

Priority Level- 3

- **Mitigation Project-** Encouragement and careful review of wetland projects (and other vulnerable natural land areas) in all Sibley County environmentally sensitive 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 Sibley County environmental and planning/zoning personnel, as well as by planning/zoning staff at the local (city) level. Private developers 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- 3

Hazard: Wildfire

- **Mitigation Project-** The City of Henderson should continue to monitor and control the use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and other off-road recreational vehicles in and around the community. These vehicles can spark wildfires in certain conditions and must be used carefully and responsibly to prevent this from happening.

Timeframe- This mitigation project is already in progress and should be considered ongoing as needs dictate within the community.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The City of Henderson police department has primary responsibility to ensure that ATVs and other vehicles are being operated lawfully and not in areas prone to wildfires.

Possible Funding- This mitigation project can be considered as an operating expense in the duties of the Henderson Police Department.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** City staff and firefighters in the City of New Auburn should identify ways to reduce risks of wildfire events in vulnerable areas in and around the community, particularly dried-up wetland areas.

Timeframe- This project should be undertaken soon and be considered ongoing, especially in times of drought where there may be an increased risk of wildfire events.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City staff, particularly the fire department, would be responsible for developing and implementing this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- Funding could be provided by the City of New Auburn from any appropriate funds available for community use.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Provision of proper equipment to adequately fight wildfires for all Sibley 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.

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 Sibley 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- 2

- **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 should be undertaken as soon as possible if not already being utilized by all Sibley 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 available to pay for some costs.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Participation by all Sibley County cities in the national FireWise 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 FireWise program, could be implemented over the course of 6 months – one year. 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 FireWise program itself is a national program so it may have some federal oversight.

Possible Funding- Participation if FireWise could be paid for by city funds and could also possibly be offset by some grant opportunities.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Clarification of state land management issues. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is responsible for operating all state lands within Sibley 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, Sibley 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 Sibley 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- 3

- **Mitigation Project-** Utilization of zoning ordinances to help prevent damage to built areas due to wildfires. Sibley County, as well as staff in communities thereof, should review and revise local zoning ordinances as needed to ensure that adequate distances (setbacks) 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- Sibley County planning/zoning department and all city planning/zoning staff would be responsible for implementation of this project.

Possible Funding- This mitigation project would be funded as a part of staff time for city and county staff that may work on the project.

Priority Level- 3

- **Mitigation Project-** Creation and maintenance of an evacuation plan by all cities. All Sibley 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. Also considered a strategy for urban or structural fire and other hazards.

Timeframe- All communities should create this project as soon as possible. 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-** Ensure the safety of elderly residents throughout all Sibley County communities, particularly the City of Gaylord, which has a large elderly population. Communities should undertake efforts to ensure and promote the safety of elderly residents in times of extreme temperatures, as they are often more susceptible to the effects of extreme heat and cold.

Timeframe- This mitigation project could be created and implemented within approximately six months to one year from inception. It should be ongoing from that point and should be periodically reviewed to ensure it remains successful.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Sibley County Human Services, cities within Sibley County (particularly the City of Gaylord), and local service organizations such as

church groups and the Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts could all have some level of involvement and/or responsibility for this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- This project is not likely to require significant amounts of funding, but any funding it does require could be paid through funds available for use by Sibley County Human Services, Sibley County cities, and local service organizations.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Assure availability of information for non-English speaking residents throughout Sibley County, particularly in the City of Gaylord which has a significant Hispanic population. Language barriers for emergency information should be reduced or eliminated as much as possible so that all residents, regardless of language spoken, are able to get up-to-date information.

Timeframe- This mitigation project could be undertaken immediately and likely implemented within 3-6 months from inception. Efforts should be considered ongoing from that point forward.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Sibley County staff and city-level staff, particularly in the City of Gaylord, may be involved with this project. It may likely be assisted by County-level programs targeted at assisting minority populations.

Possible Funding- Funding for this project could come from any appropriate and available Sibley County or City of Gaylord funding, and may possibly be aided by grant opportunities as well, especially those meant to help minority populations.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Broadcasting of National Weather Service issues 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 Sibley County agencies.

