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Press Release
9/8/17

Re: Hurricane Irma Storm Preparations

Officials from Polk County Administration, multiple Public Safety Agencies, Polk County EMA, City Officials and Public Works Officials met Friday morning to discuss preparations for a potential local impact by Hurricane Irma. Topics of discussion included: Latest Storm Path Tracking and local impact based on various path scenarios; level of preparedness; EMA Command; and resource allocations.

Randy Lacey, Polk County EMA Director, stated that “we are ready to implement our Emergency Action Plan if needed.” “We are ready to respond to whichever storm scenario actually plays out.” That readiness comment was echoed by all Countywide Public Safety Officials. Lacey further stated “in the event of a Local Emergency declared by Polk County Officials, temporary shelters will be made available on the east and west sides of the County for residents displaced by the storm.”

The primary point of the meeting this morning was Intergovernmental Administrative, Public Safety and Public Works Cooperation, Coordination and Preparedness. At the conclusion of the meeting, Matt Denton, Polk County Manager stated “Thanks for the cooperation of all entities, we are prepared to respond to whatever this storm brings.”

Emergency Management Officials are encouraging citizens to stay tuned to local weather stations and radio broadcasts for the latest information. More information updates are scheduled for Monday.