

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, Vienna, and Clifton. 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 from identified hazards which could have an adverse impact to Fairfax County and the surrounding areas. OEM coordinates the emergency management activities of 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.

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 Emergency Operations Center (EOC). When activated, the EOC becomes the direction 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 new McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (MPSTOC) houses a new emergency operations center and regional consolidated emergency communication center. This state of the art EOC is equipped with redundant power and communications to ensure operation under the most extreme conditions. A fully operational Alternate EOC is located in the County Government Center

OEM develops reviews and coordinates identified emergency management programs to meet the County's homeland security goals and objectives as well as for compliance with National and International Standards for Emergency Management. 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. OEM also develops and maintains the County's Comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and provides emergency management guidance 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 County agencies 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 serves as the liaison and administrative support for the 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

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residents in the event of a significant emergency that may affect the public's safety. The Watch Center program personnel monitor national, regional, and local events and when appropriate, provide notification to emergency responders, emergency partners, identified target groups (such as private schools, businesses, and community groups), and the general public in the event of a major emergency.

FY 2011 Budget Reduction Impact Summary

As a part of reductions utilized to balance the FY 2011 budget, OEM will effectively eliminate the Watch Center function through the elimination of one position. The remaining Emergency Watch Officer position will be refocused in FY 2011 to provide operational support for the remaining Watch Center-related equipment and logistical needs of the EOC and AEOC. This position will maintain the following emergency systems previously monitored by the Watch Center: Employees Alert Network (EAN), Community Emergency Alert Network (CEAN), EMNet, Reverse 911, WebEOC, dam and flood monitoring devices, Domestic Events Network, and weather alerting systems. Situational awareness will be significantly reduced and notifications will potentially be delayed as a result of the loss of the Watch Center. Situational awareness and proper notification of the public and employees before and during a significant event could be compromised without proper maintenance of these systems.

Additionally, the agency will reduce the translation services budget for the Special and Medical Needs registry. These actions, coupled with reductions included as part of the FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan, substantially reduce the agency's flexibility to absorb future unanticipated cost increases or new initiatives.

Budget and Staff Resources

Agency Summary				
Category	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan	FY 2010 Revised Budget Plan	FY 2011 Advertised Budget Plan
Authorized Positions/Staff Years				
Regular	15/ 15	12/ 12	12/ 12	11/ 11
Expenditures:				
Personnel Services	\$1,312,185	\$1,132,292	\$1,132,292	\$1,060,060
Operating Expenses	503,017	627,452	976,306	589,684
Capital Equipment	11,451	0	23,283	0
Total Expenditures	\$1,826,653	\$1,759,744	\$2,131,881	\$1,649,744

Position Summary			
1	Emergency Management Coordinator	4	Emergency Management Specialists
2	Deputy Coordinators of Emergency Management	1	Administrative Assistant IV
1	Financial Specialist IV	1	Emergency Watch Officer (-1)
		1	Management Analyst II
TOTAL POSITIONS			
11 Positions (-1) / 11.0 Staff Years (-1.0)		(-) Denotes Abolished Position due to Budget Reductions	
1/1.0 SYE Grant Positions in Fund 102, Federal/State Grant Fund			

FY 2011 Funding Adjustments

The following funding adjustments from the FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan are necessary to support the FY 2011 program:

- ◆ **Employee Compensation** **\$0**
It should be noted that no funding is included for pay for performance or market rate adjustments in FY 2011.
- ◆ **Department of Vehicle Services** **(\$10,000)**
A decrease of \$10,000 in Operating Expenses is associated with anticipated requirements for vehicle replacement charges.

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◆ **Reductions** **(\$100,000)**

A decrease of \$100,000 and 1/1.0 SYE position reflects reductions utilized to balance the FY 2011 budget. The following chart provides details on the specific reductions approved, including funding and associated positions.

Title	Impact	Posn	SYE	Reduction
Eliminate the Watch Center	Eliminates the County Watch Center, which was reduced to part-time coverage as part of the <u>FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan</u> . The Watch Center had served as a central warning point that monitors events and provides alerts to County stakeholders allowing an early warning advantage in areas such as significant weather or terrorism. Notifications were made to the public through reverse 911, the Community Emergency Alert Network (CEAN) and Employees Alert Network (EAN), in partnership with the Office of Public Affairs and public safety agencies to communicate emergency messages. The Watch Center monitored several weather warning systems in an effort to alert and prepare County and school stakeholders and the public for severe weather events. Additionally, the Watch Center monitored multiple national and regional alert systems for security threats, as well as Flood and Stream Gauge monitoring for DPWES to mitigate potential flooding and dam emergencies. Following the elimination of the Watch Center, Fairfax County will have no central warning point for the numerous emergency alert systems in the County. Monitoring and notification functions will now be performed by agencies at a reduced level or discontinued on a case by case basis.	1	1.0	\$72,232
Reduce Translation Services	Reducing funding for third-party translation services will reduce the agency's capability to consistently validate information from County residents with limited English proficiency registering for the Medical or Social Needs registry. The Medical and Social Needs registry provides public safety personnel with a remotely accessible database that would assist them in identifying individuals who may need assistance during times of emergency or evacuation. Additionally, the ability to provide new printed information or forms for registration in the seven identified primary languages within Fairfax County will be limited.	0	0.0	\$27,768