Priority Level- 2

- **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 Sibley County agencies.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Closing of public and private schools when necessary for safety of students and staff in times of extreme temperatures. In Minnesota, 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 Sibley County officials or any local government officials of communities within the county.

Priority Level- 3

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.

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 at the local (city) level and city councils of all Sibley County 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- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Identification of water access points for human and animal consumption that may be utilized in the event of a 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 Sibley 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 Sibley County and individual communities.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Creation and maintenance of mutual aid agreements for all Sibley County communities. These agreements can assist in ensuring that supplies and resources for a drought event are adequately available to all communities during a serious drought event. This may be especially important in times of a serious drought when the available water supplies to fight a wildfire or a structural (urban) fire may be depleted.

Timeframe- This mitigation project, if not already in place, should be undertaken as soon as possible. It also bears relevance to all other forms of hazard events.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Administration of cities throughout Sibley County would be responsible for working with their neighboring communities on this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- This project would likely be funded primarily through any appropriate funding available to Sibley County communities. It is not likely to incur extensive costs.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Sibley County and all communities thereof should consider undertaking community education to inform residents of drought issues and what it may mean to them and the community. This could take the form of classes/seminars, presentations to schools and community groups, and the creation and distribution of informational literature.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be created and implemented in the early stages of a serious drought so residents will know how they can work through it with the community.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Administration of cities throughout Sibley County, and perhaps some departments of Sibley County itself, would be responsible for creating and implementing this mitigation project as needed.

Possible Funding- This project would likely be funded primarily through any appropriate funding available to Sibley County 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. This would serve to reduce risks of diseases that 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- Sibley 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 Sibley 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. Sibley 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- Sibley 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 Sibley 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- May already be in progress, but if not it should be increased and utilized as needed on an ongoing basis.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Sibley 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 Sibley County health officials. Participating businesses may contribute some funding as well.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Develop increased protection measures for residential water supplies and systems in the City of Winthrop. The city should assess water system safety and implement measures as needed to increase security and protect equipment from possible contamination, including the elimination of low windows around the facility.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be undertaken as soon as feasibly possible, and it may take a year or more to be completed by the city.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The City of Winthrop, including the public works department and the police chief, could be responsible for the creation and implementation of this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- Funding for this project would primarily be provided by any available and appropriate city funds.

- **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 Sibley 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 Sibley County residents, particularly children. Programs for vaccinating uninsured or low-income residents should be identified and utilized.

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- Sibley 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.

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

Priority Level- 3

- **Mitigation Project-** Utilization of a quarantine/isolation plan in extreme cases of an infectious disease outbreak in order 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. Sibley County emergency personnel (fire, police, 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.

Priority Level- 3

Hazard: Urban Fire

- **Mitigation Project-** The City of New Auburn should consider seeking and recruiting additional volunteer firefighters to assist the community's firefighting and fire prevention efforts.

Timeframe- This project could be undertaken within six months or so and be considered ongoing, as needed.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The fire department of New Auburn would be the primary responsible entity for implementing this mitigation project.

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

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Undertake aggressive increased training of fire department personnel in all cities throughout Sibley County in the near future. These cities can collaborate on efforts to train emergency response personnel in proper methods and equipment usage.

Timeframe- This increased training could begin in 2007 and be ongoing from this point, as deemed necessary by local communities and their fire departments.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Fire departments throughout Sibley County 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- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** All Sibley County cities, particularly Arlington, Gibbon, and Green Isle, should adopt and maintain building and fire codes if they have not already done so, which will work towards making structures increasingly fire-resistant and less hazardous should they ever be subjected to a fire hazard.

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

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City administrators, building inspectors, and planning staff, especially in the cities mentioned above, will work to have the city councils incorporate the code within the plans of the above-mentioned cities.

Possible 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-** Sibley County communities should focus on ways to reduce the threat of fire hazards at local vulnerable areas, including the grain elevators in Gaylord and Arlington and the ethanol plant in Winthrop.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be undertaken soon by cities and should be considered an ongoing project. Significant changes made to reduce fire risks could take a year or more.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City administration of all participating communities would be responsible for this mitigation project, and they may have to work closely with private owners of vulnerable areas.

