



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

1027

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
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MICHAEL J. DEVER, ADMINISTRATOR

March 25, 2002

AGENDA: APRIL 9, 2002

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

SUBJECT: COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Members of the Board:

On March 5, 2002, your Board deferred consideration of this item to today's agenda. The Office of Emergency Services is pleased to submit for your review and approval, the 2002 County Emergency Management Plan, an organizational model for the County's response to emergency events. Your Board will recall your approval of a related plan, the Santa Cruz County Operational Area Plan, in February 2001. The County plan is similar in many respects to the Operational Area Plan, but also differs in several ways.

The Operational Area Plan focuses on an intermediate level of coordination between local jurisdictions and the Regional level of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. The Operational Area is an administrative level in the State Office of Emergency Service's response plan and is not a jurisdiction or political subdivision. The County serves as the lead agency for the Operational Area on behalf of all the jurisdictions within the County's boundary.

The County Emergency Management Plan focuses specifically on the County of Santa Cruz, which must also carry out its responsibilities as a local government in addition to its responsibility to manage the Operational Area function. Because of the extent of the unincorporated area within the County boundaries, there is a good deal of similarity in the two plans; many of the issues and hazards are the same in the Operational Area and the County's jurisdiction. Nevertheless, in order for the County to preserve its ability to qualify for state disaster assistance, the County must adopt an emergency management plan that incorporates principles of the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), a management structure under which all local government entities operate to facilitate multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional coordination during emergency response operations. The County Emergency Management Plan has been reviewed and approved by the County Disaster Council. The County's Emergency Management Plan will be adopted as an Appendix to the Operational Area Plan as are the emergency plans of the four incorporated cities

Since this plan is designed primarily to document the County's adoption of SEMS, and the basic roles of individual County departments, it is an organizational policy model rather than a detailed operations manual. The development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the County's phased response to emergency events, including operation of the County's Emergency Operating Center (EOC) are not included in this plan, but are instead developed, tested and adopted administratively.

In addition to the overall management structure and functions described in the Emergency Management Plan, there are a number of other related plans that must integrate with this and other plans during emergencies. Many of these plans are not specifically within the County's purview, such as State Mutual Aid agreements. Several are under development or are undergoing a significant re-analysis after the terrorist attacks and related events of last fall. To minimize their utility as guides to those who would plan to cause harm, some are being revised to be less detailed in their description of specific actions planned for response to certain events. Still others, such as the Energy Contingency Plan, have been delayed while the emergency management community responded to the events of last fall. A key Emergency Services work program item for the upcoming year is a thorough review of **all** these plans, to assess their currency, mandate, consistency with other plans and maintenance processes and to review these issues with responsible organizations and the Disaster Council.

It is, therefore, RECOMMENDED that your Board

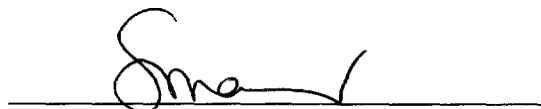
1. Approve the attached Santa Cruz County Emergency Management Plan; and
2. Direct each County Department with responsibilities under the Plan to work with the Office of Emergency Services to develop corresponding departmental operating procedures; and
3. Accept and file this report.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Dever
Emergency Services Administrator

RECOMMENDED:



Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

Attachment: Emergency Management Plan

CC: Disaster Council
Each County Department Head