

1 **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF THE 2025 FULTON COUNTY**
2 **LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**
3

4 **WHEREAS**, each county in the State of Georgia is required to develop a Local
5 Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) to describe the structure and processes comprising
6 the county approach to incident management, integrating the efforts of municipal
7 governments, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations; and

8 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County, through the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency
9 Management Agency (AFCEMA) formulated the Fulton County LEOP through a
10 collaborative effort involving the County as well as other municipal entities, organizations
11 and persons; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency
13 ("AFCEMA") believes the adoption of the Plan to be appropriate and in the best interest
14 of Fulton County.

15 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of
16 Commissioners:

17 (1) Adopts in its entirety the 2025 Fulton County Local Emergency Operations Plan
18 (FCLEOP), a copy of which has been provided.

19 (2) Will use the adopted plan to guide the management and coordination of
20 resources during major emergencies.

21 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall become effective upon
22 its adoption, and that all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution
23 are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

24
25 **SO PASSED AND ADOPTED**, this 18 day of June, 2025.

26
27 **FULTON COUNTY BOARD**
28 **OF COMMISSIONERS**

29 

30
31 _____
32 Chairman, Robb Pitts,
33 Fulton County Board of Commissioners
34

1 ATTEST:

2

3

4 Clerk, Tonya R. Grier

5 Fulton County Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Y. Soo Jo

Attorney, Y. Soo Jo

Fulton County



ITEM # 25-0487 SRM 6 / 18 / 25
SECOND REGULAR MEETING

FULTON COUNTY

LOCAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (LEOP)



**FULTON
COUNTY**

DRAFT

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

NOTICE: This document contains information pertaining to the deployment, mobilization, and tactical operations of Fulton County in response to emergencies. Information related to critical infrastructure has been redacted and is exempt from public disclosure under Georgia state law pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-18-72(a)(25)(A).

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PROMULGATION STATEMENT

Transmitted herewith is the Local Emergency Operations Plan for Fulton County. It provides a framework in which Fulton County can plan for and perform their respective emergency responsibilities during a disruption, disaster or emergency event.

This Plan was prepared in accordance with the highest level of continuity principles and standards. This plan supersedes any previous Emergency Operations Plans and has been agreed upon by the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. It will be reviewed and re-certified as required by the State of Georgia. Recipients are requested to advise the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency of any changes which might result in its improvement or increase in its usefulness.

APPROVED BY: _____
Joseph Barasoain, Director

DATE: _____

RECORD OF CHANGES

[illegible]

PREFACE

The Fulton County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) describes the structure and guidelines for managing an emergency or disaster that affects Fulton County. It is built upon scalable, flexible, and adaptable coordinating principles, which links all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector. It also complements a larger system of interrelated plans at the local, state and federal levels which are founded upon the National Response Framework (NRF) and the principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), to include the Incident Command System (ICS). The interconnected nature of the plans and incident management are designed to allow maximum coordination and cooperation between responders from all levels of government, and addresses all significant hazards to which Fulton County is vulnerable.

Since the planning process is continuous, this LEOP and associated plans are living documents and require maintenance. Recipients of this LEOP are expected to develop detailed plans, procedures, arrangements, and agreements for their agencies, train their personnel to implement those plans, procedures, arrangements and agreements regularly, and make changes as needed. Changes to this LEOP will be issued as appropriate. Supplements to this LEOP which deal with particular hazards and with regional planning problems will be issued periodically. Agencies or organizations which find areas of the LEOP that need improvement should advise the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency so that changes may be incorporated in an orderly manner.

The foundation principle of this system is that the local jurisdiction has primary responsibility for emergency preparation and response. This leaves the local authorities in command of their jurisdictions where State and Federal resources support the local government, unless the crisis is of such a nature that Federal lead is declared. In accordance with this principle, local resources are expended first. If the resources are insufficient, Fulton County Emergency Management will request assistance from other counties and/or the State of Georgia. This assistance may be provided peer-to-peer from other County or State agencies, or overall under the direction of the Governor through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security (GEMA/HS). In the event of a major emergency or disaster where the Governor of Georgia requests Federal assistance, FEMA will coordinate the response and resources from the Federal government using the NRF.

This LEOP is designed in segments. The Basic Plan describes the overall emergency management structure, assignment of responsibilities and general guidance for the emergency management program. This program includes all the activities related to the five phases of emergency management: prevention, preparation, mitigation, response, and recovery.

The details of the LEOP are found in the Emergency Support Function (ESF) Annexes. These are function-specific guidelines for the delivery of specific products and services that in turn support field operations and recovery prior to, during, and after emergencies or disasters. ESFs are mechanisms for grouping like functions that are frequently necessary during emergencies or disasters in accordance with the NRF.

Roles and responsibilities addressing specific hazards will be provided as appendices to the LEOP. These appendices extend and amplify the procedures in the Basic Plan that pertain specifically to those emergency scenarios.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. General

Presidential Policy Directive 5 (PPD-5) requires State and Local governments to adopt the fundamental principles, language and operational concepts embedded in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Framework (NRF) as a condition for receiving certain categories of federal support for Emergency Management. Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8) describes the nation's approach to national preparedness. To meet these requirements, Fulton County created this Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) and the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency officially adopted it on Plan Not Yet Active.

The revised Fulton County LEOP is the product of a detailed and focused planning process that 1) fully incorporates NIMS concepts, principles, practices and language; 2) capitalizes on the lessons learned from past incidents; and 3) incorporates plans, programs, and policies that have emerged since the last revision of the LEOP. The LEOP establishes a framework through which the County may better prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate a wide variety of disasters that could adversely affect the health, safety and/or general welfare of local residents and the emergency workers of Fulton County. The LEOP provides guidance to Fulton County officials on operating procedures, organizational needs, and individual/team responsibilities, which will prevent, minimize, and/or relieve personnel hardship and property damage associated with disasters or the imminent threat thereof. This plan also provides for an integrated and coordinated local, county, state, and federal response. This plan is considered a living document, fully integrated with a database and dynamic fields system. It also complies with the most current guidance from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding the ability to keep data and personal information secure and up to date.

The LEOP is an all-hazards, operationally based plan that addresses locally identified threats and hazards through a four-phased approach: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. Consistent with FEMA's Comprehensive Planning Guide (CPG) 101, it incorporates the "whole community" concept in all phases of the emergency management cycle. The "whole community" refers to the involvement of all segments of the local population, ranging from government officials and local businesses to families and individuals. It attempts to address various local needs, and how best to utilize local resources during a disaster. The plan's objective is to clearly define the responsibilities of county, local, volunteer, and other organizations through a LEOP/Incident Command System (ICS)/Response Annex approach.

B. Purpose

The purpose of this LEOP is to establish a comprehensive countywide, all-hazards approach to incident management across a spectrum of activities including prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation as they apply to emergency/disaster events that will enhance the County's ability to respond effectively when required and reduce the risk or magnitude of future emergency/disaster events.

The LEOP provides a framework for county government, non-government entities, and the private sector to:

- Reduce the loss of life and property of Fulton County residents and visitors due to natural, technological, or intentional emergencies.
- Provide an efficient, comprehensive organizational structure for emergency preparedness, prevention, response, recovery, and mitigation.
- Establish capabilities for protecting citizens from the effects of disasters.
- Manage emergency operations within Fulton County by coordinating the use of resources available from the local governments, private sector partners, civic and volunteer organizations, and state and federal agencies.
- Recover from emergencies by providing for the rapid and orderly initiation of restoration and rehabilitation of persons and property affected by emergencies.

The LEOP uses the following priorities, listed in order of importance. Whenever demands for emergency resources (personnel or equipment) conflict, the operational demand that is highest on this list will prevail.

1. Life Safety
2. Incident Stabilization
3. Property Protection
4. Community Restoration

C. Scope

The LEOP provides for the overview of Fulton County's approach to emergency operations, identifies the hazards that can be expected to occur in the County, identifies the agencies responsible for the various emergency support functions associated with emergency operations. Additionally the Basic Plan establishes the need for mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery operations associated with the occurrence of emergency situations.

This plan identifies when and under what conditions the application, activation or revision of this plan is necessary. The plan establishes fundamental policies, strategies, and assumptions for a County program that is guided by the principles of NIMS, the National Preparedness Goal (NPG), the National Planning Frameworks, and the National Preparedness System. This LEOP provides the following benefits to Fulton County:

- The LEOP addresses all hazards, all phases of emergency management, and all impacts, plus extends an opportunity to partner with all stakeholders.
- The LEOP establishes a concept of operations spanning the direction and control of an emergency from initial monitoring through post-disaster response, recovery, and mitigation.
- The LEOP defines interagency and intergovernment coordination mechanisms to facilitate the delivery of immediate response and recovery assistance.

- The LEOP assigns specific functions to appropriate County and local agencies and organizations, and outlines methods to coordinate with the private sector, volunteer organizations, citizens, and state and federal counterparts.

The LEOP identifies actions that County response and recovery organizations will take in coordination with local, state and federal counterparts as appropriate, regardless of the magnitude of the disaster.

The LEOP applies to all departments and agencies that may be requested to provide assistance or conduct operations during the actual or potential emergencies or disasters. Local jurisdictions participating in the development, implementation, and maintenance of this plan are listed below:

- Fulton County
- City of Alpharetta
- City of Atlanta
- City of Chattahoochee Hills
- City of College Park
- City of East Point
- City of Fairburn
- City of Hapeville
- City of Johns Creek
- City of Mountain Park
- City of Milton
- City of Palmetto
- City of Roswell
- City of Sandy Springs
- City of South Fulton
- Union City

This LEOP establishes interagency and multi-jurisdictional mechanisms for involvement in and coordination of incident management operations. This plan also distinguishes between incidents that require coordination at the county level of government, at the local level where multiple municipalities are involved, and incidents that are handled by the responsible jurisdictions or agencies through other established authorities and existing plans.

D. Methodology

The Fulton County LEOP was developed through a team effort by Fulton County departments and stakeholders:

Throughout the course of the plan's development, all plan participants were consulted with in order to determine their particular emergency roles and responsibilities. Each has agreed with the responsibilities assigned to them in the Fulton County LEOP.

All Fulton County departments and any outside organizations with roles in this LEOP will receive access to the Fulton County LEOP.

In addition:

- The Fulton County LEOP is adopted by governing bodies and by resolution, which serves as the promulgation letter for the LEOP. A copy of the signed promulgation is found in Section I: Acceptance, Signatures and Proof of Maintenance.
- A Record of Changes Log is used to record all published changes as those holding copies of the LEOP receive them. The holder of the copy is responsible for making the appropriate changes and updating the Log.
- A master copy of the LEOP, with a master Record of Changes Log, is maintained in the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency.

1. Planning Process

The process used by Fulton County has been designed to ensure that all stakeholders have an opportunity to participate in the development of the LEOP and the LEOP is based on the best information available. To this end, the planning process is based on the following planning principles:

- Planning should be community-based, representing the whole community and their needs
- Planning should include participation from all stakeholders in the community
- Planning uses a logical and analytical problem-solving process to help address the complexity and uncertainty inherent in potential hazards
- Planning considers all hazards and threats
- Planning should be flexible enough to address both traditional and catastrophic incidents
- Time, uncertainty, risk and experience influence planning
- Effective plans tell those with operational responsibilities what to do and why to do it
- Planning is fundamentally a process to manage risk

- Planning is one of the key components of the preparedness cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective actions

2. Implementation of NIMS

The Fulton County LEOP implements NIMS by:

- Using ICS and the multi-agency coordination system to manage and support all incidents
- Integrating all response agencies and entities into a single, seamless system
- Establishing a public information plan in the ESF dealing with dissemination of information
- Identifying and characterizing resources according to established standards and types
- Requiring all personnel to be trained properly for the job they perform
- Ensuring interoperability, accessibility, and redundancy of communications

II. SITUATION

This section of the plan summarizes the hazards that could potentially affect Fulton County. The hazards and risk analysis addresses the major hazards to which the County is vulnerable; provides a summary of the County's vulnerable population; outlines the assumptions that were considered in the planning process; and defines disaster magnitude classifications that will trigger County response under the NIMS.

A comprehensive hazard and risk assessment is contained in the Fulton County mitigation plan. The plan is kept under separate cover and can be accessed by contacting the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency.

A. Hazard Analysis

Hazard and Vulnerability Assessment Summary

Fulton County is vulnerable to a wide range of hazards that threaten its communities, businesses, and environment. To determine the hazards that pose the greatest threat, Fulton County has prepared a Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment. The major findings are summarized below. The assessment was developed from historical data of events that have occurred, and specifically examines:

1. Probability (frequency) of event
2. Magnitude of event
3. Expected warning time before event
4. Expected duration of event

For emergency management planning purposes, the critical analysis that must be undertaken is an assessment of the consequences of each hazard, including potential area of impact, population exposed and impacted, duration of the hazard, and potential economic consequences. These rankings utilize the criteria laid out in the THIRA to weight them proportionally through historic data as well as future projections based on economic, demographic, the critical infrastructure information.

Three levels of risk have been identified: High, Moderate and Low.

High - High probability of occurrence; at least 50 percent or more of population at risk from hazard; significant to catastrophic physical impacts to buildings and infrastructure; major loss or potential loss of functionality to all essential facilities (hospital, police, fire, EOC and shelters).

Moderate - Less than 50 percent of population at risk from hazard; moderate physical impacts to buildings and infrastructure; moderate potential for loss of functionality to essential facilities.

Low - Low probability of occurrence or low threat to population; minor physical impacts.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Certain facilities have a net positive value on the community, i.e., they contribute to the public good by facilitating the basic functions of society. These facilities maintain order, public health, and education, and help the economy function. Additionally, there are infrastructure and facilities integral to disaster response and recovery operations. Conversely, some facilities and infrastructure are of extreme importance due to the negative externalities created when they are impacted by a disaster. What fits this definition will vary slightly from community to community, but the definition remains as a guideline for identifying critical facilities and infrastructure. Table 8 in Section 3.3 - Critical Facilities and Infrastructure of the 2022 Fulton County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan includes information pertaining to critical facilities and infrastructure within Fulton County.

2. Disaster Magnitude Class

This is an all-hazards LEOP and addresses minor, major and catastrophic disasters. These levels of disaster are defined as:

Catastrophic Disaster: A disaster that will require massive State and Federal assistance, including immediate military involvement. Federal assistance will involve response as well as recovery assets.

Major Disaster: A disaster that will likely exceed local capability and require a broad range of State and Federal assistance. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be notified and potential Federal assistance will be predominantly recovery oriented.

Minor Disaster: A disaster that will likely be within the response capability of local government and will result in only a minimal need for State or Federal assistance.

B. Capability Assessment

Currently capability assessments are performed by local preparedness teams in Georgia. The capability assessment is performed in coordination with the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security with wide input accepted from key stakeholders. The results of the capability assessment guide future investments in planning, training, exercising and resources. The local capability assessment is available under separate cover and is attached to the file archive in the BOLDplanning Super System.

Capability Targets are developed in accordance with THIRA guidelines, resulting in comprehensive Capability Estimation rankings.

