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

June 8, 2022

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

Through: Thomas C. Sivak, Regional Administrator
FEMA Region V
536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor
Chicago, IL 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, including activation of all Individual Assistance (IA) programs, for the State of Michigan in response to the widespread and severe damage caused by a tornado that struck the county of Otsego on Friday, May 20, 2022.

The tornado impacted the City of Gaylord and surrounding municipalities in the afternoon of May 20. This was associated with a single long-track supercell storm ahead of a cold front moving into the region. A warm and moisture-rich environment across northern Michigan functioned as a fuel source for the storm. The National Weather Service (NWS) Storm Prediction Center evaluated northern Michigan at a slight risk for severe storms with a five percent chance of tornado occurrence. A severe thunderstorm watch for the entire region was issued at 1:55 p.m. Storms formed in Wisconsin, then crossed Lake Michigan. They moved onto the Michigan shoreline just after 2:00 p.m. The storm was moving into a rare environment for the impacted area characterized by ample instability from daytime heating, very strong low-level winds, and conditions supportive of rotating storms.

The first severe thunderstorm warning was issued at 3:24 p.m. as the storm was reported to contain damaging winds and large hail. At this point, the storm's updraft strengthened, and the low-level rotation tightened. The tornado initially touched down around 3:35 p.m. about ten miles southwest of the City of Gaylord. The initial tornado warning for northwest Otsego County including the City of Gaylord was issued at 3:38 p.m. This warning stated that "flying debris will be dangerous to those caught without shelter. Mobile homes will be damaged or destroyed. Damage to roofs, windows, and vehicles will occur. Tree damage is likely." The tornado moved toward the city, impacting several homes outside city limits. At 3:40 p.m., an updated tornado warning was issued for the same area with a radar-confirmed tornado, as debris could be seen on radar. By 3:46 p.m., the tornado reached the Gaylord city limits. At this time, another update to the tornado warning was issued, with enhanced wording to highlight the life-threatening nature of the situation. The tornado quickly moved through the city, damaging numerous businesses and homes, along with impacting about 85 percent of a mobile home park. The tornado lifted off the ground about 10 minutes later when it was 6 miles northeast of town.

Following a damage survey, the tornado was classified as an EF-3 tornado with maximum estimated winds of 150 mph. It was on the ground for almost 18 miles with a maximum width of 200 yards. The tornado had a very quick forward speed of 55 mph and passed from one end of the City of Gaylord to the other in about 3 minutes. The maximum debris height may have exceeded 15,000 feet above the ground after the tornado moved through the city. A tornado of this strength is very rare for northern Michigan. Up until now, Gaylord never sustained a direct hit from a confirmed tornado. This was also the strongest tornado record in the entire state of Michigan since 2012.

By far the most tragic aspect of this disaster are the two confirmed deaths caused by the tornado. Both victims were in their 70s and were discovered at the destroyed Nottingham Forest Mobile Home Park in Bagley Township just outside the City of Gaylord. In addition to these fatalities, 44 residents also sustained injuries due to the tornado that required treatment at area hospitals.

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 the local jurisdictions to maintain emergency services to the highest extent possible and disseminate emergency public information that alerted residents to hazards. Even though prior weather forecasts did not anticipate a weather event of this magnitude, weather warnings and emergency public information developed and disseminated by the NWS also contributed to the safety of the public (see Attachment 4).

The effects of this disaster were severe and require federal assistance to facilitate an efficient recovery. In the path of the tornado, many homes, businesses, and public buildings were impacted. Many residences have been found to be destroyed and uninhabitable. Residents were displaced from their homes temporarily or permanently, and utility services were disrupted, with full access to power or gas not being restored for several days. Even in affected homes that can be repaired, mechanical and electrical systems and personal belongings within the dwellings have been damaged or destroyed. The inability to afford repairs could ultimately lower the property value of residences and,

subsequently, regional tax revenue. 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, and replace personal belongings.

Disaster survivors were also required to remove large amounts of debris from their properties, 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 required the removal of debris from the right-of-way. Within the county, at least 45 roadways were temporarily inaccessible and/or closed, impacting vehicular traffic and emergency vehicle response times.

In the aftermath of the tornado, public safety agencies were quickly overwhelmed with calls for services that exceeded their resources and capabilities. The Otsego County 911 center was required to re-route 911 calls to every other regional communication center in Michigan.

The tornado also caused significant utility outages. Four energy providers reported approximately 30,000 outages on May 20, which mostly were restored over the following weekend. These outages also impacted critical infrastructure. For example, the Michigan State Police (MSP) Gaylord Dispatch Center lost power and was required to operate on generator support. Similarly, Otsego Hospital required backup generator power, making air conditioning and internet service at the facility unavailable. As a result, stroke and severe trauma patients had to be diverted to other hospitals a significant distance away. Severe damages to the natural gas system were sustained at a mobile home park, resulting in several gas leaks that required the utility provider to isolate the park and temporarily shut off gas service to all customers in the area. Cellular outages also occurred in the impacted area, requiring the deployment of Cell On Wheels (COW) auxiliary communications equipment to the area.

Collectively, these outages not only impacted residents and businesses, but also burdened first responders by reducing their ability to effectively communicate, and through the loss of power at their facilities. This happened at a time when responder capabilities were already significantly lowered by the overall conditions of the incident (e.g., through the inaccessibility of roadways, debris blocking access to impacted sites, inability to provide aerial reconnaissance due to high winds, dangers associated with hazards such as lose debris, hanging limbs, and downed wires, etc.).

The tragic and severe impacts of the tornado suffered by the community are also illustrated by the following experiences that disaster survivors shared with damage assessment teams. One team encountered a retired Sheriff's deputy that spoke about just returning home with his wife when they received a mass notification alert and quickly proceeded to their basement. While trying to see outside through a small window, their house was picked up and they were struck by a large board that pinned his wife to the floor. The husband had to scream for help, as they both were trapped in the basement. When they were eventually rescued by a neighbor, his wife had to be transported to the hospital where she was found to have suffered a fractured vertebra. Luckily, the family was insured and despite their whole house shifting off its foundation, the traumatic experience of being trapped in the destruction of their own home, and the injuries they sustained, the man kept a positive

attitude.

An uninsured survivor in a mobile home park that was still staying in his home even though it had suffered significant damage spoke with another assessor. His mother, who had lived with him, had recently passed away. The resident was unemployed, and his gas service has been turned off even before the tornado hit. He knew that he will not be able to occupy his home going forward but has no resources to move. While he was dealing with financial and emotional issues before the disaster, the tornado has significantly intensified his prior struggles.

Another retired man living in a manufactured home with his wife explained that they were just putting the storm door on their home when the tornado hit the area. The force of the tornado threw them both to the floor and the husband landed on top of his wife as their home collapsed on them. At the time of the assessment, his wife was still at a hospital recovering from her injuries, while the man and his daughter tried to salvage what personal items they could from the debris. While this family was insured, the man was still reeling from what had happened to them and was left wondering where they will be able to find affordable housing in the area.

Assessors met another man that was rummaging through the remains of his home. He struggled and was shaking while talking about the disaster, as he and his spouse were in their manufactured home when the tornado tore through it. His wife, who has diabetes, was hospitalized with injuries and spiked insulin levels, which he attributed to the stress caused by the tornado's destruction of their residence. He also told the assessment team that his next-door neighbor was one of the fatalities of the incident, before he suddenly stopped speaking, and after taking a moment, told assessors that he could no longer talk about his experience.

The manager of the Nottingham Forest Mobile Home Park, which was home to many young families and elderly residents, emphasized the emotional trauma and expressed the need for counseling for survivors, as many have a hard time coping with the physical and psychological impacts for the tornado.

