning ordinances to help prevent damage to built areas due to wildfires. Faribault County, as well as appropriate staff in communities thereof, should review and revise local zoning ordinances as needed to ensure that adequate distances are being maintained as a buffer from wildfire-prone areas.

Timeframe- This project can be utilized immediately and should be reviewed occasionally, perhaps yearly, to update as necessary.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Faribault County planning/zoning department and all cities planning/zoning staff would be responsible for implementation of this project.

Possible Funding- Funded as a part of staff time for city and county staff who may work on the project.

Priority Level- 3

- **Mitigation Project-** Creation and maintenance of an evacuation plan by all cities. All Faribault County communities should have such a plan in place describing and depicting appropriate routes out of the community in case of a large fire that poses an imminent threat to the community. This shall also be considered a strategy other hazards that may pose a threat to the community, such as urban or structural fire.

Timeframe- This project should be created by all communities as soon as possible, and this project could be accomplished within several months in most cases.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Each community would be responsible for the creation of their own specific evacuation plan.

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project could come from any source available to the community, including disaster mitigation grants if applicable.

Priority Level- 3

Hazard: Extreme Temperature

- **Mitigation Project-** The City of Elmore should focus on designating and/or creating public shelters for residents. Fire and police departments will work with city councils, business owners and rental facilities to identify appropriate shelters during extreme temperatures, which can be compounded by power outages that can be associated during extreme temperature events. This is particularly important for elderly residents who are more susceptible to the effects of extreme temperatures.

Timeframe- This project should be undertaken and completed as soon as possible, and is likely to take up to a year or more.

Responsibility- City administration and staff of Elmore would be responsible for implementing this project, and they may work with local business or landowners in identifying and negotiating for use of existing facilities or creation of new ones prior to an extreme temperature event.

Possible Funding- Funding for the identification and/or creation of adequate shelter facilities would come from the City of Elmore and any funds available to them that would be appropriate for use in this project.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Broadcasting of National Weather Service-issued heat advisories by local radio and television stations in times of extreme heat. Issuance of heat advisories serves to warn residents of dangers imposed by extreme heat.

Timeframe- This mitigation project is already being consistently utilized and should be considered an ongoing project.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The National Weather Service makes the decision as to when and where heat advisories are issued, but it is up to local broadcast media to decide how they wish to disseminate this information.

Possible Funding- This mitigation strategy should not require any funding on the part of local government or any other Faribault County agencies. Cities may wish to distribute small reminders with city correspondence of this mitigation strategy, but costs incurred would be minimal.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Broadcasting of National Weather Service issues wind chill/extreme cold advisories by local radio and television stations in times of extreme cold or wind chill. Issuance of these advisories serves to warn residents of dangers imposed by extreme cold and/or wind chill.

Timeframe- This mitigation project is already being consistently utilized and should be considered an ongoing project.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The National Weather Service makes the decision as to when and where extreme cold/wind chill advisories are issued, but it is up to local broadcast media to decide how they wish to disseminate this information.

Possible Funding- This mitigation strategy should not require any funding on the part of local government or any other Faribault County agencies. Cities may wish to distribute small reminders with city correspondence of this mitigation strategy, but costs incurred would be minimal.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Closing of public and private schools when necessary for safety of students and staff in times of extreme temperatures. In Minnesota (and Faribault County), this is more likely to occur during times of extreme cold, due to many schools not being in session during the summer months when extreme heat events are more likely to occur.

Timeframe- This mitigation strategy is already in use as conditions necessitate and should be considered an ongoing project.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The Governor of Minnesota has the power to close all schools in the state in times of extreme temperatures, and has done so several times in the past. It is more common that school district officials make this judgment. Local television and radio station are usually responsible for disseminating information regarding school closures.

Possible Funding- This mitigation strategy does not require any funding on the part of Faribault County officials or any local government officials of communities within the county.

Priority Level- 2

Hazard: Drought

- **Mitigation Project-** Utilization of water conservation strategies as needed. Water conservation provisions and use restrictions in times of drought are usually included in city ordinances. These ordinances should be put in place if they do not currently exist, reviewed periodically to ensure they are appropriate, and enacted if deemed necessary due to a drought event. Since many residents may not be familiar with water restriction policies, if they are to be utilized there should be some form of education provided, via a reminder in city correspondence or something similar.

Timeframe- Review and/or additions to water conservation strategies may take from several months to a year or more for many cities.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Planning/zoning staff and city councils of all cities would be the primary responsible parties for review and adoption of new ordinances, if necessary. They would also be responsible for deciding when to enact the water restrictions these ordinances authorize and for what duration.

Possible Funding- This mitigation project would be funded through city funds in most cases, as it would mainly require staff time for review/additions of ordinance.

Priority Level-2

- **Mitigation Project-** Identification of water access points for human and animal consumption that may be utilized in the event of a severe drought. An inventory of these water access points should be created, maintained, and updated as needed.

