

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY AND OPERATIONAL AREA



EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

OCTOBER 2025

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LETTER OF PROMULGATION

To: The Community Members of Santa Barbara County

The preservation of life, property, and environment is an inherent responsibility of local, state, and federal governments. Santa Barbara County has prepared this Plan to organize the County and Operational Area's emergency management program into a system that is aligned with local, state, and federal practices and inclusive of all community members before, during, and after an emergency.

While no plan can anticipate all possible incidents or emergency responses, good plans implemented by knowledgeable and well-trained personnel will minimize the impacts of an emergency. This Plan establishes the emergency organization of Santa Barbara County and provides a framework for performing emergency functions before, during, and after an emergency event. This Plan and the greater emergency management framework described herein are compliant with applicable laws and best practices, including the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Santa Barbara County will work together with state, federal, and local agencies to effectively and efficiently prevent, prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate incidents regardless of cause, size, or complexity. This includes all political subdivisions, special districts, and community-based organizations within the County's geographic area, which collectively make up the Santa Barbara County Operational Area.

This Emergency Operations Plan is an extension of the State of California Emergency Plan and was reviewed by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES). It will be reviewed and tested periodically and revised as necessary to meet changing conditions.

The County's leadership gives its full support to this Plan and urges all officials, employees, and community members, individually and collectively, to do their part in the whole community emergency effort of Santa Barbara County.

This EOP became effective on October 21, 2025 when approved by the County Board of Supervisors.

Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer
Director of Emergency Services

Date

Kelly Hubbard, Director
Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management

Date

Rachel Van Mullem, County Counsel

Date

SECTION 1: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN OVERVIEW AND ADMINISTRATION

This section provides general information on the content and use of the *Emergency Operations Plan* (EOP or Plan).

1.1: INTRODUCTION

The Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (County OEM) has prepared this EOP to ensure County staff and departments have standardized processes and policies required to protect life, property, and the environment during disasters. This EOP outlines the actions necessary to support agencies within the Santa Barbara County Operational Area (SBC OA) when an emergency exceeds or has the potential to exceed a community's capabilities to respond. The SBC OA consists of all the agencies and political subdivisions, including the County of Santa Barbara, within the geographic boundaries of Santa Barbara County.

Effective emergency management requires the participation and consideration of all community members in all activities, including throughout the planning process. This EOP was developed to support the needs of all SBC OA jurisdictions, partner agencies, and communities in order to establish an inclusive local emergency management program that values community equity. The EOP provides direction to County staff and guidance to stakeholders and OA partners, and is designed to promote effective implementation during an emergency response.

1.2: PLAN FORMAT AND USE

The EOP is designed to assist County and other organization staff members who have key roles and responsibilities when responding to emergencies. County employees and partner agencies who regularly support emergency response, report to the County/Operational Area (OA) Emergency Operations Center (EOC) or Department Operations Centers (DOC) or are assigned to field response duties should use the EOP to guide their actions in completing assigned tasks.

The EOP is composed of a basic plan with supporting appendices and annexes.

BASIC PLAN

The EOP provides an overview of the County's organization, policies, and approach to all phases of emergency preparedness. It is the foundation document for the County and OA's emergency management program. The EOP's Basic Plan identifies the functions and responsibilities of the emergency response organization and guides plan maintenance. The EOP intends to provide supporting guidance to emergency response staff that is detailed enough for effective response yet is flexible enough to be used in any emergency.

APPENDICES

The EOP appendices include forms, checklists, and other supplemental information to be used prior to, during, and after an emergency incident. Appendices may also include supporting information that may frequently change, such as contact lists. As supporting documentation to

the EOP, appendices can typically contain a variety of emergency management content that can support preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.

ANNEXES

While the Basic Plan provides information relevant to the EOP as a whole, annexes emphasize responsibilities, tasks, and operational actions that pertain to the function being covered. Annexes should clearly define and describe the policies, processes, roles, and responsibilities inherent in the various functions before, during, and after any emergency period. Examples of annexes to the County/OA EOP include the *Recovery Framework* and the *Electrical Power Outage Emergency* annexes.

1.3: PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Basic Plan addresses planning factors unique to the Santa Barbara County Operational Area (SBC OA) necessary to facilitate effective response to emergencies caused by natural disasters, technological incidents, major mishaps, criminal acts, and national security situations. It describes universally accepted concepts and frameworks used across all levels of government and the private sector. It provides an overview of operational concepts, describes standard processes, identifies components of the SBC OA's emergency management organization within the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS), and describes the overall responsibilities of federal, state, local, and County entities.

This EOP sets policies and standardized protocols for the County of Santa Barbara's emergency management functions and establishes procedures that OA agencies can rely on before, during, and after an emergency. The primary audience is intended to be emergency management and response agencies from the OA, including cities, the County, and special districts, as well as state, federal, private, and volunteer agencies. Each agency in the SBC OA is responsible for generating and maintaining its own EOP.

1.4: THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT'S ROLE IN THE COUNTY AND OPERATIONAL AREA

The County's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) provides services to the following audiences:

County of Santa Barbara: OEM serves the County as the practitioner of emergency management for the County of Santa Barbara as a governmental agency. This includes working with other County Departments and key stakeholder agencies to lead the County's emergency management program and support continuity of government through planning, training, exercises, coordination, project management, mitigation efforts, emergency response, and recovery.

Residents and Community Members in Unincorporated Areas: OEM also serves as the emergency management agency for the residents and community members living, working, and visiting the unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County. Unincorporated areas are those areas

within the geographic boundaries of Santa Barbara County that are not under the official jurisdiction of an incorporated city. OEM serves those in unincorporated areas to promote the disaster readiness and safety of those communities through planning, training and exercises, public education and outreach, multi-agency coordination, and other activities throughout the four phases of emergency management (mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery).

Operational Area (OA): Simultaneously, County OEM also serves as the OA coordinator for emergency management on behalf of all governmental, nonprofit, and for-profit agencies within the OA. This role is meant to organize and coordinate all local emergency management efforts into a single, integrated network of independent agencies capable of cooperation, resource sharing, and planning before, during, and after an emergency. As the OA coordinator, County OEM is also responsible for routinely communicating with the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) in order to support year-round planning and funding efforts and solicit support when OA resources are strained during an incident. Finally, County OEM also leads the OA’s collective effort to recover from emergencies, including impacted jurisdictions and individual members of the public through local coordination, various reporting practices, and advocacy for outside resources and financial programs.

1.5: EOP ACTIVATION

Activation of this EOP occurs as a result of any of the following conditions:

- By order of the Director of Emergency Services (DES) as specified in Chapter 12 of the County Code of Ordinances, provided that the existence or threatened existence of a Local Emergency has been proclaimed. Chapter 12 designates the County Executive Officer (CEO) as the DES; or
- When the DES determines that the available resources are inadequate to cope with the incident; or
- When the Governor proclaims a State of Emergency for an area that includes the County; or
- When a proclamation of a State of War Emergency as defined in the California Emergency Services Act (Government Code §§ 8550, et seq.) occurs; or
- When a Presidential Emergency or Major Disaster declaration occurs for areas within the Santa Barbara County OA.

EOP activation should not be confused with activation of the County’s EOC. Detailed information about activating the County’s EOC is contained in [Section 4.4](#) of this EOP.

1.6: AUTHORITIES

The County of Santa Barbara Code of Ordinances contains all of the legislation passed into law by the Board of Supervisors with exception of Land Use ordinances. Chapter 12 of the County Code establishes foundational elements of the County’s emergency management program, including

identification of the DES, descriptions of powers, authorities, and duties of specific positions, and policies related to OEM's activities amongst other topics.

The *California Emergency Services Act* (Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the California Government Code), hereafter referred to as the Act, provides the basic authorities for conducting emergency operations following a proclamation of Local Emergency, State of Emergency, or State of War Emergency, by the Governor and/or appropriate local authorities, consistent with the provisions of the Act. The California Health and Safety Code also establishes the ability of a local Health Officer to declare a Local Health Emergency. Note: A Local Health Emergency declared by a Health Officer does not necessarily constitute activation of the EOP or County/OA EOC. EOP and EOC activation related to a Local Health Emergency declaration will occur as established in County Health Department plans and the all-hazard protocols within this EOP.

The SEMS Regulations (Chapter 1 of Division 2 of Title 19 of the California Code of Regulations), establishes the framework to effectively respond to multi-agency, multi-jurisdiction emergencies in California. SEMS is based on the Incident Command System (ICS) adapted from the system initially developed by the Firefighting Resources of California Organized for Potential Emergencies program. SEMS incorporates ICS, the *California Master Mutual Aid Agreement* and existing mutual aid systems, the OA concept, multi-agency or inter-agency coordination, and the Operational Area Satellite Information System.

The *State of California Emergency Plan* is published under the Act and provides overall statewide authorities and responsibilities and describes the functions and operations of government at all levels during extraordinary emergencies, including wartime. Section 8568 of the Act states, in part, that "the State Emergency Plan shall be in effect in each political subdivision of the state, and the governing body of each political subdivision shall take such action as may be necessary to carry out the provisions thereof."

Local emergency plans are, therefore, considered to be extensions of the *State of California Emergency Plan*. The California Civil and Government Codes contain several references to liability release (Good Samaritan Act) for those providing emergency services. See [Appendix B](#) for a list of authorities and references.

1.7: RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS/REFERENCES

The EOP is the primary document used by the County to describe the conduct of emergency management activities including emergency response and recovery operations and how resource support will be requested and coordinated. The EOP is not a stand-alone document. Its purpose is to standardize emergency operations while supporting the emergency plans and procedures of all County departments and SBC OA agencies. The EOP is designed to be flexible enough to adapt to changing situations while meeting the needs of supporting and requesting organizations.

Other documents the EOP may support/complement include (but aren't limited to):

- *State of California Emergency Plan, 2017*
- *State of California Emergency Management Mutual Aid Plan, 2022*
- *California Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan, 2019*
- *California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan, 2023*
- *California Public Health and Medical Emergency Operations Manual, 2011*
- *County of Santa Barbara Continuity of Operations Plan (Base Plan and Individual Department Plans)*
- *Foodbank of Santa Barbara County Multi-Agency Disaster Feeding Plan, 2020*
- *Southern California Catastrophic Earthquake Plan, 2022*
- *Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2023*
- *Santa Barbara County Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, 2021*
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP)
- *Transportation Emergency Preparedness Plan, 2020*
- *Santa Barbara County Public Alert and Warning Policy, 2023*
- *Santa Barbara County Disaster Service Worker Employee Policy, 2024*
- Other County Department Emergency Plans and Standard Operating Procedures

1.8: STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES/GUIDES

The Santa Barbara County/OA EOP describes the practice and standards of emergency management and the overall emergency organization within the OA. Each emergency response agency within the SBC OA is responsible for creating, maintaining, updating, training on, and adhering to their own Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)/Standard Operating Guides (SOGs) and EOPs, which detail how specific actions, protocols, and procedures related to emergency management will be executed within their agency.

SOPs/SOGs traditionally are tactically oriented documents that codify how specific tasks will be accomplished. They are designed to align with policies and direction described at a more strategic level within this Plan. The EOP is a fundamental document directly influencing SOP/SOG development of first/emergency responder agencies within the SBC OA, including the activities, missions, and services provided through all phases of emergency management.

1.9: PRIVATE INDUSTRY, SPECIAL DISTRICTS, AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Private industry, special districts, and non-governmental organizations are considered partner stakeholders within the SBC OA as is the case with local governmental agencies. During an emergency, these partners operate within their own SOPs and protocols and exercise their rights to sovereignty. However, as shared stakeholders and teammates during an emergency, formal communication is typically established between these groups and the SBC OA emergency management structure to approach disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation

efforts from a whole community perspective. These groups are regularly invited to participate in County training and exercise events, have historically offered assistance in times of emergency, and usually send agency representatives (AREP) to the County/OA EOC when activated.

SECTION 2: SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HAZARD ANALYSIS

The following section provides basic information about the county and identifies potential hazards that may pose risks to the county's communities.

2.1: SITUATION OVERVIEW

All jurisdictions have some degree of vulnerability to hazards, though the extent of this will vary from one organization to another. Recent planning projects included hazard analyses that have indicated that Santa Barbara County may be at risk of certain types of hazards and associated emergencies. These hazards were identified and incorporated into the EOP based on assessments and analysis from the following documents:

- 2023 *Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan* (MJHMP)
- 2021 *County Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment*, and
- 2017 *State of California Emergency Plan*.

These hazards are listed in [Section 2.2](#) and additional detail is provided in [Appendix F](#).

2.1.1: COUNTY DESCRIPTION

The County is located in coastal California, north of Ventura County and south of San Luis Obispo County. Kern County borders the County on its northeast corner.

2.1.1.1: GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Santa Barbara County has a mountainous interior, primarily made up of three mountain ranges: the Santa Ynez Mountains, the San Rafael Mountains, and the Sierra Madre Mountains. Most of the mountainous region is within the Los Padres National Forest. The forest contains the San Rafael and Dick Smith Wilderness Areas. The county is situated among a series of transverse mountain ranges, with intervening valleys such as the Santa Ynez, Los Alamos, and Cuyama valleys. These mountains naturally divide the county into distinct communities, as well as hazard planning areas.

Most of the county's developed areas are located along coastal valleys and plains and in the inter-mountain valleys. The valleys, especially those along the coast, are where most of the county's population resides. The cities of Santa Maria, Guadalupe, Lompoc, and the inland cities of Solvang and Buellton are located in coastal valleys north of the Santa Ynez Mountains, while the cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, and Carpinteria are all along the South Coast, in the coastal plain south of the Santa Ynez Mountains. The Cuyama Valley in the north part of the county is separated from the more populated areas of the county by the Sierra Madre and San Rafael Mountains and has limited road connectivity to the rest of the county (via State Route [SR] 166).

Santa Barbara County also contains four of the Channel Islands (San Miguel, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, and Santa Barbara Islands) within its borders. Collectively, these and Anacapa Island, located in Ventura County, make up the Channel Islands National Park.

There are four major reservoirs in the SBC OA: Lake Cachuma, Jameson Reservoir, Twitchell Reservoir, and Gibraltar Reservoir. The largest of these, Lake Cachuma, is located along the Santa Ynez River.

Santa Barbara County has a mild Mediterranean climate with over 300 days of sunshine per year. The local climate is typically warm and dry in summer and cool and wet in winter, with most of the county's rivers, creeks, and streams remaining dry during the summer months. Precipitation within the County varies greatly from season to season and with each location. Average annual precipitation ranges from a minimum of about eight inches in the Cuyama Valley to over 36 inches at the crest of the Santa Ynez Mountains. Snow is seasonal at the county's highest elevations. Climate studies have determined that drought periods occur regularly and may last a decade or longer. A recent severe drought lasted from 2020 to 2022, during which water storage in the county's major reservoirs reached significantly low levels.

2.1.1.2: VANDENBERG SPACE FORCE BASE

Located in north-western Santa Barbara County, Vandenberg Space Force Base (SFB) operates as an active duty entity of the United States Space Force, which is a new branch of the United States Armed Forces within the Department of the Air Force. The population of this federal military installation is comprised of uniformed service members, dependent family members, Department of Defense (DoD) contractors, and employed civilians. Vandenberg SFB is home to Space Launch Delta 30 (formerly the 30th Space Wing) and has an active space launch program as a pivotal element of its mission. Launch craft include the SpaceX Falcon 9, amongst others, that deliver assets to outer space.

There is inherent risk associated with such launches. Rockets can be seen in the sky from as far away as the City of Los Angeles, and sonic booms are audible for dozens of miles around the installation. Some components of these launches require atmospheric re-entry and landing.

2.1.1.3: DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANT

Though not physically located in Santa Barbara County, the Diablo Canyon Power Plant presents a potential health hazard should a significant event occur at that facility. Owned by Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), Diablo Canyon Power Plant occupies roughly 1,000 acres of land in San Luis Obispo County. Initial operations began in 1985, and its two Westinghouse Pressurized Water



Reactor units produce a total of 18,000 gigawatt-hours of electricity annually by means of uranium-based nuclear fission.

All plant operations are overseen and monitored by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Environmental Protection Agency. The plant is licensed to operate Unit 1 into 2024 and Unit 2 into 2025. However, in November 2023 PG&E submitted an application to the NRC to extend its operating license beyond its current license, consistent with legislation signed by the Governor in 2022. Both the North and South regions of the SBC OA are equipped with radiological monitoring and surveying kits due to the radioactive hazard associated with Diablo Canyon and its close vicinity to the SBC OA. Most



FIGURE 2.1 - INGESTION PATH ZONE RADIUS FOR DIABLO CANYON

of these are maintained by OEM; however, some have also been transferred to, and are now the responsibility of, the Santa Barbara County Fire Department.

While Santa Barbara County does not fall into Diablo Canyon's protective action zone, it is included in the ingestion pathway zone (IPZ) due to the potential for radioactive contamination to occur in agricultural products and water in areas within the IPZ. The IPZ is a 50-mile radius surrounding Diablo Canyon Power Plant. A visual representation of this is found in **Figure 2.1**.

More information regarding radiological hazards including those associated with Diablo Canyon Power Plant is provided in [Appendix F: Hazard Descriptions](#).

2.1.1.4: POWER AND NATURAL GAS UTILITIES IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Natural gas services are provided to the entirety of Santa Barbara County by Southern California Gas, also known as SoCalGas. Unlike natural gas, electrical utility services in Santa Barbara County are provided by two companies: PG&E and Southern California Edison (SCE). Electrical services for the northern region of Santa Barbara County are provided by PG&E, while the south is serviced by SCE. The grids of these two companies are not interconnected, meaning that if service for one company fails or is shut down, the other cannot assist or compensate affected customers. Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) and Santa Barbara Clean Energy are community choice energy providers that source renewable, "clean energy" for customers in multiple California counties including Santa Barbara. These renewable energy providers often still require the use of PG&E and SCE infrastructure to distribute renewably-sourced energy depending on location

within the county. The City of Lompoc manages a city electrical utility program, which also operates using PG&E infrastructure.

Figure 2.2 provided below shows the geographic boundaries of the electrical service providers within the Santa Barbara County OA:

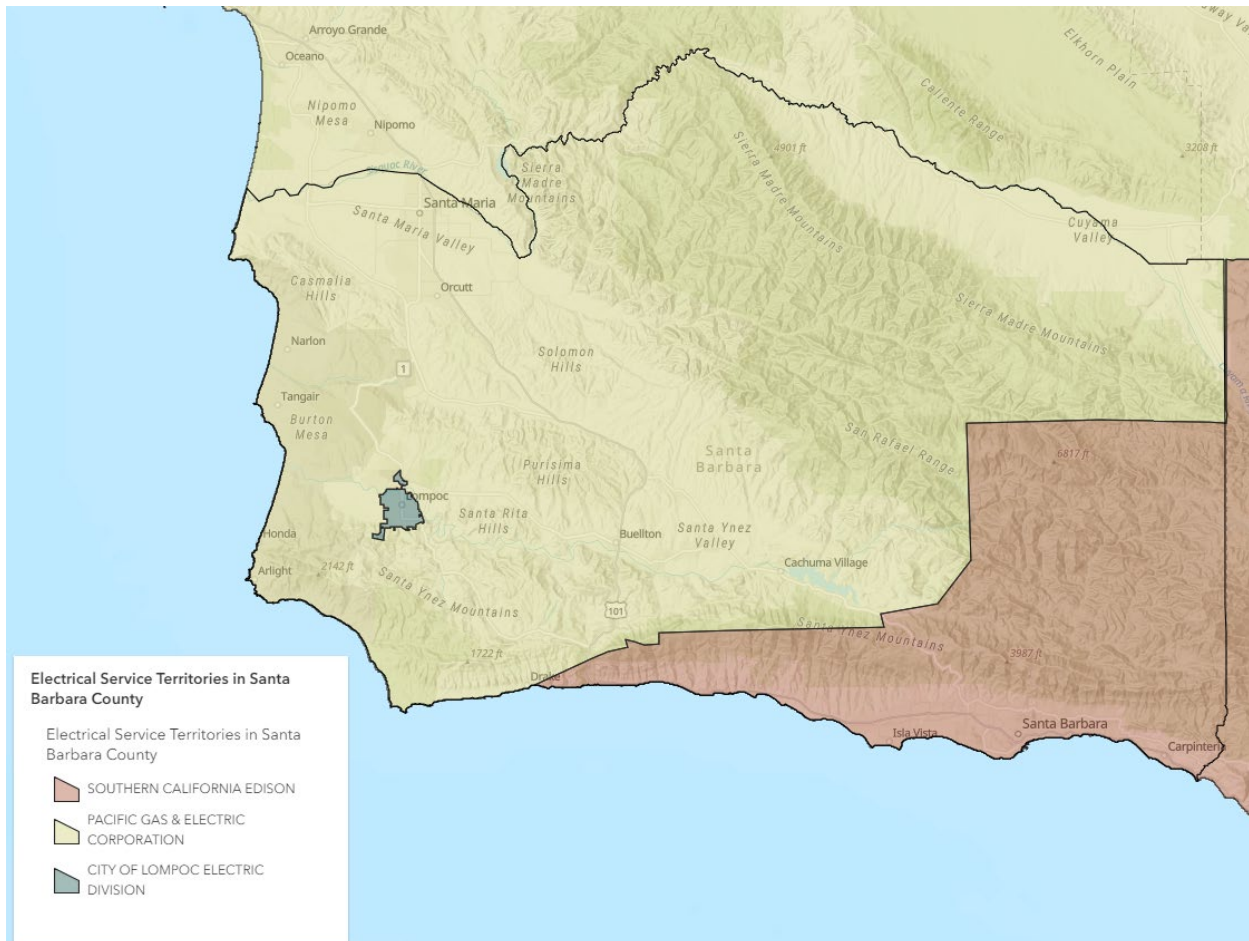


FIGURE 2.2 - ELECTRICAL SERVICE TERRITORIES WITHIN THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY OA

2.1.1.5: HIGHER EDUCATION

The following colleges and universities are located in the Santa Barbara County OA. Though other post-secondary institutions exist within the Santa Barbara County OA, the institutions listed below either house large populations of students locally (dormitories/provided housing), have safety-related responsibilities for large populations physically on campus, and/or are able to influence the movement of a large population of students during emergencies (cancel classes, close campus, transition to remote learning, early release, etc.).

- University of California, Santa Barbara – Approximately 25,000 students annually.
- Alan Hancock Community College – Approximately 11,500 students per semester.
- Santa Barbara City College – Approximately 12,500 students per semester.

- Westmont College – Approximately 1,300 students annually.

2.1.2: DEMOGRAPHICS

2.1.2.1 GENERAL POPULATION STATISTICS

Countywide Population: Table 2.1 features U.S. Census Bureau population statistics for the entire County, including special and unincorporated communities. These numbers will not add up perfectly with the numbers in Tables 2.2 and 2.3. This is due to population estimates being gathered from different sources at different times, and expected reporting overlap between neighboring or affiliated communities, such as Vandenberg SFB and the City of Lompoc. All population data within this Plan should be used only to provide situational awareness and understanding.

TABLE 2.1: TOTAL POPULATION STATISTICS OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY	
COUNTY	2020 POPULATION
Santa Barbara County	448,229
Source: U.S. Census, April 2020	

Incorporated Cities: The SBC OA contains eight incorporated cities with a dramatic range in population and population density. These cities and populations are identified in Table 2.2.

TABLE 2.2: SBC OA INCORPORATED CITY POPULATIONS	
CITY NAME	POPULATION
Buellton	5,161
Carpinteria	13,264
Goleta	32,690
Guadalupe	8,057
Lompoc	44,444
Santa Barbara	88,665
Santa Maria	109,707
Solvang	6,126
Source: U.S. Census, April 2020	

Unincorporated Communities and Unique Populations: The SBC OA also contains multiple communities within the unincorporated areas. These include college campuses, small groupings of neighborhoods, an active duty military installation, Native American Tribe, and a federal penitentiary. The table below provides population estimates for some unincorporated residential communities, including communities designated as Environmental Justice Communities (EJCs) in the *County of Santa Barbara Environmental Justice (EJ) Element*. An EJC is defined as a low-income area that is disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation. **NOTE:** Reporting overlap may exist between neighboring or affiliated communities. Table 2.3 below identifies these communities and populations.

TABLE 2.3: SBC OA UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES POPULATIONS	
COMMUNITY NAME	POPULATION
Casmalia*	147
Cuyama Valley (including Cuyama, New Cuyama, and Ventucopa)*	679
Garey*	72
Isla Vista*	15,500
Los Alamos*	1,839
Los Olivos**	1,202
Montecito**	8,638
Orcutt**	32,034
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians	250
Santa Ynez+	4,679
Sisquoc*	191
Summerland+	582
Vandenberg Village**	7,308
* = Environmental Justice Community	
** = Population data source is the U.S. Census, April 2020	
+ = Population data source is www.DataUSA.io	

Population statistics for EJs were provided by the *County EJ Element*, where more information on that project's data sources is available. The population total for the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians was provided on their website. Where population statistics for unincorporated communities could not be sourced locally or by the U.S. Census (April 2020), OEM referenced information found on www.DataUSA.io. DataUSA compiles data from several academic and U.S. government sources into accessible information for the public.

Vandenberg SFB: Vandenberg SFB consists of a population of at least 18,000 people, including military personnel, family members, contractors, and civilian employees.

Lompoc Federal Penitentiary: The U.S. Federal Bureau of Prisons operates the Lompoc Federal Penitentiary within Santa Barbara County. This low-security facility is responsible for 2,298 inmates.

2.1.2.2: POPULATIONS WITH DISABILITIES AND ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

The most recent estimate statistics provided by the U.S. Census Bureau identifies that roughly 6.5% of the total population countywide identified as being a person with a disability under the age of 65. The definition of disability was based on the American Community Survey and identified serious difficulty with four basic areas of functioning: hearing, vision, cognition, and ambulation. Please note that this definition is different from the definition of disabilities and access and functional needs described in [Section 3.10](#).

2.1.2.3: HOMELESS/UNHOUSED POPULATION STATISTICS

“Homeless/unhoused” or “persons experiencing homelessness” are terms used to describe people that are either unsheltered or sheltered living within the local community.

- **Unsheltered:** People experiencing homelessness who are living in a place not meant for human habitation, such as in a vehicle or creek bed.
- **Sheltered:** People living in a traditional shelter or transitional housing program designed to serve persons experiencing homelessness.

The homeless/unhoused population within Santa Barbara County is a disproportionately at-risk community compared to those who consistently reside within a steady dwelling. The *2023 Santa Barbara County Homeless Point-In-Time Count and Survey* identified a total of 1,887 homeless/unhoused individuals within the OA. Of those, 36% were accessing and utilizing local sheltering options, while the remaining 64% were unsheltered. 33% of the 1,887 are seniors (over the age of 55). According to this same survey, the City of Santa Maria has the highest concentration of persons experiencing homelessness (472 people) in the OA’s northern territory, while the City of Santa Barbara has the highest concentration of homeless/unhoused community members in the OA’s south coast (787 people).

2.1.2.4: LARGEST EMPLOYERS IN THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA

It’s important to understand the economic sectors of the County and how they may impact day time populations, visitors, and community actions during a disaster. Per the UC Santa Barbara Economic Forecast Project Monthly Update in March 2024, the County’s primary workforce sectors are 1) Government, 2) Private Education and Health Services, and 3) Leisure and Hospitality. As noted already, various government facilities, such as UC Santa Barbara and VSFB add to the County’s population and work force. And the two largest single employers in the SBC OA are UC Santa Barbara (10,000+ employees) and the County of Santa Barbara (4,600 employees). The noted Leisure and Hospitality industry is driven by an estimated 7 million visitors a year, including visitors such as the estimated 30-80,000 cruise ship visitors a year.

2.1.2.5: LANGUAGE STATISTICS

According to the American Community Survey (2022), 44.4% of persons age 5 years+ speak a language other than English at home in Santa Barbara County (2018-2022). The most predominant non-English language used within the county is Spanish (See note on next page). The American Community Survey indicates the following statistics for the County of Santa Barbara:

- English (only) – 55.6%
- Spanish – 28.3%
- Asian and Pacific Island Languages – 10%
- Other Indo - European Languages – 4.9%
- Other Languages – 1.2%

These statistics are fairly generic to larger groupings of languages. Data from 2020 provided by the U.S. Census Bureau indicates that the top 12 non-English languages in California are:

- Spanish
- Chinese (Including Cantonese and Mandarin)
- Vietnamese
- Tagalog (including Filipino)
- Korean
- Armenian
- Farsi
- Arabic
- Russian
- Japanese
- Punjabi
- Khmer

Note: Not included on this list but specific to Santa Barbara County is the presence of a significant Mixteco-speaking population. According to the 2020 study titled *The (in)visible victims of disaster: Understanding the vulnerability of undocumented Latino/a and indigenous immigrants*, there is an estimated 29,000 speakers of indigenous Mexican languages living in Santa Barbara County, with the largest representative group being Mixteco speakers. Other languages include Zapoteco and Triqui.

2.2: HAZARD DESCRIPTIONS

Santa Barbara County is susceptible to a wide range of natural and manmade hazards. The *Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan* (MJHMP) identified and assessed these hazards. Assessing the capabilities and vulnerabilities associated with these hazards helped prioritize which hazards present the greatest risks in each community or geographic area. In total, 30 hazards were identified and analyzed for the MJHMP. Through the hazard identification and refinement process, the County identified Wildfire, Drought and Water Shortage, and earthquakes as the hazards that may pose the greatest risk to the county. **Table 2.4** identifies the hazard priorities for the County in descending order from highest to lowest. For detailed information regarding each hazard, the County's capabilities assessment, and mitigation strategies, please refer to [Appendix F](#) of this Plan.

TABLE 2.4: COUNTY HAZARDS PRIORITIZATION
Wildfire
Drought & Water Shortage
Earthquake
Pandemic/Public Health Emergency
Extreme Heat/Freeze
Energy Shortage & Resiliency
Flood
Mudflow & Debris Flow
Windstorm
Hazardous Materials Release
Cyber Threat

TABLE 2.4: COUNTY HAZARDS PRIORITIZATION

Coastal Hazards
Dam Failure
Invasive Species
Civil Disturbance
Natural Gas Pipeline Rupture & Storage Facility Incident
Agricultural Pests
Train Accident
Aircraft Crash
Landslide
Terrorism
Oil Spill
Geologic Hazards
Tsunami
Hailstorm
Tornado
Hurricane
Levee Failure
Radiological Accident
Well Stimulation & Hydraulic Fracturing
Note: Probability x Severity = Risk

SECTION 3: CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Some emergencies will be preceded by a build-up or warning period, providing sufficient time to forewarn communities and implement mitigation measures designed to reduce loss of life and property damage. Other emergencies occur with little or no advance warning, thus requiring immediate activation of the EOP and commitment of resources. All agencies must be prepared to respond promptly and effectively to any foreseeable emergency, including the provision and utilization of mutual aid. Section 3: Concept of Operations is designed to provide an overview of the emergency management structure and procedures for responding to an emergency situation.

3.1: PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

- Though impossible to guarantee, emergency responder safety is the number one priority.
- The CEO is the County DES and is empowered to direct and control the County emergency organization for the accomplishment of the purposes of Chapter 12, §§ 12-4 and 12-5 of the County Code of Ordinances.
- This EOP addresses emergency response concepts for the County as well as the SBC OA.
- The SBC OA is comprised of all governmental, nonprofit, and for-profit entities within the geographic boundaries of the County.
- In accordance with the California Emergency Services Act, the County of Santa Barbara will act as the lead emergency management coordinator on behalf of the SBC OA to state and federal agencies.

- The SBC OA will utilize SEMS, ICS, and NIMS in emergency response operations.
- The SBC OA is responsible for emergency actions within the county that save lives, minimize injury to persons, and reduce damage to property and the environment.
- The resources of the SBC OA will be made available and coordinated between the County, cities, special districts, local agencies, and members of the public to cope with disasters affecting this area.
- The SBC OA will commit its resources to a reasonable degree before requesting mutual aid assistance.
- The SBC OA will request mutual aid assistance from the State through the CalOES Southern Region when disaster management requirements exceed resources available between the agencies that collectively make up the SBC OA.
- At the start of an incident, on-duty emergency responders are expected to remain on duty until properly relieved and dismissed from supervision.
- At the start of an incident, off-duty emergency responders will be expected to return to work when recalled to duty in accordance with Santa Barbara County policy and procedures referenced in the *Santa Barbara County Disaster Service Worker (DSW) Employee Policy* and applicable department-specific policies.
- Unless determined ineffective, unnecessary, or impossible, County/OA EOC operational periods will be 24 hours in length, composed of two 12-hour shifts for the duration of the event.
- For the purposes of this Plan, the term “Incident Command” (IC) also encompasses the concept of Unified Command (UC).

3.2: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PHASES

Emergency management activities are often associated with the four emergency management phases before, during, and after emergencies. These phases, as they apply to the SBC OA, are briefly explained below.

3.2.1: MITIGATION

Mitigation includes activities that reduce the loss of life and property from natural or manmade disasters by avoiding or lessening the impact of a disaster to create safer communities. Mitigation seeks to break the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeat damage. Mitigation efforts occur both before and following a disaster. Post-disaster mitigation is part of the recovery process. Mitigation tools include, but are not limited to:

- Local ordinances and statutes (zoning ordinances, building codes, etc.).
- Structural improvement measures.
- Land use planning.

Additional information regarding recommended mitigation actions and projects is provided in the Santa Barbara County MJHMP that was most recently approved by FEMA and adopted by the

Board of Supervisors in April 2023. In accordance with Title 44 § 201.3(d)(2), the MJHMP is reviewed and updated every five (5) years.

3.2.2: PREPAREDNESS

The preparedness phase involves activities taken in advance of an emergency, including those activities that develop operational capabilities and effective responses to a disaster. Examples of such activities include emergency and disaster planning, training, exercises, and public education.

3.2.3: RESPONSE

Response involves the activities and processes that occur once an imminent threat is detected or after a disaster occurs. It involves both short- and long-term responses. During response, the County will coordinate the use of resources (including personnel, supplies, and equipment) to help maintain and restore personal and environmental safety, and to stabilize the incident. During the response stage, hazards are minimized or eliminated, and normal community services are restored.

During this phase, mass alerting and notification may be necessary, especially if public protective actions are required. All mass alerting and notification activities should be compliant with the County's *Public Alert and Warning Standard Operating Guidelines*. These messages should be in both English and Spanish whenever possible.

3.2.4: RECOVERY

Recovery consists of those activities that continue beyond the emergency period to restore critical community functions. The recovery phase begins immediately after the threat to life has subsided. The goal of the recovery phase is to bring the affected area back to some degree of normalcy, including the restoration of basic services and the repair of physical, social, and economic damages. Typical recovery actions include debris cleanup, financial assistance to individuals and governments, rebuilding of roads and bridges and key facilities, and sustained mass care for displaced human and animal populations.

Activities conducted in the recovery phase, including safety assessment and documentation, will be accomplished according to local and agency-specific guidelines and procedures. Completion of an After-Action Report (AAR) for the County/OA EOC should be coordinated and completed by the Santa Barbara County OEM. California Code of Regulations, Title 19, § 2450 requires the completion of AARs and transmittal to CalOES within ninety (90) days of the close of the incident period. County OEM will consult CalOES to verify that submission of incident AARs to CalOES is conducted following the most current procedures.

The *County and OA Recovery Framework* is an annex to this EOP.

3.3: NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) is a system mandated by Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5). NIMS provides a consistent, nationwide approach for federal,

state, local, and tribal governments, the private sector, and non-government organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from significant domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among federal, state, local, and tribal capabilities, NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-5 identifies these as the ICS, multi-agency coordination (MAC) systems, training, identification and management of resources, qualification and certification, and the collection, tracking and reporting of incident information and incident resources.

In addition to the SEMS, the State and its political subdivisions are responsible for compliance with the requirements of the NIMS. SEMS features key components of NIMS doctrine, and the two systems complement each other to create a comprehensive, all-hazards, and standardized approach to emergency management for all levels of government, non-profit, and private sector entities statewide.

3.4: STANDARDIZED EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

SEMS has been adopted by the SBC OA for managing response to multi-agency and multi-jurisdiction emergencies and to facilitate communications and coordination between all levels of the system. Chapter 1, Division 2, Title 19 of the California Code of Regulations establishes SEMS in law for the State of California.

SEMS incorporates the use of the ICS, the Master Mutual Aid Agreement and existing mutual aid systems, the OA Concept, the Operational Area Satellite Information System, the State's WebEOC/CalEOC digital resource interface, and multi-agency or inter-agency coordination. Local governments **MUST** use SEMS to be eligible for funding of their incident-related costs under state disaster assistance programs.

Fully activated, the SEMS consists of five organizational levels: field response, local government, OAs, regional coordination (CalOES Mutual Aid and Administrative Regions), and the state.

Field Response Level: The field response level is where typical, routine incidents occur and are managed by emergency response personnel and resources on scene without a need for further assistance. Tactical decisions and activities are carried out in direct response to an incident or threat location. SEMS regulations require the use of ICS at the field response level of an incident. The ICS field functions to be used for emergency management are command/management, operations, planning and intelligence, logistics, and finance and administration and can be expanded or contracted based on the needs of the response.

Local Government Level: The Local Government level includes any city, city and county, county, county office of education, community college district, school district, and special district. Local governments manage and coordinate the overall emergency response and recovery activities

within their jurisdiction. As a condition of State reimbursement of response-related costs, local governments are required to use SEMS when the local EOC is activated or a Local Emergency is proclaimed.

Local Agency EOCs within Santa Barbara County communicate with the Santa Barbara County/OA EOC when activated to share information and coordinate needs with the Operational Area Level of SEMS. If needed resources exceed the capabilities of the Local Agency, their EOC will send resource requests to the Santa Barbara County/OA EOC.

Implementation of SEMS and NIMS by the County is a cooperative effort of all departments with an emergency response role. The County Executive Officer (CEO) leads the County's efforts to comply with SEMS and NIMS requirements in coordination with the OEM, which can include the following activities:

- Communicates information within the County on SEMS/NIMS requirements and guidelines
- Coordinates SEMS/NIMS compliance among departments and agencies
- Identifies departments and agencies involved in Field Response
- Identifies departments and agencies with DOCs
- Coordinates with other local governments and volunteer and private agencies on the application of SEMS/NIMS principles
- Make sure SEMS/NIMS is incorporated into the County's EOP and the procedures and protocols of other emergency planning documents
- Make sure SEMS/NIMS is incorporated into the County's emergency ordinances, agreements, memoranda of understanding, etc.
- Identifies local volunteer and private agencies that have an emergency response role (contacts should be made to develop arrangements for coordination in emergencies)

At the local government level and higher levels of SEMS, special organizations may be established. Two (2) common organizational structures are:

- **Multi/Inter-Agency Coordination (MAC)** is defined as the participation of agencies and disciplines involved at any level of the SEMS organization working together in a coordinated effort to facilitate decisions for overall emergency response activities, including the sharing of critical resources and the prioritization of incidents.
- **Unified Command** allows agencies responsible for an incident, either geographical or functional, to manage an incident by establishing a common set of incident objectives and strategies. This is accomplished without losing or abdicating agency authority, autonomy, responsibility, or accountability. Establishment of Unified Command is an ICS concept that applies to the leadership structure of field responders intended to assist in the effectiveness of multi-jurisdictional or multi-agency incidents.

Operational Area: Under SEMS, the OA is defined in the Emergency Services Act as an intermediate level of the state's emergency services organization consisting of a county and all political subdivisions within the county. Political subdivisions include cities, a city and county, special districts, other local governmental agencies, or public agency as authorized by law. The OA is responsible for:

- Coordinating information, resources, and priorities among local governments within the OA;
- Coordinating information, resources, and priorities between the regional level and the local government level; and
- Using multi-agency or inter-agency coordination to facilitate decisions for overall OA level emergency response activities.

There are 58 OAs in the state of California. SEMS regulations specify that all local governments within a county geographic area be organized into a single OA and that the County Board of Supervisors is responsible for its establishment. On September 19, 1995, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution Number 95-429 establishing the Santa Barbara County OA.

The County of Santa Barbara is the lead agency for the SBC OA composed of the cities of Buellton, Carpinteria, Goleta, Guadalupe, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, and Solvang. The SBC OA also consists of several other political subdivisions as defined by SEMS. **OA authority and responsibility is not affected by the non-participation of any local government.**

Regional Level: The State's regional level manages and coordinates information and resources among OAs; this is done within or between one or more mutual aid regions established by CalOES. The Regional level coordinates overall support from other OAs in the region and State agencies for emergency response activities within the Region. California is divided into three CalOES administrative regions – Inland, Coastal, and Southern; six (6) fire and rescue mutual aid regions; and seven (7) law enforcement mutual aid regions. The Regional level is managed by CalOES and serves as the coordination and communication link between the OA and the State levels of SEMS.

There are eleven (11) counties and 226 incorporated cities within the Southern Administration Region, including the SBC OA. This region is home to nearly 23 million people, two nuclear plants, several major airports, seaports, and other major facilities and infrastructure that supports the economy.

CalOES SOC
3650 Schriever Avenue
Mather, CA 95655-4203
(916) 845-8510

State Level and State Operations Center (SOC): The State level of SEMS prioritizes tasks and coordinates State resources in response to the requests from the Regional level and coordinates mutual aid among the Regions. The State level also serves as the coordination and communication link between the State and the Federal emergency response

system. The State level requests assistance from other State governments through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) and similar interstate compacts/agreements and coordinates with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), typically through FEMA Region 9. The various SEMS levels are identified in **Figure 3.1**.

FIGURE 3.1: SEMS LEVELS	
FIELD RESPONSE	Commands on-scene information, resources, and priorities.
LOCAL	Manages and/or coordinates information, resources, and priorities within its jurisdiction.
OPERATIONAL AREA	Manages and/or coordinates information, resources, and priorities among all local governments within the boundary of a county.
REGION	Manages and coordinates information and resources among operational areas.
STATE	Statewide resource coordination integrated with federal agencies.

3.5: INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

The ICS is a nationally recognized on-scene emergency management system specifically designed to allow its user(s) to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS uses a common organizational structure to effectively accomplish the management of the incident by objectives.

The five functions of the ICS organization are management, operations, planning and intelligence, logistics, and finance and administration. The Santa Barbara County/OA EOC is also structured to mirror the ICS organizational model. See **Figure 4.2: EOC Organizational Chart** of this Plan for a visual representation of the County/OA EOC's organizational structure.

- **Management (Command)** is responsible for directing, ordering, and/or controlling resources by virtue of explicit legal, agency, or delegated authority. In the field Management consists of the positions that together create the Command Staff, which includes the Incident Commander, who is responsible for the overall management of the incident, PIO, Safety Officer, and Liaison Officer. Within the County/OA EOC, the Management Section includes the EOC Director, EOC Deputy Director, Management

Section Coordinator, Safety Officer, Equity Officer, Legal Counsel, EOC PIO, OA Liaison, Board/Legislative Liaison, Mental Health Specialist, and AFN Coordinator. The County/OA EOC's Joint Information Center (JIC) is a subcomponent of the Management Section that is supervised by the EOC PIO.

- **Operations** are responsible for the coordinated tactical response of all field operations directly applicable to or in support of the mission(s) per the Incident Action Plan or EOC Emergency Action Plan (EAP) in the County/OA EOC. Operations develop the Action Plan's operations portion, request resources to support tactical operations, maintain close communication with the Incident Commander, and implement tactical operations. Within the County/OA EOC the Operations Section includes the Operations Section Coordinator, Fire Branch, Law Branch, Care and Shelter Branch, Red Cross Liaison, Homeless Liaison, Building and Safety Branch, Public Works Branch, Public Health and Medical Services Branch, and the VOAD Branch as well as any agency representatives responding to the County/OA EOC. Depending on the situation a Transportation Branch may also be activated in the Operations Section rather than or in addition to the Transportation Unit in the EOC's Logistics Section. See the *2020 Transportation Emergency Preparedness Plan* for more information.
- **Planning and Intelligence** is responsible for the collection, evaluation, documentation, and use of information about the development of the incident. The County/OA EOC's Planning and Intelligence Section includes the Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator, Situation Status Unit, Recovery Unit, GIS Unit, Damage Assessment Unit, Advanced Plans Unit, Documentation Unit, Demobilization Unit, and Technical Specialists as needed.
- **Logistics** is responsible for providing facilities, services, personnel, equipment and tracking the status of resources and materials in support of the incident. The County/OA EOC's Logistics Section includes the Logistics Section Coordinator, Resources Tracking Unit, Information Systems Unit, Communications Unit, Personnel Unit, Purchasing/Procurement Unit, Transportation Unit, Facilities Unit, and Volunteer/Donations Management Unit.
- **Finance and Administration** is responsible for all financial and cost analysis aspects of the incident and/or any administrative aspects not handled by the other functions. The County/OA EOC's Finance and Administration Section includes the Finance and Administration Section Coordinator, Cost Recovery Unit, Cost Accounting Unit, Compensation/Claims Unit, and the Time Unit.

