



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

GARLIN GILCHRIST II
LT. GOVERNOR

**REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL DISASTER DECLARATION
COVER LETTER
MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY**

July 13, 2021

VIA E-MAIL

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Through: Mr. Kevin M. Sligh, Acting Regional Administrator
FEMA Region V
536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Dear Mr. President:

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR § 206.36, I request that you declare a Major Disaster for the State of Michigan as a result of widespread and severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes that struck the counties of Huron, Ionia, Washtenaw, and Wayne on June 25 and 26, 2021. Please note that this request is for the declaration of a Major Disaster and activation of all Individual Assistance (IA) programs for the counties of Wayne and Washtenaw. If warranted, a separate request to include the counties of Huron and Ionia and activate appropriate Public Assistance (PA) programs will be made later when applicable assessments have concluded.

The flooding in the counties of Washtenaw and Wayne occurred from the late afternoon hours of June 25 to the early morning hours of June 26. The heavy rain responsible for the flood conditions was a result of multiple training thunderstorms in a very moisture-rich environment as low pressure tracked along a stalled stationary front over southern lower Michigan. The first round of thunderstorms began during the late afternoon and evening hours of June 25 mainly between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. These thunderstorms produced a widespread one to three inches of rainfall for the greater metro Detroit region. The heaviest of the rainfall and the training thunderstorm fragment (a

series of storm cells over the same area, inundating the area with rain and causing flash flooding) began around 10:00 p.m. and continued through 2:00 a.m. on June 26. These thunderstorms aligned along and just north of interstate highway I-94 in metro Detroit. An additional one to three inches of rain fell with these storms with localized amounts of four to five and above inches from the City of Dearborn Heights through the City of Detroit and into the Grosse Pointes in Wayne County.

On June 25, the National Weather Service (NWS) Detroit issued an Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory at 6:26 p.m. through 9:30 p.m. for most areas in the counties of Macomb and Washtenaw, southeast Oakland County, and northwest Wayne County. This Flood Advisory covered the first round of thunderstorms and heavy rain. Then with the second round of heavy rainfall, NWS Detroit issued another Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory at 12:15 a.m. on June 26 for the counties of Washtenaw and Wayne. This was followed by a Flash Flood Warning for these counties issued at 12:58 a.m. through 6:00 a.m. At 5:54 a.m. the Flash Flood Warning was changed to an Areal Flood Warning, which ended at 4:00 p.m. A synopsis of the rainfall totals for the counties of Washtenaw and Wayne is available in Attachment 4.

The June 26 tornadoes occurred in another moisture-rich environment with sufficient instability to produce severe thunderstorms and good wind shear through the atmosphere to allow those severe storms to rotate. The stationary front moved north and lied across central lower Michigan. An area of low pressure over Wisconsin moved into lower Michigan. The NWS Storm Prediction Center's (SPC) outlook for severe weather on the morning of June 26 placed much of southern lower Michigan in a Slight Risk of Severe Weather with a five percent chance of tornadoes. The severe weather threat was contingent upon breaks in the cloud cover to realize the maximum instability across lower Michigan. As those breaks developed, thunderstorms also began to develop. SPC issued a Tornado Watch for southwest lower Michigan from 1:05 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and for much of southeast lower Michigan from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. A line of severe thunderstorms developed in the early afternoon over southwest lower Michigan with a few supercell thunderstorms that developed ahead of that line through the lifetime of the June 26 event. Those supercell thunderstorms and several storms within the line exhibited strong enough rotation that the NWS offices in Grand Rapids and Detroit issued several Tornado Warnings.

Six tornadoes occurred across southern lower Michigan with the strongest and most damaging ones in the counties of Huron and Ionia. Two tornadoes hit Ionia County. The first was an EF0 rated tornado east of the Village of Freeport that was only on the ground for about one mile. The second Ionia County tornado was just north of the Village of Lake Odessa and hit from 4:40 p.m. to 4:49 p.m. This tornado was rated as an EF1 tornado with winds up to an estimated 90 miles per hour. It was on the ground for 4.5 miles and was about 50 yards wide. The strongest tornado of the day hit Huron County. It started southwest of the City of Port Austin at 5:49 p.m., hit the southern part of the Port Austin, and then exited into Lake Huron northeast of Port Austin at 6:00 p.m. This tornado was rated as an EF2 tornado with maximum winds up to 120 mph and a width of 400 yards.

By far the most tragic aspect of this disaster are two deaths that occurred in its aftermath. In the City of Dearborn in Wayne County, an 87-year-old man died after falling in his flooded basement. The death of a 40-year-old utility worker occurred on June 29 in

the City of Detroit in Wayne County when he responded to power outages caused by the severe weather event. He was fatally wounded when he came into contact with a live wire.

Due to the extensive and timely efforts of the local jurisdictions in responding to this disaster, thankfully no other fatalities and only minimal injuries were sustained in the affected counties. The lack of widespread injuries and additional fatalities can be attributed to strong efforts by local jurisdictions to maintain emergency services to the highest extent possible and disseminating emergency public information that alerted residents to actual and impending flood hazards, and steps they should take to protect themselves. Even though weather forecasts prior to the event did not anticipate the amount of rainfall, flooding, high winds, and tornadoes that occurred, weather warnings and emergency public information developed and disseminated by the National Weather Service also contributed positively to the safety of the public (see Attachment 4).

Other impacts of this disaster were severe and require federal assistance to facilitate an efficient recovery. In southeast Michigan, particularly in the counties of Washtenaw and Wayne, many homes, businesses, and public buildings were impacted by flood water and sewer backups. Several homes have been found to be destroyed and uninhabitable. As a result of the flooding, residents were required to remove large amounts of debris from their homes, necessitating coordinated and extensive debris removal and management efforts by local jurisdictions. In addition to damages to buildings and the property contained therein, many roads flooded and were subsequently damaged or required the removal of dirt, debris, and abandoned vehicles from the right-of-way. Due to the sudden onset of the flooding, motorists were stranded on flooded roadways, requiring water rescues. In the counties of Huron and Ionia, the tornados also damaged homes, although damage to private property was somewhat limited compared to the flood-impacted counties, and mostly covered by insurance. Further, several agricultural businesses were impacted. In both flood and tornado impacted areas, some residents were displaced from their homes temporarily, and utility services were disrupted, with access to power or gas not being restored for several days.

In response to this flood disaster, I took appropriate action under state law and directed the execution of the Michigan Emergency Management Plan on June 26, in accordance with Section 401 of the Stafford Act. On the same date, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was activated and remained operational until July 7. On June 26, under my authority as Governor, I also proclaimed a State of Emergency for Wayne County, including the local political subdivisions located therein, and directed state departments and agencies to utilize all available resources necessary to assist the county and its local political subdivisions in responding to and recovering from this disaster. I amended the State of Emergency declaration to include the counties of Huron, Ionia, and Washtenaw on July 8.

I must note that numerous state departments and agencies had already initiated response actions prior to the formal proclamation, in accordance with their assigned missions in the Michigan Emergency Management Plan. These actions included but were not limited to: providing direct assistance to the affected communities and to individuals; ensuring the safety of residents and rescuing individuals trapped by water in otherwise inaccessible locations; assessing the damage and impacts to affected state facilities,

infrastructure, and services under their stewardship; and taking appropriate actions to keep those affected facilities, infrastructure, and services operational.

The affected local governments also took appropriate action under state law in response to this disaster. Pursuant to the Emergency Management Act, No. 390 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1976, as amended, Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) 30.410 (b), a total of four counties and one city declared a “state of emergency” in response to severe weather affecting their jurisdictions. The jurisdictions that declared states of emergency included:

- City of Dearborn (Wayne County) on June 26, 2021.
- Huron County on June 26, 2021.
- Wayne County on June 26, 2021.
- Ionia County on June 29, 2021.
- Washtenaw County on June 30, 2021.

Local jurisdictions implemented the response and recovery elements of their Emergency Operations Plans in a timely manner, in accordance with state law and associated administrative procedure. They also took other appropriate actions to cope with the situation, including but not limited to marshaling required resources; issuing emergency warnings and public information; clearing roadways and other public spaces of debris; and limiting access to flooded areas. The affected local governments performed all actions required of them by state law and procedure and dictated by incident circumstances. Their response was outstanding, given the severe nature of this disaster, and the significant threats to public health and safety created by flood- and high wind-related conditions. Please refer to Attachment 2 for more detailed information pertaining to specific response and recovery actions taken by the state and the local jurisdictions included in this request.

Any discussion about the impact of this severe weather event must account for the occurrence of this disaster during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. For the last 1.5 years, local, county, and state governments across the country have focused their efforts on responding to and preventing the spread of COVID-19. Consequently, the personnel that are tasked with responding to disasters are fatigued and resources are spread thin. Governments are facing significant fiscal pressure due to COVID-19 related costs and impacts on tax revenue.

Individuals and households are facing even more intense pressure. The communities impacted by this disaster were already under stress due to mitigation measures in place for the past year to limit the spread of the virus. Many residents are facing financial impacts as they lost jobs and businesses. Residents also suffered significant emotional trauma from observing rising case numbers and death tolls, and, most tragically, the loss of friends and family members. This is particularly true for residents in Wayne County, which has been the county hardest hit by COVID-19 in Michigan. With 153,853 cases and 4,877 deaths reported (as of July 9), the county leads the state in both confirmed cases and deaths.

Response and recovery operations are also directly impacted as additional safety precautions are taken to the highest extent possible to minimize potential virus exposure.

Many volunteer organizations have been responding to needs related to COVID-19 for over a year now, so their level of readiness to assist with this disaster was reduced. Many individual volunteers are members of groups with higher risk for severe illness due to COVID-19, which further reduces the availability of volunteers.

Across the disaster area, this disaster resulted in extensive damages to homes and destroyed mechanical and electrical systems and personal belongings within many dwellings. Without significant assistance from the Federal government, residents will suffer financial hardships for years as they attempt to repair and restore their damaged homes to pre-disaster condition, repair or replace mechanical and electrical systems, take measures to ensure their homes are free of mold and other health hazards, and replace personal belongings. The inability to afford repairs could ultimately lower the property value of residences and, subsequently, regional tax revenue. Residents may need to devote their discretionary income and savings to unplanned expenses for removing debris, restoring their homes, and replacing personal belongings, instead of supporting area businesses.

However, residents were not only impacted through damages to their homes and property. The flooding also significantly disrupted community life at a time when residents were just starting to reengage in additional social and economic activity as measures to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 cases and deaths were in decline and most measures instituted by our state government to prevent the spread of COVID-19 had been lifted on June 22, just days before this disaster struck. The trauma caused in the impacted communities is exacerbated due to the recent prior experience of severe weather disasters. Many Wayne County residents are still recovering from the impacts of the 2014 flooding that resulted in the Major Disaster declaration FEMA-4195-DR. Many of the same residents were again impacted during instances of widespread flooding in July 2016 and in May 2019, when I declared a state of emergency for Wayne County, but requested federal assistance unfortunately was not made available. The repetitive nature of this incident coming at the heels of the long-lasting struggle to recover from three recent flooding disasters has been particularly challenging and traumatic for the community. Similarly, the memory of a tornado that struck Ionia County in June 2015 and caused significant destruction that led to a gubernatorial declaration of a state of disaster is still fresh in the minds of residents there, as is the flooding that was caused by ice jams along the Grand River in the county in February 2019, which also resulted in a state-level emergency declaration.

