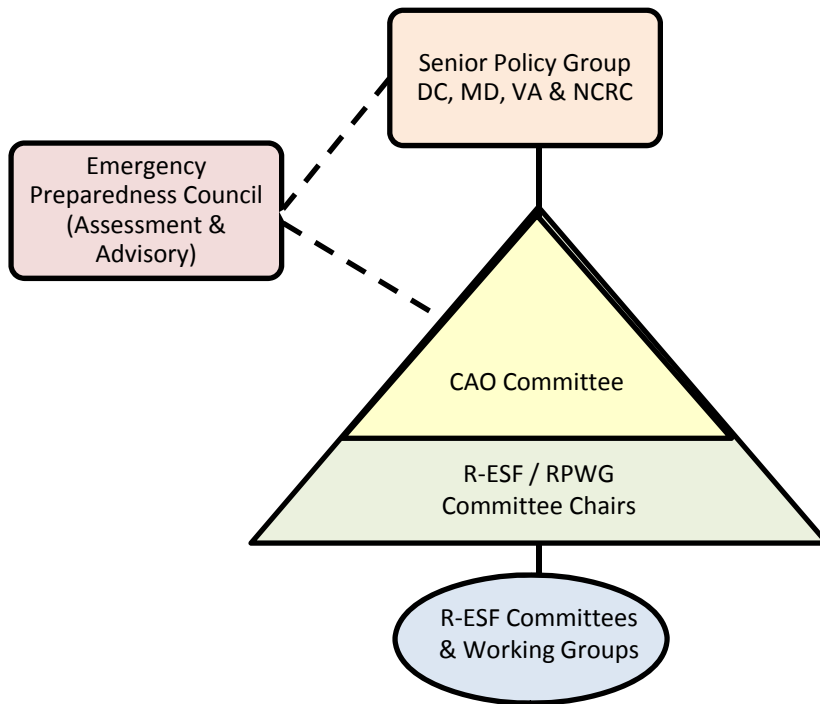


National Capital Region Organizational Chart for Leadership of Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)



Emergency Preparedness Council (EPC)

Provides oversight regarding the implementation of the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP) and the NCR Homeland Security Strategic Plan to identify and address gaps in readiness in the NCR. The EPC functions as the federally required Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) with oversight responsibility for the UASI process in partnership with the SPG, CAOs, and SAA.

Senior Policy Group (SPG)

Provides continuing policy and executive-level focus to the NCR's homeland security concerns. Membership consists of senior officials from Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia, and DHS/FEMA's Office of National Capital Region Coordination (NCRC).

Chief Administrative Officers Committee (CAO)

Comprised of Chief Administrative Officers, City Managers and Administrators, the General Manager of WMATA. The CAOs provide leadership for R-ESFs, RPWGs and committees & address regional concerns.

Regional Emergency Support Function (R-ESF) / Regional Program Work Group (RPWG) Committee Chairs

R-ESF Chairs are elected by members to lead the R-ESFs for a year and are responsible to the CAOs. RPWG chairs are selected by the SPG with concurrence of the CAOs and lead the RPWG for a year and are responsible to the SPG and CAOs.

Regional Emergency Support Functions (R-ESF) / Regional Program Work Groups (RPWG)

The 16 R-ESFs provide the structure for coordinating regional inter-agency support for a regional preparedness, response, and recovery from an incident under leadership of CAOs.

The 4 RPWGs provide the structure for coordination when multiple R-ESFs need to come together on a continuing basis to address matters of concern for the region. RPWGs are responsible to both the Senior Policy Group and the Chief Administrative Officers.

PURPOSE STATEMENT FOR ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

The National Capital Region (NCR) is supported by multiple organizations. The organizations include representatives from MD, VA, and DC, as well as those from the 21 local jurisdictions in the region, federal partners, nonprofit organizations and the private sector. The various groups work together in partnership to build, sustain, and improve our ability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. As a result the region continues to take maximum of available resources to improve readiness in the region and maintain it as one of the best prepared regions in the nation. The roles and responsibilities of selected organizations that contribute and support preparedness for both man-made and natural disasters in the National Capital Region are listed in the chart below.

