



BASIC PLAN

Decorative Image

Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan SEPTEMBER 2026

Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization and County of San Diego

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Staff and Principal Planners

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The Unified Disaster Council adopted this revision of the Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan in June 2026 and was approved by the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors in September 2026. The Unified Disaster Council has referred this Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan to their member jurisdictions with a recommendation that each member agency adopt this plan as their jurisdictional Emergency Plan, with minor modifications as appropriate.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The San Diego County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (OA EOP) describes a comprehensive emergency management system which provides for a planned response to disaster situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, terrorism, and nuclear-related incidents. It delineates operational concepts relating to various emergency situations, identifies components of the Emergency Management Organization, and describes the overall responsibilities for protecting life and property and assuring the overall well being of the population.

PROMULGATION

This document is the revised Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization and San Diego County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (OA EOP) for the San Diego County Operational Area (OA). This plan supersedes any previous plan(s) promulgated for this purpose. It provides a framework for the County of San Diego to use in performing emergency functions before, during, and after an emergency event, natural disaster or technological incident. This OA EOP supports the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). The County shall work together with State, Federal, and local agencies to effectively and efficiently prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from incidents regardless of cause, size, or complexity. The OA EOP supports the overall mission of the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization and the Unified Disaster Council (UDC) endorses and promulgates this document as the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization and San Diego County OA EOP.

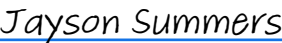
The County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services (OES) is responsible for the development and maintenance of the OA EOP. This plan is intended to be in accordance with all existing Federal, State and local statutes. All Federal, State, and local laws supersede the policies and procedures listed in this plan. It will be tested, revised, and updated as required. All recipients are requested to advise OES regarding recommendations for improvement.

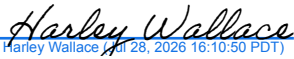
The revised OA EOP for the San Diego County OA has been reviewed and is hereby approved.

PLAN CONCURRENCE

The following members of the Unified Disaster Council concur with the content of the revised (2026) San Diego County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan. As needed, revisions will be submitted to the County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services.

Signed:

 <u>Daryl Arbuthnot (Jun 26, 2026 14:37:50 PDT)</u>	Jun 26, 2026
County of San Diego	Date Signed
 <u>Kimberly Young (Jun 26, 2026 09:35:03 PDT)</u>	Jun 26, 2026
City of Carlsbad	Date Signed
 <u>Chris Manroe (Jul 7, 2026 10:58:30 PDT)</u>	Jul 7, 2026
City of Chula Vista	Date Signed
 <u>Jayson Summers (Jul 13, 2026 08:01:27 PDT)</u>	Jul 13, 2026
City of Coronado	Date Signed
 <u>Bret A Davidson (Jul 28, 2026 16:41:59 PDT)</u>	Jul 28, 2026
City of Del Mar	Date Signed
	Jul 28, 2026
City of El Cajon	Date Signed
 <u>Joshua L Gordon (Jul 13, 2026 09:04:02 PDT)</u>	Jul 13, 2026
City of Encinitas	Date Signed
 <u>Tyler B Batson (Jul 21, 2026 10:53:01 PDT)</u>	Jul 21, 2026
City of Escondido	Date Signed
 <u>John French (Jul 22, 2026 10:52:56 PDT)</u>	Jul 22, 2026
City of Imperial Beach	Date Signed
	Jul 28, 2026
City of La Mesa	Date Signed
	Jul 28, 2026
City of Lemon Grove	Date Signed
 <u>Sergio Mora (Aug 4, 2026 09:29:02 PDT)</u>	Aug 4, 2026
City of National City	Date Signed

 <u>Jessamyn L. Specht (Aug 5, 2026 10:59:24 PDT)</u>	Aug 5, 2026
City of Oceanside	Date Signed
 <u>Brian Mitchell</u>	Aug 5, 2026
City of Poway	Date Signed
 <u>Robert Logan (Jul 22, 2026 11:37:35 PDT)</u>	Jul 22, 2026
City of San Diego	Date Signed
 <u>Dan Barron (Jul 23, 2026 14:47:51 PDT)</u>	Jul 23, 2026
City of San Marcos	Date Signed
 <u>Harley Wallace (Jul 28, 2026 16:10:50 PDT)</u>	Jul 28, 2026
City of Santee	Date Signed
 <u>Bret A. Davidson (Jul 28, 2026 16:41:59 PDT)</u>	Jul 28, 2026
City of Solana Beach	Date Signed
 <u>Gerard Washington (Aug 6, 2026 15:35:12 PDT)</u>	Aug 6, 2026
City of Vista	Date Signed

RECORD OF DISTRIBUTION

The County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services (OES) prepares, coordinates, publishes, and distributes the Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (OA EOP) and any revisions made to it. The OA EOP is distributed to the County departments/agencies, incorporated cities, and special districts/other organizations in the Operational Area identified in the table. The EOP is also available upon request to other external organizations, some of which are also identified in the table.

OA EOP Distribution

County Departments/Agencies	Incorporated Cities	Special Districts/Other Organizations
Agriculture, Weights and Measures	City of Carlsbad	American Red Cross
Aging & Independence Services	City of Chula Vista	Air Pollution Control District
Animal Services	City of Coronado	Barona Band of Mission Indians
Behavioral Health Services	City of Del Mar	California Department of Transportation
Chief Administrative Office	City of El Cajon	Campo Band of Diegueño Mission Indians
Communications Office	City of Encinitas	Capitan Grande Band of Diegueño Mission Indians
County Counsel	City of Escondido	California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Department of Strategy and Community Engagement	City of Imperial Beach	California Highway Patrol
District Attorney	City of La Mesa	Edible Food Recovery Working Group
Diversity & Inclusion	City of Lemon Grove	Environmental Justice Work Group
Emergency Services	City of National City	Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians
Environmental Health and Quality	City of Oceanside	Federal Bureau of Investigation
Fire	City of Poway	Federal Emergency Management Agency
General Services	City of San Diego	Feeding San Diego
Health & Human Services Agency	City of San Marcos	Food System Initiative Working Group
Housing and Community Development	City of Santee	Humane Society
Human Resources	City of Solana Beach	Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel
Library	City of Vista	Inaja-Cosmit Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
Medical Care Services Division		Inter-Tribal Long-Term Recovery Foundation
Medical Examiner		Jamul Indian Village of California

County Departments/Agencies	Incorporated Cities	Special Districts/Other Organizations
Parks and Recreation		Kumeyaay Diegueño Land Conservancy
Planning & Development Services		Kumeyaay Heritage Preservation Commission
Probation		La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians
Public Defender		La Posta Band of Diegueño Mission Indians
Public Health		Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians
Public Works		Live Well San Diego
Purchasing and Contracting		Manzanita Band of Diegueño Mission Indians
Sheriff		Mesa Grande Band of Diegueño Mission Indians
Strategy and Intergovernmental Affairs		Navy Region Southwest
Sustainability and Environmental Justice		North County Transit District
Technology Office		Pala Band of Mission Indians
		Pauma Band of Luiseño Mission Indians
		Partner Relay Network
		Rincon Band of Luiseño Mission Indians
		Port of San Diego
		Salvation Army
		San Diego Association of Governments
		San Diego Blood Bank
		San Diego Farm Bureau
		San Diego Food Bank
		San Diego Food System Alliance Stewardship Committee
		San Diego Gas & Electric
		San Diego Hunger Coalition and Hunger Free Advisory Committee
		San Diego International Airport
		San Diego Law Enforcement Coordination Center
		San Diego Metropolitan Transit System
		San Pasqual Band of Diegueño Mission Indians
		San Diego Promise Zones Health Communities Working Group

County Departments/Agencies	Incorporated Cities	Special Districts/Other Organizations
		San Diego Regional Evacuation Planning Committee
		San Diego County Access and Functional Needs Working Group
		San Diego County Chiefs' & Sheriff's Association
		San Diego County Committee for Persons with Disabilities
		San Diego County Fire Chiefs Association
		San Diego County Office of Education
		San Diego County Water Authority
		Southern California Tribal Chairman's Association
		Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation
		UCSD Center for Community Health
		University of California Cooperative Extension
		Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians
		2-1-1 San Diego

In addition to the OA EOP recipients listed, the OA EOP can also be accessed on the County of San Diego OES [web page](#).

APPROVAL AND IMPLEMENTATION

The County of San Diego has a commitment for the safety of its residents. Their safety and security depend upon the continuation of public services before, during, and after an emergency/disaster.

The Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organizations' Unified Disaster Council (UDC) and the County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services (OES) are mandated by federal, state, and local laws to ensure that mitigation efforts are enhanced, preparedness is encouraged, responsiveness is assured, and recovery is achieved efficiently and effectively, before, during, and after human-caused or natural disasters (i.e., wildland fires, earthquakes, terrorism, tsunamis, chemical spills, floods etc.) which may occur within the OA.

One of the primary responsibilities of OES is to develop an OA emergency management plan, update the plan and maintain a record of changes. This plan should address, to the extent possible, all emergency response functions of local governmental departments, agencies, public officials, and other public and private organizations during emergencies/disasters.

This plan was developed with the cooperation of County departments and agencies such as law enforcement, fire, healthcare facilities, and public works. These organizations play a pivotal and functional role in responding to emergencies/disasters.

The OA EOP was developed using FEMA's Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101, Version 3.1. The OA EOP consists of a basic plan, its attachments, and 16 functional annexes.

The Basic Plan contains the following:

- Purpose and scope of the plan
- Description of hazards in the OA
- Planning assumptions
- Concept of operations for emergency activities in the OA
- Description of the emergency management organization and responsibilities
- Direction, control, and coordination
- Information collection, analysis, and dissemination methods
- Communication methods
- Continuity of operations
- Administration, finance, logistics
- Plan maintenance and authorities and references

The OA EOPs' supporting functional annexes describe the emergency functions of the responding agencies and organizations. A complete list of these functions can be found on page 3 of the Executive Summary.

GENERAL

Saving lives and the protection of life, the environment, and property are the primary goals of governmental public safety agencies. Emergency plans provide the basis for response and recovery operations. The success of these plans depends largely, in part, on the collaboration of the agencies and jurisdictions responsible for the development and maintenance of these plans. The formation of an emergency organization, policies, and roles and responsibilities are essential aspects of all effective emergency plans.

In the early 1960s, all San Diego Cities and the County formed a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) which established the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization. The Unified Disaster Council (UDC) is the governing body of the Unified Organization and is comprised of the Chairperson of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (BOS), who serves as the chair of the council, and representatives from the 18 incorporated Cities. The County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services (OES) serves as staff to the UDC. In this capacity, OES is a liaison between the incorporated Cities, State of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as well as other non-governmental agencies.



Utilizing the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS), regional emergency planning has been a comprehensive approach to prepare and plan for all-hazards, disasters and emergencies. In recent history, events such as the, San Diego County Severe Storm and Flooding of 2024, the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pacific Southwest Event of 2011 (blackout), the San Diego County Firestorms of 2020, 2018, 2017, 2014, 2007, and 2003, Hurricanes (Ian, Harvey, Irma, Sandy, Katrina, et al.), the destruction of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, the ongoing threat of home-grown violent extremists, and many other events throughout the world, have demonstrated the need for preparedness. OES is the agency charged with ensuring the county is prepared for all hazards and emergencies and has developed the Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (OA EOP) to serve as a comprehensive, multi-hazard plan intended to be read and understood before an emergency. It is designed to include the San Diego County Operational Area (OA) as a part of the statewide emergency management system.

In 2003, the Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-5, directed the United States Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer NIMS in order to provide a comprehensive national approach to incident management. NIMS unifies Federal, State, territorial, tribal, and local lines of government into one coordinated effort. On September 15, 2005, the Unified Emergency Services Organization issued a resolution adopting NIMS into the emergency management system.

The NIMS released in the fall of 2017 supersedes the December 2008 version of NIMS. The basic purpose, scope and principles of the document remain unchanged. The refreshed version:

- Retains key concepts from the 2004 and 2008 versions.
- Reflects and incorporates policy updates.
- Clarifies processes and terminology for qualifying, certifying and credentialing incident personnel.
- Clarifies that NIMS is more than just the Incident Command System (ICS), and that it applies to all incident personnel.
- Explains the relationship among the ICS, Emergency Operations Centers (EOC), and senior leaders/policy groups.
- Describes functions and terminology for staff in EOCs.

Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)-5 also directed the development of the National Response Framework (NRF). The OA EOP Distribution table provides an outline of the Emergency Support Functions (ESF) of the NRF and the corresponding functional annexes of the OA EOP.

Comparison Chart of the National Response Framework and the San Diego County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan

National Response Framework Emergency Support Function (ESF)		San Diego County Operational Area Emergency Plan Corresponding Functional Annex	
#1	Transportation	Q	Evacuation
#2	Communications	I	Communications and Warning Systems
		L	Emergency Public Information Plan
#3	Public Works and Engineering	J	Construction and Engineering Operations
#4	Firefighting	B	Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Operations
#5	Information and Planning	A	Emergency Management
#6	Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, and Human Services	G	Care and Shelter Operations
#7	Logistics	K	Logistics
#8	Public Health and Medical Services	D	Mass-Casualty Incident Operations
		E	Public Health Operations
		F	Department of the Chief Medical Examiner Operations
		M	Behavioral Health Operations
		O	Animal Services
#9	Search and Rescue	B	Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Operations
#10	Oil and Hazardous Materials Response	H	Environmental Health Operations
		SAP*	Hazardous Materials Plan (including Oil Spill Element)
#11	Agriculture and Natural Resources	E	Public Health Operations
		O	Animal Services
#12	Energy	SAP*	Operational Area Energy Resiliency Plan
#13	Public Safety and Security	C	Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Operations
#14	Cross-Sector Business and Infrastructure	SAP*	Recovery Plan
		SAP*	Reunification Plan
#15	External Affairs	L	Emergency Public Information

*San Diego County Stand-Alone Plan

Representatives of the jurisdictions and agencies in the Operational Area with responsibilities reviewed this OA EOP. The UDC has referred this OA EOP to the member jurisdictions with a recommendation that each member agency adopt this plan as their jurisdictional emergency plan, with minor modifications as appropriate, or to ensure that their existing emergency plan is consistent with the OA EOP.

PURPOSE

The OA EOP describes a comprehensive emergency management system which provides for a planned response to any emergency associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, terrorism and nuclear-related incidents. It delineates operational concepts relating to various emergencies, identifies components of a comprehensive emergency management system and describes the overall responsibilities for protecting life and property, and assuring the overall wellbeing of the population. The plan also identifies sources of outside support, which might be provided (through mutual aid and specific statutory authorities) by other jurisdictions, state and federal agencies, and the private sector.

Every jurisdiction and special district in the operational area shall have an individual EOP. The OA EOP will support or supplement the plan for each local government.

The plan is supported by functional annexes that focus on missions (i.e., communications, damage assessment). These annexes describe the operational actions, roles, and responsibilities of departments, agencies, and supporting organizations of a particular function. The plan is complete with 16 functional annexes:

ANNEX A	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
ANNEX B	FIRE AND RESCUE MUTUAL AID OPERATIONS
ANNEX C	LAW ENFORCEMENT MUTUAL AID OPERATIONS
ANNEX D	MASS-CASUALTY INCIDENT OPERATIONS
ANNEX E	PUBLIC HEALTH OPERATIONS
ANNEX F	DEPARTMENT OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER OPERATIONS
ANNEX G	CARE AND SHELTER OPERATIONS
ANNEX H	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OPERATIONS
ANNEX I	COMMUNICATIONS AND WARNING SYSTEMS
ANNEX J	CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING OPERATIONS
ANNEX K	LOGISTICS
ANNEX L	EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION PLAN
ANNEX M	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OPERATIONS
ANNEX N	(NOT ASSIGNED)
ANNEX O	ANIMAL SERVICES
ANNEX P	INTENTIONAL MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT
ANNEX Q	EVACUATION AND REPOPULATION

In addition, there are stand-alone emergency plans that are referenced in one or more of the above annexes. Some of these plans are listed below. They are, by reference, a part of this plan.

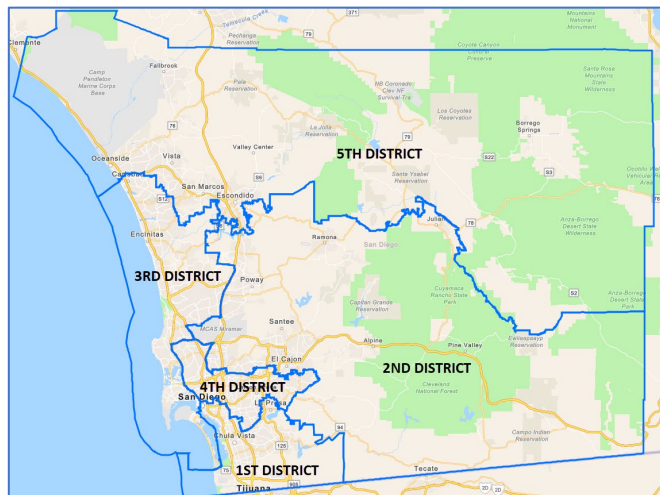
- Commodities Donations Management Plan
- Continuity of Government (COG)
- Continuity of Operations (COOP)
- Cyber Disruption Response Team Plan (CDRT)
- Extreme Heat Plan
- Financial Donations Management Plan
- OA Multi-Agency Feeding Plan
- OA Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service Plan
- OA Hazardous Materials Area Plan
- Recovery Plan
- Regional Fuel Contingency Plan
- Resource Management and Logistics Plan
- Reunification Plan
- Volunteer Management Plan
- Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan
- Training and Exercise Plan

SCOPE

The OA EOP applies to any extraordinary emergency associated with any hazard, natural or human caused, which may affect the OA and result in a planned, coordinated response by multiple agencies or jurisdictions. The OA EOP establishes an emergency organization and defines responsibilities for all agencies and individuals, public and private, having roles in emergency preparedness, response, recovery and/or mitigation in the OA. The OA EOP is designed to be compliant with SEMS and NIMS.

