

# **An Intergovernmental Agreement Providing for Membership in the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network Agreement**

This Intergovernmental Public Works Agreement (hereinafter "Agreement") is entered into by and among the County of DuPage ("Participating Agency") and the other participating public agencies that have also executed this Agreement (collectively, the "Parties" and individually a "Party").

*WHEREAS*, by executing this Agreement, Participating Agency has manifested its intent to participate in the program for mutual aid and assistance, hereinafter entitled the "Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN)"; and

*WHEREAS*, the Constitution of the State of Illinois, 1970, Article VII, Section 10 and the Illinois Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, 5 ILCS 220/1 et seq., (hereinafter "Act") authorize units of local government to contract or otherwise associate among themselves in any manner not prohibited by law or ordinance; and

*WHEREAS*, the Act provides that any one or more public agencies may contract with any one or more other public agencies to set forth fully the purposes, powers, rights, objectives and responsibilities of the contracting Parties; and

*WHEREAS*, the Act provides that any power or powers, privileges or authority exercised or which may be exercised by a unit of local government may be exercised and enjoyed jointly with any other unit of local government including a unit of local government from another state; and

*WHEREAS*, the Parties may voluntarily agree to participate in mutual aid and assistance activities conducted pursuant to IPWMAN and the Interstate Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC); and

*WHEREAS*, the Parties eligible to voluntarily participate in IPWMAN include, without limitation: municipalities, township road districts, unit road districts, county highway departments, public water agencies and public wastewater agencies or any other public agency, as defined by the Act, that performs a public works function; and

*WHEREAS*, the Parties are units of local government as defined by the Constitution of the State of Illinois and public agencies as defined by the Act; and

*WHEREAS*, the Parties recognize that they are vulnerable to a variety of potential natural and man-made disasters; and

*WHEREAS*, the Parties wish to provide mutual aid and assistance to one another during times of disaster or public works emergencies; and

*WHEREAS*, the Parties may also provide mutual aid and assistance to one another on a day-to-day basis during non-emergencies pursuant to this Agreement; and

*NOW, THEREFORE*, the Parties agree as follows:

## **SECTION I: PURPOSE**

IPWMAN is hereby established to provide a method whereby a Party in need of mutual aid assistance may request aid and assistance from the other Parties in the form of personnel, equipment, materials or other associated services as necessary. The purpose of this Agreement is to formally document such a program.

## **SECTION II: DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions will apply to the terms appearing in this Agreement.

A. "*AGENCY*" means any municipality, township road district, unit road district, county highway departments, publicly-owned water organization and publicly-owned wastewater organization or any other public agency that performs a public works function that has entered into and abides by the provisions as found in this Agreement.

B. "*AID AND ASSISTANCE*" includes, but is not limited to, personnel, equipment, facilities, services, materials and supplies and any other resources needed to provide mutual aid response during disasters and non-emergency situations, including training exercises to prepare for situations requiring mutual aid and assistance.

C. "*AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE*" means a Party's employee who has been authorized, in writing by that Party, to request, offer, or provide aid and assistance pursuant to this Agreement. Each Party's initial authorized representative, and the representative's title, is to be listed on the contact list maintained by IPWMAN. If the title of the authorized representative as listed by name on the contact list has changed, such change shall have no effect on the authority of the authorized representative and the named person shall continue to be the authorized representative until a different person is named as the authorized representative in writing by the Party. In the event that the person who is listed as authorized representative is no longer employed by the Party, the successor in the office formerly held by the authorized representative shall automatically become the authorized representative unless the Party indicates otherwise in writing. Each Party's authorized representative shall be responsible to designate someone to supervise that Party's employees who are engaged in the receipt or furnishing of aid and assistance, including, but not limited to, opening of public ways; removal of debris; building of protective barriers; management of physical damage to structures and terrain; transportation of persons, supplies, and equipment; and repair and operation of municipal utilities.

D. "*BOARD OF DIRECTORS*" is a group of representatives from the Parties to this Agreement elected to organize and maintain the program. The Board of Directors shall consist of members of IPWMAN. Qualifications and terms for the Board members shall be defined in the By-Laws of the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network.

