



Seattle Office of
Emergency Management
Annual Report

2012

OEM VISION

Disaster ready...prepared people, resilient community

OEM MISSION

We partner with the community to prepare for, respond to, mitigate the impacts of, and recover from disasters.

PRINCIPALS OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- ◆ Comprehensive: We consider and take into account all hazards, all phases, all stakeholders and all impacts relevant to disasters.
- ◆ Progressive: We anticipate future disasters and take preventive and preparatory measures to build disaster-resistant and disaster-resilient communities.
- ◆ Risk-Driven: We use sound risk management principles (hazard identification, risk analysis, and impact analysis) in assigning priorities and resources.
- ◆ Integrated: We ensure unity of effort among all levels of government and all elements of the community.
- ◆ Collaborative: We create and sustain broad and sincere relationships among individuals and organizations to encourage trust, advocate a team atmosphere, build consensus, and facilitate communication.
- ◆ Flexible: We use creative and innovative approaches in solving disaster challenges.
- ◆ Professional: We value a science and knowledge-based approach based on education, training, experience, ethical practice, public stewardship and continuous improvement.

VALUES

Service Oriented, Collaborative, Continuous Improvement

FROM THE DIRECTOR – BARB GRAFF

I am pleased to share with you a year-end summary of accomplishments and activities of the Seattle Office of Emergency Management. 2012 blew in with a snow and ice storm that kept the Emergency Operations Center activated for a solid week mid-January. Because forecasters had predicted record snow accumulation, the Weather Channel and ABC News sent crews to cover the response. Though snow records weren't broken, the ice made the event quite memorable. In all, 347 shifts were staffed in the EOC and 45 Snap Shot reports kept our many stakeholders apprised of response operations. The storm and our Emergency Operations Center activation were a testament to the time and energy we put into building partnerships. That time and energy paid off in other ways throughout the year as well. 2012 was all about practicing relying on one another.

In late July, a problem with the power supply that serves major information technology resources in the Seattle Municipal Tower necessitated a major repair. The Office of Emergency Management conducted

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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Continued from Page 2

contingency planning throughout August and practiced for the first time being able to transfer operations to the University of Washington Emergency Operations Center.

Seattle had worked with a handful of emergency managers throughout the State to encourage State Legislature adoption of intrastate mutual aid in 2011. In 2012, Seattle was the first jurisdiction to use what is now known as WAMAC – Washington Mutual Aid Compact to lend Kittitas County two Staff Duty Officers to help coordinate operations in support of the Taylor Bridge wildfire response and relief efforts.

Hurricane Sandy proved not for the first time ... that when first responders are overwhelmed by the scale of a disaster, community members need to be prepared to take care of themselves and each other for longer than the traditional 3 days we have longed advocated. Our new mantra this year has been, “What to Do to Make it Through” based on what people told us in focus groups. Do what’s necessary and realistic and reach out to form partnerships to make it easier. In keeping with that partnership theme, I’m very proud to announce that we hired Tracy Connelly as our Community Planning Coordinator who is helping all segments of our community understand their part in our readiness mosaic.

The Office of Emergency Management worked diligently this year to “plan *with* rather than *for*” (in the words of FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate) people in our community whose ability to survive a disaster can be compromised by a second language, economic circumstances, access or functional needs, etc. In recognition of those efforts, the staff of OEM were honored with an “Excellence in Inclusion Award” by the Seattle People with disAbilities Commission in December.

Humbled and energized by this honor, we look forward to 2013 as we delve into a two year full-fledged post disaster recovery planning process and begin preparing to have our emergency program accredited. To the incredibly talented staff of the Seattle Office of Emergency Management, our many partner agencies, and the people we serve every day of the year – thank you for all you do to help us all “Make it Through.”

Barb

OEM HONORED

The Seattle Office of Emergency Management was presented with the “Excellence in Inclusion Award” from the Commission for People with disAbilities at the Seattle Human Rights Day Celebration held on December 13, 2012. The award recognized the office for their work in bringing the whole community approach to preparing individuals and strengthening communities before, during and after disasters and integrating the access and functional needs of people with disabilities into general emergency management planning, response, recovery and mitigation.



Representatives from OEM Staff accept award from Mayor Mike McGinn and members of disAbilities Commission

2012 OVERVIEW



Seattle Office of Emergency Management (OEM) was involved with a wide array of activities over the course of 2012. The following are just a few of the highlights.