Although southeast Michigan has experienced severe storms and flooding in the past, many residents shared that the most recent flooding had even more significant negative impacts on their life. Many vehicles were severely damaged in this incident because many residents in the flood-impacted areas park in the street due to a lack of driveways or existing driveways only accommodating one vehicle. Unfortunately, the loss of vehicles has created hardships for residents concerning their ability to commute to work. Many cannot afford to replace their damaged vehicles and do not qualify for a vehicle loan either. In general, the consensus from residents was that the recent flooding was more destructive and brought more water into the homes of residents in the area, causing irreparable damage to personal possessions, and in some cases, homes as well. If residents can replace or repair their essential mechanical components of the home, in return they may sacrifice their ability to replace or repair their flood damaged appliances, such as

dishwashers, washers, and dryers. In some cases, senior residents or others without adequate financial means are still without hot water and do not have the ability to replace or repair mechanical components of their homes on their own.

In one instance, an entire multi-generational family that is a part of the City of Detroit's Hispanic community was displaced because of basement flooding. With so many family members living in one home, the main and lower level of the home were utilized as essential living space. This was a frequent observation in Wayne County's sizeable Hispanic and Arab-American communities, where multi-generational living is common, and many basements are utilized as primary living spaces of family members.

In another instance, a senior resident reported five feet of water in her basement, which ruined the mechanical components of the home. This resident has cared for her elderly husband for nine years, and her spouse's survival has been dependent on a ventilator because of a previous long-term brain injury. The aftereffects of the flooding also caused these residents to lose thousands of dollars of medical equipment used to care for the elderly man. Subsequently, mold grew in their basement, resulting in the elderly husband becoming infected with a respiratory sickness serious enough to warrant a hospital stay. For the residents to return home, the elderly woman paid neighborhood teenagers to assist her in cleaning up their basement, but most of the damage is severe enough that the American Red Cross has assigned her a caseworker to facilitate the assistance they require.

Another resident's living space was destroyed due to basement flooding. This resident suffers from multiple health problems and considers the basement his main dwelling due to mobility issues. Five feet of water in the basement resulted in the loss of his oxygen machine, sleep apnea device, and blood oxygen flow machine, which are all essential to his health and wellness. When contact was made with the resident during damage assessment, he could not stand because he was short of breath due to the loss of his medical devices. The resident has been referred to Michigan 2-1-1 and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) but will most likely need additional financial support to replace the medical equipment.

In summary, the impact from the flooding has caused residents to suffer loss of essential living spaces, mechanical components of the home, personal possessions, and in two severe cases, life. The majority of residents do not have the financial means to replace their essential belongings or repair their living spaces frequently, but many have been impacted by flooding multiple times over the last decade. Although many of the homes were rated as "minor" damage during the Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments, the flood waters have proven to cause destruction to important parts of life other than the integrity of their dwelling, impacting health, transportation, and financial security.

In the counties of Huron and Ionia, several farms were impacted by the tornadoes, some of which had buildings and equipment destroyed. This is cause for additional trauma in these rural communities, as Michigan's agriculture sector (which contributes over \$100 billion annually to the state's economy) was already in the midst of a very difficult growing season. As farmers have struggled with the impacts of periods of freezing temperatures, rain and flooding, drought, high winds, and now again excessive rainfall, flooding, and

tornadoes, I also requested an expedited U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Disaster Designation for impacted Michigan counties on July 1.

The response to these conditions by our partner voluntary relief organizations has been both timely and extensive. From the onset, Michigan Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (MIVOAD), Michigan Region 2 VOAD (RS VOAD), Michigan 2-1-1, Crisis Cleanup, the American Red Cross, United Way of Southeast Michigan, United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS), Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS), Team Rubicon, Disaster Relief at Work (DRAW), Southern Baptists Disaster Relief, World Renew, and other disaster relief volunteer organizations and unaffiliated volunteers have actively provided relief assistance to those in need in the affected areas. Activities undertaken by these organizations and volunteers during the flood response and early phases of recovery included, but were not limited to:

- Establishing and operating three emergency shelters.
- Procuring and distributing personal care items and clean-up kits to flood survivors.
- Responding to calls related to this disaster on the 2-1-1 hotline, registering needs of disaster survivors, and connecting callers to appropriate resources.
- Establishing virtual volunteer reception centers where unaffiliated volunteers can sign-up to assist with recovery efforts.
- Providing muck-out services to homes identified through the Michigan 2-1-1 call centers or by local jurisdictions and registered in the Crisis Cleanup volunteer organization platform.
- Assisting elderly and other functional needs individuals in cleaning up their flood-damaged homes, including the removal of flood-soaked building materials, furniture, appliances, and other damaged items.

Additional information regarding volunteer assistance can be found in Attachment 2. Despite the efforts of these voluntary organizations and volunteers, not all recovery needs of affected individuals and families can be met in a timely manner due to limited resources. As a result, significant unmet needs still exist in the areas of housing repair and restoration, including furnaces and water heaters; replacement of essential household items; removal of debris and damaged property from homes, and mold and other contaminant abatement. These needs could most appropriately be met through several federal Individual Assistance programs, and implementation of the U.S. Small Business Administration disaster loan program.

In addition to voluntary agencies, private sector partners provided significant assistance for flood recovery. The SEOC's Public/Private Partnership (P3) Program worked closely with the impacted local emergency management programs to match local needs with private partner donations. Private partners such as Home Depot, Kroger, and Meijer donated cleaning solution, industrial size trash bags, buckets, mops, shovels, scour pads, gloves, dust masks, paper towels, dish soap, disinfectant wipes and spray, sponges, and N95 masks to assist the residents in impacted areas. The P3 program also surveyed its partners in the food and agriculture sector such as Walgreens, Kroger, Meijer, Rite Aid, and Walmart to gauge the severity of damage inflicted from the flooding, and there was no damage reported to any locations.

Unfortunately, this severe weather event is just the latest in a string of major incidents that have occurred in Michigan. Over the past 24 months before this disaster, Michigan has experienced four incidents (including this disaster) which resulted in the declaration of a state of emergency under the Emergency Management Act, No. 390 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1976, as amended. They included:

- A May 2020 emergency declaration for flooding in the counties of Arenac, Gladwin, Iosco, Midland, and Saginaw.
- A March 2020 emergency declaration for the entire state due to the Coronavirus pandemic.
- A July 2019 emergency declaration for flooding in Lake County.

The June 2018 flooding incident affecting the counties of Gogebic, Houghton, and Menominee resulted in the federal Emergency declaration FEMA-4831-DR for these counties. The May 2020 flooding prompted the federal Emergency declaration FEMA-3525-EM for the counties of Gladwin and Midland, and the Major Disaster declaration FEMA-4547-DR for the counties of Arenac, Gladwin, Iosco, Midland, and Saginaw. The Coronavirus pandemic further resulted in the declaration of a national emergency and a federal Major Disaster, FEMA-4494-DR, for all areas of the State of Michigan.

In addition to these gubernatorial and presidentially declared emergencies and disasters, I also activated the SEOC an additional four times over the last 24 months without issuing a state-level declaration. These SEOC activations included:

- January 2021 activation for potential unrest related to the Presidential inauguration.
- November 2020 activation related to the Presidential election.
- May 2020 activation in response to statewide protests.
- January 2020 activation in response to a statewide winter storm.

The affected local jurisdictions also experienced numerous smaller-scale incidents for which they did not seek a gubernatorial declaration or state assistance, but still had significant local impacts to residents, businesses, public facilities and infrastructure, and essential services. Individually and collectively, these incidents created significant burdens for the affected local governments, requiring the expenditure of resources (physical and financial), which in many cases had to be diverted from other community programs and services.

Although Michigan has a Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund under 1976 Act No. 390 for counties and local political subdivisions for partial reimbursement of eligible public damage and response costs, it has limited funding which must be replenished every budget cycle by the Michigan Legislature. By state law, these funds can only be provided to eligible public entities and certain volunteer organizations supporting incident response operations. Over the last 24 months, local jurisdictions have submitted over \$6.4 million in eligible costs for reimbursement under this program. However, it is anticipated that only an estimated \$ 1,057,187 will ultimately be compensated, as the law limits grant awards based on the population size and operating budgets of eligible jurisdictions. Funds also cannot be used to reimburse individual residents for damages to their home, business,

or property, and the state currently does not have another funding mechanism in place dedicated to the provision of post-incident assistance for all individuals and families with unmet needs. While there are relief programs available through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services for specific needs, eligibility is generally limited to low and moderate-income individuals or households that incur extraordinary incident-related expenses.

The latest available estimate of Total Taxable Resources (TTR) from the U.S. Department of Treasury for the State of Michigan was 595 billion dollars (for the year 2018). The per capita TTR was \$59,597, significantly lower than the per capita TTR of \$70,917 for the United States as a whole. For the state fiscal year ending on September 30, the State Budget Office projects a surplus in the state general fund budget of approximately \$700.8 million. This is largely due to the federal stimuli provided to the state for recovery efforts from the Coronavirus pandemic as state generated revenue projections are down significantly. However, the state generated revenue is still down more than \$1 billion compared to before the pandemic. So, while the federal stimulus funding has helped to soften the economic impact of the pandemic, the state must proceed cautiously as economic recovery is expected to be a multi-year process.

To meet the needs of most of our disaster survivors who are not insured or are under-insured against natural hazards such as flooding, we must rely upon supplemental relief assistance provided by the federal government and voluntary organizations. As I previously indicated, our volunteer relief partners have done an exemplary job in addressing many of the needs stemming from this flood disaster. However, the scope and magnitude of this incident is beyond even their collective capability to provide necessary recovery services. Federal relief assistance is needed to address the unmet needs of those most severely affected by the flooding.

To facilitate the needed assistance, I requested a joint federal, state, and local Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) for the counties of Huron, Ionia, and Wayne on June 30. I requested to add Washtenaw County to the PDA on July 7. A kick-off meeting was held on July 7, and assessments started on July 8. In-person assessments of IA damages were conducted by representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD); and the affected local jurisdictions. The U. S. Small Business Administration participated in the Individuals and Households Program segment of the PDA. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, PA assessments are conducted virtually. The IA portion of the PDA for the counties of Washtenaw and Wayne concluded on July 10, while assessments of PA related damages in all four aforementioned counties are still ongoing.

The Individuals and Households Program (IHP) Damage Assessment for the counties of Washtenaw and Wayne identified two destroyed homes; 194 homes with major damage; 1,632 homes with minor damage; and 155 affected homes. In addition, 1,946 households were found potentially eligible for temporary housing funding, 1,796 households for housing repair assistance, two households for housing replacement assistance, and 1,941 households for “Other Needs Assistance” (ONA) funding for essential household items and services. Households would be eligible for an estimated \$14,173,364 in Housing Assistance and ONA based on PDA-verified damages. Wayne County was more heavily

impacted than Washtenaw County, with both destroyed homes, 188 homes with major damage, 1,602 homes with minor damage, and 149 affected homes. It is noteworthy that the damages identified for Wayne County alone almost exceeded the damages identified for the three-county flood disaster area of Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne that received the Major Disaster declaration FEMA-4195-DR in 2014 (with one destroyed home, 242 homes with major damage, 991 homes with minor damage, and 1035 affected homes). Compared to the county PDA results from 2014 (with no destroyed homes, 112 homes with major damage, 593 homes with minor damage, and 708 affected homes), Wayne County significantly exceeded those numbers as a result of this severe weather event.