E. "*BOARD MEMBER*" is a representative of the IPWMAN serving on the Board of Directors.

F. "*DISASTER*" means a calamitous incident threatening loss of life or significant loss or damage to property, including, but not limited to flood, winter storm, hurricane, tornado, dam break, or other naturally-occurring catastrophe or man-made, accidental, military, or paramilitary incident, or biological or health disasters or a natural or manmade incident that is, or is likely to be, beyond the

control or resources of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of a Party that requires assistance under this Agreement, and may be coordinated through the appropriate local accredited/certified Emergency Management Agency coordinator.

G. "*IPWMAN*" is the acronym for the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network.

H. "*LOCAL EMERGENCY*" is defined as an urgent need requiring immediate action or attention beyond normal capabilities, procedures and scope for aid and assistance by an Agency.

I. "*GENERAL MUTUAL AID*" means aid and assistance provided during non-emergency conditions.

J. "*MUTUAL AID RESOURCE LIST*" means the list of the equipment, personnel and other resources that each Party has available for the provision of aid and assistance to other Parties. This list shall be periodically updated in accordance with the Operational Plan as approved by the Board of Directors, or its designee.

K. "*NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS)*" a Presidential directive that provides a consistent nationwide approach that allows federal, state, local and tribal governments as well as private-sector and nongovernmental organizations to work together to manage incidents and disasters of all kinds.

L. "*PARTY*" means an Agency which has adopted and executed this Agreement.

M. "*PERIOD OF ASSISTANCE*" means a specified period of time when a Responding Agency assists a Requesting Agency. The period commences when personnel, equipment, or supplies depart from a Responding Agency's facility and ends when the resources return to their facility (portal to portal). All protections identified in the Agreement apply during this period. The specified Period of Assistance may occur during response to or recovery from a disaster, local emergency, or period of general mutual aid, as previously defined.

N. "*RESPONDING AGENCY*" means the Party or Agency which has received a request to furnish aid and assistance from another Party and has agreed to provide the same.

O. "*REQUESTING AGENCY*" means the Party or Agency requesting and receiving aid and assistance from a Responding Agency.

### **SECTION III: RESPONSIBILITY OF PARTIES**

A. *PROVISION OF AID.* Each Party recognizes that it may be requested to provide aid and assistance at a time when it is necessary to provide similar aid and assistance to the Party's own constituents. This Agreement shall not be construed to impose any unconditional obligation on any Party to provide aid and assistance. A Party may choose not to render aid and assistance at any time, for any reason.

B. *RECRUITMENT.* The Parties hereby encourage each other to enlist other agencies to adopt and execute this Agreement.

C. *AGREEMENT FOR BENEFIT OF PARTIES.* All functions and activities performed under this Agreement are for the benefit of the Parties to this Agreement. Accordingly, this Agreement shall not be construed to be for the benefit of any third parties and no third parties shall have any right or cause of action against the Parties to this Agreement.

D. *IMMUNITIES.* All immunities provided by law to the Parties shall be fully applicable to the Parties providing or receiving aid and assistance pursuant to this Agreement, including, but not limited to, the Local Governmental and Governmental Employees Tort Immunity Act, 745 ILCS 10/1-101, et seq.

E. *MEMBERSHIP.* To be a member in good standing, a Party shall be responsible for dues and other obligations as specified in the IPWMAN By-Laws and Operational Plan.

#### **SECTION IV: ANNUAL REVIEW**

At a minimum, the Board of Directors shall meet annually at a meeting place designated by the Board of Directors to review and discuss this Agreement and, if applicable, to recommend amendments to this Agreement. The Board of Directors shall have the power and signing authority to carry out the purposes of this Agreement, including but not limited to the power to: adopt by-laws; execute agreements and documents approved by the Board of Directors; develop specific operating plans, procedures and protocol for requesting assistance; organize meetings; engage in joint training exercises; operate a website; disseminate information; create informational brochures; create subcommittees; maintain lists of the Parties; maintain equipment and supply inventory lists; and deal with Party issues.

#### **SECTION V: PROCEDURES FOR REQUESTING ASSISTANCE**

The Board of Directors will promulgate and regularly update procedures for requesting assistance through the IPWMAN Operational Plan.

