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**WINTER STORM PLAN
MUNICIPALITIES AND RURAL AREAS
OF BOULDER COUNTY**

ANNEX L

I. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Winter storms within Boulder County, accompanied by strong winds and blizzard conditions, have resulted in localized power and phone outages; closures of streets, highways, schools, business, and non-essential government operations. People have been isolated from essential services in their homes and vehicles.

A winter storm may escalate into a catastrophic event paralyzing municipalities, and rural areas for several days. Life threatening situations may occur in which emergency response agencies cannot perform their duties due to extreme weather conditions. Individual jurisdictions may be over-whelmed and need mutual aid assistance.

The intention of this plan is to prepare for, respond to, and recover from, winter storms that threaten life and property. Resources from Municipalities, Towns, the County and State may be utilized by coordination from a central location or Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Planning

Many agencies, jurisdictions, and individuals may be involved in handling a winter storm emergency. Roles and responsibilities of personnel representing various agencies/jurisdictions are defined during an emergency that requires multi-agency coordination of resources.

Individual jurisdictions will prioritize local needs and make decisions on personnel and equipment that may be shared during a major winter storm event. Agency/jurisdiction representatives located at the City/County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), will be apprised of current conditions throughout the County, and allocate resources as requested from the field.

Emergency response to search, rescue, and medical, operations will require priority resource allocation. Moving and sheltering stranded individuals will require the use of 4-wheel drive vehicles and the opening of nearby shelters.

A current list of resources including; emergency

equipment, shelters, supplies, snowplows, 4-wheel drive vehicles, snowmobiles, key personnel, and other critical resources will be maintained by the Office of Emergency Management and made available to the Multiple Agency Coordinating System (MACS) Group located in the EOC.

Public information, emergency declarations, closures, use of resources, and recovery operations decisions will be made by individual jurisdictions and coordinated through the EOC.

II. RED CROSS (LOCATION AND MOVEMENT OF STRANDED MOTORISTS TO SHELTERS)

In the event of a severe winter storm, the Boulder County Branch of the American Red Cross, will activate shelter procedures upon notification of need from Boulder County Emergency Services personnel or the Colorado State Patrol.

To facilitate the transportation of Red Cross equipment and personnel to shelter sites, notice must be given prior to the closure of roads and access ways whenever possible.

Where possible, blankets will be staged at shelter sites for use if Red Cross supplies are delayed or inaccessible.

The American Red Cross cannot take responsibility for a shelter site unless trained Red Cross personnel are on the scene. City or County officials must take responsibility for the grounds until such time that Red Cross trained personnel are able to get to the site.

Transportation of stranded motorists and others to the shelter site should be accomplished through a cooperative effort of Boulder County Emergency Services personnel and the Colorado State Patrol

Winter Storm Shelter Sites and Contacts

Primary Point of Contact: Suzanne Crawford
Disaster Specialist, Boulder County Branch

Office: (303) 442-0577
Pager: (303)-885-7108

Alternate Point of Contact: Brannen Ulrick
Branch Administrator, Boulder County Branch

Office: (303) 442-0577
Home: (303) 554-6290

Winter Storm Shelters:

To activate: Page through BRCC-441-4444

Boulder

Coors Events Center
University of Colorado
950 Regent Drive

Directions:

- 28th Street South
- Turn West onto Colorado Avenue
- Turn South onto Regent Drive
- Center is on East side of street

To Open: Contact University of Colorado Police Department at 492-6666.

Broomfield

Nativity of Our Lord Church and School
900 West Midway Boulevard

Directions:

- US 36 East to Broomfield exit (US287) North
- Turn East onto 120th Street (W. Midway Blvd.)
- Church will be on the South

To Open:

| | | |
|------------|---------------|-------------|
| Primary: | Virginia Beck | W: 469-5171 |
| | | H: 466-7240 |
| Alternate: | Bill Wolf | W: 469-8980 |
| | | H: 430-0774 |

Del Camino

Mountain View Fire Station #2
10971 Weld County Road 13

Directions:

- I-25 to Del Camino exit east
- Station is 2 miles down Road 13

To Open: Call the Boulder County Branch of the Red Cross. Branch will contact the Weld County Chapter to open. Shelter will be run as a cooperative effort.