IA-related damages were particularly concentrated in the northern part of Wayne County, including in the cities of Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Detroit, Garden City, Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Shores, Grosse Pointe Woods, Harper Woods, Highland Park, Inkster, Redford, Wayne, and Westland, and in the cities of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti in Washtenaw County. The concentration of damage within these small geographic areas magnifies the impact of this severe weather event disaster considerably for the affected communities. The collective economic toll to these communities and the region is severe.

Based on experience from prior disasters with concentrated damages in heavily urbanized and densely populated areas such as those listed above, it can be assumed that the official results of the IA assessments during the PDA may severely underestimate the impacts on individuals and households caused by this disaster. During the PDA, assessment teams evaluated damages at 2,138 homes, which is just a fraction of the over 22,000 impacted homes initially identified by local jurisdictions. It can be expected that even those initial local estimates only captured a small portion of the actual damages. For the 2014 Major Disaster declaration FEMA-4195-DR, which included Wayne County as I noted above, the official IA PDA results from FEMA included 2,269 assessed homes eligible for an estimated \$11,644,809 in federal assistance through the IHP. However, following the declaration, FEMA actually approved \$156,690,304 in assistance for 73,411 applicants. As you can see, IA applications far exceeded the number of homes that were identified as impacted during the PDA (by a factor of over 32), and the approved financial assistance was over 13 times higher than the initial estimate based on the PDA results. Therefore, it could be assumed that the actual assistance requirements for this disaster may be closer to 68,000 applicants eligible for approximately \$180,000,000 in IHP assistance.

The PDA also established that almost none of the affected households have flood insurance that covers the damages most commonly incurred during flooding (i.e., structural damage to walls and foundations, damage to electrical and mechanical systems, damage to home furnishings, wall treatments, and flooring, loss of appliances such as washers and dryers, and loss of televisions, computers, clothing, and other personal property). Across the two assessed counties, less than three percent of affected households had insurance policies covering flood damages. Lack of insurance might force residents to occupy homes regardless of potentially unhealthy or unsafe conditions. The PDA confirmed the following levels of insurance coverage for affected households in each county:

- Three percent for Washtenaw County; and
- Two percent for Wayne County.

Additionally, flood damage caused by sewer back-ups into basements is not covered under a standard homeowner's and/or flood insurance policy. Rather, a separate sewer back-up rider must be purchased (where available) as part of the homeowner's home insurance policy. Unfortunately, damage surveys indicate that more than 80 percent of households in the affected area might not have such coverage and therefore are left to absorb whatever losses they incurred out-of-pocket, if caused by sewer-backups. For many affected households, sewer back-ups caused much of the flood damage to their homes. Although few households may potentially be eligible for limited financial compensation for sewer back-up damage under Michigan's Governmental Liability of Negligence Act (1964 Public Act 170, as amended, MCL 691.1401 to 691.1419), the amount received, in most cases, will not begin to cover the entirety of their losses.

Limited housing assistance to residents that have been displaced or suffered significant damages to their homes is available at the state level. The Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) funds limited programs that may be used to assist households experiencing homelessness because of general housing instability or due to this disaster. The MDHHS offers additional programs for housing assistance to eligible residents that might have been impacted by this disaster. Their services include the State Emergency Relief Program (SER). SER is a crisis intervention program for needs such as payment for heating fuel, electricity, and home repairs, including furnace repair or replacement. SER also assists with non-energy services such as burial assistance, relocation assistance, home ownership services and other utility services. Eligibility is based on income and demonstration of immediate need. While the crisis season for energy-related services under the program is November 1 through May 31, MDHHS is granting exceptions to flood survivors to ensure their critical needs are met. MDHHS further administers other housing related programs that are available to residents statewide, such as the Home Heating Credit Program and Weatherization Assistance Program for low-income residents. The MDHHS Wayne County office is further planning to allocate \$75,000 in Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funds to issue direct assistance to households in the form of payments with a maximum cap of \$1,500.

MDHHS also utilizes other resources to ensure that needs of disaster survivors are met by providing limited emergency relief assistance, emergency food replacement, and identifying unmet needs for repair, cleanup, debris removal and other disaster-related issues. However, while MDHHS and MSHDA programs are available to disaster survivors, their scope is limited and cannot address many of the housing and recovery needs of the impacted residents. Federal assistance to individuals and households will be critical to ensure that the affected population can effectively recover from this disaster.

Due to the short duration of time between the severe weather event and this request, information on unemployment claims made by affected residents is not yet available (but can be provided at a later time, if needed). Based on the experience from prior disasters, it is likely that residents working at businesses impacted by the severe weather event lost their employment. For example, the five-county disaster area that received Major Disaster declaration FEMA-4547-DR for flooding in 2020 experienced an over-the-year increase of 473.62 percent in unemployment claims in the three weeks following the disaster when compared to the same weeks in 2019. This comes at a time during which the labor market still recovers from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unemployment is only one of several socio-economic indicators that suggest a larger than usual share of disaster survivors will struggle to efficiently recover from the flooding. In the counties of Washtenaw and Wayne, the numbers of residents living in poverty exceed state- and nationwide rates. Residents of the counties of Ionia and Wayne are more likely to receive food stamps or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Huron County has a high percentage of elderly residents, while the counties of Ionia and Wayne have disproportionate shares of residents under the age of 18. In the counties of Huron and Wayne, rates of residents with a disability exceed state and nationwide averages, while households in the counties of Washtenaw and Wayne speak English less than generally expected across Michigan.

Table 1: Demographics of the Disaster Impacted Population

Percentage of the Population:	In Poverty	Receiving Food Stamps or SNAP	Pre-Disaster Unemployment Rate	65 years of age and older	Under 18 years of age	With a Disability	Households speaking English less than very well
U.S.	13.4%	11.7%	3.4%	15.6%	22.6%	12.6%	8.4%
Michigan	14.4%	13.3%	3.7%	16.7%	21.9%	14.2%	3.4%
Huron County	13.0%	10.0%	2.6%	24.7%	19.3%	16.5%	0.9%
Ionia County	11.8%	13.1%	2.6%	14.5%	23.1%	11.5%	0.8%
Washtenaw County	14.0%	7.4%	2.7%	13.4%	18.8%	9.4%	4.3%
Wayne County	22.3%	22.7%	5.4%	15.1%	23.8%	15.8%	5.5%

Yellow shading denotes a county percentage above the state and/or nationwide percentage. This table has been aligned with the criteria suggested in the FEMA Major Disaster/Emergency request template to the maximum extent possible. Additional tables with socio-economic information can be found in Attachment 1.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2015-2019 five-year average.

This illustrates that populations of increased social vulnerability are particularly concentrated in the disaster area. These groups represent disaster survivors that urgently require support, and in many cases will benefit the most from federal assistance. Additional information regarding vulnerabilities and other socio-economic considerations are discussed in greater detail in Attachment 1.

The PA PDA assessments for all four counties referenced in this letter are still ongoing. Due to the severity of the severe weather event and its impacts and the short duration of time since the incident occurred, local jurisdictions are still in the process of assessing public damages, estimating related costs, and assembling appropriate documentation. However, even at this early point in the assessment process, we are anticipating eligible damages in all applicable PA assistance categories. Significant eligible costs are anticipated under Category A – Debris Removal, Category E – Buildings and Equipment, and Category C – Roads and Bridges. Once these damages have been fully

assessed, I am planning to request activation of all applicable PA programs for the impacted counties.

Recognizing their responsibility to make their communities as disaster resilient as possible, be advised that the counties included in this request have collectively invested over \$1.1 million in hazard mitigation planning activities through 14 separate Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) program grants. Wayne County and the City of Ann Arbor (in Washtenaw County) have current Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000-compliant hazard mitigation plans in place. The City of Detroit and the counties of Huron and Ionia are working on updates to their expired hazard mitigation plans.

The jurisdictions have used their hazard mitigation plans to collectively invest more than \$23 million in hazard mitigation measures through 44 HMA grants. The HMA efforts in the affected jurisdictions have primarily focused on flood risk reduction through a variety of project types including, sewer infrastructure upgrades, floodplain acquisition and demolition, localized flood control, and sewer backup prevention. One project implemented in the City of Dearborn undoubtedly mitigated millions of dollars in damages. The project was the most expensive HMA project implemented to-date in Michigan at a cost of approximately \$7 million dollars. In this one incident, the project likely paid for itself. The project was for the construction of new storm sewers to collect storm water flow from Oakwood Hospital property and convey it to a relief outfall on the Rouge River. The project was completed within the last year and appears to have worked flawlessly. Oakwood Hospital suffered more than \$45 million in damages during the 2014 flooding that caused Major Disaster declaration FEMA-4195-DR. Despite impacts within the City of Dearborn seeming to be as significant or even greater in this incident than in 2014, no reports of impacts were received from Oakwood Hospital. Undoubtedly, several other flood mitigation projects implemented in the counties of Washtenaw and Wayne helped keep the impacts of this severe weather event from being even more severe. As time allows, MSP/EMHSD will be following up on how these projects performed during the flooding.

As you can see, the impacted jurisdictions have prepared their communities and responded to this severe weather event in an exemplary manner, but do not have the financial resources available to fully recover from this disaster in a timely manner, or potentially at all in some cases, without receiving supplemental assistance from the federal government. The State of Michigan can provide limited financial assistance to help offset the cost-share for Individual Assistance, but it does not have funding to address all the losses without federal assistance. State law mandates that the Michigan Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund be capped at \$10 million and that grants awarded to individual jurisdictions for reimbursement of public damages only do not exceed between \$250,000 and \$1 million, depending on population size. This cannot adequately cover the damages incurred during this disaster. Enclosure A contains detailed impact and cost information related to the Preliminary Damage Assessment-verified damages that are available at this time but does not include the public damages that are still being assessed.

I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective recovery is beyond the capabilities of the State of Michigan and the affected local governments, and that supplemental federal relief assistance is necessary. At this time, I am specifically requesting activation of all IA programs for the counties of Wayne and

Washtenaw. Preliminary estimates of types and amount of IA needed under the Stafford Act are tabulated and included in Enclosure A.

I will request activation of PA programs for applicable categories for the counties included in this request at a later time when PA damages have been finally assessed and verified through the Joint PDA. Enclosure B with the estimated Stafford Act PA requirements and cost estimates will be submitted with that request.

Attachment 1, "Socio-economic Profile of the Affected Counties" provides an overview of the demographics and economic status for the disaster area. Information regarding the nature and amount of local, nongovernmental, and state resources that have been or will be used to alleviate the conditions of this disaster can be found in Attachment 2, "Significant Local and State Response and Recovery Actions." Maps, flood charts, and damage photographs can be found in Attachment 3, "Supporting Maps and Photographs." Additional information from the National Weather Service regarding the weather conditions that caused this disaster is available under Attachment 4, "Weather-related information."

I certify that for this major disaster, the state and local governments will assume all applicable non-federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act. Total non-federal share expenditures for Individual Assistance programs are expected to equal or exceed \$645,048, in accordance with the tables in Enclosure A.

