

SEVERE WEATHER RESPONSE PLAN CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA



MAP 12, 2008

Newport News Office of Emergency Management

PROMULGATION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Severe Weather Response Plan is to provide a guide for an effective and coordinated response on the part of local government and supporting organizations in the event of a severe weather emergency including hurricanes, floods, severe thunderstorms, winter storms, tornados and extreme heat. As a hazard-specific plan, The Severe Weather Response Plan goes beyond general guidance and includes detailed operational procedures, decision-making tools and climatologically research as needed.

The Severe Weather Response Plan is an annex of the City of Newport News Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) that includes the Basic Plan and other hazard-specific annexes. The EOP describes the concept of emergency operations, and assigns duties and responsibilities to primary and support agencies in time of emergency. This Severe Weather Emergency Response Plan will be used in conjunction with Incident Annex AA "Severe Weather" of the Newport News Emergency Operations Plan.

The Severe Weather Response Plan will replace the Hurricane Response Plan originally drafted in 1992 and later revised in 1994 and 1997. This new Severe Weather Response Plan was expanded to include a broader range of natural hazards such as flash flooding, tornadoes, microburst thunderstorms, extreme winter weather and other meteorological activity that often accompanies Tropical Storms, Hurricanes and Nor'easters. This Plan also includes updates consistent with the following developments.

1. Revised Hurricane Tracking and Evacuation Plan in response to the Hurricane Evacuation Restudy (2006) from the Army Corps of Engineers Norfolk Division, and the Virginia Department of Transportation.
2. Phase II Evacuation Planning and other transportation logistics consistent with the Virginia Department of Transportation Hampton Roads Hurricane Evacuation Plan
3. Revised Flood Zones and Storm Surge Inundation maps for Newport News based on the impact of a Category 1-4 Hurricane or Tropical Storm.
4. An enhanced Fujita Scale from the National Weather Service for tracking Tornadoes and Severe Thunderstorms
5. Hurricane Decision Arcs and other computerized simulation programs such as HAZUS, HURREVAC and SLOSH are used to assist the Emergency Operations Center make decisions about evacuations.
6. Revised Newport News Evacuation Zones based on transportation and engineering logistics in vulnerable communities of Hampton Roads

The Severe Weather Response Plan is developed under the authority of the Virginia Emergency Services and Disaster Laws, Title 44. The Newport News Office of Emergency Management is established by City Code, Chapter 2, Article XXVII and is responsible for citywide emergency planning to include the natural hazards outlined in this plan.

The Severe Weather Response Plan only requires signed approval from the City Manager who, by state code, is the Director of Emergency Management. In accordance with the Virginia Disaster Law, this plan was included with Council's adoption of the Emergency Operations Plan by Resolution on September 26, 2006.

Randy W. Hildebrandt
City Manager

PREFACE

The City of Newport News is one of twenty one (21) coastal localities in Virginia where a hurricane threat is a major hazard and where a Severe Weather Response Plan is needed. As noted in the latest evacuation study, up to 65,650 residents live in vulnerable areas that may be advised to evacuate their homes if a Category 4 or higher hurricane threatens the area. Although, outside agencies will have resources to provide massive aid under catastrophic conditions, the City of Newport News must be prepared to operate a minimum of five (5) days without assistance after a disaster.

The Severe Weather Response Plan is an annex of the City of Newport News Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) that includes the Basic Plan and other hazard-specific annexes. The EOP describes the concept of emergency operations, and assigns duties and responsibilities to primary and support agencies in time of emergency. This Severe Weather Emergency Response Plan will be used in conjunction with Incident Annex AA "Severe Weather" of the Newport News Emergency Operations Plan.

1. **Basic Plan:** The Basic Plan describes the concept of emergency operations and assigns duties and responsibilities to agency heads or organizations that either are part of, or will serve in support of, local government in time of emergency.