#### **SECTION VI: RESPONDING AGENCY'S ASSESSMENT OF AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES**

The Board of Directors will promulgate and regularly update procedures for responding agency's assessment of availability of resources through the IPWMAN Operational Plan.

#### **SECTION VII: SUPERVISION AND CONTROL**

A. *DESIGNATION OF RESPONDING AGENCY'S SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL.* Responding Agency shall designate a representative who shall serve as the person in charge of coordinating the initial work assigned to the Responding Agency's employees by the Requesting Agency. The Requesting Agency shall direct and coordinate the work being assigned to the Responding Agency(s) and the Requesting Agency's employees. All actions shall be consistent with and in accordance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the IPWMAN Operational Plan.

B. *RESPONSIBILITIES OF RESPONDING AGENCY'S SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL.* The Board of Directors will promulgate and regularly update procedures for Responding Agency's supervisory

personnel through the IPWMAN Operational Plan.

### **SECTION VIII: LENGTH OF TIME FOR AID AND ASSISTANCE; RENEWABILITY; RECALL**

The Board of Directors will promulgate and regularly update procedures for length of time for aid and assistance, renewability, and recall through the IPWMAN Operational Plan.

It is presumed that a Responding Agency's aid and assistance shall be given for an initial minimum period of twelve (12) hours. Thereafter, assistance shall be extended as the Responding Agency and Requesting Agency shall agree. The twelve (12) hour period shall start when the aid and assistance departs from Responding Agency's location with the intent of going to Requesting Agency's location. The aid and assistance shall end when it returns to Responding Agency's location with the understanding between the Responding Agency and Requesting Agency that provision of aid and assistance is complete.

Responding Agency may recall its aid and assistance at any time at its sole discretion. Responding Agency shall make a good faith effort to give the Requesting Agency as much advance notice of the recall as is practical under the circumstances.

### **SECTION IX: DOCUMENTATION OF COST & REIMBURSEMENT OF COST**

A. *PERSONNEL* - Responding Agency shall continue to pay its employees according to its then prevailing ordinances, rules, regulations, and collective bargaining agreements. At the conclusion of the period of aid and assistance, the Responding Agency shall document all direct and indirect payroll costs plus any taxes and employee benefits which are measured as a function of payroll (i.e.; FICA, unemployment, retirements, etc.).

B. *RESPONDING AGENCY'S TRAVELING EMPLOYEE NEEDS* - Responding Agency shall document the basic needs of Responding Agency's traveling employees, such as reasonable lodging and meal expenses of Responding Agency's personnel, including without limitation transportation expenses for travel to and from the stricken area during the period of aid and assistance.

C. *EQUIPMENT* - Responding Agency shall document the use of its equipment during the period of aid and assistance including without limitation all repairs to its equipment as determined necessary by its on-site supervisor(s) to maintain such equipment in safe and operational condition, fuels, miscellaneous supplies, and damages directly caused by provision of the aid and assistance.

D. *MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES* - Responding Agency shall document all materials and supplies furnished by it and used or damaged during the period of aid and assistance.

E. *REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS* - Equipment, personnel, materials, supplies and/or services provided pursuant to this Agreement shall be at no charge to the Requesting Agency, unless the aid and assistance is requested for more than five (5) calendar days. If aid and assistance is requested for more than five (5) calendar days, the Responding Agency may submit an itemized invoice to the Requesting Agency seeking reimbursement of the cost incurred for personnel, traveling employees, equipment, materials and supplies. If aid and assistance is requested from the State of Illinois to be activated as a State asset, the Responding Agency will be reimbursed for

personnel, materials, supplies and equipment from the first day of the response to the event by the State of Illinois. Materials and supplies will be reimbursed at the cost of replacement of the commodity. Personnel will be reimbursed at Responding Agency rates and equipment will be reimbursed at an appropriate equipment rate based upon either pre-existing locally established rates, the Federal Emergency Management Agency Equipment Rate Schedule or that published by the Illinois Department of Transportation. In the event that there is no such appropriate equipment rate as described above, reimbursement shall be at the actual cost incurred by the Responding Agency.

## **SECTION X: RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF RESPONDING AGENCY'S EMPLOYEES**

Whenever Responding Agency's employees are rendering aid and assistance pursuant to this Agreement, such employees shall retain the same powers, duties, immunities, and privileges they would ordinarily possess if performing their duties within the geographical limits of Responding Agency.