Possible Funding- Funding would be provided by any applicable funds available to the cities and may also require some responsibility for costs on the part of private owners/operators of facilities in vulnerable areas.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Consider offering specialized fire training classes. Local Sibley County 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 FireWise, 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. Review and updating of local zoning ordinances to mitigate fire hazards is recommended for all Sibley County cities.

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

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- It is recommended that all Sibley County cities review and update their ordinances. Cities, likely through planning/zoning staff 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-** The City of Gaylord should consider undertaking several transportation-related projects to lessen the risks of accidents involving hazardous materials around the community. This includes increased traffic regulation efforts/policing, safety checks on large trucks that frequently transport hazardous materials, increased road maintenance, and removing existing obstacles in the lines-of-sight in and around the community. Some of these projects could reduce the risks of accidents involving vehicles that are transporting hazardous materials. Other communities may wish to consider some of these strategies as well.

Timeframe- This project should be implemented gradually, with the projects deemed to have the greatest impact on reducing the risks of accidents undertaken first.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City officials and administration of the City of Gaylord would have primary responsibility for implementing these mitigation projects.

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

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** The City of Gibbon should consider undertaking several transportation-related projects to lessen the risks of accidents involving hazardous materials around the community. This may include undertaking increased traffic regulations/patrols, and the installation of improved road signs. Some of these projects could reduce the risks of accidents involving vehicles that are transporting hazardous materials. Other communities may wish to consider some of these strategies as well.

Timeframe- This project should be implemented gradually, with the projects deemed to have the greatest impact on reducing the risks of accidents undertaken first.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City officials and administration of the City of Gibbon would have primary responsibility for implementing these mitigation projects.

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

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Increase countywide public education regarding methamphetamine labs. Educational material in print and presentation formats will be distributed to youth, communities at risk, and vulnerable people. This would be primarily through print and public presentations that would be made available to city emergency responders and then distributed throughout the community. It may also take the form of presentations to various community groups. Such efforts on drug prevention may be particularly useful in the area and may include such strategies as presentations to younger school students by older school students outlining the dangers of drugs, including methamphetamine.

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

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Sibley County officials, city emergency responders, the State of Minnesota public health/Department of Public Safety, regional emergency management officials, 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, Sibley County and local city funds.

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. This project may be of particular interest to the communities of the whole county.

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

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Sibley County officials and staff would have a lead role in this project. City staff from specifically concerned communities may also be interested in monitoring legislative activity.

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

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Sibley County communities, particularly the cities of Gaylord, Arlington, and Henderson, should work with the Drug Prevention Network to work with youth in these cities on drug prevention efforts. This may include puppet shows and literature dissemination for students of varying age levels.

Timeframe- This mitigation project, if not already in place, should be undertaken and be considered ongoing.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Sibley County and participating communities thereof, and applicable State of Minnesota agencies would be responsible for implementation of this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- Funding could be provided via participating communities, Sibley County, the State of Minnesota, federal organizations, and possibly grant opportunities intended for drug-prevention efforts.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Sibley 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, Sibley County alone will not be able to adequately deal with the effects and must work directly with the State of Minnesota.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should already be taking place, and should be considered an ongoing project.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Sibley County and applicable State of Minnesota agencies would be responsible for implementation of this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- While this project should not require extensive funding, Sibley County would likely be responsible for any costs involved. Disaster mitigation grants or funds may also be used if they are available.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Utilization of Emergency Warning System by local radio and television stations if the need to warn people of a major and dangerous hazardous material release event occurs.

Timeframe- Emergency Broadcast System is already in place and is tested regularly. This mitigation project is ready to be utilized but should only be used when absolutely necessary.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Sibley County emergency officials, city officials, and possibly State agencies, would be involved with utilization of this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- This project is already in place and should not require additional funding.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Ensure proper storage of hazardous materials throughout Sibley County. Proper storage, labeling, and securing of all possible hazardous materials will help to maintain safety and prohibit exposure to the materials.

Timeframe- If not already in progress, should be undertaken immediately in all applicable areas and should be considered as an ongoing project.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Local public works, Sibley County officials, and possibly State agencies could all work together on this mitigation project. Lead roles would likely emerge via the county.

