

Quarterly EM Meeting notes

April 23, 2019

Fairview Council Chambers

Introductions

Briefing regarding upcoming NW Cornelius Pass Road project (Mike Pullen, MultCo Communications Office): NW Cornelius Pass Road will be closed for safety improvements this summer for 13 weeks, July 8 - early October. This will be a hard closure: no vehicles can pass. Planning to take place (date: TBD) regarding access for emergency responders.

Summary Overview (Alice Busch, MultCo Office of Emergency Management): Hazmat incidents, evacuations, sheltering. Setting up of the scene.

Evacuations (Sgt. Mark Herron, MultCo Sheriff's Office):

- Eagle Creek :
 - Early notification of EM and JIC allowed for the collaborative development of evac messages and broad understanding of levels
 - Multi-discipline group developed a door to door doc that gathered valuable info regarding potential needs of public impacted.
 - Use of SAR volunteers - volunteers out in the field allowed for the opportunity to develop plans
 - Time to translate into spanish
 - Provided action items for public
- **Next steps for County and HazMat - with an Evac and DRC Activation**
 - Will be working with our cities and unincorporated areas to collaborate on the development of:
 - An initial IAP (just like our Land Movement one) - includes key messages
 - Checklist, questions to consider, and Evac Group/Task Force 204
 - Development of two Org Charts (County with help from outside and County cooperating with a city)
 - Workshop small group - then exercise - then training responders regarding tools and resources
 - LEPC inclusion

DataMart (Jennifer Masotja, MultCo Department of County Human Services): DataMart, also referred to as the "Emergency Management Visualization Tool," currently houses around 150,000 geocoded contacts, these are people who have interacted with us in some way. DataMart is updated every night, and can be sorted by Division. Case managers can call their clients when they need to be contacted, which can be more comforting and familiar to people than having a stranger call.

DataMart pulls from 250 different databases, although not all of them pull from the same fields. Dependent on the user who enters the info.

Examples of capabilities: Can pull up all 150,000 people currently in the system, or can pull up all the government buildings, or all the food pantries, etc. This is important for knowing for example where shelters can be located or what services are available.

It's also possible to pull up community demographics: what languages are spoken, what cultures are represented (and possible dietary preferences), etc.

During the Cully Fire: of the 5000 people identified for evacuation, had information on 2500 of them.

Due to HIPAA requirements, DCHS limits who can access DataMart.

PIO - Communications (Alice Busch, MCEM):

- During the Eagle Creek Fire, County GIS staff created a best practice: GIS called Hood River County and consumed their GIS. Anyone could type their address in and see what Level they were at. Now exploring the development of a template webpage with GIS capability - feedback form - allows for transition of command between agencies - and from response to recovery.
- Have created a call center contract, have identified all our call centers. Now every time we stand up our PIO section, call centers are involved (211, ADRC, Crisis Line, Library, City/County).
- Review of use of CENS and Best Practices in messaging - use of Everbridge: heard a lot of complaints after Eagle Creek and Cully—people don't understand that it's an opt-in system. Justin Ross from MCEM has been doing research on where people get their information from. During the last incident pushed out info to local community organizations for them to share.
- Use of perimeter staffing as community connectors (info collection and dissemination) - Neighborhood Emergency Teams (NETs) and On-Call Culturally Specific Advocates - within ICS structure - strike team/task force - will be hosting Emotional Psychological First Aid training.

Disaster Resource Centers (Jennifer Masotja, MultCo Department of County Human Services):

- Development of the name *Disaster Resource Center* (not "shelter," not "reception center")--a Disaster Resource Center may or may not have a sheltering/dormitory component. Multnomah County does sheltering (with assistance from Red Cross), which is unlike any other county. Wanting to come alongside people who don't just need a place to sleep, but also have mental or behavioral health needs, need food stamp assistance, help with pets, etc
- A Cascadia specific Mass Shelter Plan has been developed. In a Cascadia event the DRCs would essentially scale up to a Shelter Village model that supports 88,000+ people and their pets.
- Discussion of first responders providing updates to the EOC so that they can pass along that info to the people in the DRC who are awaiting information
- DRC staff Just in Time videos - to be released soon.
- DRC staff Just in Time Training job aid flip books - currently in development.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Roles and Responsibilities (Richard Franklin, EPA):

Federal on-scene coordinator is the official at the federal level that coordinates hazmat and waterway incidents. They're not first responders. Coast Guard is the other federal entity that deals with waterways. In many instances just assist local jurisdictions where needed. Do lots of air monitoring, have a warehouse near the airport with equipment and filters, have 7 on-scene coordinators, a phone line for someone to reach 24/7 for hazmat incidents—would make a decision if federal assistance is needed. If it's a truly big incident, would expect to have someone in the JIC and possibly Unified Command.

The EPA has community involvement coordinators who go out into the community, as many people don't trust the government.

Regional Response Team: team of 15 or so federal/state/tribal agencies who are putting together response plans.

HazMat - Roles and responsibilities of state and local (Andrew Goeden, Capt HazMat 3 and E72C, Gresham Fire and Emergency Services. Shon Christensen, HazMat Coordinator, Portland Fire):

The State of Oregon is one of the few states that has a local hazmat program. Hazmat response teams strategically situated throughout the state.

Local hazmat team:

- Makes decisions on whether folks should shelter in place, evacuate, etc.
- Air quality monitoring.
- Does not do cleanup, just there for life safety and mitigation.
- Partnership with OSFM (Oregon State Fire Marshal).

Most hazmat incidents are going to be on the major transportation routes. There's always going to be a hazmat component even with a small fire. All fire dept staff are trained in hazmat.

DEQ:

- More regulatory in nature.
- Don't have equipment.
- Require cleanup and will hire contractors and send you the bill if it's not taken care of.

EPA will provide the data. DEQ and EPA don't analyze the data. Have to have industrial hygienists analyze it. Data analyzation takes time. In the meantime, the first step is to make a decision about what to do (shelter in place, evacuate). Making sure there's an understanding of what the protective action is (e.g. stay indoors vs shelter in place). There's a time limit on shelter in place protective action. Eventually will need to evacuate if no improvements. County protocol now is that if there's a hazmat / shelter in place incident, a DRC is automatically deployed.

End of meeting and Tour of HazMat Rigs and Animal Disaster Response Trailer