

EMERGENCY MANGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE POLICY

The purpose of the Policy is to create Task Forces to:

- provide a structural framework to sustain unincorporated areas community-specific emergency planning strategies for those communities where emergency management strategies have been completed (Topanga community would be the first for which a Task Force would be formed.)
- ensure that ongoing focus is placed on emergency management efforts for unincorporated communities through the establishment of community-specific Task Forces.
- ensure that the community emergency management planning strategies are reviewed, evaluated, monitored, and updated on an on-going basis.
- continue the ongoing partnership between the community representatives, County departments, State, federal, and school districts agency representatives who would be involved in the emergency management planning strategies for a specific unincorporated community. The Task Force would also reconvene, as necessary, after any major disaster to evaluate and update the community's emergency management planning strategies based on lessons learned during such a disaster.

Background

July 3, 2001: Board approval of the Strategic Plan for Municipal Services which contained Action Plan F, Emergency Management Planning for Unincorporated Areas/County Communities. This Action Plan indicated that there was a gap in critical community-based disaster planning and readiness for unincorporated areas.

Additionally, the Action Plan called for the establishment of a partnership between the County and the community to create a stakeholder group to prepare an emergency management plan for the community's perceived emergency services needs. The Plan would serve as a model that could be used to implement emergency management strategies in other unincorporated area communities. Additional communities would be selected for repeating the emergency preparedness strategies and efforts developed for the initial community (Topanga).

Dec. 2002: Topanga was selected as the pilot area to develop an emergency management planning strategy that could be replicated in other unincorporated communities.

Dec. 2002 (?): A Steering Committee was formed comprising of SD3, CEO (OEM and UAS), other County Departments, State and federal agencies and community and business representatives to develop emergency management planning strategies for Topanga and the Topanga Disaster Survival Guide.

Sept. 2005: Topanga Disaster Survival Guide completed and distributed to Topanga residents.

August 2006 Based on the Topanga efforts best practices we documented and the Emergency Management in Unincorporated Areas: A Planning Guide was developed by the Steering

Committee and was subsequently approved by the EMC-Subcommittee. It became apparent that a framework would be needed to sustain the Steering Committee's initiatives and to oversee emergency management planning strategies for that community and other unincorporated communities, as necessary.

- June 2007 Topanga Disaster Survival Guide, Supplement II was distributed to Topanga residents.
- October 2008 Draft Policy on Emergency Management Implementation Task Force developed by UAS and distributed to the UA Deputies, Departmental Liaisons and OEM.
- Oct. 2008 OEM provided input and approval of the draft documents for circulation to the Justice Deputies.

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