3.5.1: PRINCIPLES OF ICS

The system's organizational structure adapts to any emergency or incident to which emergency response agencies would expect to respond. Components of ICS are:

- Common terminology
- Modular organization

- UC structure
- Consolidated action plans
- Manageable span-of-control
- Pre-designed incident facilities
- Comprehensive resource management; and
- Integrated communications

Standard titles for organizational functions, resources, and facilities within ICS are used. The organizational structure is developed based on the type and size of an incident. The staff builds from the top-down as the incident grows, with responsibility and performance placed initially with the Incident Commander.

In all incidents, there will be five functions. Initially, the IC may be performing all five functions. Then, as the incident grows, each function may be established as a section with several units under each section. If necessary, a UC structure may be established if the incident expands across jurisdictional boundaries or requires a multi-agency response.

3.6: SANTA BARBARA COUNTY EMERGENCY ORGANIZATION

Responsibility for providing field IC is traditionally assigned to the authority(s) having jurisdiction (usually fire or law enforcement but may also include Public Works and the Health Department). Generally, when the County/OA EOC is activated, the initial responding agency has already established an on-scene Incident Commander (or Unified Command). The Incident Commander (or Unified Command) will continue to direct field operations according to established SOPs unless and until relieved of command by a superior officer.

Law Enforcement agencies and field IC have the authority to order the evacuation of a particular area during an emergency.

- California Penal Code § 409.5 allows specified law enforcement officers the ability to close or restrict access to an area “whenever a menace to the public health or safety is created by a calamity including a flood, storm, fire, earthquake, explosion, accident, or other disaster...”
- California Penal Code § 148.2 states that any person who disobeys the lawful orders of any fireman or resists or interferes with the lawful efforts of any firemen or emergency rescue personnel where any firemen or emergency rescue personnel are discharging or attempt to discharge an official duty is guilty of a misdemeanor.

It is the responsibility of the Sheriff’s Office and field IC to make sure that evacuation information is continuously provided to the Santa Barbara County OEM Duty Officer or the County/OA EOC if activated.

3.6.1: DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

The County DES is supported by the County emergency management organization and has overall responsibility for:

- Organizing, staffing, and operating the County/OA EOC.
- Operating communications and warning systems.
- Providing information and guidance to the public.
- Reassign County employees, as Disaster Service Workers (DSWs), from their primary jobs to fulfill staffing needs and shortfalls associated with the County's emergency response.
- Maintaining information on the status of resources, services, and operations.
- Directing overall operations.
- Coordinating support for all governmental jurisdictions within the SBC OA as requested.
- Identifying and analyzing potential hazards and recommending appropriate countermeasures.
- Collecting, evaluating, and disseminating damage assessment and other vital information.
- Providing status and other reports to CalOES.

Reference Santa Barbara County Code § 12-5 for more information on the specific powers and duties of the DES.

3.6.1.1: EOC POLICY GROUP

The EOC Policy Group is a team of senior County officials and key public safety employees of the County of Santa Barbara that provide strategic and policy recommendations related to the County's response during a local emergency to the DES and Director of the Office of Emergency Management. The EOC Policy Group consists of some standing members, including the DES, the OEM Director, County Counsel, County Fire, Sheriff, Public Works, Human Resources, and Planning and Development. Additionally, the DES has authority to determine additional members (both County representatives, as well as partner agencies) at their discretion for each incident, typically based on the key functions needed to address the type and scope of an incident. Not all incident responses will require activation of the EOC Policy Group.

3.6.2: FIELD LEVEL INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

The concepts, principles, and organizational structure of the ICS are used to manage all field operations. The size, complexity, hazard environment, and objectives of the situation will determine the ICS structure and the level of support that field activities will require. All incidents will be managed by developing operational objectives that are clearly communicated to the field and EOC staff through the action planning process.

Typically, an Incident Commander or authorized liaison will communicate with the County/OA EOC as to the situation and resources through the EOC Operations Section. Members of the Incident Commander's Command and General Staff will communicate with their counterparts in the County/OA EOC.

When multiple agencies respond to the incident, the individual ICs will establish a UC or Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) group. Other supporting organizations commanding staff in the field during a response should have representation at the field's Incident Command Post (ICP). Impacted and stakeholder organizations may also provide an agency representative (AREP) in the County/OA EOC to coordinate the needs of their organization and maintain close communication throughout the incident with the Operational Area level of SEMS. Other agencies, including those from the county, state, and federal agencies, may participate in the field (UC/MACS) or County/OA EOC by identifying objectives, setting priorities, and allocating critical resources to the incident.

3.6.3: INCIDENT INFORMATION COORDINATION

3.6.3.1: INCIDENT COMMAND/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATION

Effective incident management requires close coordination between incident command and emergency managers. During emergencies in which the County/OA EOC is not activated, County OEM will primarily coordinate with the Liaison Officer or other appointed representative of the field response organization to receive situation updates, field questions pertaining to the incident, and collaborate on issues. County OEM's primary representative for coordination with field incident command organizations is the OEM Duty Officer unless otherwise directed by the OEM Director.

County OEM should also coordinate with field incident command and maintain situational awareness through routine:

- Attendance in field Operations Briefings.
- Receipt of field Incident Action Plans (IAPs).
- Invitation to ad-hoc or specialized meetings pertaining to emergency management support operations.
- Assignment of County OEM staff to the Incident Command Post as an agency representative (if necessary).

3.6.3.2: EOC/OPERATIONAL AREA COMMUNICATIONS AND COORDINATION

Unless rendered inoperable, the County/OA EOC will communicate and coordinate with the SBC OA through two primary methods: meetings and emails.

Routine internal operational meetings facilitated by the EOC Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator or a County OEM staff member will occur during an EOC activation. These meetings will either be through EOC/OA Joint Briefings or special OA-wide coordination meetings.

EOC All Staff Meetings are designed only for EOC staff and provide incident updates, EOC section status reports, and a chance for internal EOC discussion of operational period objectives. EOC All

Staff Meetings also allow EOC, field, and County leadership the opportunity to address EOC staff and do not traditionally include the whole OA.

EOC/OA Joint Briefings involve all EOC staff and cover the same topics as EOC All Staff Meetings except SBC OA partner agencies will be invited and provided the opportunity to voice concerns and provide report outs if SBC OA participation is determined to be appropriate by the EOC Director or Deputy Director.

During an incident County OEM may also schedule and facilitate OA-wide coordination meetings to share situational updates, provide information from subject matter experts, organize the SBC OA's response activities, seek reports of incident impacts from all SBC OA agencies, and receive requests for resources or other support from impacted agencies.

More information on these meetings and their occurrence is available on the Santa Barbara County EOC Planning P Visual Aid (refer to [Appendix I](#)).

These EOC and OA-wide meetings should include:

- A description of the reasoning for the meeting.
- An agenda overview.
- Situation reports from key subject matter experts and leaders such as the IC, National Weather Service, applicable EOC staff, and other key stakeholder agencies for the incident.
- A roll call of impacted agencies, allowing them the opportunity to ask questions, report relevant information, indicate needs, and identify concerns.
- The schedule for the next EOC/OA Joint Briefing or special OA-wide meeting.

County OEM traditionally conducts EOC/OA Joint Meetings or SBC OA-wide conference call meetings at least once every operational period when activated to Level 2 or higher, though this may be adjusted based on the scope and complexity of the incident.

Emails facilitate the transmittal of documents, support group coordination, and support SBC OA situational awareness. Email communication is the preferred method for the County/OA EOC to share EOC situation status reports with the SBC OA, which should be transmitted at least once every operational period. OEM staff will serve as the EOC's OA Liaison, facilitating a two-way exchange of information with partner agencies.

In the event that traditional communications methods fail, alternative communications systems may be used to facilitate communication between the County/OA EOC and SBC OA partners. Alternative communications methods may include, but are not limited to:

- Satellite Phones

- Government Emergency Telecommunications System (GETS)/Wireless Priority Service (WPS) call cards. The GETS/WPS program is administered by the federal Department of Homeland Security that allows enrolled users to have priority service when placing calls during an emergency over landlines (GETS) or via cellular service (WPS) when those networks are congested.
- Bank of radios installed in the County/OA EOC that can communicate over the local public safety radio network.

3.6.3.3: FIELD/EOC COMMUNICATIONS AND COORDINATION

Routine communications and requests for information between the field command structure and County/OA EOC should flow through the Operations Section Coordinator in the EOC. Should unique or dynamic situations arise, an emergency manager from County OEM may report to the Incident Command Post (ICP) as a liaison to prevent over-inundation of Operations Section Coordinator responsibilities and streamline communication and coordination. This is especially relevant in situations where an incident exists that does not merit the activation of the County/OA EOC to levels 1 or 2, yet support is still requested in the field. Communication and coordination between the field and EOC also occur during regularly scheduled OA and EOC staff briefings.

3.6.3.4: FIELD/EOC DIRECTION AND CONTROL INTERFACE

The County/OA EOC does not provide tactical command of field first responders; field IC provides that tactical command. The County/OA EOC will, however, command field support operations that exist outside the field's response organization. These field support operations are those services that are planned for, staffed through, and/or deployed by the County/OA EOC in support of field operations or the needs of the incident, such as the provision of mass care and shelter services for the public. When the IC communicates support needs to the County/OA EOC, the County/OA EOC should coordinate to deploy personnel and assets to address such needs. The County/OA EOC determines its activation level and staffing independently and may activate DSWs or request Disaster Service Worker-Volunteers (DSW-Vs) to fulfill EOC staffing or other supporting operations.

3.6.3.5: FIELD/EOC COORDINATION WITH DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS CENTERS (DOCS)

A County Department's Department Operations Center (DOC) is an operational entity that is designed to serve as a coordinating body for an individual department in support of incident management. The County of Santa Barbara's DOCS accomplish two broad functions:

1. Manage and maintain internal departmental operations during an emergency/disaster incident, including facilitating departmental continuity of operations.
2. Contribute to County/OA response through communication and coordination with field response entities and the County/OA EOC, when necessary.

DOC activation is based on the impacts and demands of a department and is generally authorized by the Director of the department unless otherwise delegated. **If the County/OA EOC is**

activated, DOCs can serve as extensions of the EOC's branches and units to perform missions in support of field and EOC activities. Multiple DOCs may be activated to support multiple EOC positions or objectives. Ideally, associated field agencies will coordinate with DOCs through activated EOCs; however, direct coordination with the field may occur if a department is integrated directly into the field's ICS response structure. For example, the Sheriff's Office DOC may activate to support Sheriff activities in the field. Furthermore, DOCs may activate in support of mutual aid systems and needs that are coordinated outside of the EOC.

County DOCs share objectives, strategies, and status updates at regular intervals with the County/OA EOC and are responsible for the following activities:

- Maintains departmental operations, including:
 - Staffing
 - Finance
 - Intra-departmental planning
 - Intra-departmental coordination
- Directly supports the objectives and activities of the County/OA EOC and, if necessary, the field's Incident Command structure.
- Receives resource requests from the County/OA EOC and, if necessary, the field's Incident Command structure.
- Prioritizes and manages departmental resources, including allocation of resources.
- Receives direction from the EOC Policy Group.
- Provides situation status reports.
- Tasks and responsibilities that may exist in department-specific response plans or protocols.

It may become necessary for the DOC to integrate into the EOC should DOC operations increase in complexity or occur for an extended period. The County DES or designee will determine a method for EOC/DOC integration if integration is necessary. DOC integration into the EOC will require full or partial physical representation in the EOC. Examples of increased complexity that may merit DOC integration into the EOC include:

- Political, fiscal, or resource complexities.
- The incident has multi-agency or multi-departmental impacts and demands.
- The DOC is serving or providing mutual aid for non-County of Santa Barbara entities outside of routine agreements or processes.
- The DOC becomes too overwhelmed by the incident to maintain its department's continuity of operations.

Integration methods may include:

- The assignment of a County Department Director or designee as the EOC Operations Section Coordinator.

- Expansion of an EOC branch to include subunits, teams, and task forces staffed by the appropriate DOC.
- DOC representation in the EOC as an agency representative (AREP).

Figure 3.2 visually explains how EOCs and DOCs support the five SEMS organizational levels.

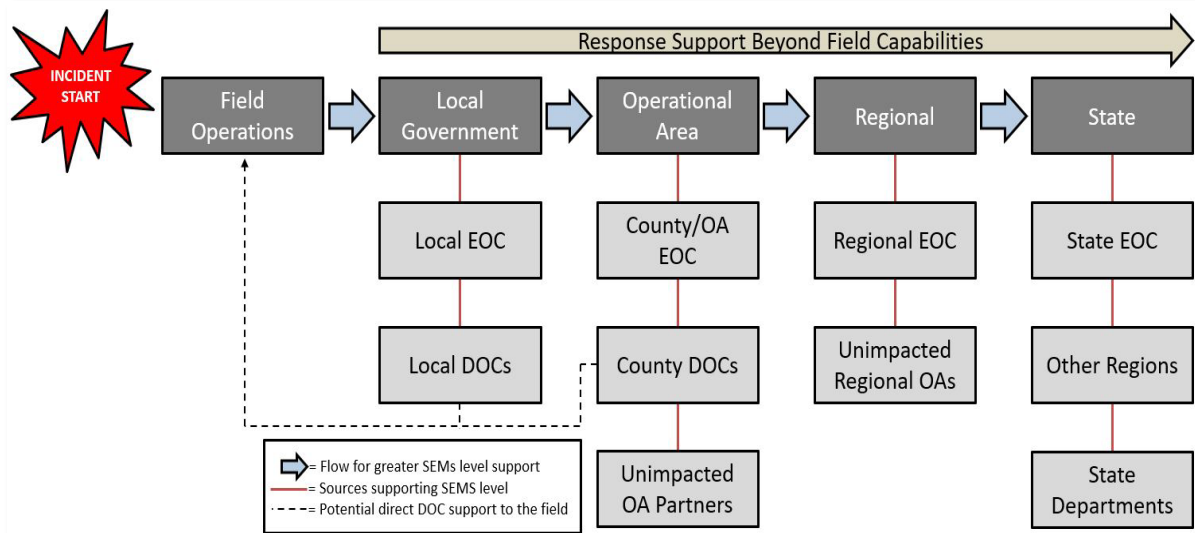


FIGURE 3.2 – ENTITIES SUPPORTING SEMS ORGANIZATIONAL LEVEL OPERATIONS

3.7: CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT

A major disaster could result in great loss of life, including the death or injury of key government officials. In the aftermath of a major disaster, law and order must be preserved, and essential government services must be maintained. It is particularly essential that local units of government continue to function. Applicable portions of the California Government Code and the State Constitution provide authority for the continuity and preservation of State and local government.

Government at all levels is responsible for providing continuous, effective leadership and authority over all aspects of emergency services operations, including preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. Under California's concept of mutual aid, local officials remain in control of their jurisdiction's emergency operations, while others may provide additional resources upon request.

County Departments should activate their Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) when an emergency or other condition threatens the ability of a County Department to conduct its required functions and responsibilities.

See [Appendix J](#) for detailed Continuity of Government information.

3.8: ACTION PLANS

Action Plans are generally written and are required by SEMS during an incident. At local, OA, regional, and state levels, the use of Action Plans provides designated personnel with knowledge of the objectives to be achieved and the steps required for achievement amongst other vital information, such as situation status data and an organizational chart. Action Plans not only provide direction, but they also serve to provide a basis for measuring the achievement of objectives and overall system performance and should incorporate recovery and demobilization considerations as early as feasibly possible in the response. Emergency Action planning is an important management tool that involves a process for:

- Identifying priorities and objectives for emergency response or recovery efforts.
- Assignment of tasks and personnel assignments associated with meeting them.

Action Plans within the County/OA EOC are referred to as EOC Emergency Action Plans (EAPs). Through the “Planning P” process, each operational period within the County/OA EOC will consist of multiple meetings and be guided by EOC EAPs that are prepared and finalized during the preceding operational period. Each EOC EAP will cover a 24-hour operational period unless otherwise modified by the EOC Director or Deputy Director.

Disaster-related action planning is not unique to the EOC setting. Under the ICS, the term “Incident Action Plan (IAP)” is used by the response organization overseeing operations in the field. Field IAPs are extremely similar to EOC EAPs, with the primary difference being that Field IAPs address the objectives and other operational data for field operations, while the EOC EAP accomplishes the same for EOC activities. The similar format and style of both types of plans allow for standardization and consistency to exist between the field and EOC.

At a minimum, the County/OA EOC should collect and keep up-to-date records of certain information for any given emergency. Information is collected from verified and reliable sources, such as the field incident management team liaison, field IAPs, AREPs, partner agency incident reports, other activated EOCs and DOCs, incident meetings, and observations. This information is assessed and consolidated in the EOC EAP’s Situation Status Report or other supporting forms developed by the EOC Planning and Intelligence Section. Essential elements of information include:

- Evacuation statistics (will comply/won’t comply/not home) (if applicable).
- Evacuation center/shelter locations and population (both human and animal) (if applicable).
- Evacuation order and warning footprint (if applicable).
- Injured, missing, and fatality statistics.
- Building damage and/or destruction data (including building tagging statistics).
- Mutual aid requests made by the County/OA EOC (including through Emergency Management Mutual Aid (EMMA)).

- Impacts/requests from SBC OA partners.
- Requests from the field.
- Project code(s) and financial guidance.
- EOC staffing details for each operational period.
- Road closures.
- Available GIS information.
- Utility status (applicable power outages, water/wastewater, and natural gas line impacts).
- Network communications status (cellular network impacts and private telecommunications services to the public).
- Wildland fire containment percentage (if applicable).
- Healthcare facility impacts.
- Identification of other activated EOCs and DOCs within the SBC OA, including those outside the SBC OA that are supporting the local response.
- Each operational period's objectives.

EOC EAP documents are considered "For Official Use Only (FOUO)" and are not approved for public release or sharing with other agencies without the consent of the County/OA EOC. The Situation Status Report portion of the EOC EAP may be disseminated to the SBC OA, County Department Directors, and the Board of Supervisors during each operational period. However, Situation Status Reports and are also FOUO and not for public release or sharing with agencies that did not receive such reports directly from the County/OA EOC. Alternatively, summary emails with high level or pertinent information could suffice, but should be divided or labeled to clearly identify what information is FOUO only or public information. The CalOES Emergency Services Coordinator assigned to the SBC OA, as well as the CalOES Southern Region Duty Officer, should also receive this information.

See [Appendix I](#) for more detailed information regarding EOC Action Planning.

3.9: EMERGENCY PROCLAMATIONS

3.9.1: COUNTY PROCLAMATIONS

Local Emergency: The DES is empowered to request the Board of Supervisors to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency if the Board of Supervisors is in session. If the Board of Supervisors is not in session, the DES is authorized to issue such a proclamation.

Whenever the DES proclaims a local emergency, the Board of Supervisors shall take action to ratify the proclamation within seven calendar days thereafter, or the proclamation shall have no further force or effect. To qualify for financial public assistance, such proclamations must be made within 10 days of the event according to § 8685.2 of the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA). A copy of the resolution must be provided as soon as possible to the County OEM for transmission to CalOES.

The Board of Supervisors shall review the need for continuing the Local Emergency at least every 60 calendar days until the Board of Supervisors terminates the Local Emergency. The Board of Supervisors shall proclaim the termination of the Local Emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant. Should the local emergency proclamation not be re-ratified within the 60 calendar day requirement, the proclamation will expire and have no further effect.

The proclamation of a Local Emergency provides the governing body with the legal authority to:

- Request that the Governor proclaim a State of Emergency if necessary.
- Promulgate or suspend orders and regulations necessary to provide for the protection of life and property, including issuing orders or regulations imposing a curfew within designated boundaries.
- Exercise full power to provide mutual aid to any affected area in accordance with local ordinances, resolutions, emergency plans, or agreements.
- Request that State agencies and other jurisdictions provide mutual aid.
- Require the emergency services of any local official or employee.
- Requisition necessary personnel and materials from any local department or agency.
- Obtain vital supplies and equipment and, if required, immediately commandeer the same for public use.
- Impose penalties for violation of lawful orders.
- Conduct emergency operations without incurring legal liability for performance or failure of performance (Article 17 of the Emergency Services Act provides for certain privileges and immunities.).

Areas Covered Under a County Proclamation: When a County proclaims a local emergency pursuant to § 8630 of the California Government Code, areas within an incorporated territory are included if the County local emergency proclamation is for the entire Operational Area, and/or for a specific area that includes local government agencies. When this occurs, the local government agencies do not need to proclaim a local emergency independently to be eligible for public assistance. However, for an agency within the SBC OA to use emergency powers within its own organization it may need to proclaim its own local emergency. Furthermore, cities within a county are bound by County rules and regulations adopted by the County pursuant to § 8634 of the California Government Code during a County proclaimed local emergency when the local emergency includes both incorporated and unincorporated territory of the County, even if the cities do not independently proclaim the existence of a local emergency.

Local Resolution Requesting State Director, CalOES, Concurrence in Local Emergencies: Following the proclamation of a local emergency, in the event public property has been damaged or destroyed and assistance is needed in its repair and restoration, the governing body may request the CalOES Director to concur in the proclamation of a local emergency and to provide

assistance under the CDAA. The resolution must indicate the nature and date of the emergency and the person designated to receive, process, and coordinate all aid.

To assist the CalOES Director in evaluating the situation and in making a decision on whether or not to concur in the local emergency, the following is required to accompany the resolution:

- Copy of the local emergency proclamation
- Damage Assessment Summary

California Emergency Services Act Authorities: The California Emergency Services Act, Article 14, § 8630 (Proclamation by local governing body; Review; Termination) states:

- A local emergency may be proclaimed only by the governing body of a city, county, or city and county or by an official designated by ordinance adopted by that governing body.
- Whenever a local emergency is proclaimed by an official designated by ordinance, the local emergency shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven days unless it has been ratified by the governing body.
- The governing body shall review the need for continuing the local emergency at least once every 60 days until the governing body terminates the local emergency.
- The governing body shall proclaim the termination of the local emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

Declaration of a Local Health Emergency: In accordance with California Health and Safety Code Section 101080, the local Health Officer may declare a Local Health Emergency whenever there is an imminent threat posed by any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease, chemical agent, noncommunicable biologic agent, toxin, or radioactive agent in the jurisdiction. The Local Health Emergency shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven days unless it has been ratified by the Board of Supervisors or city council, whichever is applicable to the jurisdiction. The need to continue the Local Health Emergency must be reviewed at least every 30 days until terminated. Termination of the Local Health Emergency should occur at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

3.9.2: STATE OF EMERGENCY

A State of Emergency may be proclaimed by the Governor when:

- Conditions of disaster or extreme peril exist that threaten the safety of persons and property within the state caused by natural or human-caused incidents.
- The Governor is requested to do so by local authorities.
- The Governor finds that local authority is inadequate to cope with the emergency.

Whenever the Governor proclaims a State of Emergency:

- Mutual aid shall be rendered per approved emergency plans when needed in any county, city, county, or city for outside assistance.

- To the extent deemed necessary, the Governor shall have the right to exercise all police power vested in the state by the Constitution and the laws of the State of California within the designated area.
- The Governor may suspend the provisions of orders, rules, or regulations of any state agency and any regulatory statute or statute prescribing the procedure for conducting state business.
- The Governor may commandeer or make use of any private property or personnel (other than the media) in carrying out the responsibilities of the office.
- The Governor may promulgate issues and enforce orders and regulations deemed necessary.

State of War Emergency: Whenever the Governor proclaims a State of War Emergency, or if a State of War Emergency exists, all provisions associated with a State of Emergency apply, plus:

- All State agencies and political subdivisions are required to comply with the lawful orders and regulations of the Governor that are made or given within the limits of his/her authority as provided for in the Emergency Services Act.

3.9.3: PRESIDENTIAL DECLARATION

Following the proclamation of a State of Emergency, the CalOES Director may recommend that the Governor request a Presidential declaration of a major disaster or emergency under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-707). The Stafford Act authorizes the president to provide financial and other assistance to state and local governments, certain private nonprofit organizations, and individuals to support response, recovery, and mitigation efforts following a Presidential Emergency Declaration or Major Disaster Declaration

Presidential Emergency Declaration: More limited in scope than a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration, the Presidential Emergency Declaration involves fewer federal programs and is not normally associated with recovery programs. However, the President may issue an emergency declaration prior to an actual incident to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe. Generally, federal assistance and funding are provided to meet specific emergency needs or to help prevent a catastrophe from occurring.

Presidential Major Disaster Declaration: Provides more federal programs for response and recovery than a Presidential Emergency Declaration. Unlike a Presidential Emergency Declaration, a major disaster declaration may only be issued after an incident.

The Governor must request a Presidential Emergency Declaration on behalf of the local government within five days after the need for federal emergency assistance is apparent. A Presidential Major Disaster Declaration must be submitted within 30 days of the incident.

The Governor's request to the President is submitted through FEMA. Supplementary justification data may be required to accompany the State and local proclamations and initial damage estimate. More information on the Stafford Act is available in the text of that law, as well as the most recent version of the Department of Homeland Security's *National Response Framework*.

3.10: POPULATIONS WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHER ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

The Santa Barbara County/OA EOP was developed with the participation of local agencies who provide cultural and access and functional need (AFN) equity, services, and advocacy to community members within Santa Barbara County. This participation included a focused workshop for cultural and AFN service agencies, a bilingual (English/Spanish) project survey, direct outreach, and inclusion in stakeholder review processes.

Access to emergency services shall not be denied on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To make sure that this goal is met, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires state and local governments to make their programs and services accessible to persons with disabilities. This requirement extends to physical access at government facilities, programs, and events and to policy changes that governmental entities must make sure that all people with disabilities can take part in and benefit from the programs and services of state and local governments. In addition, governmental entities must consider effective communication, including providing necessary auxiliary aids and services, so that individuals with disabilities can participate in civic life.

ADA, signed into law on July 26, 1990, is a broad civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities, including but not limited to mobility, vision, hearing, cognitive disorders, mental illnesses, and language barriers. In 2008, the Federal government updated the ADA, known as the ADA Amendments Act. The revised law broadens the scope of the definition of what it means to have a disability. These changes went into effect on January 1, 2009. These amendments make it easier for those with disabilities and access and functional needs (AFN) populations to seek protection under the law.

The acronym CMIST is a nationally recognized term that summarizes the five main areas where AFN community members may need support during an emergency.

- **C – Communication:** Some people might have trouble receiving or understanding information. This could include:
 - People who are deaf or hard of hearing.
 - People who use American Sign Language (ASL).
 - People who don't speak English well or speak English as a second language.
 - People who are blind or have low vision.
 - People with cognitive or developmental disabilities.

- **M – Medical or Maintaining Health:** Some people need additional medical help. This might include:
 - Special medical equipment, like wheelchairs or walkers.
 - People who manage chronic health conditions and multiple medications.
 - People who manage wound care.
 - Consumable medical supplies, like diapers, formula, or bandages.
 - Durable medical equipment, like wheelchairs, scooters, or walkers.
- **I – Independence:** Some people need help with daily activities, like eating, getting dressed, or using the bathroom. This includes:
 - Durable medical equipment, like wheelchairs, scooters, or walkers.
 - Service animals.
 - People who need personal care assistance.
 - Children and adults who need supervision.
- **S – Services and Supports:** Some people need extra support to stay safe and healthy. This could include:
 - People with mental health needs, like anxiety or depression.
 - People with psychiatric conditions, like dementia or schizophrenia.
 - Pregnant women, nursing mothers, and infants.
 - Children who need supervision.
- **T – Transportation:** Some people might need help with transportation during an emergency. This could include:
 - People who don't drive, like older adults, individuals with disabilities or temporary injuries.
 - People who can't drive for legal reasons.
 - People who don't have a car.
 - People who don't have money to purchase fuel.

The County will make every effort to address the needs of the AFN population. The County prioritizes inclusion and equity in all aspects of emergency management, including providing effective alert and warning messaging, conducting lifesaving operations, ordering and implementing evacuations, and providing shelter while addressing issues related to communications, mobility, and accessibility. Included in the County's planning efforts for those with disabilities and others with access and functional needs are:

- Access to staff trained in Functional Assessment Service Teams (FAST) through the county and the State of California.
- ADA-compliant access to County programs, services, and facilities and ARC shelter facilities.
- Assistance with animal services for evacuation and sheltering of service animals.
- Identified transportation assistance for those requiring physical assistance.
- Reverse telephone system for specific geographic areas.

- Notification and warning procedures.
- Evacuation considerations.
- Emergency transportation coordination and response operations (this concept is supported by the *Transportation Emergency Preparedness Plan*, which was developed in partnership between the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC) and the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG)).
- Sheltering requirements (See *County and OA Disaster Care and Shelter Plan* for Mass Care and Shelter Operations guidance).

Functional need populations are those community members who may have additional needs before, during, and after an incident in functional areas. This includes, but is not limited to, maintaining independence, communication, transportation, supervision, and medical care. Individuals in need of additional response assistance may consist of those who have disabilities, those in institutionalized settings, older adults, children, those from diverse cultures, those with limited or no English proficiency, or those who are transportation disadvantaged.

According to the Center for Disease Control, 25% of people in California identify as having a disability. Lessons documented in recent disasters concerning the integration of people with disabilities into community living and the growing aging population have shown that the existing paradigm of emergency planning and implementation must change. These lessons learned show three (3) areas that are repeatedly identified as most important to people with disabilities and older adults: 1) communications (alert, warning, and notification), 2) evacuation (transportation), and 3) sheltering.

3.10.1: CALIFORNIA OES OFFICE OF ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

In January 2008, the Office for Access and Functional Needs (OAFN) was created within CalOES. The purpose of OAFN is to identify the needs of AFN individuals before, during, and after disasters and to integrate them into the State's emergency management systems.

OAFN utilizes a whole community approach by offering training and guidance to emergency managers and planners, disability advocates, and other service providers responsible for planning for, responding to, and helping communities recover from disasters. In short, OAFN plans for the realities of disasters by integrating access and functional needs into everything CalOES does, including partnership development, outreach, training, guidance, and technical assistance. The County may consult the CalOES OAFN for advice and general AFN subject matter expertise if such support is necessary.

3.11: ANIMAL EVACUATION AND SHELTERING

Legislation: The PETS Act (Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006) directs state and local emergency preparedness plans to address the needs of people with pets and service animals prior to, during, and after a major disaster. Assembly Bill 781 (passed October

2023) also includes requirements to address emergency shelters and persons with pets during an incident.

Animal Evacuation and Transportation: Animal evacuation support through County Animal Services is explained below. Additionally, CA Senate Bill 397 (passed October 2019) requires that “if an evacuation order is issued that covers all or a portion of a public transit operator’s service area, the public transit operator shall authorize passengers to board public transit vehicles with their pets in the area covered by the evacuation order, consistent with best practices.” Santa Barbara County public transit providers have individually identified how they are supporting this legislative requirement. The Ventura and Santa Barbara County *Transportation Emergency Preparedness Plan* also addresses how this concept is supported on a regional level.

Designation of Emergency Shelters to Accommodate Persons with Pets: The ability to designate an emergency shelter as being able to accommodate collocation of pets is dependent on authorization by the facility owner for pets to be on site. The County Department of Social Services (DSS) oversees the County’s care and shelter program, including coordinating facility use agreements for prospective care and shelter sites. It is standard practice for DSS to discuss potential authorization for pets to be on site during the facility use agreement development process with site owners. DSS maintains a living document that tracks capabilities and authorities of all sites the department has contracted with for emergency care and shelter site use, including whether pets are allowed. Furthermore, the County of Santa Barbara has a memorandum of understanding with the local Red Cross for the Red Cross to operate care and shelter sites under certain circumstances. It is Red Cross policy to allow for pets to be collocated at Red Cross disaster care and shelter sites provided the facility owner authorizes pets on site.

To the extent practicable and when safe to do so, the County will attempt to designate at least one disaster care and shelter site as being able to accommodate persons with pets when such sites are activated for an emergency. Designation of a specific site as being able to accommodate collocation of pets with owners at disaster care and shelter sites is determined on an incident-by-incident basis.

Safety at Designated Pet/Human Care and Shelter Sites: Safety for both pets and humans at activated disaster care and shelter sites is vital. The County Health Department’s Animal Services Division is the animal subject matter expert for the County. Consultation with County Animal Services will likely be necessary to establish the safety protocols and procedures necessary to safely collocate pets and humans at disaster care and shelter sites. Safety considerations should include (amongst other concepts):

- Identification of locations on site that is not the dormitory area where pets can be kept, including assessment of how this location is impacted by weather and exposure.
- Access to the necessary resources, such as crates and food.

- Designation of areas on site where pets can be exercised and relieve themselves.
- Establishment of protocols related to pet collocation and the ability to communicate those protocol to pet owners.

Pet Collocation and Public Information: When care and shelter sites are activated by the County/OA EOC, the Care and Shelter Branch Leader will collaborate with the EOC PIO and Joint Information Center (JIC) to ensure published care and shelter site information is accurate and, if applicable, whether or not sites will accommodate pet collocation.

Pet Preparedness Information: The County has pet and large animal emergency preparedness information on the County’s emergency preparedness webpage - www.readysbc.org/2742/Pet-Large-Animal-Preparedness (available in English and Spanish), as well as on the County Animal Services website - www.countyofsb.org/3292/Disaster-Preparedness. Both of these webpages offer several pet preparedness tips, contact information for the County Animal Services Division (as well as their disaster response partners), recommended pet emergency kit items, and other useful information. Additionally, County residents are encouraged to register their livestock and pets in the Animal Services Farm Database on their website to enhance the County’s understanding and support of community animal needs during a disaster.

County Animal Services Division Overview: The Santa Barbara County Animal Services Division cares for dogs, cats, small pets, and wildlife.

TABLE 3.1: SANTA BARBARA COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER LOCATIONS		
1501 W Central Ave, Lompoc, CA 93436	548 W Foster Rd, Santa Maria, CA 93455	5473 Overpass Rd, Goleta, CA 93111

Animal Control Officers rescue, protect, and provide for animals in need. The Animal Services Division is also responsible for issuing animal licenses and the enforcement of local and state laws about domesticated and wild animals.

The County Animal Services Division provides the following services:

- Rescuing injured animals
- Capturing at-large or stray animals
- Investigating animal bites and attacks
- Removing dead animals from public property
- Removing dead or living wildlife from private property ONLY if such wildlife has direct contact with humans and/or animals that involves a bite or attack
- Enforcing leash laws and local ordinances
- Euthanizing severely injured animals
- Investigating reports of animal cruelty

During an emergency, the County's Animal Services Division will coordinate with Incident Command and the County/OA EOC to support large and small animal evacuation and animal sheltering operations. The County Animal Services Division will also coordinate with the County/OA EOC's Care and Shelter Branch and the Red Cross to support animal-related services at human care and shelter sites that are designated to accommodate collocation of pets brought by their owners. This includes supporting those sites with animal-related subject matter expertise and available resources. In the event that County Animal Services is unable to provide needed animal-related resources for human care and shelter sites that collate pets, those resources will be sought using applicable mutual aid options or the County/OA EOC's resource request system, depending on the situation.

Refer to the *County/OA Disaster Care and Shelter Plan*, the *Transportation Emergency Preparedness Plan*, and the *Animal Services Response Plan (in development)* for more guidance.

Ag Pass Program: The purpose of the Ag Pass program is to provide a uniform way to identify vetted commercial farm and ranch owner-operators and their employees to firefighting personnel, California Highway Patrol Officers, Sheriff's deputies and other law enforcement officers, and other emergency personnel. Possession of an Ag Pass during a wildfire or other emergency potentially allows the agriculturalist limited emergency access to areas that may otherwise be restricted to the public in order to:

1. Protect or care for agricultural assets (such as irrigating crops or feeding, watering, and transporting livestock)
2. Provide support information to emergency personnel (such as identifying access roads and water points)

The County Agricultural Commissioner's Office oversees the County's Ag Pass program in partnership with other agencies including the County Fire Department and Sheriff's Office.

3.12: ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE, AND LOGISTICS

The following guidance is provided to support administration of EOC processes involving documentation, financial obligations and claims, and management of resources.

3.12.1: DOCUMENTATION AND INCIDENT FILE PRESERVATION

In order to create a historical record of emergency response activities to improve procedures and develop mitigation strategies, the EOC should activate the Documentation Unit within the Planning Intelligence Section to organize how hardcopy and digital documents will be stored and document the actions taken during the emergency operation of the EOC. This responsibility should include the collection of IC logs, action plans created during the emergency, internal and external entities involved, resources expended, etc. This information will form the official incident record when combined with the post-incident assessment.

3.12.2: FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The EOC Finance and Administration Section is ultimately responsible for aggregating the overall costs incurred during an emergency that requires a substantial response effort and gathering the required documentation to support financial recovery claims. This financial information should include expenditures made by entities (internal and/or external) in addition to the EOC and will be made available to support reimbursement efforts and insurance claims and inform future emergency budgeting, etc. County OEM will inform responding agencies and local officials about the cost recovery process and recommend how to document costs incurred during the response and recovery operations.

3.12.3: LOGISTICS

The EOC Logistics Section is responsible for the provision of facilities, transportation, communications, supplies, equipment maintenance and fueling, food and medical services for incident personnel and operations. Logistics coordination may involve or support mutual aid requests, provision of supplies for mass care and shelter operations, and assistance to vulnerable populations such as children, individuals with access and functional needs, and populations that requires special assistance services.

SECTION 4: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

This section describes the functions and organization of the Santa Barbara County/OA EOC.

4.1: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

The County and OA EOC is the same facility. In some instances, the EOC will activate solely to support County emergency management coordination and response, such as in support of an incident occurring solely on unincorporated land. In the event of emergency management coordination and response in support of an incident impacting one or more government agencies within the SBC OA, the EOC may activate for the OA.

4.2: PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE EOC

The purpose of the County/OA EOC is to provide a facility from which the organization's response to an emergency can be effectively coordinated. During an emergency, the EOC will provide a single focal point for centralized activities, to include:

- Decision-making at the operational level.
- Management of information by developing, maintaining, displaying, and disseminating situational awareness of the incident to those working within the EOC, at the incident, or with other activated EOCs and DOCs.
- Resource support to identify, obtain, and manage County and other resources for emergency operations.
- Providing logistics support for EOC activities and support to impacted agencies within the SBC OA, and when necessary, support the logistical needs of field responders.

- Performing accounting and recordkeeping to track disaster costs.
- Host representatives from other agencies for multiagency incident coordination.
- Oversee public information efforts including the JIC and Call Center.

The EOC performs these and other tasks by communicating across departments, agencies, and jurisdictions to relieve on-scene command of the burden of external coordination, resource allocation, and information collection, verification, and dissemination. The decisions made through the EOC are designed to be broad in scope and offer guidance on overall priorities.

The EOC is operated by County staff and others that are activated to fulfill specific positions within the County/OA EOC. County/OA EOC staff provide support to ICs and DOCs, conduct public notification and warning, provide incident emergency and public communications, manage resource coordination, documents and keeps record of the incident, and coordinates resources and services for the public related to an emergency such as evacuation shelters. The EOC facility is equipped with information systems and various tools that support conducting SBC OA-wide emergency response operations.

Checklists for each individual County/OA EOC position and supporting documents are physically located in the EOC and stored virtually.

4.3: EOC LOCATIONS AND LAYOUT

4.3.1: PRIMARY EOC

The SBC OA's primary EOC is located in the South Coast subregion of the County at the Santa Barbara County Emergency Operations Center and Regional Fire Communication Center (EOC & RFCC), 4408 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA, 93110. This facility is used for Santa Barbara County OEM day-to-day business and regional fire dispatch services, as well as

Primary EOC Location:
County of Santa Barbara Emergency
Operations Center and Regional Fire
Communication Center
4408 Cathedral Oaks Road,
Santa Barbara, CA, 93110

EOC/JIC/Call Center activations and expanded fire dispatch, and serves as both the OA and County EOC. OEM staff keep the EOC in a constant state of response readiness. Since the facility is utilized by both Fire Dispatch and OEM who both have a role in response, they do not compete for space or immediate resources within the facility when activated. Aside from the multiple office spaces, common areas (bathrooms, quiet room, showers, lockers, and breakrooms) storage rooms, and network rooms, the County/OA EOC function of the facility has seven rooms designed specifically for fostering emergency response. These rooms are the Incident Management Room (IMR), Management Conference Room (MCR), JIC, Media Room, Call Center, GIS room, and a County Radio and Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) room.

4.3.2: ALTERNATE EOC

Should the primary EOC become unsafe, inaccessible, or otherwise unavailable for incident support, an alternate EOC will be used. The EOC Logistics Section will arrange for the relocation of EOC staff members and equipment to an alternate EOC location.

Alternate EOC Location:
Joseph Centeno Betteravia Government
Administration Building
511 Lakeside Parkway, Santa Maria, CA,
93455

The alternate County/OA EOC location is the Joseph Centeno Betteravia Government Administration Building, located at 511 Lakeside Parkway, Santa Maria, CA, 93455. The decision to use an alternate County/OA EOC location and site selection will be made by the County OEM Director in partnership with County Executive Office leadership.

Note: An alternate County/OA EOC may not have the same capabilities or comparable equipment as the County's/OA's Primary EOC.

4.3.3: PRIMARY EOC LAYOUT

Incident Management Room (IMR): The IMR can provide computer and phone workstations to over 40 EOC staff with extra available desk space for over two dozen additional people. It is the primary location for traditional EOC operations and situation monitoring. EOC staff working in the IMR are identifiable by color-coded vests indicating which section they work in.

EOC SECTION COLORS	
Management	White
Operations	Red
Planning/Intelligence	Blue
Logistics	Orange
Finance/Administration	Green
JIC	Yellow

The IMR features three extra large screens capable of showing cable television and projecting mirrored images from any computer in the room, as well as most computers brought in by guests and teammates. The audio/visual system allows for mass briefings and conference calls to occur.

Management Conference Room (MCR): The MCR is intended to facilitate small meetings and teleconferences while minimizing noise and distractions from the rest of the facility. The MCR features a large table with 14 seats. Three flat screens on the walls are capable of displaying television, providing video conferencing capabilities, and mirroring most computers. Standing room is available around the table if needed.

Joint Information Center (JIC): The JIC's primary responsibility is to oversee the effective and consistent distribution of emergency information to the general public and inquiring media. The JIC is a subcomponent of the EOC's Management Section and is comprised of public information officers (PIOs) and specialists from impacted jurisdictions and incident stakeholders, such as those agencies who are actively supporting the response. By allowing impacted PIOs to actively collaborate in the EOC, they are able to deconflict false information, elevate issues brought to

their attention from their constituents, and publish coordinated and consistent incident information, reducing the probability of public confusion.

Within the SBC OA emergency operations structure, the County/OA EOC's PIO oversees the JIC. The JIC oversees the Call Center. Both JIC and Call Center staff are readily identifiable by their yellow vests.

It is the goal of the County of Santa Barbara to incorporate non-English languages in emergency communications. Both the JIC and Call Center will strive to have bilingual staff and designated translators available to assist public information products and inquiries when activated.

Call Center: The SBC OA Call Center allows for members of the public to contact the County to ask questions and report issues. The Call Center is a room equipped with 17 workstations to enable call takers to field calls from the public and report trends or issues to the Call Center Manager. In 2020, the County also installed a permanent electrical and communications connection within the EOC & RFCC parking lot to allow for expansion of the Call Center into portable trailers if needed for significant events.

Media Room: The Media Room is a small recording room with sound reduction, track lighting, a touchscreen display, and a logo wall that can be used for creating videos and voice recordings for the purpose of community education, alert and notifications, live emergency updates, and Public Safety Announcements (PSAs). This room can be utilized by all County Departments and OA partners for preparedness efforts and will be utilized by OEM Duty Officers and the JIC during EOC activations.

Public Safety Radio and Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) Room: The County of Santa Barbara has provided space for the local Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) chapter to install their radio communications equipment within the County/OA EOC. ARES radio operators provide invaluable high and low-frequency communications throughout the SBC OA should contemporary communication methods fail or become compromised. The local ARES team has established and exercised communications with various healthcare facilities, the United States Forest Service, and multiple law enforcement and fire services agencies.

The County/OA EOC also has a bank of radios capable of communicating over the local public safety radio network located in the same room as the ARES desk. Specifically, these radios enable communication with the County Sheriff's Office, County Fire Department, and local Emergency Medical Services via the County Health Department. There is also a satellite phone installed in this room, which is tested quarterly.

GIS Room: The GIS Room is immediately adjacent to the IMR and is designed to be a central workspace for GIS technicians working for the EOC to develop virtual GIS products such as

evacuation maps as well as physical printouts of GIS products. The room is equipped with a computer that features GIS software tables, and a large plotter printer capable of printing extra-large images.

4.4: EOC ACTIVATION AND DEACTIVATION

Policy: Santa Barbara County will provide an efficient and coordinated response to any emergency or disaster that threatens the health, safety, and well-being of the community.

Activation of a local government level EOC typically occurs when field level response agencies need outside support. When a local jurisdiction EOC or County DOC is activated, that EOC/DOC should notify Santa Barbara County via the County OEM Duty Officer and send a Status Report formally indicating that the agency's EOC/DOC is activated with incident details.

County/OA EOC Response Priorities:

1. Protect and save lives.
2. Protect property.
3. Maintain law and order.
4. Restore vital services and utilities.
5. Protect the environment.
6. Return communities to normal operations.
7. Coordinate cost recovery.