- ◆ Activated our Emergency Operations Center three (3) times, including a 24 hour, five-day activation in January in response to the snow and ice storm.
- ◆ Shared two OEM staff members, over a weekend, to Kittitas County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to assist in their EOC as their community dealt with the Taylor Bridge Wildfire.
- ◆ Participated in the local, state and regional Evergreen Earthquake Exercise, which was sponsored by the State of Washington Emergency Management Division.
- ◆ Updated the Seattle Disaster Readiness & Response Plan (SDRRP) and completed the Department of Homeland Security "Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis" (THIRA) for the City of Seattle and Urban Area.
- ◆ Established the Seattle Zone Coordinator role in the King County Emergency Coordination Center.
- ◆ Accepted for a community-specific FEMA Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC) to occur in August of 2013.
- ◆ Kicked-off our recovery planning efforts through numerous workshops gaining valuable perspectives and ideas from the community.
- ◆ Hosted the National Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program Conference on Building Regional Resiliency, bringing over 150 participants to Seattle to discuss regional issues as they pertain to emergency management.
- ◆ Engaged with several of our counterparts from Christchurch New Zealand to learn important earthquake response and recovery lessons. This has been especially helpful as we updated our Seattle Disaster Readiness & Response plan and began our initial work in recovery planning.
- ◆ Hired a new Community Planning Coordinator who works with the community through the existing Community Emergency Hubs program, foreign consulates, and service and faith-based organizations to build resiliency throughout Seattle. This position is actively engaging areas of our community that typically have been less organized and may have barriers to overcome in organizing.

OPERATIONAL READINESS

'Operational readiness' is the term we use to describe the core of our mission in OEM. Anytime the need arises, staff drops their planning, public education and project commitments to activate the Emergency Operation Center and help coordinate a city wide response. To keep our program tuned and "ready" we plan extensively, train rigorously and exercise realistically.

ACTIVATIONS

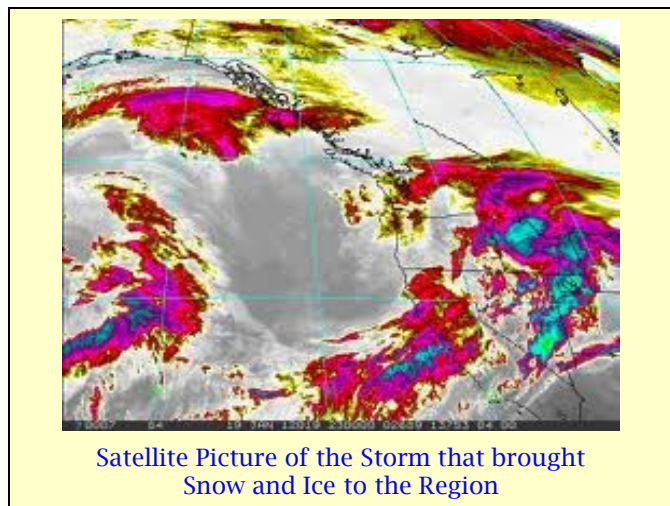
JANUARY SNOW & ICE STORM

On Friday, January 13, 2012 the National Weather Service (NWS) hosted a conference call advising that a significant snow storm was heading our way. They were calling for above average snow fall. Over the course of the next several days, OEM staff worked to prepare for the storm.

The EOC activated Monday morning, January 16, at 7:00 a.m. and remained operational until 8:00 p.m. that evening. Beginning Tuesday, January 17, weather forecasters were predicting record-breaking snow fall, and the EOC went to 24-hour coverage and remained that way through demobilization on Friday, January 20, at 11:00 a.m.

Seattle began to see snow fall early Wednesday morning and continued throughout the day. On Wednesday afternoon another weather system came through the area, dropping additional snow, for a total accumulation of 3-9 inches. Weather forecasts were predicting moderating temperatures and while there had been some discussion about freezing rain during this transition, even the forecasters were surprised by the ice storm that began early Thursday morning.

As expected, the snow accumulation created impacts to travel, business and service delivery as well as schools and



government operations. The ensuing ice storm created difficulties throughout the region. Seattle was spared the worst of these, but still had to address the treacherous road conditions, power outages due to downed trees and power lines, and falling ice from high rise buildings throughout the downtown core.

There were many successes in the EOC that reflected past lessons and on-going training and readiness including some new tools that were in use during this storm. SDOT's Winter Weather Response Map that depicts established arterial service levels and where plows have recently completed runs and the online Weather Map were both used. The online map was so popular that SPU had to put it on an isolated server to accommodate heavy traffic. Also available for public viewing were the many street cameras throughout the City. Snow Watch, a service partnership between SDOT, SPU and the University of Washington provided real-time temperatures and short term forecasts.



Snow covers one of Seattle's many hills

ACTIVATIONS

MAY DAY PROTEST

At the request of Chief Diaz, OEM staff quickly went from monitoring the May Day activities to activating the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Representatives from Police, Transportation, Parks, Human Services, Public



Utilities, Fire, Mayor's Office, City Attorney's Office, King County Metro Transit and Joint Information Center (JIC) were notified and reported to the EOC to support the Mayor's emergency order.

BUS B ACTIVATION

On Tuesday, July 25th OEM was contacted by the City's Finance and Administrative Services (FAS) Department about a potential power transmission problem in the Seattle Municipal Tower that could directly impact Department of Information Technology's (DoIT) data center. Electrical buses are used to provide power to different portions of the building. The temperature level in a section of an electrical bus, known as "Bus B," was higher than it should have been. FAS was concerned that if the Bus B failed it could cause a loss of electric power to several critical City functions including primary power to the City's Data Center, limited power to several floors of the Seattle Municipal Tower, and compromise the cooling tower that



supports the Data Center and other Information Technology spaces.

