ESF-14 Assessment & Recovery
JOHNSON COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Coordinating Agency: Johnson County Emergency Management
Johnson County Planning and Development

Support Agencies:
American Red Cross
City Emergency Management Liaisons
Johnson County Appraiser
Johnson County Automated Information Mapping System (AIMS)
Johnson County Department of Health and Environment
Johnson County Manager’s Office
Kansas Disaster Assessment Team

INTRODUCTION

Purpose
The purpose of ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery is to establish how assessment and recovery activities will be coordinated to meet the needs generated by disasters affecting Johnson County.

Scope
This annex identifies the key policies, concepts of operations, roles and responsibilities, and capabilities associated with assessment and recovery in Johnson County. Specific operating procedures and protocols are addressed in documents maintained by the participating organizations. ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery applies to all individuals and organizations that may be involved in assessment and recovery activities in Johnson County.

For the purpose of this annex, the following items are defined as:

Disaster Assessments: The process of collecting, analyzing, and reporting information about the overall impact and damage caused by a disaster. The mission of the disaster assessment function is to provide timely and accurate decision-making information for disaster response and recovery operations.

Rapid Disaster Assessment: A rapid assessment is a quick evaluation of what has happened and used to help prioritize response activities, allocate resources and determine the immediate need for outside assistance. In most cases, a rapid assessment will be completed within a few hours of the incident.
**Detailed Disaster Assessment:** After the rapid assessment, the disaster assessment process evolves into a more detailed and continued evaluation of the impacts of the disaster. The detailed damage assessment is needed to document the magnitude of public and private damage for planning recovery activities and to justify the need for State and Federal assistance. A detailed damage assessment is also necessary to meet the information needs of the public, elected officials and the media.

**Structural Damage Assessments:** As part of the detailed disaster assessment, structural damage assessment is the process of collecting, analyzing, and reporting information regarding public and private structures damaged by the disaster. This information is necessary to support requests for future planning, response and recovery programs offered at the state and federal levels.

**Recovery:** Recovery consists of the activities that continue beyond the emergency period to restore critical community functions and manage reconstruction. The main goal of the recovery process is to meet the needs of those affected by disaster. This annex outlines the framework of the recovery process and highlights the types of recovery assistance that may be available. Mitigation is only one of several responsibilities to consider during recovery but it is very important to evaluate during the recovery process. Mitigation consists of those activities designed to prevent or reduce losses from disaster.

**SITUATION & ASSUMPTIONS**

In addition to the “Situation and Assumptions” section in the Basic Plan, the Concept of Operations for ESF-14 is based on the following:

**Situation**

**General**

1. As described in the basic plan, there are many hazards that have the potential for causing extensive damage in Johnson County. Damage may involve a wide variety of public and private facilities, homes, businesses, roads, bridges, and other systems, structures, or facilities. Some disasters could affect the ability of business and industry to function, interrupt government services, and other aspects of the community. In such events, assistance will be needed to re-establish vital support systems and to restore the affected parts of the county to pre-disaster or improved conditions.

2. A timely and comprehensive assessment of the disaster and its impacts is essential to identify immediate response actions and the development of recovery initiatives.
Disaster Assessment

1. A disaster requires an accurate assessment of the actual impact on the community. Such an assessment defines the severity and magnitude of loss and helps identify the needs generated by the disaster. This is a key process in caring for the short and long term disaster needs of the community. Additionally, it is imperative that timely and accurate disaster impact information is provided to the State through the County EOC in order to determine if state and/or federal recovery assistance can be made available. The ultimate responsibility of disaster assessment lies with the local governing body.

2. **Disaster Assessment** is the process of collecting, analyzing, and reporting information about the overall impact and damage caused by a disaster. The mission of the disaster assessment function is to provide timely and accurate decision-making information for disaster response and recovery operations. The disaster assessment process includes:

   a. **Rapid Assessment**
      i. City Rapid Assessment
      ii. County Rapid Assessment

   b. **Detailed Disaster Assessment**
      i. City Detailed Assessments
      ii. County Detailed Assessments
      iii. Structural Damage Assessments
         1. Private Structures
         2. Public Structures
         3. Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs)

3. The prompt and accurate assessment of disaster impacts following an incident will be of vital concern to local officials in order to facilitate an effective initial response allowing Johnson County to:
   a. Alleviate human suffering;
   b. Prioritize response operations;
   c. Identify trends, issues and potential problem areas;
   d. Make informed operational decisions regarding public safety;
   e. Request mutual aid;
   f. Allocate resources and personnel to the areas of greatest need;
   g. Minimize response and recovery time;
   h. Document the need for State/Federal assistance;
   i. Mitigate against future disasters;
   j. Plan for long term recovery activities of the whole community, including special needs populations.

4. A **Rapid Assessment** is a quick evaluation of what has happened and is used to prioritize response activities, allocate resources and determine the immediate need for outside assistance. In most cases, a rapid assessment will be completed within a
few hours of the incident. There are two types of Rapid Assessments performed in
Johnson County:

a. **City Rapid Assessment:** Cities are responsible for performing rapid
assessments and providing them to the County within the first few hours of
the onset of a disaster.

b. **County Rapid Assessment:** The County is responsible for performing a
county-wide rapid assessment and providing this information to the State
within the first few hours of the onset of disaster. The County Rapid
Assessment will reflect information from city rapid assessments and
additional information provided by response organizations, ESF Teams, the
public, the ECC, and the media.