The structure of the THIRA process is outlined in the following chart:



C. Economic Profile

Fulton County, Georgia is a dynamic and diverse economic hub in the southeastern United States. With a population of over 1 million residents, the county has a thriving economy that is driven by a mix of industries, including finance, technology, healthcare, and education.

One of the key drivers of Fulton County's economy is the finance sector. Atlanta, the county seat, is home to several major banks, including Truist, Wells Fargo, and First Citizens BancShares. These institutions employ thousands of people and contribute significantly to the local economy through their operations and investments.

Another important sector in Fulton County's economy is technology. The county is home to several major tech companies, including AT&T, IBM, and Verizon, as well as many smaller startups and incubators. This sector provides high-paying jobs and drives innovation and economic growth through research and development.

Healthcare is also a major contributor to Fulton County's economy. The county is home to several major hospitals and healthcare systems, including Grady Memorial Hospital, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta-Hughes Spalding, Emory University Midtown Hospital, Northside Hospital, Wellstar North Fulton Hospital, and Piedmont Hospital. These institutions not only provide critical medical services to the community, but they also employ thousands of people and drive economic growth through their operations.

Education is another key driver of Fulton County's economy. The county is home to several major universities, including Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Emory University, and the Atlanta University Center (Morehouse College, Spelman College, Morris Brown College, & Clark Atlanta University). These institutions not only provide education and training for future workers, but they also contribute to the local economy through their research and development activities and investments in the community.

Major events are a key driver of Fulton County's Economy. The county is home to the Mercedes-Benz Stadium, State Farm Arena, and multiple parks for large gatherings. In addition to regular and frequent professional sports games and concerts, Fulton County will host the 2025 FIFA Club World Cup, 2026 FIFA World Cup, and 2028 Super Bowl.

In addition to these major industries, Fulton County's economy is also driven by small businesses and entrepreneurship. The county is home to many small businesses, including retail shops, restaurants, and service providers, which provide important goods and services to

the community and create jobs for local residents.

Overall, Fulton County, Georgia is a thriving and dynamic economic hub that is driven by a mix of industries, including finance, technology, healthcare, education, and small business. These industries provide high-paying jobs, drive innovation and economic growth, and contribute to the well-being of the community.

D. Spatial Profile

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the county has a total area of 534 square miles (1,380 km²), of which 527 square miles (1,360 km²) is land and 7.7 square miles (20 km²) (1.4%) is water. The county is located in the Piedmont region of the state in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains to the north. The shape of the county resembles a sword with its handle at the northeastern part, and the tip at the southwestern portion.

Going from north to south, the northernmost portion of Fulton County, encompassing Milton and northern Alpharetta, is located in the Etowah River sub-basin of the ACT River Basin (Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa River Basin). The rest of north and central Fulton, to downtown Atlanta, is located in the Upper Chattahoochee River sub-basin of the ACF River Basin (Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin). The bulk of south Fulton County, from Atlanta to Palmetto, is located in the Middle Chattahoochee River-Lake Harding sub-basin of the larger ACF River Basin, with just the eastern edges of south Fulton, from Palmetto northeast through Union Hill to Hapeville, in the Upper Flint River sub-basin of the same larger ACF River Basin.

1. Population Demographics

Of the 159 counties in the State of Georgia, Fulton County is ranked as 17th in land area and number one in population size. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of Fulton County increased from 920,581 (U.S. Census 2010) to 1,066,710 (U.S. Census 2020). This represents a 15.87% increase over a ten-year period.

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), as previously stated, projects Fulton County's population will grow by as many as 462,745 by 2050.

The U.S. 2020 Decennial Census, in combination with the 2019 American Community Survey, also included the following demographic values specific to Fulton County:

Of the total population, 453,834 are categorized as Black or African American; 418,700 are categorized as White; 86,302 are categorized as Hispanic or Latino, 80,949 are categorized as Asian. The balance of the population is comprised of Other/Combined races. Additionally, 12.8% of the total population is foreign born.

- Of the total population, 84% speak English only at home; 15.4% speak a language other than English at home, including Spanish (6.2%) and Asian and Pacific Islander (3.8%).
- Of the total population, 12% is over the age of 65 and 21.4% are under the age of 18. The median age is 35.9 years.
- Of the total population, 57.5% have a bachelor's degree or higher.
- Of the total population, 59.4% are enrolled in school (K-12).

- Of the total population, 13.5% of people live below the poverty level.

It is important to note that population trends can be used as a basis for estimating future changes within the planning area. Population trends can provide a basis for making decisions on the type of mitigation approaches to consider and the locations in which these approaches should be applied. This information can also be used to support planning decisions regarding future development in vulnerable locations, e.g., nursing homes or low-income households.

2. Climate

Fulton County is known to have a humid, subtropical climate. The summer (July) high is around 88 degrees, and the winter (January) low is around 32 degrees. The County received 52 inches of rain on average, which is above the U.S. average of 38; and on average two inches of snow, which is below the U.S. average of 28.

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), 2019 ended up being warmer and drier across north and central Georgia. Average temperatures were at least two degrees above normal. Ranked by average temperatures, Atlanta (66.1 degrees) recorded its warmest year on record. Climate change is generally considered to be the root cause for the increase.

The annual Best Places Comfort Index for Fulton County is 6.8 (10=best), which means it is one of the most pleasant places in Georgia. Given its many attributes, including location, continued financial and economic vitality, premier public school system, and comfortable climate, Fulton County remains attractive to new residents, businesses, and visitors alike. As evidence, the Georgia Department of Economic Development, <https://www.georgia.org>, estimates that more than half of the state's \$68.96 billion tourism industry (2019) comes from the Metro Atlanta area.

3. School Districts / Higher Education

As for public education, Fulton County is served by two school systems: Fulton County Schools (<https://www.fultonschools.org>) and Atlanta Public Schools (<https://www.atlantapublicschools.us>).

Fulton County Schools is the fourth largest school system in Georgia. It has more than 10,900 full-and part-time employees and more than 6,900 teachers and other certified personnel who work in 104 schools. Approximately 87,262 students are enrolled for the 2024-2025 school year across 58 elementary schools, 19 middle schools, 19 high schools, 7 start-up charter schools, and one full-time virtual school.

Atlanta Public Schools is one of the largest school districts in the state of Georgia, serving approximately 50,000 students. Atlanta Public Schools has 91 learning sites, including 65 neighborhood schools, 5 partner schools, 17 charter schools, 2 citywide single-gender academies, and 2 alternative programs.

E. Vulnerable Needs

Fulton County recognizes considerations must be made to reasonably accommodate vulnerable populations during emergencies. Fulton County is engaged in a number of activities which aim to improve response plans and operations to accommodate the needs of those most vulnerable during an emergency event. Multiple ESFs within this plan outline or identify guidance to better assist supporting vulnerable needs populations. Fulton County acknowledges at times the best

support for such needs is to request assistance from regional and/or state partners. Specifically, the following will be addressed in this LEOP:

- Identification of Vulnerable populations: Basic Plan, Vulnerable Needs Planning System, ADA criteria in References and Authorities
- Notification: ESF Communications
- Evacuation and Transportation: ESF Transportation
- Sheltering: ESF Mass Care
- First aid and medical care: ESF Medical Care
- Temporary lodging and housing: ESF Mass Care
- Transition back to the community: ESF Long Term Recovery
- Recovery: ESF Long Term Recovery

1. Pets and Service Animals

This plan takes into consideration the needs of individuals with disabilities relying on service animals. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) protects the rights of all individuals with disabilities and requires that State and local governments comply with Title II of the ADA in the emergency and disaster-related programs, services, and activities they provide.

The sheltering and protection of companion animals are the primary responsibility of their owners. When owners are unable to provide for the care and needs of their household pets and service animals, the local jurisdictions will provide assistance as outlined in the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006 (PETS) and FEMA DAP 9523.19. The Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006 requires that local governments plan for sheltering and care of household pets and service animals during emergencies where shelters are established. Fulton County has included pet sheltering as part of ESF Mass Care. The following is specifically addressed in ESF Mass Care:

- Pre-event planning
- Animal sheltering operations
- Animal registration and return
- Coordination with human shelters

FEMA Disaster Assistance Policy 9523.19

The Policy identifies the expenses related to state and local governments' emergency pet evacuation and sheltering activities that are eligible for reimbursement following a major disaster declaration under Category B, Emergency Protective Measures, and provisions of the Public Assistance Program. The terms household pet, domestic pet, service animal, and congregate household pet shelters are defined. The policy details eligible reimbursements related to shelter

facilities, supplies and commodities, eligible labor, equipment, emergency veterinary services, transportation, shelter safety and security, cleaning, reunification, and restoration, and the removal and disposal of animal carcasses.

F. Planning Assumptions

The preparation of the LEOP was guided by several assumptions that address a range of issues that potentially impact response and recovery capabilities and the concept of operations. These assumptions include:

- Incidents are best managed at the lowest possible geographic, organizational and jurisdictional level.
- A disaster may occur with little or no warning, and may escalate more rapidly than the ability of local government to effectively respond.
- Achieving and maintaining effective citizen and community preparedness reduces the immediate demands on response organizations. This level of preparedness requires continued public awareness and education programs to ensure citizens will take appropriate advance actions to reduce their vulnerability, especially during the initial days (first 72 hours) after disaster impact.
- Disasters may involve multiple jurisdictions simultaneously impacting the County.
- Disasters will require significant information sharing across jurisdictions and between the public/private sector.
- Fulton County will utilize available resources fully before requesting state and/or federal assistance.
- Mutual Aid Agreements will be implemented in those instances when locally available resources are depleted or need augmentation.
- The County External Affairs Department will coordinate all public information activities during an emergency.
- Disasters may attract a sizeable influx of spontaneous volunteers and donations.
- Widespread damage to commercial telecommunications facilities may occur and the ability of governmental response and emergency response agencies to communicate may be impaired.
- Homes, public buildings and other critical facilities and equipment may be destroyed or severely damaged.
- Debris may make streets and highways impassable, seriously impeding the movement of emergency supplies and resources.
- Public utilities may be damaged and may be either fully or partially inoperable.

- Many County emergency personnel may be victims of the emergency, preventing them from performing their assigned emergency duties.
- Numerous separate hazardous conditions and other emergencies could result from the major event, further complicating the response efforts.
- People may be forced from their homes and large numbers of people may be killed or injured.
- Many victims may be in life-threatening situations requiring immediate rescue and medical care.
- There may be shortages of a wide variety of supplies necessary for emergency survival.
- Hospitals, nursing homes, pharmacies and other health/medical facilities may be severely damaged or destroyed; and the number of victims requiring medical attention may overwhelm those that do remain in operation.
- Normal food processing and distribution capabilities may be severely damaged or destroyed.
- Damage to fixed facilities that generate, produce, use, store or dispose of hazardous materials could result in the release of hazardous materials into the environment.
- Near-total disruption of energy sources and prolonged outages may occur.
- Initially, emergency response will focus on lifesaving activities. County officials will work toward restoring order and control in the disaster area.
- In major and catastrophic disasters the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will become the central point and control for County response and recovery activities.
- The Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated and staffed with agencies organized into specific ESFs. The coordinating agency for each ESF is responsible for coordinating the planning and response activities for all the agencies of the function.
- The County will coordinate with State and Federal personnel to expedite recovery.
- Damage assessments will be conducted as soon as weather or the situation permits.
- The County will work to reduce its vulnerability and risk to hazards through proactive mitigation actions and activities.
- All levels of government share the responsibility for working together in preventing, mitigating, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters. The emergency plans and procedures referred to in the Fulton County LEOP have been maintained by those organizations having responsibility, are in coordination with the LEOP, and are exercised on a regular basis.

- Those individuals and organizations with responsibilities identified in the LEOP (or in plans that support of the LEOP) are sufficiently trained and prepared to perform their respective responsibilities.

Top Priorities for Incident Management

- Remove endangered individuals from the threat and treat the injured.
- Stabilize the incident and provide for life safety.
- Conserve/protect property by mitigating the damage and impact to individuals, communities, and the environment.
- Provide for the safety, accountability, and welfare of the public, responders, and recovery workers.
- Ensure security and prevent an imminent incident from occurring if at all possible.
- Protect and restore critical infrastructure and key resources.
- Facilitate recovery of individuals, families, businesses, governments, and the environment.

Factors to be considered

The degree of external involvement within incident management operations depends largely on the capabilities of a specific authority or jurisdiction. A few factors that must be considered include:

- The needs of local municipalities for external support to effectively manage the incident.
- The economic ability of the affected entity to respond to and recover from the incident.
- The location and magnitude of the event.
- The need to protect the public health or welfare as well as the environment.

For disasters or emergencies that receive a Presidential declaration, state and/or Federal support is delivered in accordance with relevant provisions of the Stafford Act.

(Note that while all Presidential declared disasters and emergencies under the Stafford Act are considered incidents of critical significance, not all incidents necessarily result in disaster or emergency declarations under the Stafford Act.)

III. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Federal Government

The federal government is responsible for:

- Preventing terrorist attacks within the United States through the Department of Homeland Security; reducing the vulnerability of the nation to terrorism, natural disasters, and other emergencies; and minimizing the damage and assisting in the recovery from emergencies.
- Providing emergency response on federally owned or controlled property, such as military installations and federal prisons.
- Providing federal assistance as directed by the President of the United States under the coordination of the United States Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency and in accordance with National Response plans.
- Identifying and coordinating provision of assistance under other federal statutory authorities.
- Providing assistance to the State and local governments for response to and recovery from a commercial radiological incident consistent with guidelines as established in the current Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan and the National Response Plan.
- Managing and resolving all issues pertaining to the influx of illegal immigrants.
- Providing repatriation assistance to U.S. citizens (including noncombatants of the U.S. Department of Defense) evacuated from overseas areas. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), in coordination with other designated federal departments and agencies, is responsible for providing such assistance.

B. State Government

As a State's Chief Executive, the Governor is responsible for the public safety and welfare of the people of Georgia. The Governor:

- Is responsible for coordinating State resources to address the full spectrum of actions to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from incidents in an all-hazards context to include terrorism, natural disasters, accidents, and other contingencies.
- Has power to make, amend, and rescind orders and regulations under a Governor's emergency declaration.
- Provides leadership and plays a key role in communicating to the public and in helping people, businesses, and organizations cope with the consequences of any type of declared emergency within Georgia.

- Encourages participation in mutual aid and implements authorities for the State to enter into mutual aid agreements with other States, tribes, and territories to facilitate resource-sharing.
- Is the Commander-in-Chief of State military forces (National Guard when in State Active Duty or Title 32 Status and the authorized State militias).
- Requests Federal assistance when it becomes clear that State or tribal capabilities will be insufficient or have been exceeded or exhausted.

The Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security is responsible for implementing all policy decisions relating to emergency management. These decisions are then relayed to the tasked state agencies. Those emergencies relating to local matters will be coordinated with local emergency management coordinators.

The primary role of the State of Georgia, as described by Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security in the Georgia Emergency Operations Plan (GEOP 2010), is to support local emergency management activities through respective, and recognized, local EMA directors. Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security also provides assistance to recognized local EMAs in the form of grants, hazard mitigation projects, Citizen Corps programs, EMPG funding, planning and/or technical guidance.