The “Operational Area” consists of the county and each of the political subdivisions including special districts, and Cities. The “county” is defined as the unincorporated areas of the region, including special districts. “Local” is defined as the individual cities in San Diego County.

During multi-jurisdictional emergencies, each jurisdiction, special district, and tribal government or organization is responsible for conducting and managing emergencies within its boundaries. The Operational Area Coordinator (OAC) serves as the primary focal point for coordination of mutual aid, assistance, and information between jurisdictions and special districts. The OAC is elected by the UDC and is currently the County’s Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).



This OA EOP has been developed to provide guidance for the San Diego County OA based on the following objectives:

- Provide a system for the effective management of emergencies, including describing how people (unaccompanied minors, individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs (AFN), and individuals with limited English-speaking proficiency) and property are protected.
- Identify lines of authority and relationships.
- Assign tasks and responsibilities.
- Ensure adequate maintenance of facilities, services, and resources.
- Provide a framework for adequate resources for recovery operations.



Decorative Image

SITUATION

No single jurisdiction or agency has the capability and resources to address all disasters or major emergencies. The Unified San Diego County Office of Emergency Services was established for the purpose of providing and addressing disaster related problems on a regional basis.

The OA (located between Orange and Riverside Counties on the north and Mexico on the south, and between Imperial County to the east and the Pacific Ocean on the west), occupies the extreme southwest corner of both California and the continental United States.

The OA is approximately 4,261 square miles in area and varies in terrain from coastal to mountainous to desert. The United States Census Bureau lists the County's 2020 population estimate at 3,298,634.

HAZARD ASSESSMENT

San Diego has a Mediterranean climate with mild, sunny winters with occasional rain, and warm rainless summers. A mountain barrier crosses north to south through the eastern half of the OA, separating desert to the east and semi-arid coastal plains to the west. The highlands

on the coastal side of the barrier are a significant source of water, feeding the streams that descend their seaward slopes.

The OA is exposed to many hazards, all of which have the potential for disrupting communities, causing damage, and creating casualties. Possible natural hazards include earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, wildland fires, landslides, droughts, hurricanes, tropical storms and freezes. There is also the threat of terrorism or war related incidents such as a nuclear, biological, chemical, or conventional attacks. Other emergencies could develop from a hazardous materials incident, conflagration, water or air pollution, major transportation accident, water, gas or energy shortage, or civil disorder. Since 1966 there have been 50 federal disaster declarations in San Diego County¹ (28 fires, 11 floods, 5 severe storms, 2 severe freezes, 1 hurricane (evacuation from Katrina), 2 pandemics, and 1 severe coastal storm). Out of those 50 disasters, 45 qualified for various FEMA Public Assistance Programs and 18 received support from FEMA's Individual Assistance/Households Program.

In an effort to begin the process of hazard analysis for the OA, and to supply emergency managers with a basic understanding of these hazards, hazard summaries have been included. (See [Attachment 2](#), Hazards)

In light of the OA's susceptibility and vulnerability to natural disasters and other hazards, continued emphasis will be placed on emergency planning, training of full time auxiliary and reserve personnel, public awareness and education, and assuring the adequacy and availability of sufficient resources to cope with such emergencies. The UDC and member jurisdictions are involved in ongoing public education programs. The programs focus on the need of individuals to be knowledgeable about the nature of disasters and proper responses to those disasters. They also encourage the public to make the necessary preparations for disasters and emergencies.

HAZARD MITIGATION AND CONTROL

Emphasis is placed on mitigation measures to reduce losses from disasters, including the development and enforcement of appropriate land use, design, and construction regulations.

The Cities' planning departments and the County Department of Planning & Development Services have enforced earthquake building code standards for many years. Additionally, all projects requesting subdivisions are typically required to include an environmental impact report, which provides site-specific information on existing natural hazards and other environmental concerns. Upon intake of all building permits and development projects, land use planners review the project site's topographic location (i.e., slope analysis), and proximity to a floodplain.

The land use elements of the Cities' and County's general plans are the primary policy bases which direct the physical development of the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the OA. They designate coastal beach, bluff areas, and floodplain as environmentally constrained areas, thus requiring a thorough environmental review and implementation of appropriate measures to mitigate any adverse impacts. Additionally, the "rural" back country is subject to limitations of 4- 8- 20-acre parcel sizes in order to minimize degradation of watersheds, natural slopes, groundwater supplies, wildland fire safety and floodplain.

¹ Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), OpenFEMA Dataset: Disaster Declarations Summaries – v2. Retrieved from <https://www.fema.gov/openfema-data-page/disaster-declarations-summaries-v2> on September 18, 2025. This product uses the FEMA OpenFEMA API, but is not endorsed by FEMA. The Federal Government or FEMA cannot vouch for the data or analyses derived from these data after the data have been retrieved from the Agency's website(s).

The OA's member jurisdictions' zoning ordinances and the Uniform Building Code support mitigation efforts through the enforcement of fire codes, earthquake standards, and requirements for water conservation devices. County subdivision regulations reduce the risk of fire, in that these regulations can be means of securing water systems of adequate size and pressure for firefighting. They also ensure that there are adequate roadway widths for emergency vehicle access, including maneuverability of fire trucks.

The San Diego County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) is a countywide plan that identifies risks and ways to minimize damage by natural and human-caused disasters. The purpose of the Plan is to enhance public awareness and understanding, create a decision tool for management, promote compliance with State and Federal program requirements, enhance OA policies for hazard mitigation capability, provide inter-jurisdictional coordination of mitigation-related programming, and to achieve regulatory compliance.

PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

The following assumptions apply to this plan:



- Emergency management activities are accomplished using SEMS and NIMS.
- Emergency response is best coordinated at the lowest level of government involved in the emergency.
- Local authorities maintain operational control and responsibility for emergency management activities within their jurisdiction, unless otherwise superseded by statute or agreement.
- Mutual Aid is requested when needed and provided as available.
- Mitigation activities conducted prior to the occurrence of a disaster result in a potential reduction in loss of life, injuries, and damage.
- Supporting plans and procedures are updated and maintained by responsible parties.

WHOLE COMMUNITY APPROACH

The San Diego Operational Area develops and updates emergency plans in accordance with local, state, and federal policies and guidance. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides a strategic framework to guide all members of the emergency management community as they determine how to integrate the Whole Community Approach and related concepts into their daily practices. FEMA's guidance and this plan are not intended to be all-

encompassing or offer specific actions that require adoption of certain protocols. Instead, the Whole Community Approach is acknowledged as a general process by which the public, emergency management representatives, organizational and community leaders, tribal partners, and government officials can understand and assess the needs of their respective communities, then determine the best ways to organize and strengthen resources, capacities, and interests. The Whole Community Approach, overall, is intended to increase individual preparedness, prompt engagement with vital community partners, and enhance community resiliency and security. More information about this approach and other concepts can be located on FEMA's website (www.FEMA.gov).

Community resiliency within emergency management consists of three key factors:

1. The ability of first responder agencies (i.e., fire, law, emergency medical services) to divert from their day-to-day operations to the emergency effectively and efficiently.
2. The strength and inclusivity of the emergency management system and organizations within the region, to include the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), mass notification systems, emergency public information systems, etc.
3. The civil preparedness of the region's people, businesses, and community organizations.

Enhancing all three of these factors constantly focuses the Operational Area on improving the region's resiliency. Emergency response effectiveness also largely depends on the preparedness and resiliency of the collective communities within a region. Different types of communities exist including, but not limited to, communities of place, interests, beliefs, and circumstances, which can exist geographically and virtually (i.e., online gatherings/forums, etc.). While multiple factors can contribute to community resilience and effective emergency management resources and outcomes, FEMA recommends three principles to establish a Whole Community Approach:

1. **Understand and meet the actual needs of the whole community.**
2. **Engage and empower all parts of the community.** Specific details about the County of San Diego OES's efforts to prepare culturally diverse communities and individuals to take action in the event of an emergency or disaster are included in the Community Outreach Engagement Strategy.
3. **Strengthen what works well in communities.** A deep understanding of the unique and diverse needs of a population (including demographics, values, norms, community structures, networks, relationships, and experiences) is crucial for emergency managers to best ascertain the population's real-life safety needs and motivation to participate in preparation and mitigation activities prior to an emergency event. A Whole Community Approach towards building community resilience requires finding ways to support and strengthen the relationships, institutions, structures, assets, and networks that already exist, work well in communities, and address issues that are important to community members. Engaging the whole community and empowering local action in this manner will best position all stakeholders to plan for/meet the actual needs of a community and strengthen local capacity/resilience to recover from threats and hazards.

This plan was developed in alignment with the Whole Community Approach through collaboration with and guidance from representatives of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), Cal OES' Office of Access and Functional Needs (OAFN), County departments/agencies, OA City departments, special districts, law enforcement, fire services, emergency management, individuals with disabilities and others with access and

functional needs, tribal governments or organizations, business and industry partners, and various other public and private stakeholders.

This plan also acknowledges the 18 federally recognized tribal reservations within the Operational Area as sovereign nations with inherent authority over their members and territory. Consistent with California Executive Order N-15-19² and Executive Order B-10-11³, the County recognizes tribal sovereignty and is committed to government-to-government consultation, coordination, and cooperation with tribal governments or organizations. The County will continue to engage tribal governments or organizations in emergency management activities that may affect their lands, citizens, cultural resources, and authorities.

Prior to finalization of the 2026 plan update, the County of San Diego OES, in collaboration with the County Communications Office (CCO) and the Office of Sustainability and Environmental Justice (OSEJ), engaged partner organizations and the public to ensure the plan reflects the needs, values, and priorities of San Diego County's diverse communities. The Engage San Diego project website, the County's digital engagement platform, offered an opportunity for participants to provide direct feedback on the plan. County OES, in collaboration with OSEJ, also delivered presentations to stakeholder and community partner meetings to introduce the update process and gather feedback on the plan. A community engagement survey was conducted by the County OES to collect additional perspectives related to emergency preparedness and response. The survey was advertised by the CCO, on the Engage San Diego project website, social media accounts, and email outreach to planning participants. A public meeting was held to highlight community feedback and how input will be used to inform updates to the plan. The public's input was incorporated into the final plan update.

INCLUSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The San Diego Operational Area is committed to achieving and fostering a Whole Community emergency management system that is fully inclusive of all individuals. Individual differences include, but are not limited to, ability, access and functional needs, age, life experience, military/veteran status, race, ethnicity, socio-economic class, marital status, parental status, gender/gender expression, sexual orientation, national origin, and religion. Through the integration of community-based organizations, service providers, government programs, tribal governments or organizations, and individuals with disabilities, and others with access and functional needs into the planning process, meaningful partnerships are developed and leveraged. These partnerships help enable the region to create, support, and sustain an inclusive emergency management system.

In the San Diego Operational Area, all programs, services, and activities provided to people during emergency events, to the maximum extent feasible, will be inclusive of all individuals. The following items are examples of inclusive service delivery and support:

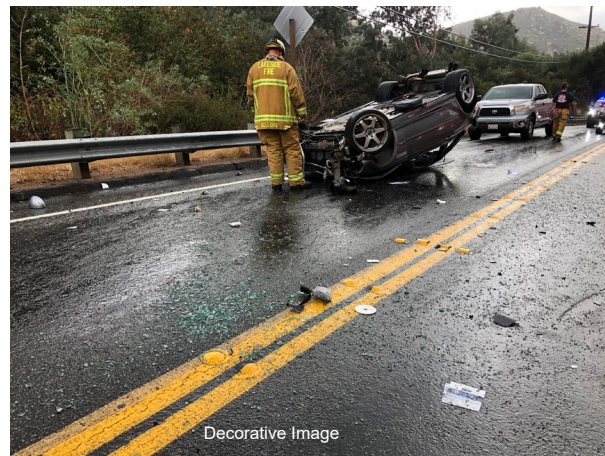
- Accessible transportation
- Assistance animals
- Dietary restrictions and needs
- Assistive equipment and services
- Accessible public messaging

² State of California, [*Executive Order N-15-19*](#), June 18, 2019

³ State of California, [*Executive Order B-10-11*](#), September 19, 2011

- Evacuation assistance
- Restoration of essential services
- Language translation and interpretation services
- Service delivery site Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 compliance

The San Diego Operational Area partners with a broad network of trusted community organizations and agencies (i.e., churches, non-profit organizations, refugee resettlement organizations) called the “Partner Relay” to accomplish inclusive practices through sharing emergency information with communities that may have limited English proficiency.



In addition to observing inclusive preparation, mitigation and response practices, the San Diego Operational Area also incorporates existing and new local, state and federal laws that govern emergency planning and response efforts. Examples of the San Diego Operational Area’s compliance with federal laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability within emergency management programs include this plan’s incorporation of:

- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1975
- Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006
- Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Fair Housing Act Amendments of 1988
- Architectural Barriers Act of 1968
- Telecommunications Act of 1996

Additionally, the San Diego Operational Area complies with California Government Code § 8593.3, which requires government agencies to integrate planning for the needs of individuals with access and functional needs into emergency operations plans. Code § 8593.3 compliance also includes planning for individuals who have:

- Developmental or intellectual disabilities
- Physical disabilities
- Chronic conditions
- Injuries
- Limited English proficiency or people who do not speak English
- Low-income,

and individuals who are:

- Older adults
- Children

- Pregnant
- Living in institutionalized settings,

and individuals who are experiencing:

- Homelessness
- Transportation disadvantaged, including, but not limited to, people who are dependent on public transit.

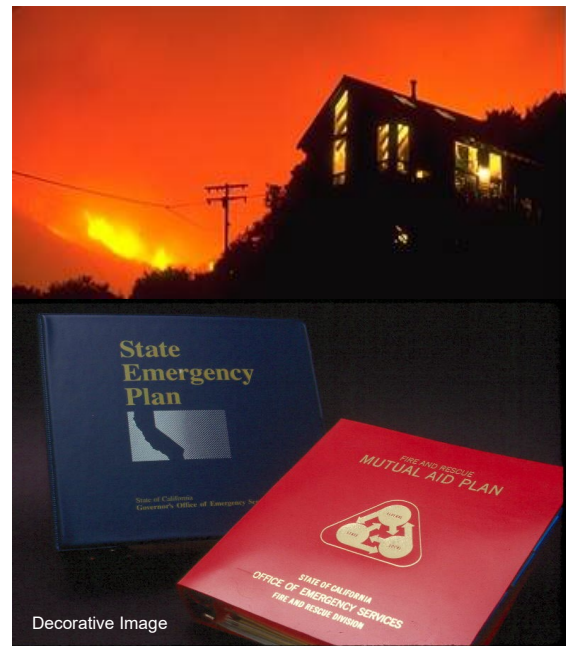
CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

It is the responsibility of government to undertake an ongoing comprehensive approach to emergency management in order to mitigate the effects of hazardous events. Local government has the primary responsibility for preparedness and response activities within its jurisdiction. When an emergency exceeds the local government's capability to respond, assistance is requested from other local jurisdictions, and State and Federal governments. In any case, incident command and response operations remain with the local jurisdiction.

All jurisdictions within the OA operate under the SEMS and NIMS. SEMS and NIMS are based on the Incident Command System (ICS) and the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS), which are management systems designed to provide a structure for response to any emergency, large or small. ICS is the basis for both SEMS and NIMS, has been in operation for about 20 years. The OA EOP is based on SEMS and NIMS and the concept that the emergency function of an agency will generally parallel its normal function. Those day-to-day activities, which do not contribute directly to the emergency operation, may need to be suspended for the duration of the emergency. Specific operational concepts, including the emergency response actions of the various agencies, are reflected in the annexes to this plan.

With their status as independent Sovereign Nations, tribal governments or organizations are not required to comply with the elements of SEMS. Tribal governments or organizations implement and manage their own emergency management systems, but may, at their discretion, adopt or utilize elements of SEMS to strengthen coordination and facilitate, when necessary, access to state-level disaster assistance programs.

Fully activated, SEMS consists of the emergency management systems of all local jurisdictions (including special districts), OAs (county-wide), Cal OES Mutual Aid Regions (two or more counties) and State Government. Local jurisdictions would be responsible for directing and/or coordinating emergency operations, with the other levels being responsible for coordinating with and/or providing support to the local jurisdictions.