OEM began working with City Departments and external partners on contingency plans and supported Department of Information Technology (DoIT) and FAS in their efforts to repair the electrical bus.

The primary focus of OEM was to ensure critical functions had "back-up" plans if the worst case scenario were to happen. In addition the EOC staff was on "Readiness mode" and was prepared to activate if needed. Over the course of the next five weeks, FAS and DoIT worked tirelessly to fix the problem and successfully averted the worst case scenario. OEM provided support to FAS and DoIT and activated

the EOC during the maintenance work.

OEM ACTIVATIONS AND EXERCISES FOR 2012

Since 2005 the Seattle Emergency Operating Center has activated for 12 large scale exercises and 25 actual events, of which 6, were large enough to warrant a Presidential Disaster Declaration. The following table represents activations and exercises for 2012.

Year	Month	Name	Event/ Exercise	Pres. Disaster Declaration No.
2012	August	SMT Bus B Electrical (8-31 & 9-1)	Event	
2012	June	Evergreen Earthquake Exercise (6/5 & 6)	Exercise	
2012	May	May Day Protests (5/1)	Event	
2012	January	Snow & Ice (1/16-20)	Event	DR 4056

OPERATIONAL READINESS

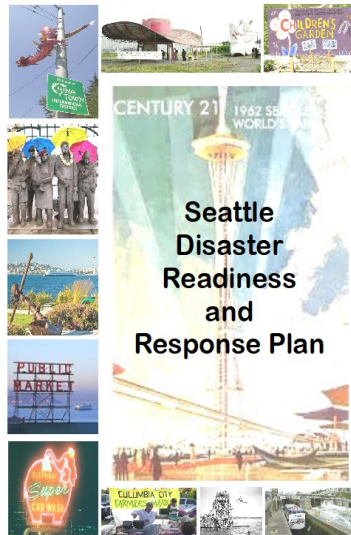
PLANNING

SEATTLE DISASTER READINESS AND RESPONSE PLAN UPDATED

OEM staff, in collaboration with City departments and agency partners, completed the update to the Seattle Disaster Readiness and Response Plan (SDRRP). This six month process reflects some significant changes including moving from “planning for” to “planning with” the community. Our planning process embraced the “whole community” concept by developing partnerships throughout the city to ensure our plans reflect the diversity of our communities.

OEM hosted two community meetings where we talked with the community about how to make the plan inclusive and what role they play in responding in a disaster.

The plan adopted Chapter 7 of the Americans with Disabilities Toolkit as a standard for disaster planning in Seattle.



The SDRRP also includes updated incident annexes for Winter Storm and Earthquake response and instituted a new process for more rapidly incorporating into the plan lessons learned, new standards and ideas into the plan.

As part of the update of the Seattle Disaster Readiness and Response Plan (SDRRP), departments across the city updated most of the Emergency Support Function (ESF) Annexes. ESFs are functional areas that must be addressed in the aftermath of a major incident and are a critical component to the overall city plan. OEM standardized the format to provide continuity and ease of reading. These updates

were included in the updated SDRRP, which was promulgated by the Mayor and adopted by the City Council in November of 2012.

PLANNING WITH PARTNERS

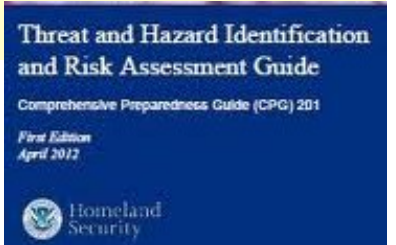


In addition to updating the SDRRP, Seattle OEM participated in planning conducted by other City Departments and regional partners. Some examples are:

- ◆ National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) Patient Reception Area Plan which details how patients will be transferred to Seattle, via military aircraft, for medical care from the scene of disaster anywhere in the United States.
- ◆ The Mass Fatality Plan that defines how fatalities will be taken care of and identified in the aftermath of a major disaster.
- ◆ Medical Surge Plan which ensures that, during a disaster when medical resources may be in short supply, the healthcare system is able to make the most efficient use of resources.
- ◆ Medical Countermeasures Plan which provides for emergency mass vaccination and dispensing of medications during an emergency.

THREAT AND HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK ANALYSIS

OEM staff and the City’s Strategic Working Group (SWG) members participated in the state-wide Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis process, which is a planning tool necessary to build emergency prevention, preparedness, response, protection, and recovery capabilities. OEM continues to lead a city-wide effort to customize information for the urban area.



PLANNING

CITY-WIDE CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLANNING

City-wide Continuity Operations Planning (COOP) began in November. This effort will increase the resiliency of City government by requiring each department to identify their essential functions and how they will maintain or restore them after a disaster has struck. City Light and OEM hosted a training class to introduce the concepts of COOP planning to those who were tasked with creating the plans.