I have designated Insp. Michele Sosinski of the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. She will work with FEMA on recovery program implementation and may provide further information or justification on my behalf.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Whitmer
Governor

Attachments and Enclosures:

- Attachment 1 – Socio-economic Profile of the Affected Counties
- Attachment 2 – Significant Local and State Response and Recovery Actions
- Attachment 3 – Supporting Maps and Photographs
- Attachment 4 – Weather-related information

OMB No. 1660-0009/FEMA Form 010-0-13

Enclosure A – Individual Assistance

Enclosure B – Public Assistance (Not applicable at this time)

Enclosure C – Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs

Enclosure D – Historic and Current Snowfall (Not applicable to this request)

ATTACHMENT 1 TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Demographic Profile of the Affected Counties

	Population	Black or African American	Hispanic origin (of any race)	Under 18 years old	Elderly (65+ years)	Persons with Disability
National	308,745,538	12.6%	16.3%	22.6%	15.6%	12.6%
State	9,883,640	14.2%	4.4%	21.9%	16.7%	14.2%
Huron County	33,118	0.4%	2.0%	19.3%	24.7%	16.5%
Ionia County	63,905	4.7%	4.4%	23.1%	14.5%	11.5%
Washtenaw County	344,791	12.7%	4.0%	18.8%	13.4%	9.4%
Wayne County*	1,820,584	40.5%	5.2%	23.8%	15.1%	15.8%

*Also specified in the 2014 flood disaster (DR-4195-MI) as suffering concentrated flood impacts.

Yellow shading denotes greater potential levels of disaster sensitivity or vulnerability.

Data Sources

Population, Race/Ethnicity: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 U.S. Census Summary File 1
Elderly, Under 18, Disability: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2015-2019 five-year average
Accessed July 7 to 12, 2021 from data.census.gov.

The four impacted counties each have socioeconomic features that distinguish them from Michigan averages and could indicate various forms of increased vulnerability (or lesser resiliency). The damages occurred in very diverse locations and types of areas, ranging from rural tornado impacts to extensive urban flood impacts. The table above provides comparisons between national, state, county, and local areas with respect to six demographic variables. Yellow-shaded cells within the table indicate areas in which the local statistic was noted as significantly more likely to indicate a socioeconomic vulnerability, compared to values for the State of Michigan as a whole.

The first distinctive indicator in the tables involves the importance of the flood impacts upon the African American community concentrated within Wayne County, especially since some of the impacted areas had also been struck by another flood disaster (DR-4195-MI) in 2014. Historically, the Detroit Metropolitan Region has struggled with issues of racial and ethnic segregation and integration, and although some advances had been observed within recent decades, involving the spatial breakdown of old segregation patterns, these patterns have not necessarily kept pace with similar trends throughout the rest of the country. There is an understandable consciousness of the unequal impacts caused by disasters, especially flooding, in which the more affordable housing in an area may turn out to involve higher risks from flood damages and their associated risks of health impacts.

The impacts of this disaster have affected a densely populated area of great social and ethnic diversity, in which additional resources are needed to effectively overcome language barriers and challenges involving access to political and resource networks and other socioeconomic resources. The disaster area includes Detroit's primary at-risk floodplain—the Jefferson Chalmers neighborhood on the city's far east side (census tract 5133, 69.1% of which are African American residents). Historically, the central city of Detroit, plus aging inner-city (Hamtramck, Highland Park) and inner-ring suburbs (e.g., Inkster) have long felt budgetary challenges when it comes to keeping up the provision of adequate services, infrastructure, and its maintenance. Both the African American and Arab-American communities in these areas are disproportionately affected by this disaster, and this fact must be noted because some of these residents rely much more heavily upon ethnic networks and local ethnic resources (e.g., Arabic-language services) than is the case for residents who are a part of the white majority. When a

disaster closes a business, church, or other resource that is part of an ethnic network, it is not as easy for substitute sources of a resource to be provided through alternative means. Dearborn and Hamtramck have large Arabic-speaking communities, and both suffered documented flood impacts in this disaster.

Economically, the range of impacted residences vary from aged inner-city rental units to large wealthy suburban mansions. The tornadic wind impacts from the disastrous weather system have affected outlying rural and small-town communities. Huron and Ionia counties have the likely vulnerability of below-average per capita incomes. As noted in the following table, the disaster area includes some distinctive vulnerabilities on the basis of age, with some areas containing more than the expected proportion of young children under five years old, and others containing a higher-than-average proportion of senior citizens, including those on limited budgets and recipients of government aid programs. Huron County has a relatively high number of residents receiving Social Security and retirement income prior to this disaster. The percentage of persons with disabilities was unusually high in both Huron and Wayne counties.

	Persons Below Poverty Level (past 12 months)	Per Capita Income (\$)	Unemployment Rate (of ages 16+)	Renter-occupied housing units	Households speaking language other than English	Households speaking English less than "very well"
National Average	13.4%	34,103	3.4%	34.9%	21.6%	8.4%
State Average	14.4%	31,713	3.7%	27.9%	9.7%	3.4%
Huron County	13.0%	27,852	2.6%	18.2%	3.7%	0.9%
Ionia County	11.8%	24,864	2.6%	22.3%	2.9%	0.8%
Washtenaw County	14.0%	41,399	2.7%	39.1%	15.2%	4.3%
Wayne County	22.3%	27,282	5.4%	35.3%	14.6%	5.5%

Yellow shading denotes greater potential levels of disaster sensitivity or vulnerability.

	Received Social Security income	Received Retirement income	Received Supplemental Security Income	Received cash public assistance income	Received Food Stamp/SNAP benefits in past year
National Average	31.2%	19.9%	5.3%	2.4%	11.7%
State Average	34.7%	23.7%	6.1%	2.3%	13.3%
Huron County	43.5%	26.3%	6.8%	1.8%	10.0%
Ionia County	34.7%	23.1%	6.4%	2.6%	13.1%
Washtenaw County	25.8%	19.0%	3.6%	1.4%	7.4%
Wayne County	33.2%	22.2%	9.4%	3.1%	22.7%

Yellow shading denotes greater potential levels of disaster sensitivity or vulnerability.

Data Sources

Poverty Level, Median Household Income, Per Capita Income, Unemployment, Limited English-Speaking: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2015-2019 five-year average
Renter-occupied: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 U.S. Census Summary File 1
Accessed July 7 to 12, 2021 from data.census.gov.

The preceding tables add information about other important socioeconomic indicators. Linguistically, there are areas (Washtenaw and Wayne counties) in which a relatively high proportion of households have limited English language usage. These same two counties have

a relatively high percentage of renters. Wayne County has below-average income levels and above-average rates of poverty and unemployment, accompanied by higher-than average reliance upon Supplemental Security Income, cash public assistance income, and SNAP food benefits during the time preceding this disaster.

ATTACHMENT 2 TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Significant Local and State Response and Recovery Actions

Volunteer Response. The volunteer response to this disaster has been extensive, expeditious, and coordinated. As of July 10, 2021, the engagement of over a dozen voluntary organizations active in disaster (VOADs) and thousands of donations have been coordinated through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS), Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS), Team Rubicon, American Red Cross, Disaster Relief at Work (DRAW), Southern Baptists Disaster Relief, United Way of Southeast Michigan, World Renew, Long Term Recovery Group of Southeast Michigan, Crisis Cleanup, Region 2 Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (R2 VOAD), Michigan Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (MI VOAD), Michigan 2-1-1, Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC), MSP/EMHSD, Wayne County Emergency Management, City of Detroit Emergency Management, and other community-based organizations.

Early in the response and recovery efforts in southeast Michigan, donations to the local response were critical to assisting homeowners stabilize and begin cleaning up their homes. Within the first week of operations, over 2,000 clean up kits were donated to the City of Detroit and Wayne County, fulfilling resource requests from these impacted communities. By the close of the second week of operations, over 6,000 clean up kits were delivered to these communities by the LCMS (350 clean up kits), DRAW (200 clean up kits), and UMCOR (three truckloads of 2,080 clean up kits). In addition to these donations from VOADs in response to the requests by impacted municipalities, the United Way of Southeast Michigan, Good360, Bank of America/Focus: Hope, the LDS, and the American Red Cross have handed out clean up kits directly to those in need through their outreach efforts. These clean up kits which have been donated by these various VOAD and community partners include buckets/boxes, mops/mop heads, cleaning solutions, gloves, and a variety of other cleaning supplies to provide the impacted individuals with a means to begin their recovery.

Volunteers began aiding disaster survivors as soon as they were made aware of needs in the impacted area. Michigan 2-1-1 provided a critical piece of support in handling situational awareness with the public and identifying unmet needs for disaster recovery. As of July 9, Michigan 2-1-1 received 5,128 calls for assistance and has handled 4,984 cases or requests. In addition to connecting callers to services often provided by volunteers, Michigan 2-1-1 also inputs case information into Crisis Cleanup, a disaster needs system utilized by volunteer organizations. This system, as of July 10, 2021, includes 722 closed cases, 2,192 unclaimed cases, and 696 claimed cases.

Multiple VOAD organizations have already deployed to the impacted area to claim cases noted in Crisis Cleanup. The majority of the VOADs deployed to this incident thus far have provided muck out services for homeowners whose properties have flooded and require assistance in removing the water-logged or otherwise impacted possessions and materials. One of the first groups to deploy was the CAM-Indiana Rapid Response Team, which claimed and completed 53 cases in Crisis Cleanup (as of July 10). The Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints also coordinated multiple teams to provide muck out services to disaster survivors and claimed a total of 895 cases, completing 891 of them in Crisis Cleanup (as of July 10). Further, DRAW has claimed 8 cases and completed 4 (July 10), and continues to look to coordinate additional volunteers. The Southern Baptists Disaster Relief deployed a team to begin muck outs in impacted homes and has claimed 19 cases in Crisis Cleanup, completing 15 (July 10). The most recent VOAD deployed to the impacted are Team Rubicon, which deployed a team as of

July 8 for continued operations through July 14 to conduct muck outs for those impacted. As of July 10, Team Rubicon has claimed 52 cases and completed 25 of them in Crisis Cleanup.

In addition to these teams which have already deployed to the area, additional VOAD partners are coordinating to deploy muck out teams, including NECHAMA, and World Renew. Other VOAD partners have rallied to offer other forms of recovery assistance to disaster survivors including the American Red Cross, which is (as of July 10) doing needs assessment in the impacted areas and distributing clean up kits. Following their needs assessment, American Red Cross is interested in offering case management support and other needs assistance. UMCOR is a partner of the state that has provided disaster case management support Major Disaster FEMA-4547-DR, which was declared for severe storms and flooding in the counties of Arenac, Gladwin, Iosco, and Midland; and has also expressed the interest to provide disaster case management services for disaster survivors in this incident.

In addition to the VOAD partners above, the MCSC began reaching out to the United Way of Southeast Michigan early in the disaster to coordinate the provision of a virtual volunteer reception center sign up. The United Way of Southeast Michigan has created a web portal for spontaneous unaffiliated volunteers to sign up to assist with recovery operations. Through their coordination with the MCSC and other VOADs, the United Way of Southeast Michigan has also provided various materials for cleanup kit donations and has offered volunteers to VOADs for further response in the future. As of July 11, the MCSC had connected with the City of Detroit's list of 270 volunteers which, once verified as vaccinated against COVID-19, will be coordinated with United Way of Southeast Michigan to address cases found in Crisis Cleanup through matches with VOAD agencies. The MCSC has also reached out to AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) on behalf of NECHAMA about potential deployment to this disaster to assist with recovery efforts. In coordination with the R2 VOAD, MCSC has also secured housing options for NECHAMA and Team Rubicon volunteers.

The City of Detroit, Wayne County, and other impacted municipalities have further expressed an interest in learning about the way in which volunteers and VOADs are deployed for disaster relief. On June 29, Wayne County Emergency Management leadership attended a meeting in which Crisis Cleanup's use, programs, and systems were demonstrated, and the link between Crisis Cleanup and 211 was clarified. Further, on June 30, a presentation on Crisis Cleanup, Michigan 2-1-1, and VOAD muck out deployments was provided to impacted jurisdictions. This presentation included representatives from Crisis Cleanup, Michigan 2-1-1, and the state. Educating local emergency management coordinators and partners of the role that Michigan 2-1-1 plays in conjunction with Crisis Cleanup and VOADs lead to greater interest and faith in the deployment of volunteers in a disaster.

