**Public Input Needed: Eastland County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Eastland County, in collaboration with the Cities of Eastland, Cisco, Ranger, Rising Star, Carbon, and Gorman, as well as the Eastland County Water Supply District and the Cisco, Eastland, and Ranger Independent School Districts, invites residents to review and provide feedback on the draft **2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan**.

This plan is crucial for identifying potential natural hazards, assessing risks, and outlining proactive measures to protect lives and property. It serves as a blueprint for reducing long-term disaster risks and enhancing community resilience.

**How to Review and Provide Input**

The draft plan will be available for public review for two weeks on the **Eastland County website**. Additionally, printed copies will be accessible at:

* **Commissioners Court Room/County Judge’s Office in the Courthouse**
* **City Halls** in all participating jurisdictions
* **Local public libraries**

Residents are encouraged to review the plan and submit comments or suggestions to help strengthen the county’s preparedness strategies.

**Why This Plan Matters**

The plan addresses a range of natural hazards that could impact Eastland County, including:
✔ Drought
✔ Flooding
✔ Hurricanes
✔ Tornadoes
✔ Wildfires
✔ Severe winter storms
✔ Lightning

Communities with a **FEMA-approved** Hazard Mitigation Plan become eligible for federal funding under the **Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Program**. These funds can be used for vital projects such as:
🔹 Flood mitigation efforts (e.g., buyouts and structural elevation of flood-prone properties)
🔹 Drainage improvements
🔹 Hardening of critical facilities to withstand future disasters

**Next Steps**

After the public comment period, the plan will be submitted to the **Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)** and **FEMA** for review and approval, a process that takes several months. Once approved, each participating jurisdiction must formally adopt the plan.

Your input is invaluable in shaping a safer and more prepared Eastland County. **We encourage all residents to participate!**

For more information, visit the **Eastland County website** or contact your local city hall.