

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

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TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Oakland Fire Department
DATE: September 13, 2005

RE: **Semi-annual report on Emergency Management Board proceedings for the period January – June 2005**

SUMMARY

This report is a summary of the activities and accomplishments of the Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services as reported to the City of Oakland's Emergency Management Board for the period January through June 2005. No action is requested of the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT

This report is informational only; therefore, no fiscal impacts are included.

BACKGROUND

Since June 1995, the Public Safety Committee has requested a semi-annual report on emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities reported to the City's Emergency Management Board (EMB).

The Fire Department's Office of Emergency Services (OES) is responsible for emergency preparedness, planning, education, and training to ensure a comprehensive, coordinated response by the City to both natural and human-caused disasters. Activities are reported quarterly to Oakland's Emergency Management Board, which functions as the city's Disaster Council as well as its Citizens Corps Council.

For the period January to June 2005, OES conducted activities in the following areas:

- Citizens of Oakland Respond to Emergencies (CORE) program
- Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for hazardous materials
- Emergency Public Information Officers (EPIO) team
- Oakland Radio Communications Association (ORCA), amateur radio
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities
- Disaster Preparedness for Small Businesses
- Alerting & Warning system (sirens and 530AM radio)
- Exercises
- Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grants for Fiscal Years 2004 and 2005

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- Homeland Security
- Federal and State grants
- Regional partnerships
- Training and professional development
- Emergency Management Board meetings

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES, January – June 2005

Quarterly meetings of Oakland’s Emergency Management Board were held on January 20, 2005, March 17, 2005, and June 16, 2005. The following topics were discussed and reviewed.

Citizens of Oakland Respond to Emergencies (CORE)

During the period January to June 2005, the Oakland Fire Department, with assistance from the community members of the CORE Advisory Task Force and one Americorps volunteer, trained nine hundred five (905) Oakland residents through CORE.

The CORE Program continues to expand significantly. A broader cross-section of Oakland residents in all Council Districts, including Cantonese-speaking and Spanish-speaking residents, received CORE Training. City of Oakland employees, Neighborhood Service Coordinators, employees of social service agencies serving Oakland residents, staff and students at local colleges, and members of the Oakland Radio Communications Association (ORCA) received CORE training. Since its inception in 1990, the CORE program has provided training to over twelve thousand (12,000) citizens.

CORE Training by Council District January – March 2005

	CD1	CD2	CD3	CD4	CD5	CD6	CD7	Other
CORE I	36	22	13	24	17	16	9	10
CORE II	2	5	18	27		1	1	1
Subtotal	38	27	33	51	17	17	10	11
CORE I Sp	1		1	6	39		5	1
CORE II Sp				13	60	5	2	7
Subtotal	1		1	19	99	5	7	8
CORE I Ch		16	6	2	1			3
CORE II Ch		13	7	3	1			3
Subtotal		29	13	5	2			6
Workshop DFA	3	2	3	9			2	
Total	42	58	50	84	118	22	19	25

Total for January – March 2005: 418

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**CORE Training by Council District
April – June 2005**

	CD1	CD2	CD3	CD4	CD5	CD6	CD7	Other
CORE I	29	1	11	42	6	9	4	14
CORE II	25	4	6	7	2	8	4	7
Subtotal	54	5	17	49	8	17	8	21
CORE I Sp		3	1	11	71	10	5	6
CORE II Sp		1		5	49	12	2	6
Subtotal		4	1	16	120	22	7	12
CORE I Ch			28					
CORE II Ch								
Subtotal			28					
CORE III	1	2		14	1	4		1
CORE III Sp		2		3	9	2		5
CORE III Ch		11	4	1	1		1	2
Subtotal	1	15	4	18	11	6	1	8
Workshop ONEx	7			13				2
Oak Lead EQ Prep	3	1	2	1		2	2	1
Total	65	25	52	97	139	47	18	44