Note: There are blankets, cots, pillows and food for one meal for 50 people pre-stationed at this facility.

Longmont

Boulder County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall
9597 Nelson Road

Directions:

- Diagonal Hwy (119) to Longmont

- Turn North onto Hover Road
- Turn East onto Nelson Road
- Turn North into County Fairgrounds

To Open: Key is in BRCC lock box. Contact duty manager at 441-4444.

Louisville

Louisville Recreation and Senior Center
900 West Via Appia

Directions:

- Highway 36 South to Louisville exit (McCaslin Blvd.) North
- Turn East on Via Appia
- Center is on the South side of the street

To Open:

| | | |
|------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Primary: | Keith Williams | W: 666-7400 |
| | | Pager: 581-8938 |
| Alternate: | Phillip Cangilla | W: 666-7400 |
| | | H: 761-6701 |

Note: Louisville Volunteer Fire Department (across street from center) has a key in their lock box.

Niwot

Left Hand Grange
197 - 2nd Avenue

Directions:

- Diagonal Hwy (119) to Longmont
- Turn East on Niwot Road
- Turn North on Franklin Street
- Turn West on 2nd Avenue

To Open:

| | | |
|------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Primary: | Mike Holubec | H: 652-2264 |
| | | (Can be paged through MVFPD.) |
| Alternate: | Bill Yoh | H: 652-3358 |

Lyons

Lyons Middle/Senior High School
South 2nd Street

Directions:

- Hwy 36 (Foothills Hwy) North
- Turn West on Hwy 66 (Ute Road) toward Lyons
- Turn South on Park Street
- Turn East on 2nd Street
- School is at the end of the road

To Open:

Primary: Gary Starrett W: 823-6631
H: 651-0956

III. PRIORITIES FOR CLEARANCE OF HIGHWAYS AND STREETS

Under normal circumstances, assigning priorities to the clearance of highways and streets is entirely within each jurisdiction. However, under a Winter Storm Mode 3, an informal agreement exists between all agencies of this plan. Public safety will be best served by a coordinated response of all agencies within the County. Depending on the nature of individual emergencies, the need to move people and priorities of response forces, prioritization of the use of snow removal equipment and allocation of all critical resources and response personnel will be the responsibility of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Personnel representing all of the jurisdictions participating in the emergency will be located in the EOC in the Public Safety Building, 1805 33rd Street in Boulder. The EOC is designated as the focal point for coordinating search and rescue operations and other essential response activities during a severe winter storm. Most municipalities, the County Sheriff's Office and the Broomfield Office of the Colorado State Patrol have agreed to staff this facility during a very severe winter storm emergency.

IV. EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER OPERATIONS

The Multiple Agency Coordinating System (MACS) Group operating in the EOC, will consist of representatives from impacted municipalities, the County, State, and the Office of Emergency Management.

Agency/jurisdiction representatives will be delegated authority to act in behalf of their agency/jurisdiction. Resources available for mutual assistance will be determined by an individual agency/jurisdiction. Resource allocation by MACS will be made by consensus of the group.

Requests from the field will be evaluated, prioritized, and filled according to available resources. Situation and resource status information will be maintained in the EOC.

The MACS Winter Storm Emergency Operations Plan is designed to provide coordination of response and resources during a major winter storm event.

All modes are declared by the Emergency Services Group (the core operational group of the EOC, which

includes representatives from Boulder Police, Boulder Fire, Boulder County Sheriff, City of Boulder Public Works, Boulder Regional Communications, and the Office of Emergency Management) based on the long-term potential of a significant threat to life and/or property and the emergency need for coordination and allocation of City and County resources.

Nothing in these guidelines should prevent any jurisdiction from declaring modes as they see fit.
WINTER STORM MODE 0:

Normal operations.

WINTER STORM MODE 1:

This stage alerts the appropriate local authorities that a snow emergency is possible. It may or may not be snowing at the time this mode is declared.

WINTER STORM MODE 2:

This stage alerts appropriate local authorities that a snow emergency warrants the closure of government offices and only emergency personnel are on duty. The Emergency Operations Center may or may not be activated, contingent upon changing conditions.

