



City of Maryville, Missouri

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Congressman Sam Graves
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives 6th District, Missouri
1135 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Graves,

Please accept this letter in overwhelming support for Northwest Missouri State University's funding application to construct the Midwest Center for First Responder Training. The project will create a facility to meet the training needs of future first responders throughout the four-state area.

The City of Maryville maintains a critical partnership with Northwest Missouri State University's Emergency and Disaster Management Program. The program focuses on three core areas: emergency management, humanitarian relief and homeland security, and defense. Students have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience at a 320-acre training area located at Mozingo Lake. The Midwest Center for First Responder Training will elevate training amenities while continuing to push Mozingo Lake as regional destination. In addition, the City of Maryville will directly benefit from the ability to utilize this resource for basic and advanced fire training. Increased and expanded training capacities may also result in a lower ISO rating for the community.

As such, the City of Maryville encourages full funding of Northwest Missouri State University's application to provide a top-tier public training facility.

Respectfully,

Greg McDanel
City Manager, ICMA-CM



**Rev. Noel T. Adams Memorial
Ambulance District**

John Barclay, Chief of EMS



1000 South 25th St.
P.O. Box 182
Bethany, MO 64424
Ph.660-425-6319
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j.barclay@ntaemsrescue.com

Congressman Sam Graves
St. Joseph District Office
411 Jules Street
Room 111
St. Joseph, MO 64501
Phone: (816) 749-0800

April 15th, 2021

Dear Congressman,

This letter is in regards to the Northwest Missouri State University Emergency and Disaster Management Program's grant application for funding for the Midwest Center for First Responder Training. This current facility is a great training site and we use it often. The proposed increased facilities would lead to better preparedness in the local areas, we gladly support the initiative. Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Barclay, Chief of EMS

Region H EMS Mutual Aid Coordinator

Harry Roberts
Presiding Commissioner

Buchanan County, Missouri

William (Bill) Brinton, Jr.
Director



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

411 Jules Street
Saint Joseph, Missouri 64501
Phone 816-271-1574 Fax 816-271-1569



To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Bill Brinton and I am the Emergency Management Director for Buchanan County Missouri, I am also the Chief of the Region H Homeland Security Regional Response Team; I am also the Flood Plain Manager for Buchanan County and am a Reserve Deputy with the Buchanan County Sheriff's Department.

A few years ago, I was honored to be invited to be on the planning committee for the Missouri Hope exercise and to collaborate with their students through trainings and internships.

Each year I look forward to working with the Northwest EDM program because of their impact on the future emergency responders in our region. Their various trainings offer an opportunity for both students and community members alike to understand the operations surrounding incident management, as well as experience what it is like to be a leader of a team.

For me as an emergency management director, I can tell you the importance of this next generation within our field. Emergency Management continues to experience a major shift in demographics, with this younger generation filling spaces that are left by retirements. Programs like Northwest EDM ensure that those new practitioners are ready to take on the challenges of these positions.

This grant would allow the students to have an appropriate facility for the training required to be successful in our field.

During my career, I have been an instructor for both Tarkio College and Missouri Western State University. Every year, I am most impressed by the caliber of students within the EDM Program at Northwest Missouri State University.

I am encouraged that these students will be the Emergency Management/FEMA Disaster leaders of tomorrow.

My sincere thanks to the NWMSU EDM Program for allowing me to be a part of Missouri Hope and for asking me to support them in their quest to have a functioning Emergency Operations Center to support the students in their learning.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 816-383-0604.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bill".

Bill Brinton, MS

EMD Buchanan County Missouri

Chief, Region H Homeland Security Regional Response Team

April 15, 2021

Dear Sirs,

My name is Michael Booth, Missouri State Emergency Agency Management Region H Coordinator. This letter is to show my support for Northwest Missouri State University Midwest Center for First Responder Training facility. I feel this type of facility will benefit all agencies involved in emergency management programs and emergency response.

I support this facility for the following reasons:

All Hazard training – This facility includes sections that will assist with training and equipping personnel to respond to incidents and special events. For several years, Region H has trained and planned as one team relying on all partners to assist with incidents and special events. I am positive that this type of facility will enhance the regional planning efforts.

Specialized and technical areas – examples are: structural collapse, Hazardous materials and civil unrest. These are some of the responses that require specialized training tactics and equipment needed to safely mitigate the incident. Currently, personnel are required to travel several miles or out of state to obtain this type of training. This Training center will provide real world scenarios and exercises to train personnel in safe and effective techniques.

Incident Management System – FEMA requires all personnel that may be involved with emergency management programs to have National Incident Management System training (NIMS). This type of facility would provide local agencies the ability to utilize NIMS during all types of incidents involving simulated real world emergencies.

I fully support Northwest Missouri State University's Midwest Center for First Responder Training Center in Maryville, MO.

Sincerely,

Michael Booth

SEMA Region H Coordinator



Maryville

Public Safety Department



101 North Vine Street
Maryville, Missouri 64468

Phone: 660/562-3209
Fax Number: 660/582-2121

To whom it may concern,

My name is Phillip Rickabaugh and I am the chief of the Maryville Fire Department here in Maryville, MO.

I was approached by John Carr of Northwest Missouri State University a few years back in regards to his visions for a public safety training facility of sorts to include a fire training tower here in Maryville. We discussed this topic in detail at the time, but it was put on the backburner when the COVID-19 pandemic began.

The facility we discussed would be a regional asset here in Northwest Missouri where professional fire training is known to be slim amongst the rural, volunteer departments. It would allow us to bring outside training agencies here to provide basic to advanced fire training that has never been offered in this area at a low cost to the local departments. These trainings would in turn lower our local ISO ratings and increase the safety and confidence of the rural, volunteer departments that make up the entirety of the Northwest Missouri fire response.

This overall facility would be beneficial to all fire, EMS, law enforcement and rescue squads in the region for individual trainings and also coordinated exercises.

Carr has informed me of a funding opportunity that could make this facility we started discussing a few years ago become a reality and I provide my full support in whatever this process entails. If Northwest Missouri State University were to open a facility of this magnitude I believe through our partnership and relations in county fire departments we could greatly increase the level of training available in the county and in the region.

Sincerely,

Phillip L. Rickabaugh
Fire Chief



"Serving and Protecting with Pride"