Decorative Image

SEMS consists of five coordination levels, which are activated as necessary: field response, local government, operational area, region, and State.

THE FIVE SEMS ORGANIZATIONAL LEVELS

State	Statewide resource coordination integrated with federal agencies.
Regional	Manages and coordinates information and resources among operational areas.
Operational Area	Manages and/or coordinates information, resources, and priorities among all local governments within the boundary of a county.
Local	Manages and/or coordinates information, resources, and priorities within its jurisdiction.
Field	Commands on-scene information, resources, and priorities.

The State of California Emergency Plan identifies three levels of emergencies used to categorize the response. These same levels are used by the OA and are common to all functional annexes:

ACTIVATION LEVEL	CONDITIONS / DEFINITION
LEVEL 1	Catastrophic disaster which requires comprehensive state-level response and/or assistance
LEVEL 2	Large-scale disaster requiring high amount of state involvement
LEVEL 3	Small to moderate disaster / pre-planned event
Normal Operations / Monitoring	• Duty Officer Status • Steady State Operations • OES maintains situational awareness

ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The County of San Diego staff has the overall responsibility to provide an effective emergency response in the unincorporated areas of the County. The OA uses SEMS and NIMS for incident management. These emergency management systems provide not only for the on-scene management of an incident, but also for the coordination of response activities between the jurisdictions.

GENERAL

The structure of the emergency organization is based on the following principles:

- Compatibility with the structure of governmental and private organizations.
- Clear lines of authority and channels of communication.
- Simplified functional structure.
- Incorporation into the emergency organization of all available personnel resources having disaster capabilities.
- Formation of special purpose units to perform those activities peculiar to major emergencies.

A major emergency can change the working relationships between government and industry and among government agencies. For example:

- Consolidation of several departments under a single chief, even though such departments normally work independently.
- Formation of special purpose units (situation intelligence, emergency information, management, and radiological defense) to perform functions not normally required. Personnel assigned to such units may be detached from their regular employment when the units are activated.
- Formation of multiple agencies or multiple jurisdiction commands to facilitate the response to an emergency.

Changes in the emergency organization as designed may be required for an effective response to specific incidents.

COORDINATOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Coordinator of Emergency Services (Coordinator) for the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization also functions as the Vice-Chairperson of the Organization. The Coordinator is elected by the members of the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization from among the County Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), City Managers, or Chief Administrator of any participating agency.

Two additional persons may be selected from the staff of the Coordinator, or from the above group, to act as first and second alternates in the absence or inability of the Coordinator to serve, in which event such alternates shall have all the powers and authorities of the Coordinator. The second alternate shall only be empowered to exercise the powers and authorities of the Coordinator if the Coordinator and first alternate are absent or otherwise unable to serve.

LINE OF SUCCESSION

It is incumbent upon all levels of government to establish a line of succession of authority in the event that current officers are unable to carry out their responsibilities. For example, the CAO for the County is the Director of Emergency Services for the unincorporated area of the County. If the CAO is unable to serve in that capacity, and has not designated an Acting CAO, individuals who hold permanent appointments to the following positions automatically serve as Acting CAO and Director of Emergency Services in the order shown below (Ordinance 31.103). That person shall continue to serve until the CAO can resume his/her responsibilities or until the Board of Supervisors (BOS) can appoint a successor. An individual serving as Acting CAO/Director of Emergency Services has the authority and powers of the position of CAO/Director of Emergency Services.

Director of Emergency Services Line of Succession

Order of Succession	Title
First	Assistant Chief Administrative Officer (ACAO)
Second	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer of the Public Safety Group (DCAO-PSG)
Third	Director of the Office of Emergency Services

All levels of government are required to provide for the continuity of government in the event that current officials are unable to carry out their responsibilities through the use of Continuity of Government (COG) plans. The Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization has provided for a line of succession to the Coordinator of Emergency Services position on the UDC in the event of a major emergency.

SEAT OF GOVERNMENT

It is incumbent upon all levels of government to designate temporary seats of government in the event the normal location is not available. For example, the normal seat of government for the County of San Diego is located at the County Administration Center (CAC), 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, California. In the event this location is not available, the temporary seat of government will be located at the order of locations below, unless another location is specifically designated:

Order of Alternate Locations	Location	Address
First	County Operations Center (COC) Annex (Planning & Development Services [PDS])	5510 Overland Avenue San Diego, CA 92123
Second	El Cajon Regional Center	250 East Main Street El Cajon, CA 92020
Third	South Bay Regional Center	500 3rd Avenue Chula Vista, CA 91910
Fourth	Vista Regional Center	325 South Melrose Drive Vista, CA 92081

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS STRUCTURE

In this plan, emergency operations are divided into the emergency functions indicated in Figure 1 below. Specific details on functional, organizational and operational concepts, responsibilities for providing support to or accomplishing a given function, and applicable policies and procedures are provided in the annexes specified in parenthesis. The annexes also provide hazard-specific responses to be accomplished by emergency management staff and field forces.



Figure 1 identifies the agencies and private organizations responsible to the OA for the functions listed.

Basic Plan	23
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		Finance & Gen. Govt							PSG						HHSA				LUEG					CSG				External Support Agencies																
Agency Responsibilites Primary and Support Functions		Board of Supervisors	Chief Administrative Office	Assessor	Auditor and Controller	Chief Technology Office	County Counsel	Human Resources	Media & Public Relations	Public Safety Exec. Office	Office of Emergency Services	Sheriff	District Attorney	Medical Examiner	Probation	RACES	HHSA	Public Health Services	Behavioral Health Services	Emergency Medical Services	Agriculture	Enviornmental Health & Quality	Parks and Rec.	Planning & Development Services	Public Works	Veternarian	Animal Services	General Services	Housing & Comm. Dev.	Purchasing and Contracting	Air Polution Control District	Area Fire Coordinator	Cal Highway Patrol	American Red Cross	County Office of Education	Salvation Army	Humane Society	SDG&E	2-1-1 San Diego	Cal OES	County Water Authority	LECC		
FUNCTIONS/RESPONSIBILITIES																																												
PLANNING/INTELLIGENCE																																												
Section Chief										S	P				S																													
WebEOC											P				S																													
Situation Status										S	P				S	S							S	S							S													
EOC Action Plan										S	P																																	
Documentation										S	P				S																													
Technical Specialist																					S	S				S					S									S		S		
Alert/Warning									S		P	P																				S										S		
Data			P														P																S											
GIS											S														P	S																		
Advanced Planning										S	P				S																										S			
LOGISTICS																																												
Section Chief																												S		P														
Supply																											S		P															
Transportation												S																P							S									
Facilities																												P		S														
Personnel								P																																				
EOC Support								P									S					S																						
Security															P																													
Communications										S	S	P				S																												
Information Technology						P																																						
Volunteer Coordination								S																																	P			
Donations Management																																			S		P			S				
FINANCE/ADMIN																																												
Section Chief										P	S																																	
Time Unit										S	P																																	
Cost Accounting						P				S	P																																	
Administrative Purchasing Unit										S	P																																	
RECOVERY																																												
Recovery Coordinator											P															S																		
Damage Assessment				S							S													P								S		S	S			S			S			

ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES



The Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization consists of the County and the 18 cities within the OA. It was established in 1961 by signed agreement. The Agreement provides for “preparing mutual plans for the preservation of life and property, making provision for the execution of these plans in the event of a local emergency, state of emergency, and to provide for mutual assistance in the event of such emergencies”. It also calls upon the County to provide health and medical services, traffic control, public information, and radiological safety, in addition to services provided by the Office of the County Medical Examiner.

The UDC is the governing body of the Unified Organization and is empowered to review and approve emergency mutual aid plans and agreements, disaster preparedness plans, and such ordinances, resolutions, rules and regulations as are necessary to implement them.

The BOS is the governing body of the County and sets policy regarding disaster-related matters within the unincorporated areas of the County. The Chair of the Board also serves as Chair of the UDC.

The CAO is the **Director of Emergency Services** in an incident involving only the unincorporated area of the OA.

- If elected by the UDC the CAO will also serve as the **Coordinator of Emergency Services** in an incident involving the unincorporated area and one or more cities, or an incident involving any two or more cities.

OES is the lead agency in the OA emergency response effort and serves as staff to the Coordinator of Emergency Services, as well as to the UDC and its members.

Other County departments and agencies have emergency responsibilities, as identified in Figure 1. These agencies and departments are also responsible for developing and maintaining Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plans designating alternate sites from which to operate.

FUNCTIONAL ANNEXES

Detailed responsibilities of all agencies and private organizations are provided in annexes of this plan:

Emergency Management (Annex A)

The Emergency Management Annex describes how emergencies will be managed within the OA by providing a basis for centralized control, coordination, and direction of emergency operations. This annex also describes the organization and operation of the OA EOC including functional responsibilities under SEMS and NIMS.



An effective, functional EOC is the key to successful emergency response and recovery operations. During emergencies, centralized management is needed to enable a coordinated response by decision makers, emergency service personnel, and representatives from organizations with emergency responsibilities. These individuals will collocate in the OA EOC to coordinate response activities, avoid duplication of effort, and effectively utilize resources.

Individuals in the OA EOC will be responsible for: receipt and dissemination of alerts and warnings, management of emergency operations, collection and analysis of damage information, provision of emergency information and instructions to the public, and maintenance of communication to support EOCs of neighboring jurisdictions and special districts.

Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Operations (Annex B)

The Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Operations Annex is designed to meet the anticipated needs of local agencies within pre-designated response zones, to access resources of adjacent agencies within the operational area, and to access the resources of other jurisdictions within Region VI or beyond, if necessary, to meet the needs of emergency incidents.

This annex pertains to all Fire Departments, Fire Protection Districts and other agencies with fire responsibilities. In San Diego County, The North County Dispatch JPA is the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator. The responsibilities of the primary and supporting agencies of this annex include fire protection and suppression, coordination of rescue operations, search and rescue, medical treatment and response, evacuation assistance, hazardous materials response, and in some cases management of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).



Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Operations (Annex C)

The Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Operations Annex establishes organizational responsibilities and general procedures for the local law enforcement organizations and supporting agencies during natural and human-caused disasters. Law enforcement agencies seek to preserve and protect life and property and to maintain law and order.

The Sheriff's Department is the Operational Area Law Enforcement Coordinator and as such is the lead agency responsible for executing this annex. All agencies supporting this function are responsible for maintaining law and order through enforcement of laws, rules, and regulations, conducting evacuations, establishing evacuation routes, providing aerial surveillance and intelligence, assisting with light rescue and medical response, and managing communications systems. Supporting agencies may also include California Highway Patrol (CHP), the County of San Diego Probation Department and/or the District Attorney's Office, and the local jurisdiction law enforcement agencies.



Mass Casualty Incident Operations (Annex D)

The Mass-Casualty Incident Operations Annex describes the basic concepts, policies, and procedures for providing a coordinated medical care response to any mass casualty incident. This annex establishes a disaster medical system and outlines responsibilities and actions required for the effective operation of the medical response to disasters.

This annex serves as the unifying document for the emergency plans of local hospitals, cities, and emergency service agencies. The Emergency Services Agreement, between and among the County of San Diego and the Cities in the OA, provides for a county-wide medical emergency services program.



The main agencies responsible for executing this function are the Health and Human Services Agency (HHS), Public Health Services, Public Health Preparedness and Response Branch (PHPR), Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division, and local fire and law enforcement agencies. These agencies are responsible for the coordination of medical response and resources within the jurisdiction, medical mutual aid, and medical registration and records. Supporting agencies may also include hospitals, community and private medical personnel, ambulance providers, public safety agencies, military medical personnel, and the American Red Cross (ARC).

Public Health Operations (Annex E)

The Public Health Operations Annex describes the basic concepts, policies, and procedures for providing public health services in the event of any major emergency or disaster. These public health services are provided under the coordination of HHS Public Health Services (PHS). This annex serves as the unifying public health document for the OA, as authorized by the Emergency Services Agreement.



HHS-PHS will coordinate public health response and resources, determine/identify public health hazards, including hazardous materials, and provide response. HHS-PHS may also establish standards for control of health hazards, provide technical guidance, advise the public about health hazards and provide Public Health Nurses as needed.

The overall goal of the public health operation is to minimize the loss of life and human suffering, prevent disease and promote optimum health for the population by controlling public health factors that affect human health and by providing leadership and guidance in all emergency/disaster public health-related activities. HHS-PHS will accomplish this goal for all jurisdictions and special districts within the OA through joint operations at the OA EOC and the PH Departmental Operations Center (DOC), commonly known as the Medical Operations Center [MOC].

Department of the Chief Medical Examiner Operations (Annex F)

The Medical Examiner Operations Annex establishes organizational responsibilities, policies, and procedures for the operation of the Department of the Chief Medical Examiner during extraordinary emergencies involving multiple deaths particularly following major natural disasters, technological incidents, terrorist attacks, or a nuclear incident.

The Medical Examiner will provide this function for all jurisdictions and special districts within the OA, and this function will be accomplished from the OA EOC.

The Medical Examiner and supporting staff are responsible for recovering, identifying, coordinating disposition of the deceased, and collecting and preserving decedent property.

The Medical Examiner will also serve as the ex-officio Public Administrator, register deaths, prepare and coordinate lists of the deceased, maintain necessary records, assist with reunification and family assistance centers, inform law enforcement, health, public agencies, and the media. Support staff may include Medical Examiner employees, the Public Administrator, Coroner mutual aid, morticians and public safety agencies.



Mass Care and Shelter Operations (Annex G)

The Care and Shelter Operations Annex is specifically designed to address the need for temporary shelter during large scale emergencies and/or major disasters. This annex describes care and shelter operations within San Diego County while defining the collective and individual responsibilities of San Diego County and/or city governments and non-governmental agencies responding to or acting in support of mass care and shelter operations.



The County of San Diego HHSA is the lead agency responsible for providing mass care, and may be supported by the San Diego and Imperial Counties Chapter of the American Red Cross (ARC), County of San Diego, local governments and/or faith-based organizations. Care and shelter operations are coordinated at the OA EOC and may include coordinating and providing food, shelter, medications, medical assistive equipment, crisis counseling, and other basic disaster caused needs. Additional services include reunification of separated families both inside and outside of the affected area.

Environmental Health Operations (Annex H)

The Environmental Health Operations Annex describes the basic concepts, policies, and procedures for providing environmental health services in the event of a disaster. This annex serves as the unifying environmental health document for the County of San Diego and the Cities within the OA as authorized by the Emergency Services Agreement.

The County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health (DEH) is the lead agency



responsible for executing this annex. This annex assists DEH with establishing emergency environmental health operations, assigning responsibilities, and providing actions and responses to environmental health problems associated with disasters.

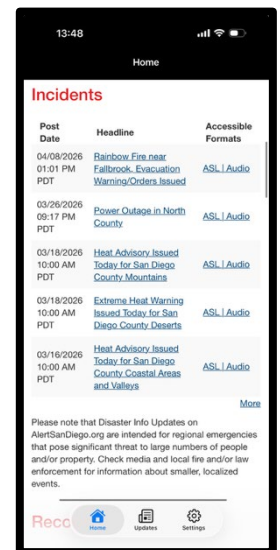
DEH will coordinate this function from within their Departmental Operations Center (DOC), coordinating closely with the OA EOC. Responsibilities include coordinating inspections for purity and usability of consumables, developing and supervising methods and procedures for vector and rodent control, conducting environmental surveys to determine risks and hazards, and identifying hazardous materials released.

Communications and Warning Systems (Annex I)

The Communications and Warning Systems Annex is designed to address the communications systems and the alert and warning systems that are currently in place in the OA.

This annex will assist Regional Communications System (RCS) staff in effectively managing 24-hour interoperable communications systems, including determining and maintaining appropriate systems available for emergency alert and warning.

These systems will ensure all responding agencies within the OA have effective internal communications capabilities to support response operations and the ability to provide warning alerts to the population impacted or at risk as the result of an emergency.



Construction and Engineering Operations (Annex J)

The Construction and Engineering Operations Annex identifies the implementation procedures for construction and engineering mutual aid and other support. This annex describes the basic concepts in coordinating and organizing the capabilities and resources of local government to facilitate the delivery of services, technical assistance, engineering expertise, construction management, and other support to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and/or recover from an incident of extreme significance.



The Department of Public Works (DPW) is the lead agency responsible for executing construction and engineering activities during an emergency. Such activities include pre and post-incident assessment of public works and infrastructure, executing emergency contract support for life-saving and life sustaining services, providing technical assistance to include engineering expertise, construction management, and contracting and real estate services. Other tasks include providing supervision for the repair, modification, and/or construction of emergency facilities and housing, inspecting damaged structures, performing field damage assessments, and restoring, maintaining and operating essential services, such as roads, sewers, drainage and water systems. Supporting agencies include California Department of Transportation (Cal Trans), San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E), and the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA).

