



NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COUNCIL (EPC)

Wednesday, November 9, 2016
2:30 P.M - 4:30 P.M.
Ronald F. Kirby Training Center (First Floor)

1) Welcome, Announcement(s), and Approval of Minutes

David Snyder, Vice Mayor, Falls Church; Chairman, EPC

- a) Chairman Snyder opened the meeting at 2:30 p.m. at which time he invited all participants to self-introductions, and provided an overview of the agenda.
- b) Chairman Snyder invited Charles Madden, Chief of Grants Management Division, DC HSEMA to give a brief UASI update.

Charles Madden, Chief of Grants Management Division, DC HSEMA

- 1) FY2014 is the last of a two-year grant with a period of performance of September 1, 2014 through August 31, 2016 and is well on track at 98.7% with anticipated 100% expenditure at closeout.
 - Sub-awards are currently in closeout.
 - Expect to complete liquidation and close-out FEMA grant by November 29, 2016.
 - 2) FY2015 grant was awarded by FEMA with a performance period of September 1, 2015 through August 31, 2018. This is a three year grant with the first year coming to a close and with one year remaining for spend-down. Projects were budgeted for a two-year period of performance. Anticipate underspending by the end of second year.
 - The third and final year of the grant will be used to address reprogramming where needed to ensure timely closeout.
 - Awards expended to-date are at approximately 32 percent with 27 percent fully reimbursed to sub-recipients.
 - 3) Given the number of staff turn-overs in the region, the COG Grants and Management team is available for one-on-one and group budget related trainings, and will provide guidance related to policy, procedure and project expectations.
 - All projects will be carefully monitored with periodic spot-checks, particularly new projects and those with new program or financial staff.
- c) Chairman Snyder opened the floor to Chris Strong, NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist to present a report on new service criteria that will be put in place this year during inclement weather.

Chris Strong, NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist

- 1) Based on the January 20, 2016 inclement weather event that caused mass traffic jams, the Washington/Baltimore Weather Forecast Office had discussions during the off-season with DOTS across the region with a consensus that the current standard for inclement weather is 24-hour notice to prepare for an event. Further discussion concluded that the problem with 24-hour preparation notice is that the weather service can ascertain that an event is on the horizon, however, it is difficult to determine how massive the event will be, i.e., a few flakes to an inch or more.

- 2) The DOTS and the National Weather Service (NWS) will attempt a new standard this year for inclement weather particularly conditions that may negatively impact commuters. New service criteria that will be issued with a 50-70 percent chance of impact include:
- Snowfall event notices 12-36 hours in advance
 - Road temperatures of 20 degrees or colder
 - Chance of small amount of snow or freezing rain
 - Weather conditions expect to worsen or negatively impact rush hour traffic

A special weather statement “winter commuter notice” will be issued to the DOTS, which will alert for the possibility of an event happening. These notices will be identified as potential threat to commuters that should be closely monitored; not a definitive forecast. Primary users will be emergency managers, transportation planners and the general public. It is noted that there will be winters when this new standard will not be used, while in others cold-snaps will dictate implementation.

Discussion:

- a) Chairman Snyder commended this positive initiative and encouraged NWS to keep the committee abreast and continue to improve communications across the metropolitan region, which was one of the primary concerns from last year’s discussion.
- b) Rush-hour has not been clearly defined, but estimated times could range from 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM.
- c) Regardless of the advance notice for precipitation, there will continue to be gaps. The public and the government has the responsibility to respond to notices appropriately.
- d) RESF-15 and the COG Board has been very interested in this topic, and would be pleased to hear of the new standard, as they have expressed concerns of the impact of these types of inclement weather events. Since the Board will not reconvene until after the new year, January 2017, it is recommended that they be notified by way of memorandum.

Action:

- a) Send memorandum to the COG Board about the NWS inclement weather new service criteria.
- d) Chairman Snyder provided an overview of the status of the EPC 2016 Priorities; a document that outlines what work is being done in the EPC.
- Serves as the EPC’s overall annual strategic plan and assists with coordinating plans with other committees such as emergency managers.
 - Volunteers are needed to begin redrafting for the 2017 Priorities; we would like to put together a small team during the lunch break today.

Discussion:

Mr. Freudberg directed attention to page four of the 2016 Priorities, the section on “Communications with Residents, Before, During and After Emergencies” and noted that MWCOG has hired an Internal Affairs Advisor, and there is now a weekly preparedness message that is going out to the RESF community and others who have requested to receive the communication like the emergency managers for example.

