



Public Works Department Emergency Response and Disaster Preparedness

Public Works Commission

March 9, 2017



Presentation Objectives

- Background and Benefits of Emergency Management
- Role of Public Works
- Priorities: Current State/Next Steps
- Staff Recommendation



Background

What types of emergencies and disasters do we face?

- Earthquakes
- Storms and Flooding
- Hill slides
- Man-made emergencies and disasters; i.e. reservoir leaks, large scale water main breaks, damage to infrastructure, long-term interruption of water supply





Benefits

Why do we need to focus on emergency response and disaster preparedness?

- Proactively address gaps
- More efficient use of resources
- Effectively budget for needs
- Staff and community better prepared to respond



Our Role

What is the role of Public Works?

- Respond to emergencies of all sizes in order to first protect life then property
- Following an emergency, the department will focus on recovery efforts

Efforts include but are not limited too:

- Maintaining the water supply and distribution system
- Managing the removal of debris
- Safeguarding City facilities and property
- Maintaining street lighting and traffic signal operations
- Providing support to the residents



Current Priorities

1. Debris management planning
2. Continuity of water supply
3. Continuity of electrical supply
4. Coordination with external agencies



Debris Management Plan

What is a Debris Management Plan?

- The Debris Management Plan provides a blueprint for the monitoring, sorting, and removal of debris following a disaster or destructive event
- The Debris Management Plan also predesignates a temporary disposal site to manage the debris from the disaster

Current State

- The City is working on a Debris Management Plan with expectations that it will be completed in fiscal year 2017-18
- The City also has an existing tree maintenance agreement to provide emergency tree removal and abatement. However, the City would need to mobilize additional equipment and resources during a larger-scale emergency



Debris Management Plan

Next Steps

- Finalize Debris Management Plan
 - Communicate Plan to Staff
 - Train Staff
 - Test the Plan





Water Supply

There are two primary types of events that could impact the availability of water within the City

1. Water main break in City distribution system:

Initial Response by PW Crews

- Locate the leak(s)
- Isolate the main break(s)
- Repair quickly and with minimal disruption to customers

Issues associated with water main breaks

- Traffic mitigation
- Emergency street repair
- Private property damage assessment
- Communication to stakeholders





Water Supply

2. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (“MWD”) water supply

Current State

- The City currently receives 100% of its water from MWD
- With operational wells the City receives 90% of its water from MWD
- Two import water connections (BH1 & BH2)
- Emergency connections with LADWP



Water Supply

Next Steps

- Finalize Water Main Emergency Action Plan
 - Communicate plan to staff
 - Train staff
 - Test the Plan
- Decrease reliance on MWD (alternative sources of supply)
- Evaluate and ensure adequate emergency water storage and reservoirs
- Add another emergency connection to LADWP supply



Electrical Supply

Current State

- Southern California Edison (SCE) provides residents with electricity. During emergency responses SCE performs emergency repairs and facilitates communications regarding incidents to customers
- The City's Public Information Office maintains communication with SCE when electrical service has been interrupted and provides updates to the Office of Emergency Management during emergencies.
- The City has some gas powered pumps which allow the City to pump water during a power outage

Next Steps

- Public Works will review the backup power capabilities at the City's wells and pump stations, and reservoirs to identify additional needs
- Send Customer Service staff to SCE's "Outage" Training



External Agency Coordination

Current State

Water Main Emergency Action Plan -The City, MWD, and LADWP previously held quarterly meetings to address ongoing concerns and have completed a draft of the plan

Next Steps

- Identify opportunities for interagency training exercises
- Enhance public education and outreach efforts regarding emergency and disaster preparedness



Public Works Commission

Staff recommendation:

The formation of a Public Works Commission Emergency Response Ad-Hoc Subcommittee to provide input on gaps in the department's existing emergency response practices and procedures

- Should the Commission recommend the formation of an Emergency Response Ad-Hoc Subcommittee, the subcommittee will begin meeting in spring 2017
- It is anticipated that the Subcommittee will continue to meet periodically into fiscal year 2017-18 to review the recommended focus areas, as appropriate
- The Subcommittee will report its recommendations to the Public Works Commission, at which time the entire Commission will consider how to move forward with the recommendations



PW Commission's Role

Input items for the subcommittee:

Debris Management Planning

- Review the draft debris management plan

Water Supply

- Emergency Water Conservation Plan
 - Recommend modifications to mandatory cutbacks (Stage E)
 - Recommend alternative ways to communicate restrictions to residents
- Emergency Water Storage Capacity
 - Recommend policies



PW Commission's Role

Input items for the subcommittee:

Electrical Supply

- Review existing electrical supply capabilities for wells, pump stations reservoirs, and Water Treatment Plant

External Agency Coordination

- Actively engage other agencies/commissions to enhance response, as needed



Questions?