Logistics (Annex K)

The Logistics Annex introduces the basic concepts, policies, and procedures for providing and/or coordinating the provision of services, personnel, equipment, and supplies to support operations associated with natural disasters and technological perils and incidents within the OA. This annex describes the governmental organizations responsible for providing such logistics (facilities, supply/procurement, personnel, transportation, equipment, and utilities) and the elements of the private sector that normally offer commodities and services.



The County of San Diego Department of Purchasing and Contracting will be the lead for logistics and resource management and are responsible for maintaining an inventory of sources and providing for procurement and allocation of resources. Additional responsibilities may include assisting with coordination of OA transportation, providing a system which gives authorized staff emergency buying power and procurement of supplies, equipment, personnel and services from public and/or private sources.

Emergency Public Information (Annex L)

The Emergency Public Information Annex is designed to provide a framework for the most efficient, accurate, and complete dissemination of information to the public. This annex provides guidance for the conduct and coordination of public information activities and establishes a mutual understanding of responsibilities, functions, and operations.



The County of San Diego Communications Office is the lead department responsible for executing this function. Responsibilities include all aspects of public notification including the activation and operation of a Joint Information System (JIS) and the OA Joint Information Center (JIC). Personnel staffing the JIC will schedule regular briefings for news media, write and distribute press releases, coordinate media interviews with local officials, maintain liaisons with State and Federal Public Information Officers (PIOs) and/or any other public information operations that are activated, monitor and coordinate the County's social media presence, and coordinate with 2-1-1 San Diego for public inquiry. All of these activities will be coordinated with local jurisdictions.

Behavioral Health Operations (Annex M)

The Behavioral Health Annex describes the basic concepts, policies, and procedures for providing a coordinated behavioral health response to any disaster. This annex serves as the unifying behavioral health document for the County of San Diego and the jurisdictions within the OA, as authorized by the Emergency Services Agreement.

Behavioral Health Services (BHS) is the lead agency responsible for the execution of this annex and for



providing emergency behavioral health intervention services, behavioral health counseling support to shelters, and Local Assistance Centers (LACs) and EOCs. This annex will help BHS establish a disaster behavioral health response system and define responsibilities and actions required to ensure an efficient and effective use of behavioral health resources during a disaster.

Animal Services (Annex O)

The Animal Services Annex describes the basic concepts, policies, and procedures for providing a coordinated animal services response to any disaster. This annex serves as the unifying document for the emergency plans of the County, cities, and animal care and humane agencies.

The County of San Diego Department of Animal Services (DAS) is the lead agency responsible for executing this function. This annex establishes organizational responsibilities and general policies and procedures for the care and management of animals during natural and human-caused disasters.



DAS will ensure the coordination of evacuating endangered animals, establishing temporary holding facilities, provision of care for injured animals and the animals return to its owners. Additional responsibilities include the disposition of unclaimed, infirm, or dead animals, and providing liaison with wildlife, ecological, and conservation groups. Supporting agencies for this function may include the County Animal Response Team (CART), Humane Societies and other animal related groups.

Intentional Mass Casualty Incident (Annex P)

The San Diego County Regional Protocol for Intentional Mass Casualty Incidents (IMCI) describes the countywide collective initial actions that will be taken to prevent or mitigate the effects of a threatened or actual IMCI against any jurisdiction within the county. The protocol defines IMCIs as any deliberate act intended to cause mass casualties, regardless of the tools used or the motive behind the attack. IMCIs may involve firearms, vehicles, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), or other methods intended to inflict mass harm. The Law Enforcement Coordination Center (LECC) will coordinate with County OES as the lead agencies in executing this annex, and the Federal Bureau of Investigations will play a large role in supporting and/or leading any investigations related to an IMCI.



Evacuation and Repopulation (Annex Q)

The Evacuation and Repopulation Annex outlines strategies, procedures, recommendations, and organizational structures that can be used to implement a coordinated evacuation effort in the OA. This annex may be used as a template for the development of other jurisdictional evacuation plans and will support or supplement the evacuation plans prepared and maintained by each local jurisdiction.

This annex also provides hazard specific considerations, general evacuation transportation routes, resources available locally and through mutual aid, and access and functional needs considerations.



DIRECTION, CONTROL, OR COORDINATION

The Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization and OA EOP provides structures, based upon SEMS and NIMS, for implementing county-level policy and operational coordination for domestic incident response. It can be partially or fully implemented in response to a potential/actual threat, in anticipation of a significant event, or in response to an incident. Selective implementation allows for a scaled response, delivery of the exact resources needed and a level of coordination appropriate to each incident.

LOCAL RESPONSE STRUCTURE

All incidents will be managed at the lowest possible level. Responders use ICS to manage response operations. Local jurisdictions will exhaust their resources and enact their established mutual aid before requesting support from the OA.

OPERATIONAL AREA (OA) EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC)



The decision to activate the OA EOC will be made by the Director of OES, when there is an incident involving the unincorporated area, an incident involving the unincorporated area and one or more cities, or an incident involving two or more cities.

The decision to activate the OA EOC may come upon receiving a request from an Incident Commander who determines that additional resources or capabilities are needed for incident response.

The OA EOC will help form a common operational picture of the incident, assist on-scene command with the burden of external coordination, and the securing of additional resources. Core functions of the OA EOC include coordination, communications, resource allocation and tracking, and information collection, analysis, and dissemination. To accomplish this, the OA EOC will be activated and staffed to the appropriate level necessary for the response.

The OA EOC is organized into five sections, each responsible for carrying out a different aspect of the response. **The OA EOC General Staff normally consists of an Operations Section Chief, Planning/Intelligence Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and a Finance/Administration Section Chief.**

- **The Management Section** is responsible for overall management of the OA EOC. The Management Section is responsible for coordinating the overall response/recovery effort (prioritizing, decision-making, coordination, tasking, and conflict resolution).
- **The Operations Section** is responsible for coordinating all incident related strategic operations as directed by the Management Section. The Operations Section coordinates priority missions with the Branch Coordinators and ensures resource deployment is consistent with the OA objectives.
- **The Planning/Intelligence Section** is responsible for collecting, analyzing, and displaying incident related information, providing the Common Operational Picture. The Planning/Intelligence Section then prepares and distributes situation status reports and OA EOC Action Plans, based on field operations input and guidance from the OA EOC Director and General Staff.
- **The Logistics Section** is responsible for providing communications services, resource tracking, and procuring the equipment, supplies, personnel, transportation, and facilities needed to support the response.
- **The Finance/Administration Section** is responsible for ensuring all financial records are maintained and tracking all costs associated with the incident, to include cost recovery.

ON-SCENE COMMAND AND MANAGEMENT

Working at the site of an incident, an Incident Commander will be responsible for all response activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and release of resources.

The Incident Commander has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site. When multiple command authorities are involved, the incident may be led by a unified command comprised of officials who have jurisdictional authority or functional responsibility for the incident under an appropriate law, ordinance, or agreement. The unified command provides direct, on-scene control of tactical operations.

At the tactical level, on-scene incident command and management organization are located at an Incident Command Post (ICP), which is typically comprised of local and mutual aid responders. When an incident impacts sovereign tribal lands, the designated Tribal Emergency Manager, Public Safety Official, or authorized representative from Tribal Law Enforcement or Fire Department shall be fully integrated into the unified command structure at the ICP.

INFORMATION COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION



The OA EOC will serve as the hub for information collection, analysis, and dissemination of information relating to the incident or event. The Info/Intel section within the OA EOC plays a large role in the collection, analysis, and dissemination of information. Information gathered by on scene responders, communications centers and dispatch centers, the media, and the public in general will be analyzed by stakeholders, departments, agencies, and organizations and then verified.

Information needing to be disseminated to responders will be shared via the on-scene incident command staff. Information needing to be disseminated to the public will be shared via the JIC. Available media outlets will be utilized by the JIC to get necessary information to the public as soon as possible. Various social media channels will be utilized to share relevant and verified information with the public as well.

Periodic EOC briefings will be held to update agencies, departments, organizations, and entities of the current status of the incident, event, or disaster. The briefings will take place as often as necessary, determined by the EOC Director. Briefings should occur at least once per shift, with the understanding that the schedule may be adjusted to suit the needs of the situation.

Information needing to be shared with other levels of government, other agencies and departments outside the county, and the private sector will be shared as necessary to ensure public safety, economic integrity, and effective resources for response and recovery.

COMMUNICATIONS



Communication will be coordinated between the OA EOC and all responding supporting agencies through various forms of communications devices, channels and methods. If the OA EOC is activated, all incident related information, updates, resource requests, etc. should be shared via WebEOC in addition to any other chosen communication methods.

Communication should be a two-way flow (both top down and bottom up) through the established ICS structure. All communications should use plain language and avoid acronyms.

Information will be communicated from the field to the OA EOC. The Policy Group in the OA EOC will make priority decisions and provide guidance and direction to the OA EOC General Staff, who will coordinate the management of the incident per the direction of the Policy

Group. The OA EOC serves as the hub of information for the incident and will communicate necessary information and response actions to the field.

Emergency management communications between the OA EOC, County departmental and jurisdictional EOCs, and incident command posts within the OA are conducted using a mix of systems and technologies which are explained in more detail in Annex I: Communications and Warning Systems. Other County plans that describe communications procedures in detail include the San Diego Urban Area Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TIC-P), 2-1-1 Activation Plan, Emergency Public Information Plan, and the Alert San Diego/Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) Messaging Plan.

ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, AND LOGISTICS

Under SEMS, special districts are considered local governments. As such, they are included in the emergency planning efforts throughout the OA. The OA Emergency Organization, in accordance with SEMS, supports and is supported by:

- Cities within the Operational Area
- The County of San Diego
- Special districts
- Other counties
- The State of California
- The Federal Government

NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable Federal, State, local, and tribal governments and private-sector and nongovernmental organizations to work together effectively. NIMS also enables these entities to efficiently prepare for, prevent, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity, including acts of catastrophic terrorism.

Mutual aid, including personnel, supplies, and equipment, is provided in accordance with the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement, and other local Mutual Aid Agreements. More information about mutual aid is contained in individual annexes, appendices and attachments within this Plan.

The private sector is an important part of the emergency organization. Business and industry own or have access to substantial response and support resources, including functional needs support services (FNSS). Community Based Organizations (CBOs) or Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) provide valuable resources before, during, and after a disaster. These resources can be effective assets at any level.

There are some City and County personnel who do not have specific task assignments. They are automatically designated by State Law as Disaster Service Workers (DSWs) during a disaster and serve in the response effort.

- “All public employees and all registered volunteers of a jurisdiction having an accredited disaster council are Disaster Service Workers,” per Government Code Title I, Division 4, Chapter 8, and Labor Code, Part I, Division 4, Chapters 1 and 10.
- The term public employees include all persons employed by the State, or any County, City or public district.

- Other personnel including volunteers can be registered by OES as DSWs, which provides Workers Compensation and liability coverage.

It is imperative that local government maintain duplicate records of all information necessary for restoration of normal operations. This process of record retention involves offsite storage of vital data that can be readily accessible.

Vital records of the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization are routinely stored electronically with OES. All Information Technology Services are managed by the County Technology Office (CTO).

PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

OES is subject to coordinate the maintenance and updates of the OA EOP every four years. The Basic Plan and each Annex is written and updated by the appropriate department or agency (i.e., law enforcement personnel develop the law enforcement annex).

The Unified Disaster Council (UDC) reviews the plan, provides feedback, and approves revisions. Upon completion of their review, the UDC will recommend that the OA EOP be approved by the UDC. The objective of any Emergency Management Organization is efficient and timely response during emergencies. The OA EOP is the first step toward that objective. However, planning alone will not accomplish preparedness. Training and exercising are essential at all levels of government to make emergency operations personnel operationally ready. The OA EOP and its annexes will be subject to testing, training, and exercises. The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) is a capabilities and performance-based exercise program that provides a standardized methodology and terminology for exercise design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning. Recognizing this, the signatories to this plan agree to participate in scheduled HSEEP exercises. The date and type of exercises will be identified in the annual work plan of the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization.



AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

- Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization, Fifth Amended Emergency Services Agreement, 2005
- County of San Diego Emergency Services Ordinance No. 8183, dated Dec. 15, 1992
- County of San Diego Resolution adopting the California Master Mutual Agreement, dated December 11, 1950
- California Emergency Services Act, Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code
- California State Emergency Plan (2023) and sub-plans

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- Article 9, Emergency Services, Section 8605 of the Government Code, Operational Areas
 - Petris (SEMS) SB 1841 Chapter 1069 - Amendments to the Government Code, Article 7, California Emergency Services Act
 - California Master Mutual Aid Agreement
 - California Fire and Rescue Emergency Plan
 - Incident Command System, Field Operations Guide, ICS 420-1
 - San Diego County Mutual Aid Agreement for Fire Departments
 - San Diego County Animal Control Mutual Aid Agreement
 - California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan
 - California Coroners Mutual Aid Plan
 - Public Works Mutual Aid Plan
 - San Diego County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Base Plan, February 2023
 - San Diego Urban Area Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan, February 2006
 - Operational Area Post-Terrorism Mass Violence Recovery Annex, October 2017
 - Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization Resolution adopting the National Incident Management System updated October 2017
 - Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101 Version 3.1, May 2025
 - Guidance on Planning for Integration of Functional Needs Support Services in General Population Shelter, November 2010
 - Public Law 288, 93rd Congress, Disaster Relief Act of 1974
 - Public Law 920, 81st Congress, Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950
 - A Whole Community Approach to Emergency Management: Principles, Themes and Pathways for Action, December 2011
 - California Government Code 8593.3 (2024) – Accessibility to Emergency Information and Services
 - Telecommunications Act of 1996
 - Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2, 2023

All authorities and references listed apply to the Basic Plan and all of the corresponding Annexes. They are on file at OES or available online. Agreements with voluntary organizations and other governmental and private organizations are also on file.