- The document follows the routine themes provided by FEMA throughout the year. By doing this, MWCOG is able to leverage some of the capabilities that FEMA headquarters highlighted that impact RESF-15 nationally.
- The communication message is not printable as there are embedded hyperlinks that direct to other areas of interest.

Action:

Send communication message to EPC via e-mail. Those wishing to be placed on the regular distribution list should respond to the e-mail accordingly. Also, respond to the same e-mail if there is interest in adding items to the weekly communication. This effort will assist RESF-15 to improve communications.

- e) Chairman Snyder Chairman Snyder moved for a motion to approve the September 14, 2016 meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved with two amendments:
- o Modify 9-1-1 to reference September 11, 2000.
Similar to the creation of the EPC soon after September 11, 2000, the HSEC began its voyage as a joint effort....
 - o Modify Page 8, bullet 2 to reflect Tony Rose gave the report.
Mr. Rose reported that on August 16, 2016 there was a fire with an underground transformer in the District that created a huge network problem for Sprint and many of the customers were unable to call land-lines including 9-1-1 centers.
- f) The committee acknowledged Steve Souder who is retiring after 50-years of service. Mr. Souder was also honored by the COG Board earlier today for his dedicated service to public safety for this region, his work with emergency communications, and particularly with spearheading the development of the 9-1-1 Directors Committee and the response the region put together. Mr. Souder had also developed a great partnership with Metro Underground Communications; testing the 9-1-1 service. Mr. Freudberg stated that “Steve has been a great friend to many of this committee and to the region.” The committee wished Mr. Souder well and extended an open invitation to return.

2) HOMELAND SECURITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2.0

Stuart Freudberg, Deputy Executive Director, MWCOG

Jim Schwartz, Deputy County Manager, Arlington County

Chris Geldart, Director, DC HSEMA

Stuart Freudberg, Deputy Executive Director, MWCOG

Mr. Freudberg presented an overview of the restructured Homeland Security Executive Committee (HSEC), which was previously known as the SPG/CAO-HSEC. Shortly after the September 11 event, the Senior Policy Group convened; a group derived from the state homeland security advisors, the emergency manager directors, the office of national capital region coordination directors and the city and county managers.

Over the past five months the affiliation organized by the emergency preparedness council for the national capital region on homeland security went through a very intensive process to remake the current work processes, taking a closer look at the mission, vision and areas of focus. This higher leveled group is now known as the HSEC 2.0 assigned to work and assist jurisdictions in anticipating and preparing for situations that require regional coordination and response. On October 31, HSEC 2.0 held a detailed briefing with subject matter experts across the region to take a closer look at the focus going forward; HSEC 2.0 will be spearheaded by Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Geldart.

Chris Geldart, Director, DC HSEMA

- a) Addressed the case for regionalism, a regional coordination and collaboration that will bring together state and local entities into one working group with greater emphasis on capabilities and identifying gaps.
- HSEC 2.0 will aim to prepare and provide regional guidance in cases of multiple incidents that occur in multiple locations, large single events, and significant weather events. The advisory council will bring in the right people to address specific capabilities or gaps supported by outcomes and assessments.
 - 1) The group reviewed scenarios such as what would happen if there was a single large event in one jurisdiction and how other jurisdictions can come together in support of such an event.
 - 2) Multiple events in multiple jurisdictions and ascertain coordination in locations that require situational awareness and mutual aid.
 - 3) What happens during a major event such as inclement weather that impacts all jurisdictions, how will they come together in support of one another; how will common responses go forward, standardize communication and coordination efforts?

The regions have done well with working at preparedness, but there is room for improvement, particularly in planning and making budget decisions that will target unmet needs. The committee will look at how budgets are planned and how they will be acted upon and assessed to meet the needs of all jurisdictions. This process goes beyond grant funding. The focus will not be on just spending money, but rather to find better ways to target spending that lend to public safety and preparedness. This process becomes very complex and there is a need to get better aligned with working with the state and federal governments, the District of Columbia, and local jurisdictions with budgets, planning and assessments.