Many residents take great pride in living in a natural environment shaped by vegetation and trees, planted on private property and public land. Due to the tornado, many of the mature trees that were a significant part of the identify of community are now gone, and while residents will plant new trees, the loss of the large trees that they had become accustomed to over the years will serve as a painful reminder of the tornado and its impacts for decades to come.

Survivors shared the sentiment that they are thankful to be alive and are worried about their neighbors as much as about themselves. However, even their positive attitude and resilience cannot conceal the psychological and financial hardships that residents face now. Concerns about affordable housing were voiced by many disaster survivors, particularly by elderly residents that are afraid of losing the independence that was afforded to them by their ownership of inexpensive homes.

In response to this disaster, I took appropriate action under state law and directed the execution of the Michigan Emergency Management Plan on May 20, in accordance with

Section 401 of the Stafford Act. On the same date, under my authority as the Governor, I also proclaimed a state of emergency for Otsego 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. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was activated on May 20 and remained operational until May 22.

Numerous state departments and agencies had already initiated response actions prior to the formal declaration, 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 searching for individuals trapped in damaged or destroyed buildings; 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), Otsego County declared a local state of emergency within hours of the tornado touching down on May 20.

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 impacted 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 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 disaster must also account for its occurrence during the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. For over two 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 and pandemic-related stress. For over two years, communities have engaged in efforts to curtail the spread of the virus. Many residents are facing financial impacts as they lost jobs and businesses, which are exacerbated by rapidly rising costs of living. Residents also suffered significant emotional trauma from observing rising case numbers and death tolls, and, most tragically, the loss of friends and family members. As of the day of the tornado on May 20, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) had reported almost 6,000 COVID-19 cases and over 100 deaths for Otsego County.

Volunteer organizations have been responding to needs related to COVID-19 for over two years 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 volunteer availability. Despite these conditions, the response by our partner voluntary relief organizations was very efficient. From the time of the tornado, Michigan Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (MIVOAD), Michigan 2-1-1, Crisis Cleanup, the American Red Cross, United Way of Otsego County, United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), 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 staged and prepared to provide assistance to those in need in the affected areas. Several assessment teams were deployed. Local unaffiliated volunteers have actively provided relief assistance to those in need in the affected areas in coordination with United Way. HOPE Animal-Assisted Crisis Response was able to deploy crisis response dogs to the local Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and a damaged mobile home park while residents were retrieving personal belongings there. An incident has been created on the Crisis Cleanup online platform, which allows needs of residents to be registered and facilitates coordination between Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOADs) to ensure that these needs are met. Problem areas registered for this disaster have included tree removal, debris clean-up, and home rebuilding. Voluntary agencies have also started to coordinate regarding long-term recovery efforts. One of the long-term needs that has been identified is housing, as many survivors are still staying with friends and family members or at hotels. Efforts to identify housing solutions are already underway but are believed to be a significant challenge based on the level of available and affordable housing in the area.

In addition to the efforts by VOADs and unaffiliated volunteers, private sector partners provided significant assistance to the community. The SEOC's Public/Private Partnership (P3) Program is working closely with the impacted local emergency management program to match local response and recovery needs with private partner donations. Partners such as Meijer and Walmart donated food and water to the first responders and residents in the impacted areas. Additionally, Snethkamp Dealerships made a monetary donation to the American Red Cross. The P3 program also worked with its communication partners such as Verizon to improve cellular service in the impacted area, which was disrupted due to power outages.

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 seven 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:

- an August 2021 emergency declaration for a hazardous materials leak in the counties of Monroe and Wayne;
- an August 2021 emergency declaration for severe weather in the counties of Branch, Hillsdale, and St. Joseph;
- an August 2021 emergency declaration for a building fire in the county of Menominee;

- a July 2021 emergency declaration for thunderstorms in the counties of Macomb and Oakland;
- a July 2021 emergency declaration for thunderstorms in the county of Oakland;
- a June 2021 emergency declaration for flooding and tornadoes in the counties of Huron, Ionia, Washtenaw, and Wayne; and
- a May 2020 emergency declaration for flooding in the counties of Arenac, Gladwin, Iosco, Midland, and Saginaw.

The June 2021 flooding and tornado incident also resulted in the declaration of Major Disaster FEMA-4607-DR for the counties of Ionia, Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne. The May 2020 flooding prompted the federal Emergency declaration FEMA-3525-EM for the counties of Gladwin and Midland, and 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 Major Disaster FEMA-4494-DR for all areas of the State of Michigan, which remains in effect to date.

In addition to these gubernatorially 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:

- a September 2021 gas leak in Wayne County;
- a January 2021 activation in preparation of potential unrest related to the Presidential inauguration;
- a November 2020 activation related to the Presidential election; and
- a May 2020 activation in response to statewide protests.

The affected local jurisdictions also experienced numerous smaller-scale incidents for which they did not seek a gubernatorial declaration or state assistance, but still experienced significant local impacts to residents, businesses, public facilities and infrastructure, and essential services. 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 the Emergency Management Act, No. 390 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1976, as amended, 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 $2.4 million in eligible costs for reimbursement under this program. However, it is anticipated that only an estimated $2,230,756 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 (MDHHS) 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 $602.4 billion (for the year 2019). The per capita TTR was $60,335, significantly lower than the per capita TTR of $73,017 for the United States as a whole. For the state fiscal year ending on September 30, the Senate Fiscal Agency projects a surplus in the state general fund budget of approximately $3 billion. Analysts attribute the higher-than-expected revenue to the state bringing in more money through sales and individual income taxes. State economists remain cautiously optimistic as there are factors that could impact the financial forecast in the coming months such as inflation, uncertainty related to the war in Ukraine, national supply chain issues and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Michigan also relies heavily on the auto industry, which has been adversely impacted by supply chain issues and could cause significant changes in future revenue projections. 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 tornados and high winds, 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 responding to this 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 tornado.

To facilitate the needed assistance, I requested a joint federal, state, and local Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) for Otsego County on May 22. A kick-off meeting was held on May 25, and assessments occurred on the same day. In-person assessments of damages were conducted by representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), the Michigan State Police/Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD), and the affected local jurisdictions.

The Individuals and Households Program (IHP) Damage Assessment for Otsego County identified 34 destroyed homes, 31 homes with major damage, 59 homes with minor damage, and 67 affected homes. In addition, 54 households were found potentially eligible for temporary housing funding, 48 households for housing repair assistance, 11 households for housing replacement assistance, and 76 households for "Other Needs Assistance" (ONA) funding for essential household items and services. Households would be eligible for an estimated $892,810.90 in Housing Assistance and ONA based on PDA-verified damages. Out of the over 200 housing units assessed by PDA teams, only three were found to not have sustained damages that fall under FEMA's assessment categories. IA-related damages were concentrated in the City of Gaylord and the townships of Bagley, Dover, Hayes, and Livingston. It is noteworthy that on a per-capita basis, this PDA identified more homes in Otsego County that were impacted by the tornado (0.0076) than identified during the June 25, 2021, PDA for Wayne County (0.0011), which was the county with the heaviest IA damages sustained from incident that led to Major Disaster declaration FEMA-4607-DR.

Based on experience from prior disasters, the official results of the IA assessments during the PDA may also severely underestimate the impacts on individuals and households caused by this disaster. For example, the 2014 Major Disaster declaration FEMA-4195-DR, which included the counties of Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne, was granted based on official IA PDA results from FEMA that 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 to 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 for this Major Disaster.

The PDA also established that only about 57 percent of the affected households had insurance that covers the damages associated with this disaster. Lack of insurance might force many residents to occupy homes regardless of potentially unhealthy or unsafe conditions.

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. MDHHS further administers other energy related programs that are available to residents statewide, such as the Home Heating Credit Program and Weatherization Assistance Program for low-income residents. 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.