When the County/OA EOC WILL Activate: The EOC will be activated based upon criteria that either meet SEMS direction or County emergency response policy. The County/OA EOC will activate if any of the following conditions exist within the Santa Barbara County OA. Although these thresholds constitute EOC activation, they do not correlate to a specific EOC activation level. The County/OA EOC's activation level will be determined by the County's DES and OEM Director. See [Section 4.4.1](#) for more information regarding County/OA EOC activation levels.

- A local government within the OA has activated its EOC (or equivalent) and requested activation of the OA EOC to support their emergency operations. (SEMS Requirement)
- Two or more cities within the OA have proclaimed a local emergency. (SEMS Requirement)
- The County and one or more cities have proclaimed a local emergency. (SEMS Requirement)
- A city, city and County, or the County has requested a governor's proclamation of a State of Emergency. (SEMS Requirement)
- A state of emergency is proclaimed by the governor for the county or two or more cities within the OA. (SEMS Requirement)
- The OA is requesting resources from outside its boundaries, except those resources used in normal day-to-day operations which are obtained through existing agreements

providing for the exchange or furnishing of certain types of facilities and services on a reimbursable, exchange, or other basis as provided for under the Master Mutual Aid Agreement. (SEMS Requirement)

- The OA has received resource requests from outside its boundaries, except those resources used in normal day-to-day operations which are obtained through existing agreements providing for the exchange or furnishing of certain types of facilities and services on a reimbursable, exchange, or other basis as provided for under the Master Mutual Aid Agreement. (SEMS Requirement)
- A threshold for County/OA EOC activation has been met that has been established in another County emergency management planning document.

More information regarding SEMS regulations related to OA EOC activations is available in Title 19 California Code of Regulations Division 2, Chapter 1, Article 4 § 2409(k)(1-7).

When the County/OA EOC MAY Activate: Unique situations may exist that do not fall into the categories listed in the “When the County/OA EOC Will Activate” portion of this Plan yet still merit County/OA EOC activation. The decision to activate the County/OA EOC in these situations is strictly dependent on that incident’s size and scope. Some of these situations include:

- Current conditions are safe, yet the dynamic nature of the situation could quickly produce hazardous conditions that merit constant monitoring and observation by multiple public safety agencies, such as an incident occurring in a neighboring OA or high-profile events.
- An emergency situation has occurred or may occur of such magnitude that it will require a large commitment of resources from two or more agencies over an extended period of time. Examples include hazardous material incidents, civil disturbances, aircraft mishaps, or severe weather conditions.
- A threat exists that primarily impacts incorporated areas of the SBC OA with actual or potential impacts to unincorporated areas.
- An incident occurs that requires a significant amount of County staff or Departments conducting response activities or implementing measures to prevent future incidents.

Activation Authority: The following individuals or their appointed representatives are authorized to activate the County/OA EOC:

- The County’s DES (CEO) or designee.
- The OEM Director or designee

Deactivation Authority: Section Coordinators and the EOC Director will authorize deactivation by position and function based on the needs of the incident and as outlined in each incident’s EOC deactivation plan.

Further Guidance: Detailed County/OA EOC activation policies and procedures, including checklists for each County/OA EOC position, are located in the *Santa Barbara County Disaster*

Service Worker Employee Policy and in position binders created for each EOC position. The DSW Employee Policy and EOC position-specific binders are maintained by OEM.

4.4.1: EOC ACTIVATION LEVELS

The County/OA EOC has four officially recognized activation levels. These activation levels describe the number and type of personnel actively engaged in the EOC's response through the use of standardized terms articulating the County/OA EOC's posture. The County/OA EOC activation levels are based on a 1-4 scale, with Level 1 being the highest level of activation. **Figure 4.1** illustrates the County/OA EOC activation levels.

Level 1 Activation: This is the highest EOC activation level. County/OA EOC Level 1 activation is used following a major disaster or emergency that requires complex coordination and involvement of several County Departments to sufficiently support the SBC OA's response and continuity of County government. At this level, all EOC positions are staffed, and planning has been accomplished to enable continuous activity through multiple operational periods. Staffing for a County/OA EOC Level 1 activation will range from approximately 50-150 personnel.

Level 2 Activation: County/OA EOC Level 2 activation is the preferred mode of operation for response to emergencies that may require coordination among some County Departments, agencies, or jurisdictions. In these situations, only core management level personnel and those specific functions needed within the EOC are staffed. Staffing for a County/OA EOC Level 2 activation will range from approximately 25-50 personnel.

Level 3 Activation: County/OA EOC Level 3 activation is designed for situations where a more aggressive EOC posture is not necessary, yet circumstances merit active monitoring of dynamic and potentially hazardous conditions. At this level, OEM staff are primarily staffing the EOC; however, other key department representatives may also be present. At this level, the situation is monitored, and drafts of emergency mass notifications are prepared should such alerts become necessary for public safety. Staffing for a County/OA EOC Level 3 activation will range from approximately 1 to 5 personnel.

Level 1: Full Activation The EOC is activated with all staff positions filled. This level is usually associated with a local proclamation of emergency. Staffing will range from approximately 50-150 personnel.	1 Full Scale
Level 2: Partial Activation The EOC is activated with only necessary, selected positions. Staffing will range from approximately 25-50 personnel.	2 Partial
Level 3: OEM Staff Situation Monitoring The EOC is activated and staffed primarily by OEM personnel. Non-OEM representatives from key departments may also be present. Staffing will range from approximately 1-5 personnel.	3 Monitoring
Level 4: Duty Officer Status The EOC is not staffed, but the OEM Duty Officer is providing 24/7 duty coverage.	4 Duty Officer

FIGURE 4.1 – EOC ACTIVATION LEVELS

Level 4 Status: County/OA EOC Level 4 status is the typical day-to-day posture for OEM during non-emergencies. The County/OA EOC is not activated; however, the OEM Duty Officer coordinates with SBC OA partner agencies, the state, and the OEM Director during incidents that do not require greater support or involvement of resources. The OEM Duty Officer is also able to send emergency alerts to affected communities in the SBC OA at any time, whether at home or at work. The OEM Duty Officer is capable of responding at a moment's notice, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In County/OA EOC Level 4 status, routine emergencies are managed at the local and field level through established policies, procedures, and fire/law dispatch offices.

4.5: NOTIFICATION AND MOBILIZATION OF EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

The Santa Barbara County/OA EOC has a roster identifying multiple personnel for each position staffed by employees from most County Departments and representatives from other agencies. Designated County/OA EOC staff participate in training and exercise events routinely. Personnel on this roster are requested to fill the positions in the County/OA EOC during a Level 2 or greater County/OA EOC activation.

Those agencies traditionally considered first responder organizations, such as fire services, law enforcement, and emergency medical services will be notified and mobilized to respond to incidents following their established SOPs and chain of command. This Plan does not restrict these established protocols or the authority of supervisors to notify and mobilize their staff in order to respond to an emergency.

The County/OA EOC Team should be recalled by OEM staff following a Level 2 or higher EOC activation, though the OEM Duty Officer may request assistance of others to recall EOC staff. OEM maintains a roster of EOC Team staff and may use the Everbridge system to notify and mobilize the EOC Team staff via phone, text, and email when an EOC activation occurs, whether during normal duty hours, weekends, holidays, or after hours. Other methods, such as direct phone calls, may be used to mobilize recalled County/OA EOC staff as needed.

Several "alert lists" or call trees exist within various hazard and incident-specific plans created by entities within the SBC OA. OEM also maintains a "Duty Officer Checklist" that supports activation and notification concepts as well.

Upon County/OA EOC activation to Level 3 or higher, OEM will notify the SBC OA and CalOES of the EOC posture and necessary incident details via email. For regional, widespread, or multi-jurisdictional incidents, OEM may also convene a conference call with the entire SBC OA or only impacted agencies. This should occur during the first operational period of a Level 3 or above County/OA EOC activation, unless otherwise directed at the discretion of the OEM Director.

In the event of County/OA EOC activation to Level 3 or higher, the DES and OEM Director will be responsible for communication and coordination with the Board of Supervisors, County

Department Directors, and applicable elected officials with support from EOC staff including the Board/Legislative Liaison within the County/OA EOC's Management Section. The DES and OEM Director will also determine the need for a legislative conference call. The activated EOC should provide daily situation updates via email to County Department Directors and the Board of Supervisors until the EOC is deactivated unless directed otherwise by EOC leadership.

4.5.1: AUTOMATIC MOBILIZATION

In the event of a significant emergency that has degraded communications systems within the county, Santa Barbara County/OA EOC Team members who are pre-assigned to fill key positions within the EOC are expected to report to the primary County/OA EOC without formal notification or direction to mobilize; see the Santa Barbara County *Disaster Service Worker (DSW) Employee Policy and Standard Operating Procedures* document for details.

Understanding that EOC staff may be victims or impacted by a given disaster, EOC staff should first stabilize their personal situation and address the safety of their families before responding to the EOC. If EOC staff are unable to respond to work in the EOC due to personal impacts or if the EOC is inaccessible from their location, they must contact their direct supervisor or Department Head. Departments maintain responsibility to provide alternate staffing to fill the Department's assigned position(s) as outlined in the Master EOC Team Roster. Notice of staffing impacts and changes must be provided to OEM as soon as possible.

In the event that direct communication with workplace supervisors or the EOC degrades due to emergency conditions, County employees should call the "Employee Call In Number" (805) 568-2567, located on the back of their County identification card to receive more information.

4.6: EOC ORGANIZATION

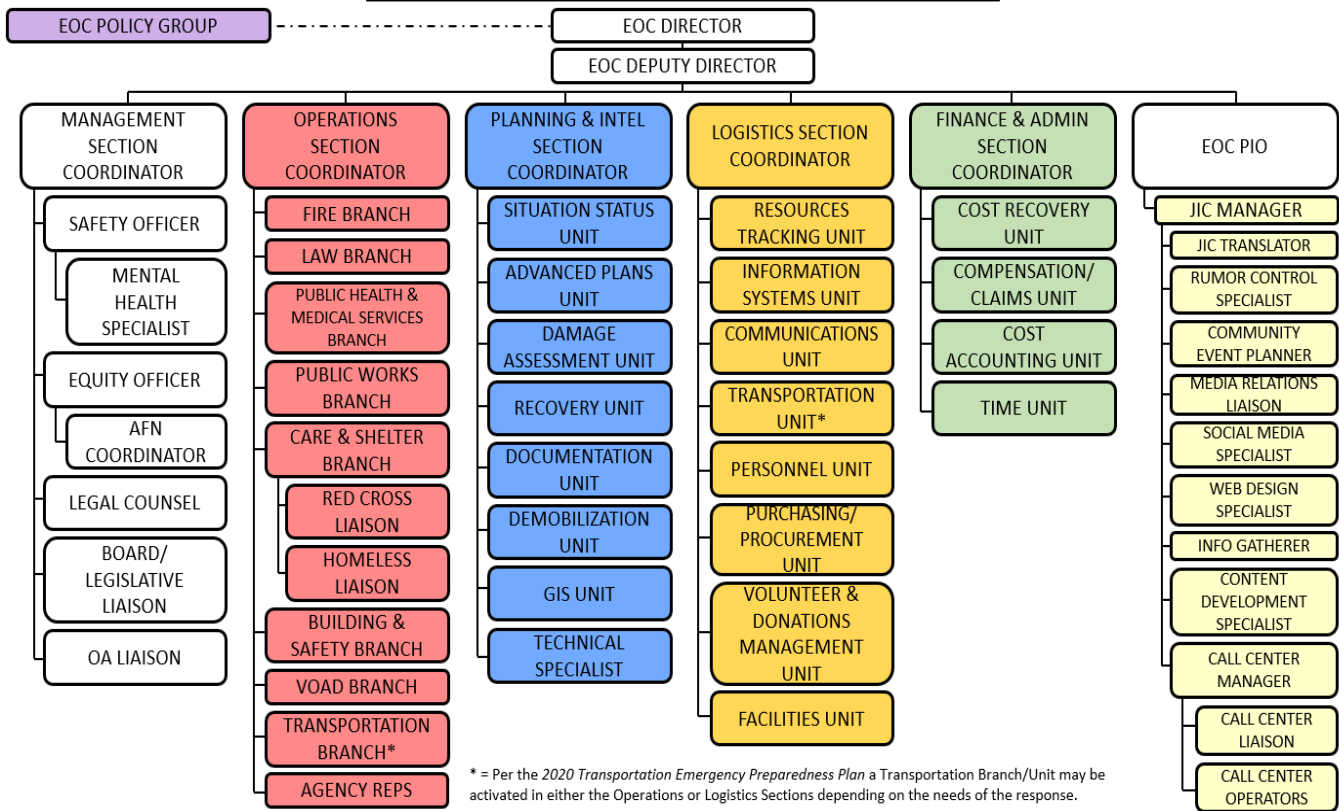
The five essential SEMS functions (management, operations, planning & intelligence, logistics, and finance and administration) will be established as "sections" within the County/OA EOC. These SEMS functions are the basis for structuring the Santa Barbara County/OA EOC organization. All other functions will be organized as branches, groups, divisions or units within sections. Only functional elements that are required to meet current objectives will be activated. Functions that are needed but not staffed will be the responsibility of the next higher element in the organization. Key responsibilities are:

- **Management:** Responsible for overall EOC leadership and coordination of emergency policy through the joint efforts of governmental agencies and private organizations. This includes setting action plan objectives.
- **Operations:** Responsible for coordinating all EOC operations in support of the emergency response through the implementation of the County/OA EOC Emergency Action Plan (EAP). This includes identifying the tasks, staff, and resources necessary to meet the EAP's objectives.

- **Planning and Intelligence:** Responsible for collecting, evaluating, and disseminating information, developing the EOC EAP for each operational period, supporting the creation of the After-Action Report in coordination with other functions, and maintaining incident documentation. This includes creation of incident information displays and Geographical Information System (GIS) maps.
- **Logistics:** Responsible for providing facilities, services, personnel, transportation, equipment, and materials in support of the operation through fulfillment of resource requests. This section maintains a variety of contracts through multiple County Departments and is able to secure emergency contracts in the event no pre-negotiated contract for needed services or resources are in place. The Logistics Section is also responsible for ordering and managing the coordination of needed resources for the County/OA EOC and (if necessary) field level's response, which may include inventory management and donations coordination. Logistics is responsible for tracking and accounting for the operational resources including purchases made in accordance with County, state, and federal requirements when applicable.
- **Finance and Administration:** Responsible for financial activities and other administrative aspects during the incident operational period and recovery efforts. This includes activating the County's Disaster Accounting System, maintaining all incident financial records, and supporting the County and OA's financial recovery efforts.

The County/OA EOC organization includes representatives, as necessary, from cities, special districts, Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD), volunteer agencies, utilities, and private organizations with significant response roles or whose operations are impacted by an incident.

Figure 4.2 depicts the County's EOC organization. Detailed descriptions, including structure, responsibilities, and overviews of each County/OA EOC Section are available in [Appendix H: EOC Functional Overview](#) and within the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management EOC Position Binders.

FIGURE 4.2 – EOC ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY/OA EOC STAFF ORGANIZATIONAL CHART****4.7: RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS & PARTNER AGENCIES IN THE COUNTY/OA EOC**

Effective emergency management requires interdepartmental collaboration. Each County Department and many local agencies and jurisdictions have a valuable resource or role in the safety and management of emergencies and disasters. **Table 4.1** illustrates the functional responsibilities of emergency management-related stakeholders and County Departments within the County/OA EOC.

NOTE: Table 4.1 reflects the departmental assignments associated with the current Master EOC Roster. Department staffing assignments are subject to change without modification to this EOP and are centrally managed by OEM in coordination with each DH on the Master EOC Roster.

TABLE 4.1: FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES IN THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY/OA EOC

EOC POSITION	EOC ACTIVATION LEVEL*	PRIMARY DEPARTMENT	SECONDARY DEPARTMENT	TERTIARY DEPARTMENT
EOC Director	3	CEO's Office	CEO's Office	CEO's Office

TABLE 4.1: FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES IN THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY/OA EOC				
EOC POSITION	EOC ACTIVATION LEVEL*	PRIMARY DEPARTMENT	SECONDARY DEPARTMENT	TERTIARY DEPARTMENT
EOC Deputy Director	4	OEM	Public Works Dept. DH/ADH	Planning and Development Dept. DH/ADH
EOC PIO	3	OEM	CEO's Office	TBD-Other County Dept. PIO
Management Section Coordinator	3	OEM	OEM	TBD-EMMA Request
Legal Counsel	3	County Counsel	County Counsel	County Counsel
OA Liaison	4	OEM	OEM	Other Jurisdiction Request
Board/Legislative Liaison	3	CEO's Office	CEO's Office	CEO's Office
Safety Officer	3	Risk Management (CEO)	Health Dept. Safety Officer	Child Support Services
Mental Health Specialist	1	Behavioral Wellness Dept.	Behavioral Wellness Dept.	Behavioral Wellness Dept.
Equity Officer	2	CEO's Office	HR DEIA	Health Dept. Health Equity Coordinator
AFN Coordinator	2	Access Central Coast	Tri-Counties Regional Center	Santa Barbara Braille Institute
Operations Section Coordinator (Fire)	3	Fire	Fire	Fire
Operations Section Coordinator (Law)	3	Sheriff	Sheriff	Sheriff
Operations Section Coordinator (PHD)	3	Health Dept.	Health Dept.	Health Dept.
Operations Section Coordinator (Public Works)	3	Public Works	Public Works	Public Works
Operations Section Coordinator (Ag)	3	Ag Commissioner	Ag Commissioner	Ag Commissioner
Fire Branch	3	Fire	Fire	Fire
Law Branch	3	Sheriff	Sheriff	Sheriff

TABLE 4.1: FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES IN THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY/OA EOC				
EOC POSITION	EOC ACTIVATION LEVEL*	PRIMARY DEPARTMENT	SECONDARY DEPARTMENT	TERTIARY DEPARTMENT
Public Health and Medical Services Branch	2	Health Dept.	Health Dept.	Health Dept.
Public Works Branch	2	Public Works	Public Works	Public Works
Care and Shelter Branch	3	Dept. of Social Services	Housing and Community Development (CSD)	First 5
Homeless Liaison	2	Housing and Community Development (CSD)	Housing and Community Development (CSD)	Health Dept.
Red Cross Liaison	1	American Red Cross	American Red Cross	American Red Cross
VOAD Branch	2	VOAD	VOAD	VOAD
Building and Safety Branch	1	Building and Safety (P&D)	Building and Safety (P&D)	Building and Safety (P&D)
Agency Representatives	1	County or Agency Representatives as Needed	County or Agency Representatives as Needed	County or Agency Representatives as Needed
Transportation Branch**	2	Vehicle Operations (General Services)	Vehicle Operations (General Services)	SBCAG
Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator	3	Planning and Development DH/ADH	Community Services Dept. DH/ADH	Clerk-Recorder-Assessor DH/ADH
Situation Status Unit	3	Legal Office Professionals (Public Defender)	Parks (CSD)	Human Resources
Advanced Plans Unit	3	Agriculture Commissioner's Office	Agriculture Commissioner's Office	Agriculture Commissioner's Office

TABLE 4.1: FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES IN THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY/OA EOC

EOC POSITION	EOC ACTIVATION LEVEL*	PRIMARY DEPARTMENT	SECONDARY DEPARTMENT	TERTIARY DEPARTMENT
Damage Assessment Unit	1	Assessors (Clerk-Recorder-Assessor)	Assessors (Clerk-Recorder-Assessor)	Assessors (Clerk-Recorder-Assessor)
Recovery Unit	3	Principal Analysts (CEO)	Principal Analysts (CEO)	Principal Analysts (CEO)
Documentation Unit	3	Treasurer Tax Collector	Treasurer Tax Collector	Treasurer Tax Collector
Technical Specialist	1	Dependent on Incident	Dependent on Incident	Dependent on Incident
Demobilization Unit	3	Planning and Development	Planning and Development	Planning and Development
GIS Unit	3	GIS (Fire, PW, Sheriff, Assessors, ITD, P&D)	GIS (Fire, PW, Sheriff, Assessors, ITD, P&D)	GIS (Fire, PW, Sheriff, Assessors, ITD, P&D)
Logistics Section Coordinator	3	General Services DH/ADH	General Services DH/ADH	General Services DH/ADH
Resources Tracking Unit	3	Purchasing (General Services)	Purchasing (General Services)	Purchasing (General Services)
Information Systems Unit	3	ITD	Health Dept. IT	Behavioral Wellness IT
Communications Unit	3	ITD	ITD	ITD
Transportation Unit**	2	Vehicle Operations (General Services)	Vehicle Operations (General Services)	SBCAG
Personnel Unit	3	Human Resources	Human Resources	HRLT Members from Various Departments
Purchasing/Procurement Unit	3	Purchasing (General Services)	Purchasing (General Services)	Purchasing (General Services)
Volunteer and Donations Management Unit	1	CSD	Dept. of Social Services	Principal Analysts (CEO)
Facilities Unit	2	General Services	General Services	General Services

TABLE 4.1: FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES IN THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY/OA EOC				
EOC POSITION	EOC ACTIVATION LEVEL*	PRIMARY DEPARTMENT	SECONDARY DEPARTMENT	TERTIARY DEPARTMENT
Finance and Administration Section Coordinator	3	Auditor Controller DH/ADH	Auditor Controller DH/ADH	Principal Analysts (CEO)
Cost Recovery Unit	3	Auditor Controller	Fiscal and Policy Analyst	Finance Staff
Time Unit	3	Auditor Controller	Finance Staff	Finance Staff
Compensation Claims Unit	1	Risk Management (CEO)	Risk Management (Public Works)	Risk Management (Health Dept.)
Cost Accounting Unit	1	Auditor Controller	Finance Staff	Auditor Controller
JIC Manager	3	PHD	First 5	JIC Manager
Call Center Manager	2	Behavioral Wellness	Probation	
Call Center Liaison	2	JIC Trained Staff Identified by the JIC Manager in Partnership with Personnel Unit	AOP Sr.	
Call Center Operators	2	N/A Pool Position. Call Center Manager to Coordinate with Personnel Unit	AOP	Medical Reserve Corps
Social Media Specialist	3	JIC Trained Staff Identified by the JIC Manager in Partnership with Personnel Unit		
Translation Specialist	3	JIC Trained Staff Identified by the JIC Manager in Partnership with Personnel Unit	Spanish Translation Team	
Web Design/Content Specialist	3	ITD	ITD	ITD
Agency Rep PIOs	1	Incident Dependent		

TABLE 4.1: FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES IN THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY/OA EOC				
EOC POSITION	EOC ACTIVATION LEVEL*	PRIMARY DEPARTMENT	SECONDARY DEPARTMENT	TERTIARY DEPARTMENT
Information Gathering Specialist	1	JIC Trained Staff Identified by the JIC Manager in Partnership with Personnel Unit		
Content Development Specialist	2	JIC Trained Staff Identified by the JIC Manager in Partnership with Personnel Unit		
Rumor Control Specialist	2	JIC Trained Staff Identified by the JIC Manager in Partnership with Personnel Unit		
Media Relations Specialist	3	OEM PIO/Education Outreach	CEO Chief Communications Officer	Sheriff
Community Event Specialist	1	JIC Trained Staff Identified by the JIC Manager in Partnership with Personnel Unit		
DH = Department Head ADH = Assistant Department Head				
* = Suggested EOC activation level for each EOP position, however any EOC position may be activated at any EOC activation level based on the needs of the incident’s response.				
** = Per the 2020 Transportation Emergency Preparedness Plan a Transportation Branch/Unit may be activated in either the Operations or Logistics Sections depending on the needs of the response.				

4.8: FIELD INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM AND EOC LEADERSHIP

When activated, the EOC Director position will be staffed by the County DES or their designee. The EOC Deputy Director position will be staffed by the OEM Director or their designee.

The determination of which agency will serve as the County/OA EOC Operations Section Coordinator is largely based on the type of incident. **Table 4.2** identifies the typical lead field agencies and the agency that has been identified as the primary department to fill the EOC Operations Section Coordinator based upon types of incidents.

TABLE 4.2: EOC OPERATIONS SECTION LEAD AGENCY MATRIX		
INCIDENT	TYPICAL FIRST RESPONSE DEPARTMENT	EOC OPERATIONS SECTION COORDINATOR*
Building/ Structure Fire	Fire, Sheriff's Office, Search and Rescue	Fire
Civil Disturbance/ Rioting	Sheriff's Office	Sheriff's Office
Drought	Agriculture Commissioner's Office, County Water Agency, County EHS	OEM

TABLE 4.2: EOC OPERATIONS SECTION LEAD AGENCY MATRIX

INCIDENT	TYPICAL FIRST RESPONSE DEPARTMENT	EOC OPERATIONS SECTION COORDINATOR*
Earthquake	Sheriff, Fire, Public Works	OEM
Pandemic	Health Dept. (Health Officer)	Health Dept.
Wildfire	Fire, Sheriff's Office	Fire
Flood	Fire, Sheriff's Office, Public Works	Sheriff's Office (May Transition to Public Works)
Tsunami	Fire, Sheriff's Office	Sheriff's Office
Hazardous Materials	Fire, EHS, Sheriff	Fire
Extreme Heat/ Cold	Dept. of Social Services, OEM	Dept. of Social Services
Terrorism	Sheriff's Office	Sheriff's Office
Transportation Mishap	Impacted Transit Agency(s), Applicable Regulatory Agency, Fire, Sheriff's Office	Fire
Oil Spill	Fire, County EHS	Fire
Dam Failure	Fire, Sheriff's Office, Public Works, Dam Owner	Public Works
*Agencies in this column are designated due to the likelihood that they will be a lead response agency for the associated type of incident. The EOC Director and Deputy Director have discretion to designate a different agency to fulfill the EOC Operations Section Coordinator position.		
Multiple Response agencies may decide to enter into Unified Command in the field based on incident parameters.		

4.9: EOC SAFETY AND SECURITY

The EOC Safety Officer makes sure that all necessary security and access controls and safety measures are provided at the EOC and other emergency operations facilities activated by the County/OA EOC. If EOC activation is due to an earthquake, the EOC Safety Officer will confirm that all building safety inspection and reentry procedures have been followed before the use of the facility. The County Building and Safety Division will arrange for EOC inspection and damage assessment on a priority basis.

The EOC Safety Officer is responsible for completing safety-related forms for the EOC EAP and making sure EOC staff understand facility evacuation procedures and other important safety information as needed.

4.10: SUPPORT TO POPULATIONS WITH DISABILITIES AND ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

The County will coordinate emergency response processes and services that include support for AFN community members. The County has created a position within the County/OA EOC's Management Section that focuses on equity and incorporation of populations with disabilities

and access and functional needs (AFN) in emergency response operations. The EOC AFN Coordinator is intended to assist County/OA EOC staff by advising on ADA compliance and equity issues when activated. This position is designed to understand the unique needs and challenges that may be affecting vulnerable populations during an emergency. Santa Barbara County OA partner organizations with specialized knowledge of AFN-related standards and best practices, such as Access Central Coast, Tri-Counties Regional Center, and Santa Barbara Braille Institute may receive a request from the County/OA EOC to staff or support this position.

4.10.1: EVACUATION SUPPORT TO DISABILITIES AND ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS POPULATIONS

The SBC OA will include the AFN population in all aspects of emergency management, including emergency evacuations. The SBC OA's AFN population advocacy agencies, such as Access Central Coast or Tri-Counties Regional Center (TCRC), will be key partners in both providing emergency support to the AFN community and advising the SBC OA on how to best maintain AFN equity in emergency response operations.

Several public and private paratransit options exist countywide that support emergency evacuations. **Table 4.3** lists paratransit-specific service providers with operations within the SBC OA. During incidents involving emergency evacuations, the SBC OA should coordinate with Access Central Coast and other AFN advocacy groups to take a collaborative approach to AFN evacuation support. Refer to the *Multi-Jurisdictional Transportation Emergency Preparedness Plan* for more information regarding evacuation support to AFN populations.

TABLE 4.3: SBC OA PARATRANSIT OPERATORS			
PROVIDER	SERVICE AREA	PHONE NUMBER	WEBSITE
COLT	Lompoc, Mission Hills, and Vandenberg Village	(805) 736-7666	www.cityoflompoc.org
Community Partners in Caring	Santa Maria, Lompoc, and Santa Ynez Valley	(805) 925-8000	www.partnersincaring.org
Easy Lift*	Goleta, Santa Barbara, Montecito, Summerland, and Carpinteria	(805) 681-1181	www.easylift.org
Santa Ynez Valley Transit	Solvang, Buellton, Santa Ynez, and Los Olivos	(805) 688-5452	www.syvt.com
SMAT	Santa Maria, Tanglewood, and Orcutt	(805) 928-5624	www.cityofsantamaria.org

TABLE 4.3: SBC OA PARATRANSIT OPERATORS

PROVIDER	SERVICE AREA	PHONE NUMBER	WEBSITE
SMOOTH*	Santa Maria, Tanglewood, and Orcutt	(805) 922-0146	www.smoothinc.org
* = denotes that an MOU exists between the County and that provider.			
Note 1: Most paratransit service providers will offer low- or no-cost evacuation transportation assistance services during an emergency.			
Note 2: Mention of specific paratransit operators does not signify preference or endorsement by the SBC OA. This listing is for situational awareness only.			

4.10.2: MASS CARE AND SHELTER SUPPORT TO AFN POPULATIONS

Regardless of the type of mass care and shelter site, facilities that may or will be used for mass care and shelter services will be assessed for viability of use, including assessment of ADA compliance. Care and shelter site surveys conducted by the County during the facility use agreement development process routinely include an assessment of available AFN accommodations. ADA deficiencies at mass care and shelter facilities should be made compliant through modification or reasonable accommodation to provide equitable services and accessibility for all care and shelter patrons and staff.

Refer to the *Santa Barbara County and Operational Area Disaster Care and Shelter Plan* for more information regarding evacuation support to AFN populations.

4.11: CULTURAL FACTORS IN RESPONSE AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS

Field response and recovery operations typically require government employees from federal, state, and local agencies to have a physical presence in impacted communities. Some community members in the Santa Barbara County OA may feel hesitant, intimidated, or unwilling to interact with government employees, especially:

- Individuals who fear jeopardizing their immigration status, or
- Individuals who are homeless/unhoused (including those living in encampments) due to a perceived potential for negative consequences from interacting with law enforcement.

Accordingly, the County of Santa Barbara will work with partner agencies to approach field response and recovery efforts in a culturally informed and sensitive way. This includes evaluating the appearance of government officials and equipment in the field, considering the use of unmarked government vehicles, and incorporating translation services when necessary to communicate with those who do not speak English or have limited English proficiency.

4.12: RECOVERY OPERATIONS

Recovery includes restoring and strengthening key systems and resource assets critical to the economic stability, vitality, and long-term sustainability of the community. This includes health (including behavioral health) and human services capabilities and networks, public and private

disability support and service systems, educational systems, community social networks, natural and cultural resources, affordable and accessible housing, infrastructure systems, and local economic drivers.

The *Santa Barbara County and Operational Area Recovery Framework Annex* provides additional information and guidance regarding recovery operations.

4.12.1: DISASTER RECOVERY OPERATIONS CENTER (DROC)

Depending on the scope of impacts from an emergency, it may be necessary to transition the County/OA EOC into a Disaster Recovery Operations Center (DROC). Similar to an EOC, a DROC centrally coordinates the recovery activities of a jurisdiction using objectives, designated positions organized into sections, and action planning. DROC operations may include:

- Coordination with state and federal agencies pursuant to state and federal disaster declarations, including organizing local Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) site visits and gathering and submitting damage estimates and supporting documentation.
- Assessment of damage and impacts to the local area and coordination of necessary emergency work.
- Activation and management of Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) and Local Assistance Centers (LACs).
- Coordination of community clean-up, debris removal, repopulation, and rebuilding.
- Advocacy for residents, businesses, and the agricultural community for state and federal recovery services, including case management.
- Development and maintenance of a web-based LAC featuring links to resources and information for the public.
- Coordination of Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) teams in local communities.
- Coordination of public information with state and federal agencies, especially regarding programs and benefits activated for the public.

The OEM Director will coordinate with the DES to determine when it is necessary to activate the County/OA DROC.

4.12.2: RECOVERY MANAGEMENT POLICY GROUP

The DES may convene the Recovery Management Policy Group during the recovery phase. The Recovery Management Policy Group consists of specific County Department Directors and other key public safety positions gathered to make strategic and policy-related recommendations to the DES and Director of Emergency Management concerning recovery activities of the County of Santa Barbara. The Recovery Management Policy Group will always include the CEO's Office, OEM, Planning & Development, Department of Social Services, and Community Services Department (Housing and Homeless/Unhoused). However, the DES has discretion to include additional County Departments or OA partners in the Recovery Management Policy Group based on the type and scope of the incident.

SECTION 5: DIRECTION, CONTROL, AND COORDINATION

5.1: RESPONSE PARTNERS

Response partners for the SBC OA include city and county staff, first responders, special districts, private and volunteer agencies, tribal officials, VOAD and other NGOs, and other representative groups.

Members of these groups are invited to monthly OA-wide meetings throughout the year, plus special calls specific to a response. Some are also represented in the EOC and all are generally welcome to send agency representatives to work out of the County/OA EOC during an activation, when applicable.

5.2: DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS CENTERS

County Departments may activate a DOC to coordinate the actions of their staff and maintain internal departmental continuity of operations. If a department within the County establishes a DOC to coordinate and support their field activities, the director of that DOC will provide the location, time of establishment and staffing information to the County/OA EOC. DOC staff may integrate and communicate directly with the field ICS organization if their department is supporting the IC's activities or primarily coordinate with the County/OA EOC depending on the context of their response activities. DOCs act as an intermediate communications and coordination link between field units and the County/OA EOC. See [Section 3.6.3.5](#) for more information on how DOC's coordinate with the County/OA EOC and the field, the relationship between DOCs and the EOC, and the process for integrating a DOC into the EOC.

5.3: OPERATIONAL AREA COORDINATION

Article 9, § 8605 of the California Emergency Services Act states that "an operational area may be used by the county and the political subdivisions comprising the operational area for the coordination of emergency activities and to serve as a link in the communications system during a state of emergency or local emergency." Furthermore, Santa Barbara County Code of Ordinances Chapter 12 states that "County government shall serve as the lead agency of the operational area unless another member of the operational area assumes that responsibility by written agreement with County government." The SBC OA was established via Resolution 95-429 by the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors on September 19, 1995. The Santa Barbara County OEM is the lead County agency responsible for SBC OA emergency management coordination.

SECTION 6: PUBLIC ALERTING AND INFORMATION

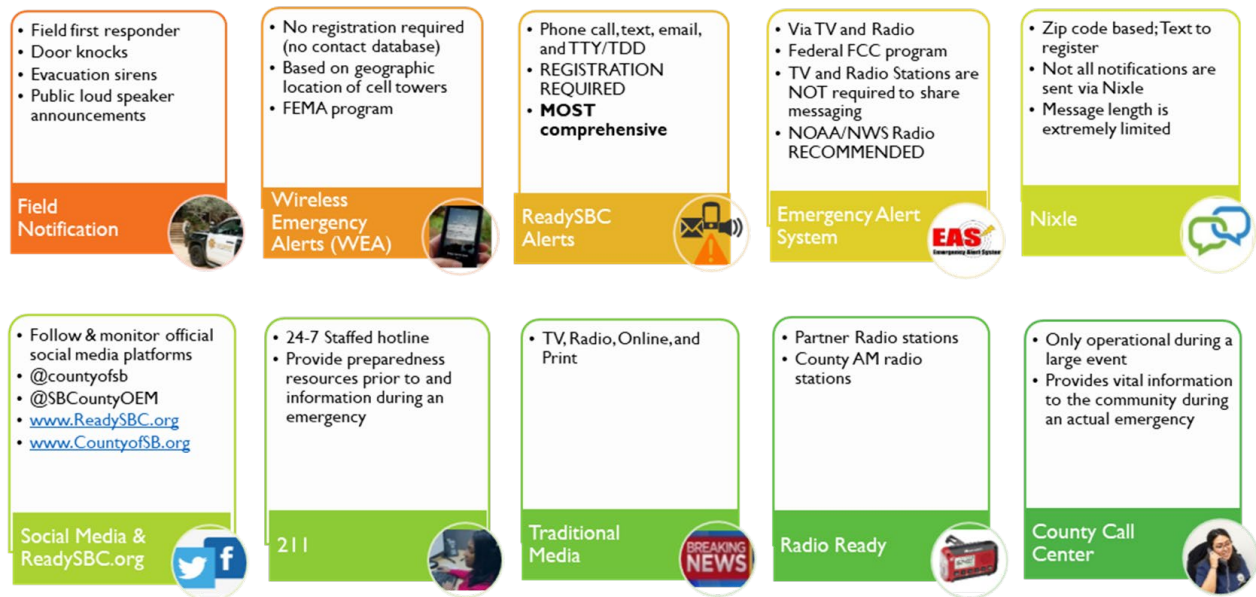
Providing critical information to the public during a disaster falls into two categories:

- Alerting
- Public Information

Alerting refers to the ability of the County to push notifications to the community. Public information can include alerting content, but also features additional information, resources, and guidance. Rather than having information pushed or delivered to the community as seen with alerting, public information content is often provided in a format in which a resident must actively seek the information on their own. Both concepts are critical to providing timely information to the community during an emergency.

Figure 6.1: Alerting and Emergency Communication Pathways Visual Aid depicts the “toolbox” of established and socialized mechanisms and channels that emergency managers, alert originators, and PIOs leverage to inform the whole community during emerging and active emergencies. The top row identifies “push methods” for alerting, while the bottom row represents traditional information pathways that must be “sought out.”

FIGURE 6.1 – ALERTING AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PATHWAYS VISUAL AID



6.1: ALERT AND WARNING

Alert and warning are the processes of alerting governmental partners and the public to the threat of imminent and/or extraordinary danger. Dependent on the nature of the threat, the population group at risk, and any necessary protective actions (e.g., evacuation, sheltering in place), the County utilizes an array of alerting tools and communication pathways to maximize reaching “the right people, with the right information, at the right time.” Success in saving lives and property depends on timely warning and emergency information dissemination to persons in threatened areas. The local government is responsible for warning the population within their jurisdiction. The following are systems in place to provide public alerts and warnings.

Detailed alert and warning protocol can be found in the *County of Santa Barbara Public Alert and Warning Policy*. This policy and the County’s alerting processes strive to align with the State of California’s *Alert and Warning Guidelines*, FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) requirements, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules, and other applicable state and federal regulations pertaining to alert and warning.

6.1.1: INTEGRATED PUBLIC ALERT AND WARNING SYSTEM (IPAWS) ALERTING AUTHORITY

The County has established a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with FEMA to access the IPAWS to disseminate Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) and Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages. County OEM administers this MoA locally and serves as the County’s Alerting Authority. OEM Emergency Managers and Sheriff’s Office Dispatch staff are currently trained and authorized as IPAWS alert originators for the County. The MoA was last updated in February 2023 and is in effect for a maximum of three (3) years after the date of the last signature. All relevant personnel changes and changes to contact information must be provided to FEMA within 5 business days of the change.

Other jurisdictions and agencies seeking to send WEA or EAS alerts within the SBC OA are not covered under the County’s MoA with FEMA and must obtain direct authorization from FEMA to utilize IPAWS notification channels, or request the assistance of the County to send WEA and EAS alert messages to the public on their behalf. The City of Santa Maria is the only other local jurisdiction within the SBC OA with a FEMA MoA for IPAWS and can send WEA messages solely within the boundaries of their jurisdiction. All uses of IPAWS within the SBC OA must be closely coordinated with County OEM to avoid conflicting messages and potential system failures.

6.1.2: FEMA IPAWS CHANNELS

Wireless Emergency Alerts: WEAs are part of FEMA’s IPAWS and are intended to broadcast information regarding emerging and imminent hazards and emergencies to the general public through mobile phones. If such a situation arises, those within the hazard area in the SBC OA will automatically receive these short messages so long as they have a “WEA-enabled device;” a standard feature for almost every contemporary smart phone. The sender of WEAs is able to disseminate the alert to a geographically-targeted area, or “geo-fence,” and the message can be received by those who enter that area if the WEA is currently active. Community members do not need to register to receive WEAs.

In situations where an agency within the SBC OA has issued an IPAWS-based message informing an area of a hazard, a follow up bilingual IPAWS alert should be published notifying that same area when the hazard has subsided.

This is commonly referred to as a “stand down” or “all clear” notification.

In recent years, FEMA implemented WEA 2.0 enhancements that expanded alerts to 360 characters for newer model mobile devices (WEA 1.0 consisted of 90-character WEA messages only, and are still required) and added Spanish language fields. **To increase the likelihood that**

the majority of WEA recipients receive the alert message in both English and Spanish, regardless of their device's language settings, the County utilizes the 360-character WEA fields to send bilingual alerts whenever possible. In other words, the English and Spanish messages are **combined and entered together** into both 360-character WEA fields. Older mobile devices may receive a 90-character WEA only in English or Spanish based on the device's language settings. WEA 3.0 enhancements provide for geographical targeting accuracy of up to 1/10th of a mile. However, due to various factors, including the size of the geo-fence, the configuration, position, and number of cellular towers in the area, and whether or not the mobile phone has enhanced geo-targeting capabilities, WEA messages may reach recipients well outside of the targeted geographical area, and sometimes miss some within the targeted area.

County OEM and the County Sheriff's Office Dispatch staff test this system monthly in accordance with FEMA IPAWS regulations.

Emergency Alert System: The EAS is utilized to transmit emergency information to local TV and radio broadcasters, cable television systems, wireless cable systems, satellite digital audio radio service providers, direct broadcast satellite service providers, and wireline video service providers within the county.

Local broadcasters deliver alerts on a voluntary basis but are required to transmit alerts from the U.S. President during a national emergency. When activated, an EAS message will appear as a scrolling "ticker tape" message across the bottom or top of a television screen, or delivered over local radio accompanied by a distinct alert tone. At this time, EAS cannot be customized to notify specific parts of the county, and **any EAS messages sent will broadcast throughout the entire county**. Besides state and federal public safety entities, OEM and the National Weather Service (NWS) are the only agencies authorized to send EAS alerts for weather and non-weather emergency notifications for Santa Barbara County. **Local agencies are to seek assistance from the OEM Duty Officer if an EAS alert is needed.**

OEM tests this system monthly to make sure it is operable.

EAS Plan and the Local Emergency Communications Committee (LECC): Per the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 47, Part 11, Subpart D, Section 11.55, EAS may be activated at the state and local area levels by EAS Participants at their discretion for day-to-day emergency situations posing a threat to life and property. The *Sant Barbara County EAS Plan* is governed by this regulation and the rules of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The EAS Plan outlines procedures for TV and radio broadcasters in Santa Barbara County on how to voluntarily rebroadcast EAS messages originated by the National Weather Service and County OEM. The EAS Plan is managed by the LECC comprised of members from radio, television, and government sectors and must be updated every two (2) years or as needed to reflect major changes or lessons learned following an activation.

6.1.3: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

The National Weather Service (NWS) is responsible for sending alerts and warnings for meteorological hazards and threats to an impacted area using FEMA IPAWS channels. However, this requirement does not include any bilingual obligation. OEM may supplement NWS IPAWS-based alerts by disseminating English and Spanish alerts for these same events using non-IPAWS, ReadySBC Alerts pathways (e.g., phone calls, text messages, emails, TTY/TDD for the deaf and hard-of-hearing).

The National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio All Hazards transmitters broadcast on one of seven VHF frequencies from 162.400 MHz to 162.550 MHz frequencies. NWS broadcasts weather information 24/7 on these stations and can activate NOAA Weather Radios in the area during weather emergencies (e.g., Flash Flood Warnings, Tornado Warnings). These radios emit an audible alarm followed by verbal information on the threat (in English and Spanish) and what the public should do to stay safe. Depending on the radio model, NOAA Weather Radios must be within the geographic notification area or be tuned to Santa Barbara County's Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) code 006083. The NWS can also access the National Warning System (NAWAS) to announce severe weather information. **NWS weather advisories, watches, and emergency warnings for the County are issued out of the Los Angeles/Oxnard Weather Forecast Office located at 520 North Elevar Street, Oxnard, CA 93030; Phone (805) 988-6610.** The NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard Office provides service to a specific geographic area made up of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles counties.

6.1.4: CALIFORNIA STATE WARNING CENTER

The CSWC is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The mission of the CSWC is to be the central information hub for statewide emergency communications and notifications. The CSWC is staffed with Emergency Notification Controllers, Emergency Services Coordinators, and Program Managers. The CSWC serves as a highly reliable and accurate "one-stop" resource for emergency management, law enforcement, and key decision-making personnel throughout the State. **The CSWC can be reached at (916) 845-8911.**

During certain events local, state, federal, and private organizations are required to notify the CSWC of the situation. Examples of incidents that are reported to the CSWC include oil spills, sewer discharges to open bodies of water, and hazardous materials incidents.

The CSWC has the responsibility to receive, coordinate, verify, and disseminate information pertaining to events which occur within California or that could affect California. Information received by the CSWC is coordinated between CalOES and other sources to make sure that the information disseminated is both timely and accurate. The following is a list of current functions and responsibilities of the CSWC:

- Facilitates multi-regional and statewide AMBER Alerts.

