Office of Emergency Management

Emergency Management

Mission

In cooperation with internal and external partners, enhance public protective actions and promote domestic preparedness through a comprehensive and effective emergency management program that will adequately mitigate, prepare for, respond appropriately to and quickly recover from natural, technological and terrorist-related emergencies that may impact the residents of Fairfax County.

Focus

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) provides emergency management services for Fairfax County including the Towns of Herndon and Vienna. The major areas of focus include emergency management planning and policy; the countywide emergency training and exercise program; public preparedness and education; and enhancement of response and recovery capabilities. OEM is committed to preparing for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating new and challenging threats, particularly including terrorism, disasters, and major emergencies. OEM coordinates emergency management activities with all Fairfax County agencies, as well as the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission, private organizations, and other local, state and federal agencies.

THINKING STRATEGICALLY

Strategic issues for the Department include:

- Seeking to ensure consistency and continuity of emergency operations both vertically and horizontally throughout County government and the public safety community;
- Continuing to use technology to enhance service delivery and improve knowledge management; and
- Enhancing public safety and public safety awareness through partnering with the community and civic groups, businesses and the public.

OEM provides vision, direction and subject matter expertise in the field of emergency management in order to heighten the County's state of emergency readiness. In the event of an emergency, OEM activates and manages the County's Alternate Emergency Operations Center (AEOC). When activated, the AEOC becomes the command and coordination point for all County emergency management activities. Furthermore, the agency serves as the County's coordination point for federal disaster relief, recovery and mitigation programs. In addition, the agency acts as the liaison to County, regional, state, federal, volunteer, and private partners in order to prepare for, effectively respond to, and quickly recover from significant emergency events. These partnerships are enhanced through mutual aid and inter-local agreements. The current AEOC is located in the Government Center and became operational on September 13, 2004, replacing the old Emergency Operations Center located at the Pine Ridge Facility. The AEOC is equipped with the latest information management systems such as a Geographic Information System (GIS), emergency management records and information software, and an audio/visual system. A new Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (PSTOC) is in the planning stages, and will host a new emergency operations center and regional consolidated emergency communication center. Construction is anticipated to be completed in November 2007.

OEM develops and maintains the County's Comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and provides emergency management planning for the entire County. The EOP guides strategic organizational behavior before, during, and following a significant emergency. In addition, the agency coordinates emergency training, simulations, and exercises necessary to prepare first responders to carry out their roles in the County EOP.

OEM also conducts public emergency management outreach programs necessary to increase awareness in emergency preparedness and homeland security. Through the Fairfax County Citizen Corps program, OEM manages recruitment, registration and identification of volunteer emergency workers necessary to support emergency response and recovery efforts. Moreover, OEM and the Office of Public Affairs notify emergency responders, County employees, private partners, and County residents in the event of a significant emergency that may affect the public's safety.

OEM develops, reviews and coordinates identified emergency management programs to meet the County's homeland security goals and objectives. OEM ensures County security and emergency plans are consistent and compatible with the regional and state emergency plan guidelines, as well as the County's Continuity of Operations Plan and emergency procedures and guidelines. In FY 2007, an amount of $700,000 is included in Fund 303, County Construction, to begin to address on-going and projected County Emergency Planning Initiatives such as updating the County Emergency Operations Plan and the Regional Mitigation Plan, planning for public health outbreaks, updating business operations plans, and several other emergency planning efforts. Many of these initiatives will be supplemented by applied grant funding, however General Fund monies are required in FY 2007 to continue both local and regional emergency planning efforts.

