

Emergency Support Function 15 – External Affairs Business/Nonprofit Update



Event: **56th Presidential Inauguration, Jan. 20, 2009**

Report Date / Time: Friday, Jan. 9, 3 p.m.

SITUATION UPDATE

Inauguration Schedule of Events

- Jan. 18 – Opening Ceremony (Lincoln Memorial)
- Jan. 19 – National Day of Community Service
- Jan. 20 – Swearing-In (noon)
- Jan. 20 – Parade (2 p.m.)
- Jan. 20 – Inaugural Balls/Galas
- Jan. 21 – National Prayer Service
- Jan. 22 – March for Life (200k-300k)



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has designated the Inauguration as a National Special Security Event (NSSE). When an event is designated an NSSE, the Secret Service assumes its role as the lead federal agency for the design and implementation of the operational security plan. The Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), the U.S. Capitol Police and the U.S. Park Police as well as a number of other federal and local agencies will play an active role in securing this event and resources will be deployed to maintain the level of security needed for the designated events.

There are five separate planning efforts which are coordinating the events.

- Presidential Inaugural Committee (overall decisions)
- U.S. Secret Service – NSSE (National Special Security Event) designation; 23 Inaugural Sub-committees (overall Security Plan)
- D.C. Presidential Inaugural Committee (coordinates support)
- Armed Forces Inaugural Committee (coordinates all Armed Forces activities, parade)
- Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (oversees events at the Capital)

The Presidential Inaugural Committee (PIC) is a not-for-profit, partisan organization that represents the president-elect. It is responsible for the decision to hold a parade, selects all parade elements and arranges for entertainment at related inaugural events. Once the Presidential Inaugural Committee was formed, the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee (AFIC) organizes and forwards all parade participation requests from performing ensembles and marching units to the Presidential Inaugural Committee.

TRANSPORTATION

Access into D.C. will be limited. Roads and bridges will be closed. **Employers are encouraged to consider offering telework, flex time and/or other leave options for their employees on January 20.**

Virginia Road and Bridge Restrictions

Beginning at 2 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, personal vehicles (cars, SUVs, pickups, vans, etc.) will **NOT** be allowed to enter Washington from Virginia. Those driving are encouraged to seek out public transportation to access the District on Inauguration Day. Personal vehicles will only be able to enter Washington by driving in from designated Maryland routes.

Beginning at 2 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, only authorized vehicles – *emergency vehicles, buses, taxis, and for-hire limos*

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and car services – will be permitted to travel northbound on Interstate 395 and eastbound on Interstate 66 inside the Capital Beltway/I-495. All other traffic heading to Washington on Interstate 95 will be diverted at the Springfield interchange (Exits 170B and 170C) onto I-495 North (Inner Loop) or I-495/I-95 East (Outer Loop). All general traffic traveling eastbound on I-66 and toward Washington on the Dulles Toll Road will also be diverted to the Capital Beltway/I-495.

Only authorized vehicles will be allowed to cross the 14th Street Bridge, Roosevelt Bridge and Key Bridge, all of which lead from Virginia into Washington, D.C. The Memorial Bridge and Chain Bridge will be open to pedestrians only.

To augment patrols and expedite emergency response along Interstates 95, 66 and 495, Virginia State Police will be bringing in several hundred troopers from around the state to the Northern Virginia region. Increases in manpower and resources will begin Monday, Jan. 19, and continue through Wednesday, Jan. 21.

I-95/395 HOV Schedule

- From 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17 until 3 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, the I-395/95 HOV lanes will be northbound for vehicles carrying three or more people (HOV-3).
- From 3 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, only buses and authorized vehicles will be permitted to use the I-95/395 HOV lanes from Route 234/Dumfries to Washington.
- The I-95/395 HOV lanes will open to HOV-3 traffic at 5 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21.
- The I-95/395 HOV lanes will be open southbound for HOV-3 vehicles from 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, until 3 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21, and from 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21, until 9 p.m. or later.