- b) The committee make-up was reviewed with discussion on modifying structure for more efficiency.
- Establish an advisory council: a group of subject matter experts across the region charged with assessing capabilities and gaps, advising and prioritizing work from a regional perspective. Six key subject matter expert areas were identified: law enforcement, IT, fire and EMS, emergency management, public health, and public affairs; no particular order of importance (RESF's 1, 4, 5, 8, 13, and 15). Each will have two representatives to ensure proper representation. All advisory council chairs have been contacted and briefed. Nominations were approved. Another joint meeting between the HSEC 2.0 and Advisory Council is forthcoming, within the next month, to begin to layout the workflow.
 - The first year will establish proper processes and define areas of focus and will be one of group focus, testing and development, and determining how the HSEC Advisory Council will work with HSEC 2.0. Restructuring is key, pulling together a group of experts to identify gaps, prioritization of capabilities and bring the right people across the region to the table.
 - Subject matter expert groups will be comprised of all RESF's and RPWG's and will be discipline specific and represent the entire community. Regional groups will continue to exist and work in respective areas of expertise. Work-groups, comprised of subject matter experts, will be defined and disseminated for specific purposes, like the Complex Coordinated Attack (CCA) for example. Work groups will be established for a specific period of time to complete designated tasks and then re-routed or disseminated after purpose has been fulfilled. RESF-5 will have the responsibility for ensuring other groups are appropriately represented on the HSEC Advisory Council.
 - HSEC 2.0 will provide guidance for focus areas for a specific period of time and the goal of the HSEC Advisory Council is to pull together the right people who are well informed and can communicate to others the processes that will be supported by outcomes and assessments. The focus will move away from the grant funding process and solely spending money on equipment and concentrate more focus on things like increased training, increased exercises, etc.; areas that are not restricted to or require grant funding.
 - To ensure that all capabilities are well represented, there will be representation from ex-officio offices.

Jim Schwartz, Deputy County Manager, Arlington County

- a) Many of the people who are working on the processes for regional benefit are not always aware of contextual understanding behind why decisions are made. Much of the information shared on October 31 was a timeline since the founding of MWCOG in 1957 related to public safety and preparedness.
- b) HSEC 2.0 referenced past public safety events such as the Air Florida Crash of 1982, a flight that took-off without proper deicing. It was learned that this event did not have a situational or mutual aid plan, and there was a lack of communication and coordination across the region primarily due to the distinctive differences in the forms of government that existed in the capital region. Given these findings, the first mutual aid operation plan was signed, but it was later learned that the document was not legally binding. However, the jurisdictions quickly recognized that without effective coordination and sharing of information directed to resolving problems jointly, the people being served would suffer greatly. Thus they remain committed to sharing resources and participating jointly on large scaled events.
- c) Referencing the September 11 Pentagon Attack, it was learned that collaboration builds trust and relationships between responders and from these findings a commitment for use of the incident command center was established to take a regional approach to preparedness and building a response team, along with a commitment to working together for the benefit of the national capital region to address the current



and evolving nature of threats.

- d) HSEC 2.0 will take a closer look at changing identity, mindsets, impact, and commitment. The focus will be taken away from UASI or spending grant funding or expenditures, and more emphasis will be put on strengthening the region, building on capability, training future leaders, and developing programs that work across boundaries. These milestones will be met through a combination of efforts that will better prepare and position the region for future threats.

Discussion:

- a) HSEC 2.0 will occasionally report back to the EPC.
- b) Overall planning is good, however, consider the EPC as they may be useful as workplans are being developed and priorities are being determined. The EPC can be helpful in vetting priorities along with elected officials representing various bodies that are not necessarily represented on the Advisory Council. Consider the EPC as a wrap-around to follow projects from beginning to end as they bring with them members of the private sector and various other groups such as the Red Cross, who can be helpful with testing or used as sounding boards prior to introducing projects to larger audiences.
- c) HSEC Advisory Council nominations have been established, many of which have been approved. Recommendations are still coming in. The Advisory Council will meet within the next month to layout workflow.
- d) Chairman Snyder recognized Frank Principe former Chair for being present

3) INAUGURATION PLANNING OVERVIEW

David Snyder, EPC Chairman

ATSAIC Tom Barraclough, US Secret Service Washington Field Office

ATSATC Wesley Schwark, US Secret Service Dignitary Protective Division

Chairman Snyder invited guests ATSAICs Barraclough and Schwark to give an overview of the 2017 Presidential Inauguration planning structure and timeline.