Changes to FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan

The following funding adjustments reflect all approved changes in the FY 2010 Revised Budget Plan since passage of the FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan. Included are all adjustments made as part of the FY 2009 Carryover Review, and all other approved changes through December 31, 2009:

◆ **Carryover Adjustments** **\$372,137**

As part of the *FY 2009 Carryover Review*, the Board of Supervisors approved encumbered funding of \$348,854 in Operating Expenses and \$23,283 in Capital Equipment primarily associated with Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Watch Office communications integration, personal computers and servers at McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center (MPSTOC), countywide recovery planning, and other telecommunications and security-related billings.

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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 increase the working knowledge of the roles, responsibilities and functions of emergency management within Fairfax County by providing training to 90 percent of partner agencies and organizations identified in the County's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).
- ◆ To promote and enhance "Safe and Caring Communities" by recruiting 7,000 additional Community Emergency Alert Notification (CEAN) subscribers, providing at least 80 community outreach programs, and targeting 5 business partnerships for County outreach, training and exercises.
- ◆ To enhance emergency preparedness, response, and recovery within Fairfax County by developing business partnerships with local businesses and non-governmental organizations.

Indicator	Prior Year Actuals			Current Estimate	Future Estimate
	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Estimate/Actual	FY 2010	FY 2011
Output:					
Tabletop exercises conducted	10	9	15 / 7	10	5
Functional exercises/drills conducted	4	10	5 / 14	10	15
Training sessions conducted	NA	NA	NA	NA	15
Community outreach preparedness presentations/programs/CEAN sessions conducted	64	74	55 / 108	65	80
Businesses and non-governmental organizations participating in County outreach, training, and exercises.	NA	NA	NA	NA	5
Efficiency:					
Staff hours per community outreach presentation/program/CEAN session	2.0	1.7	2.0 / 3.0	2.0	3.0
Service Quality:					
Percentage of County and volunteer agencies satisfied with training received	95%	95%	95% / 95%	95%	95%
Percent of CEAN users satisfied with information	98%	98%	98% / 98%	98%	98%
Percentage of businesses satisfied with partnership with the Office of Emergency Management	NA	NA	NA	NA	85%

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Indicator	Prior Year Actuals			Current Estimate	Future Estimate
	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Estimate/Actual	FY 2010	FY 2011
Outcome:					
Percentage of County and volunteer agencies identified in EOP that received training	85%	85%	85% / 85%	90%	90%
New CEAN subscribers added to OEM database	4,000	5,820	5,500 / 5,204	6,000	7,000
Business partnerships formalized by a Memorandum of Understanding for emergency preparedness and community recovery	NA	NA	NA	NA	2

Performance Measurement Results

In FY 2011, the Office of Emergency Management will continue to conduct emergency preparedness tabletop exercises, functional exercises, drills with the goal of providing training opportunities for at least 90 percent of County and volunteer agencies that are responsible for disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from large-scale emergencies and disasters that impact Fairfax County. County agencies and volunteer groups with duties and responsibilities outlined in the County Emergency Operation Plan will participate in EOC and AEOC functional drills designed to familiarize agency representatives with the new EOC computer hardware, incident command system, information software and procedures. OEM offers training opportunities in multiple formats which may include lecture, practical hands-on and online web-based interaction. The agency will continue to design and conduct exercises utilizing an all-hazard, multi-disciplinary approach to enhance the capabilities of partner agencies.

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 or potential or recent catastrophic events. The importance of emergency preparedness continues to grow in Fairfax County, as has the number of outreach preparedness presentations and programs. The overall results for FY 2009 have shown a 46 percent increase in presentations from 74 to 108.

OEM added 5,204 Community Emergency Alert Notification subscribers in FY 2009. These subscribers were added as a result of OEM efforts to increase awareness by conducting community presentations, working with local businesses to enroll their employees, and distributing literature and other publications. Information on the CEAN and the new regional CAPITALERT systems are both incorporated into all community presentations and outreach programs. In FY 2011, OEM will continue to enhance public emergency notifications through effective use of the CEAN system and will strive to recruit an additional 7,000 subscribers including members of the business community.

OEM will begin tracking a new set of performance measures to better capture the agency's efforts to develop local business and non-governmental organizations by incorporating them into emergency preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery efforts. Further incorporating these organizations in local planning, training, and exercise efforts will provide for a more comprehensive all hazards emergency management program, while taking full advantage of the community resources available within Fairfax County.