NCR Organization	Purpose
Council of Governments (COG) Board of Directors	The Board of Directors is COG’s governing body and is responsible for its overall policies, functions, and funds. Board members are appointed each year by the participating local governments and by caucuses of state legislative delegations from the region. The COG Board takes action on committee recommendations, discusses current and emerging regional problems, and receives briefings on issues facing the region. Board meetings are open to the public, and frequently attended by representatives from the media.
Emergency Preparedness Council (EPC)	The EPC provides oversight and implementation of the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP) and the NCR Strategic Plan; the coordination of the activities of the various Regional Emergency Support Function (R-ESF) Working Groups as they develop their specific procedures and relationships; oversight of the development of annexes and determines if the development of additional annexes may desirable; the planning, development, and oversight of trainings or tests of various components of regional emergency preparedness in conjunction with COG and the CAO Committee. The EPC can add groups, institutions, and individuals to the R-ESF Working Groups, or expand its own membership with non-voting members.
Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee	The Human Services and Public Safety Policy Committee’s (HSPSPC) purpose shall be to develop and maintain all policies, plans, agreements and programs, other than those specifically assigned to other units within COG, concerning human services and public safety issues. The HSPSPC is an advisory body established by the

NCR Organization	Purpose
	<p>Metropolitan Washington Council Of Governments (COG) Board of Directors. It is composed of elected officials and department managers and directors.</p> <p>It is the goal of the HSPSPC to provide the overall oversight on human service and public safety matters for the COG Board of Directors; including law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services, emergency management, corrections, animal services, public health, foster care, child care, housing and mental health and substance abuse programs.</p> <p>All policies, plans, agreement, and programs which have previously been officially adopted, approved, endorsed, or ratified by the Board, or the predecessors to the HSPSPC, the Public Safety Policy Committee, or the Human Services Policy Committee shall remain in effect unless otherwise modified pursuant to the procedures in their Bylaws.</p>
Chief Administrative Officers Committee	The Chief Administrative Officers Committee is made up of chief administrative officers, city and county managers and administrators, the General Manager of WMATA and others by invitation. They meet monthly to address common issues and concerns of a regional nature across the entire spectrum of their responsibilities; receive reports from members and others who have achieved exceptional success in addressing common issues or concerns; and they provide leadership to R-ESFs and other committees.
Chief Administrative Officers Homeland Security Executive Committee (CAO HSEC)	The Chief Administrative Officers established the CAO HSEC to address R-ESF and Homeland Security matters and, most especially, to provide leadership for the various committees in identifying gaps in capabilities in the NCR and identifying funding to include UASI funding to fund investments to address those gaps. The CAO HSEC works in partnership with the SPG to identify UASI sustainment initiatives as well as new UASI initiatives and for providing oversight of UASI funding. Further, the CAO HSEC is made of CAOs from the largest jurisdictions: District of Columbia, Montgomery County, Prince George’s County, Fairfax County, City of Alexandria, Arlington County, Prince William County and Loudoun County. Finally, all jurisdictions are invited and encouraged to participate at CAO HSEC meetings.
Council of Governments (COG) Committee Chairs	COG committee chairs for the R-ESFs and other committees are elected by the membership of the various committees for a term of one year that can be extended by a vote of the membership; annually, the committee will identify common

NCR Organization	Purpose
	<p>issues or concerns in the region in their program areas and items that may have been referred to the committee by the CAOs or other committees; develop an annual work plan to address the identified items; the Chair provides leadership for the committee in accomplishing items in the work plan; and the Chair keeps the CAOs informed on committee activities and provides reports to the EPC and SPG when requested. Further, the Chair provides leadership for the committee in identifying gaps in regional capabilities in the committee areas of responsibility and makes the CAOs aware of the need for UASI funds or other resources to address those gaps. Finally, all committee chairs are members of the EPC and provide reports as requested.</p>
<p>Interoperability Council</p>	<p>The Interoperability Council of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (Interoperability Council) is the administrative and oversight entity for the design and implementation of an interoperability services program as conceived by the CIO Committee and reviewed and recommended by the CAO Committee.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Receive periodic reports and recommendations from advisory entities such as the COG CIO, EMA, Police Chief, Public Health Officials, and Fire Chief Committees and COG staff; b. Establish regional policies regarding security and privacy of data; c. Evaluate the cost effectiveness and total cost of ownership for the proposed program; d. Identify and recommend methods of funding the project; e. Consider and authorize COG to file grant applications in support of these efforts; f. Recommend or authorize contracts in the name of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments in support of the on-going delivery of interoperability services; and g. Develop and establish its own protocol and procedures and file a copy with the Clerk to the Board; h. Create an executive committee within the Council to facilitate the Council's work.
<p>Senior Policy Group (SPG)</p>	<p>The Governors of Maryland and Virginia, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, and the Advisor to the President for Homeland Security established the Senior Policy Group (SPG) to provide continuing policy and executive-level focus to the NCR's homeland security concerns. Membership consists of senior officials from Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia, and DHS/FEMA's Office of National Capital Region Coordination (NCRC).</p>