2. **Functional Annexes:** The Functional Annexes are divided into functional areas or tasks that are directly correlated to the Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) in the Emergency Operation Plan. Each ESF identifies primary and supporting departments, divisions, agencies, and volunteer organizations. In The Severe Weather Plan, the Functional Annexes include: Direction and Control, Communications and Warning, Emergency Public Information, Law Enforcement & Transportation, Mass Care and Resource Management. It should be noted that the current ESF's as written in the Emergency Operations Plan may be revised to match the National Response Framework and the State of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan.

3. **Incident-Specific Appendices:** The incident appendices are specific documents that provide the appropriate history and context of each type of hazard or event. For the Severe Weather Response Plan the incident appendices include: Flooding, Hurricanes, Winter Weather, Severe Thunderstorms and Extreme Heat.

CITY AGENCY DISTRIBUTION LIST

City Agency	Hard Copies	Digital Copies	Intranet Available	Total	Internal Distribution
City Council	7	0	Yes	7	
City Clerk	1	1	Yes	2	
City Manager's Office	2	2	Yes	4	City Manager, Asst. City Managers (1 each)
Office of Emergency Management	10	10	Yes	20	Coordinator (1), Deputy (2), Planner (1), Office Copy (1), EOC (10), EIC (4), Library (1).
Assessor's Office	1	1	Yes	2	
Budget and Evaluation	1	1	Yes	2	
City Attorney	1	1	Yes	2	
City Farm	1	1	Yes	2	
Codes Compliance	1	1	Yes	2	
Commissioner of the Revenue	1	1	Yes	2	
Communications Group	1	1	Yes	2	
Development	1	1	Yes	2	
911 Emergency Communications Center	1	1	Yes	2	
Engineering	1	1	Yes	2	
Finance	1	1	Yes	2	
Fire Department	10	10	Yes	20	Chief (1), Deputy Chiefs (2), Asst. Chiefs (3), Fire Prevention (1), Fire Training (1), Fire Stations (2).
Health Department	1	1	Yes	2	
Human Resources	1	1	Yes	2	
Human Services	3	3	Yes	6	Director, Assistant Director, Shelter Team Manager
Information Technology	1	1	Yes	2	
Internal Audit	1	1	Yes	2	
Juvenile Services	1	1	Yes	2	
Libraries & Information Services	7	7	Yes	14	Administration (1), Libraries-public copies (6)

CITY AGENCY DISTRIBUTION LIST (Continued)

City Agency	Hard Copies	Digital Copies	Intranet Available	Total	Internal Distribution
Parks, Recreation & Tourism	2	2	Yes	4	Administration (1), Operations (1), Animal Services (1)
Planning	2	2	Yes	4	Administration (1), Planning (1)
Police Department	4	4	Yes	8	Chief (1), Deputy Chief (1), Asst. Chiefs (2),
Public Utilities	6	6	Yes	12	Director (1), Admin Services Mgr. (1), Lee Hall MOC (1), Lee Hall Treatment Facility (1), Harwood's Mill (1), 60 th Street Facility (1).
Public Works	2	2	Yes	4	Director (1), Operations Center (1)
Purchasing	1	1	Yes	2	
School Administration	3	3	Yes	6	Superintendent (1), Asst. Supt., Business & Support Services (1), Security Supervisor (1)
Office of Self Insurance	1	1	Yes	2	
Sheriff	1	1	Yes	2	
Treasurer	1	1	Yes	2	
Vehicle and Equipment Services	1	1	Yes	2	
Video Production Services	2	2	Yes	4	Production Manager (1) Chief Engineer (1)
TOTALS	78	75		157	

NON-CITY AGENCY DISTRIBUTION LIST
(CD/Digital Copies Only)