Possible Funding- Funding for secure storage of hazardous materials would most likely come at the expense of the business, organization, agency, or individual that maintains such material in their possession or on their premises.

Priority Level- 3

Hazard: Wastewater Treatment Plant Failure/Water Supply Contamination

- **Mitigation Project-** Securing water systems and implementing safety measures in Sibley County and the water suppliers of the area, particularly in the cities of Green Isle and Winthrop. These Communities should work towards increasing safety and security through use of lighting, fencing, and locking mechanisms, as well as by eliminating low windows and other access points. .

Timeframe- This mitigation project will likely take at least one year.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The staff from participating cities, including public works and police staff, will assess water system safety and implement measures as needed.

Possible Funding- Funding would likely be provided via any available city funds.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Creation of new and safer water supply structures as needed in the cities of Green Isle and Winthrop. Measures to build safer water towers, wells, and treatment facilities to replace aging and lower-capacity systems as needed over the course of the coming years.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be undertaken at the discretion of these communities and implemented as time and funding allows.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- This project could be led by city staff in the cities of Green Isle and Winthrop communities, and would likely include administration and public works departments.

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project would come from any proper and available funds available to the cities, and it may likely be incorporated into a capital improvement program or be assisted by some form of grant or loan package via the state or federal government.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Education and training of city staff, particularly planning/zoning departments, in techniques for minimizing water-related hazards. This includes creation and maintenance of ordinances designed to protect these systems and incorporating measures designed to mitigate water-related hazards (i.e. capping wells, using setbacks, and utilizing filtering systems).

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be undertaken as soon as possible and should be considered ongoing.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- This project could be led by city staff in all Sibley County communities, and would likely include administration and public works departments

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project would come from any proper and available funds available to the cities.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Ensuring appropriate use and preservation of wetlands throughout Sibley County, particularly Gibbon, Arlington and Henderson. County departments (including planning and zoning staff) will work with cities to create wetland development and protection standards. The county will also review development in unincorporated areas to ensure wetlands are maintained and preserved. Preserving wetland areas permits increased filtration of water runoff and will assist in maintaining proper cleanliness and water levels in nearby rivers, including the Minnesota River.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be undertaken as soon as possible and should be considered ongoing. Any enacted ordinances will require periodic review and possibly updating.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- This project would be led by Sibley County planning/zoning staff, and would also include city staff of applicable communities. The county Soil and Water District personnel may also be involved.

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project would come from any proper and available funds available to the county and cities.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Require and monitor certified operators and inspections for all public wastewater systems in Sibley County. Operators of such systems are required to have state training to maintain their certified operator status.

Timeframe- This mitigation project is already in place and should be considered ongoing. Monitoring and inspections should always be up-to-date.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- All Sibley County wastewater plant operators and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) both have roles in this project.

Possible Funding- This project is funded through state and city funds.

Priority Level- 3

Hazard: Dam Failure

- **Mitigation Project-** Inspection of all four existing Sibley County dams and reservoir capabilities to ensure dam stability and safety. These reports indicate whether the dams are in adequate condition for flood events and springtime runoff.

Timeframe- This project should be considered for the near to moderate future. The threat of dam failure within Sibley County is not considered very serious, but still should always warrant consideration due to the possible impacts a dam failure could have.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The Minnesota DNR and the US Army Corps of Engineers perform these inspections.

Possible Funding- Funding would be provided via Sibley County, communities which own or operate dams within Sibley County, or by the Minnesota DNR or US Army Corps of Engineers as part of their operations.

Priority Level- 1

Hazard: Terrorism

- **Mitigation Project-** Increased school security measures in the cities of Gibbon and Winthrop. City and school officials in these communities may want to consider evaluating the possibility of an attack on school grounds, and if deemed necessary undertake increased security actions to reduce the risks of any form of terror event at these schools.