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 many residents working at businesses directly impacted by the tornado lost their employment. This is acerbated by indirect impacts of the tornado on the economy, as many residents will limit their local spending as a result of the aforementioned disaster-related job loss, and the burden of costs for home repairs and replacement of property. It is further unknown if this disaster will lead to a reduction of tourism activity in the disaster area, which is a popular destination for summer and winter recreation.

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 this disaster. The

table below indicates that several of the local disaster-affected communities have higher rates of poverty and unemployment, and a greater percentage of elderly residents and persons with disabilities than the state or nation as a whole. The City of Gaylord and Livingston Township also have higher than average proportions of children under 18 within their jurisdictions. The county and five of the impacted municipalities also have elevated shares of residents with disabilities.

	Population:	**Income below poverty (last 12 months)**	**Pre-disaster unemployment rate (of those in the civilian labor force age 16+)**	**Aged 65 years and older**	**Age under 18 years**	**Persons with a disability**	**Foreign-language speakers speaking English less than "very well"**
Data Source	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP02	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP05	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP05	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP02	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP02
United States	326,569,308	12.8%	5.4%	16.0%	22.4%	12.7%	8.2%
Michigan	9,973,907	13.7%	6.0%	17.2%	21.7%	14.2%	3.4%
Otsego County	24,613	12.9%	5.7%	21.1%	21.0%	17.3%	0.3%
Bagley Township	6,028	16.8%	6.4%	23.3%	19.9%	17.4%	0.0%
Chester Township	1,184	10.9%	6.8%	17.7%	13.7%	17.1%	1.9%
Dover Township	655	14.4%	7.1%	20.0%	18.9%	11.5%	0.0%
City of Gaylord	3,644	17.4%	0.0%	22.6%	25.1%	26.0%	0.0%
Hayes Township	2,679	16.0%	3.5%	18.3%	19.0%	16.3%	0.4%
Livingston Township	2,582	11.1%	3.7%	15.6%	22.5%	14.5%	0.9%

(Yellow shading denotes potential greater vulnerability to disasters)

The statistics in the next table show several communities (including the disaster-affected county overall) that have high rates of residents who receive different types of government assistance and retirement income. Otsego County residents are more likely to receive social security and food stamps or snap benefits than the average resident of Michigan or the United States. In two of the affected municipalities, rates of residents receiving cash public assistance are also elevated.

This illustrates that populations of increased social vulnerability reside in the disaster area. These groups represent disaster survivors that urgently require support, and in many cases will benefit the most from federal assistance. A detailed discussion of these and

additional socioeconomic factors that indicate greater vulnerability to disasters in the impacted area can be found in Attachment 1.

Percentage of the population receiving:	**Social Security**	**Retirement Income**	**Supplemental Security Income**	**Cash Public Assistance**	**Food Stamp/ SNAP benefits (past 12 months)**
Data Source	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03
United States	31.4%	21.1%	5.2%	2.4%	11.4%
Michigan	34.9%	25.1%	6.0%	2.5%	12.7%
Otsego County	42.1%	27.3%	4.7%	2.1%	15.3%
Bagley Township	47.0%	29.9%	4.9%	0.5%	19.3%
Chester Township	40.8%	31.4%	2.5%	0.6%	8.8%
Dover Township	36.1%	22.3%	0.4%	0.0%	6.4%
City of Gaylord	40.4%	22.7%	5.9%	3.3%	25.2%
Hayes Township	39.3%	29.1%	5.5%	4.0%	9.5%
Livingston Township	31.3%	21.9%	3.3%	1.2%	6.8%

(Yellow shading denotes potential greater vulnerability to disasters)

Recognizing its responsibility to make its communities as disaster resilient as possible, be advised Otsego County has a current Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000-compliant hazard mitigation plan in place, which is approved through May 31, 2026. The county has completed one Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) program grant project, in which they enhanced communications capabilities to minimize loss of life and property during hazardous incidents. This was accomplished through the purchase of radios for fixed locations and potential deployment, and the installation of seven new radio antennas. This has created a backup means of communication if conventional communications fail, and allow for the use of radios by field personnel to make reports to the EOC and the NWS so that timely warnings can be issued, and appropriate actions taken.

As you can see, Otsego County prepared its communities and responded to this disaster in an exemplary manner. However, they 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 IA, 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 does not address the impacts sustained by individuals and households and 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.

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 county and municipal governments, and that supplemental federal relief assistance is necessary. Therefore, I am specifically requesting activation of all IA programs for Otsego County, and activation of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) statewide. Preliminary estimates of types and amount of IA needed under the Stafford Act are tabulated and included in Enclosure A.

Attachment 1, "Socio-economic Profile of the Affected Jurisdictions," 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 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 IA programs are expected to equal or exceed $30,400, in accordance with the tables in Enclosure A.

I have designated F/Lt. Gabriel Covey of the Michigan State Police/Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. He 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 Jurisdictions
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 to this request)
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

Socio-economic Profile of the Affected Jurisdictions

Gaylord's urban area population in 2010 was 8,298 (but has not yet been officially calculated from the 2020 census). Since this is currently a transition year in which only a small portion of the relevant 2020 decennial census information has been published (while other data would date from the previous 2010 census), all information in this section was obtained from the American Community Survey (ACS) 2020 5-year averages that were provided by the U.S. Census Bureau at its data.census.gov website during searches in late May and early June of 2022.

The City of Gaylord is an autonomous incorporated geographic area surrounded by Bagley Township and Livingston Township. Based upon information from a post-disaster damage assessment, the disaster-affected local communities are listed below, and are all located in Otsego County, Michigan. In the tables, a comparison of national, state, county, and local statistics has been provided, in which yellow-highlighted table cells denote statistics in which the local data exceeds that of the state and nation in some aspect that can indicate a greater local vulnerability in those disaster-affected communities.

	Population:	**Income below poverty (last 12 months)**	**Pre-disaster unemployment rate (of those in the civilian labor force age 16+)**	**Aged 65 years and older**	**Age under 18 years**	**Persons with a disability**	**Foreign-language speakers speaking English less than "very well"**
Data Source	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP02	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP05	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP05	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP02	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP02
United States	326,569,308	12.8%	5.4%	16.0%	22.4%	12.7%	8.2%
Michigan	9,973,907	13.7%	6.0%	17.2%	21.7%	14.2%	3.4%
Otsego County	24,613	12.9%	5.7%	21.1%	21.0%	17.3%	0.3%
Bagley Township	6,028	16.8%	6.4%	23.3%	19.9%	17.4%	0.0%
Chester Township	1,184	10.9%	6.8%	17.7%	13.7%	17.1%	1.9%
Dover Township	655	14.4%	7.1%	20.0%	18.9%	11.5%	0.0%
City of Gaylord	3,644	17.4%	0.0%	22.6%	25.1%	26.0%	0.0%
Hayes Township	2,679	16.0%	3.5%	18.3%	19.0%	16.3%	0.4%
Livingston Township	2,582	11.1%	3.7%	15.6%	22.5%	14.5%	0.9%

The statistics in this initial table indicate that several of the local disaster-affected communities have higher rates of poverty and unemployment, and a greater percentage of elderly residents and persons with disabilities than the state or nation as a whole. The City of Gaylord had the highest poverty rate in the disaster-area (17.4 percent) but was the most powerfully affected by tornado damage. Dover Township, located east of the Gaylord urban area but also affected by tornado impacts, had the highest pre-disaster unemployment rate, at 7.1 percent. Nearly a quarter of Bagley Township's population consists of elderly residents, and this area was strongly affected by the initial tornado path as it approached the City of Gaylord itself, whose percentage of elderly residents was comparable. Many services are available in the City of Gaylord that are not provided in the rural townships elsewhere in the county. The Gaylord urban area has about one-quarter of the county's population, and includes the city itself plus adjacent urbanized areas, primarily in the townships of Bagley and Livingston. The City of Gaylord and Livingston Township have higher than average proportions of children under 18 within their jurisdictions. All but one of the tornado-affected jurisdictions (plus Otsego County as a whole) have a greater than average number of persons with disabilities of various kinds.