During a disaster in which local capabilities are overwhelmed, assistance may be requested from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency via a recognized EMA. This assistance may be provided peer-to-peer from another county or State agency, or overall under the direction of the Governor, through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security {GEOP Annex 3}. In the event of a major emergency or disaster, Federal assistance can be requested by Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security via the Governor of Georgia. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will then coordinate the response and resources from the Federal government utilizing the NRF.

Under the provisions of the Stafford Act, Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security is responsible for preparing and processing requests for emergency assistance from the federal government on behalf of local governments impacted by natural or manmade disasters. The Stafford Act authorizes the President to provide financial and other assistance to State and local governments, certain private non-profit organizations, and individuals following a Presidential emergency or a major disaster declaration.

C. County Government

County governments are responsible for:

- Maintaining an emergency management program at the county level involving all government, private and volunteer organizations which have responsibilities in the comprehensive emergency management system within the county.
- Coordinating the emergency management needs of all municipalities within the county and working to establish intracounty Mutual Aid Agreements to render emergency assistance.

- Implementing a broad-based public awareness, education and information program designed to reach all citizens of the county including those needing special media formats, who are non-English speaking (including persons who do not use English as their first language), and those with hearing impairment or loss.
- Coordinating mutual aid activities within Fulton County to ensure the provision of supplemental emergency aid and assistance.
- Maintaining an emergency management program that is designed to avoid, reduce, and mitigate the effects of hazards through the enforcement of policies, standards, and regulations.
- Maintaining cost and expenditure reports associated with disasters, including resources mobilized as a result of Mutual Aid Agreements.
- Coordinating public information activities during disasters.
- Developing and maintaining systems to coordinate the provision of shelters and mass care to those displaced by disasters.

Fulton County departments have specific responsibilities during disasters and/or during Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activations. The everyday organizational structure of Fulton County government remains in effect during disaster situations, however certain functions of various departments may be modified or suspended to meet the needs of the disaster situation.

D. Local Government

Principle of Local Control – Fulton County and its municipalities maintain the authority for direction and control prior, during, and after an incident of significance. This authority ensures that City and County governments are responsible for activities throughout all phases of emergency management.

Cities are responsible for ensuring the safety and well-being of their citizens, as well as providing initial response, within city capabilities, in the case of emergency/disaster events. At a minimum, cities should establish emergency response policies and procedures for their jurisdiction. Specific responsibilities of cities include:

- Appoint and support a qualified person to serve as the City Emergency Management Liaison. This position serves as the primary emergency management point of contact between the City and the County and actively participates in the emergency management system.
- Coordinate and integrate emergency management activities of the city with county emergency management through all phases of emergency management (mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery).
- Provide Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency with current copies of the city EOP (or EOGs/SOPs), emergency contact information, and lists of critical resources.

- Ensure incident management activities will be initiated and conducted using the concepts and principles identified by the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- Ensure all responders have the appropriate level of NIMS and hazardous materials training.
- Train damage assessment teams and coordinate efforts with Fulton County's overall damage assessment process.
- Ensure that Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency is kept informed of situations that require (or may potentially require) countywide coordination and/or the activation of the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- Ensure that during a disaster, response activities (including requests for assistance and public information efforts) are coordinated with Fulton County and that situation reports, damage assessments, and requests for County, State and/or Federal assistance are channeled through Fulton County.

E. Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency

In accordance with Fulton County Charter, local ordinances, and the Georgia Emergency Management Act, the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency is designated as the primary Emergency Management Agency (EMA) for Fulton County and the 15 municipalities listed below.

- City of Alpharetta
- City of Atlanta
- City of Chattahoochee Hills
- City of College Park
- City of East Point
- City of Fairburn
- City of Hapeville
- City of Johns Creek
- City of Mountain Park
- City of Milton
- City of Palmetto
- City of Roswell
- City of Sandy Springs
- City of South Fulton

- Union City

Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Representing all local governing officials on matters pertaining to emergency management.
- Providing recommendations to governing officials relating to disaster declarations, incident information, travel restrictions, and/or curfews.
- Coordinating the operations and actions during an emergency to the extent authorized by applicable law.
- Ensuring that the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is properly equipped to conduct the coordination of emergency operations.
- Developing and maintaining emergency management plans, in accordance with State and Federal guidelines, with the input and support of internal and external partners.
- Assisting municipalities with the development and maintenance of local LEOPs, procedures, and checklists.
- Assessing the availability and readiness of local resources that may be called upon during an emergency response.
- Managing the activities of the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during periods of activation.
- Gathering, documenting, and disseminating information in the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
- Providing a Common Operations Picture (COP) to Incident and/or Area Command systems, Department Emergency Operations Centers (DEOCs), Local Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) and Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.
- Advising and informing local officials regarding emergency management activities during an incident.
- Ensuring proper utilization of all available local resources before requesting state assistance.
- Processing all requests for assistance from internal and external partners during an emergency or disaster.
- Assisting in the coordination of alert and warning systems available to the citizens of Fulton County.
- Assisting with the development and dissemination of public information.

- Performing the role of liaison with City, State, Federal, and International agencies, as well as other external partners that can provide assistance during emergency operations.
- Planning and conducting discussion-based and/or operations-based exercise to test established policies, plans, and systems.
- Coordinating disaster recovery functions.

F. Private Sector

It is encouraged that members of the Private Sector:

- Coordinate with government agencies to ensure a broad and comprehensive coverage of assistance during emergencies.
- Provide and coordinate relief not provided by government on a complimentary and supplementary basis.
- Certain organizations are required by existing law and regulation to bear the cost of planning and response to incidents, regardless of cause.
- Unless the response role is inherently governmental (e.g., law enforcement, etc.), private-sector organizations are encouraged to develop and maintain capabilities to respond to and manage a complete spectrum of incidents and emergencies.
- Develop Mutual Aid Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding for actions performed during emergencies.

G. Non-Government and Volunteer Organizations

It is encouraged that members of non-government and volunteer organizations:

- Coordinate with government agencies to ensure broad and comprehensive coverage of assistance and relief during emergencies.
- Provide and coordinate relief not provided by government on a complementary and supplementary basis.
- Develop Mutual Aid Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding of duties and areas of responsibilities to be performed during an emergency.

H. Hospitals, Nursing Facilities and Assisted Living Facilities

These facilities are responsible for the safety and well-being of visitors and tenants to their facilities. They have a state mandate to maintain an emergency operations plan.

I. School Districts

School districts are responsible for the safety and well-being of students, staff and visitors to their facilities. Emergency plans should be developed taking into account those hazards to which schools might reasonably be exposed. The districts are encouraged to be proactive in developing and implementing these plans.

J. Legal Affairs

The Fulton County Attorney's Office is responsible for providing legal advice and guidance to the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency for all emergency management issues and concerns. Fulton County Attorney's Office is responsible for supporting requests about actions that require a legal opinion regarding jurisdictional policy and authority by ordinances, statutes and under state and federal laws (e.g., evacuations, quarantines, etc.).

K. Citizen Involvement

The public is responsible for preparing for disasters just as the various levels of government do. Specifically, individual, family and/or business plans need to be developed and maintained to ensure the appropriate level of preparedness.

Strong partnerships with citizen groups and organizations provide support for incident management prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.

Vulnerable needs population citizens are encouraged to register their information with the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency for disaster planning and response purposes.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

Fulton County uses the nearest appropriate responder concept (likely to be a county, municipal, state or nationally available resource) when responding to any threat, event, or disaster. Depending on the location of the incident or emergency, the home city will be the first and primary responders as all cities have their own police and fire. In most situations, Fulton County departments and agencies will provide support for municipalities before requesting state assistance. Under some rare circumstances state or federal agencies may have the primary jurisdiction for the overall response effort. However, Fulton County resources will likely provide the secondary response for all incidents impacting the jurisdiction as cities would be the first to respond.

All involved agencies understand;

1. They will adopt the principles, terminology, and organizational processes of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) which allows for effective and efficient collaborative incident management at all levels of government. NIMS represents a core set of concepts and principles which are essential for creating a common operating picture as well as communications interoperability.
2. The Fulton County LEOP coordinates county-wide multi-agency response, including any response where local capabilities and resources may be exhausted. Mutual Aid assistance can be requested through the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency who will coordinate with local partners to fulfill the request.
 - a. Regional Resources – In the event that the needs of the incident exceed the resources available within the County, Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will reach out to regional partners for assistance.
 - b. State Resources – In the event that Fulton County cannot fulfill a request locally, a request to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security who, operating on behalf of the Governor, will attempt to fulfill the request with intrastate or interstate resources.
 - c. Federal Resources – In the event that Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security cannot fulfill a request with intrastate or interstate resources, the Governor may request assistance from the Federal Government if the capabilities and resources of both local and State government have been exhausted.
3. Incidents are handled at the local government level. In some instances, a State agency in the local area may act as the first responder and may provide direction or assistance consistent with its specific statutory authorities and responsibilities.
4. The Fulton County LEOP is designed to integrate quickly and efficiently with the National Response Framework and allow for seamless integration of all participating agencies.

5. The Fulton County LEOP is designed to be scalable to fit the situation at hand. The LEOP can be partially or fully implemented, which is consistent with NIMS and ICS principles.
6. A multi-jurisdictional approach will be required to manage most major incidents effectively.
7. Unified Command should be utilized when the situation warrants; i.e. multiple agencies or jurisdiction involvement. Accordingly, emergency plans and exercises should incorporate procedures for integration of resources from within Fulton County, the surrounding jurisdictions, volunteer agencies, private sector, as well as State and Federal partners.

1. Non-Disaster Daily Operations

Day-to-day operations of Fulton County, absent of a declaration of State or Local Disaster Emergency is under the authority of the local governing body.

A proactive, day-to-day disaster planning process is in place in conjunction with the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). The LEPC prepares regional hazardous materials emergency plans that indicate the facilities that use, produce or store hazardous substances that are present in the jurisdiction. The LEPC serves as the repository for regional reports filed under Title III of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA) of 1986. The LEPC directs regional Title III implementation activities and performs associated outreach functions to increase awareness and understanding of, and compliance with, the EPCRA program.

It is the responsibility of governments of Fulton County and its communities to protect life and property from the effects of hazardous events. This plan is based on the concept that emergency functions of responding agencies will generally parallel their normal, day-to-day functions. To the extent possible, the same personnel and material resources will be employed in both cases. Day-to-day functions that do not contribute directly to the emergency operation may be suspended for the duration of any emergency. Efforts that would normally be required of those functions will be re-directed to accomplish the emergency task assigned.

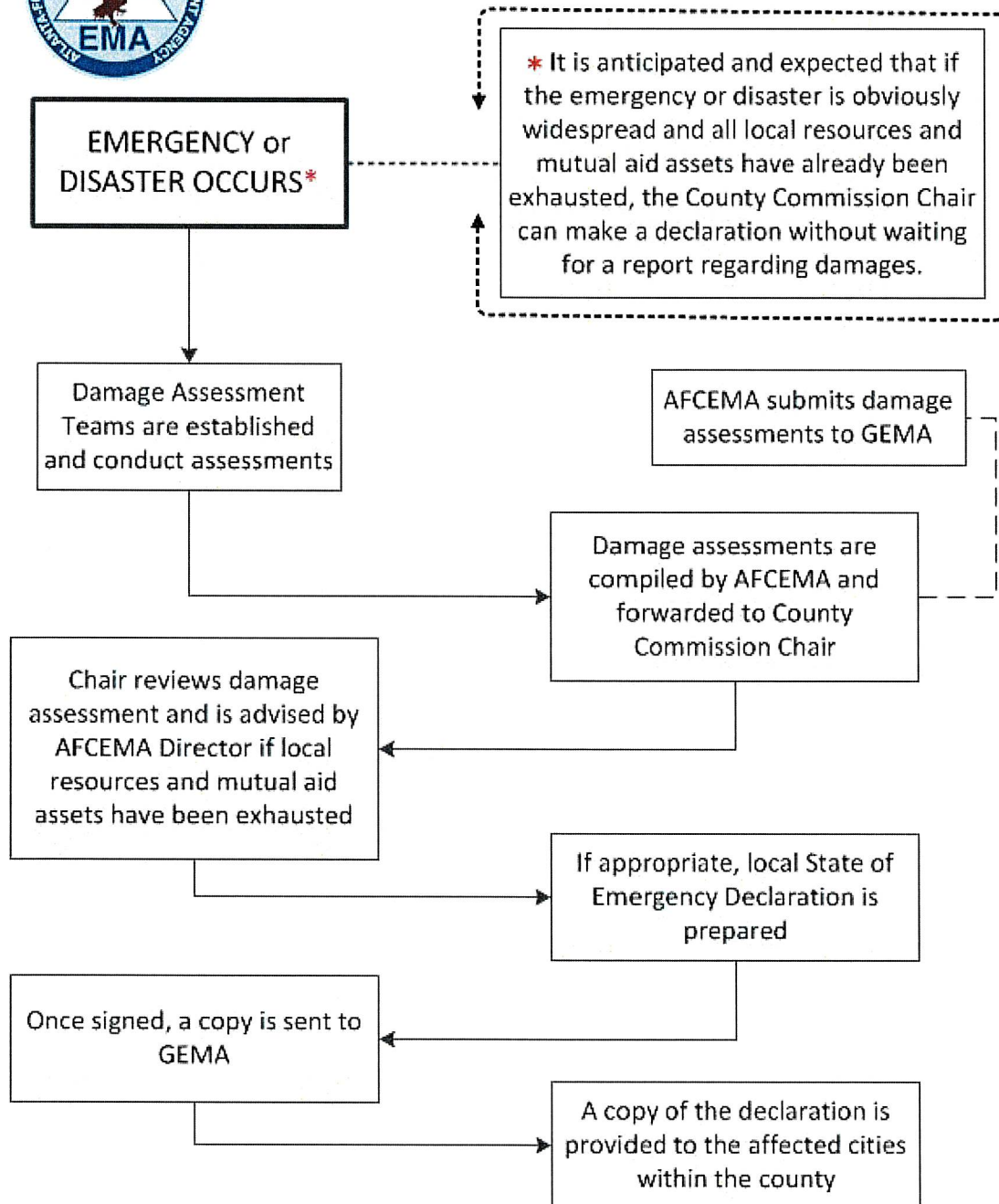
This plan provides assistance in day-to-day operations by providing each agency their responsibilities during an emergency. This allows agencies to construct programs, strategies and methods which allow day-to-day responsibilities to compliment emergency operations.

2. Emergency Operations

The Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners may declare a state of local disaster emergency within Fulton County. Such declaration shall be based on the judgment that a state of local disaster emergency is necessary to deal with a current or imminent emergency/disaster situation.



Emergency Declaration Process



Fulton County's Director of Emergency Management of delegated authority will be responsible for preparing any disaster declarations. A declaration of a state of local disaster emergency shall implement the response and recovery elements of this plan and any applicable emergency operations plans. Subject to the All Hazards statutes for Georgia, the highest ranking member of

the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency may issue any order deemed necessary for the efficient and effective management of the event, the protection of life or property, or for the general public health and welfare.

The Fulton County LEOP may be activated by the following, in order of succession:

1. Director of the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency
2. Through the designated Duty Officer/s of the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency

Response

The organizational structure for response to an emergency/disaster is under the leadership of the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency who is approved by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security. The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency is the overall coordination authority for the incident. The agencies, through the ESF structure, operate from the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and support Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. The management structure designated to respond to emergency/disasters is coordinated by the staff of the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency.