ATTACHMENT 1 – GLOSSARY AND DEFINITIONS

ABBREVIATIONS, ACRONYMS, AND DEFINITIONS

Note: These abbreviations and definitions will assist in the understanding of terms and acronyms used in this plan, as well as some other terms used in emergency management.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Access and Functional Needs	AFN	Per California Government Code § 8593.3, access and functional needs populations include individuals who have developmental or intellectual disabilities, physical disabilities, chronic conditions, injuries, limited English proficiency or who are non-English speaking, older adults, children, people living in institutionalized settings, or those who are low income, homeless, or transportation disadvantaged, including, but not limited to, those who are dependent on public transit or those who are pregnant.
Accessible AlertSanDiego		Accessible AlertSanDiego provides emergency management the capability of alerting and informing residents of San Diego County who are deaf, blind, hard of hearing, and deaf/blind before, during, and after a disaster. Accessible AlertSanDiego sends accessible alerts and information to internet and video capable devices, such as computers, cell phones, mobile devices, tablet computers, and wireless Braille readers. These alerts are offered in American Sign Language (ASL) with English voice and text.
Activities of Daily Living	ADL	Activities of daily living (ADLs) is a term used in healthcare to refer to daily self-care activities within an individual's place of residence, in outdoor environments, or both.
Administrative Services Organization	ASO	An organization that provides outsourced solutions to meet the administrative and HR needs of the client with the client retaining all employment-related risks and liabilities.
Advanced Life Support	ALS	A set of life-saving protocols and skills that extend Basic Life Support to further support the circulation and provide an open airway and adequate ventilation (breathing).
Aerial Support to Regional Enforcement Agencies (Sheriff's Helicopters)	ASTREA	Airborne function of the San Diego Sheriff's Department whose mission is to provide enhanced public and officer safety by providing effective law enforcement, search and rescue, fire suppression, and emergency service air support to public safety agencies throughout San Diego County.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Aging and Independent Services	AIS	County of San Diego Department that provides services to older adults, people with disabilities and their family members, to help keep clients safely in their homes, promote healthy and vital living, and publicize positive contributions made by older adults and persons with disabilities.
Air Pollution Control District	APCD	The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District strives to protect the public from the harmful effects of air pollution, achieve and maintain air quality standards, foster community involvement and develop and implement cost-effective programs meeting state and federal mandates, considering environmental and economic impacts.
AlertSanDiego	ASD	Regional notification system that sends telephone notifications to residents and businesses within San Diego County impacted by, or in danger of being impacted by, an emergency or disaster. This system is used by emergency response personnel to notify those homes and businesses at risk with information on the event and/or actions (such as evacuation) they are asked to take.
Alternate Care Site	ACS	An alternate care site is a site where “medical needs” sheltering, urgent care services and select traditional inpatient services are not usually provided but which is deliberately repurposed for provision of such services during select disasters. May be established at sites where no medical care is usually provided or at medical facilities where the usual scope of medical services does not include large-scale urgent care or traditional inpatient services. Most will be selected from existing sites of convenience, although temporary structures may be erected by responding partners such as the federal government. They are typically only to be established during emergencies or anticipated high-risk events
Amateur Radio Emergency Service	ARES	ARES is a group of Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) members who provide health and welfare communications in times of emergency. Affiliated locally with the American Red Cross, all area hospitals and the Emergency Medical Services Division of the County Health Department.
American Association of Blood Banks	AABB	An international, not-for-profit association representing individuals and institutions involved in the field of transfusion medicine and cellular therapies. The association is committed to improving health by developing and delivering standards, accreditation and educational programs that focus on optimizing patient and donor care and safety.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
American Red Cross	ARC	San Diego Chapter of the international organization that cares for the wounded, sick, and homeless in wartime, according to the terms of the Geneva Convention of 1864, and now also during and following natural disasters.
Americans with Disabilities Act	ADA	Signed into law under President George H W Bush in 1990. It applies to all private and state-run businesses, employment agencies and unions with more than 15 employees. The goal of the ADA is to make sure that no qualified person with any kind of disability is turned down for a job or promotion or refused entry to a public-access area.
Animal Rescue Reserve	ARR	The San Diego Humane Society's Animal Rescue Reserve (ARR) is a team of highly trained volunteers dedicated to assisting people during disasters, by safely evacuating horses, livestock and household pets. ARR is a program of the Investigations Department and also works throughout San Diego County to rescue domestic animals or livestock that are trapped and cannot free themselves. ARR provides these services free of charge.
Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator	AFC	The Operational Area Fire Coordinator is responsible for coordinating Mutual Aid requests and assignments. They are able to request strike teams and other resources from fire departments within the Operational Area and fire departments throughout the State of California
Assistant Chief Administrative Officer	ACAO	The second-highest ranking executive for the County of San Diego who supports the CAO to implement the Board of Supervisor's policies.
Basic Life Support	BLS	Basic life support (BLS) is the level of medical care which is used for victims of life-threatening illnesses or injuries until they can be given full medical care at a hospital. It can be provided by trained medical personnel, including emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and by laypersons who have received BLS training. BLS is generally used in the pre-hospital setting and can be provided without medical equipment.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Behavioral Health Services	BHS	County of San Diego Behavioral Health Services Department provides a continuum of mental health and alcohol and other drug services for children, youth, families, adults, and older adults. It promotes recovery and well-being through prevention, treatment, and intervention, as well as integrated services for clients experiencing co-occurring mental illness and alcohol and drug issues. The Behavioral Health Services Department provides services under two systems of care: Adult/Older Adult Services and Children, Youth, and Family Services.
Board of Supervisors	BOS	Governing body of the County of San Diego.
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	CAL FIRE	Fire protection and stewardship of over 31 million acres of California's privately-owned wildlands. In addition, the Department provides varied emergency services in 36 of the State's 58 counties via contracts with local governments.
California Department of Transportation	Caltrans	Caltrans manages more than 50,000 miles of California's highway and freeway lanes, provides inter-city rail services, permits more than 400 public-use airports and special-use hospital heliports, and works with local agencies. Caltrans carries out its mission of improving mobility across California with six primary programs: Aeronautics, Highway Transportation, Mass Transportation, Transportation Planning, Administration and the Equipment Service Center.
California Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council	CEPEC	The California Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council (CEPEC) is a committee of earthquake experts that reviews potentially credible earthquake predictions and forecasts. Its purpose is to advise the Governor of California via the California Office of Emergency Services.
California Emergency Medical Services Authority	EMSA	The EMS Authority is charged with providing leadership in developing and implementing EMS systems throughout California and setting standards for the training and scope of practice of various levels of EMS personnel. The EMS Authority also has responsibility for promoting disaster medical preparedness throughout the state, and, when required, coordinating and supporting the state's medical response to major disasters.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
California Fire Assistance Agreement	CFAA	Agreement For Local Government Fire And Emergency Assistance To The State Of California And Federal Fire Agencies Between State Of California, California Office of Emergency Services; State Of California, Department Of Forestry And Fire Protection; USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region; USDI Bureau Of Land Management, California State Office; USDI National Park Service, Pacific West Region; USDI Fish And Wildlife Service, Pacific Southwest Region; And USDI Bureau Of Indian Affairs, Pacific Region.
California Geological Survey	CGS	CGS is dedicated to the fulfillment of its mission to provide scientific products and services about the state's geology, seismology and mineral resources that affect the health, safety, and business interests of the people of California.
California Health Alert Network	CAHAN	CAHAN San Diego is a communications system for the Health and Human Services Agency, Public Health Services, hospitals, clinics, emergency rooms, laboratories, law enforcement, fire service, EMS, volunteer and other health agencies.
California Integrated Seismic Network	CISN	The California Integrated Seismic Network (CISN) is a partnership among federal, state, and university agencies involved in California earthquake monitoring. The CISN is dedicated to serve the emergency response, engineering, and scientific communities.
California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Radio System	CLEMARS	The California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Radio System (CLEMARS) is provided and managed by the California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA). CLEMARS enhances the ability of law enforcement agencies to communicate on common frequencies during emergencies and other special operations.
California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System	CLETS	CLETS provides law enforcement and criminal justice agencies access to various data bases and the ability to transmit and receive point-to-point administrative messages to other agencies within California.
California National Guard	CNG	The California Military Department is a diverse, community-based organization comprised of four pillars: the California Army National Guard, the California Air National Guard, the California State Military Reserve and the California Youth and Community Programs; committed to improving, preparing and protecting our communities, state and nation.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
California Public Utilities Commission	CPUC	The CPUC regulates privately owned electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water, railroad, rail transit, and passenger transportation companies. The CPUC serves the public interest by protecting consumers and ensuring the provision of safe, reliable utility service and infrastructure at reasonable rates, with a commitment to environmental enhancement and a healthy California economy. The CPUC regulates utility services, stimulate innovation, and promote competitive markets, where possible.
California State Warning Center	CSWC	The mission of the CSWC is to be the central information hub for statewide emergency communications and notifications. The CSWC is staffed with Emergency Notification Controllers, Emergency Services Coordinators and Program Managers. The CSWC serves as a highly reliable and accurate “one-stop” resource for emergency management, law enforcement, and key decision-making personnel throughout the state.
California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network	CALWARN	The mission of the California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (CaWARN) is to support and promote statewide emergency preparedness, disaster response, and mutual assistance processes for public and private water and wastewater utilities.
Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive Defense	CBRNE	Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear or explosive defense (CBRN defense or CBRNE defense) is protective measures taken in situations in which chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear warfare (including terrorism) hazards may be present
Chief Administrative Officer	CAO	Responsible for administrative management of private, public, or governmental corporations.
Cities Readiness Initiative	CRI	CDC’s Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) is a federally funded program designed to enhance preparedness in the nation’s major metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) where more than 57% of the U.S. population resides. Through CRI, state and large metropolitan public health departments have developed plans to quickly receive and distribute medicine and medical supplies from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) to local communities following a large-scale public health emergency.
Communications Unit Leader	COML	The Communications Unit Leader (COML) heads the Communications Unit and is responsible for integrating communications and ensuring that operations are supported by communications. The COML must understand ICS and local response systems to support the efforts of Incident personnel.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Community Based Organizations	CBOs	Community based organizations are civil society non-profits that operate within a single local community. They are essentially a subset of the wider group of nonprofits. Like other nonprofits they are often run on a voluntary basis and are self-funded.
Community Emergency Response Teams	CERT	A community-level program administered by FEMA that trains the public to understand their responsibility in preparing for disaster. The program increases its members' ability to safely help themselves, their family, and their neighbors. If activated, trained CERT volunteers provide immediate assistance to victims in their area.
Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101	CPG 101	A guide designed to assist jurisdictions with developing emergency operations plans. It promotes a common understanding of the fundamentals of planning and decision-making to help emergency planners examine a hazard and produce integrated, coordinated, and synchronized plans.
Coordinate/Coordination		To advance systematically an analysis and exchange of information among principals who have or may have a need to know certain information to carry out specific incident management responsibilities.
Coordinator of Emergency Services		The County of San Diego CAO serves in this role for incidents involving two or more jurisdictions in the OA. In this role, the CAO. Through, the OA EOC provides resource support and coordination to the affected jurisdictions.
County Administration Center	CAC	Headquarters of the County of San Diego.
County Operations Center	COC	County location that houses a large amount of County departments.
Department of Planning & Development Services	PDS	County department responsible for long range land use planning, including the County General Plan and Zoning Ordinance, which determine how our communities will grow. The department analyzes privately initiated land use projects to ensure compliance with land use regulations and advises the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission on the projects. Department programs such as Building Permit review and inspection and Code Compliance help maintain public health and safety.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Department of Public Works	DPW	County department responsible for: County-maintained roads; traffic engineering; land development civil engineering review; design engineering and construction management; land surveying and map processing; cartographic services; watershed quality and flood protection; County Airports; solid waste planning and diversion; inactive landfills; wastewater systems management; and special districts.
Department Operations Center	DOC	Location for County/City departments to conduct emergency management operations in support of an incident. The DOC serves the same function as the EOC, but these tasks are in support of the specific department which the DOC belongs to.
Direction		The act of providing directives for incident response. Direction includes the implementation of response actions.
Director of Emergency Services		In this role, the CAO directs emergency response actions for an incident only involving the unincorporated area of the county.
Disaster Medical Assistance Teams	DMAT	A DMAT is a group of professional and para-professional medical personnel (supported by a cadre of logistical and administrative staff) designed to provide medical care during a disaster or other event. DMATs are designed to be a rapid-response element to supplement local medical care until other Federal or contract resources can be mobilized, or the situation is resolved. DMATs deploy to disaster sites with sufficient supplies and equipment to sustain themselves for a period of 72 hours while providing medical care at a fixed or temporary medical care site. The personnel are activated for a period of two weeks. In mass casualty incidents, their responsibilities may include triaging patients, providing high-quality medical care despite the adverse and austere environment often found at a disaster site, patient reception at staging facilities and preparing patients for evacuation.
Disaster Mortuary Operations Response Team	DMORT	DMORTs are composed of private citizens, each with a particular field of expertise, who are activated in the event of a disaster. Teams are composed of funeral directors, medical examiners, coroners, pathologists, forensic anthropologists, medical records technicians and transcribers, finger print specialists, forensic odontologists, dental assistants, x-ray technicians, mental health specialists, computer professionals, administrative support staff, and security and investigative personnel.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Disaster Rapid Assessment Team	DRAT	A DRAT is a designated unit of volunteer and County of San Diego health care professionals, trained to operate in a disaster situation as a coordinated team to assess potential/current shelters for the need of medical resources. The intent and purpose of the DRAT will be to provide health intelligence for the PH DOC [MOC] regarding the need for medical staff, supplies and care at shelters that have been established or spontaneously opened during an evacuation event.
Disaster Recovery Center	DRC	A DRC is a temporary, physical location established by FEMA and state partners after a disaster to provide support to impacted areas and communities.
Disaster Service Worker	DSW	Under State law, Title I, Section 3100 of the California Government Code, all government employees are declared Disaster Service Workers who can be called upon in any emergency. This means that County employees are responsible to help in a disaster. Employees will perform duties as described in the Business Continuation Plans for their respective programs, or duties as assigned.
Disaster Service Worker Volunteer	DSW-V	Any person registered with an accredited Disaster Council for the purpose of engaging in disaster service without pay or other consideration. This also may include any unregistered person impressed into service during a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency by a person having authority to command the aid of the people in the execution of his or her duties.
Disaster Support Area	DSA	A special facility established on the periphery of a disaster area where disaster relief resources (personnel and material) can be received, stockpiled, allocated and dispatched into the disaster area. A segregated portion of the area may be used for the receipt and emergency treatment of casualty evacuees arriving via short-range modes (air and ground) of transportation and for the subsequent movement of a select number by heavy, long range aircraft, to adequate medical care facilities. Therefore, such facilities will normally be located at, or in close proximity to, operable airports with runways capable of accommodating heavy aircraft and offering adequate space for supplies, equipment, portable medical facilities and other essential resources.
Emergency Alert System	EAS	A federal warning system that is activated by FEMA; enables the President to take over the United States airwaves to warn the whole country of major catastrophic events.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Emergency Management Assistance Compact	EMAC	EMAC is the nation's state to state mutual aid system. EMAC is the first national disaster-relief compact since the Civil Defense and Disaster Compact of 1950 to be ratified by Congress. Since ratification and signing into law in 1996 (Public Law 104-321), 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have enacted legislation to become EMAC members. EMAC offers assistance during governor-declared states of emergency through a responsive, straightforward system that allows states to send personnel, equipment, and commodities to help disaster relief efforts in other states. Through EMAC states can also transfer services, such as shipping newborn blood from a disaster-impacted lab to a lab in another state.
Emergency Managers Mutual Aid	EMMA	A formalized system of providing emergency management assistance to emergency managers in jurisdictions that have been impacted by a disaster. It is based on the recognition of the fact that we often don't have the capacity required in an individual jurisdiction to provide continuous 24 hour a day management during a disaster. This is coordinated through Cal OES and assistance is brought in only to assist, not to direct and control.
Emergency Medical Services	EMS	County department whose services include personnel, facilities, and equipment required to ensure proper medical care for the sick and injured from the time of injury to the time of final disposition (which includes medical disposition within a hospital, temporary medical facility, or specialty care facility; release from the site; or being declared dead). EMS specifically includes those services immediately required to ensure proper medical care and specialized treatment for patients in a hospital and coordination of related hospital services.
Emergency Operations Center	EOC	The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support incident management (on-scene operations) activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOCs may be organized by major functional disciplines (for example, fire, law enforcement, medical services), by jurisdiction (for example, Federal, State, regional, tribal, city, county), or by some combination thereof.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Emergency Operations Plan	EOP	An ongoing plan for responding to a wide variety of potential hazards. An EOP describes how people and property will be protected; details who is responsible for carrying out specific actions; identifies the personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other resources available; and outlines how all actions will be coordinated.
Emergency Proclamation		The duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county, city and county, or city, caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake... or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy, which are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat..." Section 8558(c), Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code.
Emergency Public Information	EPI	Information that is disseminated primarily in anticipation of an emergency or during an emergency. In addition to providing situational information to the public, it also frequently provides directive actions required to be taken by the general public.
Emergency Support Function (Federal)	ESF	Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) is the grouping of governmental and certain private sector capabilities into an organizational structure to provide support, resources, program implementation, and services that are most likely needed to save lives, protect property and the environment, restore essential services and critical infrastructure, and help victims and communities return to normal following domestic incidents. There are 15 federal ESFs.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Emergency Support Function (State)	ESF	As described in Section 13 of the State Emergency Plan, the CA-ESFs consist of eighteen primary activities deemed essential to addressing the emergency management needs of communities in all phases of emergency management. Based upon authorities and responsibilities, a lead agency has been designated for the development of the state government level CA-ESFs. As the CA-ESFs development expands to include other stakeholders from the emergency management community, the CA-ESFs will determine a governance structure. The governance structure should be developed with the administrative direction of Cal OES and be flexible to allow for the participation of future stake holders.
Essential Elements of Information	EEl	EElS are the critical items of information required by senior leaders within a particular timeframe that, when related to other available information and intelligence, may be used to reach a logical decision.
Family Assistance Center	FAC	Location to provide assistance and support during an emergency situation. A family assistance center provides responding and support agencies with the ability to provide a consistent and coordinated response to victims and families by centralizing the flow of information and services and assigning responsibilities to specific response agencies.
Federal Aviation Administration	FAA	The Federal Aviation Administration is the national aviation authority of the United States. An agency of the United States Department of Transportation, it has authority to regulate and oversee all aspects of American civil aviation.
Federal Bureau of Investigations	FBI	As an intelligence-driven and a threat-focused national security organization with both intelligence and law enforcement responsibilities, the mission of the FBI is to protect and defend the United States against terrorist and foreign intelligence threats, to uphold and enforce the criminal laws of the United States, and to provide leadership and criminal justice services to federal, state, municipal, and international agencies and partners.
Federal Coordinating Officer	FCO	The person appointed by the President to coordinate federal assistance following an emergency or major disaster declaration.
Federal Emergency Management Agency	FEMA	Independent agency created in 1978 to provide a single point of accountability for all Federal activities related to disaster mitigation and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. FEMA administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Feeding Task Force	FTF	When a disaster occurs, the FTF will seek to verify the resources available to support a mass care feeding operation and the expected feeding output from voluntary organizations, the private sector, the County of San Diego, and other Governmental resources.
Field Operations Guide (ICS 420-1)	FOG	The content of the Field Operations Guide (FOG) is intended to provide guidance for the application of the Incident Command System (ICS) to any planned or unplanned event. Position descriptions, checklists, and diagrams are provided to facilitate that guidance. The information contained in this document is intended to enhance the user's experience, training, and knowledge in the application of the Incident Command System. All users must obtain proper ICS training at the level necessary to effectively utilize the system.
Firefighting Resources of California Organized for Potential Emergencies	FIRESCOPE	The FIRESCOPE program is intended to complete the legislative attempt to unify these various fire agencies together into one voice and direction. The character of this group is comprised of diverse fire agencies derived from the founding legislation. The synergy created by these diverse fire agencies truly provides valuable input to the Secretary of Cal OES in addressing the future of fire/rescue services in California and assures excellent representation for the continued development of FIRESCOPE products.
Food and Housing Division	FHD	Conducts more than 39,000 restaurant and food truck / food cart inspections each year and issues the appropriate A-B-C grade card. The division is also responsible for inspecting nearly 5,000 swimming pools, checking for everything from water quality and filtration systems, to safety equipment and enclosures. Food and Housing personnel also inspect body art facilities, as well as apartments, hotels and motels, camps and even detention facilities. FHD responds to public health threats and environmental hazards associated with these regulated facilities, including fires, food recalls and boil water orders, all in the interest of promoting safe communities.
Geographic Information Systems	GIS	A geographic information system (GIS) is a computer system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of geographical data