The following table focuses upon the extent of area residents' supplemental income sources, compared with state and national statistics.

Percentage of the population already receiving:	**Social Security**	**Retirement Income**	**Supplemental Security Income**	**Cash Public Assistance**	**Food Stamp/ SNAP benefits (past 12 months)**
Data Source	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03
United States	31.4%	21.1%	5.2%	2.4%	11.4%
Michigan	34.9%	25.1%	6.0%	2.5%	12.7%
Otsego County	42.1%	27.3%	4.7%	2.1%	15.3%
Bagley Township	47.0%	29.9%	4.9%	0.5%	19.3%
Chester Township	40.8%	31.4%	2.5%	0.6%	8.8%
Dover Township	36.1%	22.3%	0.4%	0.0%	6.4%
City of Gaylord	40.4%	22.7%	5.9%	3.3%	25.2%
Hayes Township	39.3%	29.1%	5.5%	4.0%	9.5%
Livingston Township	31.3%	21.9%	3.3%	1.2%	6.8%

The statistics in this second table show several communities (including the disaster-affected county overall) that have high rates of residents who receive different types of government assistance and retirement income. All but one of the disaster-affected

jurisdictions, including Otsego County as a whole, have a greater than average dependence upon social security income. The county and some damaged areas also have greater proportions of residents receiving retirement income. A few of the affected jurisdictions also have higher-than-average proportions of residents receiving cash public assistance and food stamp/SNAP benefits.

The following additional information is presented to show some additional, distinctive aspects of the disaster-affected local jurisdictions, in terms of higher proportions or lower average statistics for particular census variables that could signify a greater-than-average vulnerability or need within those communities. First, the following table presents information about the relative predominance of school enrollments within the affected local jurisdictions. It also presents census information showing how some communities have higher percentages of local residents not participating in the labor force, lower per capita incomes, and (compared to Michigan) a significant Hispanic presence within one jurisdiction.

	Nursery or pre-school enrollment	**Kindergarten and elementary K-8 enrollment**	**High school enrollment**	**Ages 16+ not in labor force**	**Per capita income**	**Identifying as Hispanic**
Data Source	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP02	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP02	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP02	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP03	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP05
United States	6.1%	45.4%	21.0%	36.6%	$35,384	18.2%
Michigan	5.9%	44.3%	21.7%	38.5%	$32,854	5.2%
Otsego County	8.4%	49.5%	22.2%	41.2%	$27,904	1.8%
Bagley Township	9.7%	49.0%	22.1%	39.7%	$28,925	2.9%
Chester Township	5.6%	37.7%	35.2%	34.9%	$33,454	0.8%
Dover Township	5.6%	36.0%	43.2%	33.0%	$29,165	10.8%
City of Gaylord	18.9%	59.7%	13.1%	46.7%	$22,991	2.3%
Hayes Township	4.8%	47.1%	25.7%	44.8%	$26,108	1.0%
Livingston Township	2.6%	45.7%	12.3%	37.8%	$28,189	1.0%

Of residents enrolled in school, there are some areas in the disaster area that emphasize particular age groups and educational facility types, in terms of the proportion of students attending an institution of that type or level of student. For example, over one-third of the students in Chester and Dover Townships attend high school, while more than half of the students in the City of Gaylord attend K-8 level schools and nearly 20 percent of students

are in pre-school facilities, showing how specialized the educational focus of the disaster area can be at a given time when any educational facilities are impacted.

Some additional indicators of economic vulnerability were found within ACS census information, in terms of the relatively large proportion of area residents who are not in the labor force—nearly half of the population age 16 and above, in the case of the City of Gaylord. All per capita income statistics for Otsego County and its disaster-affected local jurisdictions were below the state and national values, most notably in the City of Gaylord ($22,991), whose value was less than 70 percent of the state and national values. It was noted that one area within the tornado-impacted Otsego County local jurisdictions had an ethnically Hispanic area within it—more than 10 percent of Dover Township's population—which was well above the percentage for either the county or the State of Michigan.

The following table presents information about housing within the disaster-impacted area, and characteristics that can indicate a higher-than-normal level of local vulnerability.

	Mobile home housing units	**Housing units using bottled/tank/LP gas heating fuel**	**Occupied housing units with more than 1 occupant per room**	**Median value of owner-occupied housing units**
Data Source	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP04	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP04	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP04	ACS 2020 5-yr. DP04
United States	6.0%	4.8%	3.3%	$229,800
Michigan	5.4%	8.4%	1.6%	$162,600
Otsego County	9.7%	20.8%	1.6%	$147,100
Bagley Township	16.2%	8.6%	1.9%	$138,400
Chester Township	7.7%	56.8%	1.4%	$148,500
Dover Township	4.4%	55.4%	7.3%	$230,400
City of Gaylord	4.9%	0.0%	0.3%	$95,900
Hayes Township	13.3%	49.4%	1.9%	$151,600
Livingston Township	3.2%	15.1%	3.1%	$161,800

Mobile homes tend to be more vulnerable to wind and tornado impacts, and Otsego County has a disproportional share of its housing units that are of the mobile home type. In particular, Bagley and Hayes Townships have more than twice the state and national proportion of housing units of mobile home type. Outside of the City of Gaylord, there are substantial proportions of area housing units that rely upon bottled/tank or liquid propane gas heating fuels. This type of heating system tends to predominate in the rural areas, separate from municipal systems (e.g., the City of Gaylord has 0 percent of its housing units

using this type of heat, but about half or more of the housing units in Chester, Dover, and Hayes Townships are heated in this manner). Where damages occur, this type of heating system can be more difficult for individual homeowners to repair, since their heat is not reliant upon a municipal utility system that could benefit from systematic regional repair efforts by a major utility company or municipal department.

An assessment of the area also noted that Dover Township is also distinguished by a set of housing units (7.3 percent) that have unusual levels of crowding (an average of more than 1 occupant per room). This is more than double the national average and more than four times the state average.

Finally, all of the impacted area except for Dover Township has median property values that are below the state and national averages. This is most evident within the City of Gaylord, whose median value ($95,900) is below 60 percent of Michigan's median housing value.

ATTACHMENT 2 TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Significant Local and State Response and Recovery Actions

Volunteer Response. Voluntary agencies were quick to respond to this disaster. Several VOADs were quickly staging and awaiting requests for assistance but never received specific requests. HOPE Animal-Assisted Crisis Response was able to fill one request for crisis response dogs and deployed two teams accordingly. Approximately 300 unaffiliated local volunteers assisted with clean-up following the tornado. Voluntary agencies are engaged in recovery coordination, and it is expected that VOAD assistance will be needed for the assessment of rebuilds and the actual rebuilding process.

Debris Removal to Protect Public Health and Safety. Debris management was a critically important response and recovery issue within hours and in the days following the tornado Extensive, rapid debris operations were required to clear debris from damaged and destroyed businesses and homes, vegetative debris, and other debris including 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 downed wires and power lines, large, uprooted trees, vegetative debris, and construction materials created potentially dangerous and unsanitary conditions in the affected areas, some of which are heavily developed and densely populated. Neighborhoods and business districts were impassable, making it difficult for first responders to search for survivors. Due to potential public health impacts, it was necessary for the affected local communities to muster all the private and public debris clearance and removal resources 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 residents, volunteers, and local municipal trash haulers all worked towards the collection and transportation of tornado debris to approved landfill facilities.