5. **Detailed Disaster Assessment:** After the rapid assessment, the disaster
assessment process evolves into a more detailed and continued evaluation of
the impacts of the disaster. The detailed damage assessment is needed to document the
magnitude of public and private damage for planning recovery activities and to
justify the need for State and Federal assistance. A detailed disaster assessment is
also necessary to meet the information needs of the public, elected officials and the
media. The following are various types of detailed disaster assessments:

a. **City Detailed Disaster Assessments:** Cities are responsible for performing
detailed assessments and providing them to the County as requested.

b. **County Detailed Disaster Assessments:** The County is responsible for
performing a county-wide detailed assessment and providing this
information to the State as requested. The County Detailed Disaster
Assessment will reflect information from the structural damage assessment
process, city detailed disaster assessments and additional information
provided by response organizations, ESF Teams, and other trusted sources.

c. **Structural Damage Assessment:** As part of the detailed disaster
assessment, damage assessment is the process of collecting, analyzing, and
reporting information regarding public and private structures damaged by
the disaster. This information is necessary to support requests for future
planning, response and recovery programs offered at the state and federal
levels.

6. Following significant disasters, a multitude of independent damage assessment
activities will be conducted by a variety of organizations including City, County,
State, and/or Federal Disaster Assessment Teams, insurance companies, utility
companies, the American Red Cross, and others.

7. Both rapid and detailed assessments will consider private property damage
(i.e., losses by persons and damage to residences and small businesses), as well as public damage (i.e., damage to infrastructure, including, but not limited to, roads, bridges, utilities, government facilities and private not for profit entities).

8. Structural Damage Assessment training is coordinated through and provided by the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, the Heart of America Chapter of International Code Council, and the Kansas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

9. In most cases, a structural damage assessment will be completed within a few days of the incident (normally, within 48-hours), while other detailed assessments might take several weeks. If the event is overwhelming enough to be considered catastrophic, a detailed damage assessment may be completed as part of the recovery process.

10. Johnson County will work closely with the cities and Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM) throughout the damage assessment process. Damage Assessment Teams and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will use disaster assessment forms consistent with those developed by KDEM to ensure a standard reporting method is used and that all damage assessment activities are conducted in accordance with State and Federal requirements.

11. Safety of all assessment teams is paramount. Disaster circumstances require precautionary measures beyond that of normal activities. Assessment teams can expect to experience trip/fall hazards, structural hazards, transportation hazards, loose animals, people defending property, and others.

**Recovery**

1. Recovery activities refer to actions by disaster victims that enable them to begin the process of rebuilding their homes; replacing property; resuming employment; restoring their businesses; permanently repairing, rebuilding, or relocating public infrastructure; and mitigating future disaster losses.

2. Immediately after any disaster, response activities to save lives and protect property will have the highest priority. However, recovery activities can be conducted concurrently (with response) and should commence as soon as possible. Gradually, as the requirement for emergency response diminishes, the need for recovery activities will become the focal point.

3. The recovery process begins with pre-incident planning and becomes operational when a disaster occurs. Johnson County Emergency Management (JCEM) is responsible for coordinating pre-incident interagency recovery planning. This planning identifies strategic priorities and guidelines, estimates possible needs and available assistance, and addresses hazard mitigation initiatives.
4. Recovery activities also refer to state and federal government programs of assistance, support, and technical services that facilitate disaster victims’ recovery actions — such as federal grants and low-interest loans for repair or replacement of homes, businesses, property and infrastructure; for technical assistance, education and public information.

5. There are a number of state and federal programs that may be available to assist Johnson County following a disaster.

6. All recovery activities and assistance will be based on information gathered through a county wide damage assessment as outlined in this plan.

7. Accurate response documentation and expenditure records must be kept from the onset of the disaster by each response organization as they are essential to document the need for state and/or federal assistance and are required to obtain a federal disaster declaration.

8. Johnson County recognizes mitigation as an important part of recovery and when possible, will rebuild in a way that reduces or eliminates the impact of future disasters. Mitigation will be included as part of the damage assessment process and when practical, mitigation initiatives will be incorporated into construction projects and land redevelopment.

9. Hazard Mitigation Assistance: Assistance may also be made available for hazard mitigation projects and activities. Through technical assistance and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), FEMA can assist local jurisdictions and eligible nongovernmental organizations in identifying and implementing appropriate measures to reduce the severity of future disasters. The HMGP can fund up to 75% of the cost of approved projects.

Assumptions

Disaster Assessment

1. Initial disaster reports may be fragmented and/or inaccurate, providing an incomplete picture of the extent and magnitude of the impact.

2. Emergency responders, who must focus on saving lives, and property, may initially find it difficult to provide damage information and reports. Without solid information as to the nature and extent of the disaster and a description of the affected area, the Johnson County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will have a difficult time establishing priorities and providing adequate support.

3. Disaster assessment activities may be required in a specific location or may be required region or state-wide, limiting the resources available to assist with local efforts.
4. Delayed assessments may cause hardships as well as erode confidence in the ability of the community to react in the time of disaster.

5. Transportation and communications systems may be severely disrupted or inoperable. Damage assessment teams may require assistance from responders to safely perform damage assessment duties.

6. If the situation dictates, state and federal resources may be available to assist with the damage assessment process.

Recovery

1. A major disaster could have significant long-term economic, social, and cultural impacts on Johnson County. Recovery from disasters may involve actions and resources from city, county, state, and/or federal government to return the situation to pre-disaster or improved conditions.

2. Johnson County will gather cost information for disaster impacts and response in order to be prepared under certain conditions to seek inclusion in a Presidential Declaration. This will allow for requests for assistance in the form of federal emergency funds and equipment where available.