ATSATC Wesley Schwark, US Secret Service Dignitary Protective Division

- a) The Executive Steering Committee is made up of emergency managers and the law enforcement community. The Presidential Inaugural staff will roll-out a schedule of planned meetings.
- b) There was a presentation of sensitive operational security briefs. The request is that the material presented not be disseminated.
- c) National Special Security Events (NSSE) is an event that possess national or international significance and represent highly symbolic targets for terrorism and warrant full protective, incident management and counter terrorism capabilities of the federal government.
 - NSSE the U.S. Secret Service takes the lead on crisis management and is responsible for coordinating the development of implementation of overall security plans, followed by the federal bureau of investigation along with local law enforcement agencies who is responsible for coordinating intelligence during unexpected significant events, and then followed by the federal emergency management agency who takes the lead on recovery planning and deals with the transition phase; primarily consequence management.
- d) January 20, 2017 will be the 58th Presidential Inauguration and will be followed by several days of festivities. The Executive Steering Committee (ESC) began planning in June and are now beginning to put staff in place to begin planning specifics for each event. Twenty-five subcommittees have been established to handle particulars and are responsible for bringing plans to the ESC for approval. Monthly meetings are being held and will move to weekly meetings as inauguration draws near.
- e) NSSE not only has an obligation to provide security to the assigned protectee, but to anyone else participating in/or around an event. There is no funding stream for NSSE; the locals would like to tap into funding such as UASI for support.
- f) PPD 22 which came out in 2013 is now a non-classified document and its structure can now be shared with local counterparts to help various cities better understand directives; moving away from assignments being dictated during events. The National Park Service is also included in planning because of new turf projects that require new restrictions that will need to be addressed. A list of agencies was shared along



with a list of the subcommittees and responsibilities. There were two new subcommittees highlighted, the Geospatial, an asset management tool, responsible for engaging local, state and federal partners; bringing forth collaboration to create one picture or map so that everyone sees and hears the same message and keeping all involved on-track with continual changes as plans are being mapped out. By doing this, jurisdictions are aware of one another's assets and boundaries, particularly in the private sector, working to engage transportation, hotels, restaurants, etc. because they will be greatly impacted; especially in the NW zones, those in close proximity to the White House, The Mall, the parade route, etc.

- g) The Office of Personnel Management will be asked to declare/authorize a telecommute day.
- h) Some recommendations that came from previous Inaugurations were to begin planning earlier, consult with crowd management professionals for guidance, work more closely with WMATA – identify peak service hours, and outline street closures and traffic control areas. Central situational awareness will be communicated by MACC and will serve as the common operational picture; a new software is being used for improved overall depictions. There is an all-hands-on-deck drill schedule in place and table-top exercises are planned. TSA will assist with screenings as they have a different type of training geared toward looking for smaller objects; two levels for credentialing/clearances will be in place.
- i) Public communication will be conducted referencing the theme of “one message many voices” and social media will be largely used to get pertinent messages out to the public.

Discussion:

- a) January 20, 2017 is a Federal Holiday, but not for the entire NCR; only specific jurisdictions.
- b) FEMA urban service and rescue teams should be included in planning.
- c) Liaison for the ROCC is involved in planning.
- d) Consider the sensitivity of Union Station where all the rail-lines in the region are in locale and lots of people gather there.

Action:

Consider a regional update conference call at least one-week prior to the Inauguration; reviewing specific timelines will be helpful.

4) UPDATE ON MARYLAND, VIRGINIA, AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEMS

Chris Geldart, Director DC HSEMA

Luke Hodgson, Director ERS MD (Invited)

Kristin Nickerson, Acting Director NVERS (Invited)

Emily Ruesch, Lead DC ERS

Chairman Snyder invited panel to present an update of respective jurisdictional Emergency Management System (ERS).

Luke Hodgson, Director ERS MD (Invited)

- a) The Maryland ERS is the most recent of the three ERS's and was not formalized until 2014 derived from the metropolitan medical response system. Initial personnel were brought in as project managers through the UASI grant. ERS representation come from Prince George's County, Montgomery County, and Maryland's Fire, Rescue, EMS, law enforcement, public health, and hospitals.
- b) Although initial focus was to obtain equipment, the Maryland ERS has put more attention to enhancing the entire capability process through strategic planning, information sharing across disciplines and jurisdictions. Training exercises are conducted for the use of equipment across interdisciplinary and jurisdictional lines and the ERS serves as conduit for NCR coordination for personnel who participate in the Steering Committee and provide exposure to the greater NCR and other various committees, as well as and offer project, program and equipment acquisition management.
- c) The MD ERS operate under general values shared amongst all of the ERS's and are unique because the target is on one response mission area, while other ERS's may have up to five mission areas.

- d) Capability is defined by a desired outcome that is a path for a mission. Metrics are developed for desired outcome through building and coordinating relationships and working collaboratively with other jurisdictions in decision-making. Broad direction is received from stakeholders such as the HSEC and EPC, and other regional governing bodies prior to project execution. Resource sharing, align and remain in compliance with all sources of government guidance's and provide oversight for entire capability process. An annual symposium is held that brings together all responders and disciplines to review lessons learned from large scaled events that happened around the world.