EMERGENCY MESSAGING TO LIMITED ENGLISH SPEAKING POPULATIONS

Following the January 2012 Snow/Ice Event, OEM convened members of the Mayor's Office, Joint Information Center (JIC), various City departments, the American Red Cross and Seattle King County Public Health to address barriers to effective communication with populations of limited English proficiency. The group identified current practices that have proven successful, updated the ethnic media list and other community-based resources that could help in getting messages out, and established a checklist for the JIC to use in emergencies to ensure limited English speakers are getting the same information as our English speaking communities.



HIRAM M. CHITTENDEN LOCKS



OEM staff attended a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' briefing on the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks. The briefing provided information on the revised Dam Safety Action Classification (DSAC) rating and an overview of their prioritized repair projects. The revised rating prompted the Seattle District of the Corps of Engineers' to implement an Interim Risk Reduction Maintenance Plan. While the locks are not in any immediate risk of failure the change in the DSAC rating is significant in the overall

plans regarding repair and upgrades to the Locks.

SEATTLE COMMISSION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

OEM continued to collaborate with the Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities on review of City disaster plans and providing assistance to other departments and projects when requested. Their liaison meets monthly with Seattle OEM staff, and also serves as a member of the Regional Catastrophic Planning Group and Emergency Support Function Six Workgroup.

OPERATIONAL READINESS

TRAINING



OEM Staff provide training for EOC responders.

Bi-annually OEM conducts a four-course Emergency Operations Center training series to continually prepare EOC management, responders, and leadership for their roles in the EOC during activations. OEM staff also conducted monthly trainings to ensure all Staff Duty Officers maintain their 24/7 coordination skills and expertise.

TRAINING

(CONTINUED)

The Mayor's Emergency Executive Board (EEB) conducted four meetings during 2012. The EEB is composed of the Directors of all City departments, Seattle Housing Authority and Seattle King County Public Health who, during emergencies convene to provide advice to the Mayor and assist with emergency policy development. The quarterly meetings are an opportunity for members of the EEB to receive training, review plans and to be briefed on current issues related to emergency management.



Seal image courtesy FEMA

Going into 2013 and with the acceptance to the Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC) at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI), OEM will be conducting a series of monthly trainings to prepare 75 responders for the week-long, Seattle-customized training and exercise. The team will be on the EMI campus in Maryland and will focus on issues, strategies, and response to a significant snow, ice and wind storm. All tuition, travel and lodging are covered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Seattle IEMC will occur in August 2013.

EXERCISING

EVERGREEN EARTHQUAKE EXERCISE

Seattle participated in the regional Evergreen Earthquake 2012 Exercise. For Seattle specific preparation, OEM conducted seven training seminars to prepare the EOC and department response teams for a 6.7 magnitude earthquake scenario. Trainings covered such topics as: medical response, sheltering operations, situational awareness, regional coordination, and logistical support. Several "Hands-on" trainings were conducted in the EOC to enable further development and enhancement of operational, coordination and planning skills.



The regional Evergreen Quake exercise series consisted of exercises and workshops designed to educate and test our ability to collaboratively respond to and recover from large-magnitude earthquakes. The primary event was a two-day functional exercise. The exercise started 24 hours after the earthquake struck and provided 48 hours of simulated play over 2 days. The exercise focused on information management, transportation, medical response, and human

services and coordination with State and Federal Agencies, as well as representatives from Canada.

A post exercise survey of those who participated revealed that over 80% of respondents felt that:

- ◆ The exercise aided in understanding the role that other agencies perform in the Seattle EOC.

- ◆ The exercise helped identify strengths & weaknesses in their agency's plans or operations.

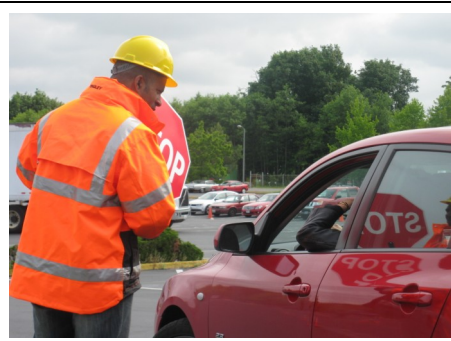
- ◆ The key tools for communicating situational awareness to stakeholder groups (EOC snapshot and situation reports) provided useful information.

The 2-day exercise was followed up with a Regional Recovery Tabletop Exercise. The event was designed to elicit policy-level disaster recovery issues, particularly in the areas of housing, healthcare, economic recovery and transportation.

EVERGREEN EARTHQUAKE EXERCISE

(CONTINUE)

The third piece of the Evergreen Earthquake series was the Logistics Exercise which included setting up a Federal Staging Area. In addition, the State of Washington established and operated a State Staging Area and five local communities and one Tribe established Community Points of Distribution. The City of Seattle participated in setting up one CPOD and partnered with South



Exercise participant directs traffic

Seattle Community College for use of one of their large parking lots. Locating sites for public

picking up goods.