NCR Organization	Purpose
	<p>The NCR is defined as an Urban Area under DHS' Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program. The SPG oversees the allocation and implementation of UASI funding for the NCR and determines priority actions for increasing NCR's regional preparedness and response capabilities, as well as reducing vulnerability to terrorist attacks. The SPG's decision-making process is informed by the NCR's progress against its Homeland Security Strategic Plan, preparedness capabilities, and emerging and evolving risks and threats.</p> <p>The SPG ensures full integration of NCR activities by providing final approval for programs and associated projects within the NCR under the UASI grant. The SPG oversees Directors of the Regional Programmatic Working Group and guides the execution of their work on approved Homeland Security initiatives, programs and projects. The SPG is ultimately accountable for the impact of the programs of the NCR.</p>
<p>District of Columbia Local Emergency Planning Council, Inc (DCLEPC)</p>	<p>The District of Columbia Local Emergency Planning Council, Inc. (DCLEPC) was established to monitor and inform the public about the use of hazardous chemicals in the District of Columbia. It is a community committee composed of emergency planning specialists; higher education institutions; environmental watchdog organizations; business leaders, trade and professional associations in the chemical industry; and representatives from the media, utility companies and district and federal government agencies.</p> <p>DCLEPC was created pursuant to the "Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act", Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization ACT (SARA) of 1986, and performs the following functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coordinates training, education, technical assistance and outreach activities; • designates local emergency planning districts, appoints and coordinates local emergency planning committees for each district and reviews local emergency plans; • establishes procedures and a system for receiving and processing emergency release reporting, other required information and inventories from covered facilities and requests from government officials or the public for information; and • works to increase state and local emergency response capabilities.

NCR Organization	Purpose
<p>District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA)</p>	<p>The mission of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) is to manage the District's emergency operations to prevent, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made emergencies. This is accomplished by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing plans and procedures to ensure emergency response and recovery capabilities for all emergencies and disasters; • Coordinating emergency resources for emergencies and disaster incidents; • Providing training for all emergency first responders, city employees, and the public; • Conducting exercises; and • Coordinating all major special events and street closings. <p>In addition, in furtherance of its mission, HSEMA also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serves as the central communications point during regional emergencies; • Conducts an assessment of resources and capabilities for emergencies; • Provides public awareness and outreach programs, and • Provides 24-hour emergency operations center capabilities. <p>In carrying out its mission, the agency works closely with other emergency response agencies, including the Metropolitan Police Department, the District of Columbia Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the District of Columbia Department of Health and other District and federal agencies, as well as with the major utility companies and non-profit and volunteer organizations such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army.</p>
<p>MD Governor's Emergency Management Advisory Council (GEMAC)</p>	<p>The Emergency Management Advisory Council started in 1950 as the Civil Defense Advisory Council (Chapter 563, Acts of 1949). In 1975, it was renamed the Civil Defense and Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council (Chapter 666, Acts of 1975). It became the Emergency Management Advisory Council in 1981 (Chapter 505, Acts of 1981). The Council advises the Governor on matters of State emergency management and civil defense (Chapter 505, Acts of 1981). The Council is appointed by the Governor and includes representatives from State and local government, and volunteer organizations, such as firefighters and rescue</p>