- Carries out critical incident notifications, warnings, and tactical alerts to all involved agencies and organizations.
- Conducts computer crime incident notifications.
- Conducts homeland security incident notifications.
- Conducts hazardous material notifications.
- Monitors natural disasters and coordinates emergency response.
- Monitors and maintains state and national emergency response communications.
- Conducts Governor and executive staff notifications.
- Facilitates toxic callouts (drug labs).

Procedures have been established for the handling of such incidents as:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Hazardous Materials Spill Reports | • Sewer Discharges |
| • Earthquakes | • Search and rescues |
| • Tsunamis | • Radiation incidents |
| • Floods | • Nuclear Incidents |
| • Major fires | • Weather watches and warnings |
| • Missing or overdue aircraft | • Train derailments |

6.1.5: READYSBC ALERTS

The County utilizes various notification channels to disseminate alerts and information to reach as many community members as possible prior to, during, and after an emergency. Collectively these channels are referred to as the Emergency Notification System (ENS) and publicly branded as “ReadySBC Alerts.” The ReadySBC Alerts program is currently powered by the Everbridge software platform. Members of the public may choose to opt into the ReadySBC Alerts service and select exactly which means of notification they wish to receive. This portal allows for those who subscribe to receive emergency alerts via landline and cell phone calls, text messages, emails, and teletype/telecommunication device of the deaf (TTY/TTD). This service is free to register for, with potential costs ultimately contingent on the cellular, text, and data plans of the individual receiver of ReadySBC Alerts. Those who opt in are able to update contact information, change delivery methods, or opt out at any time through the creation of an Everbridge profile. Individuals can sign up to receive ReadySBC Alerts at www.ReadySBC.org.

The ReadySBC Alerts system also allows the County to issue alerts using IPAWS methods, which are primarily WEA messages and the Emergency Alert System (EAS). In the event of a disruption to Everbridge alerting capabilities, the County can also disseminate WEA and EAS messages using DASDEC, a FCC approved encoder/decoder device installed within the County/OA EOC, operated on 453.6000MHz, and accessible via a web-based application. Santa Barbara County has been assigned the SAME location code 006083 used by IPAWS to recognize geographic warning areas.

6.1.6: LAW ENFORCEMENT FIELD NOTIFICATIONS

Under certain circumstances the County Sheriff's Office may utilize field-based methods to notify the public of hazards and any associated protective actions during or leading up to an emergency. These field notification methods are designed to complement the alerting conducted using ReadySBC Alerts in order to maximize public awareness of the hazard and protective actions. Similar field notification tactics may be employed by other law enforcement agencies within the SBC OA.

Examples of County Sheriff's Office field notification methods include:

- Door knocks
- Use of high/low sirens (City of Santa Barbara also has this functionality)
- Announcements from police units and/or County Air Support Unit speakers

6.1.7: WHOLE COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION AND ALERTING SUPPORT

The County is committed to Whole Community concepts to maximize accessibility of widely understood and culturally informed emergency alerts. This includes considerations for various vulnerable, hard-to-reach, and low-resourced populations that are historically disproportionately impacted during emergencies and face barriers in receiving and acting upon emergency alerts such as Access and Functional Needs (AFN) community members and persons living below the poverty line and/or who may be homeless.

Examples include:

- Areas and communities frequented by visitors and students.
- Unhoused/homeless populations.
- Immigrants, particularly those working outside of their neighborhoods in agriculture, landscaping and hospitality sectors.
- Non-English-speaking communities that are unaware of or able to understand information through government and traditional media communication channels.
- Undocumented populations.
- Isolated communities with historically vulnerable communications infrastructure (e.g., Cuyama Valley, Los Alamos).

Note: New technologies related to communicating with all community members, including those with AFN considerations, should be incorporated into local alert and warning practices as applicable.

To accommodate those with limited English skills, low literacy, and information processing disabilities, alert messages should be written at a 4th grade reading level.

6.1.7.1: BILINGUAL NOTIFICATIONS

Santa Barbara County is committed to achieving culturally appropriate processes throughout emergency operations, including public notification and alerting. Unless doing so would not be possible due to time and support constraints, all emergency alerts and press releases published by the County of Santa Barbara should include English and Spanish versions of the same message.

Emergency alerts are inherently time sensitive and require succinct and informational language while still conveying a sense of urgency and action to the receiver. Whenever possible, emergency alerts will be translated verbatim, however, there may be minor adjustments to message phrasing if it is required to conform to technological and time limitations. If such adjustments are made, the direction and tone of the message will in no way be of a lower or deficient quality than the English version.

6.1.7.2: TRANSLATION METHODS

In order to meet this English/Spanish bilingual goal, OEM and the Sheriff Dispatch have adopted five methods enabling emergency managers and Sheriff's Office dispatchers to quickly and accurately create both English and Spanish messages: available bilingual staff, the Mass Alerting Generator (MAG), standardized bilingual alert templates, the Emergency Alert Translation Team, and a third-party translation service.

Standardized bilingual alert templates are the primary source of emergency notification content since these templates have been pre-approved by County leadership. Deviation from use of these templates should be rare. If translation support is required beyond what is provided in the templates, the ideal source of translation support is bilingual staff members from County OEM and the Sheriff's Office Emergency Communications Center (ECC) Dispatch with knowledge and experience in translation best practices and established local translations of emergency management terminology. When feasible, this is the preferred method of generating Spanish versions of an alert as adjustments and refinement of existing templates may be necessary.

The MAG was created by County OEM in partnership with employees from various jurisdictions within the SBC OA as a tool to rapidly produce bilingual emergency messages by non-Spanish speaking staff. It is a user-friendly digital file that populates the message from a pre-translated bank of phrases and words. It is designed to create a message within the strictest confines of mass alerting (90-character Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) 1.0) and avoid word conjugation as much as feasibly possible. This is a living document, subject to updates and revisions. Though applicable to all types of emergency alerting and notification, its intended use is for those instances where pre-approved templates are not adequate for the situation, there is a problem accessing templates, time does not allow for a translator to assist, or a situation is so urgent that the message must be sent immediately. The MAG has been shared with the SBC OA.

Standardized bilingual alert templates have been created by County OEM consisting of translated emergency alerts and www.ReadySBC.org content that have been pre-approved by County leadership. Alert templates were created for each type of emergency or situation that is common in the SBC OA. These pre-scripted and translated messages are designed for simple “drop in” data, such as dates and times, to be added by the user and published thereafter.

The Emergency Alert Translation Team is a volunteer group of bilingual members whose ability to speak, read, and write in the Spanish language has been verified through various internal screening methods. This group is most effective during instances when a non-urgent notification needs to be published and other resources besides third-party services are unavailable or inadequate. The Emergency Alert Translation Team program is managed by County OEM.

Various third-party translation services exist on the market offering expedient return on messages at an affordable price. The use of such services is an option of last resort.

6.1.8: NIXLE

Nixle is a component of the SBC OA’s ENS, primarily managed through Everbridge. It is a free-to-opt-in platform requiring users to register by texting a SBC OA zip code to the number “888-777.” Users may subscribe to multiple zip codes within the SBC OA and choose to opt-in to receive additional Nixle emails. Subscribers can opt-out at any time. Generally, OEM does not promote registration through this method as it has very limited abilities to send smaller geographically targeted notifications.

6.1.9: SOCIAL MEDIA

The SBC OA has incorporated social media platforms, such as Facebook and X (formerly Twitter), into the toolbox of communication methods as a tertiary method of reaching the general public.

Table 6.1 identifies various County social media channels.

TABLE 6.1: SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS		
PLATFORM	URL	USERNAME
COUNTY		
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/countyofsb	County of Santa Barbara
X	https://twitter.com/countyofsb	County of Santa Barbara
X (Spanish)	https://twitter.com/csbenespanol	Condado de Santa Bárbara
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/countyofsb/	countyofsb
YouTube	http://www.youtube.com/csbTV20	CSBTV20
FIRE		
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/pages/Santa-Barbara-County-Fire-Department/114819398545464	Santa Barbara County Fire Department

TABLE 6.1: SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS		
PLATFORM	URL	USERNAME
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/SBCountyOEM	Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management
X	https://twitter.com/SBCountyOEM	SBCountyOEM
HEALTH DEPARTMENT		
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/SBCountyPublicHealth	Santa Barbara County Public Health Department
X	https://twitter.com/SBCPublicHealth	SBCPublicHealth
SHERIFF		
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/pages/Santa-Barbara-County-Sheriffs-Office/281661093649	Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office
X	https://twitter.com/sbsheriff	SB Sheriff's Office
Nixle	http://local.nixle.com/santa-barbara-county-sheriff/	Santa Barbara County Sheriff

6.2: PUBLIC INFORMATION

During an incident, emergency public information is traditionally managed by public information officers (PIOs) for individual agencies directly involved with an incident's response. When activated, the OA JIC will serve as the central emergency public information entity for SBC OA PIOs to collaborate in order to develop validated public information products and oversee the organized, accurate, and coordinated release of official incident information. When activated, all PIOs from impacted, responding, or stakeholder agencies within the SBC OA are encouraged to work out of the JIC and support JIC operations. The JIC will also coordinate:

- Press conferences.
- Use of the CSBTV20 television station.
- County and OEM Social media posts and activity.
- Press releases.
- Communications with the local news media.
 - To the greatest extent possible this will include coordination with local cultural media outlets such as TV and radio stations that broadcast in other non-English languages.
- Bilingual/multi-lingual services for written and spoken content, including translators and real-time interpreters.
- American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters, assistive technology, and other AFN accommodations for all County-organized, emergency-related press conferences, town halls, and community briefings, where possible.

- Difficult or sensitive calls received by the County Call Center.
- Media visits to sensitive sites such evacuation shelters.

When the County/OA EOC or JIC is not activated, incident public information will be led by the jurisdictional or County Department PIO with coordination and support involving the PIOs of other stakeholder County Departments and impacted agencies. Centralized incident public information management will transition to the JIC if activated.

More information regarding emergency public information operations is available in the *Joint Information System (JIS) Annex*, which is an annex to this Plan.

6.2.1: EOC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

The EOC Public Information Officer (PIO) reports to the EOC Deputy Director. The PIO conducts media monitoring and makes sure that government officials, the media, and the public receive complete, accurate, and consistent information about the status of County emergency operations. The EOC PIO also serves as the coordination point for all media contacts and releases.

6.2.2: JOINT INFORMATION SYSTEM

A Joint Information System (JIS) is the broad mechanism that organizes, integrates, and coordinates information to provide timely, accurate, accessible, and consistent messaging activities across multiple jurisdictions and/or disciplines with the private sector and NGOs. It includes the plans, protocols, procedures, and structures used to coordinate and share public information. Federal, state, tribal, territorial, regional, local, and private sector PIOs and established JICs at each level of SEMS are critical elements of the JIS. The JIS structure provides for the following:

- PIO functions are coordinated and integrated.
- A structure and system for developing and delivering coordinated interagency messages.
- Public information plans and strategies in response to community needs and on behalf of the incident management leadership can be developed, recommended, and executed.
- Leadership is effectively advised on public affairs issues that could affect a response effort. Rumors and inaccurate information that could undermine public confidence are controlled and managed.

6.2.3: JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

A JIC is the central coordination point for all emergency public information to be developed, published, and managed. A JIC is primarily staffed by the public information officers (PIOs) from all response agencies and impacted jurisdictions, as well as some technical support staff, to release accurate, consistent, and unified incident information to the public. A JIC also serves as the EOC's sole point of contact for the news media to submit questions or interview requests during an incident. The JIC also organizes press conferences; creates press releases, social media and web content, and printed or digital informational materials; works closely with subject matter experts on information research, creation and validation; supports translation of

communication products into non-English languages; transmits updates to the County Call Center, 2-1-1 Helpline, and other information-sharing entities; and monitors social media and open sources for rumor control and monitoring, amongst other tasks.

Within the Santa Barbara County OA, the JIC is a component within the County/OA EOC's structure; the EOC PIO oversees the JIC and in turn the JIC oversees the County Call Center. The Santa Barbara County OA JIC is a physical location collocated within the EOC facility, but can be a virtual space when necessary as long as JIC staff have access to the same systems, tools, and documents and maintain continuous communication throughout the incident.

When activated significant public information products developed by the JIC, such as press releases or major incident updates, should be approved by both the EOC Deputy Director and a designated representative of the field IC authorized to approve public information.

6.2.4: CALL CENTER

The County Call Center is a fundamental emergency public information capability that allows members of the public to seek more information and answers to their questions through direct phone communication. Activation of the County/OA Call Center is not dependent upon activation of the County/OA EOC. However, as a best practice, the Call Center should not be activated without the JIC also being activated. The Call Center is dependent on information provided by the JIC in order to operate successfully.

The County Call Center may be activated under one or more of the following conditions:

- Upon activation of the County/OA EOC to levels 1-2 (i.e., highest and second highest activation levels).
- At the request of the County/OA Public Information Officer (PIO) or OEM PIO.
- Coordination needs of impacted populations are significant, particularly individuals with AFN. This may include assistance with accessing public incident maps, accessing or understanding information that is not currently available in non-English languages, or transportation needs.
- Public inquiry volume exceeds the capabilities of the 2-1-1 Helpline (if they are activated to response to emergency and disaster-related public inquiries) and/or would best be supported through the activation of a Call Center.

The Call Center may also be activated for less urgent situations, such as:

- Upon activation of the County/OA EOC to level 3.
- At the request of an Incident Commander or UC.
- At the request of the Santa Barbara Sheriff's ECC.
- When an emergency/disaster outside the SBCOA occurs that may adversely affect the OA.
- When significant protective actions are issued to the public.

Call Center Activation Authority: The OEM Director, EOC PIO, and the DES are authorized to activate the County/OA Call Center.

Call Center Phone Line: The SBC OA Call Center public access phone number is (833) 688-5551.

- **When Active:** When the County/OA Call Center is active and staffed, operators will answer and process calls from the public. Based on the needs of the incident, the call center may establish operating hours that will be publicized through various County communication methods (e.g., press releases, press conferences).
- **When Inactive:** When the County/OA Call Center is inactive, a pre-recorded message will inform the caller that the Call Center is not active, direct the caller to call 9-1-1 if they are experiencing an emergency, contact 2-1-1 for information and resource linkage, and visit www.ReadySBC.org for emergency preparedness, current incident information, and recovery resources.

More detailed information regarding the County/OA Call Center is available in the *Call Center Operational Instructions Guide*, which is maintained by County OEM.

2-1-1: The County maintains a contract with CommUnify to provide 2-1-1 Helpline services to the community for day-to-day and emergency public information and resource linkage 24 hours a day, seven days a week at no cost to the caller and in over 150 languages. The County Department of Social Services oversees this contract and coordinates with OEM on the contract's disaster activation components. The decision to request 2-1-1 Helpline disaster activation is at the sole discretion of the County. The OEM Director, Emergency Manager, and Duty Officer have the authority to request 2-1-1 Helpline disaster activation and will do so verbally followed by a written request to 2-1-1/CommUnify. The appropriate representative from County DSS will be copied on all written 2-1-1 Helpline disaster activation and deactivation correspondence.

Upon activation by OEM, 2-1-1 augments their call taker staffing to support increased call volume and share emergency public information authorized by the County. To the extent possible, OEM staff share or direct 2-1-1 to authorized sources of information (which typically is any information published on the County's official emergency website www.ReadySBC.org and any available protective action incident maps) until the JIC is activated and ready to serve as the public information point of contact and provide ongoing incident updates.

6.2.5: READYSBC.ORG

The County has established an all-hazards emergency information website called www.ReadySBC.org (and in Spanish at www.ReadySBC.org/es) that provides educational resources, allows people to register to opt into the County's ReadySBC Alerts program, and other valuable information before, during, and after an emergency. As the County's primary method of providing validated incident information to the public during an emergency, this resource is managed and maintained by OEM year-round.

During an emergency, an incident webpage will be created on www.ReadySBC.org that provides the latest incident information and emergency resources and services available to the public. When an incident webpage is initially launched, OEM will be the primary content author/moderator. However, incident webpage maintenance responsibilities and support may transition or be shared by the JIC upon JIC activation.

6.2.6: GENASYS EMERGENCY ZONE MAPPING TOOL

The Genasys emergency zone mapping system is an all-hazards protective action coordination and public information tool utilized by public safety partners throughout the county. Genasys is used by the County of Santa Barbara, all eight cities within the SBC OA, VSFB, the Federal Correctional Complex in Lompoc, UC Santa Barbara, and the Los Padres National Forest. Genasys is comprised of two main components:

- **Genasys EVAC:** an internal system designed for first responders, dispatchers, emergency managers, geospatial information system (GIS) technicians, and other public safety personnel. The internal system contains pre-identified emergency zones for the entire county, plus decision-support data viewable to internal users only. This decision-support data includes day and night population and vehicle statistics, critical evacuation facilities, pre-identified sheltering and traffic control points/road closures, and more.
- **Genasys PROTECT:** the public-facing map accessed via www.protect.genasys.com and the Genasys PROTECT mobile app. The County hosts the map 24/7/365 on www.ReadySBC.org/emergency (in Spanish, www.ReadySBC.org/emergencia). Residents can use the map to see which zones are currently activated, enter their address to determine if they are affected, and access information on available shelter locations, traffic control points, road closures, and additional resources.

Genasys EVAC/PROTECT is not an alerting platform. The County will continue to issue ReadySBC Alerts through Everbridge, with backup systems such as DASDEC used as needed. Genasys PROTECT is a public information resource that complements these alerts by visually depicting impacted areas during emergencies. Additionally, the Genasys PROTECT mobile app enhances public awareness through push notifications. App users receive push notifications for:

1. Any activated zones they have saved to their profile (up to five zones), and
2. Any activated zones they are physical located in, as long as their device's location services are enabled.

Reference the *Genasys EVAC Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Santa Barbara County Operational Area Participating Public Safety Agencies* for more information on Genasys and its use in the SBC OA.

6.2.7: COUNTY EMERGENCY RADIO STATIONS

During an emergency when the power is out and/or when critical and timely information must get to the general public, OEM may utilize a network of low-wattage radio stations at frequency AM 530 to broadcast public safety information. The County of Santa Barbara has the authority to control the content broadcast on these stations. This program is designed to provide emergency information in both English and Spanish, supporting cultural competence and inclusivity. Six stations are currently operational in the Cuyama Valley and in the mid/northern parts of the county.

6.2.8: ACCESSIBLE MESSAGING

Communications tools, especially for deaf and speech-impaired communities, have expanded. Texting, email, instant messaging, social networks, telecommunications relay services (TRS), and other computer-based technologies are becoming more prominent than older technologies such as teletype writing devices for the deaf (TDDs and TTYs). Including these new tools in emergency messaging practices will help prevent those with sensory disabilities from experiencing information isolation.

As a best practice, video-based messaging such as live or recorded press conferences should have both ASL interpretation and closed captioning in frame simultaneously when possible. Additionally, all County-developed content posted online, including on social media, should be posted in accessible formats.

6.2.9: CSBTV

The County government news channel CSBTV (on Cable Channel 20) provides access to issues of public interest through video broadcasting and production. CSBTV has livestreaming capabilities and can be utilized to distribute emergency notifications and warnings. CSBTV can be accessed through the local public access channel, the County's livestream (www.countyofsb.org/1326/CSBTV-Cable-20) or YouTube (www.youtube.com/csbstv20).

SECTION 7: INFORMATION COLLECTION, ANALYSIS, AND DISSEMINATION

The County/OA EOC will serve as the hub for information collection, analysis, and dissemination of information relating to an incident or event when activated. The Situation Status Report developed by the EOC for every operational period will provide County staff and other EOCs with current information regarding ongoing response and recovery operations.

The ability of personnel from different agencies and disciplines to work together depends greatly on their ability to communicate with each other. Using plain language is essential to emergency response operations and will be used by Santa Barbara County/OA EOC personnel during emergencies. The use of common terminology enables emergency responders, EOC personnel, and County staff, as well as personnel from neighboring jurisdictions or the State to communicate clearly with each other and effectively coordinate response activities regardless of an incident's size, scope, or complexity.

Information and communication will have a two-way flow (both bottom up and top-down) through the established structure between the levels of government as detailed in SEMS: Field Response, Local Government, OA, Region, and State.

7.1: OPERATIONAL AREA UPDATES

Santa Barbara County OEM coordinates with other County Departments and SBC OA partners before, during, and after emergencies. County OEM maintains a living database of contact information from all County Departments and SBC OA partner agencies and jurisdictions for use across all phases of emergency management. County OEM facilitates the SBC OA Emergency Managers Committee (EMC) meeting, which is typically held monthly. EMC Meetings provide a platform for OA-wide information sharing, trainings, and discussions related to critical emergency management issues within the SBC OA. Local jurisdictions, including state partners, have an opportunity to share any notable incidents or information that is beneficial to the group or for situational awareness.

During a disaster, County OEM will either provide situation updates via email, host SBC OA-wide coordination calls, or use a combination of both to communicate updates on evacuations, response operations, sheltering, weather forecasts, and recovery information. These communication methods are also an opportunity for SBC OA partners to communicate any significant impacts or needs that may require OA-level support. Additionally, if an incident occurs that does not reach the level to activate the SBC OA EOC but may be of general and/or public interest, the OEM Duty Officer is responsible for keeping the SBC OA informed as necessary. This includes providing summaries of the incident, any actions taken, available resources for the public or partner agencies, and requesting that OA partners share their impacts and unmet needs with OEM.

7.1.1: SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Situational awareness refers to the ability to identify, process, and comprehend the critical elements of information related to an incident. Situational awareness is vital for the effectiveness of decision-making in both field operations and the EOC and is critical for preserving the safety of responders and the public.

During an emergency, the EOC Director will convene briefings on a regular basis, at which time the EOC staff will attend and provide verbal and/or written summaries of existing problems, actions taken, priorities, and timetables and potential for new issues for incorporation into the EOC Emergency Action Plan (EAP). The situational awareness approach will primarily take the form of each operational period's EOC EAP, which is developed by consolidating situation reports, obtaining supplemental information, and preparing maps. Status boards and other visual resources may also be displayed in the County/OA EOC as appropriate to enhance situational awareness of EOC staff.

See [Appendix I](#) for detailed information on Action Planning and Situation Reporting.

7.1.1.1: COUNTY LEADERSHIP AND LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

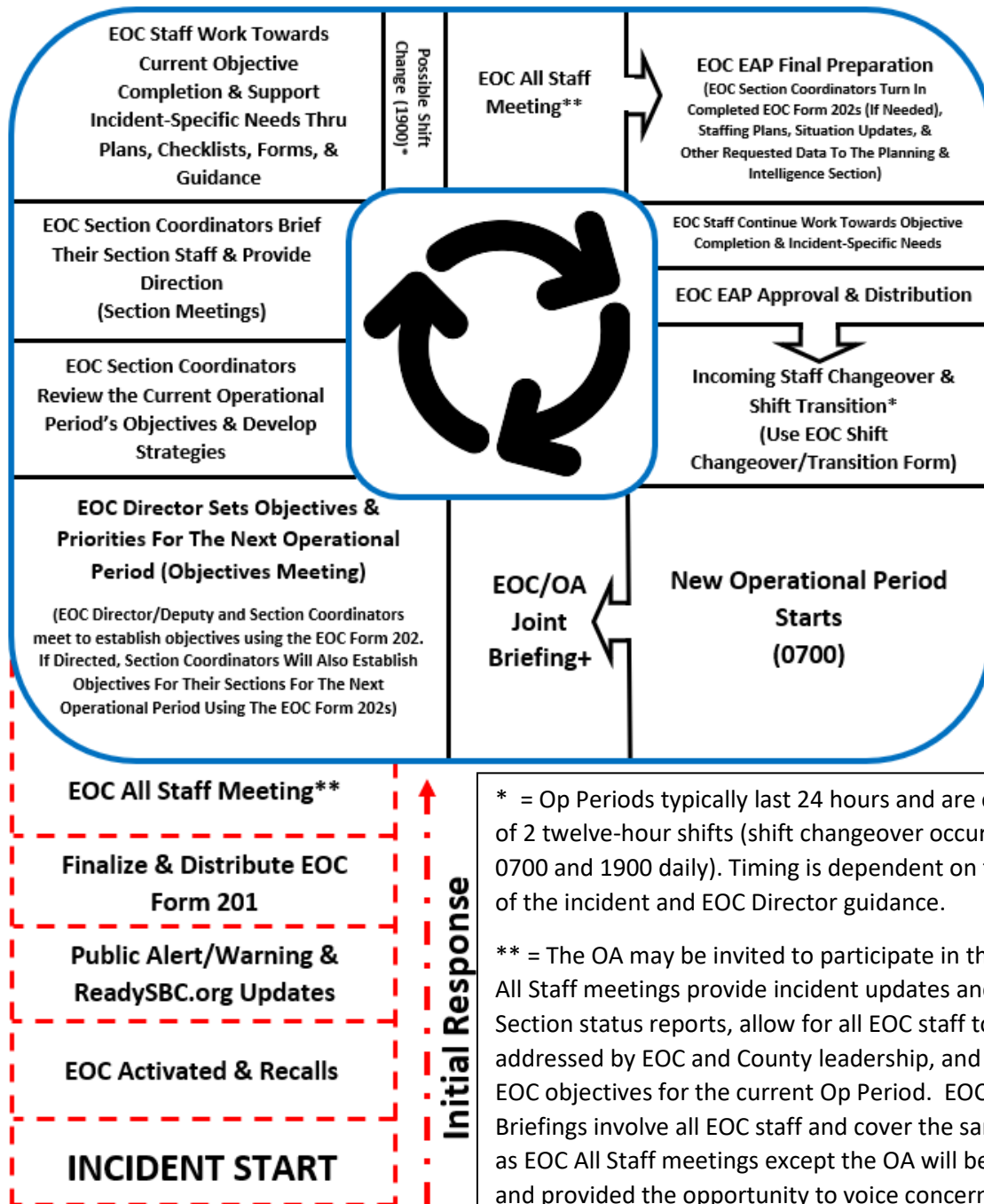
When an incident of significant concern is anticipated, the OEM Director will begin providing timely updates via email for County leadership, including the Board of Supervisors, Executive Leaders, Department Heads, and Assistant Department Heads. These updates will include information that is meant for internal use and is not for public distribution along with noted public information, if appropriate. The frequency of these updates will be determined by the evolution of the incident. These updates may also come from other departments or agencies directly depending on the nature and onset of the incident. Once the County/OA EOC is activated, the Legislative Liaison position may also be activated. When this occurs, the Legislative Liaison becomes responsible for updating County leadership along with the Legislative Briefing Group. The liaison will provide email updates, schedule briefings, and act as a conduit for information to elected leaders and their staff.

7.1.2: INITIAL INCIDENT BRIEFING FORM

The EOC Form 201, also known as the Initial Incident Briefing Form, is used by EOC staff during the initial Operational Period (Op Period) of the County/OA EOC's activation to quickly summarize the current situation, actions taken to date, initial objectives, and who is staffing activated positions within the EOC. This form is essentially the first EOC EAP for a given incident and should be provided to all EOC staff during the initial Op Period of the County/OA EOC. Internal incident updates should be made frequently as information is collected and the extent and potential duration of the incident become clear and be in alignment with the County/OA EOC's Planning P.

The "Planning P" (**Figure 7.1**) outlines the actions to be taken during every Op Period within the EOC. An initial report to County leadership and staff should be made within the first 2 hours following an emergency, and reporting should continue as long as the EOC is activated, or as circumstances warrant. After the first Op Period, EOC briefings and EAPs should start to include concepts related to preliminary damage assessments and status of County and OA response operations.

FIGURE 7.1 –THE “PLANNING P”



* = Op Periods typically last 24 hours and are composed of 2 twelve-hour shifts (shift changeover occurring at 0700 and 1900 daily). Timing is dependent on the scope of the incident and EOC Director guidance.

** = The OA may be invited to participate in this call. EOC All Staff meetings provide incident updates and EOC Section status reports, allow for all EOC staff to be addressed by EOC and County leadership, and discuss EOC objectives for the current Op Period. EOC/OA Joint Briefings involve all EOC staff and cover the same topics as EOC All Staff meetings except the OA will be invited and provided the opportunity to voice concerns and provide report outs.

+ = EOC Director/Deputy Director discretion as to if the OA will be invited to this or if this will be an EOC All Staff meeting.

SECTION 8: MUTUAL AID

California's emergency planning and response foundation is supported by a statewide mutual aid system that is designed to make sure that adequate resources, facilities, and other support are provided to jurisdictions whenever their own resources prove to be inadequate to cope with a given situation. The basis for the system is the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement, as provided for in the California Emergency Services Act. This Agreement was developed in 1950 and has been adopted by the State, all 58 counties, and most incorporated cities in the State of California.

The Master Mutual Aid Agreement (MMAA) creates a formal structure wherein each jurisdiction retains control of its own facilities, personnel, and resources, but may also receive from or render assistance to other jurisdictions within the State. State government is obligated to provide available resources to assist local jurisdictions in emergencies. It is the responsibility of local jurisdictions to negotiate, coordinate, and prepare mutual aid agreements. Mutual aid systems exist in law enforcement, fire services, medical services, public works, and through the Emergency Management Mutual Aid (EMMA) request program amongst other mutual aid avenues.

8.1: MUTUAL AID SYSTEMS

A statewide mutual aid system, operating within the framework of the Master Mutual Aid Agreement, allows for the progressive mobilization of resources to and from emergency response agencies, local governments, OAs, regions, and the state with the intent to provide requesting agencies with adequate resources. The general flow of mutual aid resource requests and resources within mutual aid systems are depicted in **Figure 8.1**.

The statewide mutual aid system includes several discipline-specific mutual aid networks, such as fire and rescue, law, medical, public works, and water/wastewater. These systems work through the various levels of government as outlined in SEMS.

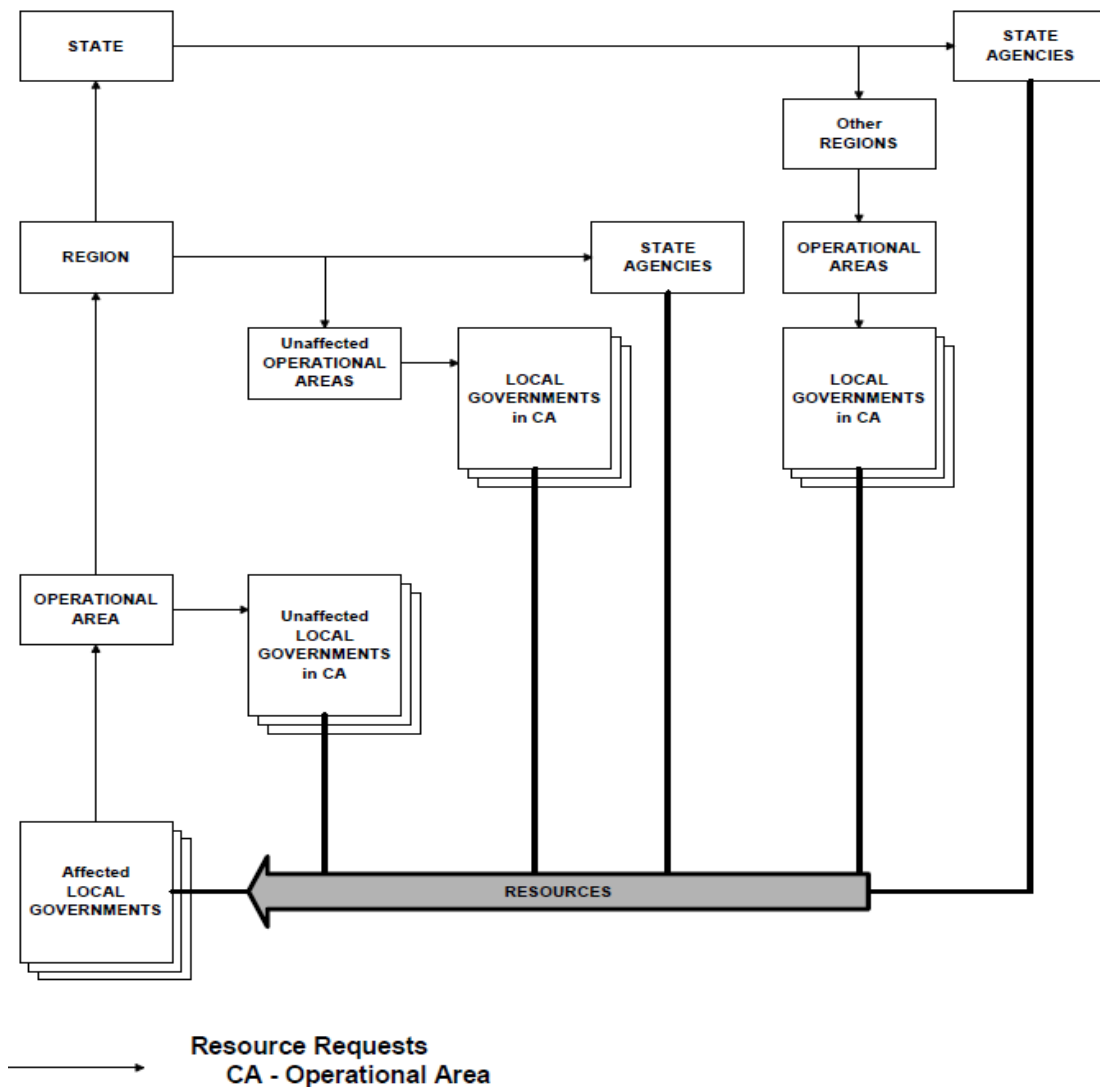
Disaster-related mutual aid requests that do not fall into one of the discipline-specific mutual aid systems and that are not addressed in existing agreements between agencies are handled through the EMMA system. Pursuant to the MMAA, the California Emergency Council approved the *Emergency Management Mutual Aid Plan* on November 21, 1997.

The purpose of EMMA is to support disaster operations in affected jurisdictions by providing professional emergency management personnel. Allocating resources may include the following actions:

- The County, Cities, and special districts will forward their requests for mutual aid through the OA. OAs will first seek mutual aid fulfillment from within their own OA.

- If the OA cannot fulfill the need through local agencies, the OA will act as the coordinator point between the OA's County, Cities, and special districts and the CalOES Southern Region to seek regional fulfillment of mutual aid requests.
- The CalOES regional offices will act as the coordination point and facilitate mutual aid request fulfillment from among the OAs in their respective mutual aid region.
- If the regional level of SEMS cannot fulfill a mutual aid resource request, CalOES headquarters will facilitate the provision of mutual aid among the state's departments and potentially out of state or federal agencies.

FIGURE 8.1 – MUTUAL AID FLOW CHART
Mutual Aid System Concept:
General Flow of Requests and Resources



Mutual aid may also be obtained from other states. Inter-state mutual aid may be obtained through direct state-to-state contacts, pursuant to inter-state agreements and compacts, or may be coordinated through federal agencies.

In Santa Barbara County, the mutual aid coordination for the SBC OA is as follows:

TABLE 8.1: SBC OA MUTUAL AID COORDINATION		
TYPE OF RESOURCES	LEAD AGENCY FOR COORDINATION	SOURCE DOCUMENT
Fire Resources	Santa Barbara County Fire Department	California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid System
Law Enforcement	Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office	Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Plan
Medical, EMS, and Public Health Resources	Santa Barbara County Health Department	Mutual Aid and Mutual Assistance for Public Health Emergency Planning in California
Public Works	Santa Barbara County Public Works Department	Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement
Water and Wastewater Utilities	California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (CalWARN)	California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (CalWARN) Dashboard and Documents
Emergency Management Resources	Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management	State of California Emergency Management Mutual Aid Plan (EMMA)
All other Mutual Aid	Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management	California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement

8.1.1: PRIVATE AND COMMUNITY MUTUAL AID

A significant component of the Mutual Aid system is through volunteer and private agencies. These include agencies such as the American Red Cross and VOAD. These agencies typically provide a representative to the County/OA EOC when activated. Many private agencies, faith-based organizations, nonprofits, and other organizations offer to provide their assistance during emergencies. If needed, the County may request the agency provide a liaison to the EOC to help facilitate and coordinate Mutual Aid.

Volunteer agencies and private agencies may participate in the mutual aid system along with governmental agencies. For example, the disaster medical mutual aid system relies heavily on private sector involvement for medical/health resources. Some volunteer agencies such as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and others are an essential element of emergency response to meet the needs of disaster victims. Volunteer agencies mobilize volunteers and other

resources through their own systems. They also may identify resource needs that are not met within their own systems that would be requested through the mutual aid system. Volunteer agencies with extensive involvement in the emergency response should be represented in EOCs.

Some private agencies have established mutual aid arrangements to assist other private agencies within their functional area. For example, electric and gas utilities have mutual aid agreements within their industry and established procedures for coordinating with governmental EOCs. In some functional areas, services are provided by a mix of special district, municipal, and private agencies. Mutual aid arrangements may include both governmental and private agencies. Liaisons should be established by agencies participating in mutual aid activities whenever mutual aid resources are rendered between two or more agencies. Ideally, these liaisons should operate as agency representatives and coordinate in activated EOCs.

In some cases, the sharing of resources or support services between OA governmental partners and Community Based Organizations is facilitated through a pre-established Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) specific to disaster response. Additionally, emergency response and recovery MOUs may be developed ad-hoc to address unmet incident-specific needs, such as the COVID-19 Foodbank Emergency Food Distribution MOU. Below are a few of those agreements:

TABLE 8.2: DISASTER-RELATED COUNTY MOUs		
MANAGING COUNTY DEPARTMENT	PARTNER AGENCY	AGREEMENT PURPOSE
Department of Social Services	American Red Cross	Provision of support services for Care and Shelter services
Office of Emergency Management	United Way	Activation of the Critical Needs Fund (CNF) and the Individual Disaster Assistance Grants (IDAG)
Department of Social Services and Office of Emergency Management	CommUnify/2-1-1	Upstaffing for enhanced 2-1-1 call center support to the community during a disaster
Office of Emergency Management	Project Camp	Provision of children's day camps post-disaster in coordination with other community partners
Health Department	Easy Lift Transportation	Disaster-associated immediate need Accessibility Transportation Support
Health Department	Smooth Transit	Disaster-associated immediate need Accessibility Transportation Support
Department of Social Services	Multiple Agencies/Facilities	Care & Shelter locations
Office of Emergency Management	Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)	Amateur radio communication support.

8.1.2: VOLUNTARY VS OBLIGATORY MUTUAL AID

Mutual Aid can occur in both a voluntary or obligatory manner. The distinction is:

Voluntary: Mutual Aid is voluntary when an agreement is initiated either verbally or in writing. When in writing, the conditions may be given as to what and how much of a department's resources may be committed.

Obligatory: Mutual Aid under a "State of War Emergency" shall be deemed obligatory. Mutual Aid under a "State of Emergency" may be obligatory (Emergency Services Act, 1970).

8.1.3: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT – INTERSTATE MUTUAL AID

When resource requests are unfilled using local, regional, or state resources, Mutual Aid may be obtained from other states. California is a signatory to the interstate Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), an organization ratified by the US Congress that provides form, structure, and procedures for rendering emergency assistance between states.

Once the Governor has proclaimed a State of Emergency, CalOES will assess the resource needs for the incident. California can then request resources through the EMAC network for assistance provided by other states. The use of EMAC resolves two (2) of the key issues regarding mutual aid: liability and reimbursement, which is described below. This allows a disaster-impacted state to request and receive assistance from other member states quickly and efficiently.

Personnel deployed under EMAC submit documentation to their resource providers (home agency), who submit a reimbursement package to their home state. The home state submits a reimbursement to the requesting state who reimburses the assisting state. The requesting state covers the tort liability, and the responding state covers the workers' compensation liability.

8.1.4: DEFENSE SUPPORT OF CIVIL AUTHORITIES (DSCA) AND IMMEDIATE RESPONSE AUTHORITY (IRA)

DSCA is support provided by U.S. Federal military forces, DoD civilians, DoD contract personnel, DoD Component assets, and, in coordination with the Governors, federally funded National Guard forces in response to requests for assistance from civil authorities for domestic emergencies, law enforcement support (in compliance with the Posse Comitatus Act), and other domestic activities, or from qualifying entities for special events.

The Stafford Act provides federal military commanders, heads of DoD components, and responsible DOD civilian officials with Immediate Response Authority (IRA). In response to a request for assistance from a civil authority, under imminently serious conditions and if time does not permit approval from higher authority, DOD officials may provide an immediate response by temporarily employing the resources under their control, subject to any supplemental direction

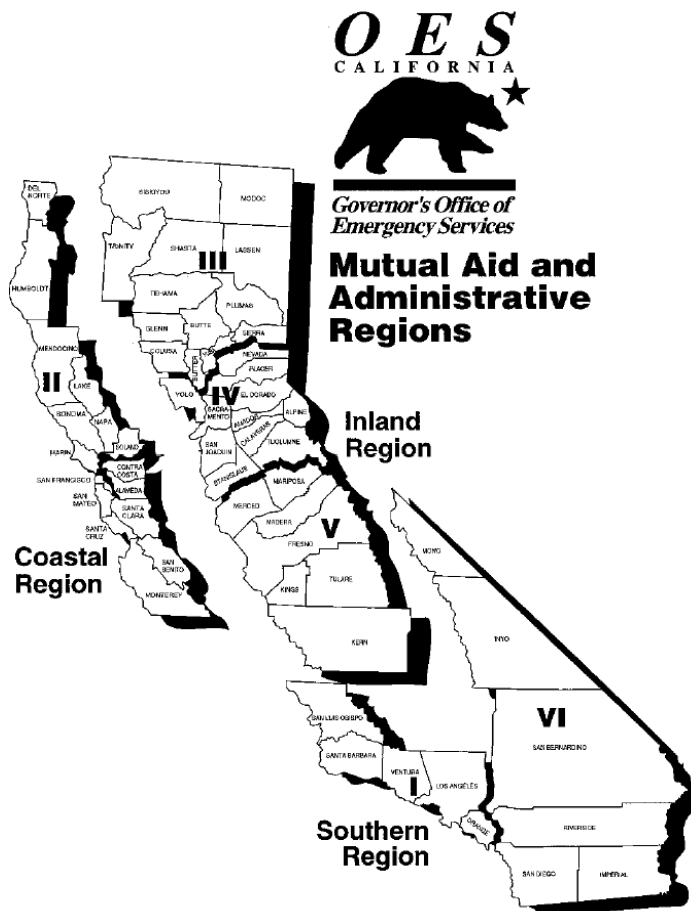
provided by higher headquarters, to save lives, prevent human suffering, or mitigate great property damage within the US.

FEMA coordinates response support from across the federal government. DSCA requests are made through FEMA to the DoD based upon resources needed. *Joint Publication 3-28 Defense Support of Civil Authorities*, is the DoD's regulation covering DSCA and IRA protocols and procedures.

8.2: MUTUAL AID REGIONS

Mutual aid regions (**Figure 8.2**) are established under the Emergency Services Act by the Governor. Six mutual aid regions numbered I-VI have been established within California. Each mutual aid region consists of designated counties. The OAs within CalOES Mutual Aid Region I are San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, and Orange. CalOES has also established three administrative regions that carry out the coordination of information and resources within the region between the different levels of SEMS. The SBC OA is located in the CalOES Southern Administrative Region. **Note:** Different professional sectors, such as fire and law enforcement, may use different regional and/or sub-regional designations for their respective mutual aid systems.

FIGURE 8.2 – STATE MUTUAL AID REGION MAP



8.3: MUTUAL AID COORDINATORS

To facilitate mutual aid, discipline-specific mutual aid systems work through designated mutual aid coordinators at the OA, regional, and state levels. The basic role of a mutual aid coordinator is to receive mutual aid requests, coordinate the provisions of the resources from within the coordinator's geographic area of responsibility (AOR), and pass on unfilled requests to the next level.

Mutual aid coordinators may function from an EOC, their normal departmental location, or other locations depending on the circumstances. When EOCs are activated, all activated discipline-specific mutual aid systems should establish coordination and communications with the EOCs.

When the County/OA EOC is activated, OA mutual aid system representatives should be at the County/OA EOC to facilitate coordination and information flow. The OEM Duty Officer, or designee, is responsible for EMMA requests for the SBC OA and County. If EMMA requests are made by the SBC OA on behalf of a political subdivision within the SBC OA (such as a city), that political subdivision must send a representative to the County/OA EOC to assist with formulating the request and selecting an appropriate candidate. This person must be authorized to commit their agency to financial obligations related to EMMA, such as per diem, lodging, and overtime. When the State Operations Center (SOC) is activated, state agencies with mutual aid coordination responsibilities will likely be requested to send representatives to the SOC.

8.4: MUTUAL AID POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Mutual aid resources will be provided and utilized in accordance with the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement and supporting separate agreements.

During a proclaimed emergency, inter-jurisdictional mutual aid will be coordinated at the appropriate OA or Mutual Aid Regional level whenever the available resources are:

- Subject to state or federal control
- Subject to military control
- Located outside the requesting jurisdiction
- Allocated on a priority basis

Due to the incompatibility of radio communications equipment between most agencies, local agencies should, where possible, provide incoming mutual aid forces with portable radios using local frequencies.

