

Memorandum of Support

***Lake County, Illinois
All-Hazards Incident Management Team***

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Support is to describe Lake County's conceptual support for the establishment of a Lake County All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT), Lake County's expectations of a Lake County AHIMT, and a description of the kinds of resources that Lake County will provide in the development and ongoing operation of a Lake County AHIMT.

II. Support for AHIMT Concept

A local All-Hazards Incident Management Team, as described by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is a group of professional managers from a variety of jurisdictions and disciplines that support local organizations in the management of events and emergency or disaster events, in accordance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The AHIMT is not intended to supplant any local authority for the management of an events or incidents, but rather to support the local preparation for, response to, and recovery from events or incidents. AHIMT members have advanced training in the principles of Emergency Management, NIMS, and the Incident Command System (ICS). A local AHIMT is flexible in its structure and operation, and conducts training and exercises with all its partner agencies and jurisdictions to improve the preparedness within the region.

Lake County recognizes the need for and potential benefits of a local AHIMT, and expresses support for the formation of a cross-discipline, cross-jurisdictional AHIMT within Lake County.

III. Expectations of Lake County AHIMT

A. Local Event and Incident Management Support

Lake County recognizes that large or complex events or incidents will present significant challenges to local management capability, and have the potential to overwhelm available resources for that management function. The Lake County AHIMT will be available to support local jurisdictions and organizations in the management of events and incidents. This support is provided by an appropriate number of trained and practiced personnel, who augment local personnel within the local Incident Command Structure, by serving in designated command and general staff positions.

Lake County expects that the AHIMT will support all jurisdictions within the County.

B. Local or County Emergency Operations Center Support

Lake County recognizes that the extended operations necessary to manage widespread or complex events or incidents will present challenges. Local jurisdictions, including Lake County, have limited personnel resources to effectively operate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on an around-the-clock or extended-incident basis. The Lake County AHIMT will be

available to local jurisdictions, including Lake County, in the preparation for, response to, and recovery from complex and widespread events and incidents in the respective EOC(s). Within the EOC(s), the AHIMT may be used to fill command and general staff positions in an established area command structure, to serve as or within a planning cell for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), or to complete other functions in support of the multi-agency coordination mission of the EOC.

Lake County expects that the AHIMT will function as (or as part of) the planning cell within the County EOC during widespread disasters or complex events. Lake County expects that the AHIMT will participate in exercises of the Lake County EOC.

IV. Specific Support for Lake County AHIMT

Lake County Emergency Management Agency

The Lake County Emergency Management Agency will collaborate with other jurisdictions and disciplines throughout Lake County, including but not limited to villages and townships, and law enforcement, fire service, emergency medical, public works, public health, and emergency management organizations, to organize and establish the Lake County All-Hazards Incident Management Team (LCAHIMT).

Lake County Emergency Management Agency will support the formation of the LCAHIMT with personnel and administrative support, including coordination of meetings, facilitation of training and exercises, photocopying and distribution of materials, and related activities.

X. Future Agreement(s) or Memorandum(a) of Understanding

Upon the formal establishment and organization of the Lake County All-Hazards Incident Management Team (LCAHIMT), Lake County and its Emergency Management Agency will consider entering into a formal agreement or memorandum of understanding with the LCAHIMT to clearly define mutual expectations, resources, capabilities, and limitations.

X. Approval of Memorandum of Support

Lake County hereby acknowledges its support for the development of a Lake County All-Hazards Incident Management Team, and directs the Lake County Emergency Management Agency to work with partners from jurisdictions and disciplines across the County to form such a team.

(date)

Suzi Schmidt
Chairman
Lake County Board