Timeframe- This mitigation project would take considerable time, due to the sheer volume of water access points located throughout Faribault County. A proper inventory

and cataloging of them all may take at least a year. Updates should occur every 3-5 years.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The County and city members of the hazard mitigation task force would work cooperatively on this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- This project would likely be funded primarily through any appropriate funding available to Faribault County and individual communities.

Priority Level- 3

Hazard: Infectious Disease

- **Mitigation Project-** Creation of safe handling processes and facility structures for livestock, and utilization of zoning and inspections to properly design and maintain livestock operations to reduce risks of diseases which can ultimately affect humans.

Timeframe- This mitigation project is already in effect to some degree but its use could be extended gradually over the course of several years, particularly in times of increased concern for livestock disease outbreaks.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Faribault County planning/zoning officials and health department would collaborate on this project, with assistance from local city planning/zoning staff when applicable.

Possible Funding- This mitigation project would be funded primarily through county and city funds, but some funding may also be available through state or federal programs aimed at negating diseases among livestock.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Media outreach should be conducted via radio, television, and print media in the event of an infectious disease outbreak to ensure that proper and factual information is being distributed throughout Faribault County communities. This may assist in calming fears that may lead to negative secondary effects.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be utilized as deemed necessary, but should be prepared well in advance of an actual event so that it is ready to be implemented immediately if need be.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The State Department of Health, local clinics and hospitals, and local media would all have roles in a media outreach campaign in the event of an infectious disease outbreak.

Possible Funding- A media outreach project would primarily come at the expense of local media, as it is largely considered a news event.

Priority Level-1

- **Mitigation Project-** Provision of health education material detailing the impacts and risks of infectious diseases to youth and parents. Faribault County and school public health nurses can provide these materials to students.

Timeframe- Can be implemented immediately, may already be in place to some extent. This project can be considered as an ongoing mitigation strategy.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Faribault County health officials can coordinate with local clinics/hospitals for materials to distribute to local schools and youth functions.

Possible Funding- Funding for this project could come from Faribault County funds available for maintaining public health, local school districts, and possibly applicable state and federal health agencies.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Provide health education to private businesses where the risks of infectious diseases are a concern, such as food-processing facilities and restaurants. County public health department will provide educational material and periodic site visits.

Timeframe- Already in progress and would be increased and utilized as needed on an ongoing basis.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The Faribault County health officials would coordinate with private businesses on these health education matters. The State of Minnesota Department of Health may also be involved.

Possible Funding- This project would be paid for by funds available for use by Faribault County health officials. Participating businesses may contribute some funding as well.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Encourage sick workers to stay home. Businesses and organizations throughout Faribault County should encourage all personnel to stay home if at all possible for the duration of their illness if they believe they are ill. This helps mitigate the spread of diseases that may be impacting the area.

Timeframe- This strategy is already in use by the majority of employers, but it should be put into place by any employers that are not currently using it, and reviewed periodically, especially during times when there are illnesses going around.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Public and private employers throughout Faribault County would be responsible for implementing this project.

Possible Funding- Costs associated with this project would most likely be negligible, but employers utilizing this project would be responsible for any costs incurred.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Encourage and facilitate countywide cooperation with the Minnesota State Health Department to share information regarding infectious disease occurrences. This information flow will assist in alerting proper agencies to the possibility of an outbreak event.

Timeframe- This mitigation project has been and will continue to be ongoing.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- All Faribault County clinics and hospitals will coordinate and share information with the State Health Department and the National Center for Disease Control (CDC) when needed.

Possible Funding- This mitigation strategy is integrated into the operations of all clinics, hospitals, and the State Department of Health.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Encourage and facilitate participation in vaccination programs for all Faribault County residents, particularly children. Also, Faribault County and communities thereof should identify and utilize programs for vaccinating the uninsured or low-income residents.

Timeframe- This should be considered an ongoing mitigation project. Vaccination programs may be already in place but they should be identified and well-publicized, especially in times of concern of a particular disease that is preventable by vaccination.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Faribault County health officials, the State of Minnesota Health Department, numerous federal and non-profit organizations may all be involved to some degree with this mitigation project.

Funding- Funding for this project could be provided by Faribault County, the State Department of Health, private donations, non-profit organizations, and perhaps state or federal grants.

Priority Level-2

- **Mitigation Project-** Utilization of a quarantine/isolation plan in extreme cases of an infectious disease outbreak, to protect the public health.

Timeframe- Quarantines and isolations are designated by the State of Minnesota and are therefore subject to the regulations and timeframes that the State already has in place.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Quarantines and isolations are designated by the State of Minnesota and are therefore subject to the regulations and timeframes that the State already has in place. Faribault County emergency personnel (fire, police, and emergency management) would support the role of the State in a quarantine/isolation event.

Possible Funding- Funding for a quarantine/isolation event would be handled primarily by the State of Minnesota but may be supplemented by county or city funds if needed.