As of July 9, Wayne County took management of a Virtual Volunteer Coordination Center (VVCC) plan which the state provided as guidance for coordinating county emergency response and recovery operations with the spontaneous volunteer management from United Way and MCSC, and the affiliated volunteers from the MI VOAD and R2 VOAD. This Wayne County VVCC is an expression of the local emergency management's interest in further coordinating with volunteers. In addition to the efforts of Wayne County, the City of Detroit has also begun a local volunteer coordination effort.

Many gaps remain despite the outstanding efforts of VOADs to donate clean up kits to enable disaster survivors to facilitate their own recovery; VOADs, state agencies, and local partners to facilitate volunteer muck out efforts on the ground and solicit future volunteer assistance for disaster survivors; and local efforts by the impacted city and county to support

volunteer operations. Many disaster survivors have already been impacted by flooding in 2014, 2016, and 2019, and many local volunteers are impacted themselves. Further, the volunteers and VOADs able to assist may have competing areas of interest to assist or deploy teams to due to the continuing hurricane season. The local emergency management interest in coordinating with volunteers in earnest requires the establishment of new processes and additional time, guidance, and expertise to establish an order to better serve the disaster survivors. Further, to facilitate long-term recovery operations, the coordination of MCSC, United Way, R2 VOAD, the impacted jurisdictions, and various other volunteer and community resources is critical.

Debris Removal to Protect Public Health and Safety. Debris management was a critically important recovery issue in the days and weeks following this disaster. Particularly in Wayne County, extensive and rapid debris operations were required to clear flood-damaged building materials and personal property from curbs and rights-of-way in residential and commercial areas to protect public health and safety and enable the use of roadways, sidewalks, and fire hydrants. The wet, heavy, contaminated flood debris from flood-damaged homes and businesses created potentially dangerous and unsanitary conditions in the affected areas, which are heavily developed and densely populated. Due to the potential for a public health emergency, it was necessary for the affected local communities to muster all the private and public debris clearance and removal resources they could to ensure rapid and environmentally compliant removal and disposal of this debris.

The affected local jurisdictions did an exemplary job in rapidly managing this difficult and potentially life-threatening emergency. The local municipal trash haulers, private haulers, as well as contracting additional waste removal companies, all worked towards the collection and transportation of flood debris to approved landfill facilities. These debris removal efforts however came at a cost to the affected local jurisdictions. As of July 11, jurisdictions in Wayne County alone estimated costs for management and removal of debris in excess of \$16 million, and anticipate that number to rise going forward, as not all debris had been picked up and residents were still in the process of moving debris from their properties.

Emergency Public Information. During the first hours and days after the flooding occurred, the affected local jurisdictions and several Michigan state agencies undertook a comprehensive emergency public information campaign. Many state level news releases were coordinated through the SEOC Public Information Officer (PIO) and included information from various engaged agencies.

Of particular concern were the health and safety risks associated with standing flood water and severe infrastructure and structural damage, and guidelines to support residents in their safe cleanup and recovery activities. The MSP/EMHSD also created a website specifically dedicated to the flood impacts in Southeast Michigan, which featured helpful resources for flood survivors.

This public information campaign continues today and will continue for the foreseeable future until all recovery-related issues and concerns have been effectively dealt with. All appropriate media sources have been utilized in this campaign, including television, radio, print media, and web and social media sites. The campaign has been successful in minimizing flood-related injuries and health and safety problems. Social media has been a significant tool to facilitate communication with the public. Many communities have used their social media channels and web sites to communicate activities and impacts.

Critical Facilities and Infrastructure Restoration. Several critical facility and infrastructure emergency restoration measures were implemented in the affected counties and

local communities during the response to the severe flooding. Particularly hard hit were interstate highways, major state roadways and local roads in the affected counties. Many roadway sections in and around the disaster area were inundated with flood water. Rising river levels damaged some bridges, further causing extended travel and emergency vehicle response times. This forced the closures of many affected roadway sections. Significant closures particularly impacted Wayne County and southeast Michigan, as Interstates I-75 and I-94 and state highway M-39 experienced closures that lasted from hours to weeks. During closures, physical damage was assessed, and safety checks of roads, bridges, and related infrastructure occurred. These assessments were conducted by crews from the Michigan Department of Transportation, Michigan State Police, and county and local road and law enforcement agencies. They initiated appropriate facility repair and restoration measures so that the closed bridges and sections of roadway could be safely reopened to the motoring public. However, some of the damages will require more extensive permanent repairs which will take several weeks to several months to complete once funding is available to finance the repairs.

The international Detroit River Rail Tunnel between the City of Detroit (Wayne County) and the City of Windsor in Ontario, Canada, which is operated by CP Rail, was also flooded. The flooding overwhelmed the existing dewatering system in the tunnel, so additional pumps needed to be installed to dewater the tunnel into the Detroit River.

Garden City Hospital in Garden City (Wayne County) sustained flooding of its basement level. This impacted its power supply and entry for ambulances, leading to the hospital operating on generator power and not being able to accept patients by ambulance for several days. The flooding also damaged the fire pump for the facility's sprinkler system, which was also located in the basement. While the sprinkler system has been fixed and a remediation company addressed the contamination of the basement level caused by floodwaters, it is anticipated that it will take one to two months until the facility will be able to operate at full capacity.

The Michigan Department of Corrections had to put four facilities in Ionia County on lockdown status in response to the tornado warnings issued for the county. However, no tornado damage was sustained at the facilities.

In the City of Highland Park (Wayne County), the Police Department was displaced from its offices in city hall due to flooding and had to temporarily relocate its offices to other city property.

Damages from flooding and high winds caused widespread power outages. Over 110,000 customers of electric utilities were without power at least at one point during the weekend of June 26 and 27. DTE Energy was hit particularly hard with over 90,000 outages, as damages were not only sustained to poles and lines, but also to two substations in southeast Michigan. While one of the facilities was repaired relatively quickly once flood waters receded, substantial damage to the second substation required the deployment of large-scale generators for providing power for customers. Issues with power outages, including the failure of a substation, were also persistent in Huron County, where outages could only be resolved in the middle of the week following the tornado. A series of intermittent thunderstorms in the week after the onset of this incident caused additional significant outages across the state, further stretching thin repair and line crews, causing additional delays to power restoration.

In addition to power outages, there were also some disruptions to natural gas supply. This was particularly an issue in Huron County, where DTE Energy also had to address a gas leak. In

Wayne County, several wastewater overflows and impacts to wastewater treatment facilities also needed to be addressed.

Search and Rescue. In southeast Michigan, hundreds of emergency calls related to vehicles stranded or trapped on roadways were received overnight from June 25 to June 26. Dispatchers at the Detroit Regional Communication Center (DRCC) were able to advise motorists on how to leave their vehicles in the safest manner possible, or alerted emergency services for assistance when necessary. The Michigan State Police alone cleared a total of 118 vehicles, 13 of which were submerged and had to be reached by divers. Two individuals were rescued from their vehicles.

Evacuations and Sheltering. The American Red Cross operated three shelters for residents that were displaced due to flooding (in the City of Detroit in Wayne County and in the City of Ann Arbor in Washtenaw County) or tornado impacts (in the City of Bad Axe in Huron County). A skilled nursing and long-term care facility in the City of Wayne (Wayne County) had to evacuate patients due to flooding. Twelve patients had to be temporarily moved to other facilities, and others were moved to rooms in the facility that were not impacted. An apartment complex in the City of Ypsilanti (Washtenaw County) received around six inches of water in 17 of its units, which led to the temporary displacement of 23 adults and 19 children. The American Red Cross assisted with ensuring that residents found alternative housing options.

State Response and Recovery Assistance Efforts. Michigan's state departments and agencies and nongovernmental partner organizations have provided whatever appropriate resources they had at their avail to assist the affected counties and local jurisdictions in responding to and recovering from this flood disaster. Although the following is by no means an all-inclusive accounting of all response and recovery efforts, it does provide brief synopses of some of the more noteworthy efforts:

The **Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD)** began to monitor the incident in the morning of June 26 after reports of flooding were first received from affected local emergency management agencies. Immediate communications were established with local emergency management officials to assess the nature, scope, and magnitude of the incident and to help coordinate the provision of state resources as needed. At 11:00 a.m. on the same day, the MSP/EMHSD activated the SEOC in response to this incident.

Throughout the incident, the MSP/EMHSD staffed command, operations, logistics, planning, public information, private sector and voluntary agency liaison, mapping and geospatial information systems, and technical support positions to fully support local jurisdictions, state departments/agencies and nongovernmental partners. During this period, the MSP/EMHSD coordinated all resource requests received from the affected local jurisdictions, ensuring that each request was appropriately addressed in a timely manner. The MSP/EMHSD also coordinated the collection, compilation, review, analysis, synthesis, and reporting of damage and impact assessment information received from the affected jurisdictions and state agencies. The MSP/EMHSD also conducted several briefings for local officials, state agencies and nongovernmental partners, and other interested parties, to keep all stakeholders apprised of ongoing or planned activities and areas of concern. SEOC activities were focused on planned incident management objectives to ensure that state resources were being appropriately utilized to address the most pressing issues. In addition, the MSP/EMHSD developed written situation status reports and public information releases to keep SEOC staff, state government executive and legislative leadership, local officials, our emergency management partners, and the public

informed of ongoing issues, concerns, activities, and opportunities for coordination and/or involvement. The MSP/EMHSD worked closely with FEMA officials to coordinate and conduct Preliminary Damage in the impact area. The MSP/EMHSD was instrumental in the set-up of and conduct of the Preliminary Damage Assessment, handling all administrative and logistical aspects of the operation from the SEOC and an on-site coordination center established at the Double Tree Inn in the City of Dearborn (Wayne County). Assessments started on July 8 and concluded for IA related damages on July 10. MSP/EMHSD staff remains engaged with local jurisdictions and FEMA throughout the still ongoing assessment process for PA related damages.

Lastly, using the assessment information and findings from the Preliminary Damage Assessment, the MSP/EMHSD provided considerable technical assistance to me and my staff in the drafting of this request letter and in compiling the supporting information found in the various Attachments and Enclosures.

The **Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD)** made available flood clean-up (to include sewage) guidance to affected food establishments in impacted areas. This guidance was provided in English, Spanish, Arabic, and Mandarin languages. MDARD also shared flooding information response guidance for homeowners and animal owners from the Multi-State Partnership for Security in Agriculture. MDARD coordinated field staff to assess the impact of the flooding on the food and agriculture sector and to determine appropriate follow-up measures necessary to protect public health (providing clean-up guidance to food establishments was one of the measures). During this outreach process, MDARD focused on retail establishments in the impacted areas, especially the hardest hit areas in Wayne County. In addition, MDARD also reached out to the affected health departments who license and inspect restaurants. MDARD personnel also inspected several gasoline and other fuel stations in the affected area to determine if any had issues with flood water in their gasoline storage tanks (no issues found). MDARD contacted agricultural industry groups to ascertain damage to crops in affected areas; some damage occurred outside of Wayne County particularly in areas that experienced high winds and tornadoes. The full extent to damage to crops will likely not be known until harvest occurs; farmers with crops damaged by the floods or other severe weather should contact their USDA-Farm Service Agency County Office for potential relief.