The requests for, and the coordination of, mutual aid support is accomplished through established channels (cities to OAs, to Mutual Aid Regions, to State). Generally, requests should include the following information. Depending on the mutual aid system being used, other information than what is listed below may be needed as well:

- Number of personnel needed
- Type and amount of equipment
- Reporting time and location
- Authority to whom they are to report
- Access routes
- Estimated duration of operations
- Reimbursement rate if provided
- Lodging location

SECTION 9: PLAN MAINTENANCE

The following section provides direction for maintaining, updating, and distributing the EOP. It includes guidance for testing, training, and exercises to keep the EOP current and train County staff on using the Plan.

9.1: PLAN UPDATES

Individual departments are responsible for updating and revising their departmental plans and procedures regularly and communicating those updates to the OEM, who will incorporate them into the EOP as appropriate. These updates should include new information (e.g., an update of phone numbers and revisions of relevant standard operating procedures or positions). All changes to the EOP will be documented in the record of changes table located in [Appendix C](#). Changes to the EOP will be distributed to the County Departments and partners shown on the Plan Distribution list located in [Appendix D](#). Major EOP revisions will be submitted to the County Executive Officer for approval, then routed for approval by the County Board of Supervisors.

Evaluating the effectiveness of the EOP involves capturing information from training events, exercises, and real-world incidents to determine whether the protocols and policies of the EOP should be updated. This process may require changes to protocols described in the EOP. These changes may involve revising planning assumptions and operational concepts, changing organizational tasks, or modifying other documents related to processes within the EOP, such as standalone checklists or templates. Required changes may also include providing refresher training for personnel.

The input of the OA and diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) stakeholders will be included on major updates and planning processes for the Santa Barbara County/OA EOP.

The EOP will be updated every 2 years and whenever the following occurs:

- A major incident
- A change in operational capabilities or resources (e.g., policy, leadership personnel, organizational structures, management processes, facilities, equipment)
- A formal update of planning guidance or standards

- A change in the acceptability of various risks

9.2: PLAN TESTING, TRAINING, AND EXERCISES

Local jurisdictions, cities, special districts, private organizations, non-profit organizations, and NGOs within the SBC OA are responsible for identifying, planning, preparing, executing, and documenting training and exercise events in accordance with their local policies, procedures, and preparedness goals. Training and exercises are essential at all levels of government to make emergency response personnel operationally ready.

Santa Barbara County OEM is responsible for providing regular training and exercise events for the County/OA EOC Team, including JIC and Call Center staff. All County Employees are required to complete training in accordance with SEMS/NIMS/ICS as outlined in the County of Santa Barbara *Disaster Service Worker (DSW) Employee Policy and Standard Operating Procedures* document. County/OA EOC Team training will occur at least bi-annually; real world activations may be used to achieve this requirement in the event that real world response and recovery activities negatively impact the ability conduct a planned training event.

As the designated Operational Area Coordinator for the SBC OA, County OEM creates and maintains an Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP). CalOES requires IPPs to be submitted on or before the last day of September of each calendar year. This IPP identifies SBC OA priorities and provides a multi-year outlook on planned training and exercise events.

The objective of the OEM training and exercise program is to inform, train, and prepare local government officials, emergency response personnel, and partner agencies on emergency plans, policies, and processes to enhance readiness and solidify coordination efforts in advance of an emergency. The best method to achieve this is through exercises. Exercises will be conducted using the concepts and principles of SEMS and NIMS. The County uses the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) guidance for exercise design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning. HSEEP constitutes a national standard for all exercises.

HSEEP Exercise Categories include both discussion-based formats and operations-based formats. The following are examples of these two types of exercise:

Discussion-Based Exercises:

- **Seminars** are discussion-based exercises designed to orient participants to new or updated plans, policies, or procedures in a structured training environment.
- **Workshops** are discussion-based exercises used as a means of developing specific products, such as a draft plan or policy.

- **Tabletop Exercises** provide a convenient and low-cost method to evaluate policy, plans, and procedures; establish and reinforce coordination between departments and personnel; and establish responsibilities. Such exercises are an excellent way to see if policies and procedures exist to handle specific issues.
- **Games** are a structured form of play designed for individuals or teams in a competitive or noncompetitive environment. Games are designed to depict an actual or hypothetical situation to challenge participants to make decisions and take actions that would be plausible. Games can be used to reinforce training, stimulate team building, or enhance operational and tactical capabilities.

Operations-Based Exercises:

- **Drills** are a coordinated, supervised exercise activity, normally used to test a single specific operation or function. It can also be used to provide training with new equipment or to practice and maintain current skills. Its role in exercise programs is to practice and perfect one small part of your program and help prepare for more extensive exercises, in which several functions will be coordinated and tested.
- **Functional Exercises** are designed to test and evaluate the capability of an individual aspect of the plan such as evacuation, emergency medical services, communications systems and equipment, or dissemination of public information.
- **Full-Scale Exercises** simulate an actual emergency. They typically involve complete emergency management staff and are designed to evaluate the operational capability of the emergency management system.

9.2.1: EXERCISES

Short of real-world operations, exercises are the best method of evaluating the effectiveness of a plan. They also provide a valuable tool in training emergency responders and other County staff to become familiar with the procedures, equipment, and systems they use or manage in emergencies. Exercises must be conducted regularly to maintain readiness. **Table 9.1** provides a recommended schedule of exercise for County staff.

TABLE 9.1: RECOMMENDED COUNTY-WIDE EXERCISE SCHEDULE		
FREQUENCY	TYPE	PARTICIPANTS
Annually	Evacuation Drills of All County-Owned Facilities	All employees
Annually	Tabletop or Functional Exercise	Emergency operations staff
Every 3 years or as available	Full-Scale Exercise	Emergency operations staff

9.2.2: EXERCISE AFTER ACTION REVIEW

After every exercise, an after-action review should be conducted, and an After-Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) should be completed. The AAR/IP has two (2) components:

1) an AAR, which captures observations and recommendations based on exercise objectives as associated with the capabilities and tasks, and 2) an IP, which identifies specific corrective actions, assigns them to responsible parties, and establishes targets for their completion. The division responsible for creating and facilitating the exercise is responsible for developing the AAR/IP and convenes participants to discuss action items and solicit recommendations for improvements. [Section 3.2.4](#) includes additional considerations for incident driven AARs, which can also inform the process for exercises.

9.2.3: EOC RESPONDER TRAINING

The County has developed a DSW Training Matrix for employees that outlines the training requirements for all employees based on their level of responsibility during an emergency. County Departments have been assigned responsibility for staffing specific EOC positions. See [Section 4.7 Responsibilities of County Departments and Partner Agencies in the County/OA EOC](#) within this Plan for more information regarding assigned EOC staffing responsibilities for County Departments. Departments that have been assigned EOC positions to fulfill when activated have identified specific staff assigned to those roles. Department Heads are responsible for seeing that all department employees have completed required trainings in accordance with the Santa Barbara County *Disaster Service Worker Employee Policy and Standard Operating Procedures* document. Santa Barbara County OEM maintains the required training matrix and collaborates with Department Heads and County Human Resources to track and monitor compliance. The training matrix may be updated at any time to maintain compliance with state and federal requirements.

When a new County Employee is hired, that employee's department will notify the employee of their assigned role in an emergency and the required DSW trainings.

As authorized within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security *NIMS Training Program* (Summer 2020), the authority having jurisdiction determines the requirements for refresher training. Accordingly, all County Employees assigned to the EOC will be provided with at least one (1) opportunity for training and one (1) exercise per fiscal year to maintain the ongoing readiness of County Employees. In accordance with the *DSW Employee Policy and Standard Operating Procedures* document, employees shall refresh their mandated NIMS training(s) every five (5) years.

[END OF BASIC PLAN]

APPENDIX A: ACRONYMS AND GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ACRONYMS

AAR – After Action Report
ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act
ADFN – Access, Disabilities, and Functional Needs
AFB – Air Force Base
AHJ – Authority Having Jurisdiction
AOR – Area of Responsibility
ARC – American Red Cross
AREP – Agency Representative
ARES – Amateur Radio Emergency Services
ASL – American Sign Language
CAISO – California Independent System Operator
CalFIRE – California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CalGS – California Geological Survey
CalOES – California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services
CalWARN – California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network
CBRN – Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear
CCR – California Code of Regulations
CDAA – California Disaster Assistance Act
CDPH – California Department of Public Health
CEO – County Executive Officer
CERT – Community Emergency Response Team
CFR – Code of Federal Regulation
CHP – California Highway Patrol
CPUC – California Public Utilities Commission
CSWC – California State Warning Center
CUPA – Certified Unified Program Agency
CY – Calendar Year
DEIA – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility
DES – Director of Emergency Services
DoD – Department of Defense
DOC – Department Operations Center
DRC – Disaster Recovery Center
DROC – Disaster Recovery Operations Center
DSCA – Defense Support of Civil Authorities
DSR – Damage Survey Reports
DSW – Disaster Service Worker
DSW-V – Disaster Service Worker Volunteer
EAS – Emergency Alert System
EAP – Emergency Action Plan
ECC – Emergency Communications Center

EMMA – Emergency Management Mutual Aid
EMPG – Emergency Management Performance Grant
EMS – Emergency Medical Services
EMSA – Emergency Medical Services Agency (State EMS Authority)
END – Exotic Newcastle Disease
ENS – Emergency Notification System
EOC – Emergency Operations Center
EOP – Emergency Operations Plan
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
ESC – Emergency Services Coordinator
FAA – Federal Aviation Administration
FAC – Family Assistance Center
FBI – Federal Bureau of Investigation
FD – Fire Department
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIRM – Flood Insurance Rate Map
FMAG – Fire Management Assistance Grant
FOUO – For Official Use Only
FY – Fiscal Year
GIS – Geographic Information System
HHS – Health and Human Services
HMGP – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
HSPD-5 – Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5
IA – Individual Assistance
IAP – Incident Action Plan
ICP – Incident Command Post
ICS – Incident Command System
IED – Improvised Explosive Device
IMR – Incident Management Room
IMT – Incident Management Team
IPAWS – Integrated Public Alert and Warning System
IPP – Integrated Preparedness Plan
IPZ – Ingestion Pathway Zone
IRA – Immediate Response Authority
JIC – Joint Information Center
JIS – Joint Information System
JTTF – Joint Terrorism Task Force
LAC – Local Assistance Center
LGOSC – Local Government On-Scene Coordinator
MAC Group – Multi-Agency Coordination Group
MAG – Mass Alerting Generator

MCI – Mass Casualty Incident
MCR – Management Conference Room
MHOAC – Medical and Health Operational Area Coordinator
MJHMP – Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
MOA – Memorandum of Agreement
MOU – Memorandum of Understanding
MPH – Miles Per Hour
MYTEP – Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan
MYTEW – Multi-Year Training and Exercise Workshop
NFHL – National Flood Hazard Layer
NGO – Non-Governmental Organization
NIMS – National Incident Management System
NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NRC – Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NWS – National Weather Service
OA – Operational Area
OASIS – Operational Area Satellite Information System
OEM – Office of Emergency Management
OES – Office of Emergency Services
PA – Public Assistance
PAZ – Protective Action Zone
PD – Police Department
PIO – Public Information Officer
PG&E – Pacific Gas and Electric
PNP – Private Non-Profit
POC – Point of Contact
POD – Point of Distribution/Dispensing
PSAP – Public Safety Answering Point
PSPS – Public Safety Power Shutoff
PWR – Pressurized Water Reactor
RDMHC – Regional Disaster Medical Health Coordinator
RP – Responsible Party
SBA – Small Business Administration
SBC – Santa Barbara County
SBCEMSA – Santa Barbara County Emergency Medical Services Agency
SBC OA – Santa Barbara County Operational Area
SCE – Southern California Edison
SEMS – Standardized Emergency Management System
SFB – Space Force Base
SLO – San Luis Obispo
SOC – State Operations Center

SOP – Standard Operating Procedures
SRDT – Storm Risk Decision Team
TEP – Temporary Evacuation Point
TTY/TTD – Teletype/Telecommunication Device of the Deaf
UC – University of California
USCG – United States Coast Guard
USDA – United States Department of Agriculture
USAF – United States Air Force
USAR – Urban Search and Rescue
USPS – United States Postal Service
USSF – United States Space Force
VHF – Very High Frequency (radio)
vND – Virulent Newcastle Disease
VOAD – Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters
WEA – Wireless Emergency Alert
WUI – Wildland Urban Interface

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Board of Supervisors (BoS): Elected officials representing the five districts in Santa Barbara County who together form the highest elected governing body of the County of Santa Barbara.

California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA): Authorizes the state to provide financial assistance for costs incurred as a result of a disaster. CDAA may be implemented in circumstances when local resources are exceeded. In general, the state's share eligible under CDAA is no more than 75 percent of total state eligible costs; however, funding may vary with the type of disaster at the discretion of the Legislature. There are two levels of CDAA assistance:

- **Director's Concurrence:** Under CDAA, the CalOES Director may concur with a local government request for state assistance independently of a Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. A Director's Concurrence is limited to eligible permanent repair work. There is generally a 75%-25% cost share between state and local governments.
- **During a State of Emergency:** When the Governor proclaims a State of Emergency and authorizes CDAA, both emergency and permanent work are eligible for assistance. Again there is generally a 75%-25% cost share between state and local governments. In addition, the State of Emergency allows certain eligible private nonprofit organizations to receive state assistance for providing essential community services during a state declared disaster.

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES): Manages the state-level practice of emergency management in order to enhance safety and preparedness in California through strong leadership, collaboration, and meaningful partnerships in order to protect lives and

property by effectively preparing for, preventing, responding to, and recovering from all threats, crimes, hazards, and emergencies.

California National Guard (CNG): The California Military Department is comprised of four pillars: the California Army National Guard, the California Air National Guard, the California State Military Reserve, and the California Youth and Community Programs.

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC): The CPUC regulates privately owned electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water, railroad, rail transit, and passenger transportation companies. The CPUC serves the public interest by protecting consumers and ensuring the provision of safe, reliable utility service and infrastructure at reasonable rates, with a commitment to environmental enhancement and a healthy California economy. The CPUC regulates utility services, stimulates innovation, and promotes competitive markets, where possible.

California State Warning Center (CSWC): The mission of the CSWC is to be the central information hub for statewide emergency communications and notifications. The CSWC is staffed with Emergency Notification Controllers, Emergency Services Coordinators, and Program Managers. The CSWC serves as a highly reliable and accurate “one-stop” resource for emergency management, law enforcement, and key decision-making personnel throughout the state.

California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (CalWARN): A coalition of water/wastewater agencies that collectively supports and promotes statewide emergency preparedness, disaster response, and mutual assistance processes for public and private water and wastewater utilities.

Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN): The employment of CBRN agents either as a primary or tertiary means of inflicting harm. This includes protective measures taken in situations in which CBRN warfare (including terrorism) hazards may be present.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): A community-level program administered by local government that trains citizens to understand their responsibility in preparing for disaster. The program increases its members’ ability to safely help themselves, their family, and their neighbors. If activated, trained CERT volunteers provide immediate assistance to victims in their area. Multiple cities and UC Santa Barbara maintain active CERT programs in the County.

Department Operations Center (DOC): Location for County Departments to conduct emergency management operations in support of an incident. The DOC serves the same function as the EOC, but focuses on conducting tasks in support of the specific tactical operational responsibilities of that DOC’s department.

Disabled Individual: As defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, an individual with a disability is a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a person who has a history or record of such an impairment, or a person who is perceived by others as having such an impairment. The ADA does not specifically name all of the impairments that are covered.

Disaster: A sudden and extraordinary misfortune; a calamity which threatens or effects extraordinary loss of life or property.

Disaster Recovery Operations Center (DROC): The location from which a jurisdiction centrally manages individual, community, and governmental recovery operations and services, typically following a significant incident. Like an EOC, a DROC has specific positions organized within different sections and operates based on objectives and action planning. In some cases, it may be appropriate to transition an activated EOC into a DROC.

Disaster Service Worker (DSW): Under State law, Title I, Section 3100 of the California Government Code, all government employees are declared Disaster Service Workers who can be called upon in any emergency. This means that County employees are responsible to help in a disaster when called upon.

Disaster Service Worker-Volunteer (DSW-V): Any person registered with an accredited Disaster Council for the purpose of engaging in disaster service without pay or other consideration. This also may include any unregistered person impressed into service during a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency by a person having authority to command the aid of the citizens in the execution of his or her duties.

Emergency: A condition of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by such conditions as air pollution, fire, flood, hazardous material incident, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestations or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake or other conditions, other than conditions resulting from a labor controversy.

Emergency Alert System (EAS): A national public warning system commonly used by state and local authorities to deliver important emergency information, such as weather and AMBER alerts, to affected communities over television and radio.

Emergency Management Mutual Aid (EMMA): A formalized system coordinated through CalOES that provides emergency management-related mutual aid assistance specifically for EOC positions in jurisdictions that have been impacted by a disaster.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): A location from which centralized coordination of an emergency can be performed.

Emergency Response Agency: Any organization responding to an emergency, whether in the field, at the scene of an incident, or to an EOC, in response to an emergency, or providing mutual aid support to such an organization.

Emergency Response Personnel: Personnel involved with an agency's response to an emergency.

Endemic: A disease that exists permanently in a particular region or population. For example, Malaria is a constant threat in parts of Africa.

EOC Emergency Action Plan (EAP): The plan prepared in the EOC containing the emergency response objectives of that SEMS level reflecting overall priorities and supporting activities for a designated period (called an Operational Period).

Epidemic: An outbreak of disease that attacks many people at about the same time and may spread through one or several communities.

Family Assistance Center (FAC): Location to provide assistance and support during a mass casualty or injury incident or disaster. A family assistance center provides responding and support agencies with the ability to provide a consistent and coordinated response to survivors and victim's families by centralizing the flow of information and services, and assigning responsibilities to specific response agencies.

Federal Declaration of Emergency or Major Disaster: The President of the United States can declare an Emergency or Major Disaster under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 USC §5121 et seq.), thereby providing federal government resources to support the states' response, recovery, and mitigation activities. While Presidential Declarations under the Stafford Act release federal resources and funding to support response and recovery, federal agencies may also provide assistance under other authorities or agreements that do not require a Presidential Declaration.

- **Federal Emergency Declaration:** The President can declare an emergency for any occasion or instance when the President determines federal assistance is needed. Emergency declarations supplement State and local or Indian tribal government efforts in providing emergency services, such as the protection of lives, property, public health, and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States. The total amount of assistance provided for in a single emergency may not exceed \$5 million. The President shall report to Congress if this amount is exceeded.

- **Major Disaster Declaration:** The President can declare a major disaster for any natural event, including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or drought, or, regardless of cause, fire, flood, or explosion, that the President determines has caused damage of such severity that it is beyond the combined capabilities of state and local governments to respond. A major disaster declaration provides a wide range of federal assistance programs for individuals and public infrastructure, including funds for both emergency and permanent work.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS): Computer-based systems used to design, capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present geographical data (digital mapping).

Hazardous Materials (HazMat): Solids, liquids, or gases that can harm people, other living organisms, property, or the environment. These are most commonly associated with industrial and agricultural applications.

Health and Human Services (HHS) Departments: The County of Santa Barbara has identified six County Departments as being member departments of the County Health and Human Services group. These departments' core missions include services that directly support the health and social needs of the general public. Together, the following County Departments make up the Health and Human Service Department group: Department of Behavioral Wellness, Health Department, First 5, Child Support Services Department, and the Community Services Department.

Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5: The purpose of this directive, which was issued on 28 February 2003, is to enhance the ability of the United States to manage domestic incidents by establishing a single, comprehensive NIMS.

Incident: An occurrence or event, either human-caused or by natural phenomena, that requires action by emergency response personnel to prevent or minimize loss of life or damage to property and/or natural resources.

Incident Action Plan (IAP): The plan developed at the field response level which contains objectives reflecting the overall field incident strategy and specific tactical actions and supporting information for the next operational period. The plan may be oral or written.

Incident Commander (IC): The individual responsible for the command of all functions at the field response level.

Incident Command Post (ICP): A field location where the primary response functions are performed. The Incident Command Post may be co-located with other incident facilities.

Incident Command System (ICS): A nationally used standardized on-scene emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its user(s) to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the field level component of SEMS. It is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, with responsibility for the management of resources to effectively accomplish stated objectives pertinent to an incident.

Individual Assistance (IA): The provision of financial recovery assistance for individuals and households, businesses, and/or the agricultural community in the State of California following a disaster from federal, state, local, and voluntary/nonprofit entities.

Isolation: Used to separate ill persons who have a communicable disease from those who are healthy and involves the restriction of movement of ill persons to help stop the spread of certain diseases.

Joint Information Center (JIC): A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media for an incident. Public information officials from all participating agencies should collocate at the JIC.

Local Agencies: Local agencies are any city, city and county, county, county office of education, community college district school district, or special district, as defined in California Government Code § 8680.2.

Local Assistance Center (LAC): A centralized resource center established after a disaster to provide support services and accelerate the recovery time for those who have been affected by the disaster. This typically includes supportive services from non-profit organizations, local government, and state agencies. LACs are sometimes collocated with a federal Disaster Recovery Center (DRC).

Local Emergency Proclamation: The duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county, city and county, or city, caused by conditions stemming from an emergency or disaster event that are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to effectively preserve life, prevent undue suffering, protect property, and maintain continuity of government.

Master Mutual Aid Agreement: The California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement made and entered into by and among the State of California, its various departments

and agencies, and the various political subdivisions of the State (cities, counties, special districts, etc.). The agreement provides for support of one jurisdiction by another.

Memorandum of Agreement (MoA): A document written between parties to cooperate on an agreed upon project or meet an agreed objective. The purpose of a MoA is to have a written understanding of the agreement between parties, preferably prior to the onset of an emergency or disaster.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): Describes a bilateral or multilateral agreement between two or more parties. It expresses a convergence of will between the parties, indicating an intended common line of action.

Multi-Agency or Inter-Agency Coordination: The participation of agencies and disciplines involved at any level of the SEMS organization, working together in a coordinated effort to facilitate decisions for overall emergency response activities, including the sharing of critical resources and the prioritization of incidents.

Mutual Aid: Voluntary aid and assistance in the event that a disaster should occur, by the interchange of services and facilities, including, but not limited to: fire, police, medical and health, communication, and transportation services and facilities, to cope with the problems of rescue, relief, evacuation, rehabilitation, and reconstruction that would arise in the event of a disaster. Mutual aid is designed to ensure that adequate resources, facilities, and other support are provided to jurisdictions whenever their own resources prove to be inadequate to cope with a given situation. Typically, the first 12 hours of rendered mutual aid support are provided at the responding agency's cost.

Mutual Aid Region: A subdivision of the state emergency services organization, established to facilitate the coordination of mutual aid and other emergency operations within an area of the state, consisting of two or more county Operational Areas. California has six mutual aid regions, and Santa Barbara County is located in Mutual Aid Region 1. Mutual Aid Region 1 consists of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, and Orange counties.

National Incident Management System (NIMS): A system mandated by Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5) that provides a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local, and tribal governments; the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among federal, state, local, and tribal capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-5 identifies these as the ICS; Multi-agency Coordination Systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems

for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.

National Response Framework (NRF): A plan mandated by HSPD-5 that integrates federal domestic prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery plans into one all-discipline, all-hazards plan.

National Weather Service (NWS): Official U.S. weather, marine, fire and aviation forecasts, warnings, meteorological products, climate forecasts and information about meteorology.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC): The NRC regulates commercial nuclear power plants and other uses of nuclear materials, such as in nuclear medicine, through licensing, inspection and enforcement of its requirements.

Operational Area (OA): An intermediate level of the state emergency services organization, consisting of a county and all political subdivisions within the county area. The Operational Area is a special purpose organization created to prepare for and coordinate the response to emergencies within a county area. Each county is designated as an Operational Area. An Operational Area is used by the county and the political subdivisions of the Operational Area for the coordination of emergency activities and to serve as a communication and coordination link between the state's emergency operating centers and the operating centers of the political subdivisions of the operational area. The Operational Area augments, but does not replace, any member jurisdiction.

Operational Area Satellite Information System (OASIS): A State of California owned satellite system established to provide Emergency Management voice and data communications independent of commercial networks.

Operational Period: The time scheduled for executing a given set of operational actions and objectives, as specified in the Incident Action Plan (IAP) or EOC Emergency Action Plan (EAP). Operational Periods can be of various lengths, but are typically 12 to 24 hours.

Pandemic: When an epidemic spreads throughout the world.

Political Subdivision: Any city, city and county, county, district, or other local governmental agency or public agency authorized by law.

Presidential Declaration: See "Federal Declaration of Emergency or Major Disaster."

Public Assistance (PA): PA provides financial assistance to state agencies, local governments, special districts, and eligible private non-profit organizations impacted by a disaster.

Quarantine: Used to separate and restrict the movement of well persons who may have been exposed to a communicable disease to see if they become ill. These people may have been exposed to a disease and do not know it, or they may have the disease but do not show symptoms. Quarantine measures can also help limit the spread of communicable disease.

Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act): The Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207) authorizes the President to provide financial and other assistance to state and local governments, certain private nonprofit organizations, and individuals to support response, recovery, and mitigation following Presidential emergency or major disaster declarations.

Soft Target: Locations that are easily accessible to large numbers of people and have limited to no security measures in place, such as sports venues, shopping areas, schools, and transportation systems, that are significantly more vulnerable to violent activities.

Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS): A consistent set of rules and procedures governing the overall operational control or coordination of emergency operations specified in regulations (Title 19 CCR, Division 2, Chapter 1, § 2400 et seq). It identifies at each level of the statewide emergency organization, the direction of field forces and the coordination of joint efforts of government and private agencies. ICS is the field level component of SEMS.

State of Emergency: Pursuant to California Government Code Section 8625, the Governor may proclaim a State of Emergency in an area affected by a natural or intentional disaster, when he is requested to do so by the governing body of the local agency affected, or he finds the local authority is inadequate to cope with the emergency. A local jurisdiction should request the Governor to proclaim a State of Emergency when the governing body of a city, county, or city and county determine emergency conditions are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single county, city, or city and county, and emergency conditions require the combined forces of a mutual aid region(s) to combat.

State of War Emergency: The condition which exists immediately, with or without a proclamation thereof by the Governor, whenever the state or nation is directly attacked by an enemy of the United States, or upon the receipt by the state of a warning from the federal government that such an enemy attack is probable or imminent.

Unified Command (UC): An ICS concept used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross-political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the UC, often the senior person from agencies and/or disciplines participating in the UC, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single IAP.

APPENDIX B: AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

The following guidance provides emergency authorities for conducting and/or supporting emergency operations. Links on this reference page will be updated as identified and will not be noticed or redistributed as a full update of this Plan.

LOCAL

- Santa Barbara County Code, including:
 - [Chapter 12: Emergency Management](#)
- The [California Master Mutual Aid Agreement](#) adopted December 4, 1950
- Resolution No. 95-429, September 19, 1995, adopting the SEMS Multi-Hazard Functional Plan
- Inter-Region Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Medical and Health Disaster Assistance adopted October 14, 1997, by County Board of Supervisors
- [Santa Barbara County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan](#) adopted on April 4, 2023 by the County Board of Supervisors
- [Santa Barbara Seismic Safety and Safety Element of the General Plan](#) adopted August 10, 2010 by the County Board of Supervisors
- [Santa Barbara County Operational Area Oil Spill Contingency Plan](#), approved by the County Board of Supervisors on April 9, 2019
- [Santa Barbara County and Operational Area Disaster Care and Shelter Plan](#), adopted October 18, 2022 by the County Board of Supervisors
 - Santa Barbara County and Operational Area Disaster Care and Shelter Plan Operations Toolkit
- Local Mutual Aid Agreements (Links are provided when available in Section 7: Mutual Aid of this Plan.)

STATE

- [Constitution of California](#)
- [California Government Code](#)
- [California Code of Regulations](#)
- [SEMS Regulations](#) (*Chapter 1, Division 2, Title 19 of the California Code of Regulations commencing with § 2400) and (Government Code § 8607(a). SEMS Guidelines).*
- [California Emergency Services Act](#) (*Chapter 7, Division 1, Title 2 of the Government Code, commencing with § 8550).*
- [California Master Mutual Aid Agreement](#)
- [California Assembly Bill 477-Cervantes](#) (2019, Emergency Preparedness: Vulnerable Populations)
- [California Assembly Bill 747-Levine](#) (2019; Planning and Zoning: General Plan, Safety Element)
- [California Assembly Bill 2311-Brown](#) (2016; Emergency Services: Access and Functional Needs in Emergencies)

- [California Senate Bill 99-Nielson](#) (2019; General Plans: Safety Element: Emergency Evacuation Routes)
- [California Senate Bill 160-Jackson](#) (2019; Emergency Services: Cultural Competence)
- [California Senate Bill 379-Jackson](#) (2015; Land Use: General Plan: Safety Element)
- [California Senate Bill 1035-Jackson](#) (2018; General Plans)
- [“Good Samaritan” Liability](#) (*Health and Safety Code §§ 8659, 13970 and 50086*).
- [California Emergency Plan](#) (*Government Code § 8568*)
- [California Disaster Assistance Act](#) (*Chapter 7.5, Division 1, Title 2 of the Government Code, commencing with § 8680*)
- [California Animal Response Emergency System](#)
- [California Health and Safety Code, \(Division 20, Chapter 6.5, §§ 25115 \(defines “Extremely Hazardous Waste”\) and 25117 \(defines “Hazardous Waste”\), Chapter 6.95, §§ 25500 et seq. \(Business and Area Plans relating to the handling and release or threatened release of hazardous material\), \(§ 114705 et seq., dealing with Control of Radioactive Contamination of the Environment\)](#)
- [Orders and Regulations, which may be Selectively Promulgated by the Governor during a State of Emergency.](#)
- [Orders and Regulations Promulgated by the Governor to Take Effect upon the existence of a State of War Emergency.](#)
- Other Statewide Mutual Aid Systems, including:
 - [Emergency Management Mutual Aid](#) (EMMA)
 - [California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network](#) (CalWARN)
 - [Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement](#) (PWMAA)

FEDERAL

- [Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans: Comprehensive Preparedness Guide](#) (CPG) 101, Version 2.0, September 2021
- [Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988](#) (*Public Law 100-707, as amended*)
- [Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990](#) (*Public Law 101-336, as amended*)
- [Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006](#) (*Public Law 109-295, as amended*)
- [Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013](#) (*Public Law 113-2, as amended*)
- [Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5](#)
- [Homeland Security Presidential Directive-8](#)
- [Homeland Security Presidential Directive-9](#)
- [Federal Disaster Relief Act of 1974](#) (*Public Law 93-288*)
- [Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950](#) (*Public Law 920, as amended*)
- [Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006](#) (*Public Law 109-308, as amended*)
- [Public Law 84-99](#) (*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Flood Fighting*)

- [NRT-1, Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Guide and NRT-1A Plan Review Guide](#) (*Environmental Protection Agency's National Response Team*)
- [National Incident Management System](#) (Third Edition), October 2017
- [National Response Framework](#) (Fourth Edition), 28 October 2019
- [National Preparedness Goal](#) (Second Edition), September 2015
- [Defense Support for Civil Authorities](#) (Joint Publication 3-28), 29 October 2018

APPENDIX C: RECORD OF CHANGES

RECORD OF CHANGES

The *Emergency Operations Plan* (EOP) is reviewed and updated (revised) as described in [Section 9.1](#) of the EOP's Basic Plan. Maintenance, revision, distribution, and modification of the Santa Barbara County and OA EOP is the responsibility of the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM).

Non-substantive updates or modifications made outside of normal review and revision frequencies may be made by Santa Barbara County OEM without initiating a new review and approval process. The prudence of such changes is up to the discretion of the Santa Barbara County OEM Director or designee. If such modifications are made, digital copies of the updated version of this EOP will be sent to agencies listed on the distribution list in [Appendix D](#) to this Plan. [Appendix C: Record of Changes](#) of this Plan will reflect such changes.

Changes, updates, or other modifications to this plan made during or outside of planned review and revision frequencies will be tracked in the following table.

TABLE C.1: RECORD OF CHANGES			
DATE	AGENCY	PAGE	MODIFICATION DESCRIPTION

APPENDIX D: RECORD OF DISTRIBUTION

RECORD OF DISTRIBUTION

The Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) will publish the *County and Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan* (EOP) online upon County Board of Supervisor adoption of the Plan. This virtual publishing will allow all members of the public and agencies within and outside of the Santa Barbara County Operational Area to access the Plan. OEM will also disseminate final draft copies of the new County and OA EOP virtually via email to all County Departments and Operational Area partner agencies, which are listed below in **Table D.1: Record of Distribution**.

TABLE D.1: RECORD OF DISTRIBUTION			
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA DEPARTMENTS AND DIVISIONS			
County Board of Supervisors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District 1 • District 2 • District 3 • District 4 • District 5 	County Agricultural Commissioner's Office/Weights and Measures	County Auditor-Controller	County Clerk-Recorder- Assessor's Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessor • Clerk-Recorder • Elections
County Community Services Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks Division • Housing and Community Development Division • Office of Arts and Culture • Sustainability Division 	County Executive Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive and Administrative Team • Risk Management • Public Information Officer • Budget and Research • Cannabis Regulation and Licensing • Clerk of the Board • Compliance and Accountability 	County General Services Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Projects • Energy • Facility Management • Purchasing • Real Property • Vehicle Operations 	County Department of Social Services
County District Attorney's Office	County Counsel	County Fire Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of Emergency Management 	County First 5 Commission

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY AND OPERATIONAL AREA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

TABLE D.1: RECORD OF DISTRIBUTION			
County Department of Child Support Services	County Information Technology Department	County Human Resources Department	County Planning and Development Department
County Probation Department	County Public Defender’s Office	County Health Department <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Animal Services• Emergency Medical Services Agency• Emergency Preparedness Program• Environmental Health Services• Health Officer	County Public Works Department <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flood Control• Transportation• Water Resources
County Sheriff/Coroner	County Superior Court	County Department of Behavioral Wellness	County Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Administrator
CITIES/TRIBAL			
Buellton	Carpinteria	Goleta	Guadalupe
Lompoc	Santa Barbara	Santa Maria	Solvang
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians			
FEDERAL PARTNERS			
Bureau of Prisons (Lompoc)	Bureau of Reclamation	National Weather Service-Los Angeles/Oxnard Office	United States Forest Service
United States Coast Guard	Vandenberg Space Force Base		
STATE PARTNERS			
California Department of Transportation (Region V)	California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services	California Highway Patrol	State Parks
University of California, Santa Barbara	Santa Maria Fairpark	California Department of Social Services	Earl Warren Showgrounds
OPERATIONAL AREA PARTNERS			
Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District	Allan Hancock College	American Red Cross	Cachuma Operations and Maintenance Board

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY AND OPERATIONAL AREA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

TABLE D.1: RECORD OF DISTRIBUTION			
Carpinteria Sanitary District	Carpinteria/Summerland Fire Protection District	CommUnify/2-1-1	Direct Relief
American Red Cross	Team Rubicon	The Salvation Army	Good Samaritan
Amateur Radio Emergency Service	Mixteco Indigena Community Organizing Project (MICOP)	Habitat for Humanity of Southern Santa Barbara County	Santa Barbara Equine Assistance and Evacuation
805UndocUfund	Amtrak	Easy Lift	SMOOTH, Inc.
Union Pacific Railroad	Southern California Gas	VOAD	Tri-Counties Regional Center
Foodbank of Santa Barbara County	Goleta Sanitary District	Goleta Water District	Access Central Coast
Antioch University Santa Barbara	Pacifica Graduate Institute	Fielding Graduate University	Northern Santa Barbara County United Way
La Cumbre Mutual Water Company	Mission Hills Community Services District	Loa Alamos Community Service District	Carpinteria Valley Water District
Los Olivos Community Services District	Goleta West Sanitary District	Vandenberg Village Community Services District	Santa Ynez Community Services District
Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1	Beacon West Energy Group	Frontier Communications
Montecito Fire Protection District	Montecito Sanitary District	Montecito Water District	Pacific Gas and Electric
Santa Maria Cemetery District	Isla Vista Recreation and Parks District	Isla Vista Community Services District	Mosquito and Vector Management District of Santa Barbara County
Cox Communications	Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District	Casmalia Community Services District	San Antonio Basin Water District
Santa Barbara City College	Santa Barbara County Association of Governments	Santa Barbara County Education Office	Southern California Edison
Westmont College			

APPENDIX E: RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION

[PLACEHOLDER FOR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PLAN]

APPENDIX F: HAZARD DESCRIPTIONS

Knowledge of the types of hazards, whether manmade, natural, or technological, that specifically threaten Santa Barbara County is vital for the prudent maintenance of the County's emergency management program. The following summaries provide baseline data for the hazards potentially impacting the SBC OA.

The hazards described in [Appendix F](#) are in alignment with the information provided in the Santa Barbara County 2023 *Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan* (MJHMP). The specific hazards discussed in **Appendix F** are:

- [Coastal Hazards](#)
- [Drought and Water Shortage](#)
- [Earthquake and Liquefaction](#)
- [Flood](#)
- [Mudflow/Debris Flow and Landslide](#)
- [Geologic Hazards \(Subsidence, Erosion, and Expansive Soils\)](#)
- [Tsunami](#)
- [Wildfire](#)
- [Severe Weather and Storm Events \(Extreme Heat/Freeze, Hailstorm, Hurricane, Tornado, Windstorm\)](#)
- [Dam and Levee Failure](#)
- [Hazardous Materials Incidents \(Well Stimulation & Hydraulic Fracturing, Hazardous Materials Release, Natural Gas Pipeline Rupture & Storage Facility Incident, Oil Spill\)](#)
- [Agricultural Hazards \(Agricultural Pests/Invasive Species\)](#)
- [Transportation Emergencies \(Aircraft Crash, Train Accident\)](#)
- [Energy Shortage & Resiliency](#)
- [Radiological Accident](#)
- [Civil Disturbance](#)
- [Cyber Threat](#)
- [Terrorism](#)
- [Pandemic \(Infectious Disease Emergency\)/Public Health Emergency](#)

Reference the 2023 MJHMP for more in-depth information and analysis of these hazards, as well as a capabilities assessment and details regarding mitigation strategies. The MJHMP can be found at <https://www.readysbc.org/510/2022-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan-Update>.

COASTAL HAZARDS

Description: Coastal hazards result from coastal processes, such as rising and falling water levels, breaking waves, and shifting sands that can alter the coastline, as well as those hazards projected to increase substantially with sea level rise including coastal erosion and coastal flooding.

Severity Potential: All coastal hazards in the county can be exacerbated by El Niño events. While an El Niño event can occur every 2 – 5 years, a strong El Niño event typically occurs every 6 - 10 years. El Niño events vary in severity, but can substantially increase storm frequency and severity, with much, but not all, of past coastal damage and current coastal hazards related to these events. Coastal storms produce large ocean waves that sweep across low-lying coastlines making landfall. Storm surges can inundate coastal areas, destroy dunes, and cause flooding. If a storm surge occurs at the same time as high tide, the water height will be even greater. Historically, the county has also been vulnerable to storm surge inundation associated with El Niño events and a related increase in storm severity both onshore and offshore.

Affected Population Estimates: Approximately 2,030 residents may be at risk of damage under the projected 2030 sea level rise. Under projected 2060 sea level rise conditions, a population of 3,044 may also be at risk of coastal hazards from sea level rise. Damage could be particularly severe at the Santa Barbara Airport, the City of Santa Barbara’s waterfront, and within the Beach Neighborhood of Carpinteria. Key coastal campgrounds at Jalama Beach County Park and Gaviota, Refugio, El Capitan, and Carpinteria State Beaches may also all be vulnerable to increased damage, as well as natural and recreational resources at Surf Beach and Ocean Beach in the Lompoc Valley and Guadalupe Dunes County Park in the Santa Maria Valley.

Frequency: Coastal flooding from tidal inundation and wave attack and associated erosion of coastal bluffs and beaches occurs during many winters but is most pronounced during past major El Niño events, which have return intervals of 2 to 10 years depending on severity. Coastal hazards increase during periods of major storms that can coincide with high tides, causing coastal flooding, coastal bluff erosion, and landslides such as those that were experienced during the 1983, 1998, and 2015/2016 El Niño storms.

Geographical Considerations: Coastal hazards on the county’s coastline are concentrated along the South Coast due to extensive existing shoreline development, whereas in the north county, cities and urban development are located away from the coast and related hazards. Under current sea levels, shoreline areas of the South Coast communities of Santa Barbara County are vulnerable to bluff and beach erosion, wave impacts, and flooding of low-lying areas. Beaches buffer the shoreline from erosion, wave attack, and flooding, with beach widths governed primarily by sediment input from coastal streams and storm wave erosion, with beach width varying significantly over time based on these factors. However, outside of areas with historic wetland and dune complexes at Ellwood/Devereux in Goleta, the Santa Barbara Waterfront, and Carpinteria Beach, South Coast beaches generally consist of a thin layer of sand overlying rocky marine terrace.

DROUGHT AND WATER SHORTAGE

Description: A drought occurs when climactic and weather conditions are drier than normal for a long period, making less water available for people, agricultural uses, and ecosystems. Drought

and water shortages are a gradual phenomenon and generally are not signified by one or two dry years.

Severity Potential: Santa Barbara County was most recently in in a state-declared drought starting on July 8, 2021 when Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a drought emergency, which included 50 of the 58 counties in California. On July 13, 2021, the County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution proclaiming a Local Emergency caused by Drought Conditions. The County resolution cited Newsom's drought declaration, as well as below-average rainfall, received last winter, reduced storage in reservoirs, and reduced State Water Project supply. The County allowed the local emergency proclamation to expire in the Spring of 2023.

Droughts are regional in nature, although a large community such as Santa Barbara County with a wide variety of climates may experience significantly different drought conditions in different locations. No one part of the county is substantially more or less at risk of drought conditions, although some areas may be more impacted by droughts than others. US Drought Monitor Classifications range from D0 (Abnormally Dry) through D4 (Exceptional Drought).

Affected Population Estimates: Currently, an estimated 423,895 people reside in drought areas in Santa Barbara County.

Frequency: In any given year, Santa Barbara County can be subject to drought conditions and water shortages. However, out of the last 10 years, the county has been under a locally declared drought emergency for five years and in 2021 met Classification D3 – Extreme Drought conditions; therefore, it is likely drought and associated water shortages will continue and may increase due to climate change considerations.

Geographical Considerations: Droughts are usually a region-wide hazard, and at times may extend statewide or cover multiple states. However, the specific impacts of a drought can depend on a number of local conditions, including water supply systems, soil types, and land uses. As a result, two communities under similar drought conditions may experience different impacts. Communities such as the City of Santa Barbara with a diverse water portfolio may be more resilient than other areas with more limited water supply options, although communities such as Santa Maria that overlie large but over-drafted groundwater basins may have the option of increased pumping during droughts. Natural habitats and agriculture tend to suffer equally by region during droughts, although cooler temperatures along the coast can somewhat buffer the worst impacts of drought.

EARTHQUAKE AND LIQUEFACTION

Description:

- **Earthquake:** An earthquake is a sudden, rapid shaking of the ground caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the earth's surface or along fault lines.

- **Liquefaction:** Liquefaction occurs when ground shaking causes the mechanical properties of some fine-grained, saturated soils to liquefy and act as a fluid. It is the result of a sudden loss of soil strength due to a rapid increase in soil pore water pressures caused by ground shaking.

Severity Potential:

- **Earthquake:** Like large sections of California, the county sits in a seismically active area and may be exposed to ground shaking from numerous earthquake events. While many small faults in the area or large faults a greater distance away may produce minor ground shaking, a more limited number of faults could create more substantial ground shaking in the community.
- **Liquefaction:** Most of the low coastal plain and valley bottoms are underlain by alluvium and are at moderate risk for liquefaction potential as identified by the Santa Barbara County Comprehensive Plan Seismic Safety and Safety Element. Alluvial areas where the water depth was uncertain in the county were given a moderate-high to low rating, areas underlain with bedrock were given a low rating with no variation, and areas with geologically recent granular materials were rated low with a possible variation to moderate or high.

Affected Population Estimates:

- **Earthquake:** All residents and structures in Santa Barbara County are susceptible to earthquake hazards, including direct damage to buildings and infrastructure from ground shaking and liquefaction and indirect hazards caused by utility outages and structural fires.
- **Liquefaction:** The Santa Barbara County planning area has 67,404 residents in the High Liquefaction Hazard area, 139,511 residents within the Moderate Liquefaction Hazard area, and 100,988 residents in the low liquefaction hazard area.

Frequency:

- **Earthquake:** Santa Barbara County is located in a high seismic activity zone and as such has a long history of earthquakes. Although most seismic activity in California occurs within the San Andreas Fault system, most historic seismic events in the region have been centered offshore on an east-west trending fault between the county and the Channel Islands. Several smaller earthquakes have taken place in the past years, including two magnitude 2.0 earthquakes in March 2021 in the Santa Ynez Valley and a magnitude 2.3 earthquake in April 2021 near the City of Lompoc. These approximate magnitude 2.0 earthquakes are fairly common in the county.
- **Liquefaction:** There is no historical evidence of liquefaction in Santa Barbara County.