Total for April-June 2005: 487

Highlights for the CORE program for the period January –June 2005 include:

- Conducted CORE III, Emergency Response Hands-On Training, for twenty (20) Cantonese-speaking residents, twenty-one (21) Spanish-speaking residents, twenty-three (23) English-speaking residents, and with the help of sign-language interpreters, one (1) hearing impaired resident. Recruited and initiated five (5) new firefighters who provided CORE III classroom instruction and assisted with hands-on training. With the help of a volunteer member of the CORE Advisory Task Force, utilized moulage (stage make-up to create the effect of real injuries) for victims during the practice exercise to enhance training.
- Hosted Spring 2005 Graduation Ceremony for sixty-five (65) graduates who each received a certificate of completion, individual commendations from Councilmember Henry Chang's office, CORE vests and helmets, and Disaster Service Worker identification badges. This included the first group of Spanish-speaking and second group of Cantonese-speaking CORE graduates. Staff, volunteers, and firefighters also received special recognition awards. KTOP videotaped the event.
- In May, OES participated in Oakland Police Department's Leadership Summit, "Working Together Works," by conducting an earthquake preparedness workshop and staffing an emergency preparedness resource table.

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- Conducted a “Disaster First Aid” workshop involving nineteen (19) participants and seven (7) facilitators in February and an “Organizing a Neighborhood Exercise” workshop, co-sponsored by the Montclair Safety and Improvement Council, in May. These additional training opportunities provided in-depth skills-building, hands-on training, and practice exercises.
- Provided ongoing updates to CORE website www.oaklandnet.com/fire/core/index.html, including text enhancements for Additional Training Opportunities and News & Tips; also developed an on-line registration form. The website has become the primary way people learn about CORE and register for classes.
- Increased the number of CORE classes provided to residents, employees, students.

	<u>Jan - Mar</u>	<u>Apr - June</u>
CORE I	19	14
CORE II	10	9
CORE III	0	3*

* CORE III consists of three (3) sessions; the Fire Department taught each of the three (3) sessions in Chinese, Spanish, and English for a total of nine (9) CORE III sessions.

- Convened six (6) meetings of the CORE Advisory Task Force, a group of fourteen (14) citizens who volunteer to monitor, develop, and evaluate the CORE program. Two (2) members ended their terms and two (2) new members were recruited. Completed 40% of the 2005 priority activities.
- Completed translation and duplication of CORE III manuals in Spanish and Chinese to be consistent with the revised English CORE III manual. Revised CORE III PowerPoint presentation.
- Facilitated two (2) CORE Instructor meetings this spring to address CORE II Manual updates and overall curriculum delivery concerns. All twelve (12) instructors received emergency supply backpacks to use during classroom demonstrations. Completed revisions and updates to CORE II manual.
- Developed criteria and application for Neighborhood Emergency Supply Packs (NESP). Using the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company grant, ordered, OES picked-up and temporarily stored twenty-five (25) NESPs for distribution to active CORE groups. The NESPs will be placed at neighborhood command posts. Also purchased one thousand (1,000) helmets for CORE graduates, three hundred (300) light sticks, and a first aid stretcher for Disaster First Aid training.
- Provided content ideas for a thirty (30) second Public Service Announcement to be produced by Comcast.
- Produced and distributed the Winter 2005 and Spring 2005 Esprit de CORE newsletters to over one thousand (1,000) individuals.
- Effective July 1, 2005, the CORE program was reassigned from OES to the Fire Prevention Bureau as part of the department’s reorganization.

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Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for hazardous material

The mission of the CUPA program is to protect public health and safety, to restore and enhance environmental quality, and to sustain economic vitality through effective and efficient implementation of the six (6) environmental and public safety programs that fall under the umbrella of California's Unified Program.

Highlights for the CUPA program during this six-month period include:

- At the March meeting, the CUPA Manager provided training to the Emergency Management Board on using the updated Department of Transportation Emergency Response Guidebook.
- Effective May 1, 2005, the CUPA program was reassigned from OES to the Fire Prevention Bureau as part of the department's reorganization.

