Preliminary Damage Assessment Report

Illinois – Severe Storms and Flooding FEMA-4728-DR

Declared August 15, 2023

On August 5, 2023, Governor J.B. Pritzker requested an expedited major disaster declaration due to severe storms and flooding during the period of June 29 to July 2, 2023. The Governor requested a declaration for Individual Assistance and Hazard Mitigation for Cook County. During the period of July 25-28, 2023, joint federal, state, and local government Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) were conducted in the requested areas and are summarized below. PDAs estimate damages immediately after an event and are considered, along with several other factors, in determining whether a disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and the affected local governments, and that Federal assistance is necessary.¹

On August 15, 2023, President Biden declared that a major disaster exists in the State of Illinois. This declaration made Individual Assistance requested by the Governor available to affected individuals and households in Cook County. This declaration also made Hazard Mitigation Grant Program assistance requested by the Governor available for hazard mitigation measures in Cook County.²

Summary of Damage Assessment Information Used in Determining Whether to Declare a Major Disaster

Individual Assistance

•	Total Number of Residences Impacted: ³		2,564	
	Destroyed - Major Damage - Minor Damage - Affected -	1 906 1,438 219		
• • • •	Percentage of insured residences: ⁴ Percentage of poverty households: ⁵ Percentage of ownership households: ⁶ Population receiving other government assistance such as SSI and SNAP: Pre-Disaster Unemployment: Age 65 and older: Age 18 and under: Disability:		40.2% Flood 0.5% 21.1% 57.2% 5.1% SSI 14.2% SNAP 7.3% 15.7% 21.9% 10.4%	

•	IHP Cost to Capacity (ICC) Ratio:	22.7

• Total Individual Assistance cost estimate: \$22,193,976

Public Assistance – (Not Requested)

•	Primary Impact:	-
•	Total Public Assistance cost estimate:	-
•	Statewide per capita impact: ⁷	-
•	Statewide per capita impact indicator: ⁸	\$1.77
•	Countywide per capita impact:	-
•	Countywide per capita impact indicator: ⁹	\$4.44

³ Degree of damage to impacted residences:

- Destroyed total loss of structure, structure is not economically feasible to repair, or complete failure to major structural components (e.g., collapse of basement walls/foundation, walls or roof);
- Major Damage substantial failure to structural elements of residence (e.g., walls, floors, foundation), or damage that will take more than 30 days to repair;
- Minor Damage home is damaged and uninhabitable, but may be made habitable in short period of time with repairs; and
- Affected some damage to the structure and contents, but still habitable.

- ⁵ Special populations, such as low-income, the elderly, or the unemployed may indicate a greater need for
- assistance. 44 C.F.R. § 206.48(b)(3).
- ⁶ Ibid. 44 C.F.R. § 206.48(b)(3).
- ⁷ Based on State population in the 2020 Census.
- ⁸ Statewide Per Capita Impact Indicator for FY23, *Federal Register*, October 1, 2022.
- ⁹ Countywide Per Capita Impact Indicator for FY23, *Federal Register*, October 1, 2022.

¹ The Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) process is a mechanism used to determine the impact and magnitude of damage and resulting needs of individuals, businesses, public sector, and community as a whole. Information collected is used by the State as a basis for the Governor's request for a major disaster or emergency declaration, and by the President in determining a response to the Governor's request (44 CFR § 206.33).

² When a Governor's request for major disaster assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended (Stafford Act) is under review, a number of primary factors are considered to determine whether assistance is warranted. These factors are outlined in FEMA's regulations (44 CFR § 206.48). The President has ultimate discretion and decision making authority to declare major disasters and emergencies under the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. § 5170 and § 5191).

⁴ By law, Federal disaster assistance cannot duplicate insurance coverage. 42 U.S.C. § 5155 and 44 C.F.R. § 206.48(b)(5).