Introduction:

This City of Fairbury Disaster Preparedness Plan is a working document. The City of Fairbury intends to adopt, by ordinance, the National Incident Management System(NIMS) as its Event Command/Unified Command System and will educate, train, and work within the guidelines of the NIMS format. The City of Fairbury Disaster Plan is for use during periods of increased readiness before, response operations during, and recovery operations following a disaster. As it is impossible to foreknow a particular event and its extent, this plan should be recognized as simply a template for guidance and not a iron clad list of does and don't in responding to a particular event.

Purpose:

This Disaster Preparedness Plan defines the objectives of the City of Fairbury's local governmental body in response to a local event happening. Through this process of defining objectives and the responsive relationships between the various city departments; many of the functions of the departments in a disaster do not directly relate to the traditional roles and responsibilities of those departments during non-disaster periods. This plan also establishes the relationship between Local, State, and Federal Governments, as well as, Businesses, Industry and the Public throughout the disaster period.

The planning process will take into account how coordination will work concerning use of resources and capacities of surrounding communities, county, state and federal agencies. This however does recognize that in a worst case scenario these resources maybe unavailable to the City of Fairbury on a temporary basis or even a longer term due to the scope of the disaster. It is our intent wherever possible to enhance our local capability through development of resource agreements to provide basic services at a minimum. As other regional resources become available it would be our intention to integrate them into our emergency management system. All phases of emergency management will be integrated into this plan; mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery activities will be present. As this plan is a living document it is subject to changes as our community grows and changes. Thus, it must also recognize that the need to further develop, review and update the plan continues in an uninterrupted manner. According to Federal and State Standards this plan must include a complete review and updating every two years.

Goals:

It is apparent to the City of Fairbury as the Disaster Plan is being developed that it needs to review how a disaster impacts city departments and develop emergency management objectives as a part of departmental planning on an ongoing basis. It is also are intent to consider present hazards in existence and how future development(s) may be impacted. The public also needs to be aware that city government cannot be aware of every possible occurrence in its planning process.

It is our intent to develop if not already available; public warning, evacuation plans, shelter(s) and welfare services in a disaster. We intend to respond to a disaster by providing appropriate on site emergency response equipment to assist victims of an event as long as is necessary. Disaster plans will include those contacts of government agencies, relief services and volunteer organizations that are active during a disaster to speed the recovery as fast as is possible. It is our intention in the planning process to maintain an integrated response to the needs of our community. All available and appropriate assets will be committed in response to a disaster as non-essential government operations cease for the necessary duration. As the governmental body; we are committed and feel obligated to provide all necessary response and services to the best of our cities ability.

To Be Considered:

An event in our community may have significant consequences directly or non-directly upon a large percentage of the city. In this event, an Emergency Operations Center will be identified (City Hall or other location) and operated by local officials, and be capable of assessing the need of support services from appropriate levels of government. There may be the need to coordinate relocation of persons to surrounding community shelters until such a time as persons can make plans.

An event may require a rapid response to the situation. In turn, plans in response to the event may require numerous meetings and proposals in the decision making response by local governmental officials and to include public input. Part of the purpose of this plan is to anticipate possible scenarios so that responses are in place prior to an event happening.

It must be recognized that in the event of a local disaster; there is no one agency or group in the County, State, or Federal Government that can repeal the local officials responsibility or authority to initiate disaster operations in the community of Fairbury. It is a moral and legal imperative for the local community leaders to provide for the health, welfare and safety of the local residents and temporary population groups. No actions or plans other than those of the municipality stand any chance of meeting this obligation.