Agenda Item #10



Endorsement of Office of National Capital Region Coordination Reorganization Plan

Presentation to: COG Board of Directors March 12, 2014



FEMA





Background

- Attacks on 9/11/2001 illustrated a need for a high level federal office focused on oversight and coordination of federal government with state/local/regional/private entities
- COG and partners strongly advocated for its creation
- Section 882 of Homeland Security Act of 2002 established Office of National Capital Region Coordination (ONCRC) within Department of Homeland Security
 - 7 statutory responsibilities
- ONCRC stood up in March, 2003; moved into FEMA in 2007



2012-2013 Developments

- GAO Assessment recommends enhancements for ONCRC – primarily related to better metrics and tools for measuring progress
- Congress considers funding reductions and organizational changes;
 - COG advocates for fully funded ONCRC within highest levels of DHS
- Reorganization plan proposed:
 - ONCRC reports to FEMA Region III in Philadelphia
 - Some critical functions would also be relocated

2014 ONCRC Appropriation

- Provides full ONCRC appropriation subject to:
 - Submission of plan to insure that ONCRC meets "unique statutory responsibilities"
 - Plan must have *concurrence* of stakeholders
 - Report due to Congress in April, 2014
- ONCRC Acting Director recently completed new organization plan with active stakeholder engagement.
 - State homeland security advisors, COG Emergency Managers, COG CAOs, EPC all support plan



ONCRC Reorganization Plan

Focus

• Preparedness; PLUS response & recovery

ONCRC Structure/organization

- Reports to FEMA Administrator in Washington DC
- Enhanced staff structure; staff meet FEMA qualification standards; operates as FEMA National Incident Management Team
- 24/7 Watch Desk integrated with DC Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency
- 3-tier organization blue sky, grey sky, black sky
 - normal daily operations \rightarrow training/exercises & emergency event response
 - Integrated/coordinated access to federal assets during emergencies

Procedures

- Formalized procedures, integration with DHS, FEMA, federal agencies
- Entire plan to be exercised



Advantages of Plan

- Office Located here (in NCR)
- Reports to FEMA Administrator high level visibility
- Enhanced federal coordination and leveraging of federal assets
- Improves NCR situational awareness (24/7)
- Designed for seamless transition from daily operations to crisis response
- Aligns with NCR Homeland Security Strategic Plan and interests of NCR local, state, regional and private partners



Resolution R28-2014

- **1.** Endorse ONCRC Reorganization Plan
- 2. Transmit letter with endorsement to:
 - Congressional homeland security committees
 - Regional congressional delegation,
 - FEMA Administrator
 - DHS Secretary
- 3. NCR EPC and other committees engage ONCRC and assist plan execution
- 4. Progress reports to COG Board periodically