Geographical Considerations:

- **Earthquake:** Santa Barbara County is located in a high seismic activity zone in the Transverse Range geologic province. The movement of continental plates manifests primarily within the San Andreas Fault system. The San Andreas Fault is situated 7 miles northeast of Santa Barbara County. Active faults in the San Andreas Fault system that fall within Santa Barbara County include the Nacimiento, Ozena, Suey, and Little Pine faults.
- **Liquefaction:** County unincorporated areas that are more susceptible to liquefaction are the low coastal areas with high groundwater in the Toro Canyon-Carpinteria areas south of Highway 101, the Goleta Slough-Santa Barbara Airport area, and alluvial valleys along the Santa Ynez River near Solvang, Buellton and Lompoc, and the Santa Maria River near Santa Maria and Guadalupe.

FLOOD

Description: Flooding is a breakdown in surface water conveyance. Flooding happens when water surpasses the capacity of local water bodies to contain it, creeks and rivers to carry it, or soil to absorb it. When flood control infrastructure fails, water builds up and washes into normally dry areas, where it can cause significant harm to buildings, people, infrastructure, and ecosystems. Floods can be caused by heavy rainfall, long periods of moderate rainfall, or blocked-off drainage areas during rainfall.

Severity Potential: Flood severity is generally described in years, such as a 100-year event, which equates to a 1 percent chance of occurring in any given year. Similarly, a 500-year flood event is one where the risk of such an event is 0.2 percent in any given year.

Affected Population Estimates: Approximately 33,212 people are living in the flood hazard zones of Santa Barbara County. There are 9,190 residents are living in the 100-year (1 percent annual chance) riverine floodplain, 23,681 residents in the 500-year (2 percent annual chance) riverine floodplain, and 340 people in the coastal 100-year floodplain.

Frequency: Between 1907 and 2018, Santa Barbara County experienced 20 significant inland flood events. Eight of these floods received Presidential Disaster Declarations (i.e., 1971, 1978, 1980, 1982-1983, 1992-1993, 1995, 1998, 2020).

Geographical Considerations: The climate and topography of Santa Barbara County make some communities and regions along creeks and rivers prone to flooding. There are two main river systems in the county – the 24.4-milelong Santa Maria and the 92-mile-long Santa Ynez – which pose flood hazards with floodplains extending outside of established channels by as little as dozens of feet to as much as 0.5 miles or more along portions of the Santa Ynez River. The communities of Carpinteria, Toro Canyon, Summerland, Montecito, Santa Barbara, and Goleta are all traversed by the floodplains of more than a dozen creeks that drain the Santa Ynez Mountains, with the degree of flood hazard varying substantially by community and creek.

MUDFLOW/DEBRIS FLOW AND LANDSLIDE

Description:

- **Mudflow/Debris Flow:** Mudflows are flows or rivers of liquid mud down a hillside on the surface of normally dry land. They occur when water saturates the ground, usually following long and heavy rainfalls or rapid snowmelt. Mud forms and flows down the slope if there is no ground cover such as brush or trees to hold the soil in place. To be considered a mudflow, more than half of the particles must be sand sized or smaller that can flow very rapidly. A mud flow is the sandy, more water-saturated analog of a debris flow. A debris flow is a soil flow where the majority of the materials are coarse-grained (fine sand to boulder size particles) and non-cohesive. Debris flow occurs when water begins to wash material from a slope or when water sheets off of a newly burned stretch of land.
- **Landslide:** Landslides occur when slopes become destabilized, typically after heavy rains. If precipitation saturates soils, they can become unstable, or landslides can occur when significant erosion from rainfall destabilizes the ground. Slopes that have recently burned face a greater risk from rain-induced landslides, as the loss of vegetation can de-stabilize the earth. Earthquakes may also be a source of landslides as the shaking can destabilize steep hillsides covered in loose soils and weak rock layers.

Severity Potential:

- **Mudflow/Debris Flow:** Under extreme circumstances the mudflow/debris flow hazard poses a significant risk to life safety, communities and the environment. Additionally, these types of incidents pose significant risk to critical infrastructure. Transportation infrastructure is also vulnerable to debris flow hazards, where bridges, culverts, and roadways may be washed out or blocked by debris and mud. Highway 101 and SR 192 extend east to west and pass-through areas that are susceptible to debris flow due to intersections with multiple drainages from the Santa Ynez Mountains.
- **Landslide:** The types of materials that compose a slope and the steepness of the slope help determine the overall risk that a landslide may occur. Soil stability and time also contribute to the risk of rockfall, which is prevalent along roadways and trails where a path or highway has been cut into a hillside, exaggerating the angle of repose, and increasing the likelihood of rockfalls. The risk of a landslide is often exacerbated in areas recently burned by wildfire, as the fire burns vegetation that can absorb water and hold the soil. Without the vegetation to stabilize a slope and prevent runoff, sediment and debris are more susceptible to sliding.

Affected Population Estimates:

- **Mudflow/Debris Flow:** Hillsides and communities at the base of steep mountain slopes or within flood plains are especially at risk of debris flows and mudflows following wildfires. High-intensity wildfires can strip areas of vegetation and make soils

hydrophobic, preventing water from percolating into the soil during a high-intensity precipitation event. Chaparral land, typically located on steep mountain slopes, is especially susceptible to debris flow after a fire. Heavy rains could trigger debris flows or mudflows along any hillside or steep slope within the county especially if major wildfires have recently burned along those slopes.

- **Landslide:** Approximately 72,887 people within the county are at risk of landslide hazards.

Frequency:

- **Mudflow/Debris Flow:** Based on historical data and given the likelihood of wildfires and intense rainfall events, as well as steep slopes in the county, mudflow and debris flow hazards are likely to continue on an annual basis, with damaging mudflow and debris flow occurring less frequently. Mudflows and debris flows are usually a cascading effect of severe weather. The probability of more severe and damaging mudflows and debris flows increases during El Niño years or severe winter storms when the ground has become saturated and is subject to continued significant rainfall. The potential for debris flows dramatically increases following a wildfire when heavy rain mobilizes ash, soil, rocks, and vegetation on denuded slopes.
- **Landslide:** Santa Barbara County is prone to landslides. A 2021 study by the USGS finds that Southern California is likely to see increased post-wildfire landslides caused by climate change-induced shifts in the state's wet and dry seasons. Wildfires make the landscape more susceptible to landslides when rainstorms pass through as the water liquefies unstable, dry soil and burned vegetation. Wildfire frequency, higher temperatures, and increased droughts projected to occur under climate change can reduce soil absorption capacity and kill vegetation that holds soil in place, making it unable to absorb as much water, further destabilizing slopes. The results also suggest more intense rainfall events could make landslides much more frequent. Slope failure is expected to become more frequent as more precipitation falls during fewer storm events. Also, the increased heavy precipitation events may cause instability in areas where landslides were not as likely before. Therefore, resulting landslides may be larger or more widespread.

Geographical Considerations:

- **Mudflow/Debris Flow:** Chaparral land, typically located on steep mountain slopes, is especially susceptible to debris flow after a fire. Heavy rains could trigger debris flows or mudflows along any hillside or steep slope within the county, particularly along the foothills of the South Coast, but also in areas of the Santa Ynez Valley at the base of mountain slopes and within the Solomon Hills south of Orcutt. Communities and neighborhoods located within past debris-flow deposits at the base of the Santa Ynez mountains, which most recently occurred along the South Coast from Montecito to Carpinteria, are especially vulnerable.

- **Landslide:** Landslides are most common on steep slopes made of loose soil and other material such as those found in North County and the South Coast, but they can also happen on shallower slopes. Cuyama Valley is also susceptible to landslides.

GEOLOGIC HAZARDS (SUBSIDENCE, EROSION, AND EXPANSIVE SOILS)

Description:

- **Land Subsidence:** Land subsidence is the lowering of the land-surface elevation from changes that take place underground. Common causes of land subsidence from human activity are pumping water, oil, and gas from underground reservoirs; dissolution of limestone aquifers (i.e., sinkholes); the collapse of underground mines; drainage of organic soils; and initial wetting of dry soils (i.e., hydrocompaction).
- **Erosion:** Erosion is a geological process in which earthen materials (i.e., soil, rocks, sediments) are worn away and transported over time by natural forces (e.g., water, wind, ice), although sometimes this is sped up by poor management or other human impacts on land (e.g., farming, land clearing).
- **Expansive Soils:** Expansive soils are soils that can undergo a significant increase in volume with an increase in water content and a significant decrease in volume with a decrease in water content. Changes in the water content of an expansive soil can result in severe distress to structures constructed upon the soil.

Severity Potential:

- **Land Subsidence:** Land subsidence causes serious, localized problems including:
 - Changes in elevation and slope of streams, canals, and drains;
 - Damage to bridges, roads, railroads, underground utilities (e.g., storm drains, sanitary sewers, pipelines, etc.), streams, canals, and levees;
 - Damage to private and public buildings; and
 - Failure of well casings from forces generated by compaction of fine-grained materials in aquifer systems.
 - In some coastal areas, subsidence has resulted in tides moving into low-lying areas that were previously above high-tide levels, increasing the effects of coastal hazards, such as coastal storm surges.
- **Erosion:** Severe soil erosion can result in the loss of food crops, negatively impact community resiliency and livelihoods, and even alter ecosystems by reducing biodiversity above, within, and below the topsoil. Approximately 60 percent of soil that is washed away ends up in rivers, streams, and lakes, along with whatever has been applied to that soil, including agrochemicals and other pollutants that can contribute to harmful algal blooms and polluted waterways. Dirt that enters water bodies can also clog their natural flow and increase flooding along the waterways.
- **Expansive Soils:** Repeated shrinking and swelling of the soil can lead to stress and damage to structures, foundations, fill slopes, retaining walls, and other associated facilities.

Affected Population Estimates:

- **Land Subsidence:** While land subsidence often results in severe property damage, it typically does not present risks to human life.
- **Erosion:** While erosion often results in severe property damage, it typically does not present risks to human life.
- **Expansive Soils:** While expansive soils often result in severe property damage, it typically does not present risks to human life.

Frequency: There is no history of acute, specific events associated with any of these hazards in the county.

Geographical Considerations:

- **Land Subsidence:** The areas with the greatest risk of land subsidence are Santa Ynez River Valley, San Antonio Creek Valley, Santa Maria Valley, and Cuyama Valley.
- **Erosion:** Erosion can vary greatly in short distances, and thus, erosion has not been mapped or rated at the county level; however, there are a few areas that are particularly susceptible to erosion given their basic granular characteristics. These include sea cliffs, recent and old dunes, the Fanglomerate, Terrace and Older Alluvium deposits, and the Casitas, Santa Barbara, Pico, Paso Robles, Careaga, and Orcutt Formations.
- **Expansive Soils:** The most hazardous areas occur in a belt along the south coastal foothills, where geological formations are either highly expansive themselves or generate highly expansive topsoil. Expansive and shrinkable soils are found in the Rincon and Monterey Formations. Rincon mudstone is exposed on the south face and locally on the north flank of the Santa Ynez Mountains from near Point Conception eastward to the Santa Barbara County line at Rincon Creek. Rincon Creek has smooth, rounded slopes covered in grass, but the rock in this area breaks down into an unstable, heavy, clay soil that expands when wet and develops deep cracks when dry.

TSUNAMI

Description: A tsunami is a series of extremely long waves caused by a large and sudden displacement of the ocean, usually the result of an earthquake below or near the ocean floor. This force creates waves that radiate outward in all directions away from their source, sometimes crossing entire ocean basins.

Severity Potential: Large tsunamis are significant threats to human health, property, infrastructure, resources, and economies. Rushing water from waves, floods, and rivers is incredibly powerful. Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock adults off their feet, and twelve inches can carry away a small car. Tsunamis can be particularly destructive because of their speed and volume. They are also dangerous as they return to the sea, carrying debris and people with them. Low-lying areas could experience severe inland inundation of water and

deposition of debris. Effects can be long-lasting and felt far beyond the coastline. Tsunamis typically cause the most severe damage and casualties near their source, where there is little time for warning. But large tsunamis can also reach distant shorelines, causing widespread damage.

Affected Population Estimates: Approximately 5,139 people within Santa Barbara County are in the tsunami hazard area.

Frequency: The relative threat of local tsunamis in the county can be considered low due to low recurrence frequencies. Most of the tsunamis observed in California have been small, causing a slight rise in water levels in coastal areas and little damage. Large, locally generated tsunamis are estimated to occur once every 100 years. Thirteen possible tsunamis have been observed or recorded in the county from local earthquakes between 1812 and 1988; however, there have been no recorded locally generated tsunamis since 1988.

Geographical Considerations: Much of the county's coastline is considered within tsunami hazard areas, including coastal bluffs and beaches in Carpinteria, Montecito, Santa Barbara, Isla Vista, Goleta Point, Devereux Slough, Ocean Beach Park west of Lompoc, and Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Preserve. However, the areas where the tsunami hazard threatens critical facilities and infrastructure is limited to the South Coast planning region of the county.

WILDFIRE

Description: A wildfire is an unplanned fire that is fueled by natural areas or wildlands, such as the Los Padres National Forest, larger state parks, such as Gaviota State Park, or undeveloped ranchland, particularly in the Santa Ynez Mountains or San Rafael Mountains.

Severity Potential: Wildfire risk is the result of multiple factors, including the amount and type of vegetation in an area, the local topography, the health of the vegetation (due to extended drought conditions, or pestilence), and weather and climatic conditions such as temperature, humidity, and wind. Wildfires may be started by weather (lightning), accidents (sparks from machinery, for example), or deliberately.

Fire-prone areas in California are divided into three categories: Federal Responsibility Areas (FRAs); State Responsibility Areas (SRAs); and Local Responsibility Areas (LRAs). FRAs are lands where federal agencies are responsible for preventing and fighting fires and include lands protected by the US Forest Service, the US Department of Agriculture, and the Department of the Interior (including the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs). SRAs are areas where the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) is responsible for fire prevention and firefighting, while local agencies have responsibilities in the LRAs.

There are three categories of Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZs): Very High, High, and Moderate. These categories do not necessarily correspond to a specific numeric risk of fire frequency or severity, but instead are a combination of numerous factors. Land not at substantial risk of wildfires is known as unzoned land.

Affected Population Estimates: The California State Forester (CAL FIRE Director) has identified 25 state and federally recognized communities on the Communities at Risk List in Santa Barbara County. The Santa Barbara County Fire Department has identified 16 additional neighborhoods or small communities at risk of wildfire. Many of the communities at risk listed above contain relatively old homes that reflect the building materials and/or codes in effect at the time of construction. As such, large numbers of homes are at increased risk of ignition due to structure vulnerabilities.

Frequency: Santa Barbara County was subject to 42 major wildfires over 88 years, resulting in a 48 percent chance of occurrence in any given year.

Geographical Considerations: The majority of the county falls within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, followed by areas in the High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. There are very few areas within the county that fall into the Urban Unzoned category.

SEVERE WEATHER AND STORM EVENTS (EXTREME HEAT/FREEZE, HAILSTORM, HURRICANE, TORNADO, WINDSTORM)

Description:

- **Extreme Heat/Freeze:** Extreme heat is defined by FEMA as temperatures that hover 10 °F or more above the regional average high temperature or over 100 °F in California and last for at least three days or even as long as several weeks.
- **Freeze conditions** are defined as particularly cold weather spells caused by cold fronts where temperatures are sustained at 32 °F or below for a period of two or three days.
- **Hailstorm:** Hail is a type of precipitation that is formed when water droplets freeze together as they are thrown high into the upper atmosphere, collecting layers of water, attaching and freezing to the droplet by the violent internal forces of thunderstorms.
- **Hurricane:** A hurricane is a massive storm system that forms over warm ocean waters and moves towards land. They are an example of a tropical cyclone and can be up to 600 miles across and have maximum sustained surface wind speeds of 74 mph or more. Each hurricane usually lasts for over a week, moving 10-20 miles per hour over the open ocean. Hurricanes gather heat and energy through contact with warm ocean waters. Hurricanes only form over really warm ocean water of 80°F or warmer.
- **Tornado:** A tornado is defined as a violent, rotating, funnel-shaped column of air extending downward from a cumulonimbus cloud to the ground. Tornadoes can have the same pressure differential that fuels 300-mile-wide hurricanes across a path only 300

yards wide or less and are capable of tremendous destruction with wind speeds of up to 300 mph, making them the most powerful storms that exist. Most tornadoes form from thunderstorms.

- **Windstorm:** Santa Barbara County is known to experience a unique, damaging wind known as a sundowner, which is a kind of offshore wind that occurs in the late afternoon or early evening along the southern slopes of the Santa Ynez mountains from Gaviota to Carpinteria. Sundowners occur when a north-south oriented high-pressure gradient develops directly north of the area and perpendicular to the Santa Ynez Mountains. They bring gusty, low-humidity winds that can reach up to 80 mph, blow over the Santa Ynez Mountain range, and descend towards the Pacific Ocean.
 - Santa Barbara County also experiences Santa Ana winds. Santa Ana winds are most prevalent in the autumn and winter months. These winds originate from cool, dry high-pressure air masses in the Great Basin. They come up, over, and are pulled southward down the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and into the Southern California region.

Severity Potential:

- **Extreme Heat/Freeze:** Extreme heat may overload demands for electricity to run air conditioners in homes and businesses during prolonged periods of exposure and presents health concerns to individuals outside in the temperatures. While extreme heat rarely damages buildings, both extreme heat and freeze can cause infrastructure damage to roads from “thermal expansion.” Extreme cold may also lead to higher electricity and natural gas demands to maintain appropriate indoor heating levels combined with damage caused to the delivery infrastructure such as frozen lines and pipes. Although infrequent in the county, prolonged freezing temperatures can damage or destroy crops, affecting the economy and agricultural jobs in Santa Barbara County.
- **Hailstorm:** Large-scale hailstorm events in Santa Barbara County are rare and short-lived, causing little if any life-threatening situations and only occasional significant damage to property. Hailstorms are infrequent and relatively mild when they occur, both in size and duration, including how long the hailstones remain before melting.
- **Hurricane:** In the unlikelihood of a significant event, hurricanes would have a considerable impact on the population, built environment, lifeline infrastructure, and the economy.
- **Tornado:** General damages are both direct (what the tornado event physically destroys) and indirect, which focuses on additional costs, damages, and losses attributed to secondary hazards spawned by the event, or due to the damages caused by the tornado event. Depending on the magnitude of the event as well as the size of the tornado and its path, a tornado is capable of damaging or destroying almost any structure or infrastructure in the county.

- **Windstorm:** Windstorms, especially sundowner winds, could have a considerable impact on the population, built environment, lifeline infrastructure, and the economy. Severe winds can directly impact the county by damaging or destroying buildings, knocking over trees, and damaging power lines and electrical equipment. Secondary impacts of damage caused by wind events often result from damage to communication, transportation, or medical infrastructure. High winds can lead to PSPS, which can impact the county's economic drivers and key services. During severe wind events, electricity transmission lines can be damaged or turned off by PG&E or SCE, causing widespread power outages and hardships for County residents.

Affected Population Estimates:

- **Extreme Heat/Freeze:** While everyone is vulnerable to extreme temperature incidents, some populations are more vulnerable than others. Traditionally, the very young and very old are considered at higher risk of the effects of extreme temperatures; however, recent research indicates that the impact of extreme heat, particularly on socially vulnerable and disadvantaged populations, has been historically under-represented. Extreme heat poses the greatest danger for Santa Barbara County's thousands of outdoor laborers who support the county's agriculture economy. Urban populations, such as in the cities of Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Santa Maria, are also at higher risk due to the urban heat island effect.
- **Hailstorm:** While everyone is vulnerable to an occurrence of a hailstorm, some populations are more likely to suffer negative impacts of one. Outdoor laborers as well as homeless populations could be severely injured if they are unable to find shelter during a hailstorm.
- **Hurricane:** While everyone is vulnerable to an occurrence of a hurricane, some populations are more likely to suffer negative impacts of one. The homeless population who may be unable to find shelter are extremely vulnerable to the impacts of a hurricane.
- **Tornado:** While everyone is vulnerable to the occurrence of a tornado, some populations are more likely to suffer negative impacts of one. Outdoor laborers as well as homeless populations could be severely injured if they are unable to find shelter during a tornado. Socially vulnerable people are more likely to live in homes that may have structural weaknesses, which could be subject to greater damage during severe weather events.
- **Windstorm:** Vulnerable groups of the community are especially exposed to the indirect impacts of high winds, particularly the loss of electrical power. These populations include the elderly or disabled, especially those with medical needs and treatments dependent on electricity. Nursing homes, community-based residential facilities, and other special needs housing facilities are also vulnerable if electrical outages are prolonged since backup power generally operates only minimal functions for a short period.

Frequency:

- **Extreme Heat/Freeze:** In any given year, Santa Barbara County can be subject to extreme heat or freeze conditions. The hottest months in the County are usually summer from June to September. The coldest months are typically December through February.
- **Hailstorm:** In any given year, Santa Barbara County can be subject to hailstorm conditions; however, as demonstrated by historic weather conditions, hailstorms are unlikely in the county. In the past four decades, only seven significant hailstorms have been recorded.
- **Hurricane:** Based on the NOAA Storm Events Database, between 1950 and 2021 no significant hurricanes have hit the County (NOAA NCEI 2021c). This is because tropical storm winds generally blow from east to west and the waters off the coast of Santa Barbara are cooler.
- **Tornado:** A total of five tornado events have occurred in the County over 71 years of recordkeeping, which equates to one tornado event every 14.2 years, on average, and a 7 percent change of a tornado event occurring in any given year.
- **Windstorm:** Sundowner winds are most prevalent in the spring and summer months; however, they can strike at any time of the year. Santa Ana winds tend to blow most frequently from October to April.

Geographical Considerations:

- **Extreme Heat/Freeze:** The county has different extreme heat temperatures in different regions. Coastal communities on average have lower temperatures compared to communities in the inland areas of the county and could be less at risk of extreme temperatures although potentially less acclimatized to high temperatures if they occur. The north county inland area has the potential for the highest extreme heat days. The coldest average temperatures occur within the Cuyama Valley.
- **Hailstorm:** Hailstorms occur infrequently across the entire County and severe occurrences are very rare.
- **Hurricane:** Although highly unlikely, the entire county is subject to being hit by a hurricane.
- **Tornado:** Although highly unlikely, tornadoes have the potential to happen anywhere in the County.
- **Windstorm:** All of Santa Barbara County is susceptible to Santa Ana winds. Only the south county is susceptible to sundowner winds due to the unique east-west orientation of the Santa Ynez Mountains and the Pacific Coast which generates the required high-pressure gradient necessary for these winds to occur.

DAM AND LEVEE FAILURE

Description:

- **Dam Failure:** Dam failure can occur due to prolonged periods of rainfall and flooding that exceed a dam's design requirements. Dam failures can also result from any one or a combination of the following: old age, poor design, structural damage, improper siting,

improper maintenance, landslides flowing into a reservoir, or terrorist actions. Structural damage is often a result of a flood, erosion, or earthquake.

- Reference Figure 5-25: Santa Barbara County Dam Inundation of the 2023 *Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan* (MJHMP) for a map of the locations of dams within the SBC OA.
- **Levee Failure:** Failure of levees is defined as conditions that breach and/or degrade the levees and can occur due to a levee being undermined due to issues such as construction defects, deterioration of a levee over time (e.g., rodent burrows), higher than anticipated flood flows or blockage in the channel from debris that directs or diverts flood flows toward the levee potentially creating a breach or overtopping.

Severity Potential:

- **Dam Failure:** A dam incident can range from a small, uncontrolled release to a catastrophic failure. Vulnerability to dam failures is confined to the areas and populations subject to inundation downstream of the facility. Secondary losses would include loss of the multi-use functions of the dam itself and associated revenues that accompany those functions. The potential magnitude of a dam failure depends on the time of year and the base flow of the river when the failure occurs. During the winter months, when the river flows are higher, the impact on the area would be much greater and evacuation times even shorter.
- **Levee Failure:** A catastrophic flood control structural failure could easily overwhelm local response capabilities to save lives and require mass evacuations. The breaching or overtopping of a levee can also expose urban and agricultural land to flood flows. Impacts on life safety will depend on the warning time and the resources available to notify and evacuate the public. Loss of life could result, and there could be associated health concerns as well as negative effects on local buildings and infrastructure.

Affected Population Estimates:

- **Dam Failure:** There are approximately 91,349 people within Santa Barbara County that are located within a dam inundation zone.
- **Levee Failure:** If the Santa Maria Valley Levee failed, the City of Santa Maria, including residential areas, business districts, and arable lands may be vulnerable to inundation with large volumes of water. If failure of this levee occurred during or following rain and heavy flow in the Santa Maria River, the incident could result in millions of dollars of property damage and crop damage, as well as safety concerns for people working and living in the area.

Frequency:

- **Dam Failure:** Dam failure events are infrequent and usually coincide with the events that cause them, such as earthquakes, landslides, and excessive rainfall and snowmelt;

therefore, the probability of future occurrence is unlikely. There is a “residual risk” associated with dams; residual risk is the risk that remains after safeguards have been implemented. For dams, the residual risk is associated with events beyond those that the facility was designed to withstand. However, the probability of occurrence of any type of dam failure event is considered to be low in today’s regulatory and dam safety oversight environment.

- **Levee Failure:** Several floods have occurred since the levees were constructed, each with relatively low peak discharges. Because the natural channel averages about 2,000 feet in width, the floods did not fill the channel but meandered and impinged against the existing levees. This impingement undermined the levee toe causing considerable damage and jeopardized adjacent properties, demonstrating that the levee was vulnerable to smaller discharges and as a result would not provide the protection for which it was designed. The recent improvements by the USACE to the Santa Maria River Levee have greatly reduced the probability of impinging flows undermining the levee in critical areas. The remaining portions of the levee that were not improved will still be subject to the possibility of undermining and failure (USACE 2015). However, the probability of catastrophic failure is low considering the current condition and maintenance of the levee.

Geographical Considerations:

- **Dam Failure:** Although there are many dams within the densely populated South Coast planning region (i.e., Alisal Creek, Edwards, Dos Pueblos, Gibraltar, Glen Anne, Juncal, Los Carneros, Rancho Del Ciervo, Lauro, Ortega, Santa Monica Debris Basin, and Carpinteria) closer to larger clusters of critical facilities and residents, these dams are smaller, and inundation is expected to affect much fewer critical facilities than Twitchell and Bradbury dams.
- **Levee Failure:** Santa Barbara County supports one main established levee system and scattered informal levees. The Santa Maria River Levee System is located in the northern portion of the county, to the north of the City of Santa Maria, and extends from the City of Guadalupe to the community of Garey. The levee system consists of 17 miles of a stone-revetted levee along the south side of the Santa Maria River, which protects the City of Santa Maria, and approximately 5 miles of stone-revetted levee along the north side of the river, which largely protects agricultural land.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS (WELL STIMULATION & HYDROLIC FRACTURING, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RELEASE, NATURAL GAS PIPELINE RUPTURE & STORAGE FACILITY INCIDENT, OIL SPILL)

Description:

- **Well Stimulation and Hydraulic Fracturing:** Hydraulic fracturing, commonly called "fracking," is a specific type of well stimulation treatment that involves the high-pressure injection of water, sand, and chemical additives to cause fracturing of sub-surface rock

resulting in the release of gas or oil trapped inside. As defined in California state statute, hydraulic fracturing means a well stimulation treatment that, in whole or in part, includes the pressurized injection of hydraulic fracturing fluid or fluids into an underground geologic formation to fracture or with the intent to fracture the formation, thereby causing or enhancing the production of oil or gas from a well.

- **Hazardous Materials Release:** Hazardous materials release is a hazard event whereby harmful concentrations of hazardous or toxic substances are released into the environment. This occurs when storage containers of hazardous materials leak or fail. This can happen due to industrial accidents, vehicle crashes, as a direct result of other disasters (e.g., a flood or earthquake), or as a deliberate act.
- **Natural Gas Pipeline Rupture and Storage Facility Incident:** Significant failure, including pipe breaks and explosions, can result in loss of life, injury, property damage, and environmental impacts. Causes of and contributors to pipeline failures include construction errors, material defects, internal and external corrosion, operational errors, control system malfunctions, outside force damage, subsidence, and seismicity. Additionally, Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S) gas is a product of natural gas and oil production and is very poisonous, corrosive, flammable, and explosive.
- **Oil Spill:** An oil spill is a release of liquid petroleum hydrocarbon into the environment due to human activity or technological error that results in pollution of land, water, and air. Oil releases also occur naturally through oil seeps either on land or underwater.

Severity Potential:

- **Well Stimulation and Hydraulic Fracturing:** The primary hazard due to cyclic steaming is from seeps of oil and water (surface expressions), which can damage water quality and habitat. The development of these oil and gas facilities itself results in impacts on the natural landscape of undeveloped lands within the county. The more wells that are drilled, the higher the likelihood of some environmental damage, although the amount of damage is unknown.
- **Hazardous Materials Release:** The release of hazardous materials into the environment can cause a multitude of problems for the population, built environment, lifeline infrastructure, environment, and the economy. The impact of a fixed hazardous facility, such as a chemical processing facility is typically localized to the property where the incident occurs. The impact of a small spill (i.e., liquid spill) may also be limited to the extent of the spill and remediated if needed.
- **Natural Gas Pipeline Rupture and Storage Facility Incident:** Significant failure, including pipe breaks and explosions, can result in loss of life, injury, property damage, and environmental impacts.
- **Oil Spill:** The environmental impacts from oil spills contribute to short- and long-term impacts on economic activities in areas affected by oil spills. Moratoriums may be temporarily imposed on fisheries, and tourism may decline in beach communities,

resulting in economic hardship for individuals that are dependent on those industries for their livelihood and on the economic health of the community.

Affected Population Estimates:

- **Well Stimulation and Hydraulic Fracturing:** The areas at the highest risk of hazards from cyclic steaming are also some of the most socially vulnerable areas in the county.
- **Hazardous Materials Release:** The most vulnerable populations include the cities of Santa Barbara, Goleta, Lompoc, and Santa Maria, as well as around the community of Casmalia. In addition, agricultural farm workers are most vulnerable to pesticide exposure and other hazardous material incidents associated with the agricultural operation.
- **Natural Gas Pipeline Rupture and Storage Facility Incident:** Anyone near a natural gas pipeline or storage facility could be affected by a rupture.
- **Oil Spill:** Those people living near existing oil and gas operations are most vulnerable to an oil spill.

Frequency:

- **Well Stimulation and Hydraulic Fracturing:** The County Department of Planning and Development confirms that hydraulic fracturing is not currently being conducted onshore in Santa Barbara County. An operator proposing to frack is required to go through an extensive environmental analysis and obtain a discretionary permit before implementing this technique. Therefore, hazards associated with hydraulic fracturing are low. Cyclic steaming as a well-stimulation technique is currently in use; therefore, there is a potential for surface expressions; however, the probability is low given existing regulations and safety measures mandated by the County and the State of California.
- **Hazardous Materials Release:** The County experiences multiple hazardous materials incidents every month; however, the vast majority of the incidents are minor and have highly localized impacts. Incidences can occur during the production, storage, transportation, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Communities can be at risk if a chemical is used unsafely or released in harmful amounts into the environment.
- **Natural Gas Pipeline Rupture and Storage Facility Incident:** There is no history of a major natural gas pipeline or storage facility incidents occurring in the county.
- **Oil Spill:** In any given year, Santa Barbara County could be subject to oil spills onshore or offshore. Given that 11 spills occurred between 1969 and 2020, there is an approximately 21.6 percent probability of oil spill occurrence in Santa Barbara County.

Geographical Considerations:

- **Well Stimulation and Hydraulic Fracturing:** Areas surrounding the Cat Canyon oilfield in the Santa Maria Valley and Orcutt Hill oilfields are at the highest risk in the county for exposure to water quality hazards and habitat degradation from cyclic steaming activities.

- **Hazardous Materials Release:** Some of the most notable hazardous material sites in the county include various industrial sites within the cities of Lompoc, Goleta, Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, Vandenberg SFB, and oil processing facilities along the South Coast. In addition, the Casmalia Hazardous Waste Management Facility (also known as the “Casmalia Resources Superfund Site”) is a contaminated hazardous waste dumping site. The dumping site is located in the North County near the small, unincorporated community of Casmalia and is a 252-acre inactive commercial hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility whose operations caused contaminated soil, soil vapor, surface water, sediment, and groundwater with hazardous chemicals.
- **Natural Gas Pipeline Rupture and Storage Facility Incident:** Many of the pipelines throughout the county are located in areas with high seismic activity, crossing many active faults. Further, in Santa Barbara County, H₂S odors come from natural oil and gas seeps (inland and offshore), agricultural irrigation water well drilling activities, and oil and gas production and processing facilities.
- **Oil Spill:** This hazard can occur in any part of Santa Barbara County where existing oil and gas operations are located, either onshore through supply pipelines and well facilities or offshore where there are several platforms and undersea pipelines. Currently, there are 19 offshore oil platforms off the coast of Santa Barbara County as well as one onshore refinery and two oil separation and treatment plants (see Figure 5-32; County Department of Planning and Development 2017). The longest line in Santa Barbara County, the Pacific Pipeline Company, consists of two segments spanning roughly 130 miles. Line 901 stretches from Las Flores to Gaviota. Line 903 traverses northeasterly from Gaviota to Pentland Station in Kern County.

AGRICULTURAL HAZARDS (AGRICULTURAL PESTS/INVASIVE SPECIES)

Description:

- **Agricultural Pests:** Agricultural pests and disease infestation means any of the following that is, or is liable to become, dangerous or detrimental to the agricultural or nonagricultural environment: any insect, predatory animal, rodent, nematode, weed, any form of terrestrial, aquatic, or aerial plant or animal, virus, fungus, bacteria, or other microorganisms.
- **Invasive Species:** Organisms that are introduced to an area where they are not known to occur naturally in a specific area and whose introduction does or is likely to cause harm to the economy, environment or human health.[i][1] When a non-native organism is released into a new area, it may arrive without many natural enemies which can lead to population increases that can overwhelm and out compete native species. Common traits of invasive pests include rapid reproduction, fast growth, wide dispersal, altering of growth or form to suit a particular habitat, tolerating a wide range of environmental conditions and the ability to feed on a variety of different foods. All species have vectors that can move them to new areas to colonize, but for invasive species it's usually human

activity of some kind (such as foreign trade and travel) that has transported them unknowingly.

Severity Potential:

- **Agricultural Pests:** Infestation of agriculture pests could impact crop yields, create trade barriers, impact sustainability practices, etc. A widespread pest infestation in crops or rangeland could severely impact the agricultural industry, the economic base of the county that supports communities through employment and the “multiplier effect”. Santa Barbara County farms and ranches, and support facilities would be directly impacted economically by long-term disruptions in the food supply associated with crop losses due to agricultural pests and disease.
- **Invasive Species:** Once introduced, invasive species could become a permanent part of an ecosystem and may flourish, creating environmental imbalances, presenting risks to human health, and causing significant economic problems. The introduction of nonindigenous species into California’s marine, estuarine, and freshwater environments can cause significant economic, human health, and ecological impacts.

Affected Population Estimates:

- **Agricultural Pests:** Irrigated agriculture may increase the opportunity for standing water, a habitat for mosquitos and other vector of human health diseases. Rural communities located close to irrigated fields may also be most vulnerable to these diseases, as livestock pathogens are capable of infecting host species, which may include wildlife and humans. The areas with the highest level of social vulnerability in the county are located in the cities of Santa Maria and Guadalupe (and surrounding communities), the Cuyama Valley and the Santa Ynez Valley. These communities as well as those working in the agricultural sector would likely be impacted by the effects of agricultural hazards.
- **Invasive Species:** Invasive weeds can increase maintenance costs for agriculture, homes, and roads. The County’s natural environment is vulnerable to the uncontrolled spread of invasive weeds, which could reduce biodiversity, use precious water resources, increase fire risk, and result in crop loss.

Frequency:

- **Agricultural Pests:** Due to its interaction with the global economy, its mild Mediterranean climate, diverse population and its diversified agricultural and native landscape, Santa Barbara County currently experiences and will continue to experience periodic losses due to agricultural pests and diseases. Many pests and organisms that carry diseases are most active during warmer months, so the threat of infection or infestation is higher during that time of year.
- **Invasive Species:** While the probability of future occurrence is usually calculated based on experience, different invasive species have different recidivism rates across the

county. Based on past occurrences, invasive species will continue to present a constant threat to the county and its jurisdictions.

Geographical Considerations:

- **Agricultural Pests:** Agricultural, farm, and grazing lands in the county are the most susceptible areas to agricultural pests and diseases. Agriculture and open space land use comprise the majority of the land within the north county subregion. This subregion has abundant agricultural land that includes strawberries, vineyards, livestock, and row crops. In addition to open space and oil and gas extraction, agriculture makes up a majority of land use in the Cuyama Valley. The subregion has abundant agricultural land that grows carrots, alfalfa, olives, pistachios, and row crops. Agriculture also occurs throughout the South Coast subregion in the Carpinteria Valley, Goleta Valley, and along the Gaviota Coast.
- **Invasive Species:** All of Santa Barbara County, including wildlands, are vulnerable to invasive plant species. The County supports dozens of non-native species, with different potential to increase the vulnerability of native ecosystems, farmland, and even urban environments.

TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCIES (AIRCRAFT CRASH, TRAIN ACCIDENT)

Description:

- **Aircraft Crash:** Aircraft crashes are defined as any accident of private, commercial, or military aircraft on land or over the sea.
- **Train Accident:** Train accidents are defined as any accidents involving public or private trains carrying passengers or cargo along the rail corridor.

Severity Potential:

- **Aircraft Crash:** Aircraft accidents typically involve a single aircraft operating in proximity to an airport or airfield. Large commercial aircraft may operate holding hundreds of crewmembers and customers. A crash of this type of aircraft is likely to result in a mass casualty incident. Populations on the ground in the crash pathway may be impacted as well, and buildings could be damaged or destroyed.
- **Train Accident:** Train accidents are generally localized, and the incidents result in limited impacts at the community level. However, a hazardous material incident on rails or roadways has the potential to damage and destroy habitat and built structures, harm people and wildlife, and shut down both rail and highway transportation routes in areas where the rail line and Highway 101 are adjacent.

Affected Population Estimates:

- **Aircraft Crash:** A major air accident that occurs in a heavily populated residential area can result in considerable loss of life and property. Therefore, aircraft accidents that may

occur at Santa Barbara Airport or Santa Maria Airport would result in the highest exposure of people and structures to death, injury, or property damage.

- **Train Accident:** Train accidents are generally localized, and the incidents result in limited impacts at the community level. People near the site of the train accident will potentially be affected.

Frequency:

- **Aircraft Crash:** Given that no known commercial aircraft crashes have occurred in the county, the probability of occurrence is low.
- **Train Accident:** Given that no known train accidents have occurred in the county, the probability of occurrence is low.

Geographical Considerations:

- **Aircraft Crash:** There are five public airports in the county: Lompoc Airport, Santa Barbara Municipal Airport, Santa Maria Public Airport, Santa Ynez Airport, and New Cuyama Airport, which is closed indefinitely due to unsafe potholes and overgrown vegetation along the runway. The U.S. Air Force (USAF) operates military aircraft at Vandenberg SFB, which supports west coast launch activities for the USAF, DoD, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and other natural programs.
- **Train Accident:** The risk of train accidents in the county is limited to areas immediately surrounding the two Amtrak routes that serve the county: the Pacific Surfliner and Coast Starlight. Within the county, the Pacific Surfliner hugs the Pacific Coastline from the southern border of the county through Vandenberg SFB, before turning east towards Casmalia and north through Guadalupe. The Coast Starlight follows the same route as the Pacific Surfliner within the boundary of Santa Barbara County.

ENERGY SHORTAGE & RESILIENCY

Description: Energy shortages (or disruptions) are considered a form of lifeline system failure. While the electrical power industry does not have a universal agreement for classifying disruptions, disruptions can be the consequence of another hazard or can be a primary hazard, absent of an outside trigger. A failure could involve one, or a combination of the potable water system, power system, natural gas system, wastewater system, communication system, or transportation system. Most power blackouts are not human-caused. They are often the result of situations involving unintended events, such as an overwhelming need for power due to weather conditions, equipment failure, or accidents. They may also fail due to natural hazards such as earthquakes, floods, and landslides. These outages can last anywhere from a few minutes to several weeks.

Severity Potential: Santa Barbara County is vulnerable to power outages during PSPS, which would occur when investor-owned electric utilities, including PG&E and SCE, shut off the electric power to protect public safety during extreme weather conditions. In extreme heat conditions,

increases in air conditioning use can stress and overload the grid, causing power outages and potential damage to electricity transmission lines and substations. During severe wind events, electricity transmission lines can be damaged or turned off by PG&E or SCE, causing widespread power outages and hardships for County residents. During a PSPS, all customers serviced by an affected circuit would have their power shut off, and such power outages could last multiple days depending on the severity of the weather and other factors (e.g., wildfire risk). Power outages and communication system failures can directly harm the economy, government operations, and public safety, and hinder recovery efforts.

Affected Population Estimates: Persons with health issues are more vulnerable to this hazard since they may rely on medical equipment that requires power. Vital medical treatments such as dialysis are at risk of being canceled or postponed if a medical facility does not have enough backup generator power to conduct appointments. If the power outage occurs during the warmer months, young children, the elderly, or people suffering from serious medical conditions are more vulnerable to heat related complications if they are unable to relocate to a cooler location. Additionally, lower-income residents may be affected if the power outage lasts for an extended amount of time, as they may not be able to afford to replace the food spoiled from the loss of refrigeration.

Frequency: In any given year, Santa Barbara County can be subject to energy shortages. A large disruption due to a power failure or rotating brownout is highly likely. PSPS events are likely during the high fire season in Santa Barbara County when gusty sundowner winds occur.

Geographical Considerations: Much of the county's electrical lines are located in areas at risk for hazards (e.g., in high fire risk and flood hazard areas). For example, most of the electrical transmission lines that serve the South Coast planning region run through the Santa Ynez Mountains, making them susceptible to service disruption in the event of a wildfire or landslide. Since the county lies on the border of the separate electric distribution system for PG&E and SCE, a major interruption of service in the South Coast planning region would result in all service within the South Coast would be likely denied. Likewise, if there is a major interruption of service coming from the north, power north of Gaviota from the outage may be affected.

RADIOLOGICAL ACCIDENT

Description: Radioactive material, for transportation, is defined as any material which has a specific activity greater than 0.002 microcuries per gram. Radioactive materials are routinely transported in California, including medical and industrial material sources described below, as well as wastes that have radioactive components. Many of the radioactive waste shipments in the U.S. come from research and cleanup efforts at national laboratories and nuclear power plants. Radiological accidents that result in the release of radioactive materials may result in long-term health risks and contamination of state resources, including air and water supply, groundwater, and agricultural lands. Aside from transportation mishaps involving radiological

material, portions of Santa Barbara County may also be subject to radiological contamination following a severe release from Diablo Canyon Power Plant in San Luis Obispo County as described below.

Severity Potential: A significant radiological incident would have substantial impacts on the population, built environment, lifeline infrastructure, environment, and the economy of the county. Determining the health effects of overexposure to radiation is complicated by the fact that there is a large range of variation in individual responses.

Affected Population Estimates: All communities within Santa Barbara County that have major transportation routes could experience a transportation mishap-induced radiological material release if the cargo involved was radioactive, however radioactive shipping containers are designed to withstand significant crashes. Communities within the Diablo Canyon Power Plant's IPZ, such as the cities of Guadalupe and Santa Maria, are at greater risk of radiological contamination of agricultural and water resources than communities in the eastern portion of the county (e.g., Cuyama) and South Coast planning region.

Frequency: No radiological incidents have occurred to date in the county and the probability of occurrence is low. Additionally, the decommissioning of the Diablo Canyon NPP in 2025 will greatly reduce radiological accident risk to Santa Barbara County.

Geographical Considerations: California's only operating nuclear power plant, the Diablo Canyon Power Plant (PP), is located in San Luis Obispo County adjacent to the north of Santa Barbara County. Jurisdictions located in the Emergency Planning Zones (1-12) for the plant are all within San Luis Obispo County. Communities in the northwest portion of Santa Barbara County, such as the cities of Guadalupe and Santa Maria, which are closer to the Diablo Canyon PP, are at greater risk of radiological effects than communities in the eastern portion of the county (e.g., Cuyama) and South Coast planning region.

CIVIL DISTURBANCE

Description: The term civil disorder is defined by 18 U.S. Code Section 232 as any public disturbance involving acts of violence by assemblages of three or more persons, that causes an immediate danger of or results in damage or injury to the property or person of any other individual. Civil disturbance can range from unlawful forms of protest against socio-political problems to riots.

Severity Potential: Civil disorders occur in California sporadically and last from a few days to months. Loss of life and loss of property have occurred in the last 25 years. Typically, these incidents involve protests, marches, or celebrations that can turn into destructive or violent incidents (i.e., riots), causing property damage. Impacts associated with these incidents would

likely initiate at the site of origin, which usually occurs at places of political, economic, or cultural importance.

Affected Population Estimates: Since civil disturbance could occur anywhere in Santa Barbara County, all groups are potentially threatened by the impacts of these incidents. While most residents affected by a civil disturbance would be able to recover from the incident, residents on fixed incomes or living below the poverty limit may have difficulty doing so if damage to their residence or property were to occur.

Frequency: Recently, the county has seen a rise in protests and demonstrations for social change (e.g., anti-racism), indicating that this type of civil disturbance may occur in the future.