Local jurisdictions built a debris management system that was based on their day-to-day, standard methods of disposal, which helped to expedite debris removal and reduced costs. Residents can usually bring cut trees and yard debris or waste to a designated site in the county, where vegetation is chipped, mulched, and composted. This site was used for the disposal of vegetative debris following the tornado, and residents already being familiar with the location facilitated a swift and efficient drop-off and reduction of vegetative debris.

An additional disposal site that also collected household debris was setup at the Otsego County Fairgrounds. Several 100-yard dumpsters, allowing for separation of debris by type, were set up at the site, which was monitored around the clock before it was closed on Tuesday, May 24. In its five days of operation, approximately 1,862 cubic yards of household waste, of which as much as possible was recycled, was gathered at the site. About 30,000 cubic yards of vegetative debris was collected, the last of which was scheduled to be removed on Thursday, June 2.

Emergency Public Information. During the first hours after the tornado occurred on May 20, Public Information Officers (PIOs) for local and state agencies received and responded to many media requests for information regarding fatalities, injuries, and damages. On the same evening, my office issued a press release in coordination with the SEOC PIO related to my visit of the disaster area and declaration of a state of emergency

for Otsego County. On May 21, Lieutenant Governor Garlin Gilchrist II visited the Otsego County and participated in media events. A press conference with local leaders and representatives from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and Michigan 2-1-1 to inform residents of the availability of the 211 hotline to connect disaster survivors with recovery resources was also held that day. Social media has been a significant tool to facilitate communication with the public, as local and state agencies have used their social media channels to communicate activities and impacts. The public information campaign related to the tornado continues today and will continue for the foreseeable future until all recovery-related issues and concerns have been effectively dealt with.

Critical Facilities and Infrastructure Restoration. Several critical facility and infrastructure emergency restoration measures had to be implemented in the aftermath of the tornado. As mentioned earlier in my letter, approximately 30,000 power customers experienced outages on May 20. In response, Consumers Energy deployed a mobile command center and their Community Response Team to the area to coordinate the restoration of service. The company (which was only one of several impacted utilities) reported that they had utilized 29 company crews, 75 contractor crews, and seven forestry crews on the incident.

Despite these efforts and a quick restoration of power to most customers over the weekend, various critical infrastructure sites required temporary backup power. Most prominently, Otsego Hospital utilized generator power, which disabled elevators, internet service, and the air conditioning system at the facility, prompting the diversion of specific groups of patients to other area hospitals. The MSP Regional Communication Center also required generator power until May 21. This occurred at a time when 911 centers in the area were already overwhelmed and had to transfer calls to other regions of the state. Further, the Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget (MDTMB) had to deploy a generator to a radio tower, ensuring the ability of first responders to effectively communicate via radio.

Unfortunately, the area also suffered widespread cell phone outages, disconnecting residents, and forcing emergency responders to resort to backup methods of communication. Verizon provided auxiliary communications capabilities to improve service and ensure connectivity for response operations. First Net provided additional mobile hot spots and spare phones to the response organization.

The tornado also damaged natural gas systems, which required gas service to be shut down in some impacted areas. Nottingham Forest Mobile Home Park was particularly hard hit, and law enforcement recommended remaining residents to shelter away from the park while DTE Energy crews addressed the issues.

Due to tornado impacts, the location of the Otsego County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was not available, and the EOC was temporarily relocated to University Center in the City of Gaylord.

Over 45 roads across the county became temporarily inaccessible due to damage and debris caused by the tornado. This included local roads, state roads, and interstate highways, impeding traffic and extending emergency vehicle response times. It was also necessary for

law enforcement to barricade roads that were inaccessible or where hazards for motorists where present. Local road agencies and public works departments coordinated with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to reopen roads and provide access to other inaccessible areas.

Search and Rescue. Immediately following the tornado, Michigan Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 1 (MI-TF1) and the Oakland County Collapse Rescue Team deployed to the Otsego County. Two rounds of searches were completed in the disaster area, and one person that was suspected missing on May 20 was accounted for by search and rescue teams.

Evacuations and Sheltering. The American Red Cross operated a shelter for residents that were displaced due to the tornado from May 20 to May 27 in the City of Gaylord. Residents at the mostly destroyed Nottingham Forest Mobile Home Park were allowed back into the park at 5 p.m. on May 21. While there were no mandatory evacuations, residents were asked to shelter in place in the aftermath of the tornado, and the City of Gaylord imposed a curfew from 7 p.m. on May 20 to 8 a.m. on May 21, and during hours of darkness during the night of May 21 to May 22.

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 Otsego County and the affected municipalities in responding to and recovering from this disaster. Although the following is not an all-inclusive accounting of state efforts, it does provide brief synopses of some of the more noteworthy actions:

The **Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD)** became aware of the incident in the afternoon of May 20 and established immediate communications 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. MSP/EMHSD activated the SEOC at 5:28 p.m., and the SEOC was declared operational at 6 p.m. The SEOC remained activated to coordinate state response activities until 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 22.

Throughout the incident, 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 our nongovernmental, critical infrastructure, and private sector partners. During this period, the division coordinated all resource requests received from the affected local jurisdictions, ensuring that each request was appropriately addressed in a timely manner. MSP/EMHSD conducted several briefings for state agencies and nongovernmental partners 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, MSP/EMHSD developed written situation status reports to keep SEOC staff, state government executive and legislative leadership, local officials, and other emergency management partners informed of ongoing issues, concerns, activities, and opportunities for coordination and/or involvement. MSP/EMHSD worked closely with FEMA officials to coordinate and conduct the Joint Preliminary

Damage Assessment (PDA) in the impact area. 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 Otsego Club & Resort Hotel in the City of Gaylord. Joint PDA assessments took place on May 25.

Lastly, using the assessment information and findings from the Joint PDA, 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)** deployed inspectors to food facilities that were damaged by the tornado. They also visited facilities that were closed or without power to evaluate foods requiring temperature controls.

The **Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC)** contacted local partners, such as Otsego County United Way and the Otsego County Community Foundation to offer support on the day after the tornado and coordinated with these partners to understand current and future plans for recovery and resource needs. MCSC worked with the SEOC Voluntary Agency Liaison to coordinate volunteer response and initiate Long-Term Recovery Group (LTRG) meetings in the disaster area. The agency also assisted United Way to identify four key leaders to determine when and how they would like to setup a formal LTRG. They coordinated remote support through AmeriCorps VISA for communications, community updates, and coordination tasks. MCSC is also connecting potential donors that approach MCSC to the Community Foundation and is setting up a virtual volunteer platform to allow the community to post volunteer needs (until local stakeholders determine how to best manage and support volunteer needs).

The **Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)** has provided Emergency Authorization for Temporary Waste Handling and Storage for Otsego County. EGLE is also 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 the emergency needs and housing assistance programs mentioned earlier in this letter. They have been actively involved in the coordination of emergency shelter needs and immediate needs for individuals and families, and have continued to work with our community partners in providing a network to identify and address the needs. They have coordinated with Michigan 2-1-1 for the dissemination of disaster information and registration of survivor needs and continue to collaborate with their community partners.

MDHHS also monitored impacts to long-term care facilities and, in coordination with the Northwest Michigan Health Department and Region 7 Health Care Coalition, medical facilities.

For the **Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO)**, their Workforce Development's Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)/Rapid Response, Veterans'

Employment, the local Michigan Works! Agency, and other key partners (e.g.., Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA), MDHHS, etc.) have held, and will continue to schedule Rapid Response events to assist workers impacted by the tornado. Rapid Response events provide critical information to impacted individuals and assist with connecting residents to reemployment services.