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Governor's Office of Emergency Services	Cal OES	The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services exists to enhance safety and preparedness in California through strong leadership, collaboration, and meaningful partnerships. Our mission is founded in public service. Our goal is to protect lives and property by effectively preparing for, preventing, responding to, and recovering from all threats, crimes, hazards, and emergencies.
Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan	MJHMP	The Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan is a countywide plan that identifies risks and ways to minimize damage by natural and human caused disasters. The plan is a comprehensive resource document that serves many purposes such as enhancing public awareness, creating a decision tool for management, promoting compliance with State and Federal program requirements, enhancing local policies for hazard mitigation capability, and providing inter-jurisdictional coordination.
Hazardous Incident Response Team	HIRT	The San Diego County Department of Environmental Health and Quality Hazardous Incident Response Team (DEHQ-HIRT) consists of ten California State Certified Hazardous Material Specialists. The team was founded in 1981 by the Unified Disaster Council and is funded by a Joint Powers Agreement. This team services all unincorporated San Diego County areas, 18 municipalities, and Indian Reservations with which formal agreements exist. For Indian Reservations without a formal agreement, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the primary authority for hazardous materials incident response on tribal lands. There are over 400 responses a year in the DEHQ-HIRT operational area. DEHQ-HIRT responds jointly with the San Diego Fire & Life Safety Services Department, Hazardous Incident Response Team to investigate and mitigate chemically related emergencies or complaints. Emergency response activities include mitigation, containment and control actions as well as hazard identification, evaluating the threat to the local populations and the environment. DEHQ-HIRT is also responsible for handling all after normal business hours complaints for the Department of Environmental Health.
Hazardous Materials	HAZMAT	Solids, liquids, or gases that can harm people, other living organisms, property, or the environment.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Hazardous Materials Division	HMD	The Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) is one of the four divisions of the Department of Environmental Health (DEH). HMD is the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for San Diego County responsible for regulating hazardous materials business plans and chemical inventory, hazardous waste and tiered permitting, underground storage tanks, aboveground petroleum storage and risk management plans. HMD is also responsible for regulating medical waste.
Hazards United States	HAZUS	A geographic information system-based natural hazard loss estimation software package developed and freely distributed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
Health and Human Services	HHS	The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is the United States government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves. HHS is headed by the Secretary who is the chief managing officer for our family of agencies, including 11 operating divisions, 10 regional offices, as well as the Office of the Secretary.
Health and Human Services Agency	HHSA	The Health and Human Services Agency is one of five groups or divisions of the San Diego County government. The Agency provides a broad range of health and social services, promoting wellness, self-sufficiency, and a better quality of life for all individuals and families in San Diego County. The Agency integrates health and social services through a unified service-delivery system. This system is family focused and community-based, reflective of business principles in which services are delivered in a cost-effective and outcome-driven fashion.
Homeland Security Presidential Directive - 5	HSPD-5	The purpose of this directive, which was issued on Feb. 28, 2003, is to enhance the ability of the United States to manage domestic incidents by establishing a single, comprehensive national incident management system (NIMS).
Hospital Preparedness Program	HPP	The Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) provides leadership and funding through grants and cooperative agreements to States, territories, and eligible municipalities to improve surge capacity and enhance community and hospital preparedness for public health emergencies.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Housing and Community Development (County)	H/CD	The Department of Housing and Community Development provides many valuable services to both property owners and tenants and strives to create more livable neighborhoods that residents are proud to call home. The Department of Housing and Community Development is one of the departments within the Community Services Group. Our key service programs improve neighborhoods by assisting low-income residents, increasing the supply of affordable, safe housing and rehabilitating residential properties in San Diego County. Besides the programs we administer, each city in the county has affordable housing and community improvement programs in their jurisdiction.
Incident Action Plan	IAP	An oral or written plan containing general objectives reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods.
Incident Command Post	ICP	A field location where the primary response functions are performed. The Incident Command Post may be co-located with the Incident Base or other incident facilities.
Incident Command System	ICS	A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. The Incident Command System is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. ICS is used for emergencies of all kinds and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations.
Incident Commander	IC	The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and the release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.
Incident Management Team	IMT	The IC and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Individual with a Disability		As defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, an individual with a disability is a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a person who has a history or record of such an impairment, or a person who is perceived by others as having such an impairment. The ADA does not specifically name all of the impairments that are covered.
Interoperable Communications Committee	ICC	A committee chartered by the Unified San Diego County Disaster Council. The ICC is chaired by the Sheriff's Department's Wireless Services Division with members drawn from the jurisdictions and agencies within the OA.
Joint Field Office	JFO	A part-time federal facility designed to implement the new single, comprehensive approach to domestic incident management. JFO helps the Secretary of Homeland Security in their domestic incident management responsibilities. JFO is established at the incident site to provide a fundamental point for federal, state, local, and tribal executives who are having the responsibility of incident oversight, direction, and assistance to effectively coordinate actions for protection, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery. JFO carries out the traditional functions of the joint operations center, the joint information center, and the disaster field office.
Joint Information Center	JIC	A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media at the scene of the incident. Public information officials from all participating agencies should collocate at the JIC.
Joint Information System	JIS	Integrates incident information and public affairs into a cohesive organization designed to provide consistent, coordinated, timely information during crisis or incident operations. The mission of the JIS is to provide a structure and system for developing and delivering coordinated interagency messages; developing, recommending, and executing public information plans and strategies on behalf of the IC; advising the IC concerning public affairs issues that could undermine public confidence in the emergency response effort.
Joint Terrorism Task Force	JTTF	Nation's front line on terrorism: small cells of highly trained, locally based, committed investigators, analysts, linguists, SWAT experts, and other specialists from dozens of U.S. law enforcement and intelligence agencies.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Land and Water Quality Division	L&WQD	Land and Water Quality tests the water of San Diego beaches and bays and posts the results for residents and visitors. Land and Water Quality deals with recycled water, testing and removal of underground storage tanks, inspection of small drinking water systems, wells, and mobile home parks in the unincorporated county.
Land Use and Environment Group	LUEG	LUEG is comprised of seven departments whose functions range from building and maintaining county infrastructure to protecting our environment and public health, and from promoting agriculture and consumer protection to showing you how to better grow your garden.
Law Enforcement Coordination Center	LECC	The San Diego Law Enforcement Coordination Center (LECC) is a multi-agency cooperative initiative that fully integrates information intake, vetting, analysis/fusion, and synthesis as part of the national and state model. The San Diego LECC is designed to be a fusion center that is analytically driven and that supports law enforcement information needs in all programs, with an emphasis on terrorism intelligence. The LECC disseminates developed information, provides analytical case support, trend analysis and provides tailored analytical products to end users.
Liaison Officer	LOFR	A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies.
Local Assistance Center	LAC	Resource center facilities established after a disaster to accelerate the recovery time for those who have been affected by the disaster, by offering a centralized location of recovery services.
Local Health Department	LHD	A local health department is a government agency on the front lines of public health. Local health departments may be entities of local or state government and often report to a mayor, city council, county board of health or county commission.
Long Term Care	LTC	Long-term care (LTC) is a variety of services which help meet both the medical and non-medical needs of people with a chronic illness or disability who cannot care for themselves for long periods of time.
Master Mutual Aid Agreement	MMAA	An agreement made and entered into by and between the State of California, its various departments and agencies, and the various political subdivisions, municipal corporations, and other public agencies of the State of California to facilitate implementation of Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code entitled "California Emergency Services Act."

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Medical and Health Operational Area Coordinator	MHOAC	The MHOAC program is based on the functional activities described in Health and Safety Code 1797.153. County of San Diego MHOAC is the primary point of contact for the MHOAC program and liaisons with the RDMHC/S.
Medical Health Coordination Center	MHCC	Location of CDPH to coordinate public health operations.
Medical Operations Center	MOC	DOC for County of San Diego PH
Medical Reserve Corps	MRC	San Diego County's Health and Human Services Agency developed a local MRC to enhance the existing Clinical Disaster Service Worker volunteer program established in 2002. The goal of the MRC in San Diego is to provide competent and certified clinical volunteers for use at mass prophylaxis/vaccination sites, shelters, alternate care sites, and offset surge capacity issues of the community. The MRC's priority will be to increase the number of clinical volunteer providers who are trained and ready to respond during a terrorist event or other large-scale public health emergency.
Memorandum of Agreement	MOA	A memorandum of agreement (MOA) or cooperative agreement is a document written between parties to cooperate on an agreed upon project or meet an agreed objective. The purpose of a MOA is to have a written understanding of the agreement between parties.
Memorandum of Understanding	MOU	A memorandum of understanding (MOU) describes a bilateral or multilateral agreement between two or more parties. It expresses a convergence of will between the parties, indicating an intended common line of action.
Modified Mercalli Intensity	MMI	The Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) scale depicts shaking severity.
Multi-Agency Coordination System	MACS	Multi-agency Coordination Systems provide the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communications systems integration, and information coordination. The components of Multi-agency Coordination Systems include facilities, equipment, emergency operation centers (EOCs), specific multi-agency coordination entities, personnel, procedures, and communications. These systems assist agencies and organizations to fully integrate the subsystems of the NIMS.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
National Disaster Medical System	NDMS	The National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) is a federally coordinated system that augments the Nation's medical response capability. The overall purpose of the NDMS is to supplement an integrated National medical response capability for assisting State and local authorities in dealing with the medical impacts of major peacetime disasters and to provide support to the military and the Department of Veterans Affairs medical systems in caring for casualties evacuated back to the U.S. from overseas armed conventional conflicts.
National Incident Management System	NIMS	A system mandated by HSPD-5 that provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments; the private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, local, and tribal capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-5 identifies these as the ICS; Multi-agency Coordination Systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.
National Response Framework	NRF	A plan mandated by HSPD-5 that integrates Federal domestic prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery plans into one all-discipline, all-hazards plan.
National Terrorism Advisory System	NTAS	The National Terrorism Advisory System, or NTAS, replaces the color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS). This system will more effectively communicate information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed information to the public, government agencies, first responders, airports and other transportation hubs, and the private sector.
National Warning System	NAWAS	The Federal portion of the Civil Defense Warning System is used for the dissemination of warning and other emergency information from the Warning Centers or Regions to Warning Points in each State.
National Weather Service	NWS	Official U.S. weather, marine, fire and aviation forecasts, warnings, meteorological products, climate forecasts and information about meteorology.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Non-Governmental Organizations	NGOs	An entity with an association that is based on interests of its members, individuals, or institutions and that is not created by a government but may work cooperatively with government. Such organizations serve a public purpose, not a private benefit. Examples of NGOs include faith-based charity organizations and the American Red Cross.
Nuclear Regulatory Commission	NRC	The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was created as an independent agency by Congress in 1974 to ensure the safe use of radioactive materials for beneficial civilian purposes while protecting people and the environment. The NRC regulates commercial nuclear power plants and other uses of nuclear materials, such as in nuclear medicine, through licensing, inspection and enforcement of its requirements.
Office of Emergency Services (Operational Area)	OES	The Office of Emergency Services (OES) coordinates the overall county response to disasters. OES is responsible for alerting and notifying appropriate agencies when disaster strikes; coordinating all agencies that respond; ensuring resources are available and mobilized in times of disaster; developing plans and procedures for response to and recovery from disasters; and developing and providing preparedness materials for the public. OES staffs the Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (a central facility which provides regional coordinated emergency response), and also acts as staff to the Unified Disaster Council (UDC), a joint powers agreement between all 18 incorporated cities and the County of San Diego. The UDC provides for coordination of plans and programs countywide to ensure protection of life and property.
Operational Area	OA	The "Operational Area" consists of the county and each of its political subdivisions including special districts.
Operational Area Emergency Operations Center	OA EOC	The emergency operations center for San Diego County, serving the unincorporated area and providing support to the local jurisdictions.
Operational Area Satellite Information System	OASIS	OASIS is a State of California owned satellite system established to provide Emergency Management voice and data communications independent of commercial networks.
Policy Group		The Policy Group is responsible for providing policy and guidance for the emergency response.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Presidential Declaration		Supports response activities of the federal, state and local government. Authorizes federal agencies to provide “essential” assistance including debris removal, temporary housing and the distribution of medicine, food, and other consumable supplies.
Public Health Officer	PHO	The Public Health Officer (PHO), or designee, reports to the HHSA Director, and is responsible for the overall management of Public Health within the OA. The PHO, in consultation with the Director of HHSA, makes policy decisions related to emergency/disaster health services.
Public Health Services	PHS	Public Health Services works to prevent epidemics and the spread of disease, protect against environmental hazards, prevent injuries, promote and encourage healthy behaviors, respond to disasters and assist communities in recovery and assure the quality and accessibility of health services throughout the county.
Public Information Officer	PIO	A member of the Command Staff who serves as the conduit for information to internal and external stakeholders, including the media or other organizations seeking information directly from the incident or event.
Public Safety Group	PSG	As a regional coalition of leading and respected public safety and criminal justice partners, the Public Safety Group improves public safety and criminal justice in San Diego County and communicates and coordinates within our group and the community to deliver quality programs and services.
Public Service Announcement	PSA	A public service announcement (PSA) or public service ad, are messages in the public interest disseminated by the media, with the objective of raising awareness, changing public attitudes and behavior towards a social issue.
Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service	RACES	Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, a radio communication service carried on by licensed non-commercial radio stations while operating on specifically designated segments of the regularly allocated amateur frequency bands under the direction of authorized local, regional, Federal civil defense officials pursuant to an approved civil defense communications plan.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Region VI		The California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Agency has three administrative regions, Inland, Coastal and Southern which are located in Sacramento, Walnut Creek and Los Alamitos, respectively. Cal OES regions have the responsibility to carry out the coordination of information and resources within the region and between the SEMS state and regional levels to ensure effective and efficient support to local response. The regions serve as the conduit for local and regional perspective and provide a physical presence for Cal OES functions at the local level in all phases of emergency management.
Region VI, continued		There are 11 counties and two Mutual Aid Regions I and VI, within the Southern Administration Region. Within the region there are 226 incorporated cities that include two nuclear plants. The total population of all cities and counties in the Southern Region is approximately 21,648,506.
Regional Communications System	RCS	The San Diego County-Imperial County Regional Communications System, known locally as the RCS, provides wireless 800 MHz voice (radio) and data communications – on separate networks – to over 200 local, county, state, and federal public safety and public service agencies in San Diego County, California and Imperial County, California. The day-to-day operations are managed by the Wireless Services Division of the San Diego County Sheriff's Department.
Regional Disaster Medical Health Coordinator/ Specialist	RDMHC/S	Responsibilities include supporting the mutual aid requests of the Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) for disaster response within the region and providing mutual aid support to other areas of the state in support of the state medical response system. The RDMHC also serves as an information source to the state medical and health response system.
Regional Emergency Operations Center	REOC	Serves as a coordination point for resource requests from Operational Areas. There are three REOCs in California. The Southern Regional Emergency Operations Center is located in Los Alamitos and is staffed by the State Office of Emergency Services.
Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly	RCFE	Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) provide care, supervision and assistance with activities of daily living, such as bathing and grooming. They may also provide incidental medical services under special care plans.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
San Diego Association of Governments	SANDAG	An association of local San Diego County governments. It is the metropolitan planning organization for the County, with policy makers consisting of mayors, council members, and County Supervisors, and also has capital planning and fare setting powers for the County's transit systems which include the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System and North County Transit District.
San Diego County Water Authority	SDCWA	SDCWA imports water into the county, providing approximately 90-percent of the county's water through wholesale transportation and distribution to its 24-member agencies. The 24-member agencies deliver water to approximately 97-percent of the county's population
San Diego Gas & Electric	SDG&E	The utility that provides natural gas and electricity to San Diego County and southern Orange County. It is owned by Sempra Energy, a Fortune 500 energy services holding company that is based in San Diego.
San Diego Geographic Information Source	SanGIS	The San Diego Geographic Information Source (SanGIS) is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) of the City of San Diego and the County of San Diego responsible for maintaining a regional geographic information system (GIS) landbase and data warehouse. The JPA allows the City and the County to combine resources to meet common objectives to reduce duplication of efforts, maximize resources, provide for an efficient method of sharing information and provide timely updated data to the public.
San Diego Humane Society	SDHS	The San Diego Humane Society and SPCA is an independent 501(c)(3) organization that shelters and adopts animals, investigates animal cruelty and neglect, rescues animals in emergency situations, teaches positive reinforcement behavior training to the public, provides adult and youth education programs, and shares animals through pet-assisted therapy.
San Diego Sheriff's Department	SDSD	The San Diego County Sheriff's Department is the chief law enforcement agency in San Diego County. The department is comprised of approximately 4,000 employees, both sworn officers and professional support staff. The department provides general law enforcement, detention and court services for the people of San Diego County in a service area of approximately 4,200 square miles. In addition, the department provides specialized regional services to the entire county, including the incorporated cities and the unincorporated areas of the county.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
San Diego County Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters	SD VOAD	The mission of San Diego Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (SDVOAD) is to enhance the efforts of member organizations through interagency planning, relief, response and recovery activities, all directed toward the goal of giving area residents adequate and timely services, impartially and uniformly delivered, when a disaster strikes.
San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station	SONGS	Nuclear power plant located in the northwest corner of San Diego County. It was closed in 2013 and is in the decommissioning process.
Search and Rescue	SAR	The process of looking for people who are lost and may need medical treatment, especially after an accident.
Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment	START	Simple triage and rapid treatment (START) is a triage method used by first responders to quickly classify victims during a mass casualty incident (MCI) based on the severity of their injury.
Skilled Nursing Facility	SNF	A health-care institution that meets federal criteria for Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement for nursing care including the supervision of the care of every patient by a physician, the full-time employment of at least one registered nurse, the maintenance of records concerning the care and condition of every patient, the availability of nursing care 24 hours a day, and the presence of facilities for storing and dispensing drugs.
Special District		Special-purpose districts or special district governments in the United States are independent governmental units that exists separately from, and with substantial administrative and fiscal independence from, general purpose local governments such as county, municipal, and township governments
Staff Duty Officer	SDO	24/7 on-duty representative for the County of San Diego Office of Emergency Services.
Standard Operating Procedures	SOPs	A document that describes regularly recurring operations related to utilizing technology, responding to a hazard or reacting to an emergency situation. The purpose of a SOP is to carry out the operations correctly and always in the same manner.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Standardized Emergency Management System	SEMS	The SEMS law, effective January 1, 1993, incorporates the use of the Incident Command System (ICS); the Fire Fighting Resources of California Organized for Potential Emergencies (FIREScope) agreement; existing multi-agency and interagency programs; the State's master Mutual Aid agreement and mutual aid program; the Operational Area concept; and the Operational Area Satellite Information System (OASIS) into a single program.
State Coordinating Officer	SCO	A person appointed by the Governor to act for the State in cooperation with the Federal Coordinating Officer.
State of Emergency		A duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, or earthquake or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy, or conditions causing a "state of war emergency", which conditions, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single county, city and county, or city and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat.
State of War Emergency		The condition which exists immediately, with or without a proclamation thereof by the Governor, whenever the state or nation is directly attacked by an enemy of the United States, or upon the receipt by the state of a warning from the federal government that such an enemy attack is probable or imminent.
Strategic National Stockpile	SNS	CDC's Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) has large quantities of medicine and medical supplies to protect the American public if there is a public health emergency severe enough to cause local supplies to run out. Once Federal and local authorities agree that the SNS is needed, medicines will be delivered to any state in the U.S. in time for them to be effective. Each state has plans to receive and distribute SNS medicine and medical supplies to local communities as quickly as possible.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Temporary Evacuation Point	TEP	A Temporary Evacuation Point (TEP) is a location identified by Law Enforcement or Fire as a temporary place to evacuate to during disasters or emergencies. A TEP has limited resources and staffing, as its primary purpose is to provide evacuees with a safe place to congregate temporarily, until they can return home or relocate to a designated shelter. TEP locations are generally open areas, such as parking lots, business parks, schools, or other government operated facilities.
Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment	THIRA	A process to help communities understand their risks and determine the level of capability they need in order to address those risks.
Traffic Control Points	TCP	Places along movement routes that are manned by emergency personnel to direct and control the flow of traffic.
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	USACE	A federal agency made up of civilian and military personnel that assist the public with engineering, design, and construction management.
Unified Command	UC	An application of ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross-political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the UC, often the senior person from agencies and/or disciplines participating in the UC, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single IAP.
Unified Disaster Council	UDC	A group that serves as the policy making body of the Unified Emergency Services Organization.
Unincorporated Area		Areas of San Diego County not under the direction jurisdiction of any of the incorporated cities.
United States Forest Service	USFS	An agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture that administers the nation's 154 national forests and 20 national grasslands, which encompass 193 million acres.
United States Geological Survey	USGS	A scientific agency of the United States government that has scientists study the landscape of the United States, its natural resources, and the natural hazards that threaten it.