Geographical Considerations: While civil disturbance is challenging to predict and can occur throughout the county, civil disorder in the county is primarily limited to urban centers and areas of higher population, such as the City of Santa Barbara, Isla Vista, and the City of Santa Maria. Historically, De la Guerra Plaza and the County Courthouse in downtown Santa Barbara have been gathering sites before or after peaceful protests and marches. Similarly, Santa Maria City Hall has served as a gathering site for marches.

CYBER THREAT

Description: Cyber-attacks are “attempts by cyber criminals to attack a government, organization, or private party by damaging or disrupting a computer or computer network, or by or stealing data from a computer or computer network for malicious use.” Cyber-attacks use malicious code to alter computer operations or data. The vulnerability of computer systems to attacks is a growing concern as people and institutions become more dependent upon networked technologies.

Severity Potential: In the event of a significant cyber-attack event, there could be a considerable impact on the population, built environment, lifeline infrastructure, environment, and the economy. A cyber threat can infiltrate many institutions including banking, medical, education, government, military, and communication and infrastructure systems.

Affected Population Estimates: While all populations within the county could be affected by cyber threat, it is anticipated that impacts from an event would be limited to areas with higher population densities.

Frequency: The County’s IT logs indicate hundreds of daily infiltration attempts.

Geographical Considerations: Cyber threats can occur anywhere in the county.

TERRORISM

Description: The use of force or the threat of force to intimidate the population and/or the government with the intent to achieve a particular political or social objective. Terrorists may seek to kill or injure people, damage, or destroy property, disrupt infrastructure or services, or some combination of these outcomes. Acts of terror often involve the use of firearms or conventional explosives, although other materials may be used in some cases (e.g., flammable materials in terrorism-related acts of arson). The use of biological, chemical, radioactive, or high-yield explosive materials (collectively called weapons of mass destruction or WMDs) in acts of terror is not unprecedented but is extremely rare. Terrorist acts are often perceived as being carried out by foreign individuals or groups, although American citizens have been responsible for most acts of terror in the US.

Severity Potential: The causes behind acts of terror and mass casualty incidents are highly complex, often involving national or global political, social, or economic issues. It is impossible to reasonably forecast the likelihood of a future terrorist act in the county or suggest the severity of one.

Affected Population Estimates: Terrorism events can occur anywhere within the county. Population impacts are dependent on scope of an incident.

Frequency: The county has never experienced a terrorist attack and there are no major government buildings, financial centers, transportation facilities, or infrastructural systems of special significance, which reduces the likelihood of terrorism in the county.

Geographical Considerations: Terrorism can occur throughout the entire county but due to its intended purpose would most likely happen in more populous urban areas or during high profile special events.

PANDEMIC (INFECTIOUS DISEASE EMERGENCY)/PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Description: Infectious disease emergencies are circumstances caused by biological agents, including organisms such as bacteria, viruses or toxins with the potential for significant illness or death in the population. Infectious Disease Emergency Response may be initiated in situations that include: naturally occurring disease outbreaks (e.g., measles, mumps, meningococcal disease, MPOX), emerging infectious diseases (e.g., SARS, COVID-19, pandemic influenza, Ebola), vector-borne diseases (e.g., West Nile, Zika, bubonic plague), food/water-borne disease (e.g., cholera, salmonella, norovirus), and/or bioterrorism.

Severity Potential: The severity of an infectious disease emergency event can vary greatly depending on the characteristics of the disease agent and may range from monitoring of known travelers to a full pandemic response impacting the whole community. Characteristics of the disease agent that may impact the severity of the infectious disease emergency may include:

- Ease of transmission (person to person, multiple transmission routes)
- Significant morbidity and/or mortality
- Disease is infectious before symptom onset (e.g. influenza, COVID-19)
- Minimal or no existing immunity in the population
- Minimal or no availability of appropriate personal protective equipment

A global pandemic, the most severe infectious disease emergency, has the potential to: disrupt international travel, commerce, and supply chains; overwhelm local, State, and National healthcare resources; and disrupt essential services (law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, education, childcare, agriculture/food processing, communications, transportation, utilities, etc.). In addition, unlike many other emergencies, an infectious disease emergency has the potential to last for months or years rather than days or weeks.

Populations Disproportionately Impacted: Historically, individuals with pre-existing health conditions, those living in congregate housing, the very young, and/or the elderly. However, the characteristics of the disease agent may impact the population disproportionately impacted by an infectious disease emergency. Additionally, populations identified by the County as especially vulnerable to all human health and safety hazards include undocumented persons, senior citizens, senior citizens living alone, persons with existing chronic health conditions, persons experiencing houselessness, overcrowded households and neighborhoods, low-resourced ethnic minorities and people of color, households in poverty, communities with a high pollution burden, individuals with access and functional needs and those without health insurance. Undocumented or non-English speaking individuals may be less able to understand such pandemic-related instructions or receptive to responding to government outreach, while lower-income households may lack the means to comply with the direction.

Frequency: Infectious disease emergencies can occur at any time and during the 21st century, globally and locally, we have experienced newly emerging diseases (e.g., SARS, MERS, COVID-19), pandemic influenza (H1N1), vector-borne disease (e.g., West Nile, Zika), special pathogens (Ebola), and bioterrorism (anthrax). Increased frequency, fueled by global travel, climate change, and other factors, of infectious disease emergencies should be anticipated.

Geographical Considerations: The disease agent characteristics and severity of the infectious disease emergency will impact the geographical considerations; in the most severe case of a global pandemic all communities in Santa Barbara County will be impacted.

APPENDIX G: SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DAM INVENTORY

DAM INVENTORY

TABLE G.1: SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DAM INVENTORY								
DAM	NID ID*	OWNER	LOCATION	DWR HAZARD CLASSIFICATION	ACRE- FEET	YEAR BUILT	USACE HAZARD CLASSIFICATION	CALOES CROSSWALK NOTES
Alisal Creek	CA00731	Alisal Ranch	34.5476 N, -120.1351 W	High	2,342	1971		Refer to EAP
Bradbury	CA10136	USBR	34.5873 N, -199.9815 W		206,900	1953	High	Refer to EAP
Carpinteria	CA10138	USBR	34.4066 N, -119.48660 W		40	1953	High	Refer to EAP
Dos Pueblos	CA00730	Std. Portfolios Asset Management	34.4474 N, -119.9526 W	High	300	1946		Refer to EAP
Edwards Reservoir	CA01240	University of CA	34.4904 N, -119.9785 W	High	596	1985		Refer to EAP
Glen Anne	CA10156	USBR	34.4714 N, -119.8802 W		630	1952	High	Refer to EAP
Gibraltar	CA00138	City of Santa Barbara	34.5260 N, -119.6883 W	High	9,998	1920		Refer to EAP
Juncal	CA00211	Montecito Water District	34.4929 N, -119.5083 W	High	6,140	1930		Refer to EAP
Lake Los Carneros	CA00728	City of Goleta	34.44 N, -119.85 W	High	168	1932		Refer to EAP
Lauro	CA10154	USBR	34.4542 N, -119.7272 W		855	1951	High	Refer to EAP
Ortega	CA10176	USBR	34.3418 N, -119.5922 W		59	1956	High	Refer to EAP
Rancho del Ciervo	CA00719	Santa Barbara Mountain Water Co.	34.4849 N, -119.9218 W	High	165	1938		Refer to EAP

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY AND OPERATIONAL AREA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

TABLE G.1: SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DAM INVENTORY								
DAM	NID ID*	OWNER	LOCATION	DWR HAZARD CLASSIFICATION	ACRE- FEET	YEAR BUILT	USACE HAZARD CLASSIFICATION	CALOES CROSSWALK NOTES
Santa Monica Debris Basin	CA01134	Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	34.4231 N, -119.5274 W	High	79	1978		Refer to EAP
Twitchell	CA10197	USBR	34.9852 N, -120.3240 W		397,120	1958	High	Refer to EAP
* = California DWR has its own dam numbering system. It does not include federal dams.								
Note: USACE uses a 3 level classification. California DWR adds a 4th level, extremely high for dams with inundation zones that affect >1,000 people.								
USBR - United States Bureau of Reclamation USACE = United States Army Corps of Engineers								

APPENDIX H: EOC FUNCTIONAL OVERVIEW

BACKGROUND

Purpose: The functional annexes section of this Plan describes the authorities and responsibilities of each section within the County/OA EOC. Though [Section 4: Emergency Operations Center and Assignment of Responsibilities](#) of the Basic



Plan addressed general principles of the County/OA EOC and describes activations, facility layout, organizational structure, field/EOC interface, and other topics, [Appendix H: EOC Functional Overview](#) describes the responsibilities and functions of each section in greater detail. The County/OA EOC is comprised of five sections mirroring those seen in the ICS. These sections are Management, Operations, Planning and Intelligence, Logistics, and Finance and Administration.

Scope: [Appendix H: EOC Function Overview](#) is designed to identify the activities and responsibilities associated with each County/OA EOC section. Greater technical detail can be found in the position-specific checklists for each County/OA EOC position.

Uniformly, [Appendix H](#) will speak to the purpose, overview, objectives, section structure, activities and responsibilities, and the leadership position within each County/OA EOC section.

County/OA EOC Concept of Operations: Each Section and function operating within the Santa Barbara County/OA EOC will operate under the following policies during an incident as the situation dictates:

- The SEMS will be followed.
- All existing County and departmental operating procedures will be followed unless modified by the Board of Supervisors or the DES.
- At the start of an incident, on-duty emergency responders are expected to remain on duty until properly relieved and dismissed from supervision.
- At the start of an incident, off-duty emergency responders will be expected to return to work when recalled to duty in accordance with SBC policy and procedures and applicable department-specific policies.
- Unless determined ineffective, unnecessary, or impossible, EOC operational periods will be 24 hours in length composed of two 12 hour shifts for the duration of the event.
- EOC Staff are not excused from their shift until they have turned in their completed EOC Form 214 at the end of their shift in accordance with local protocols and direction from EOC leadership.
- EOC Section Coordinators or their deputies must approve all EOC Form 213 Resource Requests from staff within their Section either verbally or in writing before they are submitted to the EOC Logistics Section for fulfillment.
- Responsibilities of unstaffed EOC positions will fall to the next higher position to execute.

County/OA EOC Leadership Structure: The County/OA EOC's leadership structure uses the concept of "unity of command;" each EOC staff member will have only one supervisor. Each Section Coordinator supervises their Section's Deputy Coordinator (if activated) and all Branch or Unit Leaders within their Section. An EOC Section Coordinator may assign their Deputy specific branches or units to supervise on their behalf.

Most EOC Branch and Unit Leaders do not need to activate other people within their branch/unit to conduct their responsibilities; any given branch/unit usually has only one staff member (the Branch/Unit Leader). In the event that a Branch/Unit Leader needs to activate more people in their branch/unit to operate, that Branch/Unit Leader will supervise others in their branch/unit. By allowing Branch/Unit Leaders to supervise their own staff, less burden is assumed by all in the chain of command, and an effective span of control can be preserved.

County/OA EOC Activation and Deactivation: EOC activation and deactivation thresholds and identification of those authorized to activate the County/OA EOC is provided in [Section 4.4](#) of this Plan.

County/OA EOC Staffing Coordination: A County/OA EOC Section Coordinator may request to the EOC Director or EOC Deputy Director that a branch or unit within their Section be activated or deactivated based on the scope of the incident and needs within the EOC. Those responsibilities within a given section that are vacant or otherwise not supported by staff will fall to the EOC Section Coordinator to accomplish.

MANAGEMENT SECTION

Purpose: To provide executive leadership and direction to County/OA EOC staff and support emergency response and recovery activities for field units, the SBC OA, the County government, and the public.

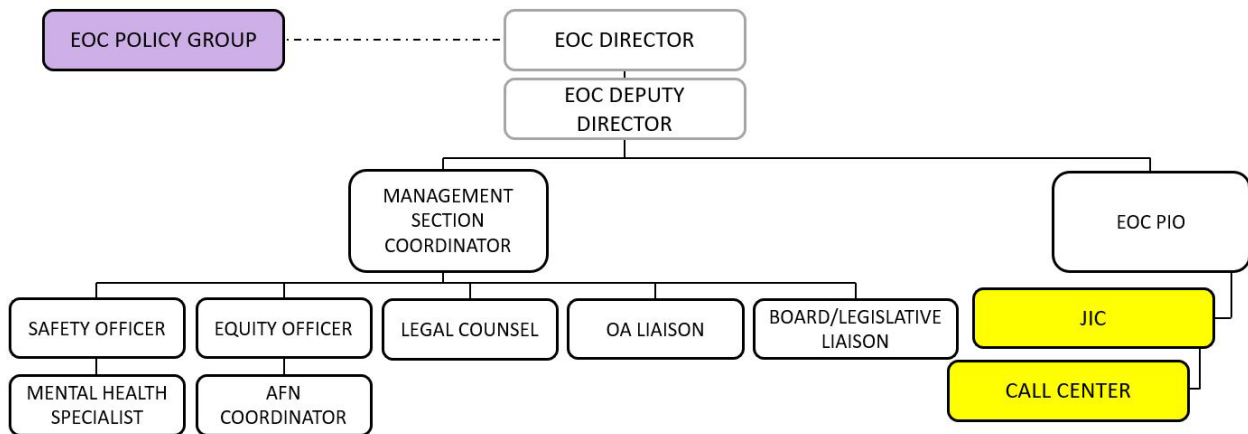
Overview: The Management Section is responsible for overall emergency policy and coordination through the joint efforts of governmental agencies and private organizations. County Code § 12-4(a) designates the County Executive Officer (CEO) as the Director of Emergency Services (DES), who also serves as the primary EOC Director in the County/OA EOC's Management Section. Coordination and direction provided by the Management Section will occur at the County/OA EOC when activated.

Objectives: The overall objective of emergency management is to provide the effective management of response forces, information, communication, and resources in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, major mishaps, criminal acts, and national security emergencies. To carry out its responsibilities, the Management Section will accomplish the following objectives during an incident:

- Overall management and coordination of emergency response and recovery operations.
- Coordinate and liaise with appropriate Federal, State, or other local government agencies, as well as applicable segments of private sector entities and volunteer agencies.
- Establish priorities and resolve any conflicting demands for support.
- Prepare and disseminate emergency information to inform, alert, and warn the public.
- Disseminate damage information and other essential data.

Management Section Structure: Fully staffed, the County/OA EOC Management Section is comprised of nine positions serving beneath the EOC Director and Deputy Director (The EOC Policy Group is not a position, but rather a function. See [Section 3.6.1.1](#) of the EOP Basic Plan for more information). The EOC Director supervises the EOC Deputy Director. The EOC Deputy Director supervises all Section Coordinators (including the Management Section Coordinator) and the EOC PIO. The EOC Management Section Coordinator supervises the Safety, Legal, and Equity Officers, the OA Liaison, and the Board/Legislative Liaison. The Safety Officer supervises the Mental Health Specialist. The Equity Officer supervises the AFN Coordinator. The only Management Section position that is not supervised by the EOC Management Section Coordinator is the EOC PIO. The EOC PIO is supervised by the EOC Deputy Director due to protocols related to emergency public information approval processes. The EOC PIO supervises the Joint Information Center (JIC) Manager upon JIC activation. This information is illustrated in **Figure H.1**.

FIGURE H.1 – COUNTY/OA EOC MANAGEMENT SECTION STRUCTURE

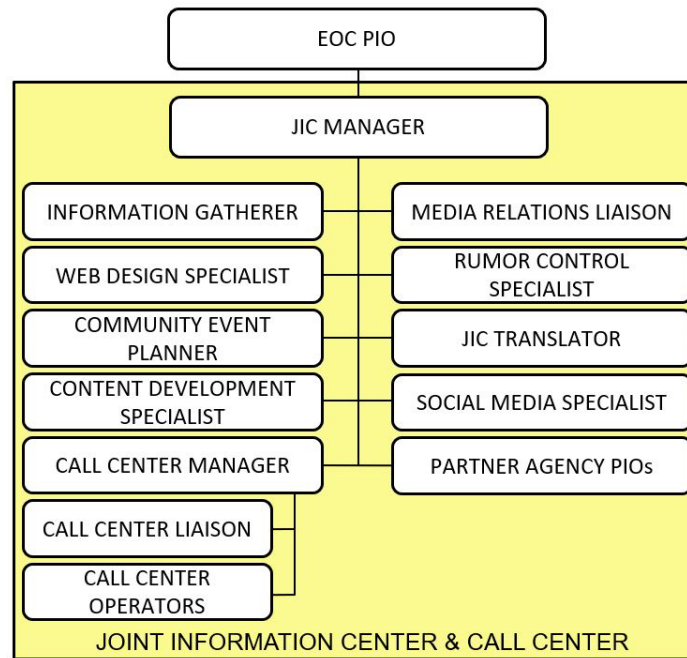


Management Section Activities and Responsibilities: Collectively, the Management Section is responsible for several functions spanning several professions and specialties. Specifically, the Management Section’s activities and responsibilities include:

- Overall EOC management.
- Public Information management.
 - Rumor Control.
 - Public Inquiries.

- Press Release and Other Public Information Content Development.
- Public safety alert and warning.
- Mutual Aid coordination.
- EOC staff safety.
 - Facility Security.
 - Development of incident-specific safety measures (i.e., social distancing).
 - Safe practices enforcement.
 - Mental health of EOC staff.
- Maintaining equity of services and space for EOC staff and EOC-activated functions, including access and functional needs concepts.
- Coordination with partner agencies, offices, officials, and jurisdictions.
 - Field activities and needs.
 - Liaise with SBC OA partner agencies and other stakeholders
 - Local senior leaders (local elected officials, local appointed officials, etc.)
 - Board of Supervisors, County Executives, and elected officials communication.
 - Impacted jurisdictions within the Santa Barbara County OA.
 - State partners.
 - Federal partners.

Joint Information Center (JIC) and Call Center: The County/OA EOC JIC and Call Center are functions that organizationally exist as subcomponents of the Management Section. Since the EOC Deputy Director is responsible for approving public information products on behalf of the EOC, the organizational structure of staff contributing to public information operations fall under the supervision of the EOC Deputy Director. The EOC PIO is supervised by the EOC Deputy Director and supervises the JIC Manager. The JIC Manager supervises JIC staff and the Call Center Manager. The Call Center Manager supervises Call Center staff. This is illustrated in **Figure H.2**.

FIGURE H.2 – JIC AND CALL CENTER ORG CHART

Santa Barbara County/OA EOC Director: The County DES, or designee, will operate as the County/OA EOC Director upon activation of the County/OA EOC to Levels 1-3. The County/OA EOC Director is responsible for the overall leadership of the entire EOC, its sections, and its components.

The County/OA EOC Director is supported by the emergency management organization and has overall responsibility to:

- Supervise the EOC Deputy Director.
- Exercise overall management responsibility for the coordination of response efforts within the affected area.
- Make executive decisions commensurate with the policies and priorities of the OA, including direction received from the Board of Supervisors and EOC Policy Group.
- Develop and issue rules, regulations, proclamations, and orders.
- In conjunction with EOC Section Coordinators, set priorities for response efforts and see that all agency actions are accomplished within the priorities established.
- See that multi-agency or inter-agency coordination is accomplished effectively within the EOC.
- Support the continuity of County Departments' essential missions that are impacted or otherwise disrupted by an emergency.
- Provide support to local authorities and stakeholder partner agencies.
- Keep the EOC appropriately staffed and maintained for each operational period.

- Support the facilitation and consideration of those with access and functional needs (AFN) and others traditionally referred to as “Disadvantaged Populations” at all times and in all activities within the EOC, as well as in all decision-making efforts impacting the general public.
- Provide leadership and direction to County Departments.
- Direct that safety and security principles and procedures are followed for all EOC activities.
- Help the EOC Board/Legislative Liaison communicate with relevant executive leaders within the County government, including the County Executive Officer (CEO) (if not acting as the EOC Director) and Chair of the Board of Supervisors, to keep them updated on the incident situation and EOC activities.
- Liaise with executive leaders and elected officials outside of the County government who are stakeholders in the incident to keep them updated on the incident situation and EOC activities.
- Liaise with the EOC Policy Group as necessary.
- Confer with the CEO (if not acting as the EOC Director), County Counsel, and relevant subject matter experts as advisors when addressing policy and legal issues.

When absent, the responsibilities of the County/OA EOC Director will fall to the County/OA EOC Deputy Director unless the position is designated to another individual by the DES. The County/OA EOC Deputy Director is staffed by the OEM Director unless otherwise designated.

OPERATIONS SECTION

Purpose: To enhance the capability of the SBC OA to respond to emergencies by carrying out coordinated tactical operations based upon the EOC Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and direction provided by the EOC Director, DES (if not also the EOC Director), EOC Deputy Director, and EOC Policy Group. Operations Section priorities are to:

- Protect life, property, and the environment.
- Carry out objectives of the EOC EAP.
- Provide a coordinated incident response.
- Liaise with field response entities.

Overview: The Operations Section’s primary responsibility is to manage and conduct the tactical operation of various EOC-activated field response elements involved in the incident while also supporting counterparts in the field. These elements may include:

- Fire
 - Hazardous Materials
 - Wildfire Suppression
 - Expanded Fire Dispatch Operations
 - Urban Search and Rescue (with Sheriff’s Office)
 - Air Support Unit Operations (with Sheriff’s Office)

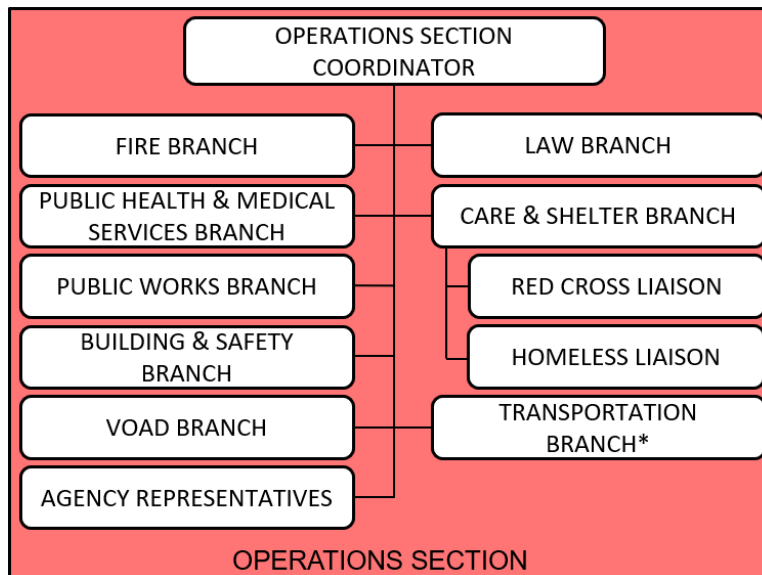
- Triage and Paramedic Services
- Law Enforcement/Coroner
 - Road Closures
 - Urban Search and Rescue (with County Fire)
 - Air Support Unit Operations (with County Fire)
 - Protective Action Decision Coordination and Support, including evacuations
 - Law Enforcement Dispatch Operations
 - Law enforcement protective actions
 - Investigation
 - Coroner and mass casualty response
- Public Health
 - Environmental Health Services
 - Animal Control, including large and small animal sheltering and evacuation and support for pet collocation at human disaster care and shelter sites
 - Investigation and control of communicable disease
 - Assurance of the safe management of liquid, solid, and hazardous waste
 - Assurance of food and drinking water safety
 - Provision or coordination of vector control services
 - Provision of medical and health public information and protective action recommendations
 - Management of exposure to hazardous agents
 - Health surveillance and epidemiological analyses of community health status
 - Coordination of the establishment of temporary field treatment sites
 - Coordination of providers of non-fire based, prehospital emergency medical services
 - Coordination and integration with fire agency personnel, resources, and emergency fire prehospital medical services
 - Coordination of out-of-hospital medical care providers
 - Coordination with inpatient and emergency care providers
 - Coordination of patient distribution and medical evaluations
 - Coordination of disaster medical and health resources
 - Assessment of immediate medical needs
- Care and Shelter
 - Care and shelter site operations as described in the County/OA Disaster Care and Shelter Plan
 - Feeding
 - Homeless support
- Public Works
 - Roads
 - Flood Control

- Building and Safety
- Emergency Mass Transportation

Objectives: The Operations Section is responsible for the coordination of all response elements associated with EOC activities and coordination with field response entities, which may be multi-jurisdictional. It carries out the objectives of the EOC EAP, facilitates EOC support to the field response organization, requests additional resources as needed, and supports the demobilization of major field resources.

Operations Section Structure: Fully staffed, the County/OA EOC Operations Section is comprised of 10 primary positions as well as any Agency Representatives assigned to the EOC by stakeholder partners. These positions may or may not be staffed depending on the size and scope of the incident, the operational period, and the EOC activation level. All of these positions directly contribute to operations in the field, whether assisting first and emergency responders or providing services to members of the public impacted by the incident. The organizational structure of the Operations Section within the County/OA EOC is illustrated in **Figure H.3**.

FIGURE H.3 – COUNTY/OA EOC OPERATIONS SECTION STRUCTURE



* = Per the *2020 Transportation Emergency Preparedness Plan* a Transportation Branch/Unit may be activated in either the Operations or Logistics Sections depending on the needs of the response.

Operations Section Activities and Responsibilities: Collectively, the Operations Section is responsible for several functions spanning several professions and specialties. Specifically, the Operations Section's activities and responsibilities may include:

- Impacted population warning

- Door knocking, public address announcements, and air-based warning
 - Evacuation statistic tracking
- Evacuation management
 - People
 - Small Animals
 - Large Animals
- Continued emergency service operations
- Traffic direction and control
- Debris management
 - Removal
 - Sorting
 - Transport
 - Environmental compliance
- Care and Shelter
 - People
 - Small Animals
 - Large Animals
- Access control
- Hazardous materials management.
- Coroner operations
- Local Healthcare System coordination
- Department Operations Center (DOC) interface and support
- Emergency medical care
- Transportation management
- Urban Search and Rescue (USAR)
- Disease prevention and control
 - Medical point of distribution (POD) and mass vaccination management and operations
- Utility restoration
- Roadway restoration
- Flood operations
- Initial damage assessments
- Safety assessments
- Non-medical POD management and operations
 - Food and water dissemination
- Volunteer management

Operations Section Coordinator Selection: The Operations Section is a field-impacting, cross-functional section within the County/OA EOC. Because of this, the Operations Section Coordinator will be determined by the type of incident meriting EOC activation. During initial

County/OA EOC activations, the senior County Fire Department official in the EOC will serve as the Operations Section Coordinator. **Table 4.2** of [Section 4.8](#) of this Plan suggests which agency should serve as the County/OA EOC's Operations Section Coordinator based on incident type. Once the EOC is activated and organized, the decision to appoint an Operations Section Coordinator from a different agency may be made by the EOC Director or Deputy Director in coordination with senior County officials.

PLANNING AND INTELLIGENCE SECTION

Purpose: To enhance the capability of the SBC OA to respond to emergencies by planning application, OA coordination, incident documentation, and consistent maintenance of situational awareness. Planning and Intelligence Section priorities during responses are:

- Protect life and property.
- Provide planning and documentation for the EOC's operations.
- Provide support to the other sections of the County/OA EOC.

Overview: The Planning and Intelligence Section's primary responsibility is to collect, evaluate, display, document, and disseminate incident information. It must develop an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the EOC for every EOC operational period until the EOC is deactivated. The Section also provides analysis and develops specialized plans necessary to address the needs of the field, including advanced planning. During an incident, the Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator will collect and document information received from multiple sources, including the field IC/UC, all County/OA EOC Section Coordinators, agency representatives, senior County Department officials, and various SBC OA partners.

Objectives: The Planning and Intelligence Section is responsible for the detailed recording of the entire response effort and for the preservation of these records during and following the disaster. This includes receiving safety and damage assessments from the field. The Planning and Intelligence Section will accomplish the following specific objectives during an incident:

- Collect initial situation and safety/damage assessment information.
- Display situational and operational information in the County/OA EOC using maps, visual aids, and other necessary tools.
- Prepare and disseminate intelligence information and situation summaries to all EOC staff, the State, and other necessary agencies.
- Develop geospatial mapping products.
- Provide planning and intelligence support to other sections.
- Provide accurate documentation of the incident, including virtual and physical records.
- Prepare the County/OA EOC's EAPs for each operational period.
- Maintain accurate documentation of all actions taken to verify that all required records are preserved for future use and CalOES/FEMA filing requirements.

EOC Emergency Action Plans: The EOC conducts a similar process for action planning as the field response organization's Planning and Intelligence Section. To differentiate action plans and reduce confusion, the EOC's action plans are called EOC EAPs. The field's action plans are called Incident Action Plans (IAPs).

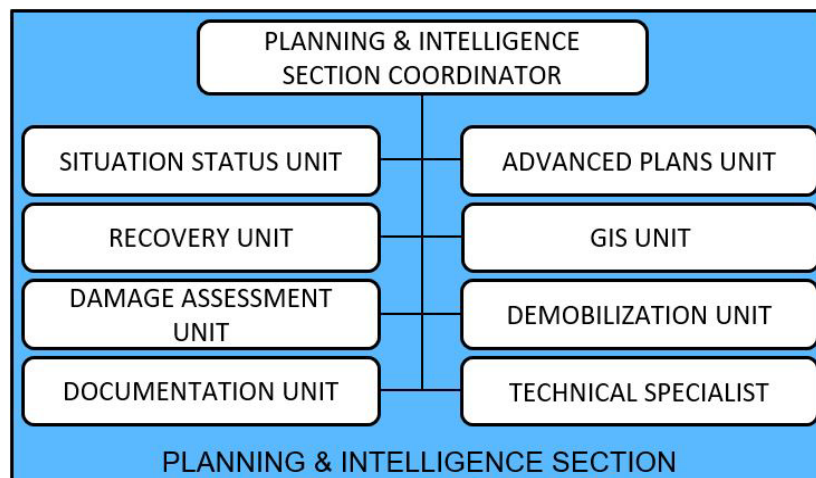
EOC EAPs use special forms to collectively create an action plan for each operational period within the County/OA EOC. These EAPs codify objectives and incident status details for a specific operational period. Initial EOC activations typically use an ICS Form 201 or similar document to complete the initial EAP. Several forms and visual aids are collated in order to address several essential elements of information, such as staffing, objectives, safety considerations, provide policy, address inter-agency considerations, and summarize incident details into a single document (the EOC EAP) for the proceeding operational period. All draft content prepared for EOC EAPs should be reviewed and approved by the EOC Director or EOC Deputy Director. When properly prepared, an EOC EAP should be a vital source of information for the response and support coordination efforts of other County Departments and SBC OA agencies.

It is the responsibility of the Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator within the County/OA EOC to oversee EOC EAP development, completion, and dissemination by section staff for each operational period until the County/OA EOC is deactivated.

See [Appendix I: Action Planning and Situation Reporting](#) for a step-by-step explanation of the action planning process conducted during each EOC operational period.

Planning and Intelligence Section Structure: Fully staffed, the County/OA EOC Planning and Intelligence Section is comprised of nine positions. These positions may or may not be staffed depending on the size and scope of the incident, the operational period, and the EOC activation level. The organizational structure of the Planning and Intelligence Section within the County/OA EOC is illustrated in **Figure H.4**.

FIGURE H.4 – COUNTY/OA EOC PLANNING AND INTELLIGENCE SECTION STRUCTURE



Planning and Intelligence Section Activities and Responsibilities: The Planning and Intelligence Section is responsible for several functions, and its activities and responsibilities may include:

- EOC EAP development
- EOC All Staff Meeting facilitation
- Situation status (SitStat) report development and maintenance
- Situation analysis and assessment
- Information display
- Documentation
- Physical and virtual data preservation
- Advanced planning
- GIS services
- Action planning
- EOC Meeting Schedule maintenance
- Demobilization planning
- EOC coordination

Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator Selection: Ideally, the Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator will have a firm background in emergency management. However, the individual filling the role of Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator will be successful without an emergency management background if provided with the necessary training and exercise opportunities to learn the position. At its heart, this Section's Coordinator must be capable of information management, multitasking, schedule keeping, situation assessment, and attention to detail. Reference **Table 4.1** of [Section 4.7](#) to see which County Departments are assigned to fulfill the EOC Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator position.

LOGISTICS SECTION

Purpose: To enhance the capability of the SBC OA to respond to emergencies by facilitating the fulfillment of resource needs of County/OA EOC staff and, when necessary, supporting the logistics needs of the field response organization. Logistics Section priorities when responding to an emergency are:

- Protect life, property, and the environment.
- Provide logistical support for emergency response and optimize the use of resources.
- Provide support to the other sections of the County/OA EOC.
- Support the restoration of essential services and systems.

Overview: The Logistics Section's primary responsibility is to arrange the acquisition, transportation, mobilization, and demobilization of resources to support the response effort at the disaster site(s), the EOC, and other incident-related locations. This Section provides all necessary personnel, supplies, and equipment procurement support, as well as contract

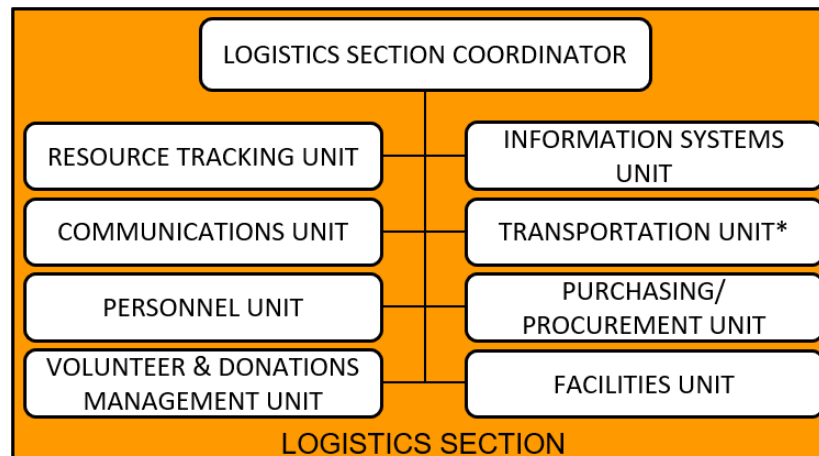
management and vendor collaboration. Methods for obtaining and using facilities, equipment, supplies, services, and other resources to support emergency response at all operational sites during emergencies will follow County Code Chapter 12 authorities and County purchasing regulations, and should include consideration of guidance provided by FEMA to maximize disaster cost recovery.

Objectives: The Logistics Section strives to provide the resources needed for all EOC sections for the duration of the incident. Any unmet needs requiring personnel, equipment, supplies, or services will be coordinated through the Logistics Section. The Logistics Section will accomplish the following objectives during a disaster/emergency:

- Receive, process, and fulfill resource requests submitted by EOC staff.
- Prepare required reports identifying the activities performed by the Logistics Section, including ordering and rental statuses.
- Provide information technology (IT) and communications services for EOC systems.
- Plan for both immediate and long-term logistical support requirements and prepare for future operations.
- Maintain proper and accurate documentation of all items procured to verify that all required records are preserved for future use and CalOES/FEMA filing requirements.
- Oversee and negotiate contract creation and renewal with support from the Finance and Administration Section.
- Prepare and present contracts and purchases requiring Board of Supervisor approval with support from the Finance and Administration Section.
- Track resources and equipment mobilized for the incident and manage demobilization.

Logistics Section Structure: Fully staffed, the County/OA EOC Logistics Section is comprised of nine positions. These positions may or may not be staffed depending on the size and scope of the incident, the operational period, and the EOC activation level. The organizational structure of the Logistics Section within the County/OA EOC is illustrated in **Figure H.5**.

FIGURE H.5 – COUNTY/OA EOC LOGISTICS SECTION STRUCTURE



* = Per the *2020 Transportation Emergency Preparedness Plan* a Transportation Branch/Unit may be activated in either the Operations or Logistics Sections depending on the needs of the response.

Logistics Section Activities and Responsibilities: The Logistics Section is responsible for several functions, and its activities and responsibilities may include:

- Field incident support.
- Communications, computer, and other IT support.
- Transportation support.
- Facilities support.
- Personnel.
- Contracting support.
- Supply and procurement.
- Resource tracking.
- Sanitation services.
- Resource demobilization.

Mutual Aid Systems and Field Logistics:

- **Mutual Aid:** Some governmental sectors, such as emergency management, law enforcement, fire, and public health, have pre-established mutual aid systems statewide that allow for resources and staff to be deployed to overwhelmed jurisdictions. Local mutual aid coordinators for those government sectors will manage their own mutual aid resource logistics. The Emergency Management Mutual Aid (EMMA) system, which coordinates certain resource requests across the state, is managed by the Santa Barbara County OEM on behalf of the SBC OA. The County/OA EOC Logistics Section will manage resource request needs that are outside the scope of these mutual aid systems or established mutual aid agreements.
- **Field Logistics:** The field's response organization will also have a Logistics Section that is responsible for supporting the logistical needs of the field, such as fire service and law enforcement activities. The field's Logistics Section may request logistical support of the EOC's Logistics Section if the field's section is overwhelmed or struggling to fulfill a resource need, depending on the situation. If needed, this coordination should be facilitated by the EOC's Operations Section Coordinator with EOC Deputy Director involvement.

Logistics Section Coordinator Selection: The Logistics Section Coordinator should be a senior departmental official from the Santa Barbara County General Services Department. This and other positions within the County/OA EOC that are responsible for procurement on behalf of the County will be from a County Department unless a delegation of authority letter is provided

authorizing a person who is not a County employee to make purchases and enter into contracts on behalf of the County.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION SECTION

Purpose: To enhance the capability of the SBC OA to respond to emergencies by providing financial support and coordination to emergency operations and coordinating the recovery of costs as allowed by federal and state law. The Finance and Administration Section priorities of response are to:

- Protect life, property, and the environment.
- Provide continuity of financial functions to the County.
- Provide support to the other sections of the County/OA EOC.
- Document costs and recovery of those costs as allowable.

Overview: The Finance and Administration Section's primary responsibilities are to maintain the financial systems necessary to keep the County functioning during a disaster/emergency, to track and document all response costs, and to facilitate the public assistance reimbursement process. These systems include:

- Payroll
- Payments
- Revenue collection
- Claim processing
- Cost recovery documentation

This Section also supports the negotiation and administration of vendor and supply contracts and procedures assuring compliance with public assistance reimbursement policies and programs.

Objectives: The Finance and Administration Section preserves incident financial records for future reference and CalOES and FEMA filing requirements through the maintenance of proper documentation of all financial dealings. The Finance and Administration Section will accomplish the following objectives during a disaster or emergency:

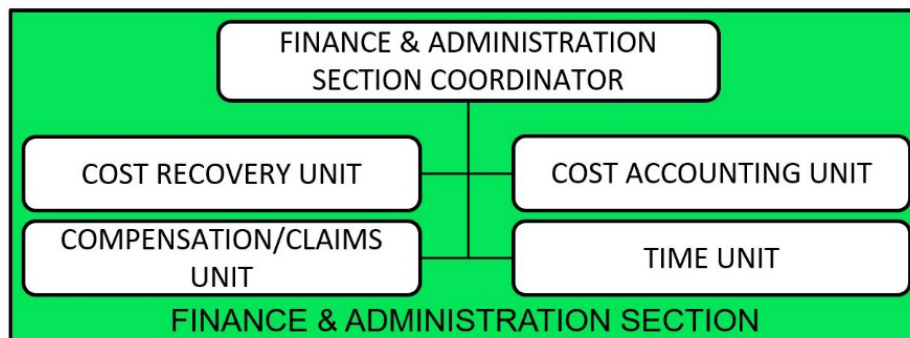
A. For all disasters and emergencies:

1. Notify the other Sections and County Departments that the Disaster Accounting System is to be used for the disaster or emergency.
2. Determine the extent to which computer systems are accessible and/or usable for digital timesheet completion and other financial functions.
3. Determine if the County's bank can continue to handle financial transactions.
4. Maintain the financial continuity of the County (payroll, payments, and revenue collection, etc.).
5. Coordinate with disaster agencies to initiate the cost recovery process upon declaration of a disaster by the State and/or Federal Government.

6. Coordinate the collection and documentation of costs pertaining to the incident with other Sections, County Departments, and impacted SBC OA agencies.
 7. Coordinate the required inspections, documentation, audits, and other necessary work in order to recover costs.
- B. For disasters and emergencies where the County computer systems and bank are accessible and useable:**
1. Inform the other Sections and Departments that the payroll and payments processing will be handled on a “business-as-usual” basis except that the Disaster Accounting System will be used for incident-related costs.
 2. Continue with objectives A1 through A7 above.
- C. For disasters and emergencies where the County’s computer systems and/or bank are either inaccessible or unusable for a short period of time (less than one week):**
1. Inform the other Sections and Departments that payroll and payments will be on hold for a short time and that processing will continue on a normal basis on a specific date.
 2. Continue with objectives A1 through A7 above.
- D. For disasters and emergencies where the County’s computer and/or bank systems are either inaccessible or unusable for an extended period of time (one week or more):**
1. Inform the other Sections and Departments that disaster accounting procedures will be necessary for the next payroll and all critical payments.
 2. Consider activating more Finance and Administration Section staff as necessary.
 3. Continue with objectives A1 through A7 above.

Finance and Administration Section Structure: Fully staffed, the County/OA EOC Finance and Administration Section is comprised of five positions. These positions may or may not be staffed depending on the size and scope of the incident, the operational period, and the EOC activation level. The organizational structure of the Finance and Administration Section within the County/OA EOC is illustrated in **Figure H.6**.

FIGURE H.6 – COUNTY/OA EOC FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION SECTION STRUCTURE



Finance and Administration Section Activities and Responsibilities: The Finance and Administration Section is responsible for several functions, and its activities and responsibilities may include:

- Fiscal management
- Timekeeping
- Financial document record keeping and filing
- Purchasing
- Compensation and claims
- Cost recovery

Finance and Administration Section Coordinator Selection: The Finance and Administration Section Coordinator role will be filled by staff assigned from the County Auditor/Controller's Office or the County Executive Office, as described in **Table 4.1** of [Section 4.7](#).

This and other positions within the County/OA EOC that are responsible for fiscal management and purchasing on behalf of the County should be from a County Department, unless a delegation of authority letter is provided authorizing a person who is not a County employee to make purchases and enter into contracts on behalf of the County.

APPENDIX I: EOC ACTION PLANNING AND SITUATION REPORTING

This appendix provides a description of the action planning process used in EOC operations.

Development of the Action Plan: The ICS emphasizes orderly and systematic planning. The EOC Emergency Action Plan (EAP) is the central tool for planning during a response to an emergency. The EOC Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator is responsible for making sure that the EOC EAP is prepared by staff within the Planning and Intelligence Section with input from the appropriate sections and units of the EOC. Without exception, the EOC EAP must be completed before the start of the operational period it was created for; this is a reoccurring and time sensitive task and is the primary priority of the EOC Planning and Intelligence Section.

Incidents vary in type, complexity, size, and requirements for detailed and written plans. The level of detail and contents required in an EOC EAP will vary according to the complexity of the response. The Action Plan process facilitates timely and coordinated development of situational awareness, objectives, tactics, planning, execution, and emergency response assessment.

The following outlines the process required to develop an EOC EAP. Following the steps below will allow effective development of an EOC EAP while minimizing the time required to do so.

General Responsibilities of the Planning and Intelligence Section: The Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator should review with the EOC Director, Deputy Director, and all EOC Section Coordinators the following responsibilities associated with the development of the EOC EAP prior to starting the initial Objectives Meeting of the EOC action planning process.