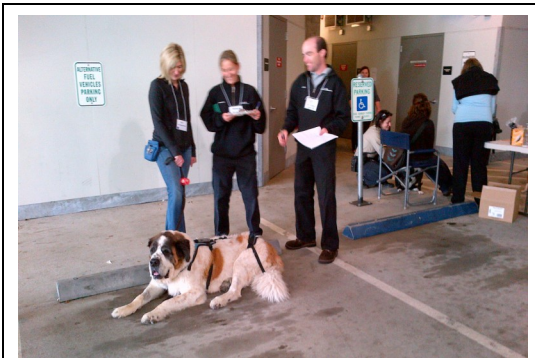
distribution of food, water, tarps and other necessities, providing adequate staffing and security and determining quantities of supplies are just some of the most important tasks faced during management of a disaster. Food and water were delivered by truck and were organized into loading points. Exercise actors then drove in private vehicles through the loading points simulating community members

ACS FIELD DAY

Seattle's Auxiliary Communication Service (ACS) in collaboration with the American Red Cross, Puget Sound Repeater Group and the Medical Services Team sponsored their annual Field Day event at South Seattle Community College. Field Day is an annual emergency communication exercise for City of Seattle emergency communication teams and provides an opportunity to test their communications equipment and processes.

SHELTER EXERCISE

The Mass Care, Housing and Human Services Committee (ESF 6) conducted a Sheltering Exercise moving 120 people (including several individuals with access and functional needs) through a "mock shelter registration" process to identify the overall readiness for establishing shelters in Seattle. OEM recruited members of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to assist in the exercise, which was the first time we have used CERT members in an exercise. Seattle Parks and Recreation, Seattle Human Services Department and the Seattle Animal Shelter conducted the exercise in collaboration with Public Health – Seattle & King County Medical Reserve Corps, the Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities and the American



Rescue Dog takes a break during exercise

Red Cross. The four hour exercise focused on setting up an emergency shelter and a shelter for pets was included. Over 100 people and 10 animals participated in the exercise.

RADIATION EXPOSURE EXERCISE

Seattle Office of Emergency Management participated in a Tabletop Exercise hosted by Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. The purpose of the exercise was to test the plan for receiving patients, from anywhere in the nation, who have been exposed to potentially lethal levels of radiation due to the detonation of improvised nuclear device or radiation dispersal device.

PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships are a critical component of emergency management. Partnerships support and expand our ability to prepare for, respond to, mitigate the impact of, and recover from disaster.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

In year two of the volunteer program, OEM hosted two “Training of Trainers” for volunteers interested in assisting with community education. The first group included individuals who had expressed interest in learning more about emergency preparedness so they could educate existing groups to which they belong. The second training was for individuals who were specifically interested in working with OEM to present the Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare (SNAP) program in neighborhoods. OEM’s public education staff will be working with them throughout 2013 to increase the number of neighborhoods we organize under the SNAP program.



2012 was our first opportunity to recruit and utilize volunteers specifically in the EOC for activations. We are very proud to have several retired City Executives in our cadre of volunteers. Our first opportunity to utilize this resource was during the January Snow/Ice Storm. Each activation gives us more experience and a better appreciation for the amazing energy and expertise that this group brings to the EOC.



Auxiliary Communications Services continues to grow and saw an increase in membership by 10 members during 2012, bringing the total members for ACS and Medical Support Team to 155 members.

CERT TRAINING

OEM hosted two Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trainings, graduating 50 individuals for 2012. Throughout the year we have used the CERT members to assist in various activities and exercises. They have been a very energetic and engaged group who are always at the ready to assist.



CERT students in action during final drill

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

From the corporate world, OEM partnered with UPS and Expedia. Both companies had “corporate days of giving” and employees volunteered to put together our preparedness resource books that are used for our limited English speaking communities. Both teams put together in excess of 200 books in a very short period of time!



Target Corporation partnered with OEM again this year to highlight preparedness during the National Preparedness Month in September. This year OEM partnered with the Rotary Boys and Girls Club and the Hearing, Speech and Deafness Center. Participants first attended a 2-hour emergency preparedness workshop which included how to build a basic emergency preparedness kit and at the end of the training were given a starter kit. Following that, they received a \$50 Target gift card to shop for items to customize their kits based on their families needs. 150 families participated.



Participants wait for their gift cards at City Target

PARTNERSHIPS

KITTITAS COUNTY



Photo of Taylor Bridge Fire

Seattle OEM provided assistance through the Intrastate Mutual Aid Agreement (RCW 38.56 passed through the State Legislature in 2011) by sending two OEM staff members to Kittitas County to assist in their EOC during the Taylor Bridge Wildfire. Kittitas County staff were very appreciative of the support. Being a small emergency operations center, their staff had put in many long hours dealing with the ravaging wildfire that displaced people and animals.