## **SECTION XI: WORKERS' COMPENSATION**

The Parties agree that Requesting Agency shall be responsible for payment of workers' compensation benefits owed to Requesting Agency's employees and that Responding Agency shall be responsible for payment of workers' compensation benefits owed to Responding Agency's employees.

## **SECTION XII: INSURANCE**

Each Party shall bear the risk of liability for its agency and its agency's employees' acts and omissions and shall determine for itself what amount of insurance it should carry, if any. Each Party understands and agrees that any insurance coverage obtained shall in no way limit that Party's responsibility under Section XIII of this Agreement to indemnify and hold the other Parties to this Agreement harmless from such liability.

## **SECTION XIII: INDEMNIFICATION**

Each Party hereto agrees to waive all claims against all other Parties for any loss, damage, personal injury or death occurring in consequence of the performance of this Agreement but only if such claim is not a result of gross negligence or willful misconduct by another Party or its personnel.

Each Party requesting aid pursuant to this Agreement hereby expressly agrees to hold harmless, indemnify and defend the Responding Agency and its personnel from any and all claims, demands, liability, losses, suits in law or in equity which are made by a third party provided, however, that all employee benefits, wage and disability payments, pensions, worker's compensation claims, damage to or destruction of equipment and clothing, and medical expenses of the Party rendering aid or its employees shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the Responding Agency; and further provided that such claims made by a third party are not the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct on the part of the Responding Agency. This indemnity shall include attorney fees and costs that may arise from providing aid pursuant to this Agreement.

## **SECTION XIV: NON-LIABILITY FOR FAILURE TO RENDER AID**

The rendering of assistance under the terms of this Agreement shall not be mandatory under any circumstances, including, without limitation, that the local conditions of the Responding Agency prohibit response. It is the responsibility of the Responding Agency to immediately notify the Requesting Agency of the Responding Agency's inability to respond; however, failure to immediately notify the Requesting Agency of such inability to respond shall not constitute evidence of noncompliance with the terms of this section and no liability may be assigned.

No liability of any kind or nature shall be attributed to or be assumed, whether expressly or implied, by a party hereto, its duly authorized agents and personnel, for failure or refusal to render aid. Nor shall there be any liability of a party for withdrawal of aid once provided pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

## **SECTION XV: NOTICE OF CLAIM OR SUIT**

Any Party that becomes aware of a claim or suit that in any way, directly or indirectly, contingently or otherwise, affects or might affect other Parties of this Agreement shall provide prompt and timely notice to the Parties who may be affected by the suit or claim. Each Party reserves the right to participate in the defense of such claims or suits as necessary to protect its own interests.

## **SECTION XVI: AMENDMENTS**

Any member may propose amendment of this Agreement. Proposed amendments to this Agreement shall be submitted to the Board of Directors. Amendments approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors will be sent to the members for consideration at a duly called meeting held at least 45 days after the Secretary, or designee, has sent the proposed amendment by paper document or electronically to each member. Any proposed amendment receiving the affirmative vote of at least three-fifths (60%) of the members present at the meeting shall be sent to the membership for adoption by the governing body of each member. Failure of a member's governing body to adopt any amended agreement within 120 days of receipt of the proposed amended agreement will signify a Party's withdrawal from the Agreement.

## **SECTION XVII: ADDITIONAL PARTIES**

Additional Agencies may become Parties to this Agreement, provided that such Agencies:

- (1) Approve and execute this Agreement.
- (2) Provide a fully executed copy of this Agreement to the Board of Directors.
- (3) Provide the name and title of an authorized representative to the Board of Directors.
- (4) Annually provide a list of mutual aid resources to its local accredited/certified Emergency Management Agency. If requested, the agency may need to assist its local accredited/certified Emergency Management Coordinator with data entry of its mutual aid resources into a web-based format (NIMS Source).

Upon submission of the items enumerated above to the Board of Directors and receipt of acknowledgement from the Board of Directors, the submitting agency shall be regarded as a Party to the Agreement.