Sue Snider, NVERS

- a) NVERS was established in 2005 and as of 2015 are now a formalized 501(c) (3). Governed by an 11-member Board of Directors.
- b) Responders are served through the Steering Committee where participants represent not only their disciplines but their localities as well. The Steering Committee has an interdisciplinary, inter-jurisdictional forum for regional collaboration, analysis and recommendations. Membership has been extended beyond traditional first responder agencies and include membership of transportation, information technology and state agencies. Hospitals are integral to ensure participation and monitoring from scene of accident throughout patient care, and family unification.
- c) Like the other ERS's the primary goal is to benefit the first responders and to positively impact the operational capability. Meetings are designed for decision-making, purchases, and to ensure that there is an impact on the operations of the first responders. Capabilities that are developed are brought to NVERS by the first responders who bring forth gaps and concerns. The NVERS works directly with ERS to develop plans or activities that close identified gaps.
- d) Some notable accomplishments include patient tracking, LTC-Mutual Aid plan (long term care facility plan to assist each other during a disaster), ballistic protective equipment (a warm zone training approach that allows access to on-the-scene of events with law enforcement that have not yet been declared secure; avoids delay in patient care), and TECC (kits for lifesaving care; kits have been issued to all law enforcement).

Emily Ruesch, Lead DC ERS

- a) DC ERS is a multidisciplinary group created to discuss strategies, recommend priorities and provide guidance to D.C. agencies. The DC ERS reports to the DC Emergency Preparedness Council and are supported by several subcommittees to include prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery, each of which have working groups.
- b) DC ERS follows the same preparedness cycle as Maryland. Capability gaps are identified and prioritized, and work is done with stakeholders to assign projects and identify resources, followed by execution and evaluation plans.
- c) Some highlighted capability enhancements that have been developed are fatality management along with equipment that support the plan. The District preparedness system and the incident management support teams speak to the operational coordination of core capability. Standardized training and testing occur through this process. Resources and information is shared, and necessary credentials are maintained.
- d) The three ERS's work together to support the region as a whole through cross-discipline, cross-jurisdictional collaboration. Each jurisdiction identifies respective gaps. Joint meetings are held to find areas where there are overlapping priorities and work is done across the region to better leverage resources.
- e) Going forward there will be efforts to analyze and identify NCE ERS priorities and provide input to the HSEC Advisory Council for the FY2017 UASI process and identify projects that can be jointly executed to maximize efficiency.

Discussion:

- a) There is a regional crisis communication plan; RESF15 also has regional crisis communication plan, but concern expressed that it was not mentioned in the ERS presentations. How will the RESF15 be incorporated in the process and is there RESF15 representation?
- Depends on which ERS is involved in the project; each group has its own disciplines. Maryland has



- emergency management representation.
 - NVERS the PIO are a part of the Steering Committee and work is done with public affairs and emergency management.
 - DC ERS touches on all spectrums and does include public information accordingly.
- b) Has there been any work done with cyber-attacks?
- Stakeholders identify and prioritize projects. NVERS has done consequence management in the past for cyber events in the region.

5) COMPLEX COORDINATED ATTACK (CCA) UPDATE

Jim Schwartz, Arlington County Deputy County Manager & Chair, Complex Coordinated Attack Working Group

Chair Snyder recognized Mr. Geldart to address the recent activities regarding Comprehensive Coordinated Attacks in the NCR and what is being done to better prepare the region for this type event.

- a) CCA is a regional priority. A CCA workgroup has been established by the RESF's and the HSEC to identify and prioritize regional needs.
- b) A CCA course has been developed in collaboration with ERS's, EMS and fire, law enforcement to ensure that everyone is speaking the same language with unified definitions, and that everyone understands the meaning of CCA. To be of optimal service to one another, trainings should overlap.
- c) TDC and warm zone medicine being worked on by the state program managers and ERS to identify what needs to be done with respect to training and exercises, equipment purchases, and ascertain what plans need to be put in place in specific areas. Respond in uniformed ways with ability for mutual aid.

6) New Business / Open Discussion

Chairman Snyder, *David Snyder, Vice Mayor, Falls Church; Chairman, EPC*

None.

Next meeting February 8, 2017.

7) Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Attachments:

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Draft Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2016
3. NCR EPC Membership Roster
4. Summary of Proposed EPC 2016 Priorities
5. NCR Urban Areas Security Initiative Grants Update of Nov. 9, 2016
6. NSW New Standards for Year 2017
7. NCR ERS Jurisdictional Updates

A list of reference materials and detailed reports can be obtained from the on-line library link:

https://www.mwcog.org/events/2016/?F_committee=128; Click Login Button at Upper Right and use Username: your email address; Password: your personal password provided by COG.