With the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), another LEO agency closely monitored the effects the tornado had on Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program participants and their associated rental units in the area. The HCV program provides rental assistance to low-income families throughout the state of Michigan. While no HCV families were displaced due to the damages, some units and buildings required repairs. If HCV families needed other services due to the tornado (food, transportation, etc.), they were provided contact information for the Housing Assessment and Resource Agency (HARA) for Otsego County – Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency (NEMCSA) to inquire about their eligibility for such services. MSHDA also has several multifamily projects in the Gaylord area which are monitored through various federal programs. Some of those projects did receive some minor damage, but nothing extensive to the point where any residents were displaced. The properties that were damaged are working with their insurance carriers to repair the damage. MSHDA will continue to communicate with each site to ensure that the necessary repairs are made.

The **Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)** immediately deployed conservation officers from its Law Enforcement Division and detectives from the Environmental Investigation Section to responded to the incident. They conducted search and rescue efforts, provided first aid to survivors, and traffic control for impacted areas. The Forest Recourses Division (FRD) responded immediately after the tornado touched down to check a local MDNR complex for damage, and to ensure all personnel was safe. Once that was accomplished, they responded to the area of Murner Road and M-32, where they found major damage to several businesses and downed live powerlines in multiple locations. A small grass fire was spotted so the Gaylord Navistar responded while the fire departments were still engaged elsewhere. The truck was then used for blocking roads and crowd control. MDNR staff also assisted with a major gas leak and a fire hydrant broken off in a shopping center, where staff also assisted with search and rescue operations. Several survivors were assisted to safety. Once they were removed, MDNR provided crowd control and kept people away from the danger zone. Staff also provided updates and established communications with other responding agencies. When an Incident Command Post was established, FRD assigned a liaison. They also supplied a loader to gain access for local fire departments and emergency medical services to start the primary search efforts in an impacted mobile home park.

The **Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC)** provided staff for SEOC activation, monitored electric outages, and conducted outreach to better understand the active natural gas leaks and resulting outages. MPSC staff also worked with petroleum sector representatives to gain situational awareness regarding petroleum supply and availability status. In the days following storm response, MPSC staff also participated in conversations regarding providing resources to households financially and physically affected by the storm.

The **Michigan State Police (MSP)** deployed considerable resources during the tornado response to assist local officials in controlling access to damaged areas and assisting with site security and traffic control. The MSP Aviation Unit flew aerial reconnaissance and assessment missions over the affected areas utilizing unmanned aerial systems (UAS) and a helicopter to aid local and state officials in determining the scope and magnitude of the disaster, and to document damages by taking aerial photographs and video footage of the impacted area. Aviation further provided an UAS detection vehicle to identify UAS flown by private individuals in the area.

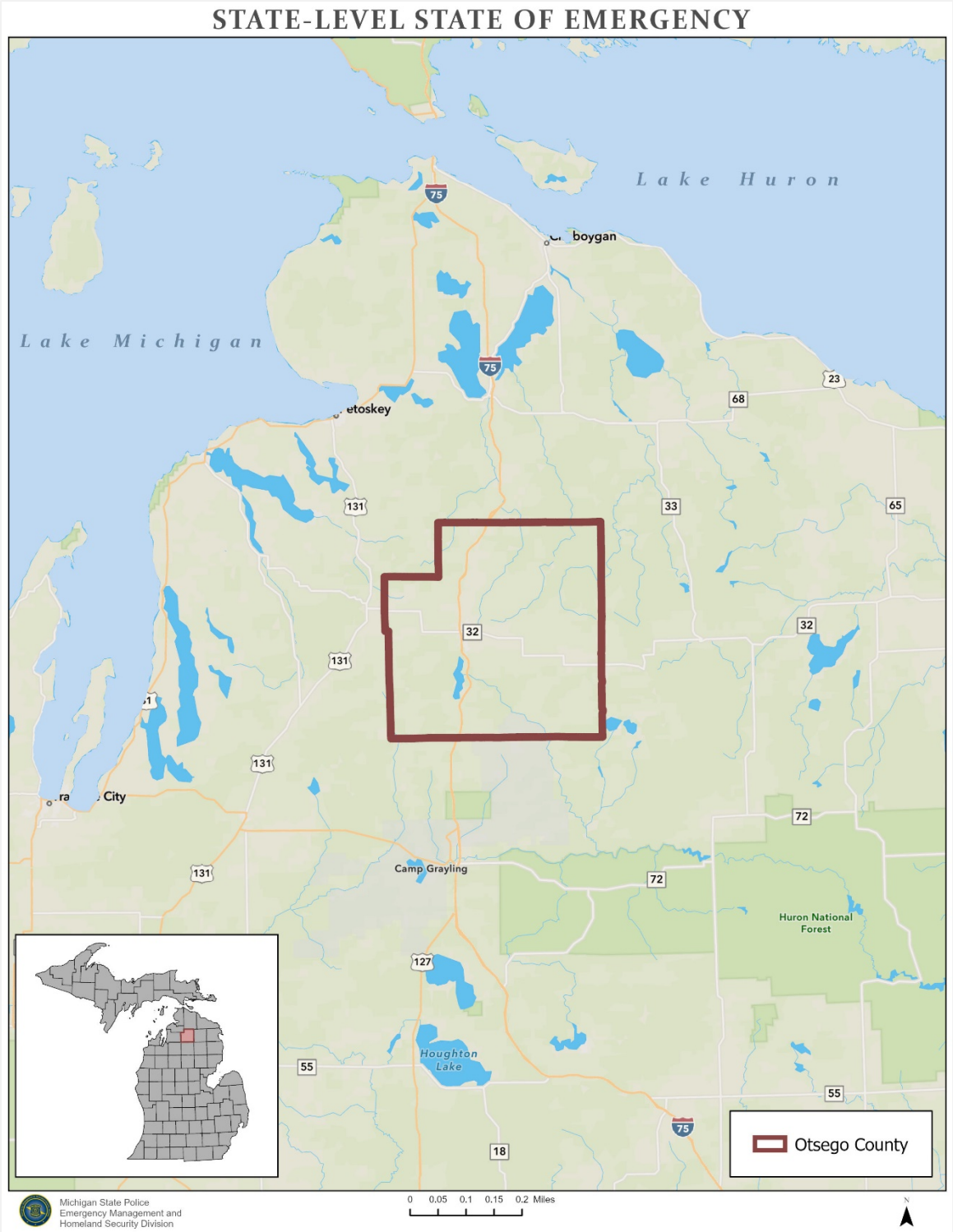
The **Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)** performed assessments, maintenance and debris removal, traffic management, and addressed closures of segments of state highways that were impacted by the tornado. After addressing state roadways, resources were redeployed to assist the Otsego County Road Commission with debris removal from local roads and the restoration of impacted traffic signals. The agency also provided barricades to assist with traffic control. MDOT resources were also heavily involved in the debris removal efforts at Nottingham Forest Mobile Home Park.

The **Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget (MDTMB)** stood ready to assist with obtaining needed resources for emergency operations and recovery through standing vendor contracts and the state's emergency procurement process, to coordinate the deployment of these materials utilizing MDTMB distribution vehicles, and continues to serve as the conduit of information flow for emergency purchases. They assisted with communications staff in the SEOC and on-site in Otsego County. One MDTMB radio tower in the disaster area was on generator power for a short period of time, and the agency provided one additional generator for communications support to MSP.