3. Depending on the type and scope of the incident, federal resources and/or funds may be available for public and/or private (individual and businesses) assistance.

4. Resources available under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (the Stafford Act) will provide only part of the Federal financial resources package needed for recovery. Other Federal agencies, acting under their own authorities and supplemental appropriations from Congress, will provide other resources that must be integrated into the recovery planning and execution process.

5. Long-term recovery planning and activities should include mitigation efforts to reduce the potential hazard of similar disasters in the future.

6. Many types of public, private, and volunteer assistance will be offered following an extreme emergency that will involve unique management challenges and further test county sheltering and feeding capacities.

7. Depending on the incident, it may be more appropriate for some recovery functions to be tasked to a specific county department rather than an EOC section. Specially qualified persons/agencies from the public and private sectors may be appointed to perform functions unique to large-scale recovery operations.

8. Disaster victims will generally seek to remain in their communities. If they cannot do so, they may choose to leave the area permanently. This potential loss of
residents, and the corresponding economic and social disruption, may influence short-term recovery decisions.

9. Local governments will be forced to balance the need to recover as soon as possible to preserve their social and economic systems with the competing need to develop communities that are more disaster-resistant. This tension will affect how recovery resources will be used and how recovery programs will be managed.

10. Local governments will face challenges initiating recovery while they directly address the immediate needs of their citizens, work within significant fiscal constraints, and address shortages of staff (who also may have been affected by an incident). Especially hard hit communities may need extensive planning, engineering, environmental, and financial assistance to succeed during the recovery process.

11. Recovery will begin at different times and proceed at different rates throughout the affected region, depending upon the severity of impacts and localized effects of the incident. Consequently, response and recovery will occur simultaneously — a process which governmental mechanisms must be prepared to support.

12. Building codes and permitting processes will play a significant role in the recovery process. To the extent that these impacts can be understood and addressed in advance, the rate and quality of recovery will be enhanced.

**CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

**General**

1. Johnson County Planning and Development will be the Coordinating Agency leading the assessment process. Both Johnson County Emergency Management and Johnson County Planning and Development will partner as the Coordinating Agencies for recovery efforts within ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery. They will work with the supporting agencies to complete the ESF-14 mission.

2. The mission of ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery is to ensure the provision and coordination of assessment and recovery activities required to meet the needs generated by disaster affecting Johnson County. When the ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery Team is activated in the Johnson County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the ESF-14 Team will orchestrate the countywide coordination required to fulfill the mission of ESF-14. These activities include but are not limited to:
   a. Establish and maintain operational awareness of assessments and recovery through direct communications links with operational units in the field and/or their appropriate coordinating entities (Incident Command in the field, cities, other ESF Teams, Departmental Operating Centers [DOCs], etc.);
b. Conduct assessment and recovery data gathering and analysis, prioritize ESF-14 operational objectives in alignment with the EOC Action Plan, and coordinate ESF-14 county-wide response activities;

c. Collect and analyze information relevant to ESF-14 and report in WebEOC and EOC documents including EOC Action Plans and Situational Reports;

d. Receive, manage, & track resource requests for ESF-14;

e. Ensure full coordination of activities with other groups within the EOC to assist in the development and maintenance of a common operating picture.

f. ESF-14 Team will work to determine the need to develop and implement community recovery and economic stabilization strategies. Consideration should be given to augmenting or expanding existing programs to meet disaster needs.

3. During a disaster declaration, every person performing clean-up, debris removal, or the repair of maintenance of any structure within an area designated in the declaration of a state of disaster shall perform mandatory registration with the county in accordance with Johnson County Resolution 44-01.

4. All individuals/organizations involved in disaster response should collect and record information on the utilization of labor, materials, equipment, and disaster-related costs.

Disaster Assessment

1. At the onset of a disaster, Johnson County Emergency Management (or ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery when activated) will begin to collect disaster impact information from response organizations, cities, county departments, and other sources.

2. Johnson County Emergency Management (or ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery when activated) will initiate a county-wide rapid assessment, when deemed necessary.

3. A Rapid Assessment is a quick evaluation of what has happened and is used to prioritize response activities, allocate resources and determine the immediate need for outside assistance. The purpose of RA is not to estimate the dollar value of the damage, but to assess the nature, magnitude and scope of the event so that the decision makers can assign the appropriate priorities to their response and request outside resources that are the most beneficial and most needed. In most cases, a rapid assessment will be completed within a few hours of the incident. There are two types of Rapid Assessments performed in Johnson County:

   a. City Rapid Assessment: Cities are responsible for performing rapid assessments and providing them to the County within the first few hours of the onset of a disaster.
b. **County Rapid Assessment:** The County is responsible for performing a county-wide rapid assessment and providing this information to the State within the first few hours of the onset of disaster. The County Rapid Assessment will reflect information from city rapid assessments and additional information provided by response organizations, ESF Teams, the public, the ECC, and the media.

4. During rapid damage assessments, emphasis will be placed on collecting and organizing information in a manner that will facilitate timely decision making. This will allow both field personnel and the EOC to:
   
   a. Make informed operational decisions regarding public safety;
   b. Set response priorities;
   c. Allocate resources and personnel to the areas of greatest need;
   d. Identify trends, issues and potential problem areas;
   e. Plan for ongoing operations.