Initial and subsequent notification procedures have been provided to the 24 hour Fulton County Warning Point for initial contacts based on the type of event. Additional notifications are made as requested by the Incident Commander or Emergency Management Director.

Disaster response and recovery agencies identify resources, training needs or planning activities to the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. The Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated for actual or potential events that threaten Fulton County. The level of activation will be determined by the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency and based on the most accurate data from the emergency or event.

The following are possible criteria for activation of the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC):

1. A threat (or potential threat) increases the risk in Fulton County
2. Coordination of response activities are needed
3. Resource coordination is needed to respond to an event
4. Conditions are uncertain or could possibly escalate
5. A County emergency/disaster declaration is made

The Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) may be activated or deactivated by at least one of the following individuals:

- Director/Chief - Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security
- Deputy Director/Chief - Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security
- Division Chief - Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security
- Operations & Logistics Battalion Chief - Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security
- WebEOC/Common Operational Picture Battalion Chief - Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security

The Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) utilizes 4 levels of activation:

- **Normal:** Day to Day operations.
- **Level 3:** A situation exists that requires close monitoring.
- **Level 2:** An anticipated or planned event, emergency, or disaster exceeding daily capacity, but within the overall capacity of local government.
- **Level 1:** A catastrophic event beyond the capabilities of local government OR an anticipated or planned event, emergency, or disaster that may grow beyond the capacities of local government.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The facility serves as the coordination, command and control center for Fulton County, is staffed when the need arises, and serves as the 24 hour Fulton County Warning Point for initial notification and warning of emergencies and disasters.

Fulton County operates under the ESF concept. Each ESF contained in this plan identifies the coordinating, primary and support agencies required to carry out the responsibilities of the ESF. These agencies are responsible for preparing additional operating guides, checklists, staffing patterns or resource requirements needed to complete their assignments. Each agency is responsible for carrying out the tasks assigned by this EOP, with the coordinating agency having primary responsibility for coordinating that effort. A comprehensive list of ESF's and their responsibilities can be found as attachments to this plan.

During activation, the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) provides the core emergency function coordination, communication, resource dispatch and tracking; information collection, analysis and dissemination; multi-agency coordination and joint information coordination. Field Operations will be managed through the Incident Command System (ICS) and is discussed below.

EOC Organizational Structure

The EOC staffing level and composition is contingent on the specific requirements of an incident. The organizational structure of the EOC is modular, extending to incorporate all elements necessary for the type, size, scope, and complexity of a given incident. While any configuration of functional units may be used in the EOC, the core organizational structure of the EOC is organized by Sections and ESF teams. The various functional elements are activated based on need. The organizational structure can be condensed, expanded, or reconfigured as needed.

While the structure is flexible, it is always organized around five core functions:

- **EOC Management:** This component is responsible for the overall disaster policy and coordination. Specific functions include oversight of the EOC and coordinates public information with ESF External Affairs. EOC Management is led by the EOC Director. This position is staffed by a designated responsible agency.
- **Operations Section:** The purpose of this section is to support field operations and coordinate countywide response activities through the implementation of the EOC Action Plan. This section is led by the Operations Section Coordinator which is staffed by a designated responsible agency.
- **Planning Section:** The purpose of this section is to collect, evaluate, process, and disseminate information for use in the EOC. This section is led by the Planning Section Coordinator which is staffed by a designated responsible agency.
- **Logistics Section:** This section supports operational activities through the provision of supplies, equipment, facilities, personnel, mutual aid, and other support and services necessary for disaster response and recovery. This section is led by the Logistic Sections Coordinator which is staffed by a designated responsible agency.
- **Finance / Administration Section:** This section is responsible for the coordination of the financial planning, operations, and reporting services. This section is led by the Finance Section Coordinator which is staffed by Fulton County Finance.
- **Intelligence / Investigations Section:** The I/I Function within ICS provides a framework that allows for the integration of intelligence and information collection, analysis, and sharing, as well as investigations that identify the cause and origin of an incident regardless of source.

Each agency responding will report back to the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) through their liaison who is the Point of Contact (POC) for each respective agency or organization in either a single or Unified Command Structure. These reports are later synchronized and information is provided to mutual aid partners, adjacent counties, and

the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security to provide visibility of emergency operations.

During the response phase and upon declaration of a local state of emergency, the Fulton County Commission Chairman has ultimate authority with coordination of Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency who report directly to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security, which provide support and resources as requested through the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

All County divisions, City departments, non-governmental agencies, and other organizations fall under the direction of the coordinating agency designated in the plan. The Emergency Manager of Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will coordinate with State, Federal, and other outside agencies.

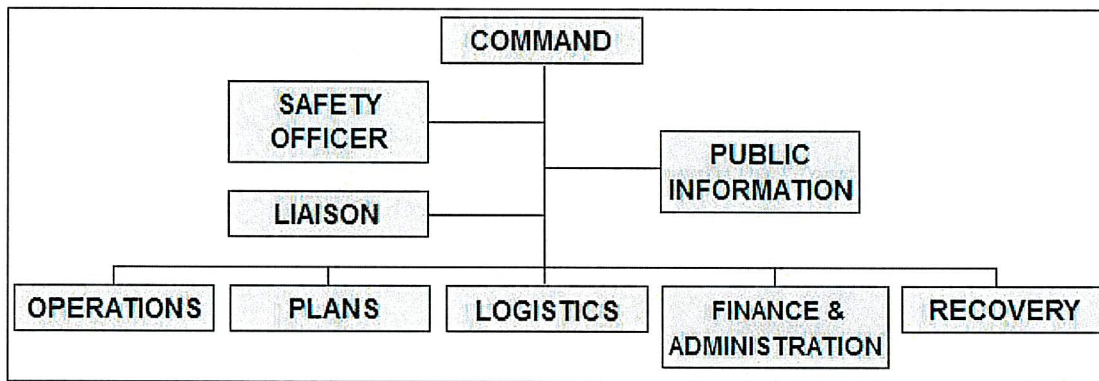
3. Field Operations

Field Operations will be managed through the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS has been implemented in Fulton County and utilizes common terminology; is modular and scalable; incorporates measurable objectives; provides for a manageable span of control; and relies on the Incident Action Plan (IAP) as the principal tool for communicating and carrying out operational objectives in an incident. The incident may be controlled by local emergency responders or with other agencies through the mutual aid system. If the resources available at the field response level are not sufficient to mitigate the situation, the Incident Commander may request, through appropriate channels, that the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) be activated to support the field operations.

Response to an incident by single discipline agencies (i.e., fire, law enforcement, EMS) will utilize a single Incident Commander within the ICS structure. As the incident progresses to include multiple jurisdictions and disciplines, a Unified Command will be used to the extent possible, and as deemed necessary.

During a single discipline response to an incident, the first on-scene emergency responder with management responsibilities will take the necessary steps to establish an Incident Command Post (ICP), report a scene size-up, activate the appropriate ICS organizational elements required for incident management, delegate authority within the ICS organizational structure, and develop incident objectives on which subsequent incident action planning will be based.

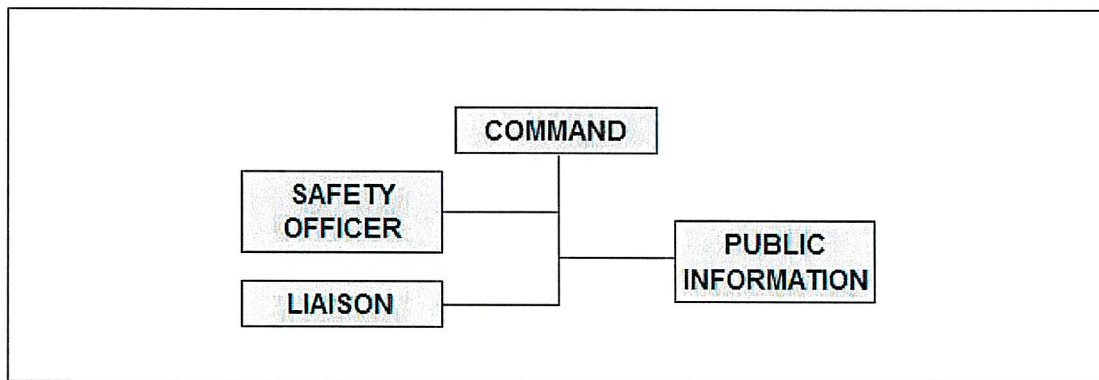
Each agency deploying to the field will report back to the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) through their liaison who is the Point of Contact (POC) for each respective agency or organization in either a single or Unified Command Structure.



Command Staff

The Command Staff function will be conducted in two ways: 1) as a Single Command (used when an incident occurs within single jurisdiction, and there is no jurisdictional or agency overlap, and a single IC can be designated); or 2) Unified Command (used when there are multiple agencies and multiple jurisdictions, and a single set of objectives need to be developed to guide incident management).

COMMAND STAFF



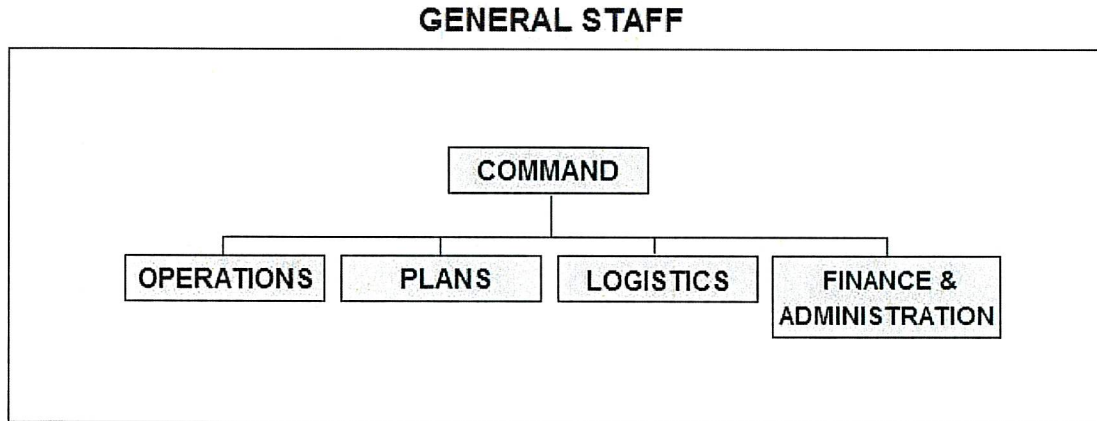
General Staff

The General Staff positions will include the following sections:

- Operations Section
- Planning Section
- Logistics Section
- Finance & Administration Section

- Intelligence and Investigations Section

The scope, direction, and control of these sections will follow established ICS procedures.



a. Area of Operations

An area of operations will be established by the Incident Commander. This will vary depending on the size and magnitude of the event. Once established, or changes made to an existing area of operations, it will be communicated to all responders.

b. Area Command

An Area Command (AC) will be activated if an incident is not site specific (i.e., pandemic outbreaks), the incident is extremely large and involves multiple ICS organizations, or there are multiple incidents that are being handled by separate ICS organizations. If the incidents are multi-jurisdictional, then a UC will be established within the AC. Therefore, the AC has the responsibility to:

- Set overall incident-related priorities
- Allocate critical resources according to priorities
- Ensure that incidents are properly managed
- Ensure that incident management objectives are met and do not conflict with each other or with agency policy
- Identify critical resource needs and report them to EOCs and/or multi-agency coordination entities
- Ensure that short-term emergency recovery is coordinated to assist in the transition to full recovery operations

c. Multi-Agency Coordination Center

A key component of NIMS is the development of a multi-agency coordination system that integrates the operations and functions of the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and field operations, guided by the principles embedded in the Incident Command System. In most cases, emergencies are handled by local fire departments, law enforcement agencies, medical service agencies, and communication/dispatch centers; but in larger emergencies or disasters, additional coordination support is required. In these situations, entities such as city EOCs and/or the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) have critical roles in an emergency.

The County's incident management responsibility is directed and managed through the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. As a multi-agency coordination entity, the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will coordinate and manage disaster operations through the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to:

- Ensure that each agency involved in incident management activities is providing appropriate situational awareness and resource status information to Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Establish priorities between incidents and/or Area Commands in concert with the Incident Command or Unified Command involved
- Acquire and allocate resources required by incident management personnel in coordination with the priorities established by the IC or UC
- Anticipate and identify future resource requirements
- Coordinate and resolve policy issues arising from the incident(s)
- Provide strategic coordination as required
- Coordinate briefings, message tracking, situational reports, and establish a common operating picture

Following an incident, plans, procedures, communications, staffing and other capabilities necessary for improved incident management are coordinated through the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. These tasks are accomplished by the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) by ensuring the ability to perform four core functions:

- Coordination
- Communications (that are reliable and contain built-in redundancies)
- Resource dispatch and tracking
- Information collection, analysis, and dissemination

4. Joint Information Center

The Joint Information System (JIS) provides the mechanism for integrating public information activities among Joint Information Centers (JIC), across jurisdictions, and with private-sector and non-governmental organizations.

Fulton County has implemented and institutionalized processes, procedures and plans for its JIC and can be referenced in the ESF External Affairs.

When the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated, the Emergency Manager of Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency or the Public Information Officer Representative may activate the Joint Information Center (JIC). When the JIC is in operation, it serves as the central point of public information collection and dissemination. The JIC functions as part of the Command in the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and will coordinate the release of non-operational information.

Depending on the incident, representatives from each jurisdiction, agency, private sector organization, and non-governmental organization involved in incident management activities will be notified and asked to have their JIC representative respond to the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) within a reasonable period of time. Communication will be accomplished via the Emergency Alert System, radio, television, fax, Internet, telephone or any other means available. When the JIC is activated, the Public Information Officer or his/her designee will notify media outlets that all media inquiries are to be directed to the JIC and that the JIC will be releasing media updates on a routine basis and when noteworthy events take place. Members of the media will not be allowed access to the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

More information on public awareness and education can be found in ESF External Affairs. More information on communication plans and protocols can be found in ESF Communications.

B. Coordination, Direction and Control

1. Local Level

Information Collection and Dissemination

Initial notification of incidents at the local level are accomplished in a variety of ways including public safety radio, websites, SMS services, television, radio, satellite broadcasts, etc.

Responsibility for notification of most incidents is accomplished through the Fulton County Emergency Services. Other agencies with responsibilities for notification include the National Weather Service, IPAWS, law enforcement agencies, fire or EMS services.

Fulton County Emergency Services Department will be responsible for notifying response and Emergency management personnel when the threat of a disaster is imminent.

- **Internal:** Response agencies will be notified from the communication center as required by the nature of the disaster.
- **External:** It is the responsibility of the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency to notify the appropriate agencies outside of

the jurisdiction such as Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security, State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), or appropriate Federal Agency.

The Fulton County Emergency Services Department provides communications essential for the local government to communicate with all government entities. The Fulton County Communications Center provides communications essential for all local government to communicate with all governmental entities. This information is then passed along to the public via siren, notification system, radio, NOAA radio, television, social media alerts, etc.