ATTACHMENT 3 TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

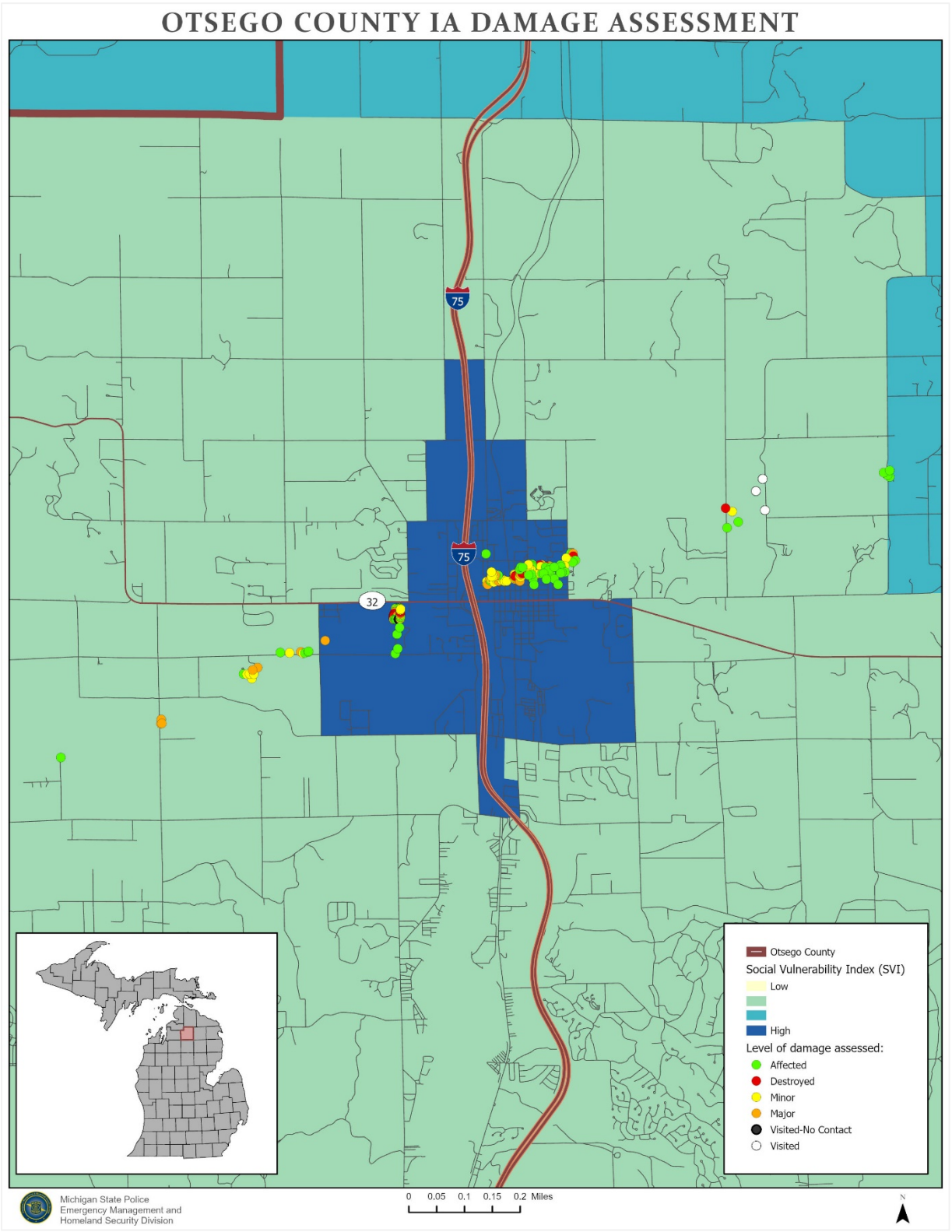
Supporting Maps and Photographs

Disaster Area Maps



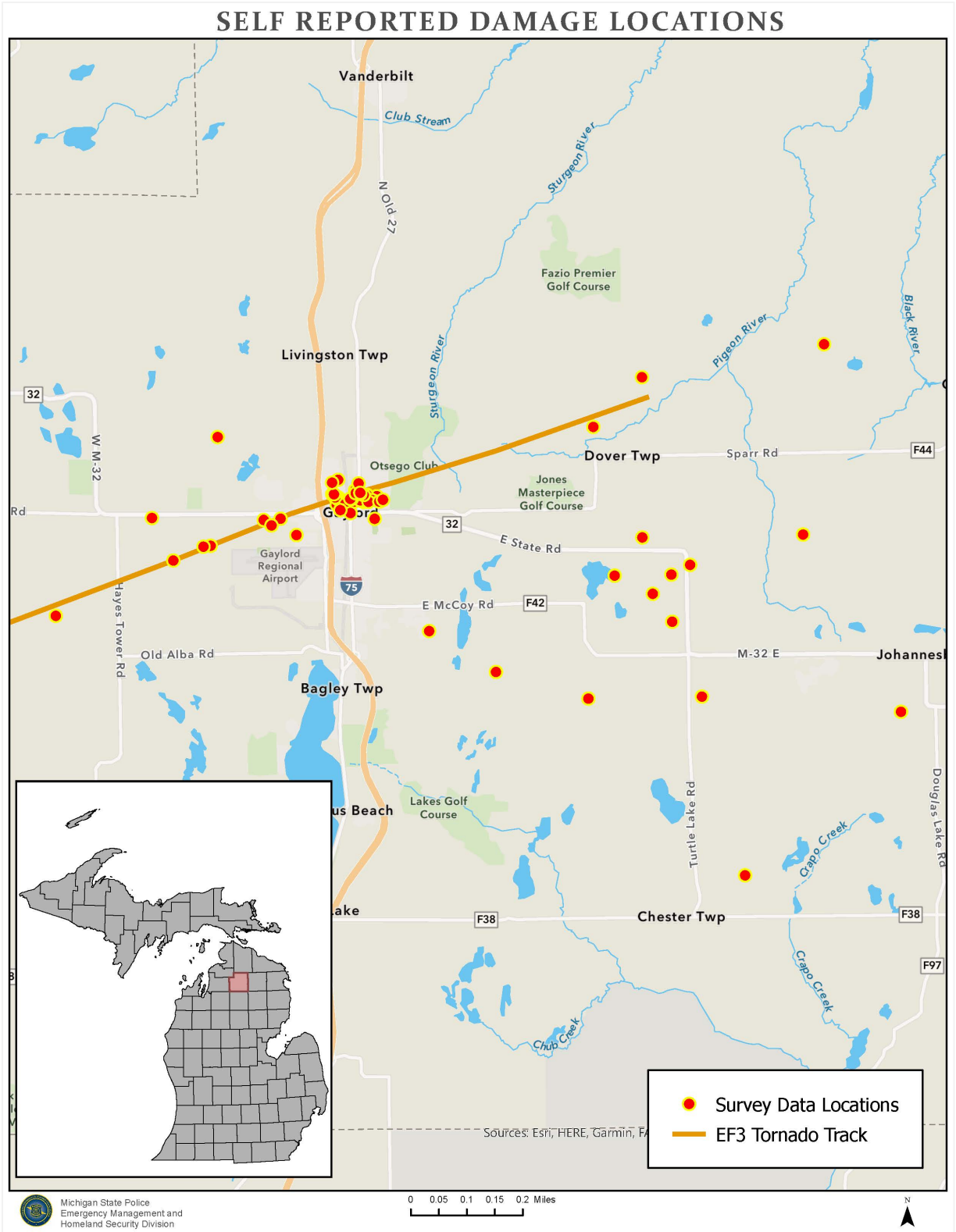
Source: State Emergency Operations Center, Geographic Information System Unit

Disaster Area Maps (cont.)



Source: State Emergency Operations Center, Geographic Information System Unit

Disaster Area Maps (cont.)



Source: State Emergency Operations Center, Geographic Information System Unit

Selected Photographs of Disaster Damage and Impacts

All pictures were taken in Otsego County.

All pictures: Damaged and destroyed manufactured homes, debris.

Selected Photographs of Disaster Damage and Impacts (cont.)