ZONE 5 REPRESENTATIVES

This year we expanded the city's ability to provide a presence in the King County Emergency Coordination Center (KCECC) during activations. To make response to regional events more manageable, King County is divided into three zones. Seattle is Zone 5. This year OEM established a "Zone 5" coordinator role who serves side-by-side with the other two Zone Coordinators (1 & 3) at the KCECC during large scale, regional events. This enables Seattle to be collaborative in regional coordination supporting disaster response and recovery operations. This new cadre of coordinators had their inaugural participation during the Evergreen Earthquake Exercise and proved very successful.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL LABORATORY

OEM partnered with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and the Department of Finance and Administrative Services (FAS) to pilot a federally funded project designed to integrate emergency related data. Known as UICDS (Unified Incident Command Decision Support), the system provided a common framework for sharing data. As agencies put data into the system, it is converted to a common format where others can access the data. With PNNL's help, the City of Seattle was able to pilot the testing of taking damage assessment data from one system and put it into the EOC's WebEOC during the Evergreen Earthquake Exercise.

SMALL AND SIMPLE GRANTS

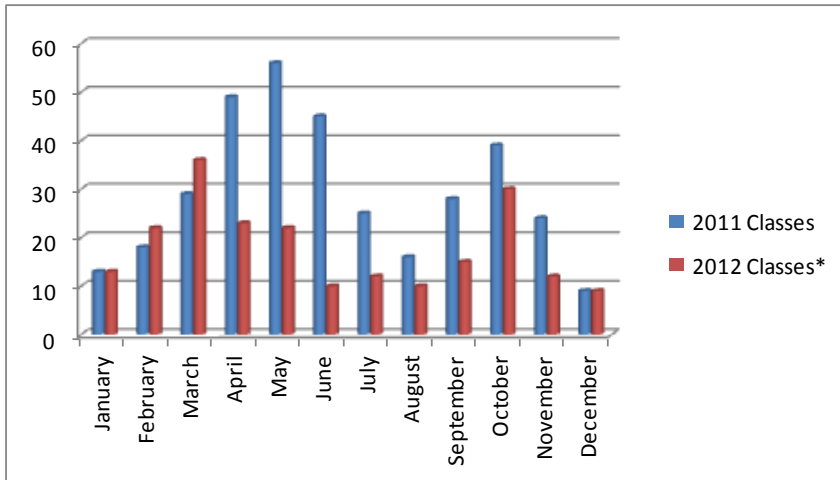
Seattle OEM partnered with Department of Neighborhoods to encourage neighborhoods to participate in the 'Small and Simple' grants to focus on emergency preparedness. As a result, 15 neighborhoods were awarded grants to improve their preparedness. OEM staff was assigned as coaches to help with the projects, which included; working with a local elementary school to educate students, parents, and surrounding neighborhood on the importance of preparedness. The project also included building emergency kits and hosting a "preparedness fair" for the community. Another project assisted 51 families in a low income community to put together emergency kits, take first aid training and partner with the surrounding neighborhoods build their capacity to respond collaboratively to emergencies, big and small.



PARTNERSHIPS

PUBLIC EDUCATION

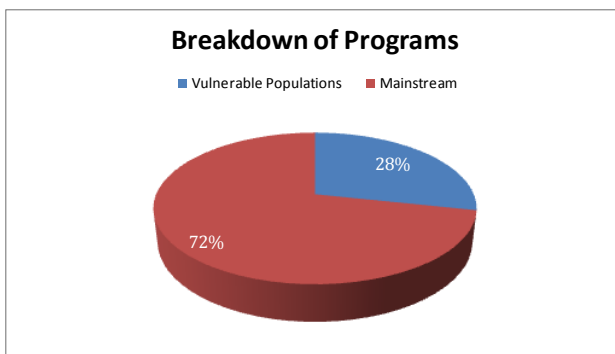
The Seattle Office of Emergency Management understands that a prepared community is the foundation upon which all of our plans and activities reside. We take enormous pride in our public education program that offers a wide variety of classes. Included in those offerings are: Home Retrofit; General preparedness classes; CERT Training; SNAP Neighborhood Preparedness; Skills Training (Fire Suppression & Utility Control, Disaster First Aid, Light Search and Rescue); Work Place Preparedness and Childcare and School based Preparedness



The number of Public Education classes provided were down from 2011. This was due in large part to operating short of one Public Education Specialist for the last four months of the year.

Additionally, 2011 saw an uncharacteristically high number of classes in the aftermath of the mega earthquake that struck Japan.

OEM Strives to be inclusive and offer public education programs to populations that are more vulnerable to the impact of disasters. In 2012, 28% of our programs were delivered to that population. Vulnerable populations include those with functional and access needs.



As OEM expands the Community Emergency Hubs (see pg. 15) and volunteer program, it has seen a very large increase in the number of printed public education materials it provides. Included in the materials are information on building a family preparedness kit, how to store water, pet preparedness and how to stay safe during an earthquake. Much of the material is designed to graphically present the message for those who do not have English as their primary language. We also offer a number of our materials in 19 languages other than English.

PRINTED MATERIALS

Public Education Printed Materials Provided in 2012

January	1,565
February	6,610
March	7,325
April	5,886
May	6,103
June	5,033
July	21,971
August	4,385
September	1,500
October	2,281
November	3,438
December	3,846
Total	69,943

PARTNERSHIPS

WHAT TO DO TO MAKE IT THROUGH



What to do to **Make it Through**

The “What to do to Make it Through” campaign premiered during Washington State Emergency Preparedness month in April. This campaign replaced the “3 days, 3 ways” campaign. The new focus seeks to motivate people to prepare beyond three days. This eight county campaign is using a variety of formats, including television, Radio, Facebook, transit signs, and a number of ethnic media to promote preparedness steps. This strategy was chosen based on focus group (community members) input from around the region. OEM staff participated in the taping of a video demonstrating how families can prepare their own disaster kits for work, vehicles, homes and their pets.

Pre and Post surveys showed:

- ◆ An increase in the number of days prepared went from 5 days (pre campaign survey) to 7 days (post campaign survey)
- ◆ The number of people reporting that they were prepared for 7 days increased from 49% in pre-campaign survey to 58% in post campaign survey.

NIGHT OUT 2012

This year’s National Night Out event provided OEM the opportunity to promote emergency preparedness once again. Out of 1,366 registered events, 570 neighborhoods requested a packet of preparedness information, 395 neighborhoods request a visit from OEM Staff and 348 neighborhoods requested a SNAP program in their neighborhood. In addition to visiting 29 neighborhoods during the Night Out event, OEM has been working with our volunteers who have been trained in SNAP to assist in fulfilling the requests for SNAP presentations.



WHAT IF EXPO?



OEM staff participated in the 2nd Annual “What if” Expo. This event was hosted by Fisher Broadcasting at Northgate Mall. It included several Emergency Management agencies and vendors and highlighted the need to get prepared for all hazards. This year’s focus emphasized the need to ensure planning included those with functional and access needs; highlighting the Hearing, Speech and Deafness Center and the Seattle Commission for People with disabilities.

URBAN SELF-RELIANCE

OEM participated in the second annual Urban Self-Reliance series, sponsored by Seattle Public Libraries. OEM staff, volunteers and community members taught three different kinds of workshops: Disaster Supply Kits, Home Retrofit and Community Hubs.



SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY RESIDENT PREPARED



OEM staff participated in the 3rd Annual Seattle Housing Authority Resident Prepared (SHARP) workshop at Center Park High-rise. The event included representatives from the Housing Authority, American Red Cross, and Seattle Fire Department who facilitated discussions with residents on what to do, what to expect, and how to prepare and organize together to get through winter storms, power outages, fires and earthquakes.

HORN OF AFRICA



Through a \$23,000 grant, funded by the Human Services Department, the OEM worked with Horn of Africa Services to train 10 East African Community leaders to be trainers regarding emergency preparedness. The 10 trainers provided over a dozen programs reaching over 450 community members. The languages spoken included English, Amharic, Tigrinya, Somali and Oromo. All participants received starter kits and each community site, supporting the program received an emergency kit.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY HUBS

Community Emergency Hubs are locations, pre-determined by community members, to meet after an emergency to share information, resources, problem solve and support one another.

Hub mission is accomplished solely through community volunteers.

There are currently 45 Community Emergency Hubs throughout the city. In 2012 the Hub program began to expand and has three new hubs in previously unreached neighborhoods: Central District, Beacon Hill and Rainier Beach.

The Hubs hosted two summits, participated in a full scale exercise, engaged in community outreach like Ballard Seafood Fest and Neighborhood Night Out, mentored new Hubs and participated in Seattle Public Libraries Urban Resiliency Workshop.

As part of their commitment to keeping their skills current, the Community Communication Hubs hosted an exercise to test their communications and coordination practices. Along with the Auxiliary Communications Services (ACS), teams worked together to plan and carry-out a Communications Exercise. The drill simulated terrorist attacks on the power grid, transportation and the water supply, as well as disruption to communication system.

The OEM website now offers information about the Community Emergency Hub program, maps and other resources. A critical part of encouraging communities to prepare is hearing from the community. There are 8 videos, created by OEM, that highlight efforts diverse communities have taken to become better prepared and the importance of it. There are videos in English, American Sign Language, Spanish and Cantonese.



Library Display done by the Queen Ann/Magnolia Hub

MITIGATION AND RECOVERY

Mitigating the impacts of disasters and recovering quickly are essential components of the Office of Emergency Management's overall work plan. Recovery issues are complex and often extend years beyond the disaster. This is especially true when there is a Presidential Declaration of Disaster. Currently, OEM has 6 open declarations.



Unreinforced Masonry Buildings (URMs) are known to be one of the most vulnerable building types during an earthquake. These old, typically brick buildings were built without steel reinforcement, and thus are at greater risk of collapse, which endangers the people living and working inside.

UNREINFORCED MASONRY BUILDINGS

Early in 2012, the City Council tasked the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) to convene a policy committee to explore options for requiring seismic retrofits on URMs. They have been meeting to explore issues and potential policy options to address the dangers associated with these buildings. The committee finalized and presented their recommendation to the City and they included several aspects of a possible policy and implementation program, including a timeline for compliance, incentives and enforcement.

In a related effort, OEM and DPD successfully applied for a grant from FEMA and the State of Washington to improve awareness of the risk posed by URMs. The purpose of the URM Building Public Education and Outreach Project is to develop messaging and run a pilot campaign to educate building owners and tenants about the risk in earthquakes and the benefits of seismic retrofit.

ALL HAZARDS DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN

OEM began the development of an All Hazards Disaster Recovery Plan. Phase 1 focused on identifying key issues (both short and long term) and deciding on the parameters of the plan through research, consulting available models and input from stakeholders. The end result was a document that provides a basic framework for the recovery process and a roadmap for the City to use in developing a comprehensive Disaster Recovery Plan. The major focus of Phase 1 was hosting three stakeholder workshops which brought together representatives from city departments, as well as public, non-profit and private partners who gave input on the community vision, values and issues that should be represented in the plan. The information gathered in a final consultant report will be presented to full Council in January, 2013. Council has allocated a total of \$400,000 for continuing the next phases of recovery planning through 2014.

POST ALLEY AREAWAY SEISMIC RETROFIT PROJECT



Sidewalk above repairs in post alley

A State/FEMA hazard mitigation project to protect an areaway from severe earthquake damage has just been completed. Areaways are open areas underground that were created when the street level was raised in Pioneer Square in the late 1880's. The old, non-engineered brick tunnels that resulted, which often house utility systems, are very vulnerable to earthquake damage. This particular areaway beneath Post Alley contains electrical conduit and high pressure steam lines that serve the hospitals on First Hill. Through the use of light weight concrete fill, these utilities, as well as the people and cars using the street above, are now protected from the effects of collapse.

GRANT-FUNDED MITIGATION PROJECTS AND PLANNING

Grant funded mitigation projects, include the Jefferson Community Center Seismic Retrofit Project and the Urban Flooding Hazard Identification Project. Once completed by the Parks department, the Jefferson Community Center will be protected as a community gathering point and potential emergency shelter. The urban flooding work underway is helping Seattle Public Utilities to identify and address flooding “hot spots”. Additionally, a planning grant is supporting the update of the Seattle All Hazards Mitigation Plan to prioritize seismic retrofit of other city buildings.

REGIONAL CATASTROPHIC PREPAREDNESS GRANT

Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP)

The federally funded Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) provides planning, training and exercises to support response and recovery in the Puget Sound counties of Island, King, Kitsap, Mason, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish and Thurston after a catastrophic disaster. Barb Graff, Director of the Seattle Office of Emergency Management, chairs the 22-member Regional Catastrophic Planning Team responsible for program oversight and direction. The RCPGP FFY 2010 and 2011 awards include training and exercising of plans and annexes, including integration with the state’s Evergreen Quake 2012 exercise and a strategic plan to sustain regional coordination after the RCPGP sunsets.

In 2012, the RCPGP hosted the National RCPGP Conference on Building Regional Resiliency. The conference brought over 150 attendees from all ten national RCPGP sites. One of the highlights of the conference was an interactive session with emergency managers in New Zealand talking about their experiences with the Christchurch Earthquake. In addition, there were 39 presentations over the two day period.

RCPGP grant staff participated in the Evergreen Quake 2012 Exercise Series. This Exercise was a perfect opportunity to test the concepts in the RCPGP plans and annexes as it included a number of Regional jurisdictions. In addition to participating in the exercise design, RCPGP conducted a Transportation & Utilities Recovery workshop as part of the exercise series.

RCPGP partners conducted training and exercise on the following plans and products

- ◆ Puget Sound Regional Catastrophic Disaster Coordination Plan
- ◆ Evacuation and Sheltering Annex
- ◆ Long Term Care Evacuation and Mutual Aid Plan
- ◆ Pre-Hospital Emergency Triage and Treatment Annex
- ◆ Resource Management and Logistics Toolkit
- ◆ Structural Collapse Rescue Annex
- ◆ Transportation Recovery Annex
- ◆ Victim Information and Family Assistance Center Annex



Director Barb Graff addressing the audience at the National RCPGP conference. Also pictured from left, Jim Mullen, Director Washington State Emergency Management, Sharon Loper, FEMA Region X Deputy Administrator and Bill Carwile, Associate Administrator of Response and Recovery for FEMA, and Jody Woodcock, Deputy Director of Pierce County Department of Emergency Management.



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If you are interested in partnering with the Seattle Office of Emergency Management or are interested in becoming more prepared, please contact us by phone or email.