



## Work Session Agenda Summary

January 10, 2023

Brian Kuznik, Fire Chief

### Title:

Office of Emergency Management and Disaster Response Overview

### Background:

This presentation serves as follow up to the City Council of October 4, 2022 regarding the City of Greeley's (City) response to disasters and more specifically what the City is doing to lessen the impact of utility service interruptions that are often experienced during a disaster.

### Office of Emergency Management - Department Overview:

The City's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is a citywide function that is currently located within the Fire Department. The OEM's primary responsibilities include:

- the four phases of emergency management, which include mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery;
- coordinating resources to maintain continuity of operations during major emergencies and disasters; and
- completing regularly scheduled updates to the city's Emergency Operations Plan, along with other critical documents, developing training and exercise programs, leading the city's Incident Support Team, and managing the city's Emergency Operations Center.

Currently, the Fiscal Year 2023 budget includes funding for two full-time positions - an Emergency Manager and an Assistant Emergency Manager. Due to resignations within the Division over the past year, the Emergency Manager position is currently filled on an interim status pending the completion of an organizational and operational assessment conducted by a third-party vendor.

The 2023 priorities for the OEM include the completion of an operational assessment, filling vacant positions, and establishing mitigation and response strategies that are designed to enhance community resiliency.

### Summary of Community Hazards:

The Greeley community is susceptible to a wide range of natural, human-caused, and technological hazards. As such, the City has adopted an all-hazards emergency operations plan (EOP) that provides general guidelines and principles for managing and coordinating the

overall response and recovery activities before, during, and after major emergencies and disaster events that affect the City. Furthermore, the City has adopted a continuity of operations plan (COOP) which outlines the essential functions that are necessary for the city to maintain service to the community.

The Greeley community and Weld County region have experienced natural disasters such as floods, wildfires, tornadoes, winter storms, technological emergencies, infrastructure failures, and hazardous material incidents. Greeley continues to be vulnerable to a wide range of hazards.

Partner Agencies:

The City understands the significance that strong partnerships play in preparing for and responding to disasters. As such, the OEM is committed to developing strong working relationships with our many public and private partner agencies. In particular, the OEM works closely with all of our utility service partners such as Atmos Energy, Xcel Energy, Poudre Valley REA, and Verizon Wireless. These agencies work to reduce the loss of service within the community and each are committed to prompt restorative efforts during emergencies.

*Strategic Focus Area:*

**Safe and Secure Communities**



*Attachments:*

PowerPoint