The **Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC)** is supporting various partners in the flooding incident in southeast Michigan. The MCSC is supporting the United Way for Southeastern Michigan in serving as a central location for volunteer and financial donations. United Way is posting all opportunities that the public can select to engage and volunteer with Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD). They are offering background checks, vaccination screening, and communication to assist with the volunteer process. The MCSC is also supporting VOADs in their effort to locate housing in the area. The MCSC has secured housing at Wayne State University in the City of Detroit (Wayne County) for 50 people in apartments with cooking facilities through July 31 at no cost. Two VOADs have signed housing agreements with Wayne State University: Team Rubicon and Nechama. Working with the MI VOAD association and the SEOC Voluntary Agency Liaison (VAL), MCSC is identifying all VOADs and their operation to assist with their collaborative efforts. Many VOADs and other volunteer teams are only conducting muck outs, and thus MCSC is coordinating with Southern Baptist Disaster Relief and Samaritan's Purse to offer mold remediation efforts. In partnership with Nechama, MCSC is requesting a team of ten to twelve AmeriCorps National Civilian Conservation Corps (NCCC) members from AmeriCorps the Agency (Corporation for National and Community Service) to do muck outs in the area. Additional requests for other AmeriCorps teams will be made if a federal disaster is declared. MCSC is partnering with the City of Detroit to consolidate the lists of residents who need muck out assistance they have created into Crisis Cleanup and is

also helping to coordinate the deployment process and increase volunteer teams to meet the needs. MCSC has begun to work in the Dearborn area of Wayne County to offer support. MCSC will offer assistance with collecting volunteer hours electronically and offer help as the effort moves forward with long term recovery efforts.

The **Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)** has provided Emergency Authorization for Temporary Waste Handling and Storage for the following jurisdictions: City of Westland (Wayne County) and City of Warren (Macomb County, not included in this request). EGLE has been providing technical assistance when requested through normal processes to local jurisdictions and other state agencies.

The **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)** continues to provide limited emergency relief assistance available through registration and eligibility requirements, has assisted with emergency food replacement, and addresses identified unmet needs for repair, cleanup, debris removal and other recovery related issues. Between just June 28 and July 8, MDHHS received approximately 5,000 requests for assistance under their food assistance program (FAP) and state emergency relief (SER) program at their Wayne County locations alone.

The **Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (MDLARA)** monitored the operations of regulated health care facilities affected by flooding issues related to the storms; and conducted onsite inspections for readmittance and infection control.

The **Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)** offered and placed on standby vehicles and vessels for search and rescue operations, which ultimately did not need to be deployed. The department assessed its lands and facilities in impacted areas and found that no damages were incurred.

The **Michigan State Police (MSP)** deployed considerable resources during the flood response to assist local officials in controlling access to flooded areas, conducting search and rescue in flooded areas, assisting with security and traffic control as required. The MSP Aviation Unit also flew aerial reconnaissance and an assessment missions over the affected areas to aid local and state officials in determining the scope and magnitude of the flooding, and to take aerial photographs and video footage of flooded areas for damage and impact assessment purposes. The MSP Intelligence Operations Division, Operations Section also assisted at the SEOC, and the Michigan Intelligence Operations Center (MIOC) monitored the flooding conditions and sent out situational awareness bulletins on the weather and flooding to stakeholder partners through the duration of the response and recovery.

The **Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)** performed maintenance, emergency repairs, traffic management, damage assessment, and addressed closures of segments of state highways that were inundated by floodwaters in the impacted counties. MDOT is gathering information on the scope and magnitude of road and bridge damage from local public road agencies in the affected counties. MDOT is coordinating with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regarding eligibility of federal assistance programs.

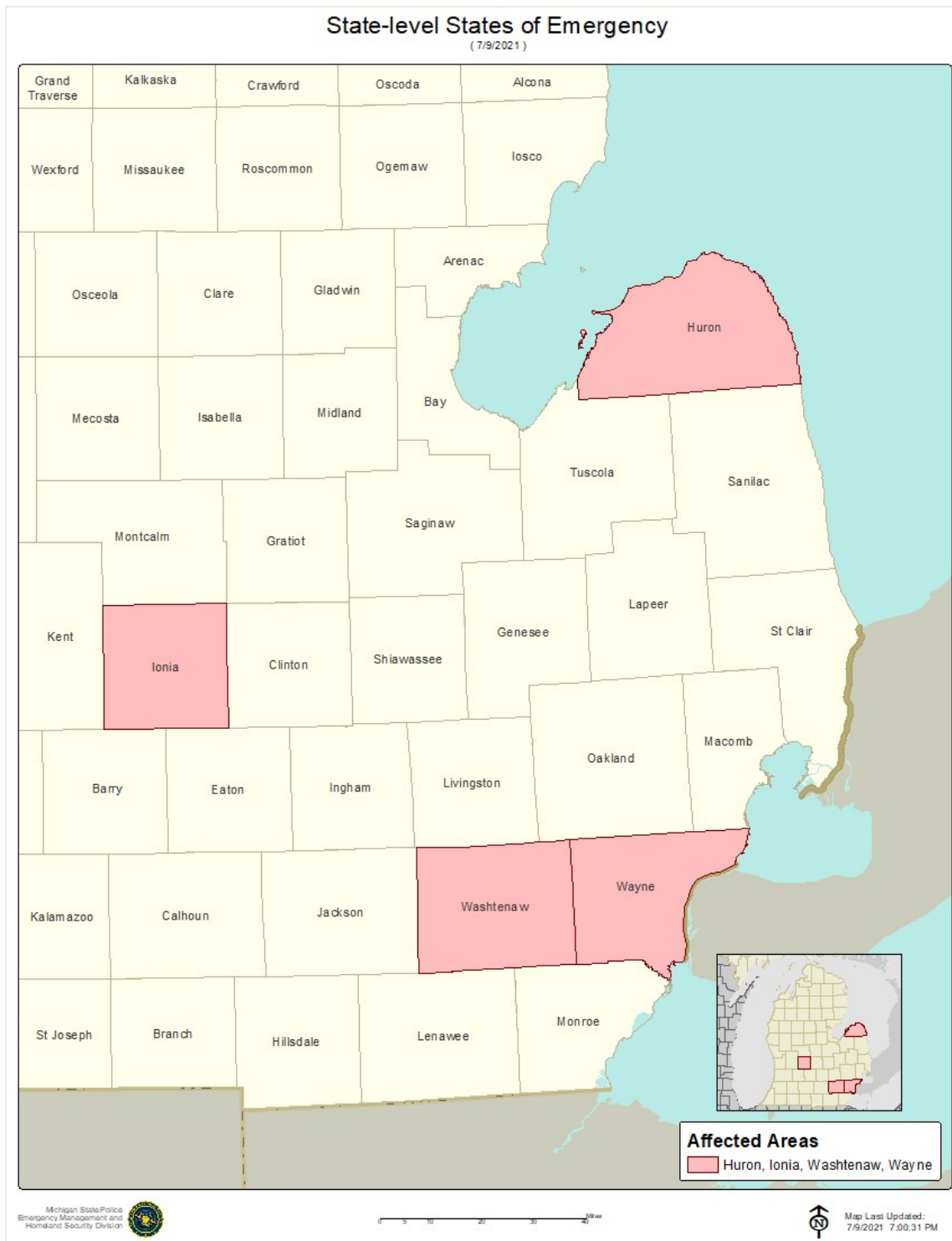
The **Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget (MDTMB)** assisted in obtaining needed resources for emergency operations and flood recovery through standing vendor contracts and the State's emergency procurement process, coordinated the deployment of these materials utilizing MDTMB distribution vehicles, assisted with communication assessments, and continues to serve as the conduit of information flow for emergency purchases.

Extensive damage was also sustained in at least three MDTMB managed and operated facilities. At the time of this request, MDTMB is still assessing the full extent of the facility damage. This process has been broken down into two phases, Mitigation and Recovery. Clean up efforts continue with estimated costs exceeding \$1.1 million due the removal of contaminated materials. Once removed, MDTMB will receive the projected costs for repair which is currently underway.