**SECTION XVIII: NOTICES**

Notices and requests as provided herein shall be deemed given as of the date the notices are deposited, by First Class Mail, addressed to the Board of Directors who will notify each of the Parties' representatives.

**SECTION XIX: INITIAL TERM OF AGREEMENT; RENEWAL; TERMINATION**

The initial term of this Agreement shall be one (1) year from its effective date. Thereafter, this Agreement shall automatically renew for additional one-year terms commencing on the anniversary of the effective date of this Agreement. Any Party may withdraw from this Agreement at any time by giving written notification to the Board of Directors. The notice shall not be effective until ninety (90) days after the notice has been served upon the Board of Directors by First Class mail. A Party's withdrawal from this Agreement shall not affect that Party's liability or obligation incurred under this Agreement prior to the date of withdrawal. This Agreement shall continue in force and effect as to all other Parties until such time as a Party withdraws. Failure to adopt any amended agreement within one hundred and twenty (120) days of said amended agreement will signify a Party's withdrawal from the Agreement pursuant to Section XVI of this Agreement. Any Party that fails to meet its obligations in accordance with this Agreement or the IPWMAN bylaws may have its participation in IPWMAN terminated by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors pursuant to 2.4 of the IPWMAN by-laws.

**SECTION XX: HEADINGS**

The headings of various sections and subsections of this Agreement have been inserted for convenient reference only and shall not be construed as modifying, amending, or affecting in any way the express terms and provisions of this Agreement or their interpretation.

**SECTION XXI: SEVERABILITY**

Should any clause, sentence, provision, paragraph, or other part of this Agreement be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this Agreement. Each of the Parties declares that it would have entered into this Agreement irrespective of the fact that any one or more of this Agreement's clauses, sentences, provisions, paragraphs, or other parts have been declared invalid. Accordingly, it is the intention of the Parties that the remaining portions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect without regard to the clause(s), sentence(s), provision(s), paragraph(s), or other part(s) invalidated.

**SECTION XXII: EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Agreement shall be effective on the date of the acknowledgement letter sent by the Board of Directors.



**SECTION XXIII: WAIVER**

Failure to enforce strictly the terms of this Agreement on one or more occasions shall not be deemed a waiver of the right to enforce strictly the terms of this Agreement on any other occasion.

**SECTION XXIV: EXECUTION OF COUNTERPARTS**

This Agreement may be signed in any number of counterparts with the same effect as if the signatures thereto and hereto were upon the same instrument.

**SECTION XXV: PRIOR IPWMAN AGREEMENTS**

All prior IPWMAN agreements for mutual aid and assistance between the Parties hereto are suspended and superseded by this Agreement. It is specifically understood and agreed that this Agreement is intended to reorganize IPWMAN's governing structure to a Board of Directors of the Intergovernmental Agency rather than of a not-for-profit corporation as provided in the By- Laws attached to this Agreement as Exhibit A. The By-Laws are specifically incorporated here by reference. All prior acts of the Board of Directors are hereby declared to be those of IPWMAN, an Intergovernmental Agency.

**SECTION XXVI: PROHIBITION ON THIRD PARTIES AND ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS/DUTIES**

This Agreement is for the sole benefit of the Parties and no person or entity shall have any rights under this Agreement as a third-Party beneficiary. Assignments of benefits and delegations of duties created by this Agreement are prohibited and must be without effect.

*NOW, THEREFORE*, each of the Parties have caused this IPWMAN Mutual Aid Agreement to be executed by its duly authorized representative who has signed this Agreement as of the date set forth below.

# Signature Page

Approved and executed this \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ of 20 \_\_\_\_\_.

For the Agency (Insert Name): \_\_\_\_\_ the County of DuPage \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_ County Board Chair \_\_\_\_\_

*Attest*

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_ County Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED**

On behalf of the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network

Approved and executed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Vince Kilcullen  
President, IPWMAN Board of Directors

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Joe Cronin  
Secretary, IPWMAN Board of Directors

*Approved by the IPWMAN Interim Board of Directors on September 17, 2008. Amended by the IPWMAN Interim Board of Directors on August 19, 2009. Amended by the IPWMAN Board of Directors on June 16, 2010. Amended by the IPWMAN Board of Directors on October 22, 2024.*