5. The rapid damage assessment will include information regarding the:
   
   a. Area or jurisdiction affected
   b. Known injuries
   c. Known fatalities
   d. Critical facilities damaged or destroyed
   e. Evacuations
   f. Response capabilities impacted
   g. County emergency declared
   h. Mutual aid activated
   i. Any state or federal resources anticipated

6. The Rapid Assessment process includes the following steps:
   
   a. JCEM (or EF-14 Assessment and Recovery when activated) will request rapid assessment data from the cities (via the City Emergency Management Liaisons) and/or other sources.
   b. Rapid Assessments are performed throughout the county and provided to JCEM (or ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery when activated).
   c. JCEM (or ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery when activated) will analyze, consolidate, and provide to the State using forms consistent with those developed by KDEM.

7. Visual rapid assessments, when required, will most likely be accomplished by driving through affected areas; however walking or the use of aircraft is acceptable if required.

8. Depending on the severity and scope of the damage, security support from law enforcement agencies may be needed.
9. If local resources are insufficient to meet initial damage assessment needs in a timely manner, assistance may be requested through the JCEM (or ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery when activated). The County will work to ensure additional assistance is provided when needed (either through utilization of County resources, mutual aid, or requesting assistance from the State).

10. In most cases, enough initial assessment information will come from first responders already in the field. But if the situation dictates, personnel may be deployed specifically to conduct damage assessments and to report information to the EOC as quickly as possible.

11. In some situations, county personnel may be deployed specifically to conduct rapid disaster assessments and to report information to the EOC as quickly as possible.

12. In most cases, the American Red Cross (ARC) and other volunteer organizations will also conduct assessments to determine the immediate needs of people affected by the disaster. The County will work closely with the ARC to share assessment information. Depending on the event, the ARC and members of the private sector may partner with the County to conduct joint disaster assessments.

**Detailed Disaster Assessment**

1. **Detailed Disaster Assessment:** After the rapid assessment, the disaster assessment process evolves into a more detailed and continued evaluation of the impacts of the disaster. Detailed disaster assessments will generally begin following the completion of response activities to protect life and property or will be completed as additional disaster assessment information becomes available. Depending on the magnitude of the disaster, a detailed disaster assessment could last for days or even weeks. The detailed damage assessment is needed to document the magnitude of public and private damage for planning recovery activities and to justify the need for State and Federal assistance. A detailed disaster assessment is also necessary to meet the information needs of the public, elected officials and the media. The following are various types of detailed disaster assessments:

   a. **City Detailed Disaster Assessments:** Cities are responsible for performing detailed assessments and providing them to the County EOC.

   b. **County Detailed Disaster Assessments:** The County is responsible for performing a county-wide detailed assessment and providing this information to the State as requested. The County Detailed Disaster Assessment will reflect information from the structural damage assessment process, city detailed disaster assessments and additional information provided by response organizations, ESF Teams, the public, the ECC, and the media.
2. During detailed damage assessments, emphasis will be placed on collecting and organizing information in a manner that will allow the EOC to:

   a. Evaluate the overall total scope, magnitude and impact of the incident;
   b. Prioritize recovery activities;
   c. Plan for ongoing recovery and restoration activities;
   d. Project the total costs of long-term recovery;
   e. Document the need for supplemental assistance.

3. Detailed assessments will include information regarding the:

   a. Number of persons affected in disaster area (evacuated, in shelters, confirmed injured, confirmed fatalities, missing persons)
   b. Number of shelters open
   c. Number of homes and businesses with damage
      i. Destroyed, Major, Minor, Affected, Uninsured loss
   d. Number of homes in flood plain
   e. Number of acres burned
   f. Number of critical care facilities damaged
      i. Hospitals, Assisted living facilities
   g. Number of municipally or county owned facilities
      i. Fire, police, city hall, schools
      ii. Road, bridge, infrastructure damage
      iii. Road closures
   h. Utility damage
      i. Power, Water, County declaration issued
   i. Additional information on disaster impacts, as applicable
      i. Demographics of the community
      ii. Economic impact on the community
      iii. County declaration issued

4. As part of the detailed disaster assessment, damage assessment is the process of collecting, analyzing, and reporting information regarding public and private structures damaged by the disaster. This information is necessary to support requests for future planning, response and recovery programs offered at the state and federal levels.

5. Structural Damage Assessment will be performed by teams formed by each city having jurisdiction and by the Johnson County Planning and Development Department for the unincorporated areas of the county.

6. Cities in Johnson County are responsible for the following damage assessment activities:
a. Notify the county EOC immediately of the need for assistance to perform
damage assessments;
b. Provide a liaison to the Damage Assessment Coordination Team in the county
EOC as needed;
c. Provide Rapid Disaster Assessment Reports and Detailed Disaster Reports to
the county EOC.

7. Johnson County Planning and Development is responsible for coordinating damage
assessment county-wide by:

a. Assisting incorporated cities to determine pre-disaster appraised values for
real property (land improvements and structure), in partnership with
Johnson County Appraisers Office using Johnson County’s Automated
Information Mapping System (AIMS);
b. Providing the same information to damage assessment teams fielded by
county departments assessing damage for unincorporated areas;
c. Assisting in providing support teams for county teams through coordination
with the State Disaster Assessment Program when dictated by the size of the
disaster.

8. The ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery Team will decide when the situation allows
for structural damage assessments. Johnson County Damage Assessment teams will
include Johnson County Planning and Development experts, in partnership with city
and jurisdictional building officials. The Johnson County Planning and Development
will contact, organize, brief and deploy detailed damage assessment field teams in
the unincorporated areas of the county. In the Cities, the Mayor or designated
personnel will make this determination. In most cases, field assessment teams will
be deployed to the damaged areas to gather information and report it to the EOC for
analysis and reporting.