Priority Level- 2

Hazard: Urban Fire

- **Mitigation Project-** The City of Elmore should work with the owner/proprietor(s) of Elmore Truck Accessories to identify ways to reduce the possibility of fire or explosions at the business. This project is recommended due to the concern of the city with the business and its potential as a fire hazard as indicated in the city survey conducted as part of this plan.

Timeframe- This project should be undertaken as soon as possible and continued until the fire hazard of Elmore Truck Accessories is reduced to an acceptable amount, as deemed by the city officials of Elmore.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- It would be the responsibility of the owner/proprietor(s) of Elmore Truck Accessories to work cooperatively with the City of Elmore staff regarding this project.

Possible Funding- Funding would most likely be provided via Elmore Truck Accessories, although the City of Elmore could also contribute in some limited means.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Aggressive and increased training of fire department personnel throughout Faribault County. The Faribault County Sheriff's office and communities can collaborate on efforts to train emergency response personnel in the use of existing and new equipment. This project will make communities more adequately prepared to deal with urban fire events.

Timeframe- This increased training would begin in 2007 or at such time when Faribault County and community officials are ready to undertake it and be ongoing from this point.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The city fire departments would be the primary responsible entity for implementing this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- Funding would likely come from each city fire department fund, or if necessary any other proper and available source of funding.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** The cities of should adopt and maintain building and fire codes, which will work towards making structures increasingly fire-resistant and less hazardous should they ever burn. Adoption of such codes also lessens the vulnerability as it addresses the possibility of fire hazards before they could possibly occur.

Timeframe- Adoption of building and fire codes can be achieved relatively quickly, within 6 months to one year. The codes must be continually enforced and maintained thereafter.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City administrators and planning staff will work to have the Council incorporate the code within the plans of the above-mentioned cities. Building inspectors functioning in these cities would work with enforcement of codes.

Funding- The adoption of building and fire codes would have to be funded by the adopting cities, primarily through the costs of associated staff time needed for the project.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** City fire departments could offer specialized fire training classes. Local fire departments could offer classes for residents regarding topics which often lead to fires, such as chimney cleaning and holiday-time hazards.

Timeframe- Classes could be prepared and offered at any time, but may focus on times of increased fire risk, including the holiday season and 4th of July weekend.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City fire departments would be responsible for the creation and use of such specialized classes. They may also partner with a program such as Fire Wise, which is run by the Minnesota DNR.

Possible Funding- Funding sources for specialized training classes could come from city funds, payment for classes by residents, state or federal funds/grants, or contributions by private individuals or local civic non-profit groups.

Priority Level- 3

- **Mitigation Project-** Utilization of local zoning ordinances to regulate building density, use, bulk, height, and setbacks to assist in preventing fires from “jumping” from one structure to the next.

Timeframe- Can be implemented gradually by cities and should be considered an ongoing project.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- It is recommended that all Faribault County cities review and update their ordinances. Cities would be responsible for the creation/updating/enforcement of their own ordinances.

Possible Funding- Funding would be provided by any applicable funds available to the cities. The most likely cost is the requirement for planning/zoning staff time.

Priority Level- 3

Hazard: Hazardous Materials

- **Mitigation Project-** Overall increased drug prevention efforts, particularly as they relate to methamphetamines. This would be a countywide project. Educational material in print and presentation formats will be distributed to youth, communities at risk, and vulnerable people.

Timeframe- This project should be implemented over the span of the next year and administered as needed or continually thereafter.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Faribault County officials, city emergency responders, the State of Minnesota public health/Department of Public Safety, regional emergency management officials, Faribault County school districts (public and private), and non-profit organizations can work together as needed to implement this project.

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project could come from many sources, including the State of Minnesota, grants, Faribault County and local city funds.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** The City of Blue Earth and Faribault County emergency responders and educators should consider undertaking additional training in safe investigation and evidence handling as they relate to methamphetamine labs. Thereafter, other public organizations (such as Boy Scout and highway cleanup crews, for example) can be trained in similar methods should they ever come across anything dangerous.

Timeframe- This project should be undertaken as time and funding allow, it could be implemented over the course of six months to a year from its inception.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Faribault County and City of Blue Earth emergency officials/responders would be responsible for implementation of this project.

Possible Funding- Funding would most likely be provided via Faribault County and the City of Blue Earth, if they have a continued interest in the project.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Monitoring of legislative actions that provide resources to effectively deal with the damages of methamphetamine labs, such as how to pay for associated cleanup costs of properties used for clandestine labs.

Timeframe- This mitigation project can be implemented immediately and should be considered ongoing.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Faribault County officials should monitor legislative activity, as should City of Faribault officials (due to their expressed concern over methamphetamine labs).

Possible Funding- This project should not require any specialized funding to implement.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Faribault County should coordinate and cooperate with appropriate State agencies to address the needs for responding to and mitigating the impacts of a hazardous material release event. In the event of a serious hazardous material event, Faribault County alone will not be able to adequately deal with the effects and must work directly with the State of Minnesota.