The media assume a vital role in dispersing information to the public. Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency works closely with local media providers to ensure timely and accurate information is provided to the public.

Information collection needs and priorities will include:

1. Life safety
2. Incident security and stability
3. Property and environmental protection

Direction and Control

Impacted entities will coordinate the emergency response efforts within their political jurisdiction (county and municipalities).

The Incident Command System (ICS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) will be used to coordinate emergency response and recovery operations at the disaster scene(s). The ICS/NIMS organization will maintain communications and coordination with the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at all times as detailed by this plan.

Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency may activate Mutual Aid Agreements with neighboring jurisdictions. They may also recommend that Fulton County or local municipality declare a local state of emergency and make a formal request for state assistance. The following positions are authorized to request resources by contacting Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.

1. Fulton County Emergency Management Director
2. Any designated personnel authorized by the Fulton County Emergency Management Director

To request state assistance, Fulton County must meet the following parameters:

1. Exhausted or will likely exhaust Fulton County resources
2. Exhausted or will likely exhaust mutual aid resources
3. Exhausted or will likely exhaust contractual resources
4. The requested assistance is not available at the local level

The Policy Group of Fulton County depending on jurisdiction, and/or designee is the delegated policy-making authority and can commit resources at the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as well as routine management and operation of the facility. The designated EOC Director may issue mission assignments to the ESF to perform duties consistent with Fulton County policy. Mission assignments and mutual aid assistance is tracked at the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Fulton County actions will occur among all affected risk and host areas and the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) under the direction and control of the EOC Director. Areas not impacted by these events may be requested to provide assistance. Prior to an evacuation and under the direction of the EOC Director, EOC Manager and Policy Group will implement coordination on issues which may include, but not limited to: deploying and pre-deploying personnel, identifying evacuation routes, ensuring the sufficiency of fuel, address emergency medical issues, and initiate procedures for notification to the public.

Initial planning for recovery begins before an emergency event impacts Fulton County. While response actions necessary to protect public health and safety are being implemented, the recovery section within the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) begins coordination and implementation of the recovery programs.

In the event state and federal assistance is required by Fulton County, the State Coordinating Officer will interface directly with representatives of the federal government.

In the event a request for disaster assistance comes from the governor of another state, the Governor of the State of Georgia may order the mobilization of State and local resources under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact to be deployed to the impacted state. The management and coordination of these resources will be administered through the Response and Recovery Section under the direction of the Response and Recovery Director located at Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.

2. Primary Agencies

The Emergency Manager of Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency designates the primary agencies for each ESF to coordinate the activities of those specific responses.

Primary Agency Listing for Local Emergency Operations Plan	
ANNEX	PRIMARY AGENCY
ESF 1 - Transportation	Fulton County Department of Real Estate and Asset Management
ESF 2 - Communications	Fulton County Emergency Services
ESF 3 - Public Works and Engineering	Fulton County Public Works
ESF 4 - Firefighting	All City Fire Departments
ESF 5 - Information and Planning	Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency
ESF 6 - Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing, and Human Services	Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency

ESF 7 - Resource Support	Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency
ESF 8 - Public Health and Medical Services	Fulton County Board of Health
ESF 9 - Search & Rescue	City and State Agencies
ESF 10 - Oil and Hazardous Materials Response	City and State Agencies
ESF 11 - Animal Services, Agriculture, and Natural Resources	Fulton County Animal Services
ESF 12 - Energy	Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency
ESF 13 - Public Safety and Security	Fulton County Police & Fulton County Sheriff's Office
ESF 14 - Long-Term Community Recovery	Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency
ESF 15 - External Affairs	Fulton County External Affairs

Upon activation of the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the primary agency for the given ESF functions will send representatives to the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to coordinate activities. The coordinating agency determines which primary and support agencies are required at the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

The primary agency for the ESF will be responsible for collecting all information related to the disaster and providing it to the situational analysis team in the EOC.

3. Intergovernmental Mutual Aid

Mutual Aid and MOUs

Mutual Aid Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding are essential components of emergency management planning, response, and recovery activities.

These agreements provide reciprocal emergency aid and assistance during an emergency or disaster; they increase available resources and improve response and recovery efforts. A complete list of Mutual Aid Agreements in effect for Fulton County related to emergency management can be found in Section VIII - References and Authorities of this LEOP. In addition, these agreements are available for review in their entirety at the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Georgia Mutual Aid Group (GMAG)

The request for intrastate mutual aid or intergovernmental aid across state borders is closely tied to the State of Georgia's participation in the Georgia Mutual Aid Group (GMAG). GMAG provides for the seamless escalation of disaster response and execution of national mutual aid. Intrastate mutual aid the mechanism by which resources of member jurisdictions will be deployed under GMAG. No separate agreement is necessary, although individual resource orders will be executed in accordance with the Georgia Emergency Operations System. For states to request resources through GMAG terms, they must have passed and enacted

membership legislation. The purpose of this compact is to provide for mutual assistance between the states entering into this compact in managing any emergency or disaster that is duly declared by the governor of the affected state(s), whether arising from natural disaster, technological hazard, man-made disaster, civil emergency aspects of resources shortages, community disorders, insurgency, or enemy attack. This compact shall also provide for mutual cooperation in emergency-related exercises, testing, or other training activities using equipment and personnel simulating performance of any aspect of the giving and receiving of aid by party states or subdivisions of party states during emergencies, such actions occurring outside actual declared emergency periods. Mutual assistance in this compact may include the use of the states' National Guard forces, either in accordance with the National Guard Mutual Assistance Compact or by mutual agreement between states.

After a declared emergency, and activation of GMAG, the Requesting and Assisting State Emergency Management Agencies complete the GMAG Request for Assistance Form (REQ-A) for accepted offers of assistance. The completed REQ-A constitutes a legally binding agreement between the two states.

Reimbursement starts with Deployed Personnel and Resource Providers submitting a reimbursement package to the Assisting State. Assisting States audit reimbursement packages that are sent to Requesting States who, upon completing an audit and resolving any outstanding issues, issue payment back to the Assisting State. It should be noted that a state's obligation to pay GMAG reimbursements is not contingent upon the receipt of federal funds.

Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee

The Committee shall consist of members appointed by the Governor, including a representative of the Department of Public Safety and a Homeland Security Advisor. The members shall represent emergency management and response disciplines, political subdivisions and, if participating, Indian Nations, tribes or municipal entities. The committee shall elect from among its members a vice-presiding officer and any other officers the committee deems appropriate. The committee shall meet at least annually and may meet at the call of the presiding officer or as otherwise called by its members. The committee shall be attached to the Department of Public Safety for administrative purposes only.

Requesting Mutual Aid

All mutual aid requests should be coordinated through the Fulton County Emergency Management Duty Officer or the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) if activated. To request mutual aid, Fulton County uses the following process:

- The Party seeking mutual aid shall make the request directly to the party providing the aid in coordination with Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency.
- Requests may be verbal or in writing. If verbal, the request shall be confirmed in writing following the verbal request unless otherwise stated according to policies or resolutions.
- All communication shall be conducted directly between recipient and provider in coordination with Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency.

- The Recipient shall be responsible for keeping all parties advised of the status of mutual aid activities.

If assistance is needed to coordinate mutual aid, Fulton County can request coordination assistance to Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.

4. Communication

The Communications ESF provides information and guidance concerning available communications systems and methods in Fulton County, including:

- Dissemination of emergency information to response organizations and government
- Information flow and management to and from the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Communications interoperability among response units
- Primary and backup communications systems
- Telecommunications and information technology resources
- Emergency warning and notification

The External Affairs ESF provides information on and the dissemination of information to the public for the purpose of protective action guidance and ongoing emergency information. This information is focused on the minimization of confusion, misinformation, and rumors during times of an emergency/disaster.

Fulton County Warning Point

The Fulton County Emergency Services serves as the Fulton County Warning Point. The Fulton County Warning Point provides Fulton County with a single point to disseminate information and warnings to government officials that a hazardous situation could threaten the general welfare, health and safety, and/or property of the population.

The Warning Point is equipped with multiple communication networks, auxiliary power, and capabilities that ensure the broadcast of pertinent information the targeted audience in a timely manner. A list of these capabilities is provided in ESF Communications and below:

Communications		
Communication: Office 365 - Teams		
Priority: High	Type: Data	Quantity:
Description: Internal Use, Mobile, Secure - Microsoft Teams is a collaboration app that's part of Microsoft 365 and is used for communication, meetings, and file sharing:		

• Integration - Teams integrates with other Microsoft and partner apps, and with Microsoft 365. • Communication - Teams offers chat, audio and video calling, and instant messaging. • Meetings - Teams allows for online meetings, and you can transition from chat to a call. You can also manage calendar invites and use background effects. • File sharing - Teams allows for file and app sharing, and you can securely store documents and conversations in the cloud.		
Communication: Cell Phone		
Priority: High	Type: Other	Quantity:
Description: Internal Use, External Use, Mobile, Secure - Assumed that each Atlanta Fulton County Employee has a cell phone.		
Communication: AFCEMA Website		
Priority: High	Type: Data	Quantity: 1
Description: External Use, Mobile, Secure - https://www.fultoncountygga.gov/inside-fulton-county/fulton-county-departments/atlanta-fulton-emergency-management-agency		
Communication: AFCEMA Social Media Accounts		
Priority: High	Type: Data	Quantity: 1
Description: Internal Use, External Use, Mobile, Secure - We update our social media accounts (X formerly known as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc) during emergency situations.		
Communication: Everbridge (FALCON)		
Priority: High	Type: Voice	Quantity:
Description: Internal Use, External Use, Mobile, Secure - Fulton County use the FALCON system to distribute emergency notifications to residents, businesses, and county employees. FALCON is a telephone communication service that allows us to quickly notify citizens about emergency situations.		
Communication: Radio		
Priority: High	Type: Voice	Quantity:

Description: Internal Use, External Use - The APX 8000 offers unlimited mobility and uncompromising performance with a 4-in-1 radio that offers the clearest, loudest audio, seamless Wi-Fi connectivity, and limitless interoperability in a single device.		
Communication: WebEOC		
Priority: High	Type: Data	Quantity: 1
Description: Internal Use, External Use, Secure - WebEOC, or Web-based Emergency Operations Center, is a web-based system that helps organizations share information and manage crises in real time: • Situational awareness WebEOC provides a centralized dashboard with aggregated data to help users make decisions. • Information sharing WebEOC allows multiple organizations to share critical information securely in real time. • Incident management WebEOC can manage multiple incidents at once, or users can combine incidents into a single view. • Reporting WebEOC provides tools for retrieving and reporting information. https://webeoc.afcema.com/eoc/default.aspx		

The Fulton County Emergency Services has Standard Operating Guides (SOG) to notify and warn officials and general public of emergency and disaster events that occur in Fulton County. In addition these guides also identify actions to be taken based off types of incidents. Notification lists for agencies and individuals are maintained by the Fulton County Emergency Services. Notification of the State Warning Point is included in these guides. The Emergency Manager or the on-call Emergency Management staff person will initiate any further notification.

Developing or existing emergency conditions which should be reported to the Fulton County Emergency Services include those that have or may result in multiple loss of life, environmental or property damage, or evacuation of a populated area whether or not State or Federal resources are needed to support local emergency response efforts.

Coordinators and other Emergency Operation Center Representatives are kept informed of potential events by the Emergency Management Duty Officer of Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency by WebEOC, email, or telephone.

Warnings are accomplished in various ways depending on the persons that need to be warned and the time available. The Emergency Management Duty Officer of Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency or the Incident Commander can initiate warnings and notification procedures. The following list identifies warning methods during an event. Any or all may be used.

- Activation of the Emergency Alert System (EAS)
- Information statements released to the local media
- SMS text services administered by Fulton County or law enforcement
- Public address systems of public safety vehicles
- Door-to-door contacts
- Alert Messaging System
- Social Media

Persons in the threatened areas with vulnerable needs may be notified by all of the methods outlined above. Hotels, motels and Chambers of Commerce will assist in notification of tourists visiting the area. Most of the other warning systems previously listed would also reach some visitors to the County.

The Fulton County Warning Point Fulton County Emergency Services is responsible for network control and conducts routine tests to ensure operational readiness.

5. State Level

When an emergency or disaster has occurred or is imminent, the Governor may issue an Executive Order proclaiming the existence of a State of Emergency or activate the emergency response, recovery and mitigation aspects of State, local and inter-jurisdictional disaster plans.

At the State level, the Georgia Adjutant General, or designee performs policy-making authority and commitment of State resources at the GEMA/HS State Operations Center. The GEMA/HS State Operations Center Manager is responsible for the provision of State assistance, as well as routine management and operation of the GEMA/HS State Operations Center. The GEMA/HS State Operations Center Manager may issue mission assignments to the GEMA/HS State Operations Center to perform duties consistent with State policy. Mission assignments, and mutual aid assistance brokered by the State, are tracked in the GEMA/HS State Operations Center.

Coordination of regional and multi-regional protective actions will occur among all affected risk and host counties, other states, and the GEMA/HS State Operations Center under the direction and control of the GEMA/HS State Operations Center Manager. Counties that are not impacted by an emergency/disaster situation may be directed by the Georgia Adjutant General to activate their EOCs to provide emergency assistance.

During activation of the GEMA/HS State Operations Center, the GEMA/HS State Operations Center Team provides up-to-date information on the situation and is also equipped to provide information on various grant programs and funding sources available to affected areas in the aftermath of disaster.

The Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security Preparedness Coordinator serves as the GEMA/HS State Operations Center liaison and shares information with local command, who then shares the information as per local protocol. The GEMA/HS State

Operations Center will provide incident information to State agencies, State legislative, and United States Congressional officials. This is typically accomplished via situation reports and frequent GEMA/HS State Operations Center briefings.

In the event federal assistance is required, the State Coordinating Officer will interface directly with representatives of the federal government. If the State Coordinating Officer determines that the span-of-control needs to be broadened, he may designate a Deputy State Coordinating Officer to ensure coordination between federal and State agency representatives and to anticipate any needs or conflicts in the response or recovery phases as they progress.

In the event a request for disaster assistance comes from the governor of another state, the Governor of the State of Georgia may solicit the mobilization of State resources under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) to be deployed to the impacted state. The management and coordination of these resources will be administered through the Operations Branch under the direction of the Section Chief located in the GEMA/HS State Operations Center. In the event the GEMA/HS State Operations Center is not activated, EMAC will be managed by Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security's Operations Branch under the direction of the Branch Director or his/her designee.

6. Federal Level

Through the National Response Framework (NRF), the federal government provides assistance by establishing a single, comprehensive framework for the management of domestic incidents. The NRF provides the structure and mechanisms for the coordination of federal support. Through the NRF, federal ESF coordinators may establish a direct liaison with Georgia ESF representatives in the GEMA/HS State Operations Center.

If the disaster is major or catastrophic, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security will contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 4 and request a Federal Liaison and/or alert them that the Governor may submit a formal request for federal assistance.

If the President authorizes federal assistance, a Primary Federal Official (PFO) will represent the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and/or a Federal Coordinating Officer. The Federal Coordinating Officer is authorized to use the full authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended to reimburse response and recovery claims against the Disaster Relief Fund. Additionally, the Stafford Act provides funding to assist communities in mitigating the impact of future events.