9. Johnson County will work closely with Kansas Division of Emergency Management
(KDEM) throughout the damage assessment process. Damage Assessment Teams
and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will use disaster assessment forms
consistent with those developed by KDEM to ensure a standard reporting method is
used and that all damage assessment activities are conducted in accordance with
State and Federal requirements. These forms are available to the ESF-14
Assessment and Recovery Team.

10. Based on information gathered during the damage assessment phase, the EOC
damage assessment coordinators will decide when and where to conduct detailed
damage assessments. In most cases, detailed damage assessments will be
conducted jointly with KDEM and, based on the results, a decision will be made
whether or not to request a joint local/State/Federal Preliminary Damage
Assessment (PDA) to document the potential need for Federal assistance.
11. If the scope of damage dictates, a local/State/Federal Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) will be initiated to determine the need for supplemental State and/or Federal disaster assistance. A PDA will normally be initiated by KDEM based on the results of local damage assessments and completed within 72 hours of the disaster onset.

12. In addition to field assessments, it may be necessary for the Johnson County Planning and Development to assign personnel to estimate projected disaster costs to determine the need for State and Federal assistance. For example, the total cost of a large debris removal and disposal operation may be projected based on formulas applied to data already gathered from the field and the ESF-3 Public Works and Engineering team.

13. Based on the extent and magnitude of the event and the information needs of the EOC, damage assessments may be conducted using the air reconnaissance (i.e., helicopter fly-over) capabilities of the Kansas Highway Patrol, the National Guard, the local media or neighboring jurisdictions.

14. Johnson County Automated Information Mapping System (AIMS) will map the damaged area(s) to the extent possible and use the capabilities of WebEOC and AIMS to display and distribute information in a useful manner.

15. Damage to the environment from a chemical, biological and/or radiological disaster will be assessed in the following manner:

   Environmental contamination of water and air will be determined by JCDHE environmental specialists in conjunction with KDHE and EPA as needed. Exposure to chemical, biological and/or radiological materials will be determined by hazardous material technicians with specialized training and equipment to make those determinations.

**Recovery**

1. Immediately after any disaster, response activities to save lives and protect property will have the highest priority. However, recovery activities can be conducted concurrently (with response) and should commence as soon as possible. Gradually, as the requirement for emergency response diminishes, the need for recovery activities will become the focal point.

2. Impacted jurisdictions should notify Johnson County Emergency Management, or the EOC (when activated), of estimated costs and damages.

3. Based on a comprehensive assessment of the situation, JCEM will coordinate with the appropriate agencies/organizations to develop and implement the overall strategy and specific recovery initiatives necessary to meet the needs of the county.
4. The following tenets should guide the development of strategic priorities and recovery initiatives:

   a. All recovery initiatives will be based on and prioritized by the verified needs generated by disaster (identified through the disaster assessment process).

   b. A wide range of participants and stakeholders should be included in the collaboration and development of recovery initiatives. By engaging the appropriate decision makers and stakeholders a better understanding of the needs and issues can be achieved and more effective solutions can be identified.

   c. In addition to meeting the needs generated by a disaster, recovery initiatives should also seek to achieve sustainability through additional community goals and priorities (i.e. economic, social, environmental, etc.). By recognizing these types of opportunities, community goals can be strengthened or improved through the recovery process. Using this holistic approach will insure that the community’s overall best interests are addressed.

   d. A unique opportunity to prevent and/or lessen the affects of future disasters is presented after a disaster. Federal funding though the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and peaked interest in the community allows for new mitigation projects to be developed and implemented. Opportunities for mitigation should be considered throughout the recovery process.

   e. Throughout the recovery process the public should be kept well informed on the status of recovery efforts. Specifically, the public should have accurate and timely information on the recovery activities taking place, the assistance available to those in need, and any actions to be taken by the public. This process will be coordinated through the County PIO as detailed in ESF-15 Public Information of this plan.

5. For recovery and mitigation activities, the ESF -14 Assessment and Recovery Team will:

   a. Work to establish a partnership with business and industry to help ensure all available programs are implemented to assist with economic stabilization and recovery;

   b. Serve as liaisons to State, Federal, volunteer and private agencies providing assistance and implementing recovery programs. Depending on the type, scope and duration of the event, these agency representatives may become critical members of the County's recovery team;
c. Work with State and Federal officials ensure that mitigation initiatives are considered in rebuilding and redevelopment when feasible and practical;

d. Coordinate with neighborhood groups and volunteer agencies to ensure community needs related to the disaster have been identified and appropriate local, State and Federal assistance is made available to address important community issues.

6. Many programs currently exist (or will be put into place) to assist those affected by disaster. Depending on the disaster, the amount of assistance available and the eligibility for assistance will vary. In any event, JCEM and ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery will seek out, coordinate, and promote all assistance available to those in need.

7. Coordination with state and federal government for assistance is paramount throughout the recovery process. JCEM will work with the appropriate state and federal agencies to insure that all available assistance is made accessible to those eligible. When federal assistance is made available it will be provided to those eligible through the cooperative efforts of the federal, state, and county governments.

   a. Point of Contact: JCEM will be the county point of contact to coordinate state and federal assistance.

   b. Documentation: Eligibility for federal assistance is dependent on accurate documentation. Through the EOC, JCEM will insure that the proper documentation is provided to the appropriate entities.

   c. Grant Applications: JCEM (and/or designated functions within the EOC) will assist applicants in providing the documentation needed to apply for and obtain assistance.

   d. Costs: All costs associated with disaster should be fully documented to insure full reimbursement for eligible expenses. Each agency, department, or organization is responsible for documenting these costs.

   e. Logistics: If needed, JCEM will assist state and federal entities in establishing Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC), Joint Field Office, or other temporary assistance centers to facilitate the delivery of assistance.

   f. Facilitation: JCEM will assist with assist state and federal entities with organizing and facilitating the various meetings needed to administer assistance.