Timeframe- This project could be undertaken relatively quickly, and could be ongoing from that point, in the form of periodic security evaluations and risk assessments, and appropriate actions may be taken as deemed necessary and appropriate.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- City and school administration in the cities of Gibbon and Winthrop would be responsible for implementing this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- These projects would most likely be paid for by funding available for use by the schools within these communities.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Consider implementing additional security measures at the grain elevator facilities in the cities of Gaylord and Arlington. These communities have indicated that they have some concern regarding an event focusing on such facilities. Using additional security measures (such as improved lighting, additional security staffing, and improved or added locking and other security provisions) as needed would assist in minimizing this threat.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be considered for implementation in the near to moderate future, as circumstances warrant. This strategy should always be available for utilization in times of increased or imminent danger due to terrorism events, or may possibly be considered as an ongoing and permanent strategy as the facilities deem appropriate.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The owners of the facilities would be the primary responsible party for the implementation of this mitigation project, and they may be assisted by city staff as needed.

Possible Funding- Funding for this project would likely come from the companies themselves since they are privately owned.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Consider implementing additional security measures at the ethanol plant facility in the City of Winthrop. This community has indicated that they have some concern regarding an event focusing on this facility. Using additional security measures (such as improved lighting, additional security staffing, and improved or added locking and other security provisions) as needed would assist in minimizing this threat.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be considered for implementation in the near to moderate future, as circumstances warrant. This strategy should always be available for utilization in times of increased or imminent danger due to terrorism events, or may possibly be considered as an ongoing and permanent strategy as the facilities deem appropriate.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- The owners of the facilities would be the primary responsible party for the implementation of this mitigation project, and they may be assisted by city staff as needed.

Possible Funding- Funding for this project would likely come from the companies themselves since they are privately owned.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Develop increased protection measures for residential water supplies, namely wells, in the cities of Green Isle and Winthrop. Additionally, all communities should consider protection and monitoring of their water systems and treatment plants to prevent tampering. External safety measures such as increased

lighting and fencing may be utilized. This mitigation project has the added benefit of reducing the possibility of an accident, particularly when children could possibly access the area.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be undertaken as soon as feasibly possible, and it may take a year or more to be completed by the communities.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Individual communities throughout Sibley County, including Green Isle and Winthrop, would be responsible for implementation of this mitigation project within their respective water systems.

Possible Funding- Funding for these projects would primarily be provided by city funds and perhaps some form of disaster mitigation grants.

Priority Level- 1

- **Mitigation Project-** Countywide coordination and cooperation with State of Minnesota and Federal officials and agencies for continued preparation efforts to face a domestic terrorism event.

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

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- All Sibley County public safety personnel (fire, police, etc.), State of Minnesota Department of Public Safety and other applicable state agencies, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and any other applicable federal agencies would work cooperatively on this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project may come from any and all available funds to any of these agencies.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Consider limiting pedestrian/civilian access to government buildings throughout Sibley County. Government buildings may wish to limit access to either entire buildings or specified areas within these buildings, as officials may deem necessary, such as at times of an increased terror alert level.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be considered for implementation in the near to moderate future, as circumstances warrant. This strategy should always be available for utilization in times of increased or imminent danger due to terrorism events.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- This would depend on the nature of the building, and whether it is a city, county, or state building within Sibley County. Workers in different buildings may not be able to make these decisions for themselves, and may have to receive some form of authorization to undertake this mitigation project.

Possible Funding- Funding for limiting access to governmental buildings could come from a very wide variety of funds, including city and county funding or law enforcement funding.

Priority Level- 2

- **Mitigation Project-** Design new facilities that may face an increased terrorism threat with these dangers in mind, particularly governmental buildings such as the Sibley County Courthouse. These facilities may wish to incorporate design and building elements such as blast-resistant materials and fire suppression systems that can help minimize damage from an attack.

Timeframe- This mitigation project should be considered whenever new buildings are created (or existing buildings are renovated/altered) which may be deemed as facing an increased threat due to their specific nature (such as being a governmental building), and should be considered as ongoing.

Responsible Jurisdictions/Agencies- Cities, Sibley County, architects, engineers, and builders may all have a role in the implementation of buildings designed and constructed to minimize effects of a terrorist attack.

Possible Funding- Funding for this mitigation project would most likely have to be provided via city funds (for municipal buildings) or Sibley County funds (such as changes made to the County Courthouse). Private buildings designed to withstand terrorist attacks would have to be privately funded.