NCR Organization	Purpose
	squads (Code Public Safety Article, sec. 14-105).
Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)	<p>MEMA was created by the Maryland legislature to ensure the state is prepared to deal with large-scale emergencies. MEMA is responsible for coordinating the state’s response in any major emergency or disaster. This includes supporting local governments as needed or requested, and coordinating assistance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other federal partners.</p> <p>While MEMA is part of the Maryland Military Department and under the authority of the Adjutant General, during emergencies the Governor may assume direct authority over the agency and the Executive Director of MEMA reports directly to the Governor.</p> <p>A key element of MEMA is the Maryland Joint Operations Center (MJOC). Operated round-the-clock by National Guard and emergency management professionals, it was the first joint civilian-military watch center in the country. In addition to serving as a communications hub for emergency responders statewide and supporting local emergency management, the MJOC monitors local, state, national and international events, and alerts decision-makers in Maryland when a situation warrants.</p> <p>In times of disaster, the Executive Director of MEMA activates the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) to support local governments as necessary or requested. Representatives from state departments and supporting agencies, as well as some federal agencies, the private sector and volunteer organizations, are present in the SEOC. Representatives have the authority to make decisions and allocate resources and funds necessary on behalf of their agency for emergency response. When the Governor declares a state of emergency, MEMA coordinates efforts with FEMA to request a Presidential Disaster Declaration and provide assistance to those impacted by the disaster.</p> <p>The MEMA staff of emergency management professionals, which numbers in excess of 70 people, are divided into two directorates – Operations and Administration. The Operations Directorate includes exercise and training, planning, regional programs, mitigation and recovery, the Maryland Joint Operations Center, and critical infrastructure protection. The Administration Directorate handles agency logistics, personnel, supplies, fiscal services, grants managements, technology support, interoperability, and communications.</p>

NCR Organization	Purpose
	<p>The Executive Director’s office manages all public affairs, direct interaction with the National Capital Region, and legislative activities.</p> <p>The agency coordinates various federal programs, including the Homeland Security Grant Program, the Emergency Management Performance Grant, and FEMA mitigation and recovery programs. Working with federal and local partners under the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, the mustard gas stored at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Harford County was successfully neutralized in 2005.</p> <p>MEMA’s authority derives from Article 14 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. This Article creates MEMA and authorizes the political subdivisions of the state to create emergency management offices of their own. Currently, there are 26 local emergency management offices in Maryland – all 23 counties, along with Annapolis, Baltimore and Ocean City. Article 14 also gives the Governor emergency powers – such as temporarily waiving state laws that may interfere with emergency response operations.</p> <p>Through MEMA mitigation and recovery activities, MEMA strives to reduce or eliminate the impact of future disasters. Close coordination with local jurisdictions and other state agencies may result in responsible land use, appropriate changes to our building codes, and suitable routes for hazardous material transportation to name just a few. Proper planning and preparedness are the keys to surviving a disaster. Therefore by working together with local emergency managers MEMA action plans become pivotal in saving resources, funds, and most importantly, lives.</p>
Virginia Secure Commonwealth Panel	Panel responsibilities include monitoring and assessing the implementation of statewide prevention, preparedness, response and recovery initiatives and where necessary to review, evaluate and make recommendations relating to the emergency preparedness of government at all levels in the Commonwealth. Additionally, the Panel facilitates cabinet-level coordination among the various agencies of state government related to emergency preparedness and shall facilitate private sector preparedness and communication. Code Reference: § 2.2-306
Virginia Department of Emergency of Emergency Management	The mission of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management is to protect the lives and property of Virginia's citizens from emergencies and disasters by coordinating the state's emergency preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery efforts.

NCR Organization	Purpose
	The vision of Virginia Department of Emergency Management is to be recognized as an effective and innovative leader in the field of emergency management.
Office of National Capital Region Coordination (NCRC) FEMA, DHS	Provide leadership in integrating homeland security efforts across the NCR.
State Administrative Agent (SAA)	The purpose of the State Administrative Agent (SAA) is to manage and administer the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funding that is awarded by FEMA to the District of Columbia and the National Capital Region (NCR). FEMA requires a single state-level point of contact to act as the Administrative Agent for the HSGP. This involves creating and submitting the HSGP grant application, receiving and sub-granting the federal grant award, monitoring and overseeing grant-funded projects during the implementation phase, processing reimbursement requests from sub-grantees, and drawing down funds from the federal government. The SAA determines allowable costs, approves project scopes and timeframes, and ensures timely expenditure of grant funds. The SAA responds to federal and state audits as well as requests for public information on the HSGP grants. The SAA also provides regular reports on current grant spending status to the NCR's leadership, performs analysis on trends in grant programs, and maintains a historic overview of the HSGP grants and performance.

REGIONAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTIONS (R-ESFs)

The R-ESFs provide the structure for coordinating regional inter-agency support for a regional preparedness for response to and recovery from an incident. They are mechanisms for grouping functions most frequently used to provide regional support to for disasters and emergencies. The R-ESFs are generally modeled after the functional structure of FEMA’s Federal Response Framework. The majority of R-ESFs have been long-term components of the COG technical committee structure, prior to their designation as R-ESFs in the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan. These include the COG Fire Chiefs Committee, COG Police Chiefs Committee, COG Emergency Managers Committee, and the COG Health Officials Committee.

