



# 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?