Abbreviation, Acronyms, and Definitions		
Term	Acronyms	Definition
Urban Search and Rescue	US&R	Urban search-and-rescue (US&R) involves the location, rescue (extrication), and initial medical stabilization of victims trapped in confined spaces. Structural collapse is most often the cause of victims being trapped, but victims may also be trapped in transportation accidents, mines and collapsed trenches. Urban search-and-rescue is considered a “multi-hazard” discipline, as it may be needed for a variety of emergencies or disasters, including earthquakes, hurricanes, typhoons, storms and tornadoes, floods, dam failures, technological accidents, terrorist activities, and hazardous materials releases. The events may be slow in developing, as in the case of hurricanes, or sudden, as in the case of earthquakes.
Weapons of Mass Destruction	WMD	A weapon of mass destruction is nuclear, radiological, biological, chemical or other weapon that can kill and bring significant harm to a large number of humans or cause great damage to human-caused- structures (i.e., buildings), natural structures (i.e., mountains), or the biosphere.
WebEOC		WebEOC is a crisis information management system and provides secure real-time disaster information sharing to the San Diego OA emergency responder community.
Whole Community Approach		Whole Community is an approach to emergency management that reinforces the fact that the OA must leverage all of the resources of our collective team in preparing for, protecting against, responding to, recovering from and mitigating against all hazards; and that collectively we must meet the needs of the entire community in each of these areas.

ATTACHMENT 2 – HAZARDS

A comprehensive listing of hazards that are possible in San Diego County is covered in the 2023 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP). The final list of high-ranking hazards to be profiled for San Diego County was determined as Wildfire, Flood, Sea Level Rise/Tsunami, Earthquake, Extreme Heat, Drought, and Terrorism.

Hazard	Data Collected for Hazard Identification	Justification for Inclusion
Sea Level Rise, Tsunami, and Erosion	• Historical Coastlines (NOAA) • Shoreline Erosion Assessment (SANDAG) • Maximum Tsunami Run up Projections (USCA OES) • FEMA FIRM Maps • FEMA Hazards website • Coastal Zone Boundary (CALTRANS) • Tsunamis and their Occurrence along the San Diego County Coast (report, Westinghouse Ocean Research Laboratory) • Tsunami (article, Scientific American) • National Research Council's Report on Sea Level Rise in California, Oregon and Washington: Past, Present and Future • Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy for the San Diego Bay	• Sea levels measured at a station in La Jolla have risen at a rate of 6 inches over the last century • Coastline stabilization measures have been implemented at various times in the past (erosion) • Extensive development along the coast
Extreme Heat	• Spatial Hazard Events and Losses Database for the United States	• There have been 52 heat events in San Diego County since 2013
Dam Failure	• FEMA-HAZUS • Dam Inundation Data (SanGIS) • San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) (Olivenhain Dam) • FEMA FIRM maps • Topography (SANDAG) • FEMA Hazards website	• Dam failure • 58 dams exist throughout San Diego County • Many dams over 30 years old • Increased downstream development
Drought	• California Department of Water Resources • San Diego County Water Authority	• Statewide multiple year droughts have occurred numerous times since 1976

Hazard	Data Collected for Hazard Identification	Justification for Inclusion
Earthquake	• USGS • CGS • URS • CISN • SanGIS • SANDAG • FEMA-HAZUS 99 • FEMA Hazards website	• Several active fault zones pass through San Diego County
Floods	• FEMA FIRM Maps • Topography • Base flood elevations (FEMA) • Historical flood records • San Diego County Water Authority • San Diego County Dept. of Sanitation and Flood Control • FEMA Hazards website	• Much of San Diego County is located within the 100-year floodplain • Flash floods and other flood events occur regularly during rainstorms due to terrain and hydrology of San Diego County • There have been multiple Proclaimed States of Emergency between 1950-2024 for floods in San Diego County
Hazardous Materials Release	• County of San Diego Dept. of Environmental Health, Hazardous Materials Division	• San Diego County has several facilities that handle or process hazardous materials • Heightened security concerns since September 2001
Landslide	• USGS • CGS • Tan Map Series • Steep slope data (SANDAG) • Soil Series Data (SANDAG) • FEMA-HAZUS • FEMA Hazards website • NEH	• Steep slopes within earthquake zones characterize San Diego County, which creates landslide risk. • There have been two Proclaimed States of Emergency for landslides in San Diego County
Liquefaction	• Soil-Slip Susceptibility (USGS) • FEMA-HAZUS MH • FEMA Hazards website	• Steep slopes or alluvial deposit soils in low-lying areas are susceptible to liquefaction during earthquakes or heavy rains. San Diego County terrain has both of these characteristics and lies within several active earthquake zones
Nuclear Materials Release	• San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS) and Department of Defense	• The potential exists for an accidental release of radioactive material stored at San Onofre or from nuclear ships in San Diego Bay • Heightened security concerns since September 2001

Hazard	Data Collected for Hazard Identification	Justification for Inclusion
Severe Winter Weather	• NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information Storm Events Database	• Severe winter storms have caused damage in the County and can lead to immobility and loss of utilities. Heavy rain can have significant impacts, including flash flooding and mudslides.
Terrorism	• County of San Diego Environmental Health Department Hazardous Materials Division	• The federal and state governments have advised every jurisdiction to consider the terrorism hazard • Heightened security concerns since September 2001
Wildfire	• CDF-FRAP • USFS • CDFG • Topography • Local Fire Agencies • Historical fire records • FEMA Hazards website	• San Diego County experiences wildfires on a regular basis • Twelve States of Emergency were declared for wildfires between 1950-2020 • Terrain and climate of San Diego • Santa Ana Winds

ATTACHMENT 3 – CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

A major disaster or a nuclear attack could result in great loss of life and property; including the death or injury of key government officials, the partial or complete destruction of established seats of government, and the destruction of public and private records essential to continued operations of government and industry.

In the aftermath of a nuclear attack, during the reconstruction period, law and order must be preserved and, as much as possible, government services must be maintained. It is essential that local government continues to function.

Applicable portions of the California Government Code and the State Constitution (listed in Paragraph 6) provide authority for the continuity and preservation of State and local government.

RESPONSIBILITIES

All levels of government are responsible for providing continuity of effective leadership and authority, direction of emergency operations, and management of recovery.

PRESERVATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Succession of Local Officials

Sections 8635 through 8643 of the Government Code:

- Furnish a means by which the continued functioning of political subdivisions can be assured by providing for the preservation and continuation of (City and County) government in the event of an enemy attack, or in the event a State of Emergency or Local Emergency is a matter of statewide concern.
 - Authorize political subdivisions to provide for the succession of officers (department heads) having duties related to law and order and/or health and safety.
 - Authorize governing bodies to designate and appoint three standby officers for each member of the governing body and for the Chief Executive, if not a member of the governing body. Standby officers may be residents or officers of a political subdivision other than that to which they are appointed. Standby officers take the same oath as regular officers and are designated Nos. 1, 2, and 3 as the case may be.
 - Authorize standby officers to report ready for duty in the event of a State of War Emergency, State of Emergency, or Local Emergency at the place previously designated.
 - Authorize local governing bodies to convene as soon as possible whenever a State of War Emergency, State of Emergency, or Local Emergency exists, and at a place not within the political subdivision. Authorize that, should all members, including all standbys, be unavailable, temporary officers shall be appointed as follows:
 - By the Chairman of the Board of the county in which the political subdivision is located, or
 - By the Chairman of the Board of any other county within 150 miles (nearest and most populated down to farthest and least populated), or

-
- By the Mayor, City Manager or their designee of any city within 150 miles (nearest and most populated down to farthest and least populated).

TEMPORARY COUNTY SEATS

- Section 23600 of the Government Code provides that:
- Board of Supervisors shall designate alternative temporary county seats which may be outside the county boundaries.
- They cannot purchase real property for this purpose.
- Their resolution is to be filed with the Secretary of State.
- Different sites can be designated subsequently if circumstances require.

SUSPENSIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Section 8621 of the Government Code:

Specifies that during a State of War Emergency, in the event that any officer of a political subdivision or employee of a state agency refuses or willfully neglects to obey an order or emergency regulation, the Governor may suspend that person and designate a replacement.

PRESERVATION OF STATE GOVERNMENT

- Continuity of State Government

In the event of war or enemy-caused disaster, under the authority of Article IV, Section 21 of the State Constitution, the Legislature may:

- Fill the membership of either house should at least one-fifth be killed, missing or disabled.
- Fill the Office of the Governor should the Governor be killed, missing or disabled.
- Select a temporary seat of state or county government.
- Succeed to the Office of Governor.

Article V, Section 10 of the State Constitution stipulates that:

- The Lt. Governor shall become Governor under specified conditions.
- The Legislature shall provide an order of precedence after the Lt. Governor.

Section 12058 of the Government Code provides that:

- Following the Governor and the Lt. Governor, the line of succession is President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the Assembly, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Treasurer, and Controller.
- Or, if none of the above is available as a result of a war or enemy-caused disaster, then such other person as provided by law.

Section 12060 of the Government Code provides that:

- The Governor shall appoint and designate by filing with the Secretary of State, the names of at least four and not more than seven citizens who will succeed in the order specified to the Office of the Governor.
- Consideration will be given to appointments from various parts of the state so there will be the greatest probability of survival.
- The persons appointed be confirmed by the Senate.
- The appointed person takes the oath of office and is thereupon designated as a Disaster Acting Governor.
- In the event that the Office of Governor is not filled within 24 hours after the enemy-caused disaster, one of the Disaster Acting Governors in the order specified shall fill the office.
- Each Disaster Acting Governor shall, while filling the office, have the powers and perform all the duties of the office.

SUCCESSION TO CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES

Section 12700 of the Government Code provides that:

- The Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer, and Controller shall appoint and designate at least three and not more than seven alternates who will serve as acting officer in a manner like that provided for the Governor.

TEMPORARY SEAT OF STATE GOVERNMENT

Section 450 of the Government Code provides that:

- The Governor shall designate an alternative temporary seat of government for use in the event of war or enemy-caused disaster or the imminence thereof.
- A different location may subsequently be designated as circumstances require.
- The Director of the Department of General Services shall arrange for the use of the designated facilities.

SESSIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE

Section 9035 of the Government Code provides that:

- The Legislature will convene in a war or enemy-caused disaster at Sacramento or in the designated temporary seat of state government.
- In such special session, the Legislature may fill any vacancies in its membership and may consider and act on any subject of legislation designed to relieve or alleviate the consequences of the disaster or to restore or continue state and local government activities and operations.

PRESERVATION OF ESSENTIAL RECORDS

Each level of government should protect its essential records. The determination of the records to be preserved rests with each agency service chief or with the custodian of the records.

Record depositories should be located well away from potential danger zones and housed in facilities designed to withstand blast, fire, water, and other destructive forces. Such action will ensure that:

- The rights and interests of individuals, corporations, other entities, and governments are preserved.
- Records will be available during emergency operations and later, for reestablishing normal governmental activities.

Three types of records considered essential are those required to:

- Protect the rights and interests of individuals. These include vital statistics, land and tax records, license registers, and articles of incorporation.
- Conduct emergency operations. These would include utility systems maps, locations of emergency supplies and equipment, emergency operations plans and procedures, lines of succession, and lists of regular and auxiliary personnel.
- Reestablish normal governmental functions and protect the rights and interests of government. Constitutions and charters, statutes and ordinances, court records, official proceedings, and financial records would be included here.

REFERENCES

Continuity of Government in California (Article IV, Section 21 of the State Constitution).

Preservation of Local Government (Article 15 of the California Emergency Services Act).

Temporary Seat of State Government (Section 450, Title 1, Division 3, Chapter 1 of the Government Code).

Temporary County Seats (Section 23600, Title 3, Division 1, Chapter 4, Article 1 of the Government Code).

Member of the Legislature (Section 9004, Title 2, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 1.5, Article 1 of the Government Code).

Legislative Session after War or Enemy-Caused Disaster (Sections 9035_9038, Title 2, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 1.5, Article 2.5 of the Government Code).

Succession to the Office of Governor (Article V, Section 10 of the State Constitution).

Succession to the Office of Governor (Sections 12058_12063, Title 2, Division 3, Part 2, Chapter 1, Articles 5.5 and 6 of the Government Code).

Succession to Constitutional Offices (Sections 12700_12704, Title 2, Division 3, Part 2, Chapter 7 of the Government Code).

Preservation of State Records (Sections 14745_14750, Title 2, Division 3, Part 5.5, Chapter 5, Articles 2 and 3 of the Government Code).