7. Joint Field Office

The emergency recovery process is initiated when the President of the United States issues a Major Presidential Disaster Declaration. Such a declaration makes available a series of federal disaster assistance programs to aid the State in its recovery from a disaster situation. The basis for the declaration is the determination by the President that the disaster is of such severity and magnitude that response is beyond State and local capabilities. The field recovery operation will be conducted in accordance with the most current edition of the State of Georgia Emergency Response Plan as well as other recovery plans and procedures.

Once a field office has been established in Fulton County, the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will provide the proper liaisons to the appropriate field

office operations.

The organizational structure for recovery is under the leadership of the State Coordinating Officer. Once a federal disaster declaration has been issued, the State Coordinating Officer consults with a Federal Coordinating Officer. In addition, a Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR) is designated in the Federal Emergency Management Agency-State Agreement and is responsible for compliance with that Agreement.

During a recovery operation, the State Coordinating Officer usually appoints a Deputy State Coordinating Officer who represents him/her at the Joint Field Office. The Deputy State Coordinating Officer is responsible for the establishment and management of State operations in the Joint Field Office and coordination between State and federal programs.

C. Prevention

Fulton County's prevention goals are to avoid an incident, intervene, or stop an incident from occurring. To accomplish the goal the following strategy will be used:

- Expand Regional Collaboration
- Implement the National Incident Management System and National Response Framework (NRF)
- Strengthen Information Sharing and Collaboration capabilities
- Strengthen Interoperable and Operable Communications capabilities
- Strengthen Medical Surge and Mass Prophylaxis capabilities
- Strengthen Planning and Citizen Preparedness Capabilities
- Increase coordination with the Georgia Intelligence Fusion Center (IFC)

1. Georgia Intelligence Fusion Center

The ability to share intelligence information quickly and accurately among state fusion centers and emergency operation centers is crucial in preventing potential criminal and terrorist acts. The primary components of a fusion center are situational awareness and warnings that are supported by law enforcement intelligence, derived from the application of the intelligence process, where requirements for actionable information are generated and information is collected, integrated, evaluated, analyzed, and disseminated. Important intelligence that may forewarn of a future attack may be derived from information collected by several diverse entities.

Georgia Information Sharing and Analysis Center (GISAC) serves as the local liaison to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. Given the nature of the information, Georgia Information Sharing and Analysis Center (GISAC) will distribute the information in accordance to local SOPs and be marked as Unclassified/For Official Use Only (U/FOUO).

D. Preparedness

The goal of Fulton County's preparedness operations is to help ensure a timely and effective response to, recover from and mitigation of the impacts and consequences associated with an emergency/disaster situation. To facilitate this goal, key abilities and weaknesses must be assessed. These elements will be addressed in a comprehensive manner with Planning and Mitigation officers. In order to address Core Capability objectives, the following activities will be prioritized:

- Administer grant programs for operational support and training activities
- Participate in capability assessments at the regional and county level
- Establish an inclusive planning process using the "Whole Community" concept.

1. Resource Management and Credentialing

Resource Management

Each agency tasked within this plan is responsible for developing and maintaining applicable resource lists. These lists should follow established Fulton County protocols for maintaining resource lists. At a minimum, full resource lists (including all Fulton County resources) will be provided to Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency and the Logistics ESF coordinating agency. The following lists are created using the State of Georgia's Comprehensive Resource Management and Credentialing System. These inventories include a point of contact, geographic location, and operation area for:

1. Vehicle inventories
2. Personnel
3. Equipment
4. Equipment operators
5. Suppliers/Contractors/Vendors
6. Resources in adjacent jurisdictions that could be used during a disaster-if applicable

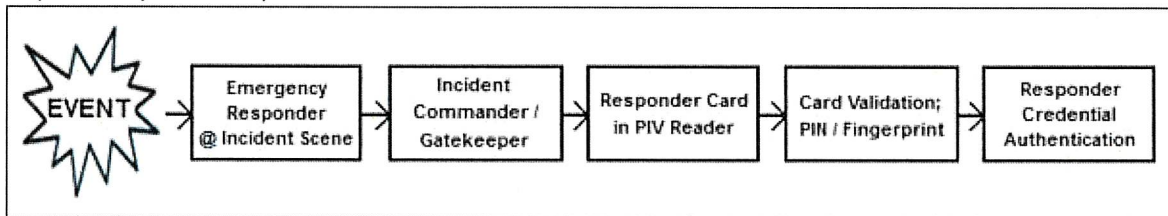
The following lists are currently created outside of Georgia's Comprehensive Resource Management and Credentialing System and should also include point of contact, geographic location, and operation area:

1. Facilities
2. Staging areas for internal and external response
3. Services/Contracts/Mutual Aid Agreements
4. List of critical facilities having priority for restoration of utilities during emergencies

Credentialing

It is at the discretion of the Incident Commander or the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency to identify expedient or applicable means of credentialing staff. Fulton County follows their designated policy as a guide and policy to ensure that personnel resources requested to assist are adequately trained and skilled.

When Georgia's Comprehensive Resource Management and Credentialing System is used, it also allows Incident Commanders or EMs to verify identity and qualification in order to allow access to an incident site. This system can serve to prevent unauthorized (self-dispatched or unqualified personnel) access to an incident site.



2. Plan Development and Maintenance

Plan Development

The Fulton County Local Emergency Operations Plan is developed with the assistance and input from the following groups serving in an advisory capacity.

- Fulton County Mitigation Planning Committee
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
- Coordinating, primary and support agencies
- Mutual aid partners and adjoining counties.

Listed below are planning events that have occurred or are scheduled to occur in the development of the Fulton County Local Emergency Operations Plan:

- LEOP Training Session #3
- LEOP Training Session #2
- Initial EOP System Training
- Emergency Operations Plan System Training
- Vista Forge

The preparation and revision of the basic plan and ESF will be coordinated by Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency with the assistance and involvement of all applicable entities.

This plan will be made available to all agencies tasked therein, mutual aid partners and adjoining counties for comment. It is the responsibility of ALL parties to review and submit any comments to Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. The process of distributing the plan will be accomplished by providing an electronic copy. Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will keep a hard copy on file.

The public will be provided the opportunity to view the Basic Plan portion of this document at a place determined by Fulton County.

Plan Maintenance

The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will update the Fulton County LEOP annually to incorporate new directives and changes based on lessons learned from exercises and actual events. The updated LEOP will be submitted to Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security for approval every four years, as required. This section establishes procedures for interim changes and full updates of the EOP. The coordinating, primary and support agencies/organizations of each ESF will be responsible for preparing and maintaining operating procedures for all responsibilities assigned them in the LEOP. These procedures will be prepared following guidance issued by local policies.

This section establishes procedures for interim changes and full updates of the EOP.

- **Types of Changes**

Changes include additions of new or supplementary material and deletions. No proposed change should contradict or override authorities or other plans contained in statute, order, or regulation.

- **Coordination and Approval**

Any department or agency with assigned responsibilities under the LEOP may propose a change to the plan. The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency is responsible for coordinating all proposed modifications to this LEOP with primary and support agencies and other stakeholders, as required. The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will coordinate review and approval for proposed modifications as required.

- **Notice of Change**

After coordination has been accomplished, including receipt of the necessary signed approval supporting the final change, The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will issue an official Notice of Change. The notice will specify the date, number, subject, purpose, background, and action required, and provide the changed language on one or more numbered and dated insert pages that will replace the modified pages in this LEOP. In addition, a manually logged record of change will be documented on the form at the beginning of this plan titled: Record of Revisions. Once published, the modifications will be considered part of the LEOP for operational purposes pending a formal revision and redistribution of the entire document. Interim changes can be further modified or updated using the above process.

- **Distribution**

The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will distribute Notices of Change to all participating agencies who maintain a copy of this LEOP. Notices of Change to other organizations will be provided upon request.

- **Redistribution of the EOP**

Working toward continuous improvement, the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency is responsible for conducting an annual review of the LEOP as well as a complete revision of the document every four years or more frequently if the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency or the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security Agency deems necessary. The review and update will consider lessons learned and best practices identified during exercises as well as during responses to actual events. Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will distribute revised LEOP documents for the purpose of interagency review and concurrence.

LEOP Supporting Documents and Standards for Other Emergency Plans

As the core plan for domestic incident management, this LEOP provides the structures and processes for coordinating incident management activities for terrorist attacks, natural disasters, and other emergencies. Following the guidance provided, this LEOP incorporates existing emergency and incident management plans (with appropriate modifications and revisions) as integrated components; as supplements, or as supporting operational plans. Accordingly, departments and agencies must incorporate key LEOP concepts and procedures for working with LEOP organizational elements when developing or updating incident management and emergency response plans. When an agency develops an interagency plan that involves events within the scope of disaster and emergency incidents, these plans should be coordinated with the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency to ensure consistency within the LEOP. These new plans will be incorporated into the LEOP, either by reference or as a whole.

The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will also maintain a complete set of current local interagency plans. These plans must include, to the extent authorized by law:

- Principles and terminology of the NIMS;
- Reporting requirements of the LEOP;
- Linkages to key LEOP organizational elements such as the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC);
- Procedures for transitioning from localized incidents to incidents that require state or federal assistance.

The broader range of LEOP-supporting documents includes strategic, operational, tactical, and incident specific or hazard-specific contingency plans and procedures.

- Strategic plans are developed based on long-range goals, objectives, and priorities.
- Operational-level plans merge the on-scene tactical concerns with overall strategic objectives.
- Tactical plans include detailed, specific actions and descriptions of resources required to manage an actual or potential incident.

- Contingency plans are based on specific scenarios and planning assumptions related to a geographic area or the projected impacts of an individual hazard.

3. Public Information

Before an emergency or disaster occurs, public information is critical for the public to make the necessary protective actions. The County's public information program focuses on how to better communicate emergency information to the public before, during, and after a disaster. Particular attention will be given to strategies that enhance awareness of the evacuation process, road conditions, shelter status and re-entry issues, and how to communicate information to people during evacuation.

- The PIO will work closely with the Emergency Manager or NIMS Coordinator of Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency, and will be the primary resource for providing disaster-related information to the public. This includes information about all preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities. Following a disaster, the public will be informed that they can contact the Fulton County to receive disaster-related preparedness, response, recovery, or mitigation information.
- Pre-scripted public service announcements are maintained by the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency.
- The PIO will be responsible for collecting information, preparing releases for the media, and responding to requests for information and interviews.
- The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will prepare pre-scripted news releases that can easily be edited to include disaster specific information.
- The PIO will, upon the approval of the EOC Director, send disaster updates to local media outlets, and to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.
- Additional information is provided in ESF External Affairs and Communications with close coordination between affiliated agencies.

4. Training and Exercise

All training related to emergency management is coordinated and scheduled through the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency offers training to all inter-agencies (County, City and others) on preparedness, response, recovery, mitigation, hazardous materials, debris management, terrorism and other issues. The training offered is conducted through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security training section, American Red Cross, the Local Emergency Planning Committees, the Fire Department, and any other organization offering training. The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency provides the notice of training being offered to local response agencies.

Fulton County continues to implement a training and exercise program, consistent with NIMS, for incident management organizations and personnel. Elements of the program include:

- Multi-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional interaction, including involvement with private-sector and non-governmental organizations, during realistic exercises.
- Standard courses on incident command and management, incident management structure, and operational coordination processes and systems.
- Courses focused on discipline and agency-specific subject matter expertise.

Fulton County further requires courses for all incident management organizations and personnel to ensure NIMS compliance at all levels of response. The following courses are required:

- ICS 100 - Incident Command Systems, An Introduction
- ICS 200 - Incident Command System, Basic
- G 300 - Intermediate Incident Command System
- G 400 - Advanced Incident Command System
- ICS 700 - National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction
- ICS 800 - National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction

Exercises are a key component in improving all-hazards incident management capabilities. The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency participates on an ongoing basis in a range of exercises, including multi-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional exercises that are designed to improve integration and interoperability. These exercises are integrated in an annual Training and Exercise Planning Workshop (TEPW). Among the key exercises types that Fulton County participates in or has participated in include:

- UASI Regional TTX & FSE
- Airport Big Bird TTX & FSE

The Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) will be used for developing, delivering and evaluating Department of Homeland Security/Office of Domestic Preparedness funded exercises.

After Action Reviews and Corrective Action Plans

After each exercise, the lead agency performing the exercise will conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of the exercise. This information will be incorporated into future plan revisions and updates by the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. This will be accomplished by drafting a corrective action plan which may include, but not limited to assigning the following actions:

- Change to plans/procedures
- Acquire new or replace outdated equipment/resources
- Train/Re-Train Personnel

Following actual events the same procedure will be used and will be led by Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency.

E. Response

Fulton County must be prepared to respond quickly and effectively on a 24-hour basis to developing events. The primary goal of the County's response operation is to ensure a timely and effective response to the many consequences that may be generated by an emergency/disaster situation. When an event or potential event is first detected, a series of actions will take place to ensure an effective and efficient response operation.

1. Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)/Multi-Agency Coordination Center

The Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)/Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC) is the facility that is used to coordinate a County response to any major emergency or disaster situation. [REDACTED]

The Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is a central location from which interagency coordination and executive level policy decisions are made in support of incident response and recovery activities. The decisions made through the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) are designed to be broad in scope and offer general guidance on priorities. It is important to clarify that the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) does not command nor control any on-scene response efforts. However, the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) does provide the following core functions:

- Support of the Incident Command Post's command and management efforts
- Coordination of activities
- Communications
- Prioritizing incident resource demands
- Resource allocation and tracking
- Information collection, analysis, and dissemination.

The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) can also be utilized as a location for Area Command since it is equipped with sufficient telephones, backup power, white boards, status boards, maps and communications to link internal and external partners with field operations as well as state and federal agencies.

Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency uses the multi-agency coordination organization system, a NIMS standard set by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to manage limited resource and efficiently coordinate the operations and actions of all departments/agencies/organizations within.