8. Damage from a disaster can generate a great need for assistance. Various assistance programs are available to those who need assistance after a disaster. The following Assistance is Available With or Without a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

   a. Federal Assistance: Many federal establishments may be able to provide assistance without a presidential declaration. The following types of federal assistance may be provided when it is lifesaving assistance or performed under specific agency statutory authorities:
- Search and Rescue (US Coast Guard)
- Flood Protection (US Army Corps of Engineers)
- Fire Suppression (FEMA and individual states)
- Health and Welfare (US Health and Human Services)
- Emergency Conservation (Farm Service Agency)
- Emergency Loans for Agriculture (Farm Service Agency)
- Disaster Loans for Homeowners and Business (Small Business Administration)
- Repairs to Federal Aid System Roads (US Department of Transportation)
- Tax Refunds (Internal Revenue Service)
- Pre-declaration Emergency Assistance (Department of Defense)

b. Nongovernmental Assistance: After an emergency/disaster, individuals and families may have emergency needs such as food, water, medical assistance, sheltering, clean up help, clothing, and transportation. Multiple nongovernmental organizations are available to assist Johnson County residents with these needs. Many of these organizations coordinate their efforts through the Kansas City Regional Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (KCVOAD). Through the KCVOAD, organizations combine resources, identify unmet needs, and limit the duplication of effort. The Human Needs Group in the EOC will work with the KCVOAD and/or specific community organizations to match available assistance with those affected by disaster. This coordination can be provided prior to, or without a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

9. Once a Presidential Disaster Declaration is made, there are many federal resources made available to assist residents and businesses affected by the disaster. This assistance is managed through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and falls into the following eight categories:

a. Low-Interest Loans: Most, but not all, federal assistance is in the form of low interest loans to cover expenses not covered by state or local programs, or private insurance. People who do not qualify for loans may be able to apply for a cash grant. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Small Business Administration (SBA), offer low interest loans to eligible individuals, farmers and businesses to repair or replace damaged property and personal belongings not covered by insurance.

i. Assistance for Individuals and Households: This program, which may include cash grants available to the individual or household, includes:
- Housing Assistance
- Lodging expenses reimbursement (for a hotel or motel)
- Rental assistance (cash payment for a temporary rental unit or a manufactured home)
- Home repair cash grant
- Home replacement cash grant
- Permanent housing construction in rare circumstances
- Other Needs Assistance
- Medical, dental, funeral costs
- Transportation costs
- Other disaster-related needs

b. **Veterans Benefits:** The Department of Veterans' Affairs provides death benefits, pensions, insurance settlements and adjustments to home mortgages for veterans.

c. **Tax Refunds:** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) allows certain casualty losses to be deducted on federal income tax returns for the year of the loss or through an immediate amendment to the previous year's return.

d. **Excise Tax Relief:** Businesses may file claims with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) for payment of federal excise taxes paid on alcoholic beverages or tobacco products lost, rendered unmarketable or condemned by a duly authorized official under various circumstances, including where the President has declared a major disaster.

e. **Unemployment Benefits:** Disaster Unemployment assistance and unemployment insurance benefits may be available through the state unemployment office and supported by the U.S. Department of Labor.

f. **Crisis Counseling:** The purpose of the crisis counseling program is to help relieve any grieving, stress, or mental health problems caused or aggravated by the disaster or its aftermath. These short-term services, provided by FEMA as supplemental funds granted to state and local mental health agencies, are only available to eligible survivors of Presidentially-declared major disasters. Crisis counselors are often on-hand at Disaster Recovery Centers (when they are established). Eligible survivors may also learn more about where crisis counseling services are available via the media, and FEMA’s Recovery Times newsletters. Crisis counseling services are also offered by the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and other nongovernmental organizations.

g. **Free Legal Counseling:** The Young Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association, through an agreement with FEMA, provides free legal advice for low-income individuals regarding cases that will not produce a fee (i.e., those cases where attorneys are paid part of the settlement which is awarded by the court). Cases that may generate a fee are turned over to the local lawyer referral service.

10. The Public Assistance Program offered by FEMA after a Presidential Declaration provides supplemental federal disaster grant assistance for the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and the facilities of certain private nongovernmental organizations. The federal share of assistance is not less than 75% of the eligible cost for emergency measures and permanent restoration. The state determines how the non-federal share (up to 25%) is split with the applicants.
a. To be eligible, the work must be required as the result of the disaster, be located within the designated disaster area, and be the legal responsibility of an eligible applicant. Work that is eligible for supplemental federal disaster grant assistance is classified as either emergency work or permanent work. The Proclamation of a State Disaster issued by the Governor may suspend selected rules and regulations that affect support operations. The Coordinating agency will determine the specific impact of the situation and inform the ESF group members.

11. FEMA’s Public Assistance Program is the primary source of grants to state & local governments for emergency work such as debris removal, evacuations, sandbagging, search & rescue operations and security. These governments, as well as certain nongovernmental organizations, are also eligible for FEMA grants to repair or replace public facilities that are not covered by other federal agency programs when a Presidential Declaration is in effect.

a. Emergency Work:

   i. Debris removal from public roads and rights-of-way as well as from private property when determined to be in the public interest.
   ii. Emergency protective measures performed to eliminate or reduce immediate threats to the public, including search and rescue, warning of hazards, and demolition of unsafe structures.

b. Permanent Work:

   i. Work to restore an eligible damaged facility to its pre-disaster design. Work ranges from minor repairs to replacement.
   ii. Categories of permanent work include:
      ▪ Roads, bridges and associated features, such as shoulders, ditches, culverts, lighting and signs.
      ▪ Water Control Facilities including drainage channels, pumping facilities, and the emergency repair of levees.
      ▪ Buildings including their contents and systems.
      ▪ Utility Distribution Systems, such as water treatment and delivery systems; power generation facilities and distribution lines; and sewage collection and treatment facilities.
      ▪ Public Parks, Recreational Facilities and other facilities, including playgrounds, swimming pools and cemeteries.

12. Assistance may also be made available for hazard mitigation projects and activities. Through technical assistance and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP),
FEMA can assist local jurisdictions and eligible nongovernmental organizations in identifying and implementing appropriate measures to reduce the severity of future disasters. The HMGP can fund up to 75% of the cost of approved projects.

**ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

**ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery Team**

| Coordinating Agency | Johnson County Emergency Management  
|                     | Johnson County Planning and Development |

| Support Agencies | American Red Cross  
|                  | City Emergency Management Liaison  
|                  | Johnson County Appraiser  
|                  | Johnson County Automated Information Mapping System-AIMS  
|                  | Johnson County Health and Environment  
|                  | Johnson County Manager's Office |

Johnson County utilizes the Recovery Support Function (RSF) Structure to help focus on community recovery needs.

The RSFs are organized into six manageable components and through the RSFs, relevant stakeholders and experts are brought together during steady-state planning and when activated post-disaster to identify and resolve recovery challenges. RSFs and stakeholders organize and request assistance and/or contribute resources and solutions. Together, these RSFs help facilitate local stakeholder participation and promote intergovernmental and public-private partnerships.

In Johnson County, each RSF has an ESF lead to help manage the coordination.

1. **COMMUNITY PLANNING AND CAPACITY BUILDING (ESF 5)**

The core recovery capability for community planning is the ability to effectively plan and implement disaster recovery activities, engaging the whole community to achieve their objectives and increase resilience. The Community Planning and Capacity Building RSF unifies and coordinates expertise and assistance programs to aid in restoring and improving the ability of Johnson County to organize, plan, manage and implement recovery. The RSF assists the County in developing a pre- and post-disaster system of support for their communities. This RSF also has an emphasis on integration of hazard mitigation throughout the continuum of pre- and post-disaster recovery planning and implementation. The RSF also serves as a forum for helping to integrate the nongovernmental and private sector resources into public sector recovery planning processes.

2. **ECONOMIC RECOVERY (ESF 7)**

The core recovery capability for economic recovery is the ability to return economic and business activities (including agricultural) to a state of health and develop new economic opportunities that result in a sustainable and economically viable community. Economic recovery is a critical and integral part of recovery. Disasters not only damage property, but also entire markets for goods and services. The speed and effectiveness of returning a community to self-sufficiency and vitality depend upon quickly adapting to changed market conditions, reopening businesses and/or establishing new businesses. Businesses employ workers, provide for community needs and services and generate revenue once again, allowing the community, both its members and government, to provide for itself.
3. HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES (ESF 6 and ESF 8)
   The core recovery capability for health and social services is the ability to restore and improve health and social services networks to promote the resilience, health, independence and well being of the whole community. The Health and Social Services RSF outlines the framework to support locally-led recovery efforts to address public health, health care facilities and coalitions, and essential social services needs. For the purposes of this RSF, the use of the term health will refer to and include public health, behavioral health and medical services.

4. HOUSING (ESF 5 and ESF 6)
   The core recovery capability for housing is the ability to implement housing solutions that effectively support the needs of the whole community and contribute to its sustainability and resilience. Like infrastructure and safety services, housing is a critical and often challenging component of disaster recovery. It is critical because local economies cannot recover from devastating disasters without adequate housing, especially affordable housing. It is challenging because many years’ worth of housing repair, rehabilitation, reconstruction and new construction often need to occur at an accelerated pace as a result of a disaster. These conditions create design, construction, labor, materials, logistics, inspection and financing issues.

5. INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS (ESF 12)
   The core recovery capability for infrastructure systems is the ability to efficiently restore the infrastructure systems and services to support a viable, sustainable community and improves resilience to and protection from future hazards. The Infrastructure Systems Recovery Support Function promotes a holistic approach to disaster recovery coordination, support, planning and implementation for infrastructure systems that serve the community. This includes single and multijurisdictional areas and regions.

6. NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES (ESF 11)
   The core recovery capability for natural and cultural resources is the ability to protect natural and cultural resources and historic properties through appropriate response and recovery actions to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, and restore them consistent with post-disaster community priorities and in compliance with appropriate environmental and cultural resources laws. The Natural and Cultural Resources Recovery Support Function coordinates departments and agencies working together to provide information and assistance to communities seeking to preserve, protect, conserve, rehabilitate, recover and restore natural and cultural resources during recovery.