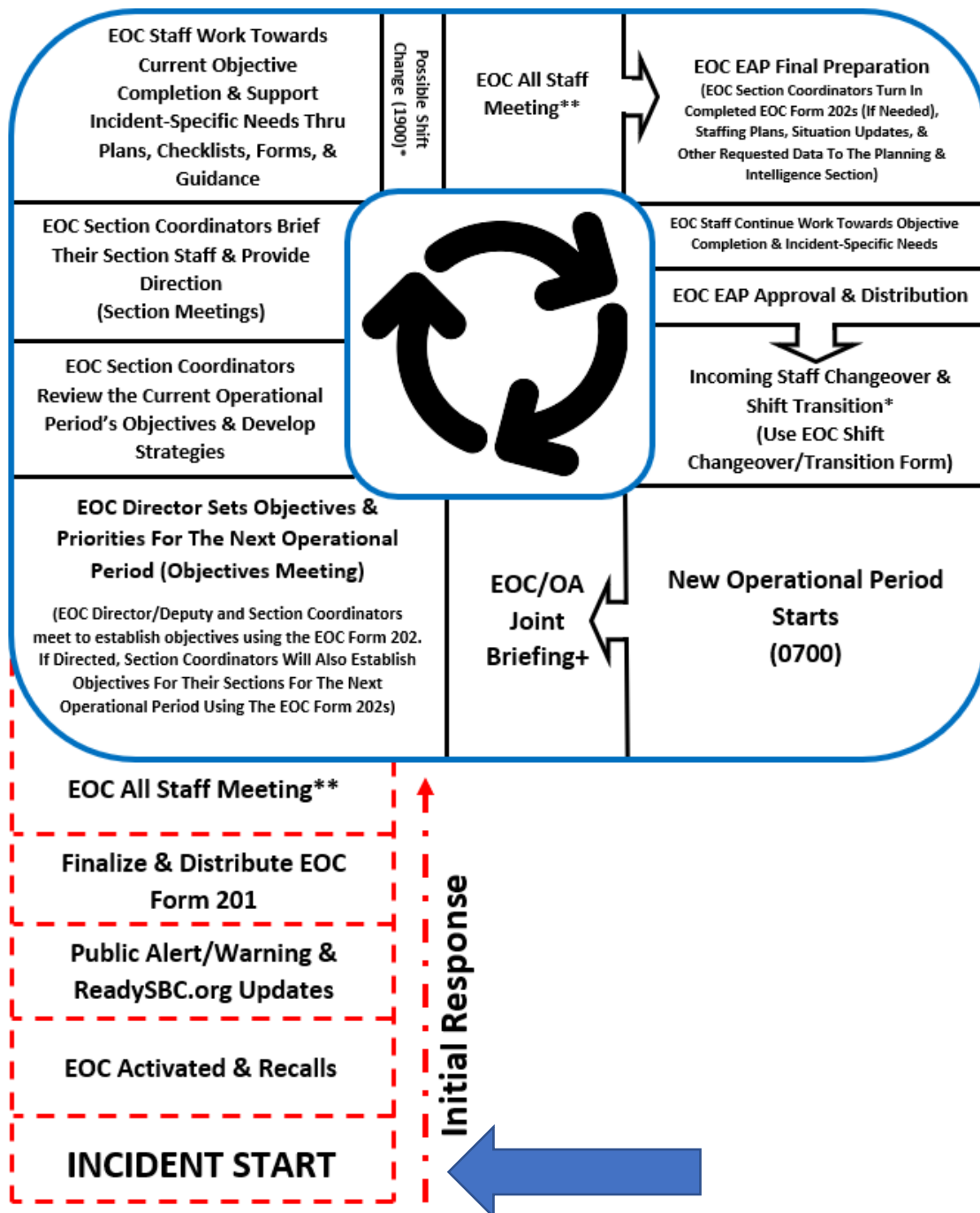
- **EOC Director/EOC Deputy Director**
 - Provide general incident objectives and strategy with input from EOC Section Coordinators
 - Provide direction or overall management and strategy
 - Approve the completed EOC EAP by signature
- **Management Section Coordinator**
 - Contribute to the development of EOC EAP objectives for the next operational period
 - Provide section staffing information for the next operational period for inclusion in the EOC EAP
 - Direct the Safety Officer to complete/update the EOC Form 206 (Medical and Safety Plan) and any other safety-related messages for the EOC EAP
- **Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator**
 - Schedule and facilitate the Objectives Meeting, EOC All Staff Briefing, and EOC/OA Joint Briefing
 - Provide section staffing information for the next operational period for inclusion in the EOC EAP
 - Contribute to the development of EOC EAP objectives for the operational period

- Making sure that EOC Planning and Intelligence Section staff develop an EOC EAP for the proceeding operational period, including updated Situation Status Reports, staffing assignments, staff contact information, and applicable GIS images.
- **Operations Section Coordinator**
 - Contribute to the development of EOC EAP objectives for the next operational period, including advising the feasibility of draft objectives
 - Provide section staffing information for the next operational period for inclusion in the EOC EAP
 - Determine resource requirements
 - Determine tactics
 - Determine work assignments for operations personnel
- **Logistics Section Coordinator**
 - Contribute to the development of EOC EAP objectives for the next operational period
 - Provide section staffing information for the next operational period for inclusion in the EOC EAP
 - Confirm that the Logistics Section can support the EOC EAP
- **Finance Section Coordinator**
 - Contribute to the development of EOC EAP objectives for the next operational period
 - Provide section staffing information for the next operational period for inclusion in the EOC EAP
 - Provide cost implications of incident objectives as required

The Planning Cycle: Action Plan development involves seven steps. Once the initial response is complete, steps 2-7 of this process are repeated for each operational period.

Step 1: Initial Response: The planning cycle should begin immediately upon EOC activation. At the EOC level, the initial response to the event will be to activate the EOC. Based on the initial assessment of the emergency, the EOC Deputy Director or Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator will provide an Incident Briefing using an ICS Form 201. A template for conducting the Initial Meeting is provided in **Table I.1**.

FIGURE I.1 – PLANNING CYCLE STEP 1



The ICS Form 201 should include information on potential operational objectives, the current state of situational awareness, resources employed and deployed, initial staffing assignments, and significant actions.

Table I.1: Initial Meeting Template (One-Time Only)

Facilitator:	EOC Deputy Director or Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator	
Purpose:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish initial EOC Objectives and guidance for the current operational period Establish Operational Periods Identify Conditions, Actions, and Needs (CAN) 	
Attendees:	All EOC staff (Add members as required)	
1	Bring meeting to order, conduct roll call, and cover ground rules for the meeting (Plans Section)	
2	Discuss situation as obtained from field and other EOCs/DOCs (Plans Section or OEM Duty Officer)	
3	Establish initial EOC Objectives for the current operational period (EOC Deputy Director)	
4	CAN Reports (Conditions, Actions, Needs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leadership (EOC Director and Deputy Director) Management (Management Section Coordinator) Operations (Operations Section Coordinator) Logistics (Logistics Section Coordinator) Finance (Finance and Administration Section Coordinator) Planning & Intelligence (Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator) 	
5	Establish Operational Periods (EOC Deputy Director)	
6	Review and/or establish the timing of coordination meetings (e.g., Objectives Meeting, Strategy Meeting, Planning Meeting)	
7	Roundtable and Closing Comments (All)	
8	Adjourn (Plans)	

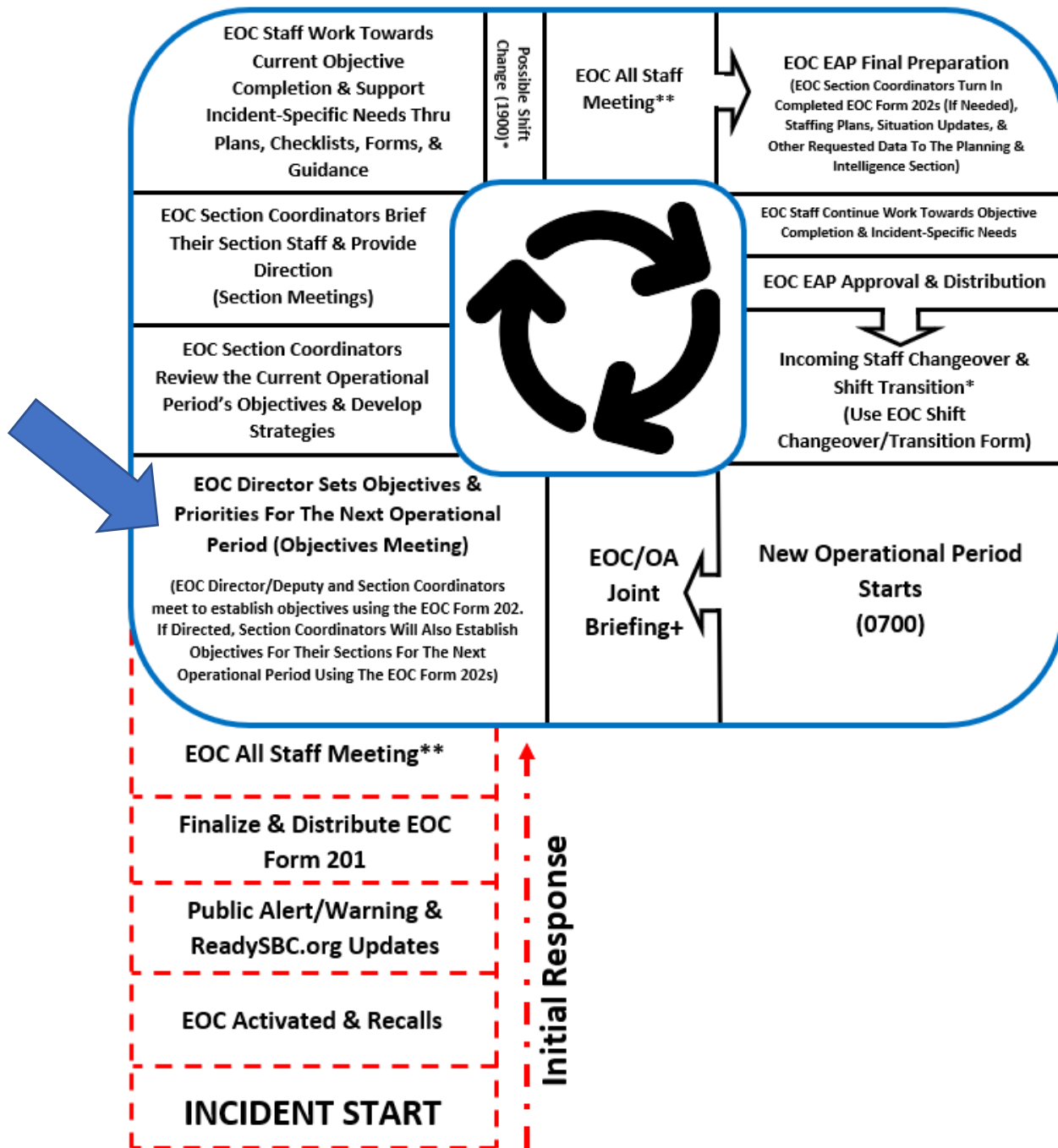
Outcome(s): Set the pace for the Action Planning process

Next Step(s):

- Prepare for the Objectives Meeting
- Objectives Meeting time: _____

Step 2: Set Incident Objectives/Objectives Meeting: The EOC Director, Deputy, and all EOC Section Coordinators will meet to develop objectives and priorities for the next operational period. Before finalizing the EOC Director's/Deputy Director's objectives for the next operational period, EOC Planning and Intelligence Section staff will provide a draft copy to the Operations Section Coordinator. The Operations Section Coordinator should verify that the Incident Objectives are understood and realistic.

FIGURE I.2 – PLANNING CYCLE STEP 2



After discussion, the Incident Objectives for the next operational period are written on the EOC Form 202 and delivered to all EOC Section Coordinators, the EOC PIO, and OA Liaison to inform them of the strategy for the next operational period following final EOC Director/Deputy Director approval.

Guidelines for the EOC Director/Deputy Director on Setting Goals and Objectives: Setting or reaffirming goals and objectives at the beginning of each operational period for the proceeding operational period is the duty of, and must be a top priority for, the EOC Director/Deputy Director. Three important guidelines:

1. Goals and objectives must be clearly stated, understood, and measurable so that the EOC Team may determine the extent to which goals and objectives are accomplished during their shift's operational period.
2. Goals and objectives must be attainable given the people, equipment, and supplies available during that operation period.
3. Goals and objectives must be broad and flexible enough for the Operations Section Coordinator to achieve them in the best way possible.

Table I.2: Objective Meeting Template

Facilitator:	Planning & Intelligence Section Coordinator	
Purpose:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess previous objectives to determine carry-over items • Identify and prioritize EOC Objectives for the NEXT OPERATIONAL PERIOD • Discuss and resolve limitations in supporting EOC Objectives 	
Attendees:	EOC Director, EOC Deputy Director, All EOC Section Coordinators, EOC PIO (Add members as required)	
1	Bring meeting to order, conduct roll call, and cover ground rules for the meeting (Plans Section)	
2	Discuss the current situation and assess previous objectives to determine carry-over items (Ops Section Coordinator)	
3	Establish and prioritize EOC Objectives for the NEXT OPERATIONAL PERIOD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership (EOC Director and Deputy Director) • Management (Management Section Coordinator and EOC PIO) • Operations (Operations Section Coordinator) • Logistics (Logistics Section Coordinator) • Finance (Finance and Administration Section Coordinator) • Planning and Intelligence (Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator) 	
4	Discuss needs for additional plans (e.g., Evacuation Plan, Traffic Plan, etc.)	
5	Roundtable and Closing Comments (All)	
6	Adjourn (Plans Section)	

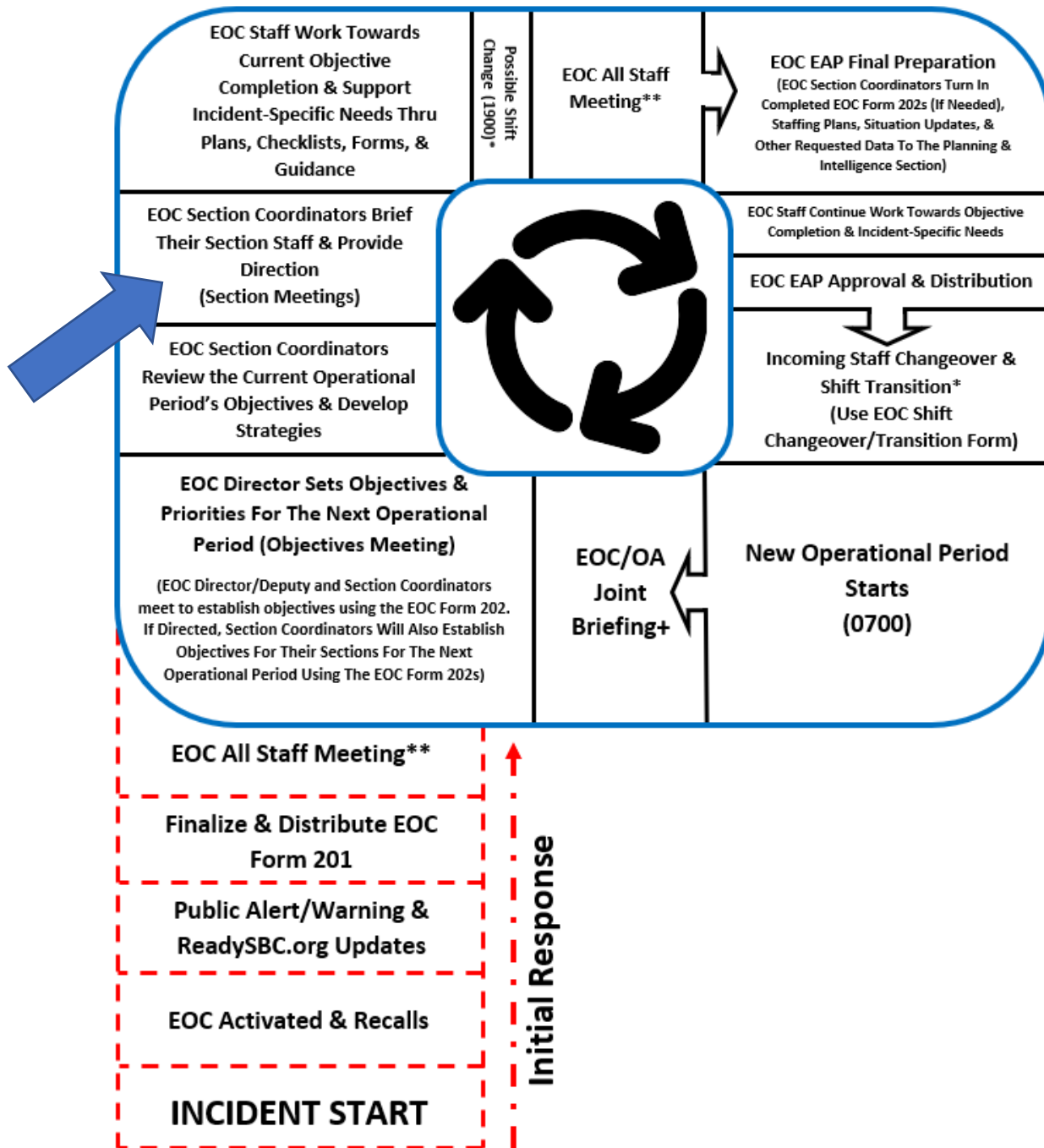
Outcome(s): A set of EOC Objectives for the NEXT OPERATIONAL PERIOD

Next Step(s):

- EOC Director or Deputy Director approves EOC Objectives
- Section Meetings to Prepare for the Strategy Meeting
- Strategy Meeting time: _____

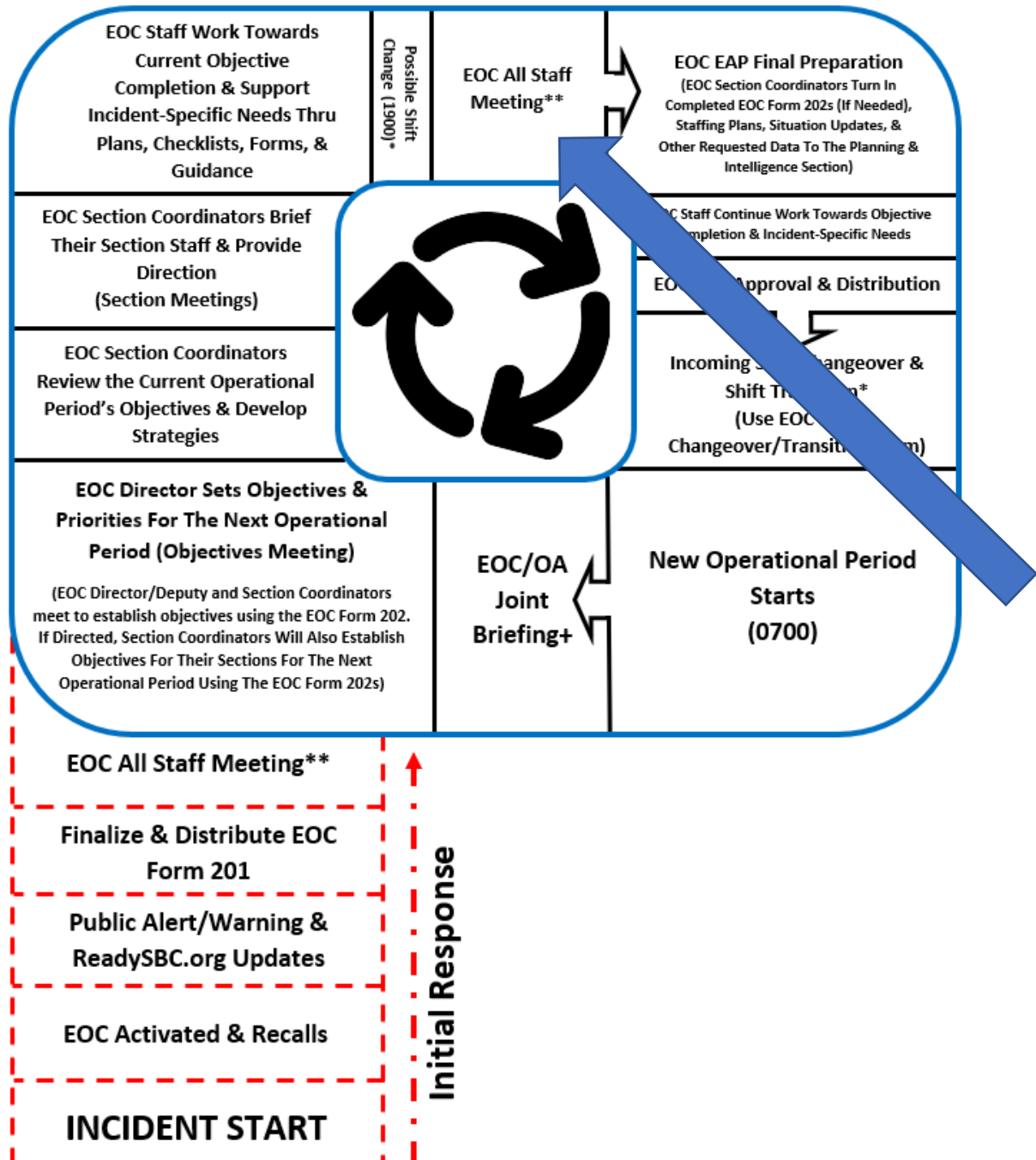
Step 3: Section Meetings: ICS Form 201, Incident Briefing Form, EOC Form 202, and/or ICS Form 209 Incident Status Summary Form are reviewed by Section Coordinators with their staff and other appropriate EOC Team members. The EOC Director or Deputy Director will update the initial objectives if warranted. After their Section Meeting, staff will work towards the objectives for their current operational period under the leadership of their Section Coordinators until the next EOC All Staff Meeting.

FIGURE I.3 – PLANNING CYCLE STEP 3



Step 4: EOC All Staff Meeting: The EOC All Staff Meeting provides incident updates and EOC Section status reports, allow for all EOC staff to be addressed by EOC and County leadership, and discuss EOC objectives for the current operational period. All EOC staff are expected to attend this meeting, however meeting coordination and speaking will primarily be handled by EOC leadership, all EOC Section Coordinators, and special guests as appropriate. The Planning & Intelligence Section Coordinator conducts the EOC All Staff Meeting following the agenda template in **Table I.3**.

FIGURE I.4 – PLANNING CYCLE STEP 4



At the conclusion of the meeting, the Planning and Intelligence Section Staff will indicate when all elements of the plan and support documents are required to be submitted so the individual elements of the draft EOC EAP can be edited, collated, reviewed, and approved by EOC leadership, and shared with all EOC staff upon finalization.

Table I.3: EOC All Staff Meeting Template

Facilitator:	Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator	
Purpose:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive a situation update regarding the incident and field operations. • Receive updates from each EOC Section Coordinator • Discuss and resolve issues prior to approving EOC EAP • Gather information needed to support the completion of the draft EOC EAP 	
Attendees:	All EOC Staff (Add members as required)	
1	Bring meeting to order, conduct roll call, and cover ground rules for the meeting (Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator)	
2	Situation Update (Planning and Intelligence Coordinator, OEM Duty Officer, or Representative from Incident Command)	
3	EOC Section Updates and Needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management (Management Section Coordinator and EOC PIO) • Operations (Operations Section Coordinator) • Logistics (Logistics Section Coordinator) • Finance (Finance and Administration Section Coordinator) Planning & Intelligence (Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator)	
4	Discuss status of completion of CURRENT operational period objectives (Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator and Operations Section Coordinator)	
5	Discuss what information is still needed to complete the draft EOC EAP for the NEXT operational period. (Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator)	
6	Roundtable and Closing Comments (All, ending with the EOC Director or Deputy Director)	
7	Adjourn (Plans)	

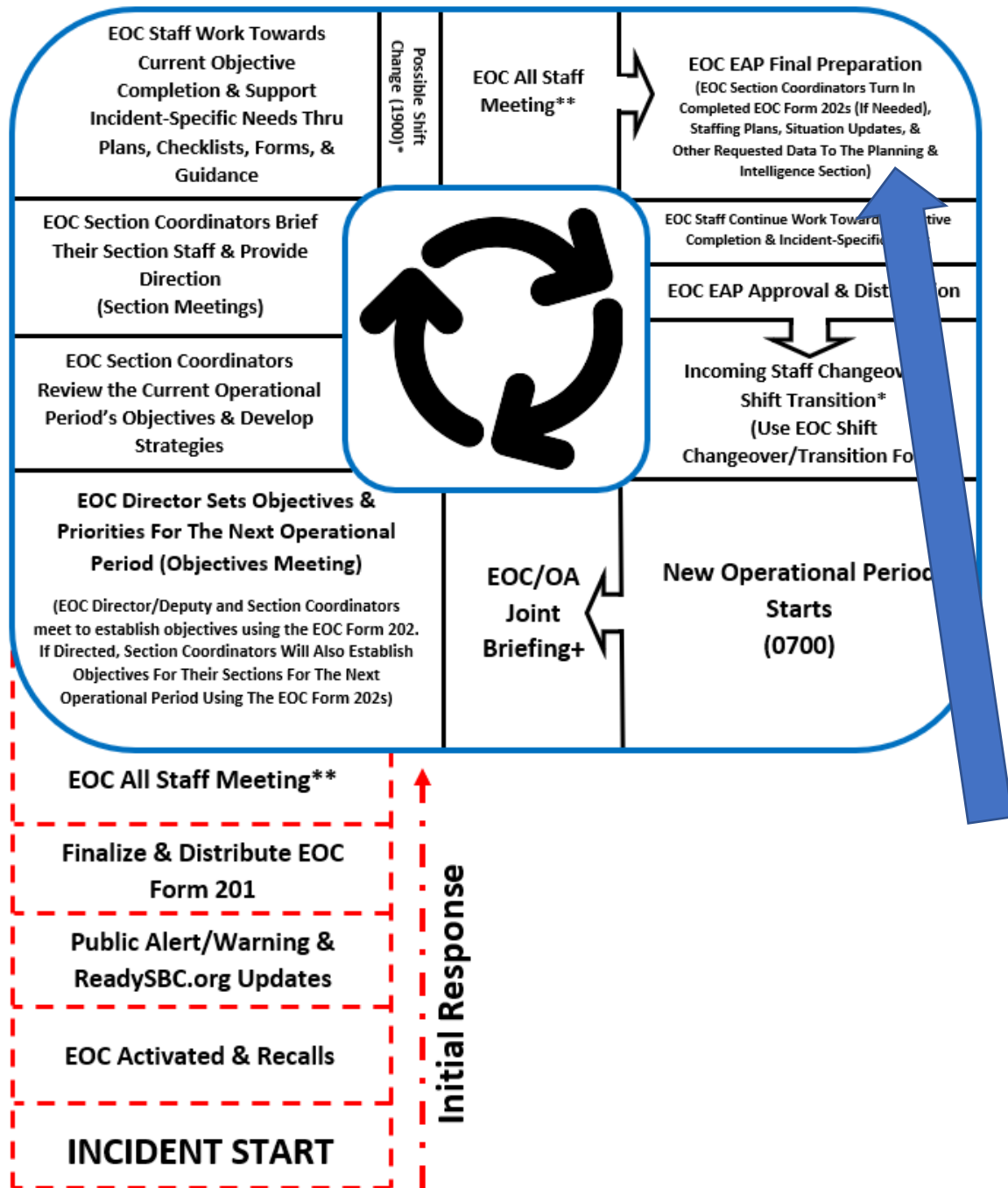
Outcome(s): Establish situational awareness and share the most current available information with all EOC staff.

Next Step(s):

- Gather outstanding information needed to complete the EOC EAP for the next operational period.

Step 5: EOC EAP Final Preparation: The next step in the Action Plan Process is final plan preparation and approval. The written plan is comprised of a series of standard forms and supporting documents developed during this process that convey the EOC Director/Deputy Director's intent and the objectives set to accomplish the plan for that Operational Period amongst other valuable information such as staffing charts, a situation status (SitStat) report, and GIS data.

FIGURE I.5 – PLANNING CYCLE STEP 5



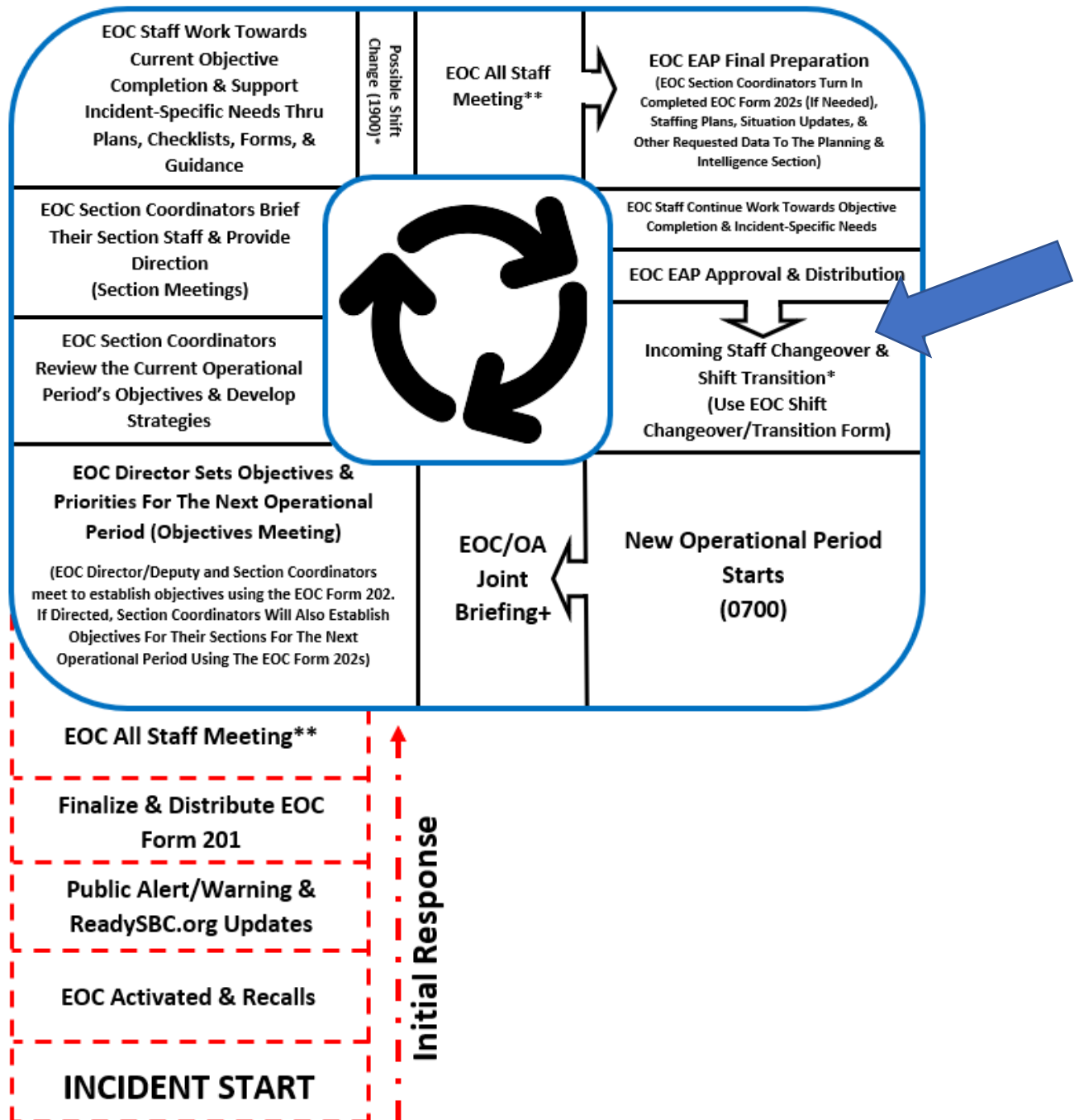
Once the EOC Director or Deputy Director has signed off and finalized all forms and contents of the EOC EAP, the action plan will be considered finalized. Once finalized, the EOC Planning and Intelligence Section will accomplish the following:

1. Get hardcopy wet signatures of approval on all finalized EOC EAP components from the EOC Director or Deputy Director.
2. Add “Approved, Signature Available Upon Request” to digital versions of final draft components of the approved EOC EAP.
3. Collate all finalized EOC EAP elements into one document digitally (this will allow hyperlinks within the EOC EAP to be useable by staff). Hardcopy collating and photocopying should be an option of last resort.
4. File the hardcopy/wet signature version of the EOC EAP in accordance with local filing protocols.
5. Print copies of the final EOC EAP and disseminate to EOC staff.
6. Email the final SitStat Report and EOC EAP to the OEM Duty Officer.

The OEM Duty Officer will share the finalized SitStat Report to Op Area partners, County executives, and the Board of Supervisors in accordance with OEM Director guidance once received. NOTE: Unless otherwise directed by the EOC Director or Deputy Director, the EOC EAP is NOT APPROVED for dissemination to personnel and agencies outside of the EOC as it may have sensitive incident data or contact information for individual staff members.

Step 6: EOC Staff Shift Changeover: Relieving personnel will start to report to the County/OA EOC towards the end of the operational period. During this period of staff transition, EOC staff are expected to fully brief their replacements on the situation, their individual lines of effort, and objectives for the new operational period.

FIGURE I.6 – PLANNING CYCLE STEP 6



EOC Staff are strongly encouraged to use the EOC Shift Changeover/Transition Form to guide this transition. Copies of this form are provided in all EOC Position Binders and extras will be printed and shared as needed. The expectation is that incoming staff are fully prepared to continue EOC activities before the start of the new operational period. It is strongly recommended that each EOC Section Coordinator meet with their assigned staff for a detailed review of their respective assignments during the time between the start of staff changeover and the EOC/OA Joint Briefing. **Table I.4** provides a template for EOC Section Coordinators to initially meet with replacing staff.

Table I.4: Section Transition Meeting Template

Facilitator:	EOC Section Coordinator	
Purpose:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute approved EOC Action Plan • A “stand-up” briefing conducted by each individual EOC Section at the end/beginning of each Operational Period to brief the EOC EAP to oncoming EOC Staff • Staff introductions 	
Attendees:	All Incoming Staff for each EOC Section- Distribute the approved EOC EAP to all EOC Section Staff before the briefing begins	
1	Current Situation Review (EOC Section Coordinator)	
2	Review Objectives from EOC Action Plan (EOC Section Coordinator)	
3	Review the EOC Form 207 or other applicable EOC organizational chart with staff (EOC Section Coordinator)	
4	Provide Logistics Guidance (i.e., forms, process) (EOC Section Coordinator) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All resource requests must be approved verbally or in writing by the Section Coordinator before being submitted to Logistics for fulfillment • All resource requests must be submitted electronically using the EOC’s Logistics Resource Request Portal unless otherwise directed 	
5	Provide Finance/Administration Guidance (i.e., forms, process) (EOC Section Coordinator) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All EOC staff and personnel working in the field under the direction of the EOC (i.e. those working in shelters, runners, etc.) and support staff, including those in Department Operations Centers (DOCs) must complete an EOC Form 214 for every shift worked. • All completed EOC Form 214s must be submitted to the EOC Section Coordinator at the end of each shift. • EOC staff are not excused from their shift until they have turned in their completed EOC Form 214 to their EOC Section Coordinator and have been given authorization to leave. 	
6	Review safety-related information within the EOC EAP (EOC Section Coordinator)	
7	Roundtable discussion and questions (All EOC Section Staff)	
8	Closing Comments (EOC Section Coordinator)	

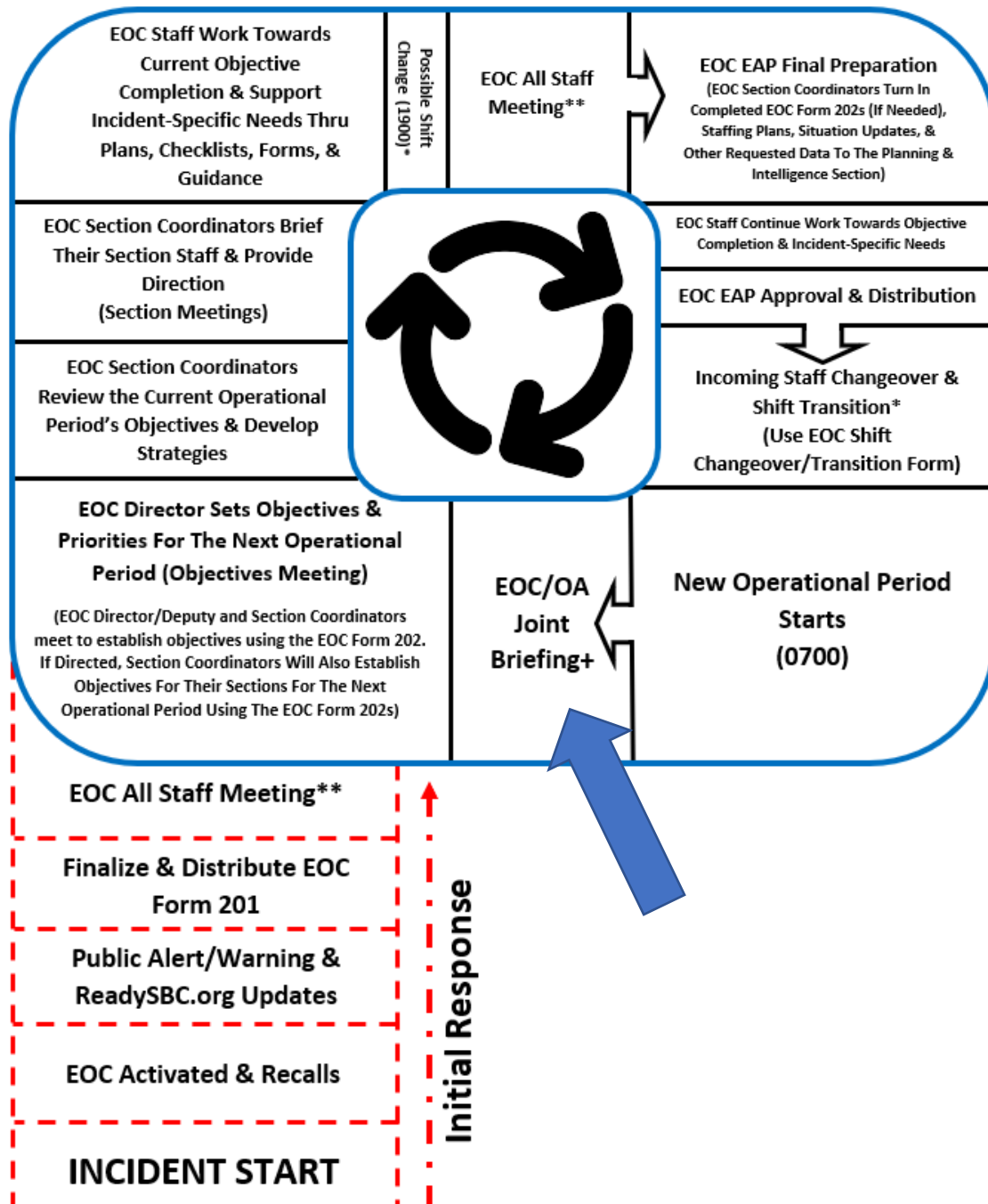
Outcome(s): A completed EOC Action Planning process

Next Step(s):

- Execute & assess the plan
- Attend the EOC/OA Joint Briefing
- Prepare for the next Objectives Meeting (EOC Section Coordinators)
- Objectives Meeting time: _____

Step 7: EOC/OA Joint Briefing: The EOC/Operational Area (OA) Joint Briefing involves all EOC staff and covers the same topics as EOC All Staff meetings (see Step 4) EXCEPT representatives from the SBC OA may be invited to participate in the meeting via conference call at the discretion of the EOC Director/Deputy Director. This allows the SBC OA to maintain situational awareness of County/OA EOC activities, voice concerns or needs, and provide report outs if they wish. Doing this allows EOC staff to understand lines of effort and potential operations-impacting concepts at the beginning of their operational period.

FIGURE I.7 – PLANNING CYCLE STEP 7



The EOC Director or Deputy Director will determine if it is appropriate to open this meeting to include SBC OA participation. Regardless of whether or not the SBC OA is invited to participate, the briefing will follow the same format as the EOC All Staff Meeting and be facilitated by the EOC Planning and Intelligence Section Coordinator. See Step 4 for the template meeting agenda to be used at this point of the EOC action planning process.

APPENDIX J: CONTINUITY FRAMEWORK

Background: A major disaster could result in great loss of life, including the death or injury of key government officials. In the aftermath of a major disaster, law and order must be preserved, and essential government services must be maintained. It is particularly essential that local units of government continue to function. Applicable portions of the California Government Code and the State Constitution provide authority for the continuity and preservation of state and local government.

Government at all levels is responsible for providing continuous, effective leadership and authority over all aspects of emergency services operations, including preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. Under California's concept of mutual aid, local officials remain in control of their jurisdiction's emergency operations, while others may provide additional resources upon request.

Preservation of Local Government: Article 15 of the California Emergency Services Act provides the authority, as well as the procedures, to maintain the continued functioning of political subdivisions within the state of California. Generally, Article 15 permits the appointment of up to three standby officers for each member of the governing body and up to three standby officers for the chief executive if not a member of the governing body.

Article 15 provides for the succession of officers who head departments responsible for maintaining law and order or furnishing public services relating to health and safety. Article 15 also outlines procedures for the continued functioning of political subdivisions in the event the governing body, including standby officers, is unavailable to serve. In this context, "unavailable" means that the official is killed, missing, or so seriously injured that they are unable to attend meetings and otherwise perform their duties.

County Continuity of Operations Plans: The County of Santa Barbara's continuity planning consists of two core types of documents: the County's Continuity of Operations Base Plan and individual Continuity of Operations plans (COOPs) for each County Department.

The County Continuity of Operations Base Plan is the overarching framework designed to address the coordination of County-wide and multi-departmental response to disruptions to County operations. This Plan includes prioritization of essential services, allocation of limited resources including staffing, development of policy changes, and coordination with the EOC or other activated resources. The County Continuity of Operations Base Plan will be activated by the CEO or designee 1) at the request of County Departments to support the continued performance of essential functions, 2) at the discretion of the CEO or designee, and/or 3) if two or more functional groups have been impacted due to a current incident or when a future incident has a potential impact on the continuous performance of essential functions.

Additionally, each department of the County of Santa Barbara has developed and continues to maintain their respective COOP. Individual department COOPs codify each department's mission, essential functions, key facilities and resources, and devolution concepts amongst other vital planning considerations. These plans allow for the continued performance of essential functions of each department by continuing to provide essential services to the community whenever there is a disruption to normal operations. The Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management is the lead coordinator for County Department planning COOP efforts, however each individual department is responsible for maintaining their respective COOP.

County staff should reference their department's COOP in the event that an emergency impacts the department's ability to perform essential functions.

Lines of Succession for Officials Charged with Discharging Emergency Responsibilities: Article 15, § 8638 of the California Emergency Services Act authorizes governing bodies to designate and appoint three standby officers for each member of the governing body and for the chief executive if not a member of the governing body. Standby officers take the same oath as regular officers. These standby officers are designated numbers 1, 2, or 3, respectively.

Chapter 12 (the Emergency Management Ordinance) of the County Code § 12-13 describes the policies and procedures for the succession of Department Heads and the members of the Board of Supervisors. **Each elected official (including members of the County Board of Supervisors) and Department Directors shall designate, in writing, standby personnel so as to maintain continuity of government services within their office or department.** Designation must occur upon being sworn into office and updated annually at a minimum, though designation may be updated at any time. A copy of such written designation shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

- County Executive Officer/Director of Emergency Services: Section 12-4 in Chapter 12 of the County of Santa Barbara Code of Ordinances designates the County Executive Officer as the Director of Emergency Services. Should the County Executive Officer be unavailable or unable to serve, a temporary successor will be identified using the County Executive Office's Continuity of Operations Plan. The individual who is designated as the Acting County Executive Officer will also serve as the Director of Emergency Services and shall have the authority and powers of the Director of Emergency Services. They will serve until the primary County Executive Officer is again able to serve or until the County Board of Supervisors has appointed a permanent successor.

Designation of successors for each County Department Director and other key departmental leaders are established in each department's Continuity of Operations Plan, though formal designations must still be reported to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors as directed in County Code Chapter 12, Section 12-13.

Article 15, § 8644 of the California Emergency Services Act establishes a method for reconstituting the governing body. In accordance with County Code Chapter 12, and as required by § 8640 of the Government Code of the State of California, each person holding a position designated as a standby officer shall take an oath of office required for the officer occupying the office for which the officer is standby. Persons acting in interim, acting, or temporary capacities in the positions designated as standby officers for other positions shall not take an oath of office and shall not assume the standby duties designated; in this case, the next designated standby officers shall assume the standby office.

Article 15, § 8642 of the California Emergency Services Act orders local governing bodies to convene as soon as possible whenever a State of War Emergency, State of Emergency, or Local Emergency exists and at a place not necessarily within the political subdivision.

Article 15, § 8643 of the California Emergency Services Act describes the duties of a governing body during emergencies as follows:

- Ascertain the damage to the jurisdiction and its personnel and property.
- Reconstitute the governing body and any subdivisions by filling vacancies.
- Perform functions in preserving law and order and furnishing local services.

Temporary County Seat: Per § 23600 of the California Government Code, the Board of Supervisors shall designate by resolution an alternative temporary county seat, which may be outside the boundaries of the County.

The Clerk of the Board Continuity of Operations Plan has designated the Santa Maria Betteravia Complex (511 Lakeside Parkway, Santa Maria) as an alternative County seat for the purposes of Board meetings should the Santa Barbara Administrative Offices be unavailable. In accordance with § 23600 of the California Government Code, the Board of Supervisors may also designate an alternative County seat, including the identification of another suitable facility within or outside the county's boundaries as needed based on scope and impact of a specific emergency or disaster on the primary County seat. As referenced in § 23642 of the California Government Code, "the county seat of Santa Barbara is Santa Barbara." Real property cannot be purchased for this purpose. A resolution designating the alternate County seats must be filed with the Secretary of State. Additional sites may be designated subsequent to the original site designations if circumstances warrant.

In the event the primary location is not usable because of emergency conditions, the temporary seat of the County government will be designated and used.

Preservation of Vital Records: Vital records are defined as those records that are essential to:

- Protect and preserve the rights and interests of individuals, governments, corporations, and other entities. Examples include vital statistics, land and tax records, license registers, and articles of incorporation.
- Conduct emergency response and recovery operations. Records of this type include utility system maps, locations of emergency supplies and equipment, emergency operations plans and procedures, personnel rosters, etc.
- Reestablish normal governmental functions and protect the rights and interests of the government. Constitutions and charters, statutes and ordinances, court records, official proceedings, and financial records will be included here.

Record depositories should be located well away from potential danger zones and/or housed in facilities designed to withstand blast, fire, water, and other destructive forces. Such action will improve the likelihood that constitutions and charters, statutes and ordinances, court records, official proceedings, financial records, plans, and policies will be available following any disaster.

Each department within the County must identify, maintain, and protect its own essential records.

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