Emergency Public Information Officers (EPIO) team

- Under the leadership of the City Administrator's Office, the team updated the EPIO manual and added five (5) new members to the team, bringing total membership to fourteen (14) people from nine (9) City departments.
- Completed improvements to the Media Room in May, including upgrades to the lighting system; installation of an audio system; purchase of United States, State of California, and City of Oakland flags; design and purchase of a blue screen with City logo to facilitate filming by television cameras; purchase of a microphone and podium; installation of telephone and Internet connections. These improvements had been requested by the local media over the course of the past several years due to exceptionally poor sound and picture quality in the previous environment.
- Sponsored Media Day in May so that local media representatives could view improvements to the Media Room; the ensuing publicity resulted in a short news story on emergency preparedness that same evening.
- Upgraded the equipment and furnishings in the EPIO breakout room in the Emergency Operations Center in April and May; Police Department donated a new printer and the Information Technology Department connected it and a scanner.

Oakland Radio Communications Association (ORCA), amateur radio

- Hosted a radio network exercise in March; twenty-eight (28) members of ORCA volunteered to test the local amateur radio system at twenty-one (21) Oakland fire stations, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), three (3) City of Alameda fire stations, and the City of Piedmont's fire station. The Oakland Fire Chief, one (1) Deputy Chief, four (4) Battalion Chiefs, and the Police Dispatch Supervisor were on hand to observe and answer questions. ORCA also demonstrated slow-scan TV in the EOC.

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- With the Parks & Recreation Department, co-sponsored ORCA's annual Field Day in June; ORCA members again demonstrated slow scan TV in the EOC and participated in an anthrax exercise with the United States Post Office.
- ORCA members conducted fire patrols in the Oakland Hills over the July 4 holiday; planning for this event took place in June.
- In June 2005, OES purchased equipment to enable amateur radio operators to connect to the Internet via radio frequencies as a backup to Internet connectivity in the EOC.
- Facilitated two (2) quarterly meetings of the ORCA Executive Board and sponsored six (6) monthly meetings.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

- The Emergency Operations Center was partially activated three (3) times during this period. The first was on May 18 in response to a PG&E power outage caused by excavation work at Jack London Square; coincidentally, there was a bomb scare at the Federal Building at the same time. The second activation took place on June 3 due to additional PG&E power failures. The third was as a precaution during the July 4 holiday. Though not activated, the EOC was on standby in case of a BART strike on July 6 and after the London bombings on July 7.
- Because the EOC has a back-up generator, the power failures on June 3 disrupted electrical service to the facility only momentarily. As a result, the Human Resources Department used the EOC to conduct the written promotional exam for Police Captain since 150 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza was without power for approximately twelve (12) hours.
- Taught EOC orientation class to eight (8) Battalion Chiefs and one (1) Fire Captain in June.
- The Information Technology Department completed a number of equipment and software installations during this past six months, including: installation of Integrated Public Safety System (IPSS) software to facilitate dispatching from the EOC as well as projection of IPSS reports onto big screen televisions; installation of Oracle connections for PCs and printers; connection of scanners; refurbishment and connection of check printers. Ceitronics, a commercial firm, also permanently installed a new audio-visual control panel.
- Purchased and, with assistance from the Public Works Agency, hung maps in a number of breakout rooms in the EOC. OES also purchased shelving and storage units which were later installed by Public Works.
- Conducted tours of the EOC for: Neighborhood Service Coordinators; Oakland Chamber of Commerce; a Japanese delegation interested in earthquake mitigation; State Department sponsored visitors; local school groups.

Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities

- Using funds made available through this year's Citizens Corps Council grant, OES and the Emergency Management Board co-hosted a full-day workshop on "Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities" in May. Thirty-four (34) people attended this well-received event, about half of them disabled and half caregivers or service providers; the target audience for this workshop was the disabled individuals themselves. Two (2) disabled presenters provided training on basic life safety skills, home vulnerability assessments, and sheltering options. Materials were provided in Braille, large print format, and audio-tape. No requests were made for real time captioning or sign language interpreters. The Executive Director from Alameda County's Collaborating Agencies Respond to Disaster (CARD) also gave a brief presentation, and the owners of Down & Out Rescue Chairs gave a demonstration of the evacuation chairs their company sells.
- Distributed a U.S. Department of Justice document entitled, "An ADA Guide for Local Governments" to EMB members in January 2005.

Disaster Preparedness for Small Businesses

- In January 2005, the Emergency Management Board proposed hosting an emergency preparedness seminar for small businesses using some of the funds from this year's Citizens Corps Council grant. The pilot workshop is planned for September 29, 2005, as part of the Fifth Annual Small Business Symposium sponsored by Councilmember Reid's office and the Community & Economic Development Agency (CEDA). The Bay Area Chapter of the American Red Cross has authorized the use of their "Guide to Business Continuity Planning" as the basis for the curriculum and is working in partnership with OES to develop the workshop.
- OES is seeking bi-lingual instructors with the hope of conducting similar workshops in Spanish and Cantonese. Once instructors are identified, OES will work with the City's Equal Access Office to translate Red Cross materials into these two (2) languages.

Alerting & Warning System (Sirens and 530 AM radio)

In October 2002, the Cities of Alameda, Oakland, and San Leandro, and the University of California at Berkeley agreed to work cooperatively to develop common protocols for siren systems. This agreement is known as the Corridor of Safety. In addition to founding members, key players include California Highway Patrol, US Coast Guard, City of Berkeley, Contra Costa County, and City and County of San Francisco. The working group meets every other month to exchange information.

Highlights of the Corridor of Safety program during this period include:

- Oakland's twenty-seventh and final siren was installed at Hellman Playground and tested in April 2005.
- In June, OES completed a survey on emergency notification procedures conducted by the Deaf Counseling, Advocacy, and Referral Agency (DCARA) as part of a continuing

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effort to seek a solution to effective use of the sirens for the City's hearing impaired population.

- Siren maintenance will be addressed through a previously approved contract with Federal Signal. Routine radio repairs are being handled by the Information Technology Department's Radio Shop; battery replacement is currently being handled by Procomm Marketing, a distributor for Federal Signal.
- Sirens continue to be tested on the first Wednesday of every month at noon.

Exercises

- Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) conducted a tabletop exercise on terrorism in February 2005 in the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC). OES participated with exercise planning and facilitation.
- Oakland's EOC was used for OUSD's functional exercise on terrorism in March. OUSD's primary EOC is located on the third floor of the City's EOC; they have an 800MHz radio system which links the EOC to each public school in Oakland. OES staff also helped facilitate this event.
- OES facilitated a tabletop exercise for the Public Works Agency in April. Public Works supervisors and managers used this opportunity to become familiar with their newly revised departmental emergency manuals.
- The Oakland Fire Department and the United States Post Office conducted a full scale anthrax exercise in June at the Main Post Office on Seventh Street. OES provided a tour of the EOC. Members of Oakland's amateur radio club demonstrated slow scan TV and participated in the exercise.
- Planned for November 2005, Golden Guardian is a State-wide full scale terrorism exercise in which the Port of Oakland and departments throughout the City will be involved, notably Police, Fire, Public Works, and Public Information Officers. The scenario focuses on multiple incidents at the Port. Sponsored by the State's Office of Homeland Security, this exercise is both resource and time intensive, requiring participation in a series of planning conferences and tabletop exercises. Golden Guardian is intended to serve as Alameda County's annual exercise, as well as fulfill requirements for the annual State-wide medical disaster exercise.

Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grants for Fiscal Years 2004 and 2005

- **FY 04 UASI** - In February 2005, the Executive Board of the Oakland/Alameda County/Contra Costa County Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) met and approved spending allocations for the Fiscal Year 2004 (FY04) UASI grant. Committees continue to work on these projects. This spring, the federal government stated that the November 2005 spending deadline for FY04 initiatives may be extended by up to a year, on a project by project basis, if adequate justification is provided by the grant recipient.

	FY04 OBJECTIVE	AMOUNT	%
1	Grant management and administration	\$234,250	3%
2	Develop interoperable communications	\$5,622,011	72%
3	Develop-information dissemination system	\$780,835	10%
4	Improve Overhead/Incident Management	\$780,835	10%
5	Reduce transportation, infrastructure vulnerabilities	\$390,417	5%
	GRANT TOTAL	\$ 7,808,348	100.0%

- FY 05 UASI - On April 4, 2005, the UASI Executive Board approved the following allocations:

	FY05 OBJECTIVE	AMOUNT	%
1	Grant management and administration for 2-year period	\$141,642	2.5%
2	Develop regional interoperable communications system	\$2,999,052	52.9%
3	Develop regional information exchange network	\$825,000	14.6%
4	Reduce infrastructure vulnerabilities	\$700,000	12.4%
5	Develop regional plan for mass prophylaxis	\$200,000	3.5%
6	Expand regional mutual aid resources	\$800,000	14.1%
	GRANT TOTAL	\$ 5,665,694	100.0%

- The FY04 UASI grant laid the foundation for regional preparedness through the development of the urban area security strategy. The FY05 grant maintains the regional effort by continuing to fund the priority goals and objectives of the strategy.
- FY05 allocations are in line with the newly established capability-specific priorities of strengthening information sharing and collaboration capabilities, strengthening interoperable communications capabilities, and strengthening mass prophylaxis capabilities.

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- The FY05 grant also focuses on programs that will accomplish milestones identified in two federal mandates: Homeland Security Presidential Directive Five (HSPD-5), which establishes a National Incident Management System (NIMS), and Homeland Security Presidential Directive Eight (HSPD-8), which specifies the implementation of a national preparedness goal. FY05 grant recipients are required to accomplish the following:
 - Begin implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
 - Test prevention and response plans in an exercise scenario involving an improvised explosive device (IED), i.e., a bomb.
 - Achieve tactical communications interoperability and test this during an exercise using an IED scenario.
 - Increase citizen participation in Homeland Security initiatives.
- Oakland's Homeland Security Unit, housed in the City Administrator's Budget Office, has a webpage at www.oaklandnet.com/hsu.

Homeland Security

- San Francisco's FY03 Urban Area Security Initiative is funding a regional planning initiative for the nine (9) counties ringing the San Francisco Bay plus Santa Cruz County, and the cities of Oakland, San Jose, and San Francisco. The Request for Proposal was released this spring.
- OES continues to attend quarterly meetings of Alameda County's Terrorism Working Group and monthly meetings to work on the UASI 04 team to improve Overhead/Incident Management.
- From January through April, OES worked with Alameda County Public Health and other local jurisdictions on proposals for distributing the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) of pharmaceuticals. SNS supplies are intended for local populations, as contrasted with pharmaceuticals in the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) and Chempaks, which are intended for first responders (police, fire, paramedics) and first receivers (hospitals, clinics).

Federal and State grants

- The federal grant for FY04 Citizens Corps Council (CCC)/Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) is being used to support CORE. This grant also funded the May workshop on "Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities" and the March 2005 and June 2005 meetings of the Emergency Management Board. The grant will also fund the September workshop on "Business Continuity Planning" for small businesses as well as completion of Oakland's fledgling volunteer management plan.

Regional partnerships

- Completed the Oakland Annex to the Association for Bay Area Governments (ABAG) "Taming Natural Disasters" regional multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan for the

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San Francisco Bay Area in May 2005. This document is intended to assist local jurisdictions become eligible for potential hazard mitigation grants.

- OES continued its partnership with the International Diplomacy Council in San Francisco by providing tours of the Emergency Operations Center to State Department-sponsored graduate students and visitors. Additionally, OES hosted roundtable discussions requested by guests; topics included earthquake mitigation, strategies for emergency preparedness in the community, and firestorm recovery. In June, OES hosted twenty-one (21) visitors from fourteen (14) nations.
- Participated in ABAG's community seminar in January 2005 to develop incentives and strategies to mitigate the problem of soft story buildings which are prone to collapse in the event of earthquake.
- Joined Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) in May 2005 as one strategy for introducing OES to potential response partners from non-profit agencies.
- Attended a meeting sponsored by the Bay Area Chapter of the American Red Cross regarding development of a standard plan for shelter operations.
- OES staff continued to participate as members of:
 - State OES Coastal Region's Mutual Aid Regional Advisory Committee (MARAC)
 - Alameda County's Emergency Managers Association
 - Alameda County's Terrorism Working Group
 - Alameda County's Volunteer Management Task Force
 - Regional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) working group

Training and professional development

The Office of Emergency Services provides a range of training in addition to that related to specific programs like CORE. In order to stay current, OES staff also attends emergency management training taught by other organizations.

- Training conducted for City staff
 - The State of California requires employees of local jurisdictions to complete Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) training in order for the City to receive reimbursement for disaster response and recovery activities. During this reporting period, one hundred forty-five (145) City employees attended SEMS classes. Participating departments included the Community & Economic Development Agency (CEDA) and Public Works Agency (PWA).
- Training conducted for the Oakland community
 - Twenty-five (25) members of the East Bay Chapter of the International Facility Managers Association toured the EOC and received SEMS training in March 2005.
 - OES staff gave a brief presentation to the Oakland Commerce Corporation on business preparedness in March.
 - The Oakland Fire Marshall's Office hosted a Fire Safety program for individuals with disabilities in April. OES staff supported this event, attended by thirty (30) people.

- OES staff provided basic emergency preparedness training to thirty-five (35) members of Volunteers of America (VOA) in May.
- Professional development for OES staff
 - In March 2005, three (3) members of OES and the Fire Communications Supervisor attended a seminar on Risk Communications hosted by the Association of Bay Area Governments.
 - In May 2005, OES staff attended State OES' annual Disaster Resistant California conference.
 - In July 2005, two (2) members of OES attended a class on "Emergency Planning and Special Needs Populations" hosted by the California Specialized Training Institute, a division of State OES.
- The African American Museum & Library updated their Emergency Procedures Plan in January 2005.

Emergency Management Board meetings

Oakland's Emergency Management Board meets quarterly. During the meeting in January 2005, the Board approved a change to the meeting schedule, moving meetings from the first month of the quarter to the last. This change facilitated more expedient reporting of activities to the Oakland City Council. As a result, there were three (3) meetings during this six (6) month reporting period.

- During the January 20, 2005 meeting, the Emergency Management Board entertained new business. EMB members provided recommendations for the use of this year's Citizens Corps Council/CERT grant, which was estimated at \$35,000; Oakland City Council later accepted these recommendations when the report to appropriate the grant was approved in May. EMB members also discussed the possibility of broadening EMB membership to include additional private sector and non-profit organizations as potential response partners; no final action was taken. OES recognized Public Works' success in keeping storm drains free of debris during the heavy winter rains, eliminating or reducing flooding throughout the City.
- During the March 17, 2005 meeting, the CUPA Manager from the Oakland Fire Department conducted a tabletop exercise on using the 2004 Department of Transportation (DOT) Emergency Response Guidebook for first responders during a hazardous materials incident.
- During the June 16, 2005 meeting, the Oakland Radio Communications Association (ORCA) received a Mayoral Proclamation recognizing the organization's contributions to Oakland's overall state of emergency preparedness and declaring June 18-26, 2005 as Amateur Radio Week. The Fire Chief for the East Bay Regional Park District gave a presentation on the Hills Emergency Forum, a model for regional collaboration to address fire danger in the urban-wildland interface.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

One of OES' primary goals is to better prepare Oakland government, residents, businesses, special districts, and non-profit organizations to withstand natural or human-caused disasters. Prepared communities recover faster, economically, environmentally, and socially, than those that are unprepared.

