



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #V.C

DATE: MARCH 2, 2015
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM UPDATE

South Florida Local Emergency Planning Committee Activities (SoFlaLEPC)

EPA's Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know-Act (EPCRA) was passed by Congress in 1986 to provide public access to chemical information reported annually by Section 302 Facilities. Section 302 Facilities manufacture, store, distribute or utilize Extremely Hazardous Substances (EHS) as defined by EPA in amounts exceeding certain thresholds. The Florida Legislature created 11 Local Emergency Planning Committees in 1988 to implement EPCRA in the State. LEPC Districts coincide with those of Regional Planning Councils. The SoFlaLEPC holds quarterly meetings that are open to the public. Current membership consists of nearly 50 members from categories such as emergency management, public utilities, environmental, fire rescue, law enforcement, hazardous materials, health/medical and private industry.

SoFlaLEPC activities include public outreach and hazardous materials training and exercises for first responders and others provided free of charge. Over the last 12 years, more than 135 class sessions have trained nearly 3,500 responders in the Region.

Our most recent class, *How to Comply*, was sponsored jointly with the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM). Section 302 Facilities are required to file chemical inventory information with the State every March 1st. This class provided training on using online tools to facilitate the filing process and was particularly valuable to the private sector. Of the more than 50 participants, nearly 75% were representatives from local firms, including FPL, Airbus, Black and Decker, Southern Wine and Spirits, Allied Universal, Dillard's, Wheelabrator North Broward, Cliff Berry, Sun Sentinel and others.

Currently Scheduled Training

Date	Class	Location
March 18 & 19, 2015	HAZWOPER* Refresher	Broward EOC, Plantation

* HAZWOPER – Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response



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Here is a list of training exercises sponsored by SoFlaLEPC over the last few years:

Year	Training Scenario
2014	Separate HazMat railcar accidents near Port Everglades, a South Miami-Dade WTP and near MIA
2012	HazMat truck shipment spilled on US27 from Broward to Hialeah
2010	Radiation leak at a construction site due to damaged equipment
2008	HazMat spill from car-truck collision in Homestead

Regional Domestic Security Activities

Pursuant to Florida Statutes, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) established a Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) in each of its seven regions. Their responsibilities include establishing, implementing and maintaining public information/awareness programs; planning and coordinating training and exercises and providing direction and oversight to interdisciplinary workgroups, such as law enforcement, fire rescue, medical/health, emergency management, K-24, interoperable communications and training/exercise. The Southeast RDSTF/Region 7 includes Miami-Dade, Broward, Monroe and Palm Beach counties. Council staff works with the SERDSTF to assist the Region in scheduling and coordinating training classes and exercises.

Regional Exercises conducted on behalf of the Region

Year	Training Scenario	Location
2014	Operation RenderSafe - Active Shooters, Improvised Explosive Devices, HazMat Explosion and Mass Casualty Event	Miami Beach City Hall & Convention Center
2012	Forensics Response Teams – Bus explosion for CSI technicians	PBSO Shooting Range
2012	Pandemic Flu Epidemic – Inform and Review Response Plans	SFRPC in Hollywood
2011	Operation Ready2Connect – Interoperable Communications	Lake Okeechobee, PBC
2009	Federal Reserve Bank of Miami – Plane Crash and Site Evacuation	City of Doral

Southeast Florida Fusion Center (SFFC)

The SFFC provides all-hazards information sharing between law enforcement, fire, emergency management, health, education and private sector partners to deter, detect and prevent terrorist acts as well as prepare for and respond to natural or manmade disasters. Its goal is to break down barriers in communication between agencies and facilitate enhanced information sharing to protect the citizens of South Florida. Through a unique regional partnership, the Council hires Grant Contract Employees (whose positions are contingent upon continued federal grant funding) and stations them at various Fusion Center locations throughout the Region. Four analysts are working with the Palm Beach Sheriff’s Office (PBSO), three with the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) and one with the Broward Sheriff’s Office (BSO). Additionally, one Information Sharing Coordinator covers the entire four-county area. The Executive Director, or designee, provide supervision on an ongoing basis to ensure contracts are up to date, renegotiated on a timely basis and sufficient grant funds are available. This includes paymaster services and other administrative support as needed.

Recommendation

Information only.