R-ESF	Scope
R -ESF #1 – Transportation	R-ESF #1 focuses on disruptions of the regional transportation system, whether they occur directly as transportation incidents or by emergencies in other functional areas.
R-ESF #2 – Communications	This function focuses on the hardware and capacity for interoperability. It supports the regional response efforts during and after a potential or actual emergency. It supports the Regional Incident Communication and Coordination System (RICCS), and other forms of communication among NCR partners. Communications within jurisdictions remain the responsibility of each jurisdiction.
R-ESF #3A – Water and Wastewater	This function concerns the region’s water supply and wastewater management systems. It covers disruptions that have regional impacts, temporary restoration of services, and public health and safety issues. For the regional water supply system, it also includes coordination and management of an early warning monitoring system intended to detect threats to the region’s water supply and prevent or mitigate their impacts. A regional mutual aid agreement is in place for water and wastewater utilities to facilitate the regional response.
R-ESF #3B – Solid Waste and Debris Management	This function concerns management of solid waste and debris resulting from regional events, both natural (especially hurricanes and severe storms) and man-made. It includes coordination of response to events as well as advance planning activities. A regional mutual aid agreement is in place for local government solid waste agencies to facilitate the regional response.
R-ESF #4 – Firefighting R-ESF #9 – Search and Rescue	Coordination of firefighting activities. This R-ESF coordinates with FEMA’s support functions: #4 Firefighting, #9 Urban Search and Rescue, and #10 Hazardous Materials.

R-ESF	Scope
R-ESF #10 – Hazardous Materials	Major activities include fire containment and suppression, evacuation of hazard areas, emergency medical services, hazmat response, and limited technical rescue.
R-ESF #5 – Emergency Management	During regional emergencies, R-ESF #5 becomes the information and planning element of the regional communication and coordination effort. Every support function has a liaison to R-ESF #5. Situations with potential or actual regional impacts will activate this function. The RICCS will be used to facilitate the information collection and sharing process.
R-ESF #6 – Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing, and Human Services	This function focuses on mass care assistance to victims affected by a public emergency, including weapons of mass destruction. It includes regional, state, and local entities, as well as private organizations such as the American Red Cross, Greater DC Cares, private food service providers, and federal agencies.
R-ESF #7 – Logistics Management and Resource Support	This function provides a framework for meeting needs for required resources. It includes regional and multi-jurisdictional agencies, regional and local authorities, schools, and state and federal agencies. In addition to sharing existing resources in an emergency situation, this function also supports cooperative purchasing of resources.
R-ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical Services	This function focuses on public health, medical care, mental health services, and mass fatality management.
R-ESF #9 – Search and Rescue	This function focuses on life-saving assistance and search and rescue operations.
R-ESF #10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response	This function focuses on oil and hazardous materials response including chemical, biological, radiological, and environmental short- and long-term cleanup.
R-ESF #11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources	This function focuses on nutrition assistance, animal and plant disease and pest response, food safety and security, as well as the safety and well-being of household pets.
R-ESF #12 – Energy	This function focuses on energy infrastructure assessment, repair, and restoration; energy industry utilities coordination; and energy forecast .
R-ESF #13 – Public Safety and Security	This function focuses on facility and resource security; security planning; technical resource assistance; public safety and security support; support to access, traffic, and crowd control.
R-ESF #14 – Long-Term Community Recovery	This function focuses on social and economic community impact assessment, long-term community recovery assistance to the region, and analysis and review of mitigation program implementation.
R-ESF #15 – External Affairs	This function focuses on emergency public information and protective action guidance, media and community relations. Its mission is to provide information to the

	public through the media, employers, schools, universities, and community organizations, guided by the philosophy of “common message, many voices.”
R-ESF #16 – Donations and Volunteer	This function focuses on ensuring that donations of goods and services are coordinated in anticipation of, during, and after a regional event. It involves private and volunteer organizations in addition to government entities.

