

Minutes
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS BOARD
Thursday, November 9, 2023, 3:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting

Board Members Present

John Weight
Matt Szabo
Kristin Crowley
Tony Royster
Marla Bleavins
Ted Ross
Michel Moore
Aura Garcia

Department

Building and Safety
City Administrative Officer
Fire
General Services
Harbor
Information Technology
Police
Public Works

Board Members Absent

Beatrice Hsu
Sharon Tso
Carol Parks
Dana Brown
Jimmy Kim
Connie Llanos
Martin Adams

Department

Airports
Chief Legislative Analyst
Emergency Management
Personnel
Recreation and Parks
Transportation
Water and Power

Also Present

Justin Pierce
Lisa Yancey
Mary Reuschel
Jonathan Bislig
Crisanta Gonzalez
Stephanie Kim
Cecilia Law
Valeria Ontiveros
Thalia Polychronis
Gary Singer
Rico Gross
Jason Hing
Howard Bein
Eric Robles
Lynette Ursery
Eddie Guerra
David Kowalski
Paul Weinberg
Erica Frausto-Aguado

Department

Airports
Building and Safety
City Administrative Office
City Attorney
Emergency Management
Emergency Management
Emergency Management
Emergency Management
Emergency Management
Emergency Management
Fire
Fire
General Services
General Services
Harbor
Police
Police
Transportation
American Red Cross

I. Declaration of Quorum

Chief Moore called the Emergency Operations Board (EOB) meeting to order and declared a quorum at 3:06 p.m.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Action Items

A. The August 21 and September 14, 2023 meeting minutes were approved.

B. The August 19-23, 2023 Tropical Storm Hilary Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Activation After Action Report was approved.

IV. Informational Items**A. Los Angeles Fire Department Wildfire Season Planning**

Jason Hing reported that the wildfire season is now considered ongoing year round due to climate change. The mission of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) remains the same – To preserve life, protect property, and safeguard the communities through relentless commitment to emergency preparedness, prevention, response, and recovery. For wildfire planning and preparedness, LAFD continues the following programs: safety education/training programs for all levels of officers; annual review of the brush clearance program and evacuation plan; red flag restricted parking program; heavy equipment usage program; and mutual aid agreements review. LAFD will host community evacuation training in Council District Four and Eleven, participate in seminars and fairs, and achieve the seven goals of the LAFD's strategic plan.

B. National Weather Service (NWS) 2023-2024 Winter Weather Forecasting Brief

Ariel Cohen reported that there is a strong possibility of an El Nino pattern in the winter season as the sea surface temperature is rising. It is anticipated that there is a 50% chance of a wet winter and storms are bringing above normal precipitation. It is advised to prepare for a high impact of flooding due to the El Nino weather forecast.

C. Local Impacts of Israel/Gaza Conflict

David Kowalski reported that since October 7, 2023, 1,400 Israelis, 10,500 Palestinians and 39 U.S. citizens have been killed during the Israel/Gaza conflict. Even though there were no specific threats to the City, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is prepared to respond to any incidents. The department has been deploying additional patrol resources Citywide, particularly in the around houses of worship. Forums were initiated with the Jewish and Muslim

communities to reduce fears as there were 32 hate crimes reported in the City since the war started. LAPD is monitoring online hatred expressions, cyber security attacks, and protests. Members of the public are encouraged to report any incidents via the reporting platforms such as iWatch, LAPDOnline, the FBI website. It is important to “See Something, Say Something”.

D. Report on the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Valeria Ontiveros reported that Tetra Tech, the contractor, has started the analysis of hazards and their impacts on the City’s critical infrastructure with the data submitted by City departments. The next phase of the update is to refine the language for the mitigation actions with each of the departments, estimate costs, and prioritize next steps.

E. 2024 City of Los Angeles Department Emergency Plan and Continuity of Operations Planning Process

Stephanie Kim reported that the Emergency Management Department presented a new template for the combined Department Emergency and Continuity of Operations Plan at the November 2 informational meeting. The annual plan revision is due on January 31, 2024.

F. Update to City of Los Angeles Emergency Operations Base Plan

Valeria Ontiveros reported that the logistics Section of the Base Plan has been updated. The civil defense language was also added.

V. Adjournment

The EOB meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Cecilia Law, Executive Administrative Assistant
Emergency Management Department

Thalia Polychronis, Executive Assistant
Emergency Operations Board