Economic

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided a Citizens Corps Council/Community Emergency Response Team grant of approximately \$35,000 this year. Note, however, that next year, separate funding for these programs will be eliminated; guidance to recipients of FY06 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grants will recommend that these programs be considered in UASI spending plans.
- Receipt of a \$100,000 grant from the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company in November 2004 has allowed OES to begin purchasing additional training equipment and supplies to support CORE neighborhoods.
- Receipt of FY04 and FY05 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grants will partially fund communications equipment and infrastructure improvements that would otherwise have to be funded by the City.
- In partnership with the American Red Cross, OES will host a "Business Continuity Planning" workshop during the City's Fifth Annual Small Business Symposium scheduled for September 29, 2005; this symposium is sponsored by Councilmember Reid's office and the Community and Economic Development Agency (CEDA).

Environmental

- The CUPA program includes regulatory and enforcement components. As a result, environmental justice has been one of the outcomes of Oakland's CUPA program.
- The CORE program includes sections on mitigation, which reduces property loss, thereby preserving the local environment and economy to the greatest extent practicable during a disaster. Included in the course is information on: vegetation management as a way to mitigate against property loss during a fire; seismic retrofitting as a way to reduce property loss during an earthquake; and flood and landslide prevention as a way to decrease the effects of a winter storm.

Social Equity

- The first Spanish-speaking class and second Cantonese-speaking class graduated from CORE in May 2005.
- Additional instructors from Americorps and from the Cantonese-speaking Citizens Academy have increased CORE outreach to Oakland's Spanish, Cantonese and Mandarin-speaking populations. Historically, the CORE program has reached an average

of five hundred (500) residents a year; between January and June of this year, more than nine hundred (900) residents have participated in the program.

- The newly revised CORE III manual was translated into Spanish.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

OES remains committed to its responsibility to address the needs of vulnerable populations in its emergency management programs. Specifically:

- In January, OES distributed a U.S. Department of Justice document entitled, “An ADA Guide for Local Governments” to EMB members.
- In April, OES taught selected topics during the Fire Department’s Fire Safety program for individuals with disabilities.
- In May, OES hosted a one day workshop, “Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities,” taught by two (2) disabled instructors.
- In June, OES completed a survey on emergency notification for the hearing impaired conducted by the Deaf Counseling, Advocacy, and Referral Agency (DCARA).
- Brochures and meeting minutes for OES programs continue to be published in Braille, on audiotape, and in large print format. Sign language interpreters are requested as needed; interpreters were used during CORE III in April.
- The CORE program contains sections on preparedness for people with special needs.
- OES continues to attend meetings of the Mayor’s Commission on Persons with Disabilities as requested.

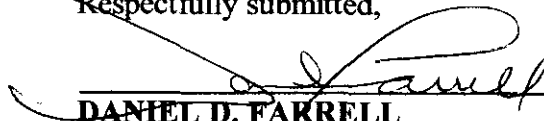
RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE

Staff recommends that the Oakland City Council approve and accept this informational report.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff requests that the Oakland City Council approve and accept this report.

Respectfully submitted,

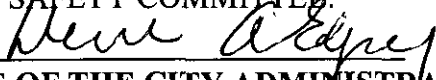

DANIEL D. FARRELL
Chief, Fire Department

Reviewed by:
Renee Domingo
Personnel, Safety, & Liability Division

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Prepared by:
Kimberly Shunk, Admin Services Manager
Emergency Operations Center

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:



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