ATTACHMENT 3 TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

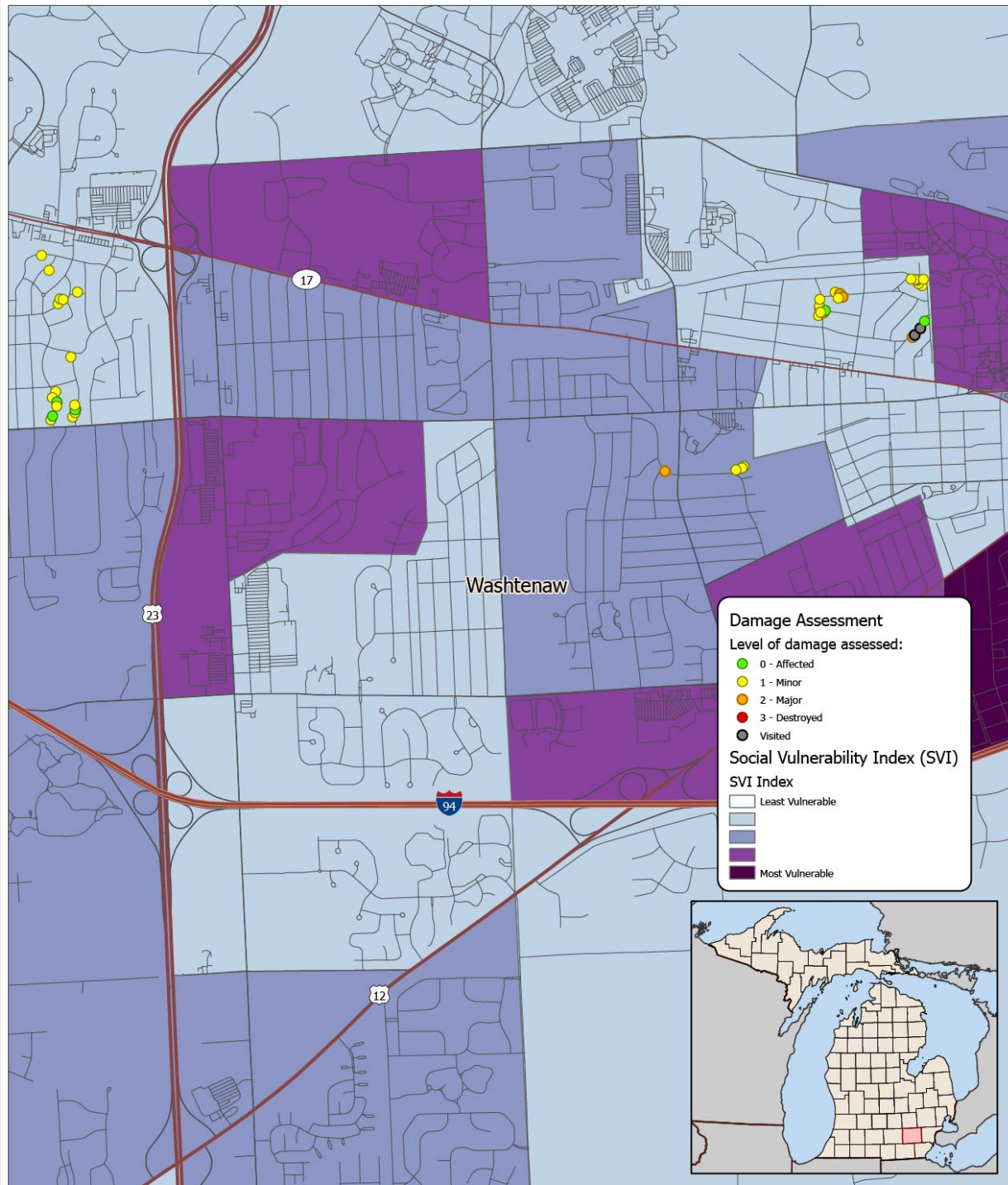
Supporting Maps and Photographs

Disaster Area Maps



Source: State Emergency Operations Center, Geographic Information System Unit

WASHTENAW COUNTY IA DAMAGE ASSESSMENT



Michigan State Police
Emergency Management and
Homeland Security Division

0 0.28 0.55 1.1 Miles



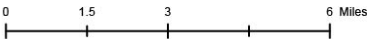
Date: 7/12/2021

Source: State Emergency Operations Center, Geographic Information System Unit

WAYNE COUNTY MAJOR ROAD CLOSURES



Michigan State Police
Emergency Management and
Homeland Security Division



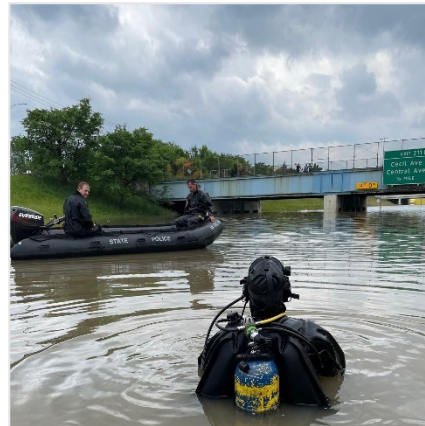
Date: 7/12/2021

Source: State Emergency Operations Center, Geographic Information System Unit

Source: State Emergency Operations Center, Geographic Information System Unit

Selected Photographs of Disaster Damage and Impacts

Please note: Due to COVID-19 social distancing considerations, no pictures of damage were taken in residences during damage assessments.

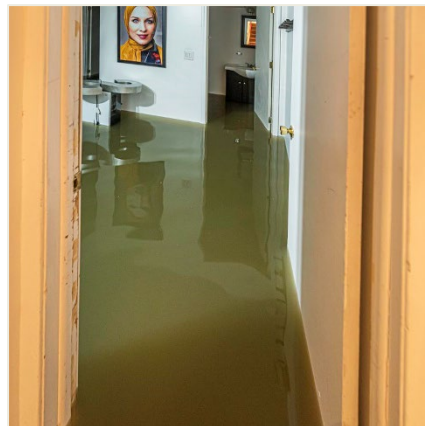
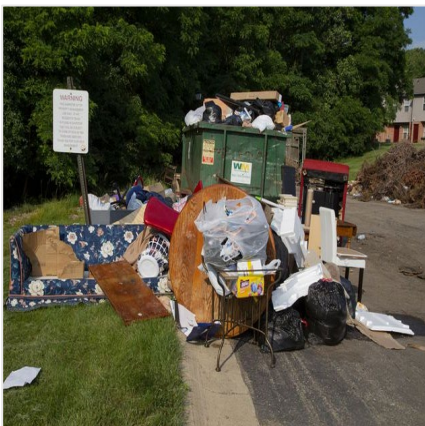
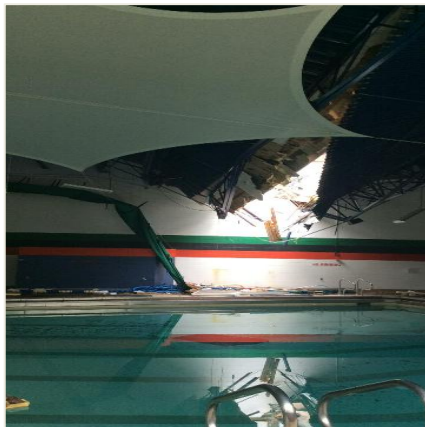
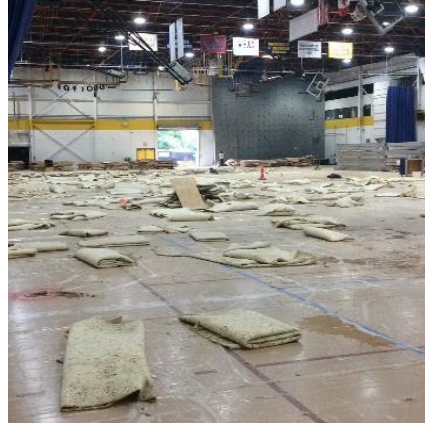


Row 1: Debris in residential neighborhood, Wayne County.

Row 2, L-R: Flooded Interstate expressway, Wayne County; Water rescue operations, Wayne County.

Row 3: Interstate expressways closed for repairs and debris removal, Wayne County.

Selected Photographs of Disaster Damage and Impacts (cont.)



Row 1: Public damages and flood/mold remediation, Wayne County.
Row 2: Public damages, Wayne County
Row 3, L-R: Debris at apartment complex, Washtenaw County (source: mlive.com); Basement flooding, Washtenaw County (source: mlive.com/Stephen Silverberg Photographic)

Selected Photographs of Disaster Damage and Impacts (cont.)



Row 1: Agricultural impact, Huron County.
Row 2: Damaged homes, Huron County.
Row 3: Utility response, Huron County.

Selected Photographs of Disaster Damage and Impacts (cont.)



Row 1: Agricultural impact, Ionia County.
Row 2, L-R: Residential damage and agricultural impact, Ionia County; Utility response, Ionia County.
Row 3: Road damage, Ionia County

ATTACHMENT 4 TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Weather-related information

National Weather Service Images and Precipitation Report

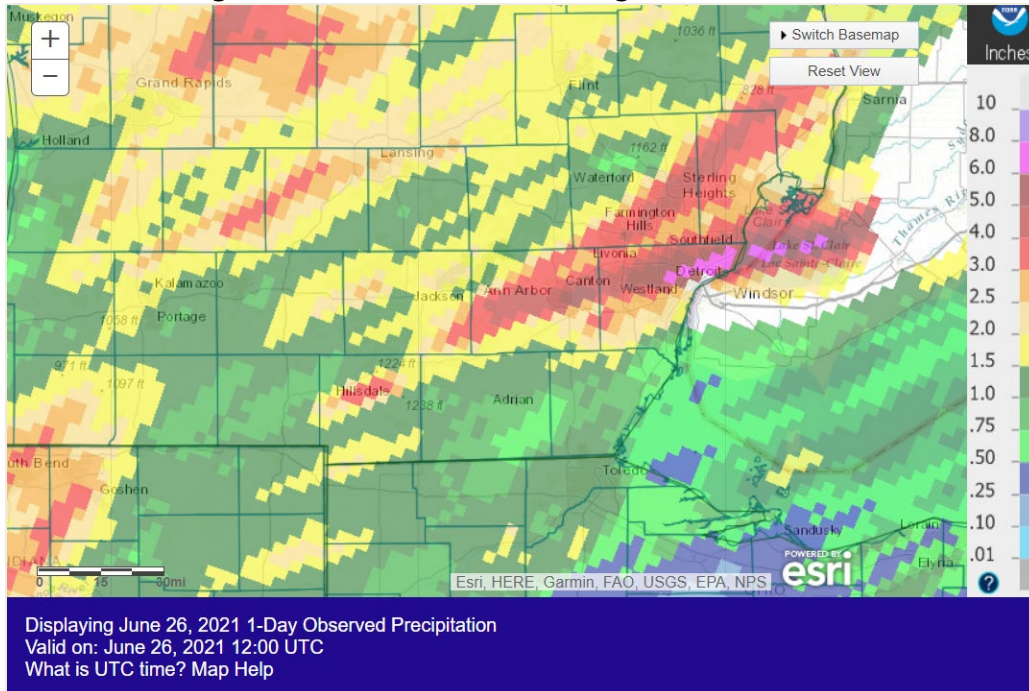
Rainfall totals in Washtenaw and Wayne Counties Selected Precipitation Reports for June 25 through June 26, 2021

Location	Rainfall
Grosse Pointe Park	8.19
Detroit	8.00
Ypsilanti (Willow Run Airport)	6.76
Grosse Pointe Farms	6.50
Southeast Ann Arbor	5.60
Northwest Ann Arbor	5.34
Dearborn Heights	5.20
3 SE Ann Arbor	4.69
Detroit City Airport	4.30
Canton	3.99
Livonia	3.93
Ann Arbor Airport	3.69
Taylor	3.44
Metro Airport	1.75

Note: All totals measured

Source: National Weather Service – Detroit/Pontiac

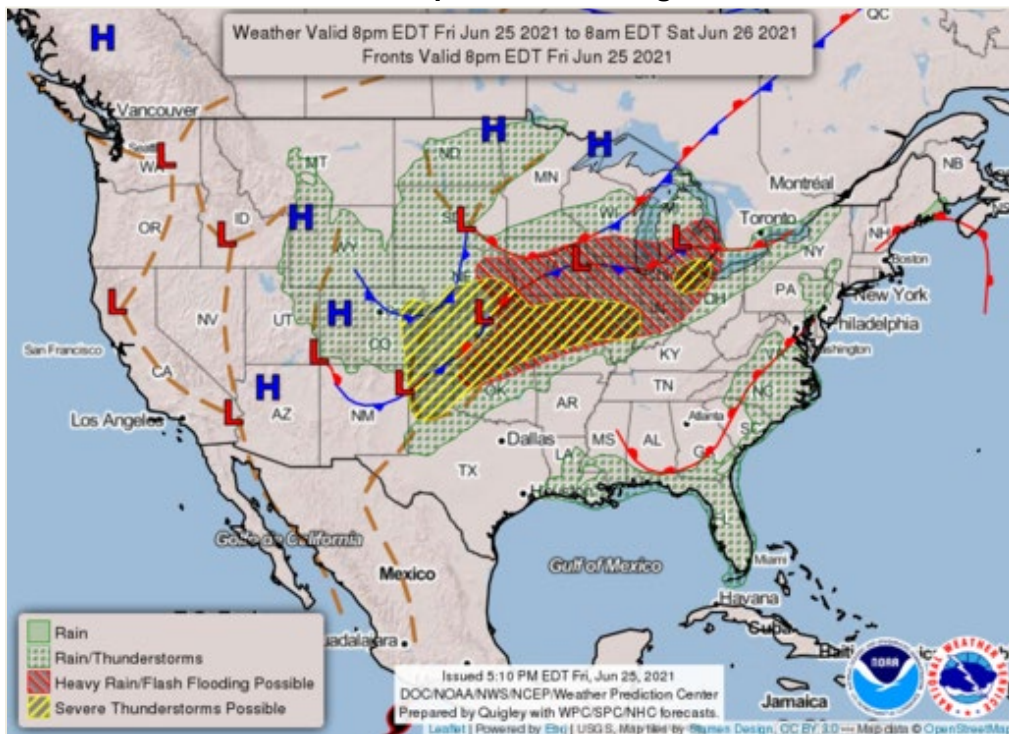
Rainfall totals in Southeast Lower Michigan Radar Image for 24 Hour Rainfall Ending at 8:00 a.m. June 26, 2021