New Initiatives and Recent Accomplishments in Support of the Fairfax County Vision

Maintaining Safe and Caring Communities	Recent Success	FY 2007 Initiative
Secured over $50 million in federal homeland security and emergency preparedness grants and will continue to pursue grant funds to prepare for, respond to, and recover from terrorism events; increase homeland security; and manage other multi-hazard emergencies.	☑	☑
Continue implementation of the Emergency Alert and Notification (EAN) and Community Alert and Notification (CEAN) program. Both EAN and CEAN are currently available and will allow the general public, County employees and identified target groups to register with the County to receive emergency alert and notifications through any wireless devices and e-mail systems. OEM and agency partners continue to conduct public outreach programs to recruit additional participation in both EAN and CEAN.	☑	☑
Established a Watch Center in order to provide a 24/7 point of vigilance to enhance the emergency notification and alerting system. The Watch Center personnel monitor national, regional, and local events and when appropriate, provide notification to emergency responders, emergency partners, identified target groups (such as private schools, malls, and community groups), and the general public in the event of a major emergency.	☑	
Install an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) information management software system that provides data sharing and interoperability between the AEOC, County agencies, state, regional and federal operations center and other identified locations that facilitates sharing of information during and following an emergency.		☑

Office of Emergency Management

Maintaining Safe and Caring Communities	Recent Success	FY 2007 Initiative
Continue to develop, amend and/or revise the County's Emergency Operations Plan, Terrorism Appendix, Animal Protection Emergency Support Function, the Northern Virginia Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, and the County Continuity of Operations Plan.	☑	☑
Placed National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather alert radios in every occupied County facility to provide real-time weather and homeland security information to staff and visitors.	☑	
Continue planning for the development of the Camp 30/West Ox Road site, which will house the new Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (PSTOC). The PSTOC is projected to be 113,000 square foot facility, will house critical safety, transportation and security components of both County and state operations. These include the Public Safety Communication Center (PSCC), the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) jointly operated by the Police Department and Fire and Rescue Department, as well as the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Smart Traffic Center, and training facilities.	☑	☑
Creating a Culture of Engagement	**Recent Success**	**FY 2007 Initiative**
Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the fall of 2006, the County Executive, OEM and other County leaders delivered a presentation, "State of Emergency Planning and Preparedness," to members of the Board of Supervisors and County residents. The presentation reported on the progress that the County has made since September 11, 2001 in its emergency planning efforts and focused on the County's emergency management response; incident command; County and regional evacuation plans and procedures; County response to special populations; County communications during an emergency; and future initiatives and actions for continued enhancements to emergency planning and preparedness efforts.	☑	
Continue to foster stronger working relationships and develop and maintain emergency partnerships through hosting meetings, such as the Power and Critical Infrastructure Summits I and II, between key public utilities and infrastructure groups, such as Dominion Power, Fairfax Water, Verizon, Virginia Railway Express (VRE), and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT).	☑	☑
Exercising Corporate Stewardship	**Recent Success**	**FY 2007 Initiative**
Continue transition to a computer-based emergency information sharing system that allows the AEOC to provide real-time information with internal and external partners and provide communications interoperability between County agencies and regional EOCs.		☑

Budget and Staff Resources

Agency Summary				
Category	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Adopted Budget Plan	FY 2006 Revised Budget Plan	FY 2007 Advertised Budget Plan
Authorized Positions/Staff Years				
Regular	6/ 6	6/ 6	11/ 11	11/ 11
Expenditures:				
Personnel Services	$387,111	$476,012	$476,012	$838,795
Operating Expenses	184,149	328,654	328,654	608,114
Total Expenditures	**$571,260**	**$804,666**	**$804,666**	**$1,446,909**

Position Summary			
1	Emergency Management Coordinator	3	Security Analysts
1	Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Management	1	Administrative Assistant IV
1	Senior Emergency Watch Officer	4	Emergency Watch Officers
TOTAL POSITIONS			
11 Positions / 11.0 Staff Years			

FY 2007 Funding Adjustments

The following funding adjustments from the FY 2006 Revised Budget Plan are necessary to support the FY 2007 program:

- **Employee Compensation** **$362,783**
  An increase of $362,783 in salary adjustments necessary to support the County's compensation program, including funding transferred for 5/5.0 SYE Watch Officer positions moved to OEM from the Department of Public Safety Communications in FY 2006.