The following authorities and references were used to develop the County Continuity of Government (COG) Plan:

- Executive Order W-9-91
- Executive Order S-04-06
- Emergency Services Act (Government Code §8585.5)
- Government Code Section §8607(a)
(Standardized Emergency Management System)
- Federal Continuity Directives 1 and 2
- State Emergency Plan
- State Hazard Mitigation Plan
- California Catastrophic Base Plan
- State Emergency Resources Management Plan, (GC §8668)
- San Diego Code Ref: Title 3, Division 1-4
- San Diego County Ordinance Number 8183
- California Code Ref: §25060-25062
- County of San Diego Standard Operating Procedure –
Continuity of Government, 2000
- Charter of the County of San Diego

ATTACHMENT 4 – MUTUAL AID

The foundation of California's emergency planning and response is a statewide mutual aid system, designed to ensure that adequate resources, facilities, and other support services are provided to jurisdictions whenever their own resource capabilities are exceeded or overwhelmed during any incident. The basis for the system is the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement, as provided for in the California Emergency Services Act. The Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement was developed in 1950 and adopted by California's incorporated cities and by all 58 counties. It created a formal structure, in which each jurisdiction retains control of its own personnel and facilities but can give and receive help whenever it is needed. State government, on the other hand, is obligated to provide available resources to assist local jurisdictions in emergencies. The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) includes mutual aid as an essential element in responding to disasters and emergencies.

To facilitate the coordination and flow of mutual aid, the state has been divided into six California Emergency Management Agency Mutual Aid Regions, and the Southern Administrative Region contains two of the six Mutual Aid Regions (see map - Figure 3). Through this mutual aid system, Cal OES can receive a constant flow of information from every geographic and organizational area of the state. This includes direct notification from a state agency or department or from a local government official that a disaster exists or is imminent. In some cases, it also includes information that makes it possible to anticipate an emergency and mitigate its effects by accelerated preparations, or perhaps prevent an incident from developing to disaster proportions.

To further facilitate the mutual aid process, particularly during day-to-day emergencies involving public safety agencies, Fire and Rescue, and Law Enforcement Coordinators have been selected and function at the Operational Area (countywide), Mutual Aid Region (two or more counties), and at the state level. It is expected that during a catastrophic event, such as an earthquake, Coordinators will be assigned at all levels for other essential services (i.e., Medical, Care and Shelter, Rescue).

RESPONSIBILITIES

Local jurisdictions shall:

- Develop and maintain current emergency plans that are compatible with the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement and the plans of neighboring jurisdictions and are designed to apply local resources to the emergency requirements of the immediate community or its neighbors.
- Maintain liaison with the appropriate Cal OES Mutual Aid Region Office and neighboring jurisdictions.
- Identify Multipurpose Staging Areas (MSA) to provide rally points for incoming mutual aid and/or a staging area for support and recovery activities.
- Respond to requests for mutual aid.
- Dispatch situation reports to the appropriate Operational Area Coordinator and/or Cal OES Mutual Aid Region as the emergency develops and as changes in the emergency dictate.
- Request assistance from neighboring jurisdictions, and/or the Operational Area, as necessary and feasible.

-
- Receive and employ resources as may be provided by neighboring jurisdictions, state, federal, and private agencies.
 - Carry out emergency regulations issued by the Governor.

Operational Area (OA) shall:

- Coordinate intra-county mutual aid.
- Maintain liaison with the appropriate Cal OES Mutual Aid Region Coordinator, the local jurisdictions within the county, and neighboring jurisdictions.
- Identify Multipurpose Staging Areas (MSA) to provide rally points for incoming mutual aid and/or staging areas for support and recovery activities.
- Channel local mutual aid requests which cannot be satisfied from within the county to the appropriate Cal OES Mutual Aid Region Coordinator.
- Dispatch reports to the appropriate OES Mutual Aid Region Coordinator as the emergency develops and as changes in the emergency dictate.
- Receive and employing resources provided by other counties, state, federal, and private agencies.
- Carry out emergency regulations issued by the Governor.

Cal OES Mutual Aid Region shall:

- Coordinate inter-county mutual aid.
- Maintain liaison with appropriate state, federal, and local emergency response agencies located within the Region.
- Provide planning guidance and assistance to local jurisdictions.
- Respond to mutual aid requests submitted by jurisdictions and/or Operational Area Coordinators.
- Receive, evaluate, and disseminate information on emergency operations.
- Provide the State Director, OES, with situation reports and, as appropriate, recommend courses of action.

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) shall:

- Perform executive functions assigned by the Governor.
- Coordinate the extraordinary emergency activities of all state agencies.
- Receive, evaluate, and disseminate information on emergency operations.
- Prepare emergency proclamations and orders for the Governor and disseminate to all concerned.
- Receive, process, evaluate, and act on requests for mutual aid.
- Coordinate the application of state mutual aid resources and services.
- Receive, process, and transmit requests for federal assistance.
- Direct the receipt, allocation, and integration of resources supplied by federal agencies and/or other states.
- Maintain liaison with appropriate state, federal, and private agencies.
- Coordinate emergency operations with bordering states.

Tribal governments or organizations shall:

- Contribute as part of the state's emergency response infrastructure and be treated in parity with state agencies when responding to statewide emergencies.
- Coordinate mutual aid requests through the OA EOC if activated.
- Provide available resources in accordance with the Master Mutual Aid Agreement and established government-to-government compacts.

Other State Agencies

Provide mutual aid assistance to local jurisdictions based on capabilities and available resources.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

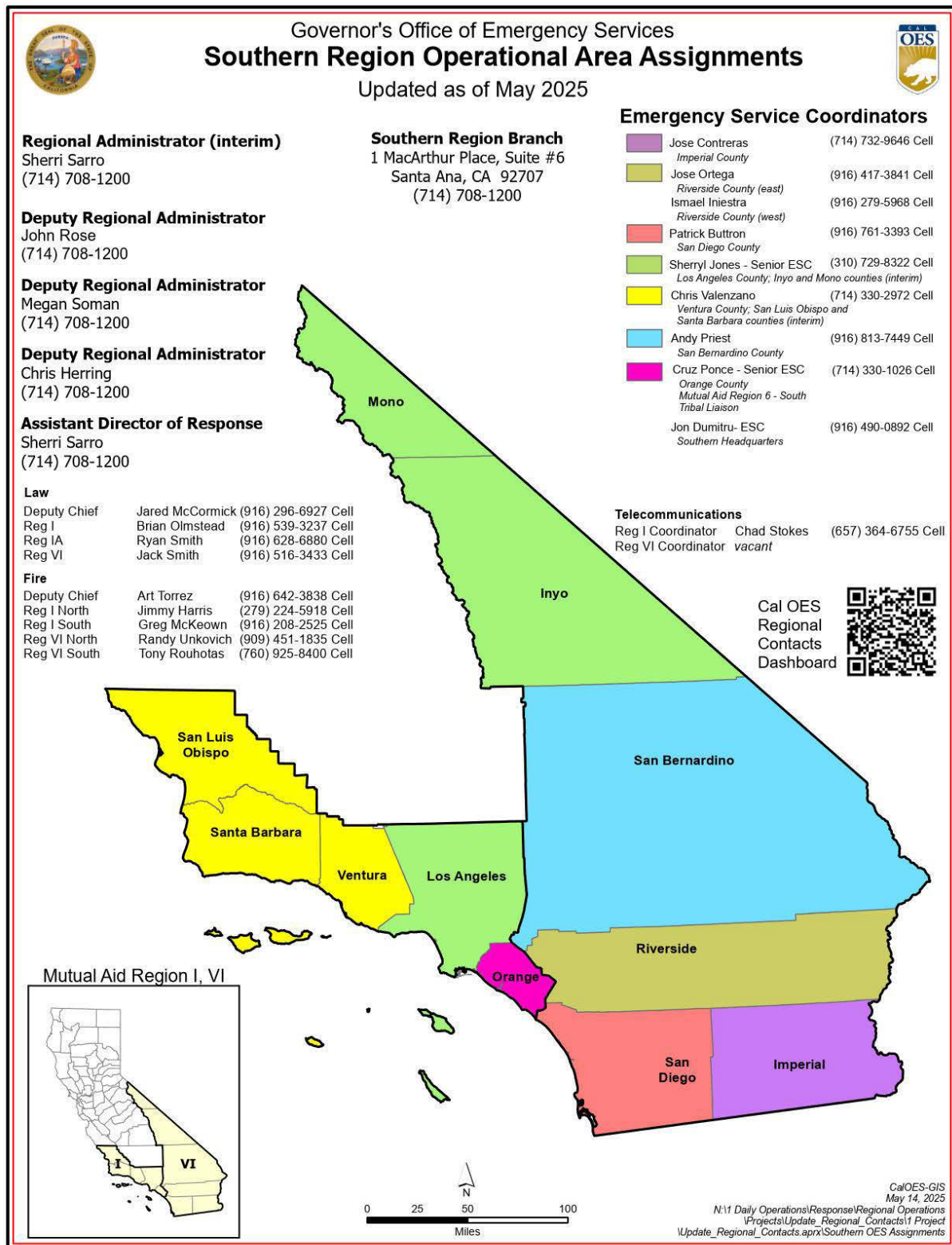
- Mutual aid resources will be provided and utilized in accordance with the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement and supporting separate agreements.
 - During a proclaimed emergency, inter-jurisdictional mutual aid will be coordinated at the appropriate Operational Area or Mutual Aid Regional level whenever the available resources are:
 - Subject to state or federal control
 - Subject to military control
 - Located outside the requesting jurisdiction
 - Allocated on a priority basis
 - Due to the variety of radio communications systems, local agencies should coordinate, where possible, with incoming mutual aid forces to provide an interoperable communications plan.
 - Requests for and coordination of mutual aid support will normally be accomplished through established channels (cities to Operational Areas, to Mutual Aid Regions, to State). Requests should include, as applicable:
 - Number of personnel needed
 - Type and amount of equipment
 - Reporting time and location
 - Authority to whom they are to report
 - Access routes
 - Estimated duration of operations

REFERENCES

Mutual aid assistance may be provided under one or more of the following authorities:

- California Fire and Rescue Emergency Plan
- California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan
- Local Mutual Aid Agreement
- Federal Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (Public Law 93_288)
(Provides federal support to state and local disaster activities)
- State of California Emergency Management Mutual Aid Plan (EMMA)
- Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)

Figure 3 – Southern Mutual Aid Region



ATTACHMENT 5 – RECORD OF CHANGES

Each update or change to the plan should be tracked. When changes are made to the plan, add a summary description of the change and document the date of the change, pages affected, and the name of the person who made the change.

See Plan Development and Maintenance for more information on the process for reviewing and updating the plan on page 36.

Nature of Change	Date of Change	Page(s) Affected	Changes Made By
Basic Plan, Whole Community Approach	4/3/26	14-16	N.Zubel
Basic Plan, Record of Distribution	4/3/26	4-6	N.Zubel
Basic Plan, Figure 1 – San Diego OA EOC Roles/Functional	4/3/26	23-24	N.Zubel
Basic Plan, On-Scene Command and Management	4/3/26	33	N.Zubel
Basic Plan, Attachment 1: Glossary and Definitions	4/7/26	46, 51	N.Zubel
Basic Plan, Attachment 4: Mutual Aid	4/3/26	76	N.Zubel
Annex A, Concept of Operations	9/25/25	2	N.Zubel
Annex A, Proclamations of Emergency	4/3/26	5	N.Zubel
Annex A, Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities	9/25/25	6-14	N.Zubel
Annex A, Information Collection and Dissemination	4/5/26	14-15	N.Zubel
Annex C, Objectives	4/2/26	3	N.Zubel

Nature of Change	Date of Change	Page(s) Affected	Changes Made By
Annex G, Assumptions Alternative temporary congregate sheltering options How information on shelter locations and available resources is communicated to the general public Culturally appropriate accommodations in County-operated shelters for tribal communities Resource information sharing options and where and how tribal members can access them Non-congregate sheltering	6/4/25 7/18/25 10/2/25 2/12/26	3-5	G.Johnston L.Caracciolo S.Gonzalez D.Vasquez N.Zubel
Annex G, Shelter Operations County, American Red Cross, and local jurisdiction responsibilities	5/21/25 10/2/25 11/3/25	7-8	L.Caracciolo D.Vasquez
Annex G, Feeding Operations Feeding operations activities	2/12/26	8-10	N.Zubel
Annex G, Bulk Distribution Planning consideration for accessible, neighborhood-based Points of Distribution locations Planning consideration for providing culturally and dietarily appropriate food options at food distribution sites	2/12/26	11	N.Zubel

Nature of Change	Date of Change	Page(s) Affected	Changes Made By
Annex G, Support for Individuals with Disabilities and Others with Access and Functional Needs Arrange for transportation services to transport individuals to and from shelter locations and to other service delivery sites. Transportation options may include the use of bus, rail, and paratransit services.	2/10/26	12-13	N.Zubel
Annex G, Roles and Responsibilities San Diego Gas & Electric, Community Resource Centers	2/18/26	21	N.Zubel
Annex G, Types of Sheltering Sites Non-congregate sheltering	10/28/25	28	D.Vasquez
Annex G, Household Pet Shelters Assembly Bill 781 which requires local governments to designate shelters that can accommodate people with pets.	3/25/25	28	S.Gonzalez
Annex I, Communications	6/29/25 4/3/25	4, 8-11	J.Hebert N.Zubel
Annex J, Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities	8/20/25 4/4/26	4-7	S.Gonzalez N.Zubel
Annex J, Concept of Operations	9/15/25	2-3	S.Gonzalez
Annex K, Logistics	6/23/25 4/4/26	6, 10-11	N.Alejandro N.Zubel
Annex L, Policies and Guidelines for Emergency Public Information	8/20/25	1-2	S.Gonzalez
Annex L, Partner Relay Threshold languages	7/22/25	5	S.Gonzalez
Annex L, Information Collection and Dissemination	2/9/26	7-8	N.Zubel

Nature of Change	Date of Change	Page(s) Affected	Changes Made By
Annex L, Alternative Alert and Warning Systems Hi-Lo Audible Alert and Warning Systems Helicopter Loudspeaker Announcements	2/9/26	10	S.Gonzalez N.Zubel
Annex L, Regional Communications Protocol: Coordinated Release of Public Information during OA EOC Activation	9/4/25	24-25	Y.Urrea Moe
Annex O, Sheltering of Animals at Public Shelters Assembly Bill 781 which requires local governments to designate shelters that can accommodate people with pets.	6/24/25	4	S.Gonzalez
Annex O, Sheltering of Large Animals	6/24/25	5	S.Gonzalez
Annex O, Care of Animals Left in Evacuated Areas Assembly Bill 478 which requires local governments to include pet rescue procedures in emergency evacuation plans.	1/28/26	5-6	S.Gonzalez
Annex O, Sick Animals in Shelters	6/24/25	6	S.Gonzalez
Annex O, Attachment 2: Animal Decontamination Procedures	8/26/25	20	S.Gonzalez
Annex O, Attachment 3: Deceased Animal Removal	6/30/25	21-22	S.Gonzalez
Annex O, Attachment 4: Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Framework	4/4/25	23-24	S.Gonzalez
Annex P Summary of San Diego County Regional Protocol for Intentional Mass Casualty Incidents	9/25/25	1-7	L.Caracciolo
Annex Q, Evacuation/Repopulation Process	10/31/25	1	S.Gonzalez
Annex Q, Evacuation Zones	10/31/25	2	S.Gonzalez

Nature of Change	Date of Change	Page(s) Affected	Changes Made By
Annex Q, Evacuation Population Types	11/3/25	3	S.Gonzalez
Annex Q, Assumptions Percentage of population that refuses to evacuate Impact of tourism and visitors during evacuation Evacuation routes and traffic conditions Areas with limited access and strategies to mitigate traffic congestion during evacuations	11/7/25 2/6/26	5-8	S.Gonzalez N.Zubel
Annex Q, Concept of Operations Initial Incident and On-Scene Response Situation Analysis and Evaluation Decision to Evacuate Mobilization Notification Evacuation Care and Shelter	12/31/25	8-29	S.Gonzalez
Annex Q, Alert and Warning Genasys Protect App Helicopter Loudspeaker Announcements Hi-Lo Audible Warning System Partner Relay Network	11/24/25	13-15	S.Gonzalez

Nature of Change	Date of Change	Page(s) Affected	Changes Made By
Annex Q, Evacuation Informational Updates Communication channels used to inform the public about where to access organization resources and when evacuations are lifted and it is safe to return home.	2/6/26	15-16	N.Zubel
Annex Q, Individuals with Disabilities and Others with Access and Functional Needs Transportation assistance options for individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs who do not own a vehicle or cannot drive during evacuations.	2/6/26	22-23	N.Zubel
Annex Q, Small Animal Evacuations Assembly Bill 478 which requires local governments to include pet rescue procedures in emergency evacuation plans.	2/6/26	24-25	S.Gonzalez
Annex Q, Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities	7/3/25 11/6/25 12/30/25	32, 33-36, 38, 40	N.Zubel M.Hanks S.Gonzalez
Annex Q, Authorities and References Evacuation Authority	11/7/25	42	N.Zubel
Annex Q, Attachment 3: County of San Diego Ag Pass Program	3/12/25	51-52	S.Gonzalez
Annex Q, Attachment 4: Finding Your Evacuation Zones	11/7/25	53-55	N.Zubel