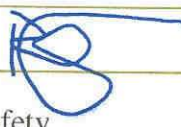



FROM	NAME & TITLE	Robert Maloney, Deputy Chief 	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Emergency Management and Public Safety		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill No. 12-0076R		

TO

DATE:

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Room 400 City Hall

December 3rd, 2013

The Mayor's Office of Emergency Management (MOEM) has reviewed City Council Bill No. 12-0076R – Informational Hearing – Mayor's Office of Emergency Management and agrees to take part in the hearing.

Please find the following report for City Council Bill 12-0076R. The Mayor's Office of Emergency Management will brief the City Council on responsibilities and emergency preparedness programs, including outreach to citizens who not have access to modern advancements in technology.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our work with the City Council.

Thank you.

Robert Maloney
Deputy Chief of Emergency Management and Public Safety
Office of the Mayor

Cc: Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Chief of Staff Alexander Sanchez



Comments

The Mayor's Office of Emergency Management (MOEM) is responsible for ensuring the City of Baltimore is prepared for emergencies and disasters. MOEM achieves this primarily by coordinating two major preparedness initiatives: *City government preparedness and community preparedness*.

MOEM works with all City agencies to ensure the government is prepared to respond to emergencies. MOEM develops and maintains the City of Baltimore Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) which is a scalable framework that documents how the City will prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against emergencies and disasters. The EOP contains general information on how the City agencies will coordinate to provide for public safety during all emergency incidents and planned events, as well as hazard specific information, such as a comprehensive hurricane plan. MOEM also coordinates and assists with the development of Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) for all City agencies and Continuity of Government (COG) planning for the Mayor and City Council. These plans ensure that essential services will continue regardless of any systemic disruption resulting from emergencies. To ensure these plans and preparedness processes are effective and efficient, MOEM coordinates and executes a continuous cycle of training and exercise events – from classroom lectures to full-scale evolutions – to test policies, plans, and procedures to ensure a high level of readiness and competency among City employees, equipment, and other resources.

MOEM also works to ensure the community is prepared as well. This includes outreach and public information campaigns to the general public, as well as coordination with the private sector and Critical Infrastructure/Key Resource (CIKR) sites in the City. To ensure the general public is prepared, MOEM speaks at numerous functions, community fairs, and other outreach events throughout the year and spreads information on how the average citizen can be better prepared. MOEM gives away preparedness materials including flashlights and other useful tools at many community events. MOEM also uses social media, e-mail lists, and text messages to spread preparedness messages.

MOEM is also trained and prepared to respond to major emergencies in the City of Baltimore 24 hours a day, seven days a week. MOEM trains staff members and part-time auxiliary staff to respond to significant events in the City to coordinate City resources, improve collaboration between the City agencies, and main and beyond. MOEM also maintains and manages the City Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during major emergencies in the City. The EOC is used to coordinate City agency activities, enhance the response, and manage resources during emergencies and disasters. MOEM operates the EOC and takes the lead in incident planning activities, as well as maintains training programs to ensure City agencies are prepared to assist in the EOC.

MOEM is also the City's link to the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). MOEM assists in the disaster declaration process and is responsible for seeking financial reimbursement from the Federal government following presidentially declared disasters.

MOEM applies for and receives homeland security and emergency management grants each year which offset the general fund responsibility for programmatic and personnel costs. A significant

portion of the grant funding is shared to other City agencies for various homeland security and mitigation projects. MOEM manages the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program which provides funding to the City and 6 surrounding jurisdictions to improve collaboration and coordination of resources, personnel, and training.

When preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies, MOEM pays particular attention to the elderly, the impoverished, and those with functional access needs. Disaster history has shown that these populations are more vulnerable to emergencies, and have a more difficult time recovering following an incident. Because of this, MOEM coordinates several programs to ensure these populations are not forgotten. MOEM works closely with numerous City partners to ensure two-way communication with all neighborhoods and citizens prior to and during emergencies. These partners include but are not limited to the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods, the Commission on Aging and Retirement Education (CARE), the Mayor's Commission on Disabilities, and the Mayor's Office of Human Services. Some private sector and non-profit partners that serve such populations include Meals on Wheels, Maryland 211, Maryland Food Bank, the American Red Cross, and the Salvation Army. By coordinating with these partners MOEM is able to expand their reach and maintain numerous channels of communication with the public and the more vulnerable populations. MOEM also ensures that all pertinent information and press releases are shared with the City 311 operators and the City Hall operators, and that the MOEM office number is available to any concerned citizens with additional questions.

MOEM also maintains resources and procedures for executing emergency public warning. Aside from technology products such as e-mail and text message notifications, MOEM maintains numerous capabilities to warn those without cell phones or internet access. These include the the Emergency Alert System (EAS) for TV and radio, reverse 911 to all City landline phones, as well as standard operating procedures to use loud-speakers on emergency vehicles and perform door-to-door evacuations if necessary. MOEM also works closely with WBAL to ensure citizens can tune to 1090AM during emergencies for important messages.

In summary, MOEM is dedicated to ensuring the City, including its government and its citizens, maintains a high level of preparedness for emergencies and disasters. MOEM also has special considerations for populations in the City which do not have the means to prepare and protect themselves. MOEM maintains numerous programs, capabilities, and relationships to ensure these citizens will not be left behind.