- **Alternate Emergency Operations Center** **$143,560**
  An increase of $143,560 in Operating Expenses associated with the ongoing operation of the County's AEOC, which serves as the County's primary emergency operations center and provides the space and technology necessary for the management and coordination of emergency operations and response. Of this amount, $65,100 is included for the telecommunication costs associated with operating the Reverse 911 system which allows a list of phone numbers located within a specified geographic to be called in the event of an emergency; $45,200 is for warranty renewals and repairs of existing AEOC technology and equipment; $12,900 is for the purchase of software renewal licenses; and $20,360 is for additional telecommunication costs. Funding will help to ensure the operability of the AEOC in the event of a natural disaster or other public safety-related emergency.

- **Intergovernmental Charges** **$135,900**
  An increase of $135,900 is due to intergovernmental charges. Of this total, an increase of $13,912 is for Department of Vehicle Services charges based on anticipated charges for fuel, vehicle replacement, and maintenance costs. The remaining $121,988 is for Information Technology charges based on the agency's historic usage of mainframe applications.

Changes to FY 2006 Adopted Budget Plan

The following funding adjustments reflect all approved changes in the FY 2006 Revised Budget Plan since passage of the FY 2006 Adopted Budget Plan. Included are all adjustments made as part of the FY 2005 Carryover Review and all other approved changes through December 31, 2005:

- **Position Adjustments** **$0**
  During FY 2006, the County Executive approved the redirection of 5/5.0 SYE positions from the Department of Public Safety Communications to the Office of Emergency Management for the County's Watch Center, which provides collection and dissemination of critical information. There was no corresponding funding adjustment associated with this position redirection.

Key Performance Measures

Goal

To enhance public protective actions and promote domestic preparedness through a comprehensive and effective emergency management program that will adequately mitigate, prepare for, appropriately respond to, and quickly recover from natural, technological and terrorist-related emergencies that may impact the residents of Fairfax County.

Objectives

- To participate with the 28 County, volunteer and partner agencies identified in the County's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) by providing access to emergency management-related training and exercise opportunities, thus increasing participation from 75 percent to 80 percent, toward a target of 100 percent.

- To enhance public emergency notifications through effective use of the Community Emergency Alert Notification (CEAN) system by recruiting 500 additional subscribers within the next twelve months.

Indicator	Prior Year Actuals			Current Estimate	Future Estimate
	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Estimate/Actual	FY 2006	FY 2007
Output:					
Tabletop exercises conducted	NA	5	5 / 5	8	10
Functional exercises/drills conducted	NA	1	1 / 1	2	4
Community outreach preparedness presentations/programs conducted	NA	24	12 / 22	30	32
Public outreach sessions on CEAN conducted	NA	NA	NA	NA	10
Efficiency:					
Staff hours per community outreach presentation/program	NA	2	2 / 2	2	4
New CEAN subscribers per outreach session conducted	NA	NA	NA	NA	5

Indicator	Prior Year Actuals FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Estimate/Actual	Current Estimate FY 2006	Future Estimate FY 2007
Service Quality:					
Percent of County and volunteer agencies satisfied with training received	NA	90%	90% / 90%	92%	93%
Percent of CEAN users satisfied with information	NA	NA	NA	NA	82
Outcome:					
Percent of County and volunteer agencies identified in EOP that received training	NA	46%	50% / 75%	75%	80%
New CEAN subscribers added to OEM database	NA	NA	NA	NA	500

Performance Measurement Results

In FY 2007, OEM will continue to conduct emergency preparedness tabletop exercises, functional exercises, drills and provide training opportunities for at least 80 percent of the 28 County and volunteer agencies that are responsible for disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from large-scale emergencies and disasters that impact Fairfax County. At least 50 percent of County and volunteer agencies with duties and responsibilities outlined in the County Emergency Operation Plan will participate in AEOC functional drills designed to familiarize agency representatives with the new AEOC computer hardware, information software and procedures.

Community outreach preparedness presentations and programs will continue to be conducted on a request by request basis. The frequency of requests for presentations from the general public and civic groups are normally in direct correlation with heightened terrorist threat and/or potential or recent catastrophic events.

A new objective has been added for FY 2007 to enhance public emergency notifications through effective use of the Community Emergency Alert Notification (CEAN) system by recruiting 500 additional subscribers within the next twelve months.