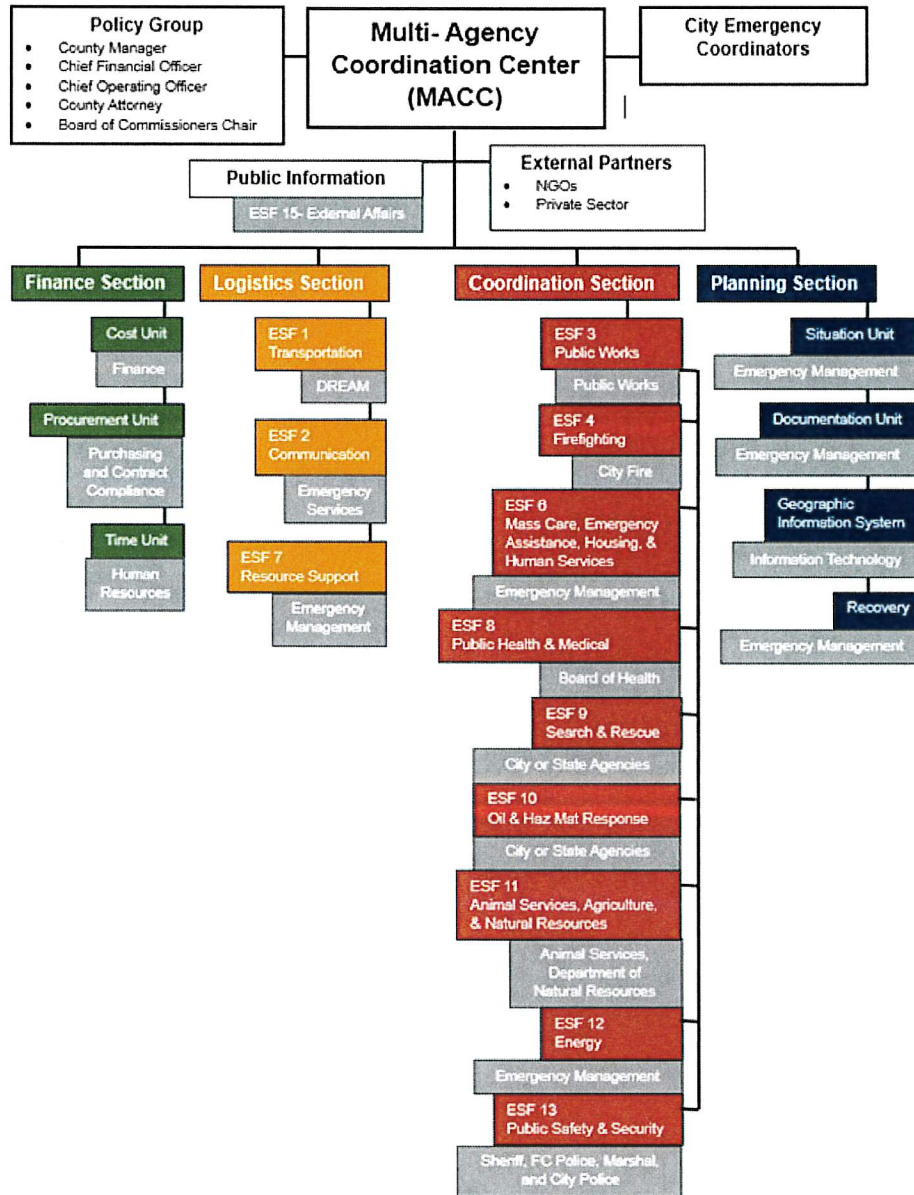
The following are the main functional areas of Fulton County Emergency

Management/Homeland Security Agency 's multi-agency coordination organization system. Each functional area is supported by designated ESFs

- Command Staff
- Coordination Group
- Collection, Evaluation and Dissemination Group
- Resource Group
- Finance & Administration Group

Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency 's ESFs are staffed by City/County department liaison officers; as well as with external partners who are able to make decisions and commit resources on behalf of their specific department or agency during times of emergencies. These representatives are assigned to one of fifteen ESFs and assembled in groups according to their specific functional area. A majority of the 15 ESFs are assigned to the Coordination Group which is further divided into five Branches: Public Safety, Human Services & Mass Care, Public Health, Infrastructure, and/or Damage Assessment.

When the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated, the Emergency Management Director, or their designee, will determine which ESFs are activated to meet the specific needs of the emergency response.



Fulton County encompasses 15 governing bodies. A majority of these governing bodies deploy their own public safety, public works, and communications services. Based on the core principles of NIMS, all disasters are handled at the local level until those resources are depleted. Once that occurs, resources and services are requested by the local jurisdiction for incident response and stabilization.

Municipalities and/or City departments are encouraged to develop Departmental EOCs (DEOCs) as appropriate to facilitate their respective activities and provide incident support. If the incident grows beyond the capacity of the original incident command, a unified and/or area command may be established and the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will activate at the levels necessary to support field operations, as well as

coordinate with external agencies and Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.

2. EOC/MACC Activation Levels

Many emergencies follow some recognizable build-up period during which actions are taken to achieve a gradually increasing state of readiness. Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will utilize a graduated response approach when responding to and managing emergencies and disasters. As the severity of the emergency incident increases or the demand on local resources grows, there will be an increase in emergency response and coordination activities necessary to meet increasing emergency demands.

The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency has the primary responsibility for the activation of the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) whenever the following activities need to occur.

- Support of the Incident Command Post's command and management efforts
- Coordination of emergency response activities
- Communication between internal and external partners and stakeholders
- Prioritizing incident resource demands
- Resource allocation and tracking
- Information collection, analysis, and dissemination

More information regarding the activation of the MACC can be found in the MACC Activation SOP (Support Annex 1 – SA1)

There are four levels of activation:

1. Normal – Day-to-Day Operations
2. Level 3 – Minor Activation
3. Level 2 – Partial Activation
4. Level 1 – Full Activation

A majority of the time, the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is not active and is at "Level Normal" or normal daily operations. If the situation warrants, the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency Director, Deputy Director, Operations Officer, or Duty Officer may activate the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to Level 3 (Monitoring) or Level 2 (Partial). The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency Director, or their designee, must make the decision to activate the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to Level 1 (Full).

LEVEL	CONDITIONS	ACTIONS	STAFFING
NORMAL	Day-to-Day	• Maintaining the EOC in a state of readiness. • Regular tests of equipment and procedures to ensure that they are effective and in working order.	AFCEMA Operations Officer
LEVEL 3	A situation exists that requires close monitoring	• Monitor situation. • Develop Situation Reports (SitRep) • Inform stakeholders of the current situation • Identify threats as well as future concerns • Activate appropriate warning and notification systems • Prepare and plan for Level 2 activation	Emergency Management Staff
LEVEL 2	An anticipated or planned event, emergency, or disaster exceeding daily capacity, but within the overall capacity of local government.	• Coordinate necessary actions to provide support, resources, and services which are needed to save lives, protect property and the environment, restore essential services and help communities return to normal following an incident. • Consolidate departmental IAPs • Coordinate with Regional and State partners. • Plan for escalation to Level 1	Emergency Management Staff & Activated Emergency Support Functions (ESFs)
LEVEL 1	A catastrophic event beyond the capabilities of local government OR an anticipated or planned event, emergency, or disaster that may grow beyond the capabilities of local government.	• All actions listed in LEVEL 2 • Coordinate with Regional, State and Federal partners.	Emergency Management Staff, All ESFs, Chief Elected Officials, County/City Administrators, Department Directors

3. Incident Typing

NIMS/ICS establishes a typing description used to categorize the complexity, size, and magnitude of an incident. By using these types a more accurate description of the incident can be communicated to first responders, government officials, and others within the ICS. They are scaled in a descending fashion so that a Type V (five) incident is the least complex and a Type I (one) is most complex.

Incident types are based on the following five levels of complexity.

Type 5

- Type 5 incidents can be handled with one or two single resources with up to 6 personnel.
- Command and general staff positions are not activated
- A written IAP is not required
- The incident can be contained within the first operational period

Examples include a vehicle fire, an injured person, or a police traffic stop.

Type 4

- Several resources are required to mitigate the incident.
- Command staff and general staff functions are activated only if needed.
- The incident is usually limited to one operational period in the control phase.
- A written IAP is not required, but a documented operational briefing will be completed for all incoming resources.
- The role of the agency administrator includes operational plans to include objectives and priorities.

Examples include a multi-vehicle accident, small grass fire, or a bomb squad investigation.

Type 3

- Capability requirements exceed that of the initial response and multiple agencies have become involved.
- The situation may be an incident of significance (community impact)
- Incident Command System positions will be added to match the complexity of the incident. Some or all of the command and general staff, division, or group supervisors and unit leader positions may be activated.
- Incident response should be managed by an Incident Command Organization or a Type 3 Incident Management Team through initial actions with a significant number of resources, an extended attack until containment or control is achieved, or as an expanding incident until the transition to a Type 2 incident.
- The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) may be activated.
- The incident may extend into multiple operational periods.
- Mutual aid or state assistance will be required.

- A written IAP is required for each operational period.

Examples include a school hostage situation, large structure fire, blizzard or widespread and extended utility outage.

Type 2

- This type of incident extends beyond the capabilities for local control and is expected to go into multiple operational periods. A Type 2 incident may require the response of resources out of area, including regional and/or national resources, to effectively manage the operations, command, and general staffing.
- Most or all of the Command and General Staff positions are filled.
- The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated
- The Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security State Operations Center (SOC) may be activated.
- A written IAP is required for each operational period.
- Many of the functional units are needed and staffed.
- Operations personnel normally do not exceed 200 per operational period and total incident personnel do not exceed 500.
- Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency working with Incident Command is responsible for the incident complexity analysis, agency administrator briefings, and the written delegation of authority.

Examples include large wildfires, acts of terrorism, flooding where significant numbers of citizens are affected or significant damage to property.

Type 1

- This type of incident is the most complex, requiring national resources to safely and effectively manage and operate.
- The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is fully activated.
- The Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security State Operations Center is activated.
- All Command and General Staff positions are activated.
- Operations personnel often exceed 500 per operational period and total personnel will usually exceed 1000.
- Branches within the ICS need to be established.

- Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency working with Incident Command is responsible for the incident complexity analysis, overall oversight of the incident, county management briefings and the written delegation of authority.
- Use of resource advisors at the incident base is recommended.
- The incident has significant impact on Fulton County; additional staff for administrative and support functions are required.

Examples include major wildfire involving multiple structures, pandemic flu or widespread hostile actions.

F. Recovery

In the aftermath of a disaster, County efforts turn to rebuilding the infrastructure and restoring the social and economic life of the community with the incorporation of mitigation measures as a major goal. To accomplish this goal the following strategy is provided:

- To deploy several specialized recovery teams (personnel) and facilities (centers) into a disaster area to help victims and support the Incident Commander
- To work closely with the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security and to inform affected local governments, individuals and businesses that programs are available to assist them in recovery efforts.

1. Recovery Field Operations

In the aftermath of a disaster, with or without a Presidential Declaration, the State may deploy several specialized recovery teams (personnel) and establish centers (facilities) into a disaster area.

2. Recovery Personnel

- Assessment Team - Teams of qualified personnel, including building inspectors, structural engineers and architects, who will gather information by performing an assessment of all structures and property in the disaster area; and teams of administrative personnel who will compile the gathered information to facilitate the application process for local, state and federal disaster assistance programs.
- Community Relations Team - Team is deployed to disseminate information and collect data to assist disaster-affected communities and eligible individuals in receiving assistance. The primary function of this team is to identify and report unmet human needs and to inform disaster victims of the disaster assistance programs and registration process.
- Unmet Needs Committee - A committee that helps identify unmet needs and possible assistance. Such committees are comprised of volunteer agencies, private sector representatives, and governmental agencies.

- Human Needs Assessment Team - A team that is deployed immediately after a disaster and before the establishment of a JFO Office to help counties assess and report the immediate needs of disaster victims.
- Insurance Team - A team that is deployed to assist policy owners following a disaster.

3. Damage Assessment

Damage assessments include those actions that are undertaken to determine the nature and scope of damages to structures, facilities and infrastructure for the purpose of identifying and scaling the need for State and Federal disaster assistance in the recovery phase. Damage assessment will be closely coordinated with Emergency Management ESF, which has the lead for impact assessment and incident action planning during the response phase.

Operational assessment is the immediate, informal reporting of emergency conditions to size-up the damage that has occurred and to determine what personnel, equipment and facility resources the county has available for response. First indications of the scope and extent of damages will likely be provided by field personnel reporting to their dispatch centers or to the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). These initial reports include hazard conditions, critical emergency needs and condition of surface routes, and are extremely important in allocating emergency responders and determining incident situation status.

The Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) may also receive damage assessment information from additional sources: ambulance crews, utility crews, employees traveling to or from work, media sources in the field, citizens, businesses, etc. The Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) may establish a process where the public can submit damage reports.

The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency is the lead for the County's Damage Assessment Program. Responsibilities include: recruitment and training of team members and the overall management of damage assessment priorities in coordination with ESF Emergency Management.

The County Property Appraiser's Office will assist in providing estimates of loss and economic impact. The Chamber of Commerce and the insurance industry will provide information on losses to businesses.

The Emergency Manager will provide information to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security within 12-36 hours if possible.

Initial Safety and Damage Assessments

The City will conduct an initial damage assessment using resources to determine the overall extent of damages. The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency is responsible for the direction and control of the Impact Assessment process and has pre-identified County and municipal employees who will assist with damage assessment. The goal of this assessment is to determine the magnitude and severity of damage to structures and infrastructure; and, in the event of a severe rainfall event, determine the level of flooding damage. This information will be collected by the respective city emergency management coordinators, and provided to the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency, who will then provide the information to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.

The impact assessment data provides a County wide general overview of the most significantly impacted areas and, therefore establishes a prioritization mechanism for damage assessment team deployment, resource allocation and disaster assistance.

Preliminary Damage Assessment

If the situation warrants, a formal Preliminary Damage Assessment will be requested and performed by local, State and Federal assessors. This will include assessments for both public and individual damages. Local representatives will accompany these teams during their assessments. These individuals will be familiar with damaged areas and will supply maps needed to complete the damage assessment process. The Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security will then coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to determine if the County qualifies for public and/or individual assistance.

Capturing all costs associated with the emergency is essential because accurate damage assessments (Initial Damage Assessments and Preliminary Damage Assessments) document the need for state and/or federal assistance and are required to obtain a federal disaster declaration.

Habitability Assessments

Habitability assessors will determine the structural safety of residential buildings. This will be conducted through the coordinated efforts of the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. When practical, this assessment will be coordinated with the American Red Cross, or other relief agencies.

The municipalities in Fulton County are responsible for all corresponding inspections, damage assessments and other disaster response and recovery functions and activities for their jurisdictional area. The County would include the municipalities in its response and recovery activities due to their limited resources such as police, fire, public works, and water supply. The municipalities will still coordinate final reporting to the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency, who will then provide the information to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.

The County is responsible for all corresponding inspections, damage assessments and other disaster response and recovery functions and activities for their jurisdictional area. The County will coordinate final damage estimates to the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency, who will then provide the information to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.

Additional damage assessment functions are maintained in the appropriate Fulton County SOPs and Annexes. This includes the identification of roles and responsibilities, training, assessment criteria, reporting formats and process for both initial and preliminary damage assessments.

Priorities of inspections include:

- Structures involved in response operations
- Critical transportation routes and infrastructure

- Essential County facilities

Cities and special districts within the County share responsibility for damage assessment and provide information regarding damages and costs within their jurisdictions and service areas to Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency, who will then provide the information to the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.

4. Disaster Declaration

Following a major or catastrophic disaster in which an emergency or major disaster declaration is granted by the President, federal assistance to disaster victims becomes available under three program areas: Individual Assistance, Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation. The administration of these programs is coordinated through a joint Federal/State effort in a Joint Field Office, which is usually located in the impacted area

The Joint Field Office (JFO) is the primary field location for the coordination of federal and state recovery operations. The Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) and the State Coordinating Officer (SCO) co-locate in the JFO, as well as other Federal and State personnel. Recovery and mitigation operations, logistics, information and planning, financial management and general administration are coordinated at the JFO.