I-66, Dulles Toll Road and Dulles Connector Road HOV Schedule

- From 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, until 3 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, HOV-2 will be in effect eastbound.
- From 3 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, only buses and authorized vehicles will be allowed to use the eastbound HOV lanes.
- From 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, until 9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21, HOV-2 will be in effect westbound.

Motorists can stay informed by:

- Calling 5-1-1 from a land line or a cell phone for the latest traffic and travel information. Drivers are reminded to only dial 9-1-1 or #77 on a cellular phone in emergency situations.
- Tuning into Virginia's highway advisory radio for information on delays and possible detours due to accidents or congestion.
- Getting the latest traffic conditions and travel times on overhead and roadside message signs on I-95, 495, 66 and 81, and Route 29.
- Carrying an emergency kit in their vehicles to include an ice scraper and brush, wiper fluid, blankets, extra warm clothing, a bag of sand or cat litter; flashlight and cell phone, with extra batteries for each; jumper cables; water, snacks, paper towels and a first aid kit.

Access into Washington, D.C. will be limited on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009. The following is a summary of routes and their status that day:

- 14th Street Bridge – Restricted to Buses and Authorized Vehicles Only
- Roosevelt Bridge – Restricted to Buses and Authorized Vehicles Only
- Memorial Bridge – Restricted to Pedestrians and Emergency Vehicles Only
- Key Bridge – Restricted to Mass Transit Only
- Chain Bridge - Restricted to Authorized Vehicles and Mass Transit Only, no charter buses.
- South Capitol Street Bridge – Restricted to Buses and Authorized Vehicles Only
- Southeast/Southwest Freeway – Restricted to Emergency Vehicles Only
- Rock Creek Parkway – Open to traffic from Beach Drive to Virginia Avenue NW (Holiday traffic schedule in effect throughout the park)
- Clara Barton Parkway operating under Holiday schedule (two way traffic all day)

- 11th Street Bridges – Restricted to Buses and Authorized Vehicles Only
- Sousa Bridge – Open to all traffic from east of the river to security checkpoint in Capitol Hill; Barney Circle closed to all vehicles
- East Capitol Street – Open to all traffic but roadways around RFK will be filled with tour buses
- Benning Road – Open to all traffic
- New York Avenue – Open to all traffic
- 3rd Street Tunnel – Closed to all vehicular traffic and restricted to pedestrian use only.

Authorized vehicles include taxicabs and limousines with valid licenses.

For the complete transportation plan, including **additional road closures in D.C.**, as well as Maryland transportation information, pedestrian routes, etc. visit

http://inauguration.dc.gov/pdf/InaugJIC_PressRelease_TransportationPlan_FINAL.pdf.

The lead agency for Virginia transportation planning is the Virginia State Police

(www.vsp.state.va.us/Inauguration_2009.shtm). The lead agencies for transportation planning for D.C. and Maryland are the D.C. Department (DDOT) of Transportation and the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT).

CONSIDERATIONS FOR BUSINESSES

To ensure that **area businesses are prepared** for this unprecedented event, the Greater Washington Board of Trade recommends that organizations take the following steps:

Create a task force

Companies, firms and organizations conducting business in and around Greater Washington during Inauguration Week should consider immediately establishing an internal task force to stay current on the latest news and issues concerning the Inauguration. This task force might include personnel from finance, operations, security, human resources and the executive office.

Develop a plan

Develop a comprehensive plan for conducting business from Friday, January 16 through Friday, January 23. Attention should be given to building access, security issues, staffing needs, weather, transportation implications for providing or receiving goods and services, procurement, banking (including payroll, check processing and cash needs), telecommunications demand, power needs and building operations (including HVAC, lease language for hours of operation, building security and proximity to expected security perimeter). Ensure that your employees understand their respective roles in the plan. Assess the implications of the heightened security, road closures and congestion, as well as the extended demands on mass transit.