REGIONAL PROGRAM WORKING GROUPS (RPWGs)

The RPWGs provide the structure for coordination when multiple R-ESFs need to come together on a continuing basis to address matters of concern for the NCR. For example, the Exercise and Training Operations Panel (ETOP) RPWG supports training and exercises for all R-ESFs and others. RPWGs are responsible to both the Senior Policy Group and the Chief Administrative Officers and they are generally chaired by state representatives agreed upon by both groups. RPWGs are relatively temporary and only exist as long as they are needed. For example, the Human Services RPWG was discontinued when it was determined that it was duplicative of the work being done by R-ESFs covering the same areas.

RPWG	Scope
Exercise and Training Operations Panel (ETOP) RPWG	<p>The mission and scope of the ETOP RPWG is to establish a collaborative, regional approach for exercises and training throughout the NCR. The ETOP RPWG supports Strategic Goal 1 of the NCR Homeland Security Strategic Plan: <i>"Planning and Decision-making"</i> and the three objectives under that goal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen the regional homeland security planning and decision-making framework and process to include performance and risk-based approaches. 2. Establish an NCR-wide assessment and requirements generation process to identify and close gaps in preparedness capabilities by effectively utilizing both public and private homeland security resources. 3. Enhance the oversight of and accountability for the management of investments and capabilities to ensure enduring and sustainable preparedness across the NCR.
Health and Medical RPWG	<p>Under the direction of the SPG and the CAO-HSEC, the Health and Medical Regional Programmatic Working Group (H&MRPWG) will be a driving force behind regional collaboration and cooperation; and provide both short and long-range health & medical emergency preparedness and response planning. Representative members are chosen from the various State and local public health agencies and medical community institutions in the NCR who shall represent their agency or institution as well as their individual professional expertise to the groups' scope of work. The H&MRPWG serves as an advisory body to the SPG and CAO-HSEC, providing recommendations, subject matter expertise and</p>

RPWG	Scope
	<p>overall guidance for health and medical projects that are funded with UASI grants. In conjunction with the NCR State Administrative Agency (SAA) the H&MRPWG is responsible for ensuring that the program plan and projects meet the regional goals and objectives as defined by the SPG. The H&MRPWG is also responsible for reviewing and recommending UASI strategic initiatives and projects.</p> <p>The H&MRPWG will address priority requirements by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating a regional approach to planning for health and medical preparedness and response in the NCR. • Identifying, reviewing and recommending initiatives to strengthen regional communication and preparedness and response activities between federal, state and local health agencies and private medical partners. • Providing subject matter expertise for health and medical preparedness and response projects to the SPG and CAO-HSEC (as requested). • In accordance with SAA grant guidance, supporting and/or recommending the allocation and/or prioritization of funds for health and medical preparedness and response projects to the SPG and CAO-HSEC (as requested). • Supporting comprehensive multi-disciplinary coordination among NCR jurisdictions and R-ESFs. <p>The scope of the H&MRPWG requires a broad collaboration with other organizations, coalitions, and communities throughout the NCR. The working group will take a regional approach to reviewing and advising on health and medical preparedness and response planning in the NCR, with special attention to strategies looking forward three to five years. The group will advise on policy priorities, facilitate alliances and provide recommendations for funding. The group will seek to expand collaboration with non-medical organizations, coalitions, and communities - defining for them the role and contribution of public health and medical care organizations and ensuring collaboration to avoid duplication of efforts.</p>

RPWG	Scope
Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) RPWG	<p>The Critical Infrastructure Regional Programmatic Working Group (CIP RPWG) is a cross-cutting entity established to enhance protection of the National Capital Region’s Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources. It focuses on enhancing resiliency, understanding and addressing interdependencies, and collaborating on issues consistent with the National Infrastructure Protection Plan.</p>
Interoperability RPWG	<p>Under the direction of the Senior Policy Group (SPG), the RPWG for Interoperability, comprised of representatives from the respective NCR state and local jurisdictions, with strong leadership and participation from R-ESF 2 Communications membership from the Metro CIO community and other technical representatives will be the dynamic driving force behind regional collaboration and both short-term & long-range planning interoperable communications and information sharing initiatives, infrastructure design, development and operations within the NCR.</p> <p>The RPWG for Interoperability serves as an advisory committee to the SPG to provide recommendations, subject matter expertise and overall guidance for the enhancing wired and wireless communications and for facilitating information sharing. In conjunction with the NCR State Administrative Agency Program Management Office (SAA PMO) the RPWG for Interoperability is responsible for ensuring that the program plan and projects are meeting the regional goals and objectives as defined by the SPG.</p>