Source: National Weather Service – Detroit/Pontiac Office

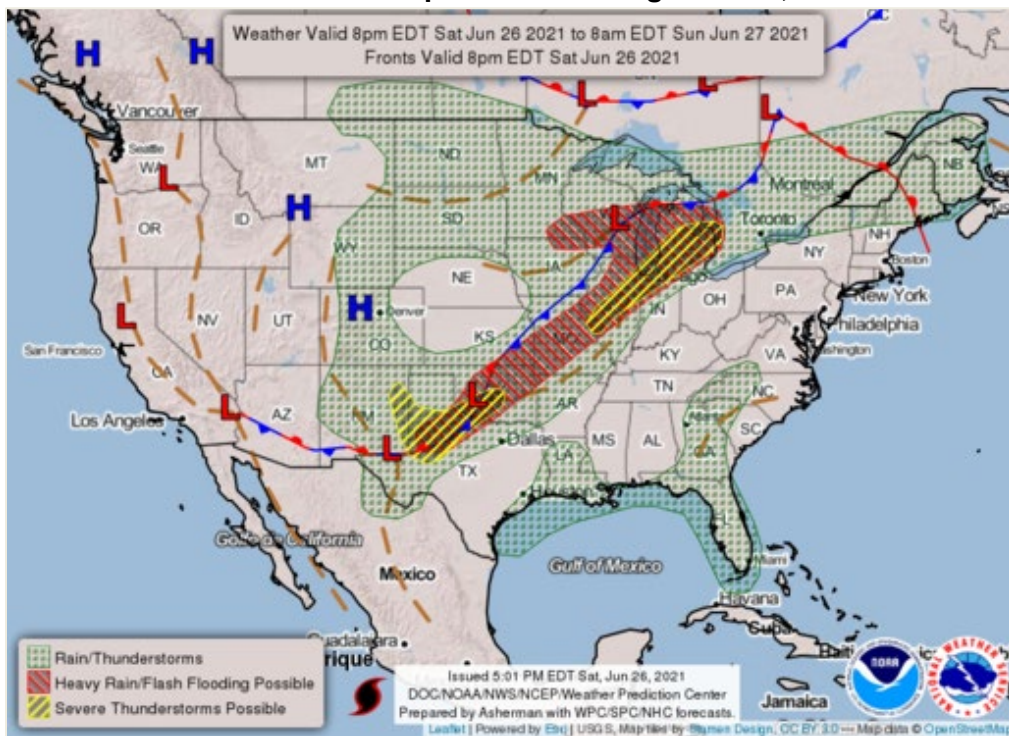
National Weather Service Images and Precipitation Report (cont.)

Surface Weather Map for the Evening June 25, 2021



Source: National Weather Service

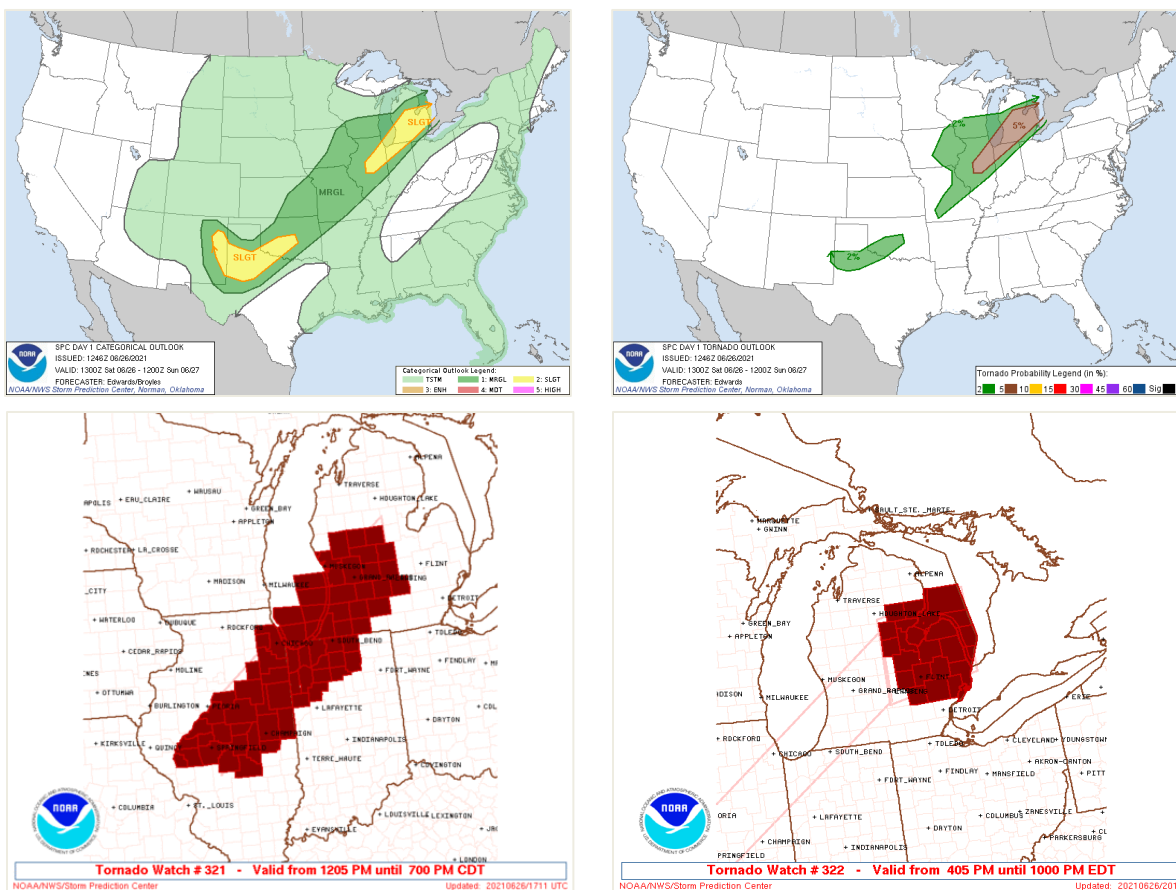
Surface Weather Map for the Evening June 26, 2021



Source: National Weather Service

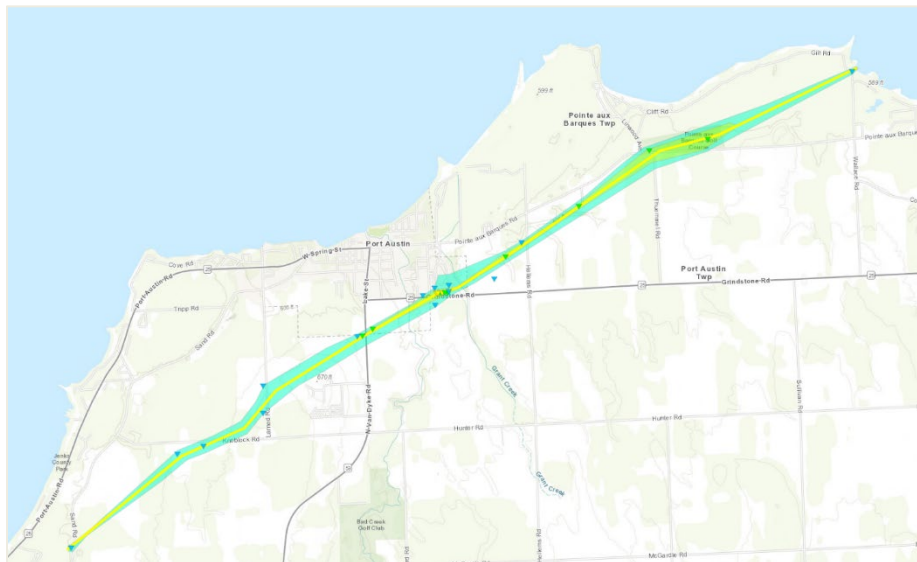
National Weather Service Images and Precipitation Report (cont.)

Outlooks and Tornado Watches for June 26, 2021



Source: National Weather Service, Storm Prediction Center

EF2 Tornado Path across northern Huron County on June 26, 2021



Source: National Weather Service - Detroit/Pontiac Office

ENCLOSURE A TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST
Estimated Requirements for Individual Assistance
Under the Stafford Act

PDA NUMBERS										
STATE:	Michigan									
INCIDENT DATE:	6/25/2021									
INCIDENT TYPE:	FLOOD ONLY									
What percent of the affected dwellings will be eligible for IHP?	100%									
County Name	Destroyed	Major	Minor	Affected	Affected Getting Assistance	Total	% Owner	% Insured	% Low Income	HUD FMR for 2 bedroom
Washtenaw	0	6	30	6	6	42	72%	3%	15%	\$1,264.00
Wayne	2	188	1602	149	149	1941	93%	2%	24%	\$1,049.00
TOTAL/AVERAGE	2	194	1,632	155	155	1983	83%	3%	19%	\$1,156.50

Verified Home Damage
Individuals and Households Program (IHP) Cost Estimates

INDIVIDUALS AND HOUSEHOLDS PROGRAM (IHP) COST ESTIMATES				
STATE: Michigan				
INCIDENT DATE: 6/25/2021				
ESTIMATED HOUSING ASSISTANCE (HA)	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS (Uninsured)	COST	TOTAL COST	CATEGORY TOTAL COST
TEMPORARY HOUSING				\$ 344,915
Rent (Pre-Disaster Renters)- 1 month	148		\$ 154,096	
Rent (Owners w/Major or Destroyed)- 1 month	181		\$ 190,819	
REPAIR ASSISTANCE				\$ 11,823,621
Repair Costs (Owners w/Affected)	140	\$ 1,500	\$ 210,000	
Repair Costs (Owners w/Minor)	1,481	\$ 3,588	\$ 5,313,621	
Repair Costs (Owners w/Major)	175	\$ 36,000	\$ 6,300,000	
REPLACEMENT ASSISTANCE				\$ 69,686
Replacement Cost (Owners w/Destroyed)	2	\$ 34,843	\$ 69,686	
Total Estimated Housing Assistance (HA)	1,946		\$ 12,238,221	\$ 12,238,221
Estimated Average HA Award per Household		\$ 6,289		
ESTIMATED OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE	NUMBER (Uninsured)	COST	TOTAL COST	CATEGORY TOTAL COST
ONA (All Renters and Owners w/Affected, Minor, Major)	1,941	\$ 1,329	\$ 2,580,191	
ONA (Owners- Destroyed)	0	\$ 1,329	\$ -	
Total Estimated Other Needs Assistance (ONA)	1,941		\$ 2,580,191	\$ 2,580,191
Total Estimated Federal Share (75%)		\$ 1,935,143		
Total Estimated State Share (25%)		\$ 645,048		
Estimated Average ONA Award per Household		\$ 1,329		
Total Estimated HA and ONA (Federal Share)			\$	14,173,364

ENCLOSURE B TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Estimated Stafford Act Public Assistance Requirements

Not applicable at this time. Enclosure B will be submitted with a separate request for activation of Public Assistance programs at a later time.

ENCLOSURE C TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Estimated Requirements from other Federal Agency Programs

Jurisdiction/ Agency	SBA Home Loans	SBA Business Loans	FSA Loans	NRCS	FHWA	USACE	BIA	OTHER
Huron County	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	TBD
Ionia County	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	TBD
Washtenaw County	\$2,065,000	\$280,000	TBD	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	TBD
Wayne County	\$38,365,000	\$4,210,000	TBD	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	TBD
MDOT	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBD	N/A	N/A	TBD
Totals	\$40,430,000	\$4,490,000	TBD	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	TBD

- As of July 12, assistance through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Services Agency (FSA) and National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) were still under consideration. A request for an USDA Disaster designation for counties impacted by severe weather was submitted on July 1.
- MDOT continues to coordinate with local road agencies and the U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to assess the eligibility of damages for federal assistance programs.

ENCLOSURE D TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Historic and Current Snowfall Data

Not Applicable to this Request.