Agency	CD/Digital Copies	Internal Distribution
City of Hampton Emergency Management	1	
City of Suffolk Emergency Management	1	
York County Emergency Management	1	
James City County Emergency Management	1	
Jefferson Labs	1	
Isle of Wight County Emergency Management	1	
Hampton Roads Sanitation District	1	
City of Poquoson Emergency Management	1	
Fort Eustis	1	Commander, Disaster Services
Langley Air Force Base	1	Commander, Disaster Preparedness
Mary Immaculate Hospital	1	
National Weather Service Wakefield	1	
Northrop Grumman	3	Radiological Controls, Environmental Engineering, Security
Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport	1	
Peninsula Emergency Medical Services Council	1	
American Red Cross – Hampton Roads Chapter	1	Executive Director
Riverside Regional Medical Center	1	
Salvation Army	1	
Virginia Department of Emergency Management	1	Operations, Planning, Regional Coordinator, Regional Hazmat Officer
Virginia Natural Gas	1	
Dominion Virginia Power	1	Operations Center (Norfolk) (1), Surry Nuclear Power Station (1).
US Army Corps of Engineers	1	
US Coast Guard	1	
Virginia State Police	1	
VPI Cooperative Extension	1	
Yorktown Naval Weapons Station	1	Commander, Disaster Preparedness
TOTAL	28	

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Severe Weather Response Plan		Page
Record of Changes		ii
Promulgation Statement		iii
Preface		iv
City Agency Distribution List		v
Non-City Distribution List		vii
Table of Contents		viii
BASIC PLAN		
Purpose		1
Scope and Applicability		1
Organization		1
Concept of Operations		1
Training and Exercise Requirements		3
Authorities and References		4
Definitions		5
FUNCTIONAL ANNEXES		
Annex A: Direction and Control		A-1
Purpose		A-1
Scope and Applicability		A-1
Organization		A-1
Concept of Operations		A-1
Direction and Control Actions		A-2
• HURREVAC		A-6
Annex B: Communications and Warning		B-1
Purpose		B-1
Scope and Applicability		B-1
Organization		B-1
Concept of Operations		B-1
Communications and Warning Actions		B-2
• Types of Warnings		B-5
Annex C: Emergency Public Information		C-1
Purpose		C-1
Scope and Applicability		C-1
Organization		C-1
Concept of Operations		C-2
Emergency Public Information Actions		C-2
• Public Information Objectives		C-5

Annex D: Law Enforcement and Evacuation	D-1
Purpose	D-1
Scope and Applicability	D-1
Organization	D-2
Concept of Operations	D-2
Law Enforcement & Evacuation Actions	D-3
• Hurricane Evacuation Zone Description	D-5
• VDOT Hampton Roads Hurricane Traffic Control Plan	D-7
• VDOT Phased Evacuation Routes	D-9
• VDOT Phase Two (Newport News) Evacuation	D-10
ANNEX E: Mass Care	
Purpose	E-1
Scope and Applicability	E-1
Organization	E-1
Concept of Operations	E-1
Mass Care Actions	E-2
• Primary and Secondary Shelters	E-5
• Shelter Surge Pre-Post Event	E-6
ANNEX F: Resource Management	
Purpose	F-1
Scope and Applicability	F-1
Organization	F-1
Concept of Operations	F-2
Mass Care Actions	F-3
• Elements of a Resource List	F-5
• Resource Storage/Dist. Centers	F-6
INCIDENT APPENDICES	
APPENDIX 1: Flood Emergency	1-1
• <i>Flood Insurance Rate Map</i>	1-6
APPENDIX 2: Hurricane Emergency	2-1
• Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale	2-5
• Critical Transportation Links	2-6
• <i>Hurricane Surge Map</i>	2-7
APPENDIX 3: Winter Storm Emergency	3-1
• Wind Chill Chart	3-3
APPENDIX 4: Severe Thunderstorm Emergency	4-1
• Enhanced Fujita Scale	4-5
APPENDIX 5: Heat/Drought Emergency	5-1
• Heat Index	5-3

Note: This plan contains only those Functional Annexes relative to the City of Newport News Severe Weather Response Plan. All other Functional Annexes are located in the City's Emergency Operations Plan.