Contact the following:

- ____ City Manager's Office
- ____ Boulder County Commissioners
- ____ Other Towns and Municipalities
- ____ Boulder Valley School District
- ____ St. Vrain School District
- ____ Media (through Public Information Office)

From a MACS operational perspective, although this could be an extremely severe storm, it does not pose a catastrophic threat of loss of life or significant property damage.

WINTER STORM MODE 3:

A Mode 3 winter storm is an ongoing winter storm that has seriously disrupted normal functions of municipalities and the County and has the potential to continue until isolation of travelers and citizens is an immediate life threatening situation. It is a storm where search and rescue operations, movement of emergency response agencies to assigned duties and restoration of essential services become the primary focus of the Emergency Operations Center Staff.

This stage covers **only** those conditions which pose a catastrophic threat to life and/or property. As such, the

Emergency Operations Center is fully activated and staffed with the appropriate and available personnel from the Emergency Services Group, Police Departments, Fire Departments, City Manager's Office, Public Information, Public Work Departments, Boulder County Commissioners and other necessary agencies.

As per policy, and to ensure an appropriate response to the emergency situation, the EOC has final control, command and management responsibility for all City and County resources necessary for the response. The EOC is responsible for collecting and disseminating essential information.

WINTER STORM MODE 4:

Demobilization Phase: The immediate threat to life and/or property has subsided.

When actuated this shared organization will collect information from every accessible source, coordinate the actions of all available service workers, procure essential resources and manage the event in its entirety.

In order to realize this obligation *all* municipalities and County resources will be used based on the circumstances at the time. It is therefore highly desirable for all municipalities within the County to be represented on the Emergency Operations Center Staff during a Winter Storm Mode 3 for the purpose of allocating critical resources effectively. (The movement of municipal representatives to the Emergency Operations Center will be given priority status by personnel at the EOC.)

Requests for snow removal will be based on the numbers of possible stranded motorists, emergency medical needs and other unusual situations that fall outside of the normal snow removal policies established by the County and each municipality. All requests will be passed to the Emergency Operations Center Staff for assignment of a priority.

V. COLORADO STATE PATROL

The Broomfield Office of the Colorado State Patrol has agreed to participate in this plan and to assist in establishing priorities for opening roads and highways.

VI. MUNICIPAL POLICE

Each municipal police department has agreed to be

as responsive as possible to the overall needs of the public as determined by the Emergency Operations Center staff. These needs will likely involve search and rescue operations and the movement of people to shelters. Each police department has agreed to prepare specific plans for handling this part of the winter storm plan and to work directly with the American Red Cross and the County Sheriff in establishing priorities for these activities.

VII. MUNICIPAL AND RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Each municipal fire department and rural fire department has agreed to be as responsive as possible to the overall needs of the public as determined by the Emergency Operations Center staff. These needs will likely involve search and rescue operations and the movement of people to shelters. Each department has agreed to prepare specific plans for handling this part of the winter storm plan and to work directly with the American Red Cross and the County Sheriff in establishing priorities for these activities.

VIII. BOULDER COUNTY SHERIFF

As the agency responsible for all search and rescue operations in the unincorporated areas of the County, the Boulder County Sheriff's Office will direct and coordinate all search and rescue operations from the Emergency Operations Center during a severe winter storm.

IX. AMATEUR RADIO SERVICES

Complete and comprehensive plans for providing emergency communications through ham radio clubs is contained in the Emergency Communications Plan written and maintained by Boulder County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (BCARES). This plan specifies the procedures for establishing and maintaining a victims service communication system for handling incoming personal inquiries from throughout the United States concerning the status of local residents. The utilization of emergency ham radio facilities is coordinated through the Emergency Operations Center.

X. EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

County wide Emergency Declarations will be prepared by the Office of Emergency Management for the City and County of Boulder. Other local Emergency

Declarations will originate within each jurisdiction.

XI. DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Complete plans for conducting assessments of damage and reporting to State and Federal agencies concerning the extent of the disaster are contained within the Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP). This section of the LEOP has been coordinated with all jurisdictions within the County. Estimates of times required to restore power and phone communications will be provided by the Public Service Company of Colorado and U S West.

**WINTER STORM PLAN
MUNICIPALITIES AND RURAL AREAS OF BOULDER COUNTY**

ANNEX L

**EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN
BOULDER COUNTY - CITY OF BOULDER**

November 1994