### Preparedness
- Review the ESF-14 Annex annually and update as needed
- Continually evaluate the capabilities required to accomplish the ESF-14 mission, identify any gaps, and leverage resources to address them
- Manage the resolution of ESF-14 after-action issues
- Develop and/or participate in relevant ESF related planning, training, and exercise activities at the local, regional, state, and/or federal level
- Ensure necessary supplements to the ESF-14 are developed and maintained (including emergency contact lists, resource lists, departmental/functional plans, procedures, protocols, & EOC job aids)
- Ensure representatives from the Coordinating Agency and Support Agencies are fully trained and prepared to respond to the County EOC as ESF-14 Team Members

### Response
- Establish and maintain operational awareness of assessments and recovery through direct communications links with operational units in the field and/or their appropriate
coordinating entities (Incident Command in the field, cities, other ESF Teams, Departmental Operating Centers [DOCs], etc.):
• Conduct assessment and recovery data gathering and analysis, prioritize ESF-14 operational objectives in alignment with the EOC Action Plan, and coordinate ESF-14 county-wide response activities;
• Collect and analyze information relevant to ESF-14 and report in WebEOC and EOC documents including EOC Action Plans and Situational Reports;
• Receive, manage, & track resource requests for ESF-14;
• Ensure full coordination of activities with other groups within the EOC to assist in the development and maintenance of a common operating picture.
• ESF-14 Team will work to determine the need to develop and implement community recovery and economic stabilization strategies. Consideration should be given to augmenting or expanding existing programs to meet disaster needs.

| Recovery | • Coordinate the ESF-14 support of recovery activities
• Coordinate the restoration of ESF-14 resources and/or capabilities as needed
• Ensure ESF-14 Team Members and/or their agencies provide appropriate records of costs incurred
• Conduct an ESF-14 after action review |
| Mitigation | • Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents |

### ESF-14 Assessment and Recovery Coordinating Agency Responsibilities

#### Johnson County Emergency Management

| Preparedness | • Ensure each of the preparedness responsibilities identified for the County ESF-14 Team (listed above) are accomplished
• Maintain an inventory of agency resources
• Maintain emergency contact information |
| Response | • Provide ESF-14 support in emergency/disasters, in accordance with departmental operations guides & protocols, existing MOUs & agreements, and the ESF-14 Annex.
• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-14 mission
• Ensure each of the response responsibilities identified for the County ESF-14 Team (listed above) are accomplished regardless of the activation/staffing level of the County EOC
• Arrange for appropriate staffing of the County ESF-14 Team in the EOC throughout activations
• Coordinate the ESF-14 Team activities in the County EOC |
| Recovery | • Coordinate the ESF-14 support of recovery activities
• Coordinate the restoration of ESF-14 resources and/or capabilities as needed
• Ensure ESF-14 Team Members and/or their agencies provide appropriate records of costs incurred
• Conduct an ESF-14 after action review |
| Mitigation | • Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents |

#### Johnson County Planning and Development

| Preparedness | • Ensure each of the preparedness responsibilities identified for the County ESF-14 Team (listed above) are accomplished
• Maintain an inventory of agency resources
• Maintain emergency contact information |
| Response | • Provide ESF-14 support in emergency/disasters, in accordance with departmental operations guides & protocols, existing MOUs & agreements, and the ESF-14 Annex.
• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-14 mission |
• Ensure each of the response responsibilities identified for the County ESF-14 Team (listed above) are accomplished regardless of the activation/staffing level of the County EOC
• Arrange for appropriate staffing of the County ESF-14 Team in the EOC throughout activations
• Coordinate the ESF-14 Team activities in the County EOC

Recovery
• Coordinate the ESF-14 support of recovery activities
• Coordinate the restoration of ESF-14 resources and/or capabilities as needed
• Ensure ESF-14 Team Members and/or their agencies provide appropriate records of costs incurred
• Conduct an ESF-14 after action review

Mitigation
• Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents

ESF Support Agency Responsibilities

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• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-14 mission  
• Send agency representatives to the JC EOC as part of the ESF-14 Team when activated |
|---|---|
| Recovery | • Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed  
• Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities  
• Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement  
• Participate in after action reviews |
| Mitigation | • Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents |

**Johnson County Automated Information Mapping System-AIMS**

| Preparedness | • Assist with the ESF-14 Team preparedness activities (listed above)  
• Maintain an inventory of agency resources  
• Maintain agency emergency contact information |
|---|---|
| Response | • Provide ESF-14 support in emergency/disasters, in accordance with departmental operations guides & protocols, existing MOUs & agreements, and the *ESF-14 Annex.*  
• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-14 mission  
• Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-14 Team when activated |
| Recovery | • Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed  
• Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities  
• Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement  
• Participate in after action reviews |
| Mitigation | • Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents |

**Johnson County Department of Health and Environment**

| Preparedness | • Assist with the ESF-14 Team preparedness activities (listed above)  
• Maintain an inventory of agency resources  
• Maintain agency emergency contact information |
|---|---|
| Response | • Provide ESF-14 support in emergency/disasters, in accordance with departmental operations guides & protocols, existing MOUs & agreements, and the *ESF-14 Annex.*  
• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-14 mission  
• Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-14 Team when activated |
| Recovery | • Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed  
• Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities  
• Prepare the documentation required to become eligible for reimbursement  
• Participate in after action reviews |
| Mitigation | • Identify and implement mitigation activities to prevent or lessen the impact of future incidents |

**Johnson County Manager’s Office**

| Preparedness | • Assist with the ESF-14 Team preparedness activities (listed above)  
• Maintain an inventory of agency resources  
• Maintain agency emergency contact information |
|---|---|
| Response | • Provide ESF-14 support in emergency/disasters, in accordance with departmental operations guides & protocols, existing MOUs & agreements, and the *ESF-14 Annex.*  
• Coordinate response activities with the County EOC in support of the ESF-14 mission  
• Send agency representatives to the County EOC as part of the ESF-14 Team when activated |
| Recovery | • Coordinate the restoration of agency resources and/or capabilities as needed  
• Participate in countywide recovery planning and activities |

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**POLICIES, AUTHORITIES, AND REFERENCES**

*Please refer to the Basic Plan for Policies, Authorities, and References.*