Validate communications

Update or validate your communications operations with key personnel throughout the weekend. Be sure that everyone understands how to get information from management if that becomes necessary. Have a way to account for your employees (perhaps have a specific number to call and leave their status, location and contact information).

Reinforce relationships

Reinforce relationships in advance of any need during Inauguration Week. Contact should be made early with area law enforcement to make sure they are aware of your organizations operating hours and activities. Discussion should center on how you can assist each other in a time of need and to understand expected response times.

Reach out

Outreach should be made to other first responders and key utilities (fire departments and law enforcement agencies, if applicable, power, gas, telecommunications and water and sewer providers) to update contacts and make them aware of any operations and plans that may require special attention during Inauguration Week.

Confirm everything

Confirm connections and arrangements with regular and any special Inauguration suppliers, vendors and service providers. These may include, but are not limited to, caterers, transportation companies, event contractors, parking operations staff, front desk security, mailroom personnel, temporary staffing agencies, HVAC contractors, caterers, transportation companies, building personnel, etc.

Reconsider travel

Carefully consider implications for local and distance travel, including commutes and parking in private lots or on public streets that may be closed. Special attention should be given to air travel to and from area airports, especially on Wednesday, January 21, as many people will be departing from the region. Expect traffic on I-95 North and South and the Capital Beltway, and long waits for trains, planes and taxis.

Stay current

Plans, arrangements, restrictions and announcements are coming fast and furious. Special attention must be paid to tracking information on transportation, security, events and much more. Resources should include the special Inauguration update websites: <http://inauguration.dc.gov>, <http://www.pic2009.org>, www.washington.org and www.boardoftrade.org.

Monitor weather

If a significant weather event occurs before, during or after the Inauguration, complications will develop. It is important for your taskforce to layer weather implications on top of all other planning efforts to make proper contingency plans. There is no one-size-fits-all solution for companies, firms and organizations as they prepare for the implications of the Inauguration. (www.weather.gov; enter your ZIP code for local forecast information.)

Reprinted from the Greater Washington Board of Trade. The Greater Washington Board of Trade developed these guidelines through its Emergency Preparedness Committee so that organizations can create customized plans. The complete release can be found at:

www.bot.org/news/press/release.asp?id=983

KEY MESSAGES

Residents Should Take Common-Sense Steps to Prepare for the Presidential Inauguration

- “Even if you don’t plan to attend any of the inaugural events, they **will have an impact on your daily life** on Jan. 20,” said Fairfax County Executive Anthony H. Griffin, speaking on behalf of the region’s chief administrative officers. “Residents should be ready for crowds, traffic and delays — even in areas well outside the District of Columbia.”

Make a Plan, Stay Informed and Be Prepared

- Consider teleworking on Jan. 20 if possible. Carpool if you are traveling into the District of Columbia. Cars will be restricted from some parts of the city, and it will be difficult to find parking.
- Be sure to have a full tank of gas before you go anywhere in the region, or you may become stranded while waiting in traffic. Heavy volume is expected on roads, bridges and highways across the region.
- Although Jan. 20 is a federal holiday and a holiday in many jurisdictions, some localities are enforcing weekday parking regulations. Be sure to plan ahead.
- Bring your patience because there will be delays getting to your destination. Some roads, bridges and highways may be closed temporarily, and mass transit systems will be extremely crowded.
- Be ready to walk long distances — especially in D.C. — because some Metro stations and roads will be closed.
- Visit www.inauguration.dc.gov to get information about road, bridge and highway closures, parking restrictions and mass transit plans.
- Sign up to D.C. Alerts for real-time information on Jan. 20 about road closures, weather, etc. Subscribe at www.inauguration.dc.gov.

- If you plan to attend any inaugural events, consider whether you can stand outside in large crowds for up to six hours and whether you are ready for long delays getting home afterwards.
 - Bring with you any medications that you need because there will be very long delays in getting to and from events.
 - Be aware that it may be difficult to talk or send pictures from your cell phone, according to wireless companies. Send text messages instead of making calls when possible.

Every inauguration is a historic moment for our nation, and everyone across the country is welcome to join this special celebration. If you plan to go to any of the inaugural events, however, please ask yourself the following questions:

- Do you have the physical stamina to stand outside, “shoulder to shoulder,” in large crowds for 4, 5, 6 hours or more and then spend additional hours getting back home?
- Are you comfortable in extremely large crowds?
- Can you walk long distances to get to your destination?
- Are you prepared for the extremely long delays getting to and from events?
- Can you care for and control small children in large crowds and tight spaces for long hours, if you plan to bring them?

Take these steps to make sure you’re prepared if you will attend any inaugural events:

- Bring your common sense. This is the number one thing you can bring with you.
- Check the weather forecasts, so you know how to dress appropriately. It is possible to get frostbite even if temperatures are not below freezing.
- Wear warm, comfortable shoes because you will have to walk long distances and stand for long periods of time.
- Bring with you any medications that you need because there will be very long delays in getting to and from events.
- Have cash on hand for food, water and parking at Metro stations.
- Be aware that it may be difficult to talk or send pictures from your cell phone, according to wireless companies. Send text messages instead of making calls when possible.
- Stay informed about what the public transit systems plan to do. There will be changes to their normal fares, hours and parking.
- Sign up for D.C. Alerts to get real-time text alerts about road closures, transportation problems and more during the inaugural weekend. Visit www.inauguration.dc.gov and sign up for the “inaugural alerts.”

Be prepared for extremely crowded buses, trains, roads and highways, and prepare for very long delays to get where you’re going.

- If you are driving, be sure to have a full tank of gas before you leave. Otherwise, you may become stranded while waiting in traffic.
- Public buses and trains across the region will be extremely crowded. Be ready for large crowds and long delays — and it will take much longer than normal to get where you’re going.
- Because some roads and Metro stations will be closed, you may have to walk long distances to get to your destination, especially in the District.
- Get up-to-date information about public transit, road closures and parking restrictions by visiting www.inauguration.dc.gov.

The region’s residents need to be aware that events during the entire inaugural weekend may affect their daily lives, even if they are not planning to attend any of them.

- If you are working on Jan. 20, consider teleworking if possible because traffic will be heavy and public transit will be crowded.
- Consider carpooling. It will be difficult to find parking, and cars will be restricted from some parts of D.C..
- Although Jan. 20 is a federal holiday and a holiday in many jurisdictions, some localities are enforcing weekday parking regulations. Be sure to plan ahead.
- Treat the day as if it is a snow day – be sure to make your grocery store run a few days ahead of time.

KEY STATISTICS



- Current planning estimate: 240,000 ticketed guests, a million or more attendees for the actual inaugural, hundreds of thousands more for the parade
- Historic nature of this event will impact crowd size.
- Over 10,000 charter buses expected.
- Jan. 20, 2009 – music begins at 10 a.m.; formal program begins at 11:30 a.m.; swearing-in shortly before noon.
- Security perimeter will be established around the U.S. Capitol and the parade route; security checkpoints open for ticketed guests at 8 a.m.; The Swearing-in Ceremony is an outdoor event held on the West Front Lawn of the U.S. Capitol.
- Inauguration day is typically cold—normally 37° F at noon—and occasionally wet. Umbrellas will not be permitted within the security perimeter.
- Public transportation is expected to be at “crush load capacity.”
- Inaugural Parade: Jan. 20, 2009, 2 p.m. start
 - The 56th Inaugural Parade will make its way down Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House. Parade begins on 4th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW; Ends at approximately 4:30 p.m. at 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.

MEDIA ARTICLES

Inauguration celebration seen as ‘opportunity’ and ‘nightmare’ for D.C.

Washington Business Journal, Monday, Dec. 8, 2008

<http://www.bizjournals.com/washington/stories/2008/12/08/daily15.html>

On Inauguration Day, don’t drive into D.C.

USA Today, Thursday, Jan. 8, 2009

<http://content.usatoday.com/communities/theoval/post/2009/01/61038656/1>

D.C. subway braces for Inauguration Day crush

USA Today, Friday, Jan. 9, 2009

http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2009-01-08-inaugurail_N.htm

New Washington, D.C., Flight Restrictions In Place For Inauguration

Aviation News, Friday, Jan. 9, 2009

http://www.aviationnews.net/?do=headline&news_ID=163045

Businesses Concerned Over Inauguration Planning

MSNBC, Thurs., Jan. 8, 2009

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/28563298/>

DC Area Hospitals Face Inaugural Challenge

WXIA-TV, Ga., Friday, Jan. 9, 2009

<http://www.11alive.com/news/national/story.aspx?storyid=125498&catid=13>

Economic Woes and Inauguration Preps

MSNBC, Friday, Jan. 9, 2009

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/28579793/>

Widespread Road Closures Announced For Inauguration

CBS News, NY, Jan 7, 2009

<http://www.cbsnews.com/blogs/2009/01/07/politics/politicalhotsheet/entry4705500.shtml>

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Business leaders briefed on terror threat

Bizjournals.com, Friday, Jan. 9, 2009

<http://www.bizjournals.com/baltimore/stories/2009/01/05/daily54.html>

Many stores along parade route to be open for inauguration

Washington Examiner, DC - Jan 7, 2009

http://www.dcxaminer.com/local/010809-Many_stores_along_parade_route_to_be_open_for_inauguration.html

Downtown Residents Concerned Over Heavy Inaugural Security

MyFox Washington DC, Friday, Jan. 9, 2009

<http://www.myfoxdc.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=8219759&version=2&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1>

Telework to Relieve DC Commuters' Aches During Inauguration

Business Wire (press release), CA - Jan 6, 2009

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/google/20090106005340/en>

DC restaurants preparing for tsunami of Obama fans

Washington Examiner, DC - Jan 7, 2009

http://www.dcxaminer.com/opinion/blogs/YeasandNays/010809-DC_restaurants_preparing_for_tsunami_of_Obama_fans.html

WEB LINKS / RESOURCES

- Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies
www.inaugural.senate.gov/
- Destination D.C. Inauguration Information
<http://www.washington.org/visiting/experience-dc/presidential-inauguration/information>
- Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro) Inauguration Web Page
<http://www.wmata.com/inauguration/>
- Fairfax County Inauguration Information Page
www.FairfaxCounty.gov/news/inauguration
- U.S. Secret Service
www.secretservice.gov
- Washington, D.C.
www.inauguration.dc.gov
- Presidential Inauguration Committee
www.pic2009.com
- Armed Forces Inaugural Committee
www.afic.northcom.mil
- Greater Washington Board of Trade
www.boardoftrade.org
- Transportation: www.amtrak.com, www.vre.org and www.mtmaryland.com/services/marc/

ESF 15 Contact Information

Merni Fitzgerald, Director

Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs

12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 551 ♦ Fairfax, Va. 22035-0065

Tel: 703-324-3187 ♦ Direct: 703-324-3189

E-mail: Merni.Fitzgerald@fairfaxcounty.gov

Web site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov

Emergency Information: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency

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In accordance with NIMS – the National Incident Management System – the Fairfax County Emergency Operations Plan states that Emergency Support Function 15 (External Affairs) is led by the Office of Public Affairs. This ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update is part of the county's outreach efforts for our business and nonprofit partners as a way to provide information about the county's ESF 15, Homeland Security and emergency management.

Please feel free to forward this ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update to other contacts you have inside or outside your organization. Should someone you know like to be added to our distribution list, have them send an e-mail to jim.person@fairfaxcounty.gov and ask to be subscribed to the ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update.

If you have any suggestions on how to improve this update or other communications between Fairfax County and the business/nonprofit community, please contact Merni Fitzgerald, Director of the Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs, at 703-324-3187, TTY 711, or by e-mail at merni.fitzgerald@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Thanks for your partnership with Fairfax County. We appreciate the opportunity to work with you.