



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

JUL 07 2010

Subject: Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan

Dear Community Member:

Fairfax County, led by the Office of Emergency Management, has begun development of a Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan. This project is supported by a Department of Homeland Security Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grant. The County hopes that you will play a part in this important planning effort.

Because your organization will be critical in the long-term recovery following a disaster, the Office of Emergency Management would like to invite you to a Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan information workshop Wednesday, August 4, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center, located at 4890 Alliance Dr., Fairfax, VA 22030.

The workshop will more clearly define how a Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan can best serve the needs of Fairfax County and also explore how your participation can streamline disaster recovery and mitigate hardships your organization could face in the aftermath of a disaster. During the workshop, emergency management staff will share various disaster preparedness tools and tips that are currently available and that can assist your organization in its disaster preparedness efforts.

Fairfax County is susceptible to a variety of natural hazards, including floods, hurricanes and tornadoes, as well as man-made hazards such as terrorist acts and accidental releases of hazardous materials. Some of these events have the capacity for catastrophic local and regional impacts. Following a major disaster, complex issues with impacts far beyond county government will arise. The local economy may falter due to supply chain disruptions, infrastructure failures, business closures or inaccessible work places. There will likely be population displacement, housing shortages and rebuilding issues, and potential social and psychological impacts.

While the effects of disasters are wide-ranging and cannot be predicted, pre-event planning can better position Fairfax County to recover from a major incident. Methodical, thoughtful pre-event planning can establish priorities, decision-making structures and procedures, and recovery goals. These can focus and accelerate the recovery process during the stressful post-disaster period.

The purpose of a Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan is to provide Fairfax County with a single reference for guiding policy and action during recovery from a significant natural or human-

caused disaster. The plan will allow the government to better support the private and nonprofit sectors as we work together to restore the economic base, neighborhoods, social fabric, and other community elements over the long-term. Because public and private sector partnerships are vital to the success of disaster recovery, the Office of Emergency Management is reaching out to county boards, authorities and commissions, nonprofit organizations, private business, as well as our federal and state partners, asking that they participate in this planning process.

To guide the development of the Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan, the County has begun to form a Disaster Recovery Task Force (Task Force) comprised of representatives from county agencies, other municipalities, nonprofit groups, and private stakeholders. A series of time-efficient meetings and interviews will be conducted with members of the Task Force throughout the course of the project to ensure that the Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan is developed holistically and effectively.

Given the critical nature of this work, your support in this initiative is vital and any comments or suggestions you have are welcome. Please contact Amanda Phan in the Office of Emergency Management at 571-350-1010, TTY 711 with any questions.

To register to attend, please go to the following link and register before July 28. The link for the Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan project is as follows and includes a section on Pre-Registration for the workshop <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/pdrp/>.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this initiative. We look forward to seeing you on August 4.

Sincerely,



Anthony H. Griffin,  
County Executive and  
Director of Emergency Management

cc: Patricia D. Harrison, Deputy County Executive  
Edward L. Long, Deputy County Executive  
David J. Molchany, Deputy County Executive  
Robert A. Stalzer, Deputy County Executive