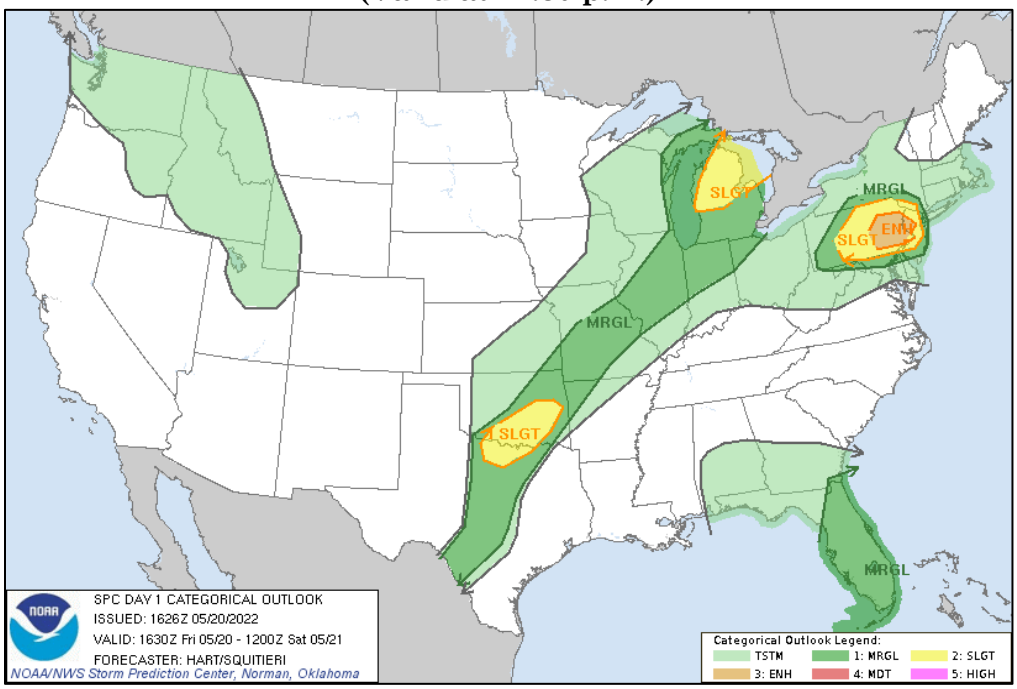



Row 1: Destroyed conventionally built homes.
Row 2, L-R: Destroyed and damaged conventionally built homes; commercial damage.
Row 3, L-R: Commercial damage; commercial damage and staging area.

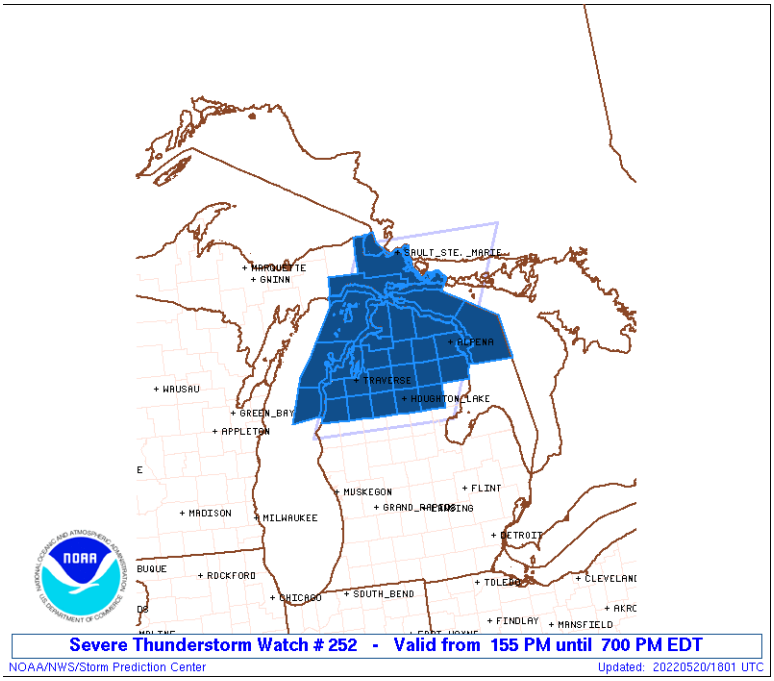
ATTACHMENT 4 TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Weather-related information

NWS Day 1 Convective Outlook from Storm Prediction Center (Valid at 12:30 p.m.)



Severe Thunderstorm Watch from Storm Prediction Center (Issued at 1:55 p.m.)



Tornado damage map and EF-Scale ratings along path

Source: National Weather Service

ENCLOSURE A TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Estimated Requirements for Individual Assistance Under the Stafford Act

Verified Home Damage

Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA) - Individuals and Households Program (IHP) Cost Calculator											
STATE/TRIBE/TERRITORY:	Michigan										
INCIDENT START DATE(S):	5/20/2022										
INCIDENT TYPE:	OTHER PERILS										
What percent of the Affected damage level dwellings will be eligible for IHP?	80%										
County Name	Destroyed	Major	Minor	Affected	Affected Getting Assistance	Total	% Owner	% Insured	% Low Income	HUD FMR for 2 bedroom - 1 month	HUD FMR for 2 bedroom - 2 month
Otsego	34	31	59	67	54	178	78.0%	57.0%	13.0%	$ 880.00	$ 1,760.00
TOTAL/AVERAGE	**34**	**31**	**59**	**67**	**54**	**178**	**78.0%**	**57.0%**	**13.0%**	**$ 880.00**	**$ 1,760.00**

Individuals and Households Program (IHP) Cost Estimates

Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA) - Individuals and Households Program (IHP) Cost Estimates Summary				
STATE/TRIBE/TERRITORY: Michigan INCIDENT START DATE(S): 5/20/2022 INCIDENT TYPE: OTHER PERILS				
ESTIMATED HOUSING ASSISTANCE (HA)	**NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS (Uninsured)**	**COST**	**TOTAL COST**	**CATEGORY TOTAL COST**
TEMPORARY HOUSING				**$ 95,040.00**
Rent (Pre-Disater Renters) (Owners w/Minor, Major or Destroyed) - 2 month	54		$ 95,040.00	
REPAIR ASSISTANCE				**$ 259,270.90**
Repair Costs (Owners w/Affected)	18	$ 1,500.00	$ 27,000.00	
Repair Costs (Owners w/Minor)	20	$ 3,587.86	$ 71,757.20	
Repair Costs (Owners w/Major)	10	$ 16,051.37	$ 160,513.70	
REPLACEMENT ASSISTANCE				**$ 416,900.00**
Replacement Cost (Owners w/Destroyed)	11	$ 37,900.00	$ 416,900.00	
Total Estimated Housing Assistance (HA)	**113**		**$ 771,210.90**	**$ 771,210.90**
ESTIMATED OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE (ONA)	**NUMBER (Uninsured)**	**COST**	**TOTAL COST**	**CATEGORY TOTAL COST**
ONA (All Renters and Owners w/Affected, Minor, Major, and Destroyed)	76	$ 1,600.00	$ 121,600.00	
Total Estimated Other Needs Assistance (ONA)	**76**		**$ 121,600.00**	**$ 121,600.00**
Total Estimated Federal Share (75%)		$ 91,200.00		
Total Estimated State Share (25%)		$ 30,400.00		
Total Estimated HA and ONA (75% Federal Share)			**$**	**862,410.90**
Total Estimated HA and ONA (100% Costs)			**$**	**892,810.90**

ENCLOSURE B TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Estimated Stafford Act Public Assistance Requirements

Not Applicable to this Request.

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
Otsego County	$7,450,000	$10,225,010	TBD	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	TBD
MDOT	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBD	N/A	N/A	TBD
Totals	$7,450,000	$10,225,010	TBD	TBD	TBD	N/A	N/A	TBD

- As of May 26, 2022, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) was not aware of any eligible requirements for Farm Services Agency (FSA) loans or Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) disaster assistance.
- As of June 3, 2022, no eligible requirements for the U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief program were reported by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

ENCLOSURE D TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Historic and Current Snowfall Data

Not Applicable to this Request.