5. Public Assistance (PA) and Individual Assistance (IA) Activities

Declared Disasters

Public Assistance (PA)

The Public Assistance (PA) program provides program support to eligible local governmental entities following a disaster to assist in the recovery and restoration of buildings, infrastructure and the removal of debris that is on public property. The categories of Public Assistance include:

- Category A: Debris Removal
- Category B: Emergency Protective Actions
- Category C: Road Systems
- Category D: Water Control Facilities
- Category E: Buildings and Equipment
- Category F: Utilities
- Category G: Parks, Recreation, and Other

In the event of a declared disaster, Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will work closely with External Affairs ESF to notify all eligible governments and private not-for-profit organizations of the availability of federal public assistance funds. They include all Fulton County government agencies, and those quasi-governmental organizations that perform a governmental function. Such applicants are trained concerning the public assistance program

through the various recovery training sessions offered. Notification may occur through written correspondence and telephone contacts, notices in local newspapers, and broadcasts on local radio station. The Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security will notify local governments, non-profit agencies and other eligible applicants of scheduled briefings and Kick-Off Meetings for the Public Assistance (PA) program and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The Public Assistance applicant briefings include procedures for all aspects of financial management, personnel and record keeping that will be required for the various Federal and State financial assistance programs. State and Federal recovery personnel must advise the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency of these briefings so that agencies can be notified. Key components of the Public Assistance program include:

- Project Worksheets are prepared for eligible emergency costs and eligible costs for restoration of damaged facilities.
- The federal share for reimbursement under most federal declarations is 75 percent. The 25 percent nonfederal share is normally provided from a combination of State and local sources in accordance with policies established by the Executive Office of the Governor and the Georgia Legislature.
- The State serves as the Grantee and eligible applicants are Sub-grantees under the federal disaster assistance program.
- Contractual agreements with Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security are executed with applicants with all reimbursements coming through Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.
- Documentation, record keeping, inspections, and final closeouts are overseen and approved by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.

Documentation is obtained by Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency regarding damage sustained to:

- Roads
- Water control facilities
- Public buildings and related equipment
- Public utilities
- Facilities under construction
- Recreational and park facilities
- Educational institutions
- Certain private non-profit facilities

Individual Assistance (IA)

If the County is declared for Individual Assistance, eligible residents will be able to apply for the Individual Assistance Program. In some cases, FEMA will deploy habitability inspectors to verify the damages individual applicants are claiming. They will do this independent of the State or local assessors. Fulton County will also perform inspections of damaged homes to determine safety. A zoning or civil affairs engineer will be responsible for coordinating post-disaster habitability inspections.

Non-Declared Disasters

During the recovery stage, a disaster may not be declared at the federal level. It will then fall upon the County to use local funds, available competitive grant funds, or any supplemental funding provided by the State of Georgia to recover from the event.

Similar to a declared disaster, costs for response and recovery are to be monitored by all participating agencies. Each responding agency is responsible for the overall management of documentation of the costs of a non-declared disaster with reports submitted ultimately to the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency for budget and finance approval of local dollars.

6. Disaster Recovery Centers and Staging Areas

Centers that are set up in a disaster area to provide information on the complete range of disaster assistance that is available. The responsibility for managing these centers is jointly shared by the State, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the County where the center is located.

A Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) is a facility established in, or in close proximity to, the community affected by the disaster where persons can meet face-to-face with represented Federal, State, local and volunteer agencies to:

- Discuss their disaster-related needs
- Obtain information about disaster assistance programs
- Tele-register for assistance
- Learn about measures for rebuilding that can eliminate or reduce the risk
- Request the status of their application for Assistance to Individuals and Households

The Emergency management of Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency, the State of Georgia and potentially FEMA, will assess the need to open Disaster Recovery Centers and Field Offices, based upon initial damage assessment and human services needs estimates and reports. Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will request that the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security open a Disaster Recovery Center in Fulton County.

Once it has been determined that Disaster Recovery Centers and/or a Disaster Field Office will be opened in Fulton County, the GEMA/HS State Operations Center will take the lead and should notify the Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The GEMA/HS State Operations Center will advise if there are resources the County may need to supply include

staffing. The DRC will be staffed with representatives from appropriate federal, state, county, private relief organizations, and other organizations capable of providing disaster related information to individuals and businesses.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The EOC Director's designated Public Information Officer will provide local media with detailed information on locations of recovery centers, distribution sites and other individual assistance programs. Pamphlets will be prepared to be distributed by personnel in damaged areas so citizens will know how to apply for assistance.

7. Access and Functional Needs:

Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security, and the appropriate State and Federal agencies. The Access and Functional Needs Committee Chairperson will be responsible for the oversight of the committee, addressing immediate human needs (food, water, clothing, etc.), immediate housing needs, issues involving the Access and Functional Needs population and coordination with Community Relations Teams. The unmet needs committee will be formed on an as-needed basis for a given event. The chairperson will select the appropriate individuals and organization when the committee is formed.

G. Mitigation

In the aftermath of a disaster, the County's mitigation goal is to ensure mitigation efforts are designed to ensure that residents, visitors, and businesses in Fulton County are safe and secure from future disasters. The strategies to complete this goal include:

- Complete and maintain a hazards and risk assessment
- Maintain a comprehensive list of mitigation goals, objectives and tasks
- Planning process and organizational framework for carrying out the mitigation goals and objectives
- Implement pre- and post-hazard mitigation actions to reduce overall risk/vulnerability
- Evaluation of existing agencies, organizations, plans, programs and guidelines that impact mitigation.

The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency has been delegated as the lead agency to facilitate and coordinate the activities of the Fulton County Mitigation Planning Committee (MPC) and subcommittees. The Fulton County's Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) identifies the hazards to which Fulton County is vulnerable; assesses the facilities and

structures that are most vulnerable to hazards; offers a prioritized list of mitigation projects to take advantage of the available funding; and links mitigation projects to these sources of funding. The Fulton County's Mitigation Plan defines the mitigation goals, objectives and initiatives for Fulton County. Annual revisions to the Fulton County's Mitigation Plan are standard, although in the event of a disaster, or if needed, the plan can be updated more frequently.

V. ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND LOGISTICS

A. Documentation

Responding agencies should keep documentation on the ICS Activity Log (ICS Form 214) or another suitable log. The Fulton County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will document activities on an ICS form 214, situation reports, and/or common operating pictures. Such documentation is crucial for the following reasons:

- Documentation is the key to recovering emergency response and recovery costs. Damage assessment documentation will be critical in establishing the basis for eligibility of disaster assistance programs.
- Documentation provides a legal account of the actions which took place before, during and after an emergency.
- Documentation provides for a historical record which could be used during after action reviews to improve response operations in the future.

Following a disaster, documentation is provided to Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency to maintain an archive for the required time period, after such time archival documents are protected at a designated location.

During after action review the documentation will be used to identify:

- Actions taken (or not taken)
- Resources expended
- Economic and human impacts
- Lessons learned and possible improvements
- Possible mitigation measures that could be taken
- Key impacts and damages

B. Finance

Funding

- During local state of emergency, the monetary support for logistical and administrative support will be funded out of each agency's budget. However, agencies may request reimbursement or additional funds that may be provided through Fulton County's general funds or other legal funding mechanisms available to the local jurisdictions through the Governor's Office's Emergency Disaster Fund which is available to local jurisdictions if the incident is declared a state disaster by the Governor's Office. This will be

accomplished by going through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security Disaster/Recover Bureau.

- In the event of a federal declaration, some expenses and/or reimbursements are available to affected agencies through Public Assistance Grants.

Disaster Assistance

As previously mentioned, in a federal disaster declaration the county and its eligible jurisdictions/citizens may qualify for federal assistance. Such assistance has been described above and will be further described in ESF Long Term Recovery. In the event of a federal declaration authorizing public assistance, applicant briefings will be conducted to educate responders and local officials about the cost recovery process.

The Fulton County Finance Department will manage and oversee the financial aspects of the Public Assistance Programs. The Fulton County Finance Department will work closely with Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency and the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency to identify funds for the recovery effort, to include response, recovery and mitigation functions.

Tracking Local Disaster Costs

In the event of a federally declared disaster, Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency may ask the County's Financial Officer to assign a special project number to track all county-related expenses. Incorporated areas of the county may also assign special project numbers per the recommendation of Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency.

Insurance and Cost Recovery

The Fulton County Finance Department, in coordination with the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency or other designee, will coordinate all insurance actions pertaining to County property. The Fulton County Finance Department coordinates all financial activities relating to recovery operations.

Pet Sheltering Costs: Disaster Assistance Policy (DAP) 9523.19

FEMA Disaster Assistance Policy (DAP) 9523.19 details eligible reimbursements related to pet sheltering including: shelter facilities, supplies and commodities, eligible labor, equipment, emergency veterinary services, transportation, shelter safety and security, cleaning and restoration, and the removal and disposal of animal carcasses.

C. Logistics

Identifying Resource Gaps

The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency in coordination with the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) will determine the priorities for resource needs based on identified gaps.

The Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency and LEPC using input

and data from the regional capability assessment (see file archive), Department of Homeland Security, local intelligence and threat assessments, will provide a high level determination of resource needs. These assessments will take into account specific threats as well as potential all-hazard threats and response capability.

Resource and logistic response will be prioritized and accomplished under the direction of the EOC Director and/or their designee. Information from Field Incident Commanders and Incident Action Plan priorities will be used to prioritize multiple requests. Resource requests will be met dependent on incident type and the responding entities available or anticipated resource requirements. All resource requests should be captured using WebEOC. Any requests requiring rental, hire or costs to fill will be passed on to the Finance group with a copy of the Purchase Order (PO).

Contracting

The following locations provide a list of contractors for Fulton County:

- Fulton County can access the state contracting website and query for available state contracts applicable to political subdivisions (i.e. counties, cities, etc.).
- County resource manual(s) with specific contracting lists.

Requesting State Assistance

Coordination of resource needs:

- When local municipal resources are committed, the Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency will coordinate assistance to satisfy resource needs.
- If the County requires additional assistance, it will call mutual aid from adjacent counties and regional resources.
- Only the Fulton County Emergency Manager or his/her documented designee, is authorized to request resource support from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security.
- Georgia Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security will turn to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance in dealing with a major disaster that threatens to exceed the capabilities and resources of the state.

Each agency tasked within this plan is responsible for developing and maintaining applicable resource lists. These lists should follow established county protocols for maintaining resource lists. At a minimum, a full resource list (including all county resources) will be provided to Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency and the ESF Logistics Coordinating and Primary Agency.

Key Logistics Facilities

Potential locations for Staging Areas and Points of Distribution sites (PODS) are identified annually by Fulton County Emergency Management/Homeland Security Agency. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Pre-Staging

Certain situations will require pre-staging assets. Identifying these resources and triggers points to utilize such resources are based on the phases indicated in the Fulton County Incident Action Plan (IAP). The IAP will be developed in preparation of or during an emergency or disaster situation.

Fuel

Fuel will be procured using local resources. Local incident command will provide the desired location of fuel purchasing if applicable for the incident. ESF Logistics and ESF Energy provide further detail concerning procuring fuel.

Security

Security at each staging area will be accomplished by mission assigning in the Public Safety ESF. The Public Safety ESF provides further detail.

VI. REFERENCES AND AUTHORITIES

The following references and authorities may be consulted for further advice and guidance. Other than those references and authorities that have the inherent force and effect of law, this LEOP is not intended to incorporate them by reference.

Relationship to Other Plans

In addition to the Fulton County LEOP, the following plans have been developed and are maintained pursuant to state and federal requirements. In addition they have been incorporated in the LEOP annexes or affiliated materials:

- Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)
- Access and Functional Needs Protocols (AFN)
- Continuity of Operations / Continuity of Government (COOP/COG)

References:

- **Comprehensive Preparedness Guidance (CPG) 101, Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans, Version 3.0, September 2021.**
- **Comprehensive Preparedness Guidance (CPG) 201: Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Analysis (THIRA) August 2013**
- **Federal Bureau of Investigation's Concept of Operations for Weapons of Mass Destruction**
- **Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan**
- **National Incident Management System (NIMS)**
- **National Response Framework (NRF), Fourth Edition, October 2019.**

Authorities:

- **16 U.S.C. 3501** - Coastal Barrier Resources Act.
- **44 CFR 350** - Code of Federal Regulations.
- **44 CFR Part 10** - Environmental Considerations.
- **44 CFR Part 13** - Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements.
- **44 CFR Part 14** - Audits of State and Local Governments.
- **44 CFR Part 206** - Federal Disaster Assistance for Disasters Declared after November 23, 1988.
- **44 CFR Parts 59-76** - National Flood Insurance Program and related programs.

- **50 CFR, Title 10** - Code of Federal Regulations.
- **National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, 42 U.S.C. 4101** - As amended by the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (Title V of Public Law 103-325).
- **Public Law 101-549** - Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, which provide for reductions in hazardous air pollutants and risk management planning requirements.
- **Public Law 101-615** - Hazardous Materials Transportation Uniform Safety Act (HMTUSA), which provides funding to improve capability to respond to hazardous materials incidents.
- **Public Law 106-390, Disaster Mitigation Act 2000** - To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize a program for pre-disaster mitigation, to streamline the administration of disaster relief, to control the Federal costs of disaster assistance, and for other purposes.
- **Public Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002)** - (codified predominantly at 6 U.S.C. 101-557 and other sections of the U.S.C.), Established The Department of Homeland Security with the mandate and legal authority to protect the American people from the continuing threat of terrorism.
- **Public Law 833-703** - amendment to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.
- **Public Law 84-99, 33 U.S.C. 701n** - Flood Emergencies, authorizing an emergency fund for flood emergency preparation, flood fighting and rescue operations, and repair and restoration of flood control works threatened or destroyed by flood.
- **Public Law 85-256, Price-Anderson Act, 42 U.S.C. 2210** - Provides for a system of compensating the public for harm caused by a nuclear accident.
- **Public Law 89-665, 16 U.S.C. 470** - National Historic Preservation Act, relating to the preservation of historic resources damaged as a result of disasters.
- **Public Law 91-671, Food Stamp Act of 1964 in conjunction with Section 412 of the Stafford Act, relating to food stamp distributions after a major disaster.**
- **Public Law 93-234** - Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, as amended by the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994, 42 U.S.C. 4001, et seq, provides insurance coverage for all types of buildings.
- **Public Law 93-288, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 5121** - The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, which provides authority for response and recovery assistance under the Federal Response Plan, which empowers the President to direct any federal agency to utilize its authorities and resources in support of State and local assistance efforts.
- **Public Law 95-510, 42 U.S.C. 9601** - The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended, which requires facilities to notify authorities of accidental releases of hazardous materials.

- **Public Law 99-499** - Superfund Amendments and Re-authorization Act of 1986, Part III, the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. 11001, et seq, which governs hazardous materials planning and community right-to-know.
- **Regal Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994.**
- **Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 11331-11352** - Federal Emergency Management Food and Shelter Program.
- **Fulton County Government Charter - Chapter 130 - Section 130-33** - Section 130-33
“The Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency is hereby designated as the Fulton County Department of Emergency Management Services, to coordinate the planning and execution of all emergency management functions”
- **City of Atlanta Code: Chapter 50 - Section 50-29** - Section 50-29
“The Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency is designated as the Office of Emergency Management to carry out all emergency management functions for the city in accordance with the Federal Defense Act of 1950 and the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981”

Memorandums of Understanding and Agreements: