



Agenda Item A.7
CONSENT CALENDAR
Meeting Date: November 5, 2019

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Vyto Adomaitis, Neighborhood Services and Public Safety Director

CONTACT: Michael Baris, Emergency Services Coordinator

SUBJECT: Winter Storm Readiness 2019/20

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file an update on the City's Emergency Preparedness preparations for the upcoming 2019/20 Winter Storm Season.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the City takes steps to be prepared for the winter storm season. The City Council, City Staff, and public should be aware of the City's current emergency preparedness efforts.

DISCUSSION:

The following discussion is an overview of the City's emergency preparedness efforts including the structure of emergency operations, efforts to prepare staff and the community for an emergency and tasks completed by Public Works to ensure that City infrastructure is ready for the upcoming Winter storm season.

The City's Emergency Services Coordinator has developed a staffing model for emergency response that is compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). These systems allow for the City to easily coordinate response with other local partners such as the Sheriff's Office, County Fire, and the County Office of Emergency Management. By following these systems, the City is eligible for cost recovery with State and Federal governments following a disaster.

To prepare staff for fulfilling their roles in an Emergency Operations Center (EOC), staff have participated in multiple training and exercise events. All staff are required to complete online training courses that have been supplemented by in-person trainings led by the Emergency Services Coordinator.

Multiple exercises have been made available such as a Public Safety Power Shutoff exercise for City management staff, and by sending department staff to cross-train at the County Office of Emergency Management.

The Goleta Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) has continued to be active with 38 people graduating from the Basic Course this year, bringing the total number of CERT graduates to almost 400. Past graduates of the program have had 23 opportunities for involvement in 2019. The City also hosted the annual Countywide CERT Exercise this year with over 70 participants. By exercising the CERT program, the City has fostered a more resilient community and gave CERT graduates the ability and confidence to help their neighbors in times of disaster.

The Public Works office staff and field crews have worked diligently to prepare City infrastructure for the upcoming storm season. The following is a list of efforts completed by Public Works:

- Assessments of city bridges, culverts, drain inlets and cleanouts that could be affected by storm events
- Debris removal; pre-staging resources
- Drainage inspection and cleaning
- Inventory of emergency response resources
- Drainage improvement projects
- Emergency contracts
- Ready-to-use flood detour maps
- Tree inspections
- Established sandbag distribution centers

Lastly, in future Winter Storm Readiness reports a list of the changes to the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) from the previous year will be made available for review. The City Council recently adopted the 2019 Updated EOP on October 15th and no changes have been made.


Reviewed By:


Kristine Schmidt
Assistant City Manager

Legal Review By:


Michael Jenkins
City Attorney